

1
00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:02,050
And you are free to go.

2
00:00:02,050 --> 00:00:02,550
Great.

3
00:00:02,550 --> 00:00:02,940
Thank you.

4
00:00:02,940 --> 00:00:03,440
We're good.

5
00:00:03,440 --> 00:00:04,620
I'm ready.

6
00:00:04,620 --> 00:00:05,840
Great.

7
00:00:05,840 --> 00:00:07,380
My name is Julie Kopel.

8
00:00:07,380 --> 00:00:09,810
And I'm interviewing
Joseph Fenster.

9
00:00:09,810 --> 00:00:13,680
The date is January 14, 2014.

10
00:00:13,680 --> 00:00:16,260
And the interview is being
conducted for the United States

11
00:00:16,260 --> 00:00:18,210
Holocaust Memorial Museum.

12
00:00:18,210 --> 00:00:19,240
I am in New York.

13
00:00:19,240 --> 00:00:21,360
And Mr. Fenster is in Florida.

14
00:00:21,360 --> 00:00:22,350
Hi, Mr Fenster.

15
00:00:22,350 --> 00:00:23,190
How are you?

16
00:00:23,190 --> 00:00:24,210
Good, good.

17
00:00:24,210 --> 00:00:26,070
Thank you.

18
00:00:26,070 --> 00:00:27,490
Can I call you Julie?

19
00:00:27,490 --> 00:00:27,990
Julie.

20
00:00:27,990 --> 00:00:28,950
Yes, please do.

21
00:00:28,950 --> 00:00:29,850
Please do.

22
00:00:29,850 --> 00:00:30,520
Thank you.

23
00:00:30,520 --> 00:00:31,680
Thank you, Julie.

24
00:00:31,680 --> 00:00:34,210
And what would you
prefer I call you?

25
00:00:34,210 --> 00:00:35,632
Plain Joe.

26
00:00:35,632 --> 00:00:36,132
Joe.

27

00:00:36,132 --> 00:00:36,632

Joe.

28

00:00:36,632 --> 00:00:38,240

OK, I got it.

29

00:00:38,240 --> 00:00:38,980

OK, Joe.

30

00:00:38,980 --> 00:00:41,700

So we're going to
get started now.

31

00:00:41,700 --> 00:00:46,120

And can you please tell me
what was your name at birth.

32

00:00:46,120 --> 00:00:49,140

It was Joseph Fensterheim.

33

00:00:49,140 --> 00:00:51,990

And can you spell that,
please, your last name.

34

00:00:51,990 --> 00:00:58,530

F-E-N-S-T-E-R-H-E-I-M.

35

00:00:58,530 --> 00:00:59,430

Great.

36

00:00:59,430 --> 00:01:01,360

And where were you born?

37

00:01:01,360 --> 00:01:03,940

I was born in Paris, France.

38

00:01:03,940 --> 00:01:06,160

And what is your date of birth?

39

00:01:06,160 --> 00:01:08,040

You want the whole date?

40
00:01:08,040 --> 00:01:09,090
Yes, please.

41
00:01:09,090 --> 00:01:13,770
6/18/32, June the 18th, 1932.

42
00:01:13,770 --> 00:01:15,510
Great.

43
00:01:15,510 --> 00:01:19,720
So can you tell me a little
bit about your family?

44
00:01:19,720 --> 00:01:21,810
Yes.

45
00:01:21,810 --> 00:01:25,800
My mother-- my mother-- my
mother and father first of all

46
00:01:25,800 --> 00:01:33,270
emigrated from Poland,
from Kraków to France.

47
00:01:33,270 --> 00:01:36,150
I don't remember the
year because of course I

48
00:01:36,150 --> 00:01:37,080
wasn't born there.

49
00:01:37,080 --> 00:01:39,720
But we never discussed that.

50
00:01:39,720 --> 00:01:47,850
And my father was Chaskiel
or Charles Fensterheim.

51
00:01:47,850 --> 00:01:51,210
But Chaskiel is Polish.

52

00:01:51,210 --> 00:01:53,032

Can you please spell that name?

53

00:01:53,032 --> 00:01:59,586

C-H-A-S-K-I-E-L.

54

00:01:59,586 --> 00:02:00,482

Great.

55

00:02:00,482 --> 00:02:02,730

Chaskiel.

56

00:02:02,730 --> 00:02:06,015

And my mother's name was Sophie.

57

00:02:06,015 --> 00:02:10,949

S-O-P-H-I-E. My father--

58

00:02:10,949 --> 00:02:12,300

What was her maiden name?

59

00:02:12,300 --> 00:02:13,360

What's that?

60

00:02:13,360 --> 00:02:14,910

What was her maiden name?

61

00:02:14,910 --> 00:02:18,420

Bachner, B-A-C-H-N-E-R.

62

00:02:18,420 --> 00:02:20,890

OK, Thank you.

63

00:02:20,890 --> 00:02:22,400

She was a housewife.

64

00:02:22,400 --> 00:02:26,790

My father was a
tailor, by profession.

65

00:02:26,790 --> 00:02:31,650

And they settled
in Paris, France.

66

00:02:31,650 --> 00:02:35,700

And ultimately in
1932 I was born.

67

00:02:35,700 --> 00:02:46,470

And I don't know whether
they had another place

68

00:02:46,470 --> 00:02:47,790

before I was born.

69

00:02:47,790 --> 00:02:53,490

But after I was born and was
aware of where my whereabouts,

70

00:02:53,490 --> 00:02:59,100

we were living in the
9th district of Paris

71

00:02:59,100 --> 00:03:00,570

in a one-room apartment.

72

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

73

00:03:03,240 --> 00:03:09,390

Then, as I indicated in
the outline, my father,

74

00:03:09,390 --> 00:03:16,020

not only a tailor by profession,
but in 1939, when the World War

75

00:03:16,020 --> 00:03:21,030

II started, when
the Germans first

76

00:03:21,030 --> 00:03:24,525

of all invaded France in 19--

77
00:03:24,525 --> 00:03:30,960
I think somewhere
in 1939, my father

78
00:03:30,960 --> 00:03:37,080
had joined the army,
the French army.

79
00:03:37,080 --> 00:03:46,920
It was either a foreign
division or a Polish division.

80
00:03:46,920 --> 00:03:48,220
I don't know.

81
00:03:48,220 --> 00:03:49,530
He never discussed it with me.

82
00:03:49,530 --> 00:03:52,740

83
00:03:52,740 --> 00:03:55,900
He stayed in the army
until he was discharged.

84
00:03:55,900 --> 00:03:58,740
And, as I indicated
in the outline--

85
00:03:58,740 --> 00:04:04,170
in the outline, I never
knew why he was discharged.

86
00:04:04,170 --> 00:04:10,800
He came back to us in 1940.

87
00:04:10,800 --> 00:04:14,790
I was-- at that time
I was eight years old.

88
00:04:14,790 --> 00:04:17,130

And did you have any siblings?

89

00:04:17,130 --> 00:04:18,479

Yes, I have a sister.

90

00:04:18,479 --> 00:04:21,010

91

00:04:21,010 --> 00:04:24,000

Her name was
Paulette Fensterheim.

92

00:04:24,000 --> 00:04:26,670

93

00:04:26,670 --> 00:04:32,700

She ultimately
was-- well, I mean,

94

00:04:32,700 --> 00:04:34,920

this is going to the
end of my outline.

95

00:04:34,920 --> 00:04:39,240

But she ultimately
was her name was

96

00:04:39,240 --> 00:04:45,210

changed to Paulette Elkins when
she came to the United States.

97

00:04:45,210 --> 00:04:51,720

And ultimately she married
and became Paulette Brown.

98

00:04:51,720 --> 00:04:57,360

She presently lives
in Atlanta, Georgia.

99

00:04:57,360 --> 00:05:04,420

She was born the
27th of April, 1940.

100

00:05:04,420 --> 00:05:08,260

She married and had two sons.

101

00:05:08,260 --> 00:05:11,080

Her husband died

a few years ago,

102

00:05:11,080 --> 00:05:14,785

by the name of

Sidney, Sidney Brown.

103

00:05:14,785 --> 00:05:17,240

There was a good spread

between the two of you,

104

00:05:17,240 --> 00:05:18,740

because you were

born in '32, right?

105

00:05:18,740 --> 00:05:20,800

So you were about eight

when she was born.

106

00:05:20,800 --> 00:05:21,320

Right.

107

00:05:21,320 --> 00:05:29,080

She was born in 1940,

27th of April, 1940.

108

00:05:29,080 --> 00:05:39,160

So then when my father

came back shortly after,

109

00:05:39,160 --> 00:05:43,750

a few months, justF a very

few months that I can recall.

110

00:05:43,750 --> 00:05:45,400

You know, I was eight years--

111

00:05:45,400 --> 00:05:46,210

eight years old.

112
00:05:46,210 --> 00:05:50,290

113
00:05:50,290 --> 00:05:54,100
We were doing, and I think I
indicated that in my online,

114
00:05:54,100 --> 00:05:56,830
we were doing errands
for my mother.

115
00:05:56,830 --> 00:06:01,780
And the Germans had
already occupied Paris.

116
00:06:01,780 --> 00:06:08,770
And of course being Jewish
we were all required not only

117
00:06:08,770 --> 00:06:14,440
to register by name,
address, so forth and so on,

118
00:06:14,440 --> 00:06:17,530
and also wear the Star of David.

119
00:06:17,530 --> 00:06:21,290
And everybody was
required to do so.

120
00:06:21,290 --> 00:06:25,330
So I can recall
that quite vividly

121
00:06:25,330 --> 00:06:31,900
that two German soldiers
seeing us with--

122
00:06:31,900 --> 00:06:40,000
walking with the Star of David
on our chest, so to speak,

123
00:06:40,000 --> 00:06:46,390
stopped us and asked my
father for carte d'identite,

124
00:06:46,390 --> 00:06:53,560
which is an ID card, which we
were all required to carry.

125
00:06:53,560 --> 00:06:57,640
And my father spoke
several languages.

126
00:06:57,640 --> 00:07:03,160
He was-- he spoke-- he
spoke over nine languages.

127
00:07:03,160 --> 00:07:11,170
And when he was asked
what nationality,

128
00:07:11,170 --> 00:07:15,970
he replied being a Polack,
excuse the expression,

129
00:07:15,970 --> 00:07:22,900
since I'm 100% Polack
myself that I tend to read

130
00:07:22,900 --> 00:07:27,470
and and I think he
said it in French.

131
00:07:27,470 --> 00:07:30,670
And I think he repeated
it in German since he

132
00:07:30,670 --> 00:07:32,830
was fluent in German as well.

133
00:07:32,830 --> 00:07:38,740
And the Germans didn't
quite care for his reply.

134
00:07:38,740 --> 00:07:42,230
And they arrested him.

135
00:07:42,230 --> 00:07:45,580
And they didn't touch me.

136
00:07:45,580 --> 00:07:51,260
My father told me in
French to go home.

137
00:07:51,260 --> 00:07:52,390
And I did.

138
00:07:52,390 --> 00:07:55,570
And I went home, so to speak.

139
00:07:55,570 --> 00:08:02,070
I told-- my mother asked me what
happened because she had sent

140
00:08:02,070 --> 00:08:07,060
us for an errand and I came back
empty handed even without what

141
00:08:07,060 --> 00:08:09,700
she asked, without my father.

142
00:08:09,700 --> 00:08:12,550
And I told her what
happened, what transpired.

143
00:08:12,550 --> 00:08:18,560
And she understood because he
was a character, so to speak.

144
00:08:18,560 --> 00:08:26,560
And so he was released.

145
00:08:26,560 --> 00:08:33,820
He was released shortly after,
I would say, if I can recall,

146
00:08:33,820 --> 00:08:37,120
it was either 24 or 48 hours.

147
00:08:37,120 --> 00:08:41,520
And at that time there were
not amassing or gathering

148
00:08:41,520 --> 00:08:45,250
the Jews for their deportation.

149
00:08:45,250 --> 00:08:48,940
And so he was--

150
00:08:48,940 --> 00:08:49,750
he was released.

151
00:08:49,750 --> 00:08:56,830
And shortly after, this is
when the recall for men only.

152
00:08:56,830 --> 00:09:01,600

153
00:09:01,600 --> 00:09:05,590
It was recall supposedly
by the French military,

154
00:09:05,590 --> 00:09:09,310
since he had been in
the French military.

155
00:09:09,310 --> 00:09:13,120
And it was recalled
and we reported

156
00:09:13,120 --> 00:09:16,480
we accompanied, my
mother and I, we

157
00:09:16,480 --> 00:09:21,940
accompanied him to

a place in Paris,

158

00:09:21,940 --> 00:09:27,160
in the Ninth District of Paris,
which was around the Place de

159

00:09:27,160 --> 00:09:29,020
l'Opera.

160

00:09:29,020 --> 00:09:34,210
I don't recall the building
or anything like this.

161

00:09:34,210 --> 00:09:37,120
I was-- it just--

162

00:09:37,120 --> 00:09:41,020
I guess I was too young to
recall something like this.

163

00:09:41,020 --> 00:09:44,260
Do you mind if I go back
just a little bit, actually

164

00:09:44,260 --> 00:09:46,030
before your father's arrest?

165

00:09:46,030 --> 00:09:47,320
OK.

166

00:09:47,320 --> 00:09:49,120
I know you were very
young, so obviously,

167

00:09:49,120 --> 00:09:51,950
if you can't remember these
details, don't worry about it.

168

00:09:51,950 --> 00:09:55,570
But I would like to
ask what was the nature

169

00:09:55,570 --> 00:10:00,490
of your religious life
with your family in Paris

170
00:10:00,490 --> 00:10:03,010
during those early years?

171
00:10:03,010 --> 00:10:04,420
Religious wise?

172
00:10:04,420 --> 00:10:05,710
Yes.

173
00:10:05,710 --> 00:10:07,870
Not much.

174
00:10:07,870 --> 00:10:10,900
We didn't we didn't attend
synagogue or anything

175
00:10:10,900 --> 00:10:13,990
like that I can recall.

176
00:10:13,990 --> 00:10:18,760
And did your family have
any political affiliations?

177
00:10:18,760 --> 00:10:20,990
Not that I know of, no.

178
00:10:20,990 --> 00:10:21,850
OK.

179
00:10:21,850 --> 00:10:25,870
And did you have other
members of your family living

180
00:10:25,870 --> 00:10:30,220
in Paris, either family
who was already there

181
00:10:30,220 --> 00:10:33,380

or had come from Poland
with your parents?

182
00:10:33,380 --> 00:10:41,740
Yes, we had-- my mother
had three sisters.

183
00:10:41,740 --> 00:10:44,450
The first one was living
in Cleveland, Ohio.

184
00:10:44,450 --> 00:10:52,870
And she immigrated-- she met
an American and ultimately they

185
00:10:52,870 --> 00:10:55,750
got married and immigrated--

186
00:10:55,750 --> 00:10:59,290
she immigrated to
Cleveland, Ohio.

187
00:10:59,290 --> 00:11:00,760
Before the war.

188
00:11:00,760 --> 00:11:01,930
Before the war, yes.

189
00:11:01,930 --> 00:11:03,970
OK.

190
00:11:03,970 --> 00:11:07,780
My two other sisters,
the first one,

191
00:11:07,780 --> 00:11:10,810
by the name of
Fernande Bernstein--

192
00:11:10,810 --> 00:11:13,960
B-E-R-- I hope I'm
spelling it right--

193

00:11:13,960 --> 00:11:19,800
B-E-R-N-S-T-E-I-N, Fernande.

194

00:11:19,800 --> 00:11:27,250
The Fernande is with an E, the
ending is with an E, Fernande.

195

00:11:27,250 --> 00:11:34,360
And her husband was
Dolek, D-O-L-E-K.

196

00:11:34,360 --> 00:11:41,970
And they had a daughter by
the name of Lillian Bernstein.

197

00:11:41,970 --> 00:11:43,320
OK.

198

00:11:43,320 --> 00:11:51,620
Her other sister was Ana,
A-N-N-A, Micenmacher,

199

00:11:51,620 --> 00:11:55,860
M-I-C-E-N-M-A-C-H-E-R.

200

00:11:55,860 --> 00:11:57,980
Great, thank you.

201

00:11:57,980 --> 00:12:02,540
And I can't remember her
husband's name to save my life.

202

00:12:02,540 --> 00:12:04,990
That's OK.

203

00:12:04,990 --> 00:12:09,580
Her son-- they had one son
by the name of Marcel, who

204

00:12:09,580 --> 00:12:13,280
was about three years
younger than I was.

205

00:12:13,280 --> 00:12:21,416

Lillian was the daughter
of Fernande Bernstein,

206

00:12:21,416 --> 00:12:23,270

who was two years--

207

00:12:23,270 --> 00:12:33,290

about two years older than I
was, born around 1930 or '31.

208

00:12:33,290 --> 00:12:38,240

And Marcel was about two or
three years younger than I was.

209

00:12:38,240 --> 00:12:41,810

210

00:12:41,810 --> 00:12:48,320

And then we had a cousin
by the name of Maya.

211

00:12:48,320 --> 00:12:53,700

As I indicated in
my outline to you,

212

00:12:53,700 --> 00:13:00,110

she was a milliner, designed
and created women's hats.

213

00:13:00,110 --> 00:13:04,040

At that time, I guess that was--

214

00:13:04,040 --> 00:13:09,590

in France, it was a
big deal, fashion wise.

215

00:13:09,590 --> 00:13:17,800

And my grandmother, of course,
was Rose Bachner, but actually

216

00:13:17,800 --> 00:13:20,520
her real name was Ruchla--

217
00:13:20,520 --> 00:13:25,500
R-U-C-H-L-A. But she
went by the name of Rose,

218
00:13:25,500 --> 00:13:32,721
which interpreted is
actually Rose, Ruchla.

219
00:13:32,721 --> 00:13:33,221
OK.

220
00:13:33,221 --> 00:13:36,050

221
00:13:36,050 --> 00:13:44,010
She was living in Paris, in
the swanky district of Paris,

222
00:13:44,010 --> 00:13:46,328
which was Rue de Rivoli.

223
00:13:46,328 --> 00:13:48,520
OK.

224
00:13:48,520 --> 00:13:56,750
My cousin was living in the--

225
00:13:56,750 --> 00:14:01,430
I'm thinking it's still the
Ninth District, not too far

226
00:14:01,430 --> 00:14:04,080
from--

227
00:14:04,080 --> 00:14:07,610
in a very, very
beautiful apartment

228
00:14:07,610 --> 00:14:12,590

as well, where her workshop
and everything else was.

229
00:14:12,590 --> 00:14:16,400
And so those were
the relatives that

230
00:14:16,400 --> 00:14:19,010
were actually living in France.

231
00:14:19,010 --> 00:14:26,390
My paternal grandmother and
grandfather, I never knew them.

232
00:14:26,390 --> 00:14:28,580
They never came to France.

233
00:14:28,580 --> 00:14:34,370
They must have died
during World War

234
00:14:34,370 --> 00:14:43,700
II as well, because Poland was
also invaded by the Germans.

235
00:14:43,700 --> 00:14:44,790
I never got to know them.

236
00:14:44,790 --> 00:14:49,340
I don't know who they
were or whatever,

237
00:14:49,340 --> 00:14:56,960
except on my father's
death certificate, where

238
00:14:56,960 --> 00:15:03,500
it names his father
and his mother's name.

239
00:15:03,500 --> 00:15:06,110

240

00:15:06,110 --> 00:15:08,465

And did your parents
become French citizens?

241

00:15:08,465 --> 00:15:10,010

Did what?

242

00:15:10,010 --> 00:15:12,800

Did your parents
become French citizens?

243

00:15:12,800 --> 00:15:14,810

No, not that I know of.

244

00:15:14,810 --> 00:15:18,380

No, I'm pretty sure they didn't.

245

00:15:18,380 --> 00:15:22,070

And what about
anything you remember

246

00:15:22,070 --> 00:15:25,790

about like daily life for
you during those years living

247

00:15:25,790 --> 00:15:27,590

in Paris?

248

00:15:27,590 --> 00:15:29,710

What language did
you speak at home?

249

00:15:29,710 --> 00:15:31,390

Did you go to school?

250

00:15:31,390 --> 00:15:32,810

Yes.

251

00:15:32,810 --> 00:15:34,130

Sort of a little bit more--

252

00:15:34,130 --> 00:15:36,530
paint me a picture of
what day-to-day life was

253
00:15:36,530 --> 00:15:37,670
like for you.

254
00:15:37,670 --> 00:15:40,460
Well, of course,
as a young kid, I

255
00:15:40,460 --> 00:15:48,050
did go to school, and before
the war, and during the war,

256
00:15:48,050 --> 00:15:56,990
and until 1942.

257
00:15:56,990 --> 00:15:59,220
And it was a secular school?

258
00:15:59,220 --> 00:16:00,770
No.

259
00:16:00,770 --> 00:16:04,340
It was a public school.

260
00:16:04,340 --> 00:16:05,690
OK.

261
00:16:05,690 --> 00:16:13,340
And I did what most kids
do, play around, play around

262
00:16:13,340 --> 00:16:18,410
and I went to school.

263
00:16:18,410 --> 00:16:19,745
I don't remember--

264
00:16:19,745 --> 00:16:21,620
I don't even remember

which school I went to.

265

00:16:21,620 --> 00:16:24,350

266

00:16:24,350 --> 00:16:31,100

The turmoil that I underwent,
names just escape me.

267

00:16:31,100 --> 00:16:34,760

But anyway, I went to school
just like any other kid.

268

00:16:34,760 --> 00:16:38,230

And played around and
this and the other.

269

00:16:38,230 --> 00:16:41,200

270

00:16:41,200 --> 00:16:48,850

My main language was French,
but by my parents, being Polish,

271

00:16:48,850 --> 00:16:54,940

and my grandmother also being
Polish and speaking herself

272

00:16:54,940 --> 00:17:04,030

about seven to nine
languages, I was the--

273

00:17:04,030 --> 00:17:07,599

I picked up quite
a bit of languages,

274

00:17:07,599 --> 00:17:10,630

Polish as well as French,
as well as German.

275

00:17:10,630 --> 00:17:19,390

And so-- and they used to say
a few things to me in Polish,

276
00:17:19,390 --> 00:17:25,839
and German, and Jewish,
and, of course, French.

277
00:17:25,839 --> 00:17:31,480
Of course, their main
language was Polish.

278
00:17:31,480 --> 00:17:33,470
That's their main
language, and, of course,

279
00:17:33,470 --> 00:17:36,955
Jewish and the Jewish dialect.

280
00:17:36,955 --> 00:17:40,420

281
00:17:40,420 --> 00:17:41,500
Yiddish.

282
00:17:41,500 --> 00:17:43,300
Yiddish, yes.

283
00:17:43,300 --> 00:17:44,600
Gotcha.

284
00:17:44,600 --> 00:17:46,650
Thank you for-- thank
you for reminding me.

285
00:17:46,650 --> 00:17:48,070
Sure, no, I was just clarifying.

286
00:17:48,070 --> 00:17:50,290
Thank you.

287
00:17:50,290 --> 00:18:01,710
And so in 1942, that's when
I stopped going to school.

288
00:18:01,710 --> 00:18:04,240
OK.

289
00:18:04,240 --> 00:18:07,870
Did your sister, she was
only two at the time,

290
00:18:07,870 --> 00:18:10,480
so your mother was home
taking care of her,

291
00:18:10,480 --> 00:18:14,230
and your father was a tailor,
like what you said, right?

292
00:18:14,230 --> 00:18:15,940
Was a tailor, yes, ma'am.

293
00:18:15,940 --> 00:18:19,790
OK, and you said it was
a one-room apartment.

294
00:18:19,790 --> 00:18:23,800
Yes, we had a one-room
apartment in the Ninth District

295
00:18:23,800 --> 00:18:27,020
on the fourth floor

296
00:18:27,020 --> 00:18:28,570
OK.

297
00:18:28,570 --> 00:18:30,430
You all lived together
in that one room.

298
00:18:30,430 --> 00:18:35,390
With a community toilet.

299
00:18:35,390 --> 00:18:36,040
Wow.

300

00:18:36,040 --> 00:18:37,150

We didn't have any--

301

00:18:37,150 --> 00:18:39,880

302

00:18:39,880 --> 00:18:42,400

this one-room apartment
was quite small.

303

00:18:42,400 --> 00:18:46,465

And we had-- it was kitchen
and everything else.

304

00:18:46,465 --> 00:18:49,480

305

00:18:49,480 --> 00:18:53,590

So we were-- well,
my father was trying

306

00:18:53,590 --> 00:18:55,000

to get established I guess.

307

00:18:55,000 --> 00:19:02,410

And with him being in the
military, we were quite poor.

308

00:19:02,410 --> 00:19:07,090

And I think I so
indicated in my outline.

309

00:19:07,090 --> 00:19:08,200

Yes.

310

00:19:08,200 --> 00:19:12,130

And do you remember
any friends that you

311

00:19:12,130 --> 00:19:13,690

made during those years?

312
00:19:13,690 --> 00:19:16,420
Or if you participated,
like if you

313
00:19:16,420 --> 00:19:19,330
had any hobbies or
any affiliations

314
00:19:19,330 --> 00:19:20,800
with any organizations?

315
00:19:20,800 --> 00:19:23,710
I know you were very
young, but anything else

316
00:19:23,710 --> 00:19:26,440
that comes to mind
during that time.

317
00:19:26,440 --> 00:19:30,250
No, I didn't.

318
00:19:30,250 --> 00:19:34,782
Yes, I know I had--

319
00:19:34,782 --> 00:19:38,710
I had acquaintances, if
you will, not real buddies,

320
00:19:38,710 --> 00:19:40,400
when I was going to school.

321
00:19:40,400 --> 00:19:46,730
But I was going to school up
to the age of 10 years old.

322
00:19:46,730 --> 00:19:47,830
10 years old, right.

323
00:19:47,830 --> 00:19:49,660
So I don't recall.

324

00:19:49,660 --> 00:19:53,530

I had acquaintances,
people that I--

325

00:19:53,530 --> 00:19:55,390

kids that I played with.

326

00:19:55,390 --> 00:19:57,130

And then I don't recall--

327

00:19:57,130 --> 00:19:59,360

I don't recall my
mother and father,

328

00:19:59,360 --> 00:20:05,730

when they were both together,
having any acquaintances

329

00:20:05,730 --> 00:20:12,010

or friends, if you will
during their togetherness,

330

00:20:12,010 --> 00:20:15,460

so to speak, before--

331

00:20:15,460 --> 00:20:24,360

Once again, I think since we
were quite poor, friends--

332

00:20:24,360 --> 00:20:27,767

we didn't-- there weren't
that many friends--

333

00:20:27,767 --> 00:20:28,600

Right, I understand.

334

00:20:28,600 --> 00:20:32,650

--that we could get
together with you.

335

00:20:32,650 --> 00:20:33,560

Right.

336
00:20:33,560 --> 00:20:35,600
That I can recall, anyway.

337
00:20:35,600 --> 00:20:36,100
OK.

338
00:20:36,100 --> 00:20:40,570
The only thing that we did
get together is with family.

339
00:20:40,570 --> 00:20:41,560
Right.

340
00:20:41,560 --> 00:20:44,080
You had a lot of family
living in France.

341
00:20:44,080 --> 00:20:50,650
Yeah, once again,
our main matriarch

342
00:20:50,650 --> 00:20:54,910
was my grandmother,
Rose Bachner.

343
00:20:54,910 --> 00:21:00,130
And she was the one
that held the, so

344
00:21:00,130 --> 00:21:01,735
to speak, the family together.

345
00:21:01,735 --> 00:21:04,520

346
00:21:04,520 --> 00:21:10,480
But that's about all I can
say about my childhood,

347
00:21:10,480 --> 00:21:13,720
as far as my childhood in Paris.

348
00:21:13,720 --> 00:21:15,190
Right, of course.

349
00:21:15,190 --> 00:21:20,440
From the day I was
born till 1942,

350
00:21:20,440 --> 00:21:26,470
before things started
to materialize

351
00:21:26,470 --> 00:21:32,320
as far as the gathering
of Jews in Europe.

352
00:21:32,320 --> 00:21:38,260
Do you remember any antisemitism
going on during those years,

353
00:21:38,260 --> 00:21:43,230
either in your school
or in your neighborhood?

354
00:21:43,230 --> 00:21:45,510
And along those lines,
what was the relationship

355
00:21:45,510 --> 00:21:50,220
between the Jews and
the non-Jews in where

356
00:21:50,220 --> 00:21:51,300
you were living?

357
00:21:51,300 --> 00:21:58,770
In the building, we had a
building superintendent.

358
00:21:58,770 --> 00:22:00,720
They call it concierges.

359

00:22:00,720 --> 00:22:01,320
OK.

360
00:22:01,320 --> 00:22:04,680
And I think we
were, in fact, I'm

361
00:22:04,680 --> 00:22:09,120
pretty sure we were the only
Jews living in that building.

362
00:22:09,120 --> 00:22:19,360
And it was an apartment building
in the Ninth District of Paris.

363
00:22:19,360 --> 00:22:20,470
OK.

364
00:22:20,470 --> 00:22:23,740
In fact, it was near the--

365
00:22:23,740 --> 00:22:28,090
it was right in
the Place Pigalle--

366
00:22:28,090 --> 00:22:33,780
P-I-G-- P-I-G-A-L-L-E.

367
00:22:33,780 --> 00:22:34,280
OK.

368
00:22:34,280 --> 00:22:36,520
The Place Pigalle
after the war became

369
00:22:36,520 --> 00:22:46,120
quite a pornographic type
of thing after the war.

370
00:22:46,120 --> 00:22:46,930
Wow, OK.

371

00:22:46,930 --> 00:22:49,720

372

00:22:49,720 --> 00:22:52,510

There was all
kinds of burlesque,

373

00:22:52,510 --> 00:22:57,640

and prostitution,
and everything else.

374

00:22:57,640 --> 00:23:03,610

At least that's what
I heard anyway, when

375

00:23:03,610 --> 00:23:06,520

I was old enough to find out.

376

00:23:06,520 --> 00:23:08,620

Right.

377

00:23:08,620 --> 00:23:13,440

But we were living there.

378

00:23:13,440 --> 00:23:15,800

And once again, not
to be redundant,

379

00:23:15,800 --> 00:23:18,440

we were the only Jews
in that building.

380

00:23:18,440 --> 00:23:19,670

OK.

381

00:23:19,670 --> 00:23:21,150

OK.

382

00:23:21,150 --> 00:23:24,070

So did you feel that--

383

00:23:24,070 --> 00:23:27,700

did you feel that, that you were
the only Jews in the building?

384
00:23:27,700 --> 00:23:31,582
Like do you think
people were antisemitic?

385
00:23:31,582 --> 00:23:32,260
No, no.

386
00:23:32,260 --> 00:23:37,910

387
00:23:37,910 --> 00:23:42,770
People didn't associate, that I
can recall, with one another--

388
00:23:42,770 --> 00:23:43,550
OK.

389
00:23:43,550 --> 00:23:44,570
--within that building.

390
00:23:44,570 --> 00:23:49,190
So I don't think
they even knew--

391
00:23:49,190 --> 00:23:54,740
except for one person that I
remember on the third floor.

392
00:23:54,740 --> 00:24:01,130
She was-- I remember
her and my grandmother

393
00:24:01,130 --> 00:24:03,440
had some conversation.

394
00:24:03,440 --> 00:24:07,500
But no, no close association.

395
00:24:07,500 --> 00:24:08,360

OK.

396

00:24:08,360 --> 00:24:15,080

But otherwise, the
status of being poor

397

00:24:15,080 --> 00:24:23,540

just didn't entertain itself
for much association, I guess.

398

00:24:23,540 --> 00:24:24,680

OK.

399

00:24:24,680 --> 00:24:28,420

And were there are a lot of
Jews who attended your school?

400

00:24:28,420 --> 00:24:30,260

Not that I recall.

401

00:24:30,260 --> 00:24:30,760

OK.

402

00:24:30,760 --> 00:24:35,380

403

00:24:35,380 --> 00:24:39,730

I do remember some kids wearing
the Star of David when we

404

00:24:39,730 --> 00:24:43,540

were required, but not before--

405

00:24:43,540 --> 00:24:50,380

I don't recall any
Jewish boys or girls

406

00:24:50,380 --> 00:24:56,800

prior to the requirement of
wearing the Star of David.

407

00:24:56,800 --> 00:24:58,960

And do you remember
when you started

408
00:24:58,960 --> 00:25:00,850
being required to wear it?

409
00:25:00,850 --> 00:25:04,180
And if there were any
other sort of laws or rules

410
00:25:04,180 --> 00:25:07,390
that you had to follow
around that time?

411
00:25:07,390 --> 00:25:09,760
Well, we were
required to register,

412
00:25:09,760 --> 00:25:11,590
as I told you previously.

413
00:25:11,590 --> 00:25:13,540
We were required to register.

414
00:25:13,540 --> 00:25:19,180
And upon registration, we were--

415
00:25:19,180 --> 00:25:24,220
the French government
gave us the Star

416
00:25:24,220 --> 00:25:27,610
of David, which is a Juif--

417
00:25:27,610 --> 00:25:34,990
J-U-I-F, which meant Jew,
translated meant Jew.

418
00:25:34,990 --> 00:25:37,660
And this was--

419
00:25:37,660 --> 00:25:42,520

I would say this was in 1940--

420
00:25:42,520 --> 00:25:45,130
yeah, in 1940 when
the requirement

421
00:25:45,130 --> 00:25:52,810
was levied upon the Jews.

422
00:25:52,810 --> 00:26:02,230
And so at that time, I saw
maybe a couple Jewish kids,

423
00:26:02,230 --> 00:26:04,590
but I don't recall--

424
00:26:04,590 --> 00:26:07,720
I don't recall their name
or anything like this.

425
00:26:07,720 --> 00:26:14,860
And I think I indicated also, I
was put in a Jewish orphanage.

426
00:26:14,860 --> 00:26:23,020
And it was-- it was
quite hectic because they

427
00:26:23,020 --> 00:26:28,780
had begun to gather the men.

428
00:26:28,780 --> 00:26:33,880
And so my grandmother
and Maya decided

429
00:26:33,880 --> 00:26:40,270
to move me out of the
one Jewish orphanage

430
00:26:40,270 --> 00:26:43,930
and put me into
another orphanage.

431

00:26:43,930 --> 00:26:52,640

And that didn't work out
because I was picked on

432

00:26:52,640 --> 00:26:57,710

and called a dirty
Jew, a sal Juif.

433

00:26:57,710 --> 00:27:01,510

434

00:27:01,510 --> 00:27:06,040

And it became hectic for the
Jewish population in Europe,

435

00:27:06,040 --> 00:27:08,240

and in France as well.

436

00:27:08,240 --> 00:27:15,970

And so Maya and my grandmother,
as I indicated, pulled me out.

437

00:27:15,970 --> 00:27:24,520

My grandmother also had
been in charge of my sister.

438

00:27:24,520 --> 00:27:29,879

She had taken care of
my sister during the--

439

00:27:29,879 --> 00:27:33,340

during the deportation.

440

00:27:33,340 --> 00:27:35,110

So can you just take
me back a little

441

00:27:35,110 --> 00:27:37,330

bit before you were
put in the orphanage.

442

00:27:37,330 --> 00:27:41,590

Your father and your mother
were arrested, right?

443
00:27:41,590 --> 00:27:42,640
Yes.

444
00:27:42,640 --> 00:27:45,790
OK, so first, tell
me about the day--

445
00:27:45,790 --> 00:27:47,920
your father was
arrested first, correct?

446
00:27:47,920 --> 00:27:48,760
Yes.

447
00:27:48,760 --> 00:27:51,100
So first, tell me about
how that came about

448
00:27:51,100 --> 00:27:52,840
and what happened that day.

449
00:27:52,840 --> 00:27:55,370
You were still living at
home at the time, right?

450
00:27:55,370 --> 00:27:58,760
He got a notice to report.

451
00:27:58,760 --> 00:27:59,470
OK.

452
00:27:59,470 --> 00:28:01,060
He got a notice to report.

453
00:28:01,060 --> 00:28:06,100
And the report was sent
by the French military

454
00:28:06,100 --> 00:28:09,450

under the French government.

455
00:28:09,450 --> 00:28:10,400
OK.

456
00:28:10,400 --> 00:28:15,070
And that's when I told
you, we reported to a place

457
00:28:15,070 --> 00:28:17,470
near the Place de l'Opera.

458
00:28:17,470 --> 00:28:27,880
And when we got there, the
French gendarme, or the police,

459
00:28:27,880 --> 00:28:36,960
met us in this humongous
room, so to speak.

460
00:28:36,960 --> 00:28:40,730
And we were still together.

461
00:28:40,730 --> 00:28:47,140
And then all of a sudden,
the German soldiers,

462
00:28:47,140 --> 00:28:52,230
or the German military came
in, and told the French police

463
00:28:52,230 --> 00:29:00,160
to separate the children
and women from the men.

464
00:29:00,160 --> 00:29:06,670
And that was in 1940.

465
00:29:06,670 --> 00:29:08,620
And that was it.

466
00:29:08,620 --> 00:29:14,290

We saw-- I saw my
father once before he

467
00:29:14,290 --> 00:29:19,220
was sent to Auschwitz.

468
00:29:19,220 --> 00:29:21,970
You mean after he was arrested,
you were able to see him once?

469
00:29:21,970 --> 00:29:22,660
Yes.

470
00:29:22,660 --> 00:29:26,285
Well, what happened--
what happened,

471
00:29:26,285 --> 00:29:28,580
he was first interned--

472
00:29:28,580 --> 00:29:30,430
and I put it down--

473
00:29:30,430 --> 00:29:33,490
I think in October 1940.

474
00:29:33,490 --> 00:29:38,830
Then he was transferred
to another French camp

475
00:29:38,830 --> 00:29:42,670
in November of that same year.

476
00:29:42,670 --> 00:29:48,670
And then he was transferred
to another camp in 1941.

477
00:29:48,670 --> 00:29:53,800
And then another
camp during 1941.

478
00:29:53,800 --> 00:30:01,660

And then he went to another camp
by the name of Compiègne, which

479

00:30:01,660 --> 00:30:08,380
is north of Paris, in May 1942.

480

00:30:08,380 --> 00:30:14,740
And all these camps
were under the direction

481

00:30:14,740 --> 00:30:19,600
of the German occupation
forces, but the French--

482

00:30:19,600 --> 00:30:24,850
the French were actually
manning the camps.

483

00:30:24,850 --> 00:30:25,420
OK.

484

00:30:25,420 --> 00:30:33,370
And then my father was deported
to Auschwitz in June 1942.

485

00:30:33,370 --> 00:30:35,290
OK.

486

00:30:35,290 --> 00:30:39,280
And then according to
the death certificate

487

00:30:39,280 --> 00:30:47,560
that I acquired from the
French authority, he was--

488

00:30:47,560 --> 00:30:50,380
the death certificate
indicates that he was--

489

00:30:50,380 --> 00:30:53,020

490

00:30:53,020 --> 00:30:58,150

he died in July

1942, about a month

491

00:30:58,150 --> 00:31:01,630

or so after arriving

in Auschwitz.

492

00:31:01,630 --> 00:31:10,330

So he wasn't immediately

gassed, as many Jews were.

493

00:31:10,330 --> 00:31:12,080

As to my mother--

494

00:31:12,080 --> 00:31:12,580

Wait.

495

00:31:12,580 --> 00:31:14,750

And at what point

did you see him.

496

00:31:14,750 --> 00:31:15,910

You said you saw him.

497

00:31:15,910 --> 00:31:16,930

In Compiègne.

498

00:31:16,930 --> 00:31:19,450

OK, you were able

to come visit him?

499

00:31:19,450 --> 00:31:24,280

Yes, we saw him for

about less than an hour.

500

00:31:24,280 --> 00:31:25,540

OK.

501

00:31:25,540 --> 00:31:33,980

He had sent a

postcard to my mother

502
00:31:33,980 --> 00:31:37,300
indicating that
he could be seen.

503
00:31:37,300 --> 00:31:39,200
And there it was.

504
00:31:39,200 --> 00:31:43,470
So we took-- if I'm not
mistaken, if I remember right,

505
00:31:43,470 --> 00:31:45,140
we took the train.

506
00:31:45,140 --> 00:31:50,150
And we saw him for
less than an hour.

507
00:31:50,150 --> 00:31:56,906
And, of course, he didn't know
where he was being shipped to.

508
00:31:56,906 --> 00:31:59,270
Do you remember anything
about that visit,

509
00:31:59,270 --> 00:32:03,500
like what he had said about
where he was at the time

510
00:32:03,500 --> 00:32:08,900
and how he was being
treated, anything like that?

511
00:32:08,900 --> 00:32:11,870
He always-- he started
looking, excuse the expression,

512
00:32:11,870 --> 00:32:14,690
he started looking
like hell already.

513

00:32:14,690 --> 00:32:20,240

Because he had been
almost two years in,

514

00:32:20,240 --> 00:32:23,190

I called it labor camps.

515

00:32:23,190 --> 00:32:28,340

And he was- he had
lost a lot of weight.

516

00:32:28,340 --> 00:32:39,740

And his being was not
normal, that's for sure.

517

00:32:39,740 --> 00:32:46,625

And his physique
had degraded itself.

518

00:32:46,625 --> 00:32:50,600

519

00:32:50,600 --> 00:32:56,240

And he went through
some hard time, I guess.

520

00:32:56,240 --> 00:32:58,740

I don't guess, I know.

521

00:32:58,740 --> 00:33:02,960

And he ultimately,
out of Compiegne,

522

00:33:02,960 --> 00:33:07,340

was deported to Auschwitz.

523

00:33:07,340 --> 00:33:09,350

And he was--

524

00:33:09,350 --> 00:33:15,680

I presume he had to be strong
enough to last for a month.

525
00:33:15,680 --> 00:33:22,380
But having been interned
for a couple of years,

526
00:33:22,380 --> 00:33:29,690
I'm sure he was weaker
than his original being.

527
00:33:29,690 --> 00:33:33,140
And he succumbed to--

528
00:33:33,140 --> 00:33:40,910
either he got gassed or he just
died from hunger, and labor,

529
00:33:40,910 --> 00:33:42,200
and everything else.

530
00:33:42,200 --> 00:33:43,700
I don't know how he died.

531
00:33:43,700 --> 00:33:49,000
So I can only assume
he was either gassed

532
00:33:49,000 --> 00:33:53,810
or he succumbed to
weakness and hunger

533
00:33:53,810 --> 00:33:58,260
after all these years
of being interned.

534
00:33:58,260 --> 00:33:59,030
OK.

535
00:33:59,030 --> 00:34:04,070
Now, as to my mother, she--

536
00:34:04,070 --> 00:34:08,690
and, oh, you asked

me about whether--

537

00:34:08,690 --> 00:34:12,080

I didn't partake in any
conversation between my mother

538

00:34:12,080 --> 00:34:18,800

and my father during the short
time that we got to see him.

539

00:34:18,800 --> 00:34:21,199

And I think I stated
I was more or less

540

00:34:21,199 --> 00:34:24,560

a bystander, little kid.

541

00:34:24,560 --> 00:34:25,429

Right.

542

00:34:25,429 --> 00:34:26,889

OK.

543

00:34:26,889 --> 00:34:31,639

I remember him hugging
me, but that's about it.

544

00:34:31,639 --> 00:34:33,500

I understand.

545

00:34:33,500 --> 00:34:35,840

We didn't engage in
any conversation.

546

00:34:35,840 --> 00:34:37,429

OK.

547

00:34:37,429 --> 00:34:41,150

So that's about all I can say.

548

00:34:41,150 --> 00:34:48,780

That was-- the last we

saw of him was in 1942.

549
00:34:48,780 --> 00:34:49,639
OK.

550
00:34:49,639 --> 00:34:57,000
Now, once again, I got to tell
you, and I think I so stated,

551
00:34:57,000 --> 00:35:00,390
he was quite a
rugged individual.

552
00:35:00,390 --> 00:35:05,190
And with a character, a temper.

553
00:35:05,190 --> 00:35:06,255
I can recall a temper.

554
00:35:06,255 --> 00:35:09,110

555
00:35:09,110 --> 00:35:17,860
He didn't take
much from anybody.

556
00:35:17,860 --> 00:35:18,690
And he was--

557
00:35:18,690 --> 00:35:22,940

558
00:35:22,940 --> 00:35:24,120
I don't know.

559
00:35:24,120 --> 00:35:27,270
whether I should tell
you this, but he was not

560
00:35:27,270 --> 00:35:29,410
very kind to my mother.

561

00:35:29,410 --> 00:35:31,290

OK.

562

00:35:31,290 --> 00:35:33,300

That's all I'm
going to tell you.

563

00:35:33,300 --> 00:35:36,300

I understand.

564

00:35:36,300 --> 00:35:40,350

And I saw that
firsthand, by the way.

565

00:35:40,350 --> 00:35:41,220

OK.

566

00:35:41,220 --> 00:35:43,420

But I don't want to go through--

567

00:35:43,420 --> 00:35:45,960

I don't want to go through--

568

00:35:45,960 --> 00:35:50,760

I cherish his memory, so I don't
want to go through telling you

569

00:35:50,760 --> 00:35:55,322

what his unkindness was.

570

00:35:55,322 --> 00:35:56,155

Right, I understand.

571

00:35:56,155 --> 00:35:57,210

I understand.

572

00:35:57,210 --> 00:36:04,770

And as far as my mother, we got
a call from her sister, Anna.

573

00:36:04,770 --> 00:36:09,130

574

00:36:09,130 --> 00:36:16,790

And she wanted my mother to--

575

00:36:16,790 --> 00:36:19,000

we didn't have a
phone, by the way.

576

00:36:19,000 --> 00:36:22,890

It was the concierge's, or
the building superintendent's.

577

00:36:22,890 --> 00:36:23,740

OK.

578

00:36:23,740 --> 00:36:30,580

We had given the number to her
sister, the concierge's number

579

00:36:30,580 --> 00:36:31,360

to her sister.

580

00:36:31,360 --> 00:36:36,160

So she called and wanted us to--

581

00:36:36,160 --> 00:36:38,740

she wanted her
mother to come in.

582

00:36:38,740 --> 00:36:48,050

And because they had
already taken the father.

583

00:36:48,050 --> 00:36:49,610

OK.

584

00:36:49,610 --> 00:36:52,820

The French authority, under
the direction of the Germans,

585

00:36:52,820 --> 00:36:55,310

had already taken the father.

586

00:36:55,310 --> 00:36:57,920

And I guess she
wanted her mother--

587

00:36:57,920 --> 00:37:02,850

my mother to be with her, and
this, and that, and the other.

588

00:37:02,850 --> 00:37:06,200

So my mother had
to take the metro

589

00:37:06,200 --> 00:37:10,370

and she left me behind
with my grandmother.

590

00:37:10,370 --> 00:37:11,105

With your sister?

591

00:37:11,105 --> 00:37:12,680

Oh, with your grandmother, OK.

592

00:37:12,680 --> 00:37:15,650

Yeah, with my grandmother.

593

00:37:15,650 --> 00:37:20,150

And we never saw
my mother again.

594

00:37:20,150 --> 00:37:24,320

And ultimately, I so stated.

595

00:37:24,320 --> 00:37:30,050

And I'm assuming--
because that was in 1942,

596

00:37:30,050 --> 00:37:35,300

and I think Yad Vashem and
the Holocaust Museum, the US

597

00:37:35,300 --> 00:37:37,760
Holocaust Museum,
has that on record.

598
00:37:37,760 --> 00:37:41,780
They have what they call
the Velodrome d'Hiver,

599
00:37:41,780 --> 00:37:50,990
the Vel d'Hiver they call
it, which is the stadium--

600
00:37:50,990 --> 00:37:55,100
the stadium of--
the winter stadium,

601
00:37:55,100 --> 00:37:57,440
which was a humongous
stadium where

602
00:37:57,440 --> 00:38:00,560
they were amassing the
Jews and taking them there

603
00:38:00,560 --> 00:38:05,630
during the period
of 7 to 10 days.

604
00:38:05,630 --> 00:38:13,940
And they were-- and
since she was picked up,

605
00:38:13,940 --> 00:38:17,510
I'm either assuming that she
was picked up at the metro,

606
00:38:17,510 --> 00:38:21,170
because she never got to--

607
00:38:21,170 --> 00:38:25,480
she never got to
her sister, Anna.

608

00:38:25,480 --> 00:38:30,980
So she must have been picked up.

609
00:38:30,980 --> 00:38:35,480
And within-- this was in--

610
00:38:35,480 --> 00:38:44,420
if I'm not mistaken, my
mother was taken in July,

611
00:38:44,420 --> 00:38:46,790
in July of '42.

612
00:38:46,790 --> 00:38:55,280
And she was-- and all I got
from the French authority

613
00:38:55,280 --> 00:39:03,920
is what they call a [FRENCH],,
which is a disappearing notice.

614
00:39:03,920 --> 00:39:05,420
And that's all they could--

615
00:39:05,420 --> 00:39:09,110
after all these years, I could
never get an official death

616
00:39:09,110 --> 00:39:10,650
certificate.

617
00:39:10,650 --> 00:39:19,420
So she was-- she was
arrested in July.

618
00:39:19,420 --> 00:39:23,690
And, in fact, I think I'm
looking at it right now.

619
00:39:23,690 --> 00:39:27,530
The round-up was
about 6 to 10 days.

620

00:39:27,530 --> 00:39:32,840

And she was arrested
on the 19th of July.

621

00:39:32,840 --> 00:39:40,340

And sent, after the Velodrome
d'Hiver, sent to Drancy,

622

00:39:40,340 --> 00:39:48,500

D-R-A-N-C-Y, and she left
Drancy on the 24th of July.

623

00:39:48,500 --> 00:39:53,660

So we're talking a
five-day span in which she

624

00:39:53,660 --> 00:39:59,600

was arrested and deported,
and deported to Auschwitz

625

00:39:59,600 --> 00:40:01,020

on the 24th of July.

626

00:40:01,020 --> 00:40:03,740

627

00:40:03,740 --> 00:40:09,740

And presumably, she was--

628

00:40:09,740 --> 00:40:11,540

she was somewhat
of a frail person,

629

00:40:11,540 --> 00:40:14,150

as I indicated in my outline.

630

00:40:14,150 --> 00:40:18,620

And she couldn't have endured
any hard labor, and this,

631

00:40:18,620 --> 00:40:19,250

and any other.

632
00:40:19,250 --> 00:40:27,770
And even if she was robust,
they were marching the Jews

633
00:40:27,770 --> 00:40:29,960
off the convoy.

634
00:40:29,960 --> 00:40:33,410
She went by convoy.

635
00:40:33,410 --> 00:40:39,590
I don't have the convoy
number in front of me.

636
00:40:39,590 --> 00:40:44,090
She went by convoy to Auschwitz.

637
00:40:44,090 --> 00:40:47,180
And most likely, off the
convoy marched directly

638
00:40:47,180 --> 00:40:49,080
into the gas chamber.

639
00:40:49,080 --> 00:40:49,580
OK.

640
00:40:49,580 --> 00:40:52,910

641
00:40:52,910 --> 00:40:56,360
Your grandmother was already
living with you and your sister

642
00:40:56,360 --> 00:40:58,280
at the time?

643
00:40:58,280 --> 00:41:00,380
Yes.

644

00:41:00,380 --> 00:41:02,660
Let me retract some.

645
00:41:02,660 --> 00:41:06,680
When all this happened,
my grandmother was also--

646
00:41:06,680 --> 00:41:12,600
first of all, she was living
in a very swanky part of Paris.

647
00:41:12,600 --> 00:41:16,910
She had a swanky
apartment, quite roomy.

648
00:41:16,910 --> 00:41:21,850
And they were looking
for her, as well.

649
00:41:21,850 --> 00:41:25,820
Her building
superintendent had told her

650
00:41:25,820 --> 00:41:28,680
that they had come
in looking for her.

651
00:41:28,680 --> 00:41:33,260
And so when all this
happened, she moved into--

652
00:41:33,260 --> 00:41:35,990
she moved into a--

653
00:41:35,990 --> 00:41:37,820
with us.

654
00:41:37,820 --> 00:41:39,980
And she moved into--

655
00:41:39,980 --> 00:41:44,930
when my mother was taken, she
move in permanently with us

656
00:41:44,930 --> 00:41:48,110
into this one-room apartment.

657
00:41:48,110 --> 00:41:53,060
And they came--
they came looking.

658
00:41:53,060 --> 00:42:00,020
When they started looking for
women and children, they came--

659
00:42:00,020 --> 00:42:02,960
the first time they came--
and I think I said so--

660
00:42:02,960 --> 00:42:06,830
they came to the concierge's,
the superintendent.

661
00:42:06,830 --> 00:42:15,650
And she said, well, they're
not home and they left.

662
00:42:15,650 --> 00:42:18,440
That's the French
authority, not the German.

663
00:42:18,440 --> 00:42:22,880
Because the French
had formed what

664
00:42:22,880 --> 00:42:25,190
they called the
Vichy government.

665
00:42:25,190 --> 00:42:28,190
And that was under
the direction of

666
00:42:28,190 --> 00:42:30,740
the German occupational forces.

667

00:42:30,740 --> 00:42:36,170

And so the French
were directed to--

668

00:42:36,170 --> 00:42:40,460

the French police were
directed to gather the Jews

669

00:42:40,460 --> 00:42:45,230

and imprison them.

670

00:42:45,230 --> 00:42:49,346

Well, anyway, the
second time they--

671

00:42:49,346 --> 00:42:53,120

what happened after
the first time,

672

00:42:53,120 --> 00:43:03,290

the concierges told us to move
into a two-room apartment,

673

00:43:03,290 --> 00:43:05,270

which was--

674

00:43:05,270 --> 00:43:08,960

the people were going at that
time that were not Jewish

675

00:43:08,960 --> 00:43:10,730

or anything like this.

676

00:43:10,730 --> 00:43:12,770

They were gone.

677

00:43:12,770 --> 00:43:15,630

I don't know for what span
of time they were gone.

678

00:43:15,630 --> 00:43:18,200

But they told us to move in.

679
00:43:18,200 --> 00:43:22,790
And the second time they came
looking for us, this time

680
00:43:22,790 --> 00:43:27,950
they didn't take the concierge's
word that we were gone.

681
00:43:27,950 --> 00:43:31,040
They actually went up
to the fourth floor.

682
00:43:31,040 --> 00:43:33,680
There was no
elevator, by the way.

683
00:43:33,680 --> 00:43:35,270
You had to walk up the--

684
00:43:35,270 --> 00:43:37,190
you had to walk up the stairs.

685
00:43:37,190 --> 00:43:44,540
And knocked on only one-room
apartment that we had vacated

686
00:43:44,540 --> 00:43:46,910
a few days--

687
00:43:46,910 --> 00:43:48,710
quite a few days back.

688
00:43:48,710 --> 00:43:54,110
And knocked on the door
and shouted our last name,

689
00:43:54,110 --> 00:43:56,240
Fensterheim, Fensterheim.

690
00:43:56,240 --> 00:43:58,770
And, of course,

there was no answer.

691
00:43:58,770 --> 00:44:02,270
And so they left.

692
00:44:02,270 --> 00:44:08,570
And the concierges
told us shortly

693
00:44:08,570 --> 00:44:10,550
after that they had left.

694
00:44:10,550 --> 00:44:18,680
And she told our grandmother
that we better do something

695
00:44:18,680 --> 00:44:22,850
because they most likely
will come back again.

696
00:44:22,850 --> 00:44:31,460
At that time, my mother got
together with her cousin, Maya,

697
00:44:31,460 --> 00:44:43,340
M-A-Y-A. And this is when I
was dispatched, so to speak,

698
00:44:43,340 --> 00:44:45,425
to Normandy.

699
00:44:45,425 --> 00:44:48,610

700
00:44:48,610 --> 00:44:54,280
And I so stated in my
outline, where I was--

701
00:44:54,280 --> 00:44:58,420
it was three of us
Jewish boys that

702

00:44:58,420 --> 00:45:02,710
were taken in by a
priest in Normandy.

703
00:45:02,710 --> 00:45:05,530
Wait, this was this was
after the orphanages.

704
00:45:05,530 --> 00:45:07,900
First you were sent to
orphanages in Paris, right?

705
00:45:07,900 --> 00:45:10,825
This is after the orphanage.

706
00:45:10,825 --> 00:45:12,370
So your mom is arrested.

707
00:45:12,370 --> 00:45:15,280
You're living in the
two-bedroom apartment

708
00:45:15,280 --> 00:45:16,670
with your grandmother.

709
00:45:16,670 --> 00:45:17,170
Yes.

710
00:45:17,170 --> 00:45:22,280
And your grandmother decides
that it's no longer safe there.

711
00:45:22,280 --> 00:45:22,780
Yes.

712
00:45:22,780 --> 00:45:27,870
And that's when she sends
you to the orphanages?

713
00:45:27,870 --> 00:45:29,020
Yes.

714

00:45:29,020 --> 00:45:31,870
And then shortly-- and
I didn't last too long

715
00:45:31,870 --> 00:45:33,490
in any of the orphanage.

716
00:45:33,490 --> 00:45:34,810
OK.

717
00:45:34,810 --> 00:45:37,120
But your mom had already
been gone at this point.

718
00:45:37,120 --> 00:45:39,190
Oh, yes, yes.

719
00:45:39,190 --> 00:45:42,790
You had just said your mom had
been visiting with your cousin,

720
00:45:42,790 --> 00:45:43,790
Maya.

721
00:45:43,790 --> 00:45:45,190
My grandmother.

722
00:45:45,190 --> 00:45:46,410
Your grandmother, OK.

723
00:45:46,410 --> 00:45:46,910
I gotcha.

724
00:45:46,910 --> 00:45:47,920
I apologize.

725
00:45:47,920 --> 00:45:48,685
My grandmother.

726
00:45:48,685 --> 00:45:50,560
Your grandmother had
been visiting with Anna.

727

00:45:50,560 --> 00:45:54,727

And you were in the orphanages,
but not for too long.

728

00:45:54,727 --> 00:45:55,560

Not for long at all.

729

00:45:55,560 --> 00:45:57,350

And your sister was
with you as well?

730

00:45:57,350 --> 00:45:58,030

What?

731

00:45:58,030 --> 00:45:58,980

No.

732

00:45:58,980 --> 00:45:59,590

No.

733

00:45:59,590 --> 00:46:03,820

My grandmother had taken
her and she went someplace.

734

00:46:03,820 --> 00:46:05,110

And I don't recall where.

735

00:46:05,110 --> 00:46:07,480

OK.

736

00:46:07,480 --> 00:46:09,070

It was outside of Paris.

737

00:46:09,070 --> 00:46:16,200

And she became
somewhat of a maid.

738

00:46:16,200 --> 00:46:16,930

OK.

739

00:46:16,930 --> 00:46:24,250

And then this, being a
woman of a certain age,

740

00:46:24,250 --> 00:46:31,000

Maya and my grandmother
as a Christian family

741

00:46:31,000 --> 00:46:34,510

to take my sister,
right out of--

742

00:46:34,510 --> 00:46:37,780

a place right outside of Paris.

743

00:46:37,780 --> 00:46:41,140

And this is while you're
in the orphanages?

744

00:46:41,140 --> 00:46:42,400

What's that?

745

00:46:42,400 --> 00:46:44,320

This is while you were
in the orphanages?

746

00:46:44,320 --> 00:46:44,910

Yes.

747

00:46:44,910 --> 00:46:45,410

Yeah.

748

00:46:45,410 --> 00:46:45,950

OK.

749

00:46:45,950 --> 00:46:46,600

And my grandmother--

750

00:46:46,600 --> 00:46:47,480

And can you tell me--

751

00:46:47,480 --> 00:46:49,420

I know you were only there
for a short amount of time--

752
00:46:49,420 --> 00:46:51,003
I'm sorry, I didn't
mean to interrupt.

753
00:46:51,003 --> 00:46:53,020
Please go ahead.

754
00:46:53,020 --> 00:46:57,790
Yes, I was in the
orphanage, two orphanages

755
00:46:57,790 --> 00:47:00,700
a very short period of time.

756
00:47:00,700 --> 00:47:02,620
And do you have
any recollections

757
00:47:02,620 --> 00:47:04,480
from those orphanages?

758
00:47:04,480 --> 00:47:08,500
Were there other
Jewish kids there also?

759
00:47:08,500 --> 00:47:19,330
In the last one that I was
in, where it was a integrated

760
00:47:19,330 --> 00:47:23,080
orphanage where they must
have been Christian, or this,

761
00:47:23,080 --> 00:47:25,610
and that, and the
other, whatever,

762
00:47:25,610 --> 00:47:28,300
I didn't see anyone being--

763

00:47:28,300 --> 00:47:32,020

at that time, I
don't recall anyone

764

00:47:32,020 --> 00:47:34,150

wearing the Star of David.

765

00:47:34,150 --> 00:47:36,730

And I was being picked
on like mad here.

766

00:47:36,730 --> 00:47:39,970

And so I told my grandmother.

767

00:47:39,970 --> 00:47:45,790

And she, in fact,
reiterated what I had said

768

00:47:45,790 --> 00:47:47,660

and what happened,
or was happening.

769

00:47:47,660 --> 00:47:51,370

And so that's when
Maya was able--

770

00:47:51,370 --> 00:47:58,750

and I don't know how she got the
name of the priest, the abbey,

771

00:47:58,750 --> 00:48:01,480

that was taking--

772

00:48:01,480 --> 00:48:08,600

was sheltering, if you will,
sheltering Jewish kids.

773

00:48:08,600 --> 00:48:09,790

So that's when I--

774

00:48:09,790 --> 00:48:14,080

once again, that's when I

was dispatched to Normandy.

775

00:48:14,080 --> 00:48:17,460

How did you get there?

776

00:48:17,460 --> 00:48:19,700

It was by train.

777

00:48:19,700 --> 00:48:22,040

And did someone come
and retrieve you

778

00:48:22,040 --> 00:48:23,840

and take you there?

779

00:48:23,840 --> 00:48:24,925

Or you went by yourself?

780

00:48:24,925 --> 00:48:26,540

Went by myself.

781

00:48:26,540 --> 00:48:27,290

OK.

782

00:48:27,290 --> 00:48:29,280

I was 10 years old.

783

00:48:29,280 --> 00:48:30,050

OK.

784

00:48:30,050 --> 00:48:34,950

At that time-- at that
time, kids could--

785

00:48:34,950 --> 00:48:38,150

you wouldn't do this here
in the United States.

786

00:48:38,150 --> 00:48:39,890

Right.

787

00:48:39,890 --> 00:48:43,300
You wouldn't do this to any--

788
00:48:43,300 --> 00:48:46,110
I didn't do this
to any of my kids,

789
00:48:46,110 --> 00:48:51,830
let them go, 8 or 10 years old
by themselves any distance.

790
00:48:51,830 --> 00:48:53,420
Right.

791
00:48:53,420 --> 00:48:58,250
So you took a train to Normandy
where you met this priest

792
00:48:58,250 --> 00:49:00,560
and put in the abbey, correct?

793
00:49:00,560 --> 00:49:01,640
Yes.

794
00:49:01,640 --> 00:49:02,960
OK.

795
00:49:02,960 --> 00:49:10,130
And so let me see, where was I?

796
00:49:10,130 --> 00:49:11,540
Oh, OK, OK.

797
00:49:11,540 --> 00:49:19,605

798
00:49:19,605 --> 00:49:20,480
I'm trying to recall.

799
00:49:20,480 --> 00:49:24,120
OK, to an abbey in Normandy.

800

00:49:24,120 --> 00:49:28,540

And the town was
called Belleville.

801

00:49:28,540 --> 00:49:35,000

And I have some photographs,
but none of the priest.

802

00:49:35,000 --> 00:49:38,980

803

00:49:38,980 --> 00:49:41,800

But of the last--

804

00:49:41,800 --> 00:49:44,110

well, OK.

805

00:49:44,110 --> 00:49:46,900

What I'm trying
to do right now is

806

00:49:46,900 --> 00:49:51,190

I'm going to go on the
web, and the French--

807

00:49:51,190 --> 00:49:53,200

and try to remember--

808

00:49:53,200 --> 00:49:55,300

I don't recall
the priest's name.

809

00:49:55,300 --> 00:49:55,990

OK.

810

00:49:55,990 --> 00:49:58,480

I don't recall
the priest's name.

811

00:49:58,480 --> 00:50:05,160

But the first thing
he did, we took off--

812
00:50:05,160 --> 00:50:09,070
in fact, when I
traveled, I took off--

813
00:50:09,070 --> 00:50:12,770
I didn't have the Star of David.

814
00:50:12,770 --> 00:50:13,910
Right.

815
00:50:13,910 --> 00:50:15,620
I was a young kid.

816
00:50:15,620 --> 00:50:19,010

817
00:50:19,010 --> 00:50:22,940
Nobody-- they looked at
me as a young kid going.

818
00:50:22,940 --> 00:50:25,490
And the first
thing, he made sure,

819
00:50:25,490 --> 00:50:33,260
and I so stated in my outline,
shortly after our arrival,

820
00:50:33,260 --> 00:50:36,420
he had us he baptized.

821
00:50:36,420 --> 00:50:44,000
He had a baptism
certificate, pre-dated.

822
00:50:44,000 --> 00:50:46,220
And oh, he was--

823
00:50:46,220 --> 00:50:49,520
he was part of the
French resistance.

824
00:50:49,520 --> 00:50:54,990
And so it was unbelievable.

825
00:50:54,990 --> 00:50:59,960
And then he made us attend--
he made us attend mass.

826
00:50:59,960 --> 00:51:03,920
And, in fact, I could--

827
00:51:03,920 --> 00:51:07,520
one of the Jewish boys
became a priest, by the way.

828
00:51:07,520 --> 00:51:09,206
Really?

829
00:51:09,206 --> 00:51:12,170
And I'm trying to remember--

830
00:51:12,170 --> 00:51:15,635
if I remember right,
his name was Morrison.

831
00:51:15,635 --> 00:51:19,160

832
00:51:19,160 --> 00:51:22,730
I've been trying
to recall names.

833
00:51:22,730 --> 00:51:25,010
And the other kid was--

834
00:51:25,010 --> 00:51:27,690
I don't recall.

835
00:51:27,690 --> 00:51:31,430
There were three Jewish
kids in total at the abbey?

836

00:51:31,430 --> 00:51:32,270

The what?

837

00:51:32,270 --> 00:51:33,070

There were three--

838

00:51:33,070 --> 00:51:34,445

Yeah, there was
only three of us.

839

00:51:34,445 --> 00:51:35,570

Three of you, OK.

840

00:51:35,570 --> 00:51:38,360

And you were all baptized
and taken in by this priest.

841

00:51:38,360 --> 00:51:40,420

Yes, we were.

842

00:51:40,420 --> 00:51:44,165

He almost did it right away.

843

00:51:44,165 --> 00:51:46,160

He just wanted to
make sure that--

844

00:51:46,160 --> 00:51:49,850

and the pre-dated
baptism certificate,

845

00:51:49,850 --> 00:51:56,000

which I don't have in my
possession, by the way,

846

00:51:56,000 --> 00:52:01,580

was done so there
wasn't any question.

847

00:52:01,580 --> 00:52:04,130

Because all of a
sudden, three kids

848
00:52:04,130 --> 00:52:08,410
appeared in this small town.

849
00:52:08,410 --> 00:52:09,880
Did you all come together?

850
00:52:09,880 --> 00:52:12,850
Or you met those other two
boys once you were there?

851
00:52:12,850 --> 00:52:15,040
No, we did not come together.

852
00:52:15,040 --> 00:52:15,670
OK.

853
00:52:15,670 --> 00:52:19,150
I don't know who came first
or whatever, I don't recall.

854
00:52:19,150 --> 00:52:20,050
OK.

855
00:52:20,050 --> 00:52:22,000
I don't recall.

856
00:52:22,000 --> 00:52:23,600
But we didn't come together.

857
00:52:23,600 --> 00:52:31,040
And so he was installing
safeguards, if you will,

858
00:52:31,040 --> 00:52:37,240
to make sure that the
questions-- and there must have

859
00:52:37,240 --> 00:52:43,240
been question in town, that all
of a sudden three young boys

860

00:52:43,240 --> 00:52:45,790
appeared.

861

00:52:45,790 --> 00:52:59,170
And so he was quite a
charitable and good man,

862

00:52:59,170 --> 00:53:03,130
besides being a priest.

863

00:53:03,130 --> 00:53:08,110
And so we stayed there.

864

00:53:08,110 --> 00:53:14,060
I stayed there till 1946.

865

00:53:14,060 --> 00:53:20,080
But right after the
1944 liberation,

866

00:53:20,080 --> 00:53:26,880
the priest sent me to one of
his orphanages in Carteret,

867

00:53:26,880 --> 00:53:34,950
C-A-R-T-E-R-E-T, which
was not too far from--

868

00:53:34,950 --> 00:53:37,740

869

00:53:37,740 --> 00:53:39,120
it was on the
water, so to speak.

870

00:53:39,120 --> 00:53:44,800
It was a town on water with
beaches, and this, and that,

871

00:53:44,800 --> 00:53:45,720
and the other.

872

00:53:45,720 --> 00:53:49,440

Because I remember I was
swimming in the ocean.

873

00:53:49,440 --> 00:53:57,810

But from 1942 to '44, late
'44, I was there at Belleville.

874

00:53:57,810 --> 00:53:58,740

In the abbey.

875

00:53:58,740 --> 00:54:00,990

In the abbey, with the priest.

876

00:54:00,990 --> 00:54:03,840

And also, he had--

877

00:54:03,840 --> 00:54:05,220

and I so stated--

878

00:54:05,220 --> 00:54:13,560

he had a family, his sister,
her husband, and two kids.

879

00:54:13,560 --> 00:54:20,910

And during that time, during
the occupation, the priest--

880

00:54:20,910 --> 00:54:23,340

the abbey had some land.

881

00:54:23,340 --> 00:54:27,330

And we cultivated the land.

882

00:54:27,330 --> 00:54:34,016

I don't know whether
it was an acre or what.

883

00:54:34,016 --> 00:54:37,620

It was a small piece of land.

884

00:54:37,620 --> 00:54:42,240
And the three of us
were put to work.

885
00:54:42,240 --> 00:54:46,110
And once again, not
to be redundant,

886
00:54:46,110 --> 00:54:49,950
I so stated that
during the occupation,

887
00:54:49,950 --> 00:54:51,930
there wasn't that many
Germans in that town,

888
00:54:51,930 --> 00:55:00,780
but they confiscated food
from our garden, if you will.

889
00:55:00,780 --> 00:55:04,800
And confiscated food
from other people.

890
00:55:04,800 --> 00:55:09,495
And we ate-- we
ate very sparsely.

891
00:55:09,495 --> 00:55:15,300

892
00:55:15,300 --> 00:55:21,640
I did mention the fact that
Normandy was cider country.

893
00:55:21,640 --> 00:55:22,860
So there were cider apples.

894
00:55:22,860 --> 00:55:26,400
And so I found myself eating
a lot of cider apples.

895
00:55:26,400 --> 00:55:27,560

I gotcha.

896

00:55:27,560 --> 00:55:33,900

And ultimately, and I so
stated, that at 14 years old,

897

00:55:33,900 --> 00:55:37,530

when I came to the United
States, I was 57 pounds.

898

00:55:37,530 --> 00:55:38,140

Wow.

899

00:55:38,140 --> 00:55:43,690

And I looked like a kid of
eight or nine years old.

900

00:55:43,690 --> 00:55:44,190

Right.

901

00:55:44,190 --> 00:55:49,830

And so, retracting somewhat.

902

00:55:49,830 --> 00:56:01,120

During the time of the abbey, he
farmed us out to other farmers.

903

00:56:01,120 --> 00:56:09,750

And the farmers compensated
the priest for our labor

904

00:56:09,750 --> 00:56:12,570

by food, which we brought back--

905

00:56:12,570 --> 00:56:22,920

which we brought back, but the
food was mostly for his family.

906

00:56:22,920 --> 00:56:28,430

We got-- I can recall
we got a lot of soup

907

00:56:28,430 --> 00:56:33,620
with some potatoes,
but hardly any meat.

908
00:56:33,620 --> 00:56:40,380
The only time I could
recall eating fairly well

909
00:56:40,380 --> 00:56:46,500
was when we were farmed
out to these farmers, who

910
00:56:46,500 --> 00:56:52,890
were able to either hide their
food from the Germans or what.

911
00:56:52,890 --> 00:56:58,050
But we ate fairly well.

912
00:56:58,050 --> 00:57:03,150
And after-- and
during-- oh, by the way,

913
00:57:03,150 --> 00:57:07,230
I did mention the fact,
too, that there was

914
00:57:07,230 --> 00:57:09,540
suspicion by the townspeople.

915
00:57:09,540 --> 00:57:13,440
Because, once again, there
was three boys all of a sudden

916
00:57:13,440 --> 00:57:16,590
that made their
appearance at the abbey.

917
00:57:16,590 --> 00:57:17,090
Right.

918
00:57:17,090 --> 00:57:25,110
And invariably, the suspicion

was they must have been Jewish

919

00:57:25,110 --> 00:57:28,950
and he's trying to do something.

920

00:57:28,950 --> 00:57:29,710
Right.

921

00:57:29,710 --> 00:57:37,410
And so the Germans came
storming in one day.

922

00:57:37,410 --> 00:57:38,730
And I was laid up.

923

00:57:38,730 --> 00:57:41,610
I was laid up.

924

00:57:41,610 --> 00:57:44,340
I had gotten hurt in the field.

925

00:57:44,340 --> 00:57:47,490
And I was laid up.

926

00:57:47,490 --> 00:57:50,930
And they came looking.

927

00:57:50,930 --> 00:57:53,520
And he showed them--

928

00:57:53,520 --> 00:57:58,670
he showed them that
we were orphans.

929

00:57:58,670 --> 00:58:05,800
He showed them the pre-dated
baptism certificates.

930

00:58:05,800 --> 00:58:06,680
Right.

931

00:58:06,680 --> 00:58:14,000

He couldn't show them
how did he answer

932

00:58:14,000 --> 00:58:18,170

whatever question there was, how
did he get a pre-dated baptism

933

00:58:18,170 --> 00:58:19,970

certificate.

934

00:58:19,970 --> 00:58:21,710

Right.

935

00:58:21,710 --> 00:58:24,170

But it was him that baptized us.

936

00:58:24,170 --> 00:58:26,040

Right, of course.

937

00:58:26,040 --> 00:58:29,570

So I don't know.

938

00:58:29,570 --> 00:58:30,380

what transpired.

939

00:58:30,380 --> 00:58:32,510

I was not--

940

00:58:32,510 --> 00:58:39,030

I was not privy,
except I just overheard

941

00:58:39,030 --> 00:58:42,050

some of the conversation,
but not all of it.

942

00:58:42,050 --> 00:58:43,880

Because they were moving around.

943

00:58:43,880 --> 00:58:50,420

And then another time, being

part of the French resistance,

944

00:58:50,420 --> 00:58:52,880

he did hide some--

945

00:58:52,880 --> 00:59:04,790

in 1944-- in 1944, when

the American forces came

946

00:59:04,790 --> 00:59:09,814

in, but prior to

the liberation--

947

00:59:09,814 --> 00:59:12,680

excuse me, let me have

just a little water.

948

00:59:12,680 --> 00:59:13,520

Sure, of course.

949

00:59:13,520 --> 00:59:18,790

950

00:59:18,790 --> 00:59:30,880

Prior to the invasion in 6th

of June 1944, paratroopers--

951

00:59:30,880 --> 00:59:35,670

paratroopers had

parachuted into France.

952

00:59:35,670 --> 00:59:40,120

And they were-- whether they

were Green Beret at that time,

953

00:59:40,120 --> 00:59:42,590

I don't know.

954

00:59:42,590 --> 00:59:53,500

And he had-- he had

a kid, paratroopers

955

00:59:53,500 --> 00:59:56,860
hiding in his cider vat.

956
00:59:56,860 --> 00:59:58,722
He had a cider vat,
believe it or not.

957
00:59:58,722 --> 00:59:59,222
Wow.

958
00:59:59,222 --> 01:00:02,060

959
01:00:02,060 --> 01:00:04,480
But it was empty.

960
01:00:04,480 --> 01:00:08,860
And the Germans came in
looking at this one time.

961
01:00:08,860 --> 01:00:12,550
And shortly after they
came in the first time,

962
01:00:12,550 --> 01:00:16,720
and they must have been a
suspicion that he could have

963
01:00:16,720 --> 01:00:20,710
been in the French resistance.

964
01:00:20,710 --> 01:00:22,300
And they came in
the second time.

965
01:00:22,300 --> 01:00:24,160
Looked all over the--

966
01:00:24,160 --> 01:00:26,090
and I was still laid up.

967
01:00:26,090 --> 01:00:32,140

And they looked all over the
abbey, and inside, and outside.

968
01:00:32,140 --> 01:00:34,660
And couldn't find anything.

969
01:00:34,660 --> 01:00:36,310
And they left.

970
01:00:36,310 --> 01:00:40,930
And so he was quite--

971
01:00:40,930 --> 01:00:46,390
he was quite a patriot, besides
being a generous person,

972
01:00:46,390 --> 01:00:48,535
and a kind person.

973
01:00:48,535 --> 01:00:51,940

974
01:00:51,940 --> 01:00:55,390
And I got to say this too.

975
01:00:55,390 --> 01:00:59,860
Prior to the
invasion, and I think

976
01:00:59,860 --> 01:01:10,090
I so stated we moved to
the woods, the forest.

977
01:01:10,090 --> 01:01:17,260
And he had somebody dug
up a big trench in there.

978
01:01:17,260 --> 01:01:24,640
And himself, his family,
and the three of us

979
01:01:24,640 --> 01:01:27,250

went into the woods.

980

01:01:27,250 --> 01:01:31,765

And we stayed there
because it was--

981

01:01:31,765 --> 01:01:34,390

well, there was bombardment, and
this, and that, and the other.

982

01:01:34,390 --> 01:01:37,690

And the planes flying over.

983

01:01:37,690 --> 01:01:41,170

And the shooting on both sides.

984

01:01:41,170 --> 01:01:44,935

But he had us boys
going after food.

985

01:01:44,935 --> 01:01:48,286

986

01:01:48,286 --> 01:01:53,530

But he told us what
to do in case--

987

01:01:53,530 --> 01:01:57,370

at that time, I was 12.

988

01:01:57,370 --> 01:02:04,120

And the other-- one of the
kids was 14 or 15 years old.

989

01:02:04,120 --> 01:02:06,130

He was older.

990

01:02:06,130 --> 01:02:09,280

And the other one
was about my age.

991

01:02:09,280 --> 01:02:14,900

And we after food
and water constantly.

992
01:02:14,900 --> 01:02:16,330
And he told us,
he said, make sure

993
01:02:16,330 --> 01:02:24,340
that you hear close gunfire
from the ground or from the air,

994
01:02:24,340 --> 01:02:25,690
hit the dirt.

995
01:02:25,690 --> 01:02:27,910
And so we did.

996
01:02:27,910 --> 01:02:31,540
We did a couple of times.

997
01:02:31,540 --> 01:02:38,410
And finally, we heard the--

998
01:02:38,410 --> 01:02:43,690
in 6th of June-- it took
about almost 10 days.

999
01:02:43,690 --> 01:02:47,680
And we were not too far
from Sainte-Mere-Eglise,

1000
01:02:47,680 --> 01:02:54,310
where one of the invasion
forces came in, the beaches

1001
01:02:54,310 --> 01:02:57,160
of Sainte-Mere-Eglise.

1002
01:02:57,160 --> 01:02:59,050
But it took them about 10--

1003
01:02:59,050 --> 01:03:04,420

we were maybe 30-40 kilometers,
30 kilometers, maybe.

1004
01:03:04,420 --> 01:03:05,020
I don't know.

1005
01:03:05,020 --> 01:03:07,360
I can't recall.

1006
01:03:07,360 --> 01:03:10,840
I didn't check the map yet.

1007
01:03:10,840 --> 01:03:15,020
But it took them
10 days to get in.

1008
01:03:15,020 --> 01:03:19,540
And all of a sudden,
the church bell rang.

1009
01:03:19,540 --> 01:03:26,410
And so the priest had us
move back to the abbey.

1010
01:03:26,410 --> 01:03:31,570
And we met-- well, the
church rang for one reason,

1011
01:03:31,570 --> 01:03:35,830
because the Americans
had come into town.

1012
01:03:35,830 --> 01:03:39,690
How long had you been living
in the forest at that point?

1013
01:03:39,690 --> 01:03:43,180
For a good two weeks.

1014
01:03:43,180 --> 01:03:43,860
OK.

1015

01:03:43,860 --> 01:03:46,690

And he was living there
with his family as well?

1016

01:03:46,690 --> 01:03:47,390

Oh, yes.

1017

01:03:47,390 --> 01:03:48,490

Oh, yeah.

1018

01:03:48,490 --> 01:03:50,740

And you knew he was a part
of the French resistance

1019

01:03:50,740 --> 01:03:52,210

at this point.

1020

01:03:52,210 --> 01:03:52,820

Yes.

1021

01:03:52,820 --> 01:03:53,320

Yeah.

1022

01:03:53,320 --> 01:03:53,830

OK.

1023

01:03:53,830 --> 01:03:56,920

Yeah, we knew that.

1024

01:03:56,920 --> 01:04:04,930

Because I didn't see it,
I didn't see the American

1025

01:04:04,930 --> 01:04:09,700

that he was hiding,
but there was

1026

01:04:09,700 --> 01:04:17,650

a lot of traffic going
in and out of the barn

1027

01:04:17,650 --> 01:04:21,640

where it the cider vats were.

1028

01:04:21,640 --> 01:04:27,190

And so there was--

1029

01:04:27,190 --> 01:04:36,470

and ultimately, he told us who
he was and what he had done.

1030

01:04:36,470 --> 01:04:41,470

And one time we saw--

1031

01:04:41,470 --> 01:04:47,420

oh, I think I told you, one
time we saw planes, airplanes,

1032

01:04:47,420 --> 01:04:49,560

American airplanes.

1033

01:04:49,560 --> 01:04:51,780

The sky was full.

1034

01:04:51,780 --> 01:04:54,040

It's unbelievable.

1035

01:04:54,040 --> 01:05:00,920

So from one-- the
horizon was full of them.

1036

01:05:00,920 --> 01:05:05,180

And the three of us got
scared because we were--

1037

01:05:05,180 --> 01:05:08,120

I guess they were on
their way to Germany

1038

01:05:08,120 --> 01:05:11,550

to bomb Berlin or whatever.

1039

01:05:11,550 --> 01:05:19,100

And we hit the dirt because

we thought they were--

1040
01:05:19,100 --> 01:05:23,510
but we never saw any bombs
being dropped this close.

1041
01:05:23,510 --> 01:05:24,010
Right.

1042
01:05:24,010 --> 01:05:26,930

1043
01:05:26,930 --> 01:05:32,270
And then during our
venture to get food--

1044
01:05:32,270 --> 01:05:38,270
and after we got to the abbey,
we still had to go get food

1045
01:05:38,270 --> 01:05:40,430
because we had--

1046
01:05:40,430 --> 01:05:44,540
so we went to the farmers
to acquire some food.

1047
01:05:44,540 --> 01:05:48,500
And that's when we
saw the remnants

1048
01:05:48,500 --> 01:05:55,370
of the German occupation and
the remnants of the invasion

1049
01:05:55,370 --> 01:05:58,160
forces, the American
invasion forces,

1050
01:05:58,160 --> 01:06:00,920
having left the
field, and our town,

1051

01:06:00,920 --> 01:06:02,510

and this, and that,
and the other.

1052

01:06:02,510 --> 01:06:09,930

And we gathered the horses
the German's had left behind.

1053

01:06:09,930 --> 01:06:11,980

And then we had left--

1054

01:06:11,980 --> 01:06:21,110

we gathered-- we found all kinds
of C rations, K-- whatever,

1055

01:06:21,110 --> 01:06:24,860

at that time it was C ration.

1056

01:06:24,860 --> 01:06:26,810

And ammo, and this, and
that, and the other,

1057

01:06:26,810 --> 01:06:29,540

which not only the
Germans had left behind,

1058

01:06:29,540 --> 01:06:34,220

but also the Americans
had left behind.

1059

01:06:34,220 --> 01:06:38,390

And I think I so stated
we were horsing around

1060

01:06:38,390 --> 01:06:41,270

with a pineapple, looking--

1061

01:06:41,270 --> 01:06:44,480

it was a little pineapple like.

1062

01:06:44,480 --> 01:06:47,690

And it happened to be a

grenade, an American grenade.

1063

01:06:47,690 --> 01:06:51,620

We knew what a German
grenade looked like.

1064

01:06:51,620 --> 01:06:55,160

But we didn't know what an
American grenade looked like.

1065

01:06:55,160 --> 01:06:59,458

And we were horsing
around, throwing it to one

1066

01:06:59,458 --> 01:07:01,250

another, and this, and
that, and the other,

1067

01:07:01,250 --> 01:07:07,760

until we got to the
abbey with our findings.

1068

01:07:07,760 --> 01:07:13,020

And the priest saw
what we had in hand.

1069

01:07:13,020 --> 01:07:14,960

And he looked.

1070

01:07:14,960 --> 01:07:19,670

And, of course, in a grenade,
in an American grenade,

1071

01:07:19,670 --> 01:07:21,780

there's a pin that
you have to pull.

1072

01:07:21,780 --> 01:07:28,820

But anyway, he must have
known it was a grenade.

1073

01:07:28,820 --> 01:07:31,580

And he crossed himself.

1074

01:07:31,580 --> 01:07:34,910

He crossed himself and
says, oh my gosh, he says.

1075

01:07:34,910 --> 01:07:42,680

And he said we were so lucky
that we didn't pull the pin.

1076

01:07:42,680 --> 01:07:50,440

But anyway, once again, he
had two Americans, by the way,

1077

01:07:50,440 --> 01:07:55,880

in an empty vat on the property.

1078

01:07:55,880 --> 01:08:01,447

And so I think I told you about
the farm and this, and that,

1079

01:08:01,447 --> 01:08:02,030

and the other.

1080

01:08:02,030 --> 01:08:05,350

1081

01:08:05,350 --> 01:08:09,440

OK, in 1945--

1082

01:08:09,440 --> 01:08:11,360

The two Americans were--

1083

01:08:11,360 --> 01:08:14,018

tell me about them.

1084

01:08:14,018 --> 01:08:15,710

The what?

1085

01:08:15,710 --> 01:08:18,080

The two Americans.

1086

01:08:18,080 --> 01:08:20,000
I never met them.

1087
01:08:20,000 --> 01:08:21,990
Oh, OK, you just knew
that they were there.

1088
01:08:21,990 --> 01:08:23,830
Yep, I never met them.

1089
01:08:23,830 --> 01:08:24,479
OK.

1090
01:08:24,479 --> 01:08:25,710
I never met them.

1091
01:08:25,710 --> 01:08:29,210
So I don't know who they were.

1092
01:08:29,210 --> 01:08:32,460
But this was prior--

1093
01:08:32,460 --> 01:08:37,399
he had them there prior
to the actual invasion.

1094
01:08:37,399 --> 01:08:38,673
OK.

1095
01:08:38,673 --> 01:08:40,590
But you don't know what
they were doing there.

1096
01:08:40,590 --> 01:08:48,620
Well, in any war, since I
spent 20 years in the military,

1097
01:08:48,620 --> 01:08:49,279
you got--

1098
01:08:49,279 --> 01:08:52,350

1099
01:08:52,350 --> 01:08:54,040
you got the special forces.

1100
01:08:54,040 --> 01:08:58,710
And now, you've got this Navy
SEALs, and this, and that,

1101
01:08:58,710 --> 01:09:05,120
and the other, going
in prior to invading

1102
01:09:05,120 --> 01:09:09,870
or having the regular
forces come in.

1103
01:09:09,870 --> 01:09:11,450
I understand.

1104
01:09:11,450 --> 01:09:14,040
So I don't know who--

1105
01:09:14,040 --> 01:09:16,470
I don't whether
they're special forces.

1106
01:09:16,470 --> 01:09:18,960
I'm assuming that
they were, because it

1107
01:09:18,960 --> 01:09:22,200
was before the invasion.

1108
01:09:22,200 --> 01:09:26,340
Now, before the invasion, did
you feel somewhat protected

1109
01:09:26,340 --> 01:09:27,350
by the priest?

1110
01:09:27,350 --> 01:09:27,850
Absolutely.

1111
01:09:27,850 --> 01:09:28,920
And safe there?

1112
01:09:28,920 --> 01:09:29,550
OK.

1113
01:09:29,550 --> 01:09:30,630
Absolutely.

1114
01:09:30,630 --> 01:09:33,490
Even though it was a small
community, you felt safe.

1115
01:09:33,490 --> 01:09:38,939
Yeah, once the community--

1116
01:09:38,939 --> 01:09:42,569
because they saw
us at the church.

1117
01:09:42,569 --> 01:09:48,810
People at that time were
very pious and religious.

1118
01:09:48,810 --> 01:09:57,540
They attended church not
just weekly, sometimes daily.

1119
01:09:57,540 --> 01:10:04,290
And we could do low mass, high
mass, and everything else.

1120
01:10:04,290 --> 01:10:06,570
And we did funerals.

1121
01:10:06,570 --> 01:10:15,270
We did weddings, church
weddings and church funerals,

1122
01:10:15,270 --> 01:10:16,450
and so forth, and so on.

1123

01:10:16,450 --> 01:10:25,740

So people-- the townspeople
began to recognize us.

1124

01:10:25,740 --> 01:10:32,250

And said, well, we're
part of what the priest--

1125

01:10:32,250 --> 01:10:38,310

they also revered the priest
because he was such a kind

1126

01:10:38,310 --> 01:10:42,180

person to the villagers.

1127

01:10:42,180 --> 01:10:43,590

He was a good man.

1128

01:10:43,590 --> 01:10:50,520

I presume they loved him because
he was a good priest as well.

1129

01:10:50,520 --> 01:10:51,390

I understand.

1130

01:10:51,390 --> 01:10:56,610

And so, yes, there was--

1131

01:10:56,610 --> 01:11:05,790

for the time I was there, before
the invasion, the three of us

1132

01:11:05,790 --> 01:11:09,870

felt we were protected.

1133

01:11:09,870 --> 01:11:11,670

We were protected.

1134

01:11:11,670 --> 01:11:18,390

And again, also the
townspeople saw us

1135
01:11:18,390 --> 01:11:25,050
as part of his
entourage, if you will.

1136
01:11:25,050 --> 01:11:27,840
And can you just tell me a
little bit about the abbey,

1137
01:11:27,840 --> 01:11:32,040
like what were the
living quarters like?

1138
01:11:32,040 --> 01:11:33,420
Anything you remember about it.

1139
01:11:33,420 --> 01:11:35,890
Yeah, the three of
us were in one room.

1140
01:11:35,890 --> 01:11:38,220
OK.

1141
01:11:38,220 --> 01:11:44,100
And the abbey was like most
abbeys, I guess, at that time

1142
01:11:44,100 --> 01:11:46,140
in France.

1143
01:11:46,140 --> 01:11:52,860
It was, I would say, if I recall
properly, there was a kitchen.

1144
01:11:52,860 --> 01:11:55,230
He was in a room, his family.

1145
01:11:55,230 --> 01:11:58,170
And the kids had two rooms.

1146
01:11:58,170 --> 01:12:02,340
And we were in another room.

1147
01:12:02,340 --> 01:12:05,700
And there was some--

1148
01:12:05,700 --> 01:12:07,470
there was a barn, as I said.

1149
01:12:07,470 --> 01:12:11,680

1150
01:12:11,680 --> 01:12:14,430
That's about it.

1151
01:12:14,430 --> 01:12:26,040
There was nothing else of any
structural that I can recall.

1152
01:12:26,040 --> 01:12:28,980
I would say there was
a kitchen, of course.

1153
01:12:28,980 --> 01:12:33,420
And one bath for everybody.

1154
01:12:33,420 --> 01:12:36,300

1155
01:12:36,300 --> 01:12:38,940
Can you describe the
priest a little bit

1156
01:12:38,940 --> 01:12:42,360
and what was your relationship
like with him personally?

1157
01:12:42,360 --> 01:12:45,540
Yeah, he was--

1158
01:12:45,540 --> 01:12:50,730
I would say he was 5-10--

1159

01:12:50,730 --> 01:12:53,850
5-10, 5-11.

1160
01:12:53,850 --> 01:13:09,770
He was-- I'm trying to think
of the wording in English--

1161
01:13:09,770 --> 01:13:12,840
[SPEAKING FRENCH]

1162
01:13:12,840 --> 01:13:15,130
I wish I knew French.

1163
01:13:15,130 --> 01:13:17,340
I speak French normally.

1164
01:13:17,340 --> 01:13:18,480
I understand.

1165
01:13:18,480 --> 01:13:19,880
Still, after all these years.

1166
01:13:19,880 --> 01:13:26,090
But anyway, he was well
fed for some reason.

1167
01:13:26,090 --> 01:13:26,850
OK.

1168
01:13:26,850 --> 01:13:30,370
He didn't suffer from
hunger, what I recall.

1169
01:13:30,370 --> 01:13:30,870
OK.

1170
01:13:30,870 --> 01:13:34,170

1171
01:13:34,170 --> 01:13:35,480
That's [FRENCH].

1172

01:13:35,480 --> 01:13:39,020

1173

01:13:39,020 --> 01:13:41,940

He stood erect nicely.

1174

01:13:41,940 --> 01:13:53,230

He had-- he had a
stern look on him.

1175

01:13:53,230 --> 01:13:56,580

He didn't have to mince
any words, if you will.

1176

01:13:56,580 --> 01:14:00,740

1177

01:14:00,740 --> 01:14:08,410

But yet, the kindness
inside, inside of him, was--

1178

01:14:08,410 --> 01:14:17,920

well, for having saved us
from extinction, if you will,

1179

01:14:17,920 --> 01:14:19,820

that speaks for itself.

1180

01:14:19,820 --> 01:14:21,220

Right, I understand.

1181

01:14:21,220 --> 01:14:34,780

And so-- and his sister was
the regular lady that she was.

1182

01:14:34,780 --> 01:14:37,695

And I don't recall
that much about her,

1183

01:14:37,695 --> 01:14:39,070

and this, and that
and the other.

1184
01:14:39,070 --> 01:14:41,250
We didn't have much contact.

1185
01:14:41,250 --> 01:14:43,570
We never ate with them.

1186
01:14:43,570 --> 01:14:47,110
We ate separately.

1187
01:14:47,110 --> 01:14:52,150
Because they had the--

1188
01:14:52,150 --> 01:14:52,915
they had the food.

1189
01:14:52,915 --> 01:14:55,510

1190
01:14:55,510 --> 01:14:58,330
Don't misunderstand
me, we didn't starve.

1191
01:14:58,330 --> 01:14:59,200
Right.

1192
01:14:59,200 --> 01:15:04,240
But we didn't eat
as well as they did.

1193
01:15:04,240 --> 01:15:12,790
And I recall at that time,
too, when the Germans occupied,

1194
01:15:12,790 --> 01:15:16,180
and we what they
called a [FRENCH],,

1195
01:15:16,180 --> 01:15:22,270
a bakery, well, French
baguette, as we know it now,

1196

01:15:22,270 --> 01:15:25,060

and as we know it
before the war,

1197

01:15:25,060 --> 01:15:29,680

was not what we had
during the occupation.

1198

01:15:29,680 --> 01:15:34,810

The bread was somewhat
dark because we had

1199

01:15:34,810 --> 01:15:38,530

the remnants of the good flour.

1200

01:15:38,530 --> 01:15:44,230

Was somewhat dark, and
if you rolled the dough

1201

01:15:44,230 --> 01:15:47,210

and throw it at somebody,
you could knock them out,

1202

01:15:47,210 --> 01:15:47,860

so to speak.

1203

01:15:47,860 --> 01:15:52,210

1204

01:15:52,210 --> 01:15:55,360

And we did get--

1205

01:15:55,360 --> 01:15:59,630

every day we got a small piece.

1206

01:15:59,630 --> 01:16:01,720

Because everything was rationed.

1207

01:16:01,720 --> 01:16:02,770

Right, of course.

1208

01:16:02,770 --> 01:16:06,080
Everything was rationed.

1209
01:16:06,080 --> 01:16:10,500
An I don't recall whether--

1210
01:16:10,500 --> 01:16:14,050
because there was ration
and we had stamps,

1211
01:16:14,050 --> 01:16:16,627
I don't recall us having any.

1212
01:16:16,627 --> 01:16:17,710
Of course, we didn't know.

1213
01:16:17,710 --> 01:16:21,820
Because I think
it was his sister

1214
01:16:21,820 --> 01:16:27,700
that was in charge of getting
the food prepared, and buying,

1215
01:16:27,700 --> 01:16:30,220
and this, that, and the other.

1216
01:16:30,220 --> 01:16:35,230
But it was him that sent
us out to the farmers.

1217
01:16:35,230 --> 01:16:38,320
And once again, we
brought in the food

1218
01:16:38,320 --> 01:16:43,260
and the farmers gave
us for our labor.

1219
01:16:43,260 --> 01:16:45,550
OK.

1220

01:16:45,550 --> 01:16:53,840
But he, himself, I can
remember stood up nice, erect.

1221
01:16:53,840 --> 01:16:56,920

1222
01:16:56,920 --> 01:17:00,790
He had-- maybe he was somewhat--

1223
01:17:00,790 --> 01:17:03,940

1224
01:17:03,940 --> 01:17:05,470
I try to--

1225
01:17:05,470 --> 01:17:11,590
I don't want to say
overweight, but he was--

1226
01:17:11,590 --> 01:17:12,970
he was well fed.

1227
01:17:12,970 --> 01:17:13,510
OK.

1228
01:17:13,510 --> 01:17:14,140
OK.

1229
01:17:14,140 --> 01:17:16,430
I'll leave it at that.

1230
01:17:16,430 --> 01:17:17,840
OK.

1231
01:17:17,840 --> 01:17:19,540
And-- go ahead.

1232
01:17:19,540 --> 01:17:23,980
If there's any-- please
interrupt me if there's any--

1233

01:17:23,980 --> 01:17:27,040

I feel-- I hope I'm not
interrupting too much.

1234

01:17:27,040 --> 01:17:30,400

I just want to make sure
that we cover as many details

1235

01:17:30,400 --> 01:17:32,590

as you can remember.

1236

01:17:32,590 --> 01:17:36,130

Yeah, well, like
I said, we ate--

1237

01:17:36,130 --> 01:17:40,510

when we got farmed out, we ate--

1238

01:17:40,510 --> 01:17:43,360

there was no such thing as beef.

1239

01:17:43,360 --> 01:17:46,540

The farmers were
able to grow rabbits.

1240

01:17:46,540 --> 01:17:47,200

OK.

1241

01:17:47,200 --> 01:17:51,280

And I remember when we
went to the farmers,

1242

01:17:51,280 --> 01:17:55,170

we had rabbit meat.

1243

01:17:55,170 --> 01:17:55,740

Right.

1244

01:17:55,740 --> 01:17:58,750

And there was-- and the
funny thing about it--

1245

01:17:58,750 --> 01:18:00,490

I don't know whether
it's a custom now,

1246

01:18:00,490 --> 01:18:08,850

but at that time, in
Normandy, there was a pot--

1247

01:18:08,850 --> 01:18:13,270

a pot sat in the
middle of the table.

1248

01:18:13,270 --> 01:18:15,380

And we sat with the farmers.

1249

01:18:15,380 --> 01:18:17,650

And they gave us a knife.

1250

01:18:17,650 --> 01:18:21,600

And we plunged the
knife into the pot.

1251

01:18:21,600 --> 01:18:22,810

And there was no plates.

1252

01:18:22,810 --> 01:18:25,720

We ate-- we ate
practically-- actually,

1253

01:18:25,720 --> 01:18:27,760

we ate it off our thumb.

1254

01:18:27,760 --> 01:18:29,860

Wow.

1255

01:18:29,860 --> 01:18:35,950

And so, well, they were
trying to do their best also

1256

01:18:35,950 --> 01:18:38,020

to survive.

1257

01:18:38,020 --> 01:18:39,360

Right.

1258

01:18:39,360 --> 01:18:44,400

That was the, I guess,
the modus operandus,

1259

01:18:44,400 --> 01:18:48,950

is to survive during
any occupational.

1260

01:18:48,950 --> 01:18:50,470

Right, of course.

1261

01:18:50,470 --> 01:18:54,855

And so, and then, once
again, somewhere in '44

1262

01:18:54,855 --> 01:19:00,220

or '45, I was
shipped to Carteret.

1263

01:19:00,220 --> 01:19:11,010

And I was there till '46, when
my grandmother reunited us.

1264

01:19:11,010 --> 01:19:14,790

And my sister was--

1265

01:19:14,790 --> 01:19:19,260

1266

01:19:19,260 --> 01:19:25,150

I told you what-- let me
see if I got where she was.

1267

01:19:25,150 --> 01:19:30,405

1268

01:19:30,405 --> 01:19:31,780

Sorry, where did
you say you were

1269
01:19:31,780 --> 01:19:34,390
shipped after the invasion?

1270
01:19:34,390 --> 01:19:35,800
Liberation, sorry.

1271
01:19:35,800 --> 01:19:38,680
Belleville--
Belleville, Normandy.

1272
01:19:38,680 --> 01:19:39,190
No, I know.

1273
01:19:39,190 --> 01:19:43,690
But where did you go after
the Americans liberated?

1274
01:19:43,690 --> 01:19:49,750
Oh, OK, shortly after I went
to Carteret, C-A-R-T-E-R-E-T.

1275
01:19:49,750 --> 01:19:50,980
OK, I gotcha.

1276
01:19:50,980 --> 01:19:52,760
And you traveled
there by yourself?

1277
01:19:52,760 --> 01:19:53,830
Yes.

1278
01:19:53,830 --> 01:19:54,760
OK.

1279
01:19:54,760 --> 01:19:58,100
Because you were going
to meet your grandmother?

1280
01:19:58,100 --> 01:19:58,790
No, no, no.

1281

01:19:58,790 --> 01:20:01,420

No, because I didn't meet--

1282

01:20:01,420 --> 01:20:07,390

this was '44 or '45 and I
didn't meet my grandmother till

1283

01:20:07,390 --> 01:20:10,540

'46, shortly after--

1284

01:20:10,540 --> 01:20:13,810

So you just decided to go
there because the war had ended

1285

01:20:13,810 --> 01:20:16,550

and you were emerged
from your hiding.

1286

01:20:16,550 --> 01:20:21,700

Well, the priest had an
orphanage there and Carteret.

1287

01:20:21,700 --> 01:20:22,330

OK.

1288

01:20:22,330 --> 01:20:24,490

He had a regular orphanage.

1289

01:20:24,490 --> 01:20:25,780

And he sent you there.

1290

01:20:25,780 --> 01:20:31,450

He sent two of us over there.

1291

01:20:31,450 --> 01:20:35,950

What happened to the third
Jewish boy you were with?

1292

01:20:35,950 --> 01:20:40,735

At that time, the boy was 17--

1293

01:20:40,735 --> 01:20:42,010
16, 17.

1294
01:20:42,010 --> 01:20:45,730
And he had already
indicated that he

1295
01:20:45,730 --> 01:20:48,890
wanted to become a priest.

1296
01:20:48,890 --> 01:20:50,440
Oh, I see, OK.

1297
01:20:50,440 --> 01:20:57,610
OK, so I guess he must have
indicated that to the priest.

1298
01:20:57,610 --> 01:21:00,220
And so just the two
of us were sent.

1299
01:21:00,220 --> 01:21:04,540
And that was a regular
orphanage that he had run.

1300
01:21:04,540 --> 01:21:09,010
And there was no Jewish
kids except the two of us

1301
01:21:09,010 --> 01:21:10,930
when we got there.

1302
01:21:10,930 --> 01:21:13,870
This is why he didn't send us--

1303
01:21:13,870 --> 01:21:16,160
he kept us in the
abbey because he

1304
01:21:16,160 --> 01:21:23,110
was able to indoctrinate us
into the Catholic religion

1305

01:21:23,110 --> 01:21:28,420

to alleviate any suspicion that
the townspeople might have.

1306

01:21:28,420 --> 01:21:32,270

And ultimately, when
the war was over--

1307

01:21:32,270 --> 01:21:34,540

when the invasion was done--

1308

01:21:34,540 --> 01:21:37,270

and I'm not saying the war--

1309

01:21:37,270 --> 01:21:40,780

at that time, the war
was not quite over yet.

1310

01:21:40,780 --> 01:21:46,330

He finally sent us to
Carteret, the two of us.

1311

01:21:46,330 --> 01:21:46,870

OK.

1312

01:21:46,870 --> 01:21:49,300

And there was a lady--

1313

01:21:49,300 --> 01:21:52,390

and I got a photo
somewhere with her name,

1314

01:21:52,390 --> 01:21:56,440

and I can't recall
her name, but she

1315

01:21:56,440 --> 01:21:59,650

was in charge of the orphanage.

1316

01:21:59,650 --> 01:22:00,790

OK.

1317

01:22:00,790 --> 01:22:05,960

But I do have a photo of her.

1318

01:22:05,960 --> 01:22:10,430

You said you also have a
photograph of the abbey, right?

1319

01:22:10,430 --> 01:22:13,510

Yeah, I think so, but I'm
going to have to look for it.

1320

01:22:13,510 --> 01:22:14,990

OK.

1321

01:22:14,990 --> 01:22:18,170

If you can find
any of these, I'm

1322

01:22:18,170 --> 01:22:20,930

sure the museum would
love to see them, or make

1323

01:22:20,930 --> 01:22:23,330

copies, or something.

1324

01:22:23,330 --> 01:22:25,210

We could talk about
that afterwards.

1325

01:22:25,210 --> 01:22:29,660

Yeah, well, I got photos
not only of my parents,

1326

01:22:29,660 --> 01:22:37,400

but my grandmother, my mother's
sisters and all that, too.

1327

01:22:37,400 --> 01:22:39,950

Yeah, I'm sure they'd
love to see all of those.

1328

01:22:39,950 --> 01:22:46,820

So I could scan them
or scan them on the web

1329
01:22:46,820 --> 01:22:49,750
and send it on the
web if you need them.

1330
01:22:49,750 --> 01:22:50,270
Sure.

1331
01:22:50,270 --> 01:22:53,527
Yeah, I think that
would be great.

1332
01:22:53,527 --> 01:22:55,610
But yes, we will be in
touch with the right person

1333
01:22:55,610 --> 01:22:57,020
at the museum afterwards.

1334
01:22:57,020 --> 01:22:57,880
Oh, OK.

1335
01:22:57,880 --> 01:22:58,640
OK.

1336
01:22:58,640 --> 01:22:59,300
Thank you.

1337
01:22:59,300 --> 01:23:06,740
OK, so my grandmother--

1338
01:23:06,740 --> 01:23:08,910
my grandmother an
Maya at that time--

1339
01:23:08,910 --> 01:23:12,020
Maya also went into
hiding, but don't ask me

1340
01:23:12,020 --> 01:23:14,040

where because I don't know.

1341

01:23:14,040 --> 01:23:14,840

OK.

1342

01:23:14,840 --> 01:23:18,890

Once again, my mother--

1343

01:23:18,890 --> 01:23:22,040

my grandmother became a maid.

1344

01:23:22,040 --> 01:23:26,240

And after the war, she
came back into Paris

1345

01:23:26,240 --> 01:23:29,060

and got together with Maya.

1346

01:23:29,060 --> 01:23:38,840

And since we had my aunt in
Cleveland, Ohio, and we had--

1347

01:23:38,840 --> 01:23:45,875

my grandmother had cousins
in Little Rock, Arkansas.

1348

01:23:45,875 --> 01:23:48,860

1349

01:23:48,860 --> 01:23:52,850

And so did Maya, of
course, since she

1350

01:23:52,850 --> 01:23:54,420

was part of the family.

1351

01:23:54,420 --> 01:24:05,740

And so both of them got together
after the war, or before the--

1352

01:24:05,740 --> 01:24:07,030

well, after the war.

1353

01:24:07,030 --> 01:24:11,420

And got together and
were able to communicate

1354

01:24:11,420 --> 01:24:15,910

with the relatives here
in the United States.

1355

01:24:15,910 --> 01:24:27,565

And the lawyer, by the name
of Bennett, was able to--

1356

01:24:27,565 --> 01:24:31,040

well, his name was
Edward Bennett.

1357

01:24:31,040 --> 01:24:36,160

He was a lawyer, who was able
to get the proper paperwork,

1358

01:24:36,160 --> 01:24:40,030

the visas and all this, in
order for us to immigrate

1359

01:24:40,030 --> 01:24:41,980

to the United States.

1360

01:24:41,980 --> 01:24:45,220

Wait, but how did your
grandmother find you

1361

01:24:45,220 --> 01:24:46,590

afterwards?

1362

01:24:46,590 --> 01:24:51,060

Well, she knew where I was.

1363

01:24:51,060 --> 01:24:53,010

So she came-- she
had been in touch

1364

01:24:53,010 --> 01:24:55,440
with the priest, who
told her that you had

1365
01:24:55,440 --> 01:24:57,350
been moved to the orphanage.

1366
01:24:57,350 --> 01:24:57,850
Oh, yeah.

1367
01:24:57,850 --> 01:24:59,330
And so did Maya know.

1368
01:24:59,330 --> 01:25:00,030
Maya knew.

1369
01:25:00,030 --> 01:25:01,110
OK, I understand.

1370
01:25:01,110 --> 01:25:03,720
And your sister, they
had retrieved your sister

1371
01:25:03,720 --> 01:25:06,520
from the family who had been
hiding her at that point.

1372
01:25:06,520 --> 01:25:07,020
Yes.

1373
01:25:07,020 --> 01:25:10,290

1374
01:25:10,290 --> 01:25:13,770
My sister was with
a Christian family,

1375
01:25:13,770 --> 01:25:21,030
French Christian family, by
the name of Croci, C-R-O-C-I.

1376
01:25:21,030 --> 01:25:25,080

And just a suburb of Paris.

1377

01:25:25,080 --> 01:25:30,690

And she was there from
two-years-old to six-years-old.

1378

01:25:30,690 --> 01:25:31,380

OK.

1379

01:25:31,380 --> 01:25:38,160

And they wanted to adopt
her, but my grandmother

1380

01:25:38,160 --> 01:25:39,930

didn't want to.

1381

01:25:39,930 --> 01:25:42,960

And they were, as I
wrote, they were somewhat

1382

01:25:42,960 --> 01:25:48,160

devastated that she was
reclaimed from them.

1383

01:25:48,160 --> 01:25:52,530

And to this day, by
the way, I got together

1384

01:25:52,530 --> 01:25:59,050

with a great-granddaughter
of the family.

1385

01:25:59,050 --> 01:26:08,520

She's-- the man and wife-- the
man who kept her and sheltered

1386

01:26:08,520 --> 01:26:14,250

for the four years died.

1387

01:26:14,250 --> 01:26:21,960

And the woman is
92-years-old as of right now.

1388

01:26:21,960 --> 01:26:24,300

And they wanted--

1389

01:26:24,300 --> 01:26:26,910

I submit a short--

1390

01:26:26,910 --> 01:26:31,260

and I think I wrote to you,

I submitted a short synopsis

1391

01:26:31,260 --> 01:26:38,490

of my story as to the connection

that I have with my sister

1392

01:26:38,490 --> 01:26:41,280

as far as family,

what happened, what

1393

01:26:41,280 --> 01:26:46,170

transpired with us

prior to the war, what

1394

01:26:46,170 --> 01:26:50,220

happened to our family

during the occupation,

1395

01:26:50,220 --> 01:26:54,060

the German occupation, and

ultimately our immigration

1396

01:26:54,060 --> 01:26:55,560

to the United States.

1397

01:26:55,560 --> 01:27:04,230

I didn't go into lengthy details

because what they want to do

1398

01:27:04,230 --> 01:27:10,350

is submit to the

French authority.

1399

01:27:10,350 --> 01:27:16,590

And they call it just
[FRENCH],, the just,

1400
01:27:16,590 --> 01:27:19,320
to recognize-- to honor
them and recognize them

1401
01:27:19,320 --> 01:27:26,190
for their effort in
sheltering Jewish children.

1402
01:27:26,190 --> 01:27:27,240
I understand, wow.

1403
01:27:27,240 --> 01:27:28,230
OK.

1404
01:27:28,230 --> 01:27:33,030
So they wanted more information.

1405
01:27:33,030 --> 01:27:36,480
And I said, well,
no, the information

1406
01:27:36,480 --> 01:27:40,890
that I gave you is
enough for the connection

1407
01:27:40,890 --> 01:27:46,110
that my sister has with me
and the family that we lost.

1408
01:27:46,110 --> 01:27:54,810
But the application
should be concerned,

1409
01:27:54,810 --> 01:28:00,690
and should be strictly between
that family and my sister

1410
01:28:00,690 --> 01:28:07,380
and what they did for
her, not my story.

1411
01:28:07,380 --> 01:28:14,840
I gave you the
relationship and that's it.

1412
01:28:14,840 --> 01:28:18,990
And I got a call
from one of the--

1413
01:28:18,990 --> 01:28:24,240
the person that is in charge
of writing up the application.

1414
01:28:24,240 --> 01:28:26,270
And she wanted more.

1415
01:28:26,270 --> 01:28:30,990
We talked for about
an hour from France.

1416
01:28:30,990 --> 01:28:33,210
And she wanted more.

1417
01:28:33,210 --> 01:28:35,370
And I said, no,
that's it, I'm not

1418
01:28:35,370 --> 01:28:41,700
giving you any more of my
details, my own details.

1419
01:28:41,700 --> 01:28:46,938
And so, I don't know--

1420
01:28:46,938 --> 01:28:48,105
Did she talk to your sister?

1421
01:28:48,105 --> 01:28:53,175

1422
01:28:53,175 --> 01:28:55,980
We had a slight fall-out,

so I haven't talked to her

1423
01:28:55,980 --> 01:28:58,350
in about three or four years.

1424
01:28:58,350 --> 01:28:59,250
Oh, I see.

1425
01:28:59,250 --> 01:28:59,880
OK.

1426
01:28:59,880 --> 01:29:01,050
We had a slight fall-out.

1427
01:29:01,050 --> 01:29:04,360

1428
01:29:04,360 --> 01:29:07,920
Well, just give you--

1429
01:29:07,920 --> 01:29:13,140
after-- OK, after we
got to the States,

1430
01:29:13,140 --> 01:29:19,950
we were shipped to Edward
Bennett's sister in Georgia,

1431
01:29:19,950 --> 01:29:21,240
Unadilla, which--

1432
01:29:21,240 --> 01:29:23,010
Edward Bennett was the
lawyer who arranged

1433
01:29:23,010 --> 01:29:25,110
for you to immigrate to the US.

1434
01:29:25,110 --> 01:29:25,740
Yes.

1435

01:29:25,740 --> 01:29:32,370

And I guess she had a
rough time with them.

1436

01:29:32,370 --> 01:29:36,510

And she thought she was adopted.

1437

01:29:36,510 --> 01:29:39,450

And after their
death, she found out--

1438

01:29:39,450 --> 01:29:45,390

she had taken their name as
Paulette Elkins, when she found

1439

01:29:45,390 --> 01:29:46,710

out she was never adopted.

1440

01:29:46,710 --> 01:29:49,640

So legally, she
was not an Elkins.

1441

01:29:49,640 --> 01:29:52,230

She was still a Fensterheim.

1442

01:29:52,230 --> 01:29:52,800

OK.

1443

01:29:52,800 --> 01:29:58,410

And so it took a toll on her.

1444

01:29:58,410 --> 01:30:08,540

And she felt cheated, if you
will, for all these years,

1445

01:30:08,540 --> 01:30:13,220

having been with them
until their death.

1446

01:30:13,220 --> 01:30:20,000

And so she changed completely.

1447

01:30:20,000 --> 01:30:25,130
And, of course, I
was shipped out.

1448
01:30:25,130 --> 01:30:30,110
I think I wrote to you, I was
shipped out of Unadilla also.

1449
01:30:30,110 --> 01:30:34,250

1450
01:30:34,250 --> 01:30:42,740
They insisted-- the lady,
Bessie, Bessie Elkins,

1451
01:30:42,740 --> 01:30:47,210
insisted that we would
call her mom and dad.

1452
01:30:47,210 --> 01:30:56,780
And really, at 14-years-old,
I couldn't do it.

1453
01:30:56,780 --> 01:31:03,060
I had lost my parents at an
early age, eight-years-old

1454
01:31:03,060 --> 01:31:07,940
in 1940 and '42, 8 and 10.

1455
01:31:07,940 --> 01:31:11,870
And I just couldn't
bring myself at 14

1456
01:31:11,870 --> 01:31:15,380
to call anybody
else mom and dad.

1457
01:31:15,380 --> 01:31:17,430
Right, I understand.

1458
01:31:17,430 --> 01:31:24,150
And so we didn't see eye-to-eye

on that particular subject.

1459

01:31:24,150 --> 01:31:27,560

And we didn't see
eye-to-eye on other things.

1460

01:31:27,560 --> 01:31:30,560

And I was being--

1461

01:31:30,560 --> 01:31:32,630

I was going to
school, as I wrote.

1462

01:31:32,630 --> 01:31:35,600

I was going to school
and integrating myself

1463

01:31:35,600 --> 01:31:43,670

with the activities, which I
had sorely missed, or never had,

1464

01:31:43,670 --> 01:31:47,430

actually, during the war years.

1465

01:31:47,430 --> 01:31:49,550

Right.

1466

01:31:49,550 --> 01:31:54,770

And there again, I
was being restricted.

1467

01:31:54,770 --> 01:31:56,270

By the family you
were living with.

1468

01:31:56,270 --> 01:32:04,760

I was being restricted in
99.9% of the activities.

1469

01:32:04,760 --> 01:32:15,050

And so, as a teenager, 14, I
guess, I somewhat rebelled.

1470

01:32:15,050 --> 01:32:17,840

Why were you being
restricted by them?

1471

01:32:17,840 --> 01:32:21,680

They were the only Jewish
family in Unadilla, Georgia.

1472

01:32:21,680 --> 01:32:23,090

I see.

1473

01:32:23,090 --> 01:32:25,070

They were nervous
to be integrated

1474

01:32:25,070 --> 01:32:27,350

into that outside world.

1475

01:32:27,350 --> 01:32:31,730

And they didn't have any--

1476

01:32:31,730 --> 01:32:39,770

they ran a fabric store, Harry
Elkins ran a fabric store.

1477

01:32:39,770 --> 01:32:44,990

And there was no--

1478

01:32:44,990 --> 01:32:48,590

I mean, acquaintances,
but not get-together

1479

01:32:48,590 --> 01:32:50,600

with anybody or anything.

1480

01:32:50,600 --> 01:32:53,100

I guess we were--

1481

01:32:53,100 --> 01:32:56,930

I'm not saying that we were
ostracized in any way there,

1482

01:32:56,930 --> 01:33:00,200

but they did look--

1483

01:33:00,200 --> 01:33:05,030

they did know that we were Jews.

1484

01:33:05,030 --> 01:33:10,745

And so that also was

somewhat of a stigma

1485

01:33:10,745 --> 01:33:13,490

they attached to us,

for being Jewish.

1486

01:33:13,490 --> 01:33:16,490

1487

01:33:16,490 --> 01:33:19,790

Your sister was adjusting

with them better?

1488

01:33:19,790 --> 01:33:20,900

What's that?

1489

01:33:20,900 --> 01:33:23,930

Your sister was adjusting with

the family a little bit better?

1490

01:33:23,930 --> 01:33:25,880

Oh, yeah, much more so.

1491

01:33:25,880 --> 01:33:26,600

Much more so.

1492

01:33:26,600 --> 01:33:32,030

She was six-years-old

when they got her.

1493

01:33:32,030 --> 01:33:34,700

Right.

1494

01:33:34,700 --> 01:33:44,630

At six-years-old, there's not much adjustment to be had.

1495

01:33:44,630 --> 01:33:48,830

She didn't experience-- she was too young to experience

1496

01:33:48,830 --> 01:33:55,820

any displacement, atrocity, or couldn't even

1497

01:33:55,820 --> 01:33:59,680

understand what happened to her real mom and dad.

1498

01:33:59,680 --> 01:34:00,980

Right.

1499

01:34:00,980 --> 01:34:10,040

And so it's-- and so I guess I became a handful for them.

1500

01:34:10,040 --> 01:34:14,510

And they told-- and she told her brother.

1501

01:34:14,510 --> 01:34:20,630

And I wrote it down, I was shipped

1502

01:34:20,630 --> 01:34:28,940

to Arkansas, Sulfur Springs, Arkansas, a military school.

1503

01:34:28,940 --> 01:34:34,910

And within two or three months, for my senior year

1504

01:34:34,910 --> 01:34:35,700

in high school.

1505

01:34:35,700 --> 01:34:37,940

By the way, I couldn't
speak a word of English

1506
01:34:37,940 --> 01:34:41,300
when I got to the States.

1507
01:34:41,300 --> 01:34:47,720

1508
01:34:47,720 --> 01:34:53,200
In school, I was put
into sophomore year,

1509
01:34:53,200 --> 01:34:54,760
because of my age I guess.

1510
01:34:54,760 --> 01:34:55,840
I don't know.

1511
01:34:55,840 --> 01:34:58,880
And we had to do hand language.

1512
01:34:58,880 --> 01:35:01,780
And the teacher was
patient and kind.

1513
01:35:01,780 --> 01:35:04,360
And even the kids were
trying to help me.

1514
01:35:04,360 --> 01:35:08,380
But as kids, we start
learning fast languages.

1515
01:35:08,380 --> 01:35:12,430
And so I was helped
in many ways.

1516
01:35:12,430 --> 01:35:16,480
And then when I went
to this military school

1517

01:35:16,480 --> 01:35:19,450
for my senior year,
after three months

1518
01:35:19,450 --> 01:35:24,910
the payments to the
school were terminated.

1519
01:35:24,910 --> 01:35:30,670
And I was left hanging,
where the superintendent

1520
01:35:30,670 --> 01:35:37,660
of the schools, I wrote,
was going to let me go.

1521
01:35:37,660 --> 01:35:40,150
But I didn't know
where in the world

1522
01:35:40,150 --> 01:35:43,410
I was going to go
because I was by myself.

1523
01:35:43,410 --> 01:35:46,660
My grandmother, at
that time, had died.

1524
01:35:46,660 --> 01:35:58,660
My cousin-- my aunt in Cleveland
had a disabled husband.

1525
01:35:58,660 --> 01:36:00,520
He had Parkinson's disease.

1526
01:36:00,520 --> 01:36:02,560
And he ultimately died.

1527
01:36:02,560 --> 01:36:11,080
And she had one daughter, who's
living in Boca Raton, Florida,

1528
01:36:11,080 --> 01:36:15,940

which we see her every so often.

1529

01:36:15,940 --> 01:36:19,240

And I have a wife.

1530

01:36:19,240 --> 01:36:22,750

I wrote to you, I have

a wife of 58 years.

1531

01:36:22,750 --> 01:36:26,650

And she's handicapped as well.

1532

01:36:26,650 --> 01:36:31,810

She had-- she's

walking with a walker.

1533

01:36:31,810 --> 01:36:36,250

And she underwent

surgery in 2010.

1534

01:36:36,250 --> 01:36:38,260

And the surgeon

botched her surgery,

1535

01:36:38,260 --> 01:36:41,350

so that's another story.

1536

01:36:41,350 --> 01:36:42,950

I'm so sorry to hear that.

1537

01:36:42,950 --> 01:36:48,610

And so I'm the only one that--

1538

01:36:48,610 --> 01:36:53,680

well, anyway, to make

a long story short,

1539

01:36:53,680 --> 01:37:00,690

my aunt in Cleveland

couldn't afford to take me.

1540

01:37:00,690 --> 01:37:08,617

And so I did go for a
few days to Cleveland,

1541
01:37:08,617 --> 01:37:09,700
which I didn't write down.

1542
01:37:09,700 --> 01:37:12,070
I did go for a few
days in Cleveland.

1543
01:37:12,070 --> 01:37:15,400
And I got recalled
by the superintendent

1544
01:37:15,400 --> 01:37:19,630
to come back to Sulfur
Springs, Arkansas.

1545
01:37:19,630 --> 01:37:26,020
He had found a family, a local
family, who had an adopted son.

1546
01:37:26,020 --> 01:37:31,510
And they were willing
to pay for the remaining

1547
01:37:31,510 --> 01:37:35,410
year of the military school.

1548
01:37:35,410 --> 01:37:40,330
And then never adopted
me or anything like this,

1549
01:37:40,330 --> 01:37:43,150
never asked for anything,
never wanted me--

1550
01:37:43,150 --> 01:37:49,653
never wanted my repaying
them for not only

1551
01:37:49,653 --> 01:37:51,320
the money, but their

kindness, and this,

1552

01:37:51,320 --> 01:37:53,470
and that, and the other.

1553

01:37:53,470 --> 01:37:56,000
And that was a Christian
family as well.

1554

01:37:56,000 --> 01:37:57,970
And they knew that--

1555

01:37:57,970 --> 01:38:02,680
and I was the only Jewish
boy in the military school.

1556

01:38:02,680 --> 01:38:03,940
Wow.

1557

01:38:03,940 --> 01:38:12,310
And so, you know, Julie,
I can talk about--

1558

01:38:12,310 --> 01:38:16,930
I underwent so
many displacement.

1559

01:38:16,930 --> 01:38:17,580
You really did.

1560

01:38:17,580 --> 01:38:18,080
Wow.

1561

01:38:18,080 --> 01:38:23,380

1562

01:38:23,380 --> 01:38:31,060
I guess I must have inherited
my father's strong character,

1563

01:38:31,060 --> 01:38:33,010
because I survived.

1564

01:38:33,010 --> 01:38:37,900

And I guess the survival
itself, and thank God--

1565

01:38:37,900 --> 01:38:42,400

thank God to my grandmother,
and Maya, and all the people

1566

01:38:42,400 --> 01:38:44,770

involved for my survival.

1567

01:38:44,770 --> 01:38:48,310

And invariably, the priest.

1568

01:38:48,310 --> 01:38:51,970

The priest was God sent.

1569

01:38:51,970 --> 01:38:53,980

And I don't care--

1570

01:38:53,980 --> 01:38:57,250

Did you keep in touch with
the priest, or his family,

1571

01:38:57,250 --> 01:38:59,680

or anything like
that after the war?

1572

01:38:59,680 --> 01:39:01,510

Shortly.

1573

01:39:01,510 --> 01:39:05,380

And we lost contact.

1574

01:39:05,380 --> 01:39:09,940

And he ultimately died anyway.

1575

01:39:09,940 --> 01:39:16,900

And I never got to know when
he died or anything like this.

1576

01:39:16,900 --> 01:39:18,940

You said you don't
remember his name, right?

1577

01:39:18,940 --> 01:39:20,710

No, but I'll find it.

1578

01:39:20,710 --> 01:39:22,090

I'll find it.

1579

01:39:22,090 --> 01:39:22,930

OK.

1580

01:39:22,930 --> 01:39:24,440

Yes, that would be helpful.

1581

01:39:24,440 --> 01:39:28,570

Yeah, because he
should be enshrined.

1582

01:39:28,570 --> 01:39:37,930

And not only enshrined
within the church, as well as

1583

01:39:37,930 --> 01:39:38,890

the French--

1584

01:39:38,890 --> 01:39:43,660

with the French authority,
because he was--

1585

01:39:43,660 --> 01:39:47,050

for having what he
did, not only for us,

1586

01:39:47,050 --> 01:39:51,800

but for the Americans, the
liberation, and everything

1587

01:39:51,800 --> 01:39:52,300

else.

1588

01:39:52,300 --> 01:39:56,500

1589

01:39:56,500 --> 01:40:02,260

You don't meet these type
of people on a daily basis.

1590

01:40:02,260 --> 01:40:03,610

That's true.

1591

01:40:03,610 --> 01:40:07,600

You've got to have
a certain chutzpah.

1592

01:40:07,600 --> 01:40:10,840

Oh, yeah, to sacrifice
your own life like that

1593

01:40:10,840 --> 01:40:14,440

is obviously very remarkable
and you don't see it every day.

1594

01:40:14,440 --> 01:40:20,660

Yeah, so I was
fortunate in that.

1595

01:40:20,660 --> 01:40:27,070

And unfortunately, that
my family was disseminated

1596

01:40:27,070 --> 01:40:31,120

to the point of there was me.

1597

01:40:31,120 --> 01:40:31,940

Right.

1598

01:40:31,940 --> 01:40:33,710

Me and my sister.

1599

01:40:33,710 --> 01:40:41,500

And then, of course,
I wrote to you

1600
01:40:41,500 --> 01:40:46,510
where I spent
quite a few years--

1601
01:40:46,510 --> 01:40:50,080
or 20 years in the military.

1602
01:40:50,080 --> 01:40:54,400
And I would have loved to--

1603
01:40:54,400 --> 01:40:58,510
I would have loved
to finish my degree,

1604
01:40:58,510 --> 01:41:02,950
but Korea was on at that time.

1605
01:41:02,950 --> 01:41:06,580
And even though the
oil company that I

1606
01:41:06,580 --> 01:41:10,180
was working for
in Tulsa, Oklahoma

1607
01:41:10,180 --> 01:41:13,240
had indicated that
they would pay

1608
01:41:13,240 --> 01:41:17,930
for the next four years
of my engineering,

1609
01:41:17,930 --> 01:41:19,940
instead I went to--

1610
01:41:19,940 --> 01:41:23,710
I was a 1A classification.

1611
01:41:23,710 --> 01:41:25,270
And I would have been drafted.

1612
01:41:25,270 --> 01:41:27,280
I would have been drafted.

1613
01:41:27,280 --> 01:41:29,480
And I didn't want
to go into the army.

1614
01:41:29,480 --> 01:41:33,460
And even though the Texas oil
company had written a letter

1615
01:41:33,460 --> 01:41:36,190
to the effect that they
would send me to school,

1616
01:41:36,190 --> 01:41:41,570
and I took it to the draft
board, they sort of chuckled,

1617
01:41:41,570 --> 01:41:45,250
and said if I had
been a senator's son,

1618
01:41:45,250 --> 01:41:48,400
that would have been
something else, but I wasn't.

1619
01:41:48,400 --> 01:41:48,940
Right.

1620
01:41:48,940 --> 01:41:52,480
So I went and enlisted.

1621
01:41:52,480 --> 01:41:57,490
And then, ultimately, during
my first tour in Europe,

1622
01:41:57,490 --> 01:41:59,080
I met my wife.

1623
01:41:59,080 --> 01:42:04,060

And I indicated
that we celebrated

1624
01:42:04,060 --> 01:42:11,740
our anniversary in 24--
see, I can remember that.

1625
01:42:11,740 --> 01:42:15,370
If I don't, I have a
ring with my date--

1626
01:42:15,370 --> 01:42:19,530
the day is inscribed
inside my ring.

1627
01:42:19,530 --> 01:42:21,965
We were married
24 September, '55.

1628
01:42:21,965 --> 01:42:25,072

1629
01:42:25,072 --> 01:42:30,230
And she blessed me
with three children.

1630
01:42:30,230 --> 01:42:34,322
And we've got four
grandkids now.

1631
01:42:34,322 --> 01:42:35,030
That's wonderful.

1632
01:42:35,030 --> 01:42:37,360
And we speak French.

1633
01:42:37,360 --> 01:42:44,260
Well, we speak English, but
when you're sort of a linguist--

1634
01:42:44,260 --> 01:42:49,070
and by the way, besides going
to school to get my degree,

1635
01:42:49,070 --> 01:42:54,070
I also went to Brown
University for languages.

1636
01:42:54,070 --> 01:42:58,330
And I majored in
French and German.

1637
01:42:58,330 --> 01:43:02,320
And took up Russian and Spanish.

1638
01:43:02,320 --> 01:43:05,200
But my major was
French and German.

1639
01:43:05,200 --> 01:43:06,635
This was after your--

1640
01:43:06,635 --> 01:43:08,260
well, you were in
the army for so long.

1641
01:43:08,260 --> 01:43:11,200
At what point did
you go to Brown?

1642
01:43:11,200 --> 01:43:11,830
In 19--

1643
01:43:11,830 --> 01:43:12,997
Not the army, the Air Force.

1644
01:43:12,997 --> 01:43:13,690
I'm sorry.

1645
01:43:13,690 --> 01:43:19,120
Yeah, I went in 1976 or '78.

1646
01:43:19,120 --> 01:43:21,070
I see.

1647

01:43:21,070 --> 01:43:27,675

And so, and because I was--

1648

01:43:27,675 --> 01:43:29,860

I went through the VA.

1649

01:43:29,860 --> 01:43:35,780

The VA, well, it was
better than the GI Bill.

1650

01:43:35,780 --> 01:43:40,190

I was-- I had a--

1651

01:43:40,190 --> 01:43:45,080

1652

01:43:45,080 --> 01:43:48,890

I had an injury while
I was in the military.

1653

01:43:48,890 --> 01:43:49,580

I was injured.

1654

01:43:49,580 --> 01:43:58,080

And I lost my left-- in my
left ear, my left hearing.

1655

01:43:58,080 --> 01:44:02,010

And then my right ear
is about 75%-85% gone.

1656

01:44:02,010 --> 01:44:08,830

So I'm wearing a hearing
aid And then I was injured,

1657

01:44:08,830 --> 01:44:12,680

I lost part of my
feeling in my left hand.

1658

01:44:12,680 --> 01:44:18,770

So I was going under the--

1659

01:44:18,770 --> 01:44:23,330

I had full tuition
for the one year

1660

01:44:23,330 --> 01:44:29,764

of my bachelor's and full
tuition for the graduate.

1661

01:44:29,764 --> 01:44:36,080

Uncle paid for, right down
to pencil, paper, everything.

1662

01:44:36,080 --> 01:44:38,600

So I was fortunate there.

1663

01:44:38,600 --> 01:44:39,330

Right, wow.

1664

01:44:39,330 --> 01:44:42,680

1665

01:44:42,680 --> 01:44:47,130

Nothing to complain
at that time.

1666

01:44:47,130 --> 01:44:54,050

I will say this, I wish--

1667

01:44:54,050 --> 01:45:00,830

of course, I wish dearly
that my family, besides what

1668

01:45:00,830 --> 01:45:07,370

we have right now, what my wife
and I created, but I wish we

1669

01:45:07,370 --> 01:45:07,970

had family.

1670

01:45:07,970 --> 01:45:13,160

But otherwise, you could
say I was self-made.

1671
01:45:13,160 --> 01:45:16,370
It was me.

1672
01:45:16,370 --> 01:45:22,850
After I got out of high school, I was on my own.

1673
01:45:22,850 --> 01:45:27,530
I wasn't even 17-years-old when I got out of high school.

1674
01:45:27,530 --> 01:45:29,930
And so I was on my own.

1675
01:45:29,930 --> 01:45:39,280
And so we call that self-made, whatever, and hard work.

1676
01:45:39,280 --> 01:45:40,190
But I did it.

1677
01:45:40,190 --> 01:45:43,010
And I'm not a young 81, Julie.

1678
01:45:43,010 --> 01:45:46,100

1679
01:45:46,100 --> 01:45:49,680
No, it really is an amazing story.

1680
01:45:49,680 --> 01:45:52,610
And so many aspects of it, just so interesting,

1681
01:45:52,610 --> 01:45:55,850
and also, not the usual Holocaust

1682
01:45:55,850 --> 01:45:59,960
survivor story that you hear And

I don't know many survivors who

1683

01:45:59,960 --> 01:46:05,090

then went back to serve in the
military and return to Europe.

1684

01:46:05,090 --> 01:46:08,440

That must have been difficult
emotionally for you to--

1685

01:46:08,440 --> 01:46:09,650

Oh, yeah--

1686

01:46:09,650 --> 01:46:10,505

--go back to where--

1687

01:46:10,505 --> 01:46:13,640

I went back to the
old quarters, to where

1688

01:46:13,640 --> 01:46:15,470

we used to have the
one-room apartment,

1689

01:46:15,470 --> 01:46:22,520

but of course, it had been
converted to a luxury.

1690

01:46:22,520 --> 01:46:25,280

And the building,
the whole building

1691

01:46:25,280 --> 01:46:27,090

was converted when I went back.

1692

01:46:27,090 --> 01:46:28,640

I went back to Paris.

1693

01:46:28,640 --> 01:46:31,470

My wife and I went to Paris
about two or three times.

1694

01:46:31,470 --> 01:46:34,520

1695

01:46:34,520 --> 01:46:39,020

And I also went to Paris
before I got married.

1696

01:46:39,020 --> 01:46:44,810

And so I went to-- and
of course, I still--

1697

01:46:44,810 --> 01:46:50,930

the advantage, I
spoke French fluently.

1698

01:46:50,930 --> 01:46:53,750

In fact, to also
tell you, you won't

1699

01:46:53,750 --> 01:46:57,350

believe this, when
I visited Paris,

1700

01:46:57,350 --> 01:46:59,450

because I never visited
Paris before when

1701

01:46:59,450 --> 01:47:01,460

I was a kid, living there.

1702

01:47:01,460 --> 01:47:07,360

I went to the regular tourist
attractions, this, and that,

1703

01:47:07,360 --> 01:47:08,990

and the other.

1704

01:47:08,990 --> 01:47:14,480

And I was in the
cathedral of Notre Dame.

1705

01:47:14,480 --> 01:47:17,990

I wanted to see what

Notre Dame looked like.

1706
01:47:17,990 --> 01:47:20,240
Because that's a
tourist attraction.

1707
01:47:20,240 --> 01:47:20,750
Right.

1708
01:47:20,750 --> 01:47:26,000
And I was there, sitting
down, not kneeling,

1709
01:47:26,000 --> 01:47:27,800
or anything like that.

1710
01:47:27,800 --> 01:47:31,310
And I was sitting down,
and a priest came over

1711
01:47:31,310 --> 01:47:33,770
to me, a young priest.

1712
01:47:33,770 --> 01:47:36,440
And they have several priests.

1713
01:47:36,440 --> 01:47:40,310
And I guess there
must be one that's

1714
01:47:40,310 --> 01:47:46,550
in charge of all the younger
priests, a senior priest.

1715
01:47:46,550 --> 01:47:52,330
Came over to me and he says,
do you know how to serve mass?

1716
01:47:52,330 --> 01:47:55,180
I said-- and I was in
civvies, because most

1717

01:47:55,180 --> 01:47:59,230
of the time I wore civvies
when I was in the military.

1718
01:47:59,230 --> 01:48:01,420
At that time, I was
in civilian clothes.

1719
01:48:01,420 --> 01:48:02,200
And he asked me.

1720
01:48:02,200 --> 01:48:05,560
And I said, yeah, I
know how to serve mass.

1721
01:48:05,560 --> 01:48:10,780
And he said, we need somebody,
could you help us out?

1722
01:48:10,780 --> 01:48:17,700
Well, would you believe,
I served a high mass

1723
01:48:17,700 --> 01:48:20,246
at Notre Dame of Paris?

1724
01:48:20,246 --> 01:48:21,805
No, that's an amazing story.

1725
01:48:21,805 --> 01:48:23,050
Wow.

1726
01:48:23,050 --> 01:48:27,580
And I couldn't believe it.

1727
01:48:27,580 --> 01:48:30,640
And I told him, I said, my
gosh, it's been so many years,

1728
01:48:30,640 --> 01:48:31,340
so many years.

1729

01:48:31,340 --> 01:48:32,750
He said, don't worry.

1730
01:48:32,750 --> 01:48:36,610
He said, the priest
will help you out.

1731
01:48:36,610 --> 01:48:37,240
Wow.

1732
01:48:37,240 --> 01:48:43,030
So did you become like a
practicing Jew after the war?

1733
01:48:43,030 --> 01:48:43,530
No.

1734
01:48:43,530 --> 01:48:44,420
No.

1735
01:48:44,420 --> 01:48:48,280
And I will say this.

1736
01:48:48,280 --> 01:48:56,320
We got-- both my wife and I
got married in church in 1955.

1737
01:48:56,320 --> 01:49:02,050
And after 1955, I never
practiced Catholicism, never

1738
01:49:02,050 --> 01:49:09,010
practiced Jewish or anything.

1739
01:49:09,010 --> 01:49:11,260
We're good people.

1740
01:49:11,260 --> 01:49:18,700
I've seen things
in the church or--

1741
01:49:18,700 --> 01:49:22,090

well, let's say in the church.

1742
01:49:22,090 --> 01:49:23,275
I had a--

1743
01:49:23,275 --> 01:49:25,830
I was in the military.

1744
01:49:25,830 --> 01:49:33,510
And I saw the midnight
mass for Christmas.

1745
01:49:33,510 --> 01:49:40,080
I went one time to midnight
mass, Christmas midnight mass.

1746
01:49:40,080 --> 01:49:53,030
And I saw GIs that I knew
that came in from town,

1747
01:49:53,030 --> 01:49:56,520
got confession--

1748
01:49:56,520 --> 01:50:03,990
got confession, got
communion, were absolved,

1749
01:50:03,990 --> 01:50:13,230
and went back downtown to
drink and do whatever they did,

1750
01:50:13,230 --> 01:50:15,940
what GIs would do.

1751
01:50:15,940 --> 01:50:25,800
And so there was a major
that was conducting the--

1752
01:50:25,800 --> 01:50:28,050
later on, I went up to him.

1753
01:50:28,050 --> 01:50:34,580

I says, how can you give
absolution to someone

1754
01:50:34,580 --> 01:50:40,880
that you know as soon as
they have a confession

1755
01:50:40,880 --> 01:50:44,480
and communion, they're
going to go back

1756
01:50:44,480 --> 01:50:48,320
to what they were doing that
and what they confessed to you?

1757
01:50:48,320 --> 01:50:49,030
Right.

1758
01:50:49,030 --> 01:50:52,550
They said, well, we know
that, but we can't deny that.

1759
01:50:52,550 --> 01:50:58,680
I said, to me, that's two-faced.

1760
01:50:58,680 --> 01:50:59,180
Right.

1761
01:50:59,180 --> 01:51:04,040
And in other instances, we were
stationed in Hawaii, my wife

1762
01:51:04,040 --> 01:51:06,260
and I, and we had three kids.

1763
01:51:06,260 --> 01:51:11,600
And on a Sunday morning,
a guy comes over to me.

1764
01:51:11,600 --> 01:51:14,010
He says-- and I was
washing my automobile.

1765

01:51:14,010 --> 01:51:19,370

He says, Joe, he says,
don't you ever go

1766

01:51:19,370 --> 01:51:22,250

to church, or whatever,
synagogue, of this?

1767

01:51:22,250 --> 01:51:24,340

I said, no.

1768

01:51:24,340 --> 01:51:27,530

And he says, well, you should.

1769

01:51:27,530 --> 01:51:31,010

I said, whoa, whoa, whoa.

1770

01:51:31,010 --> 01:51:33,864

I said, what do you mean should?

1771

01:51:33,864 --> 01:51:35,820

He said, well, it would
do you a lot of good.

1772

01:51:35,820 --> 01:51:38,560

I said, let me
tell you something.

1773

01:51:38,560 --> 01:51:41,590

I said, I got three kids.

1774

01:51:41,590 --> 01:51:45,040

You got about four kids.

1775

01:51:45,040 --> 01:51:50,890

I said, I hear those kids use
four-letter words and all this.

1776

01:51:50,890 --> 01:51:53,800

My kids never use
four-letter words.

1777

01:51:53,800 --> 01:51:58,030

I said, don't be telling
me what's good for me.

1778

01:51:58,030 --> 01:52:01,720

I said, do you ever say
blessings at the table,

1779

01:52:01,720 --> 01:52:05,440

whether you're Jewish, or
Catholic, or Protestant?

1780

01:52:05,440 --> 01:52:06,070

I do.

1781

01:52:06,070 --> 01:52:08,860

1782

01:52:08,860 --> 01:52:11,080

I bless the food.

1783

01:52:11,080 --> 01:52:14,770

I said, I know what
it is to be hungry.

1784

01:52:14,770 --> 01:52:19,210

I said, so don't
be preaching to me.

1785

01:52:19,210 --> 01:52:20,470

Right.

1786

01:52:20,470 --> 01:52:24,200

And he wouldn't talk to
me for about four months.

1787

01:52:24,200 --> 01:52:26,470

And then, finally,
after four months

1788

01:52:26,470 --> 01:52:29,080

he came over and

apologized to me.

1789
01:52:29,080 --> 01:52:31,082
And he said, I was out of line.

1790
01:52:31,082 --> 01:52:32,290
I said, well, I'll take you--

1791
01:52:32,290 --> 01:52:35,320
I appreciate your apology.

1792
01:52:35,320 --> 01:52:39,100

1793
01:52:39,100 --> 01:52:42,700
But I don't have to go
to church, or synagogue,

1794
01:52:42,700 --> 01:52:43,990
or anything like this.

1795
01:52:43,990 --> 01:52:45,610
We're good people.

1796
01:52:45,610 --> 01:52:46,180
Yeah.

1797
01:52:46,180 --> 01:52:53,440
And we both my wife
and I raised our kids.

1798
01:52:53,440 --> 01:52:55,570
We raised them right.

1799
01:52:55,570 --> 01:52:58,690

1800
01:52:58,690 --> 01:53:03,570
All three of them
are well-to-do,

1801

01:53:03,570 --> 01:53:07,360
not only financially, but
character wise, this, and that,

1802
01:53:07,360 --> 01:53:08,500
and the other.

1803
01:53:08,500 --> 01:53:12,430
You couldn't ask for any better.

1804
01:53:12,430 --> 01:53:19,360
I thank God, whether it's a
Jewish God, or a Christian God,

1805
01:53:19,360 --> 01:53:20,800
I don't care.

1806
01:53:20,800 --> 01:53:27,910
The God did a good job
for me and for my family,

1807
01:53:27,910 --> 01:53:31,120
for the family that I
have now, that I didn't

1808
01:53:31,120 --> 01:53:33,040
have when I was growing up.

1809
01:53:33,040 --> 01:53:33,550
Right.

1810
01:53:33,550 --> 01:53:41,440
And that to me is a
big plus in my life.

1811
01:53:41,440 --> 01:53:44,110

1812
01:53:44,110 --> 01:53:45,415
Of course, it was--

1813
01:53:45,415 --> 01:53:47,770

thank God for the
help with my wife.

1814
01:53:47,770 --> 01:53:51,520
And as I indicated,
too, Julie, she

1815
01:53:51,520 --> 01:53:55,060
prodded me throughout the
years to tell my story.

1816
01:53:55,060 --> 01:53:57,010
Yeah.

1817
01:53:57,010 --> 01:53:58,690
I'm so happy you did.

1818
01:53:58,690 --> 01:54:06,730
Well, I felt-- there's no
shame in my story whatsoever.

1819
01:54:06,730 --> 01:54:12,580
It's just that-- and
I think you heard that

1820
01:54:12,580 --> 01:54:17,690
from not only the actual
Auschwitz survivor,

1821
01:54:17,690 --> 01:54:21,610
but family of survivors.

1822
01:54:21,610 --> 01:54:27,370
They wanted the protection of
the atrocity and the suffering

1823
01:54:27,370 --> 01:54:31,570
that they, themselves,
went through.

1824
01:54:31,570 --> 01:54:37,810
And they didn't want to bring
this out, not from any shame,

1825
01:54:37,810 --> 01:54:40,690
but for protection.

1826
01:54:40,690 --> 01:54:42,400
I just didn't want to.

1827
01:54:42,400 --> 01:54:48,520
Did you share your story with
your kids or grandchildren?

1828
01:54:48,520 --> 01:54:52,480
Some, but not as detailed
as I have with you.

1829
01:54:52,480 --> 01:54:54,490
Right.

1830
01:54:54,490 --> 01:55:00,010
My youngest daughter, my
son, my oldest daughter,

1831
01:55:00,010 --> 01:55:09,490
and two of the grandkids,
but not as detailed.

1832
01:55:09,490 --> 01:55:16,240
And whatever I've written,
I've already printed.

1833
01:55:16,240 --> 01:55:22,090
And I'm going to
present to them.

1834
01:55:22,090 --> 01:55:24,940
And I'm going to present it
also to my cousin in Boca Raton,

1835
01:55:24,940 --> 01:55:32,050
because she's also asked
me to tell my story.

1836

01:55:32,050 --> 01:55:42,460
And her name is, by the way,
is Shirley Fant, F-A-N-T.

1837
01:55:42,460 --> 01:55:51,280
And she's the daughter of
my aunt from Cleveland,

1838
01:55:51,280 --> 01:55:54,760
who is deceased right now.

1839
01:55:54,760 --> 01:55:59,990
But she's the daughter
of Gisella Friedman.

1840
01:55:59,990 --> 01:56:03,100

1841
01:56:03,100 --> 01:56:09,040
So, yeah, I'm going to
present this outline.

1842
01:56:09,040 --> 01:56:17,890
And then be open for any further
detail that they may have

1843
01:56:17,890 --> 01:56:21,190
or any questions that
they may want answered.

1844
01:56:21,190 --> 01:56:26,800
And give them what I gave you.

1845
01:56:26,800 --> 01:56:32,650
And if I can recall
more, I will.

1846
01:56:32,650 --> 01:56:37,900
If they ask me something
that you haven't asked me,

1847
01:56:37,900 --> 01:56:39,460
I have it.

1848
01:56:39,460 --> 01:56:43,120
Sometimes you've
got to be prodded

1849
01:56:43,120 --> 01:56:45,070
to do some recollection.

1850
01:56:45,070 --> 01:56:47,290
Right, I hope I
didn't prod too much.

1851
01:56:47,290 --> 01:56:50,030
And I hope I didn't
interrupt you too much.

1852
01:56:50,030 --> 01:56:51,775
I apologize if I did.

1853
01:56:51,775 --> 01:56:52,990
Absolutely.

1854
01:56:52,990 --> 01:56:55,210
But I really thank you.

1855
01:56:55,210 --> 01:56:58,090
My only really one last
question, and you've

1856
01:56:58,090 --> 01:57:01,450
answered a bit of
it before, but how

1857
01:57:01,450 --> 01:57:03,730
do you think what
you experienced

1858
01:57:03,730 --> 01:57:08,320
during the war affected
you when you were raising

1859
01:57:08,320 --> 01:57:12,605

your children, and
the values, and just

1860
01:57:12,605 --> 01:57:14,230
everything you were
instilling in them,

1861
01:57:14,230 --> 01:57:15,640
how do you think
your experiences

1862
01:57:15,640 --> 01:57:18,160
affected all of that?

1863
01:57:18,160 --> 01:57:23,980
Well, sometimes I felt I
was somewhat overprotective.

1864
01:57:23,980 --> 01:57:27,580
Something I never experienced.

1865
01:57:27,580 --> 01:57:31,090
So I wanted to ensure
that they, themselves,

1866
01:57:31,090 --> 01:57:36,415
were not in harm's way
in any way, whatever.

1867
01:57:36,415 --> 01:57:37,720
Right, that makes sense.

1868
01:57:37,720 --> 01:57:41,290
And that's number one.

1869
01:57:41,290 --> 01:57:44,830
And number two, we tried to--

1870
01:57:44,830 --> 01:57:50,950
we tried, and sometimes
kids today, growing up,

1871

01:57:50,950 --> 01:57:53,860
even in the '50s--

1872
01:57:53,860 --> 01:57:58,630
especially the '60s and '70s,
it's a different generation

1873
01:57:58,630 --> 01:58:00,280
altogether.

1874
01:58:00,280 --> 01:58:05,590
They don't look-- at 15 and 16--

1875
01:58:05,590 --> 01:58:08,860
I don't know whether you have
any children-- at 15 and 16

1876
01:58:08,860 --> 01:58:10,100
they know everything.

1877
01:58:10,100 --> 01:58:10,920
Right.

1878
01:58:10,920 --> 01:58:13,120
My oldest is eight.

1879
01:58:13,120 --> 01:58:15,880
But I'm soon
approaching those times.

1880
01:58:15,880 --> 01:58:16,780
They know everything.

1881
01:58:16,780 --> 01:58:22,010
And so-- they think
they know everything.

1882
01:58:22,010 --> 01:58:22,510
Right.

1883
01:58:22,510 --> 01:58:27,790

1884
01:58:27,790 --> 01:58:37,140
So all of them,
all three of them,

1885
01:58:37,140 --> 01:58:42,780
gave us the runaround for a
while, until they matured.

1886
01:58:42,780 --> 01:58:45,060
But they had--
and the reason is,

1887
01:58:45,060 --> 01:58:48,450
the reason is, Julie,
is they had everything.

1888
01:58:48,450 --> 01:58:50,340
Right.

1889
01:58:50,340 --> 01:58:51,540
They had everything.

1890
01:58:51,540 --> 01:58:55,390
I mean, they didn't
suffer anything.

1891
01:58:55,390 --> 01:59:02,730
They were-- they had the love,
the kindness, the goodies,

1892
01:59:02,730 --> 01:59:05,370
if you will.

1893
01:59:05,370 --> 01:59:08,940
So they didn't suffer.

1894
01:59:08,940 --> 01:59:12,060
And maybe we were--

1895
01:59:12,060 --> 01:59:16,860
maybe we were

overprotective, I don't know.

1896
01:59:16,860 --> 01:59:24,660
I felt that they had
to honor their parents,

1897
01:59:24,660 --> 01:59:27,570
but especially their mother.

1898
01:59:27,570 --> 01:59:32,370
I did not know my father as
much as I knew my mother.

1899
01:59:32,370 --> 01:59:36,070
I think most kids growing
up, that's what happens too.

1900
01:59:36,070 --> 01:59:36,775
Yeah, true.

1901
01:59:36,775 --> 01:59:40,620

1902
01:59:40,620 --> 01:59:45,630
And I told-- even
today, sometimes I

1903
01:59:45,630 --> 01:59:49,590
have to remind them
that their mother is

1904
01:59:49,590 --> 01:59:55,770
my wife, my sweetheart, my
lover, and it's their mother.

1905
01:59:55,770 --> 02:00:00,670
And I want them to recognize
that and honor her.

1906
02:00:00,670 --> 02:00:05,130
They don't have to send
her a card on Mother's Day.

1907

02:00:05,130 --> 02:00:07,230

Sometimes they--
most of the time

1908

02:00:07,230 --> 02:00:10,120

they don't, but I want
them to pick up the phone.

1909

02:00:10,120 --> 02:00:10,620

Right.

1910

02:00:10,620 --> 02:00:13,860

1911

02:00:13,860 --> 02:00:23,077

My kids are-- my kids
are 53, 55, and 57.

1912

02:00:23,077 --> 02:00:25,110

Wow.

1913

02:00:25,110 --> 02:00:31,270

And I've got grandkids
from 22 to 27.

1914

02:00:31,270 --> 02:00:31,770

Wow.

1915

02:00:31,770 --> 02:00:35,580

1916

02:00:35,580 --> 02:00:38,550

Thank God for one thing.

1917

02:00:38,550 --> 02:00:41,160

We live in The Villages, Julie.

1918

02:00:41,160 --> 02:00:41,850

Yes.

1919

02:00:41,850 --> 02:00:43,370

We live in The Villages.

1920

02:00:43,370 --> 02:00:45,840

It's about 100,000 population.

1921

02:00:45,840 --> 02:00:47,820

We have everything here.

1922

02:00:47,820 --> 02:00:48,570

That's great.

1923

02:00:48,570 --> 02:00:50,790

We've got three movie theaters.

1924

02:00:50,790 --> 02:00:56,085

We've got three town squares
with entertainment every night.

1925

02:00:56,085 --> 02:00:59,430

We've got all facets
of people coming

1926

02:00:59,430 --> 02:01:04,230

from all parts of
this fine country.

1927

02:01:04,230 --> 02:01:09,570

We got all activities.

1928

02:01:09,570 --> 02:01:11,430

I mean, you name it.

1929

02:01:11,430 --> 02:01:16,940

In fact, at my age, I do
karate three times a week.

1930

02:01:16,940 --> 02:01:19,740

Wow, that's amazing.

1931

02:01:19,740 --> 02:01:24,150

Oh, I'm in good shape.

1932

02:01:24,150 --> 02:01:29,190

My wife and I,
before her surgery,

1933

02:01:29,190 --> 02:01:32,130

we used to do 100
miles on the bicycles.

1934

02:01:32,130 --> 02:01:34,560

Wow, that's amazing.

1935

02:01:34,560 --> 02:01:39,720

And I swim 50 laps every day.

1936

02:01:39,720 --> 02:01:41,070

Wow.

1937

02:01:41,070 --> 02:01:46,530

I play-- we have what we
call pickle ball here.

1938

02:01:46,530 --> 02:01:48,630

I don't know whether
you ever heard of that.

1939

02:01:48,630 --> 02:01:49,180

No.

1940

02:01:49,180 --> 02:01:49,980

What is that?

1941

02:01:49,980 --> 02:01:54,190

It's a miniature tennis court.

1942

02:01:54,190 --> 02:01:55,410

Oh, OK.

1943

02:01:55,410 --> 02:01:59,460

With a net, just
like a tennis court.

1944

02:01:59,460 --> 02:02:02,820
We have a solid paddle
with a wiffle ball

1945
02:02:02,820 --> 02:02:05,220
the size of a softball.

1946
02:02:05,220 --> 02:02:06,090
Wow.

1947
02:02:06,090 --> 02:02:12,090
And people-- I'm playing events.

1948
02:02:12,090 --> 02:02:14,940
And people-- we have age--

1949
02:02:14,940 --> 02:02:20,870
anywhere from in their
50s into their 90s here.

1950
02:02:20,870 --> 02:02:22,590
That's amazing.

1951
02:02:22,590 --> 02:02:28,050
And people can't believe
it that I do all this.

1952
02:02:28,050 --> 02:02:31,380
And on top, I like
to brag about it.

1953
02:02:31,380 --> 02:02:34,200
Because I've got a--

1954
02:02:34,200 --> 02:02:37,590
I'm so active, I've
got a pulse of 44.

1955
02:02:37,590 --> 02:02:38,760
You should brag about it.

1956
02:02:38,760 --> 02:02:39,870

That's wonderful.

1957
02:02:39,870 --> 02:02:44,340
I got-- and when I
was in the military,

1958
02:02:44,340 --> 02:02:50,250
I was All Air Force
in racquetball.

1959
02:02:50,250 --> 02:02:51,840
Have you heard of racquetball?

1960
02:02:51,840 --> 02:02:52,920
Yes, of course.

1961
02:02:52,920 --> 02:02:55,830
My father, actually, is
a big racquetball player.

1962
02:02:55,830 --> 02:02:56,910
I was All Air Force.

1963
02:02:56,910 --> 02:03:02,470
And I was sponsored by
Fujore and Ektelon in--

1964
02:03:02,470 --> 02:03:06,210
after I got out of
the military in 1972,

1965
02:03:06,210 --> 02:03:09,870
I was sponsored for 12
years by Fugore and Ektelon.

1966
02:03:09,870 --> 02:03:15,060
I got all the equipment, all
the racquets, the gloves,

1967
02:03:15,060 --> 02:03:18,240
everything.

1968

02:03:18,240 --> 02:03:25,750
So I was-- we call ourselves
a jock or an athlete.

1969
02:03:25,750 --> 02:03:35,370
And I'm taking advantage,
even at my age, of things

1970
02:03:35,370 --> 02:03:40,230
that I can recall that I
never could do, or never

1971
02:03:40,230 --> 02:03:42,450
had a chance of doing it.

1972
02:03:42,450 --> 02:03:44,160
No, it's truly wonderful.

1973
02:03:44,160 --> 02:03:48,750
I'm so happy that you told me
and shared your story with me.

1974
02:03:48,750 --> 02:03:52,590
And it really is an amazing
and inspirational story.

1975
02:03:52,590 --> 02:03:55,140
And how you were able to
come to this country, really

1976
02:03:55,140 --> 02:03:58,050
with nothing, with no
family, with nobody,

1977
02:03:58,050 --> 02:04:01,380
and just start this wonderful
new life for yourself.

1978
02:04:01,380 --> 02:04:08,370
Well, this country is fantastic.

1979
02:04:08,370 --> 02:04:10,850
I don't care what--

1980
02:04:10,850 --> 02:04:16,670
and, of course, having been
in the military for 20 years,

1981
02:04:16,670 --> 02:04:19,520
you see--

1982
02:04:19,520 --> 02:04:22,910
you see so many people's
perspective of life.

1983
02:04:22,910 --> 02:04:27,950
And the experience you gain from
the military, whether it's--

1984
02:04:27,950 --> 02:04:32,130
well, it's in the military,
so you're somewhat discipline,

1985
02:04:32,130 --> 02:04:34,380
you're militarized.

1986
02:04:34,380 --> 02:04:35,120
You do things.

1987
02:04:35,120 --> 02:04:39,630

1988
02:04:39,630 --> 02:04:46,850
But this country gives us the
opportunity to do what we can

1989
02:04:46,850 --> 02:04:50,600
or we wish we
could, and we do it.

1990
02:04:50,600 --> 02:04:55,610
And this is what's so
great about this country.

1991
02:04:55,610 --> 02:04:58,020

Any place-- we go back--

1992

02:04:58,020 --> 02:05:01,040

we went back to Europe
a few years ago.

1993

02:05:01,040 --> 02:05:03,650

And we saw my wife's--

1994

02:05:03,650 --> 02:05:06,860

my wife, she's got
two brothers there.

1995

02:05:06,860 --> 02:05:13,490

And her one brother has been
living in this tenement house

1996

02:05:13,490 --> 02:05:14,840

for years.

1997

02:05:14,840 --> 02:05:17,216

He's never come out of it.

1998

02:05:17,216 --> 02:05:21,110

And yet, the other
brother bought a house,

1999

02:05:21,110 --> 02:05:23,630

another house, another house.

2000

02:05:23,630 --> 02:05:28,550

And so, one took the
opportunity, even in France.

2001

02:05:28,550 --> 02:05:31,660

And it may not be--

2002

02:05:31,660 --> 02:05:35,320

to me France is not--

2003

02:05:35,320 --> 02:05:39,210

it's where I was

born, but that's it.

2004
02:05:39,210 --> 02:05:41,050
Right.

2005
02:05:41,050 --> 02:05:46,280
I have a strict allegiance
to the United States

2006
02:05:46,280 --> 02:05:48,150
and I swear by it.

2007
02:05:48,150 --> 02:05:51,090
And they came over.

2008
02:05:51,090 --> 02:05:56,270
They came over-- believe it
or not, they came over twice.

2009
02:05:56,270 --> 02:06:02,450
And the one time in 2001--

2010
02:06:02,450 --> 02:06:06,890
the last one came in
2001 with his wife.

2011
02:06:06,890 --> 02:06:09,870
And we went to New York.

2012
02:06:09,870 --> 02:06:12,500
And we couldn't get into
the Empire State Building,

2013
02:06:12,500 --> 02:06:17,750
so we went into the
World Trade Center.

2014
02:06:17,750 --> 02:06:21,500

2015
02:06:21,500 --> 02:06:25,810
And this was in May of 2001.

2016
02:06:25,810 --> 02:06:26,310
Wow.

2017
02:06:26,310 --> 02:06:32,320
And 9/11 came about.

2018
02:06:32,320 --> 02:06:34,650
And we were living
in Rhode Island.

2019
02:06:34,650 --> 02:06:39,210
And I had just turned off
the TV after breakfast.

2020
02:06:39,210 --> 02:06:41,310
And it was before 8 o'clock.

2021
02:06:41,310 --> 02:06:44,260
And I went outside
to do some work.

2022
02:06:44,260 --> 02:06:49,320
And all of a sudden, we get
a phone call from France.

2023
02:06:49,320 --> 02:06:51,300
Her younger brother
gave us a call.

2024
02:06:51,300 --> 02:06:55,455
And he said, are you
looking at the TV.

2025
02:06:55,455 --> 02:06:57,875
And I said, no.

2026
02:06:57,875 --> 02:07:00,180
Well, he talked to his sister.

2027
02:07:00,180 --> 02:07:02,250
And my wife calls me back.

2028
02:07:02,250 --> 02:07:03,480
And we turn on the TV.

2029
02:07:03,480 --> 02:07:11,580
And then we saw the atrocity
that came about from 9/11.

2030
02:07:11,580 --> 02:07:15,270
And so we were lucky--

2031
02:07:15,270 --> 02:07:18,870
what I'm saying, we
were lucky that--

2032
02:07:18,870 --> 02:07:23,060
we were in that
World Trade Center.

2033
02:07:23,060 --> 02:07:24,900
It could have happened
in May just as

2034
02:07:24,900 --> 02:07:27,960
well as it did in September.

2035
02:07:27,960 --> 02:07:29,730
Yeah.

2036
02:07:29,730 --> 02:07:32,010
And so we were lucky there.

2037
02:07:32,010 --> 02:07:36,930
We escaped, so to speak.

2038
02:07:36,930 --> 02:07:38,860
But not for the
people that died.

2039
02:07:38,860 --> 02:07:42,900
But anyway, if there's
anything else, please, by all

2040
02:07:42,900 --> 02:07:49,410
means, if there's anything that
I can expand on or anything.

2041
02:07:49,410 --> 02:07:53,190
And I'll go take a look
at our photographs.

2042
02:07:53,190 --> 02:07:58,155
We had major damage to our
house, by the way, Julie.

2043
02:07:58,155 --> 02:07:59,730
Oh, I'm sorry.

2044
02:07:59,730 --> 02:08:01,545
We had what they call sinkhole.

2045
02:08:01,545 --> 02:08:04,770

2046
02:08:04,770 --> 02:08:08,720
The ground-- my house and our
next door neighbor's house

2047
02:08:08,720 --> 02:08:15,860
here in The Villages suffered
much more extensive damage

2048
02:08:15,860 --> 02:08:17,040
than anybody else.

2049
02:08:17,040 --> 02:08:19,990

2050
02:08:19,990 --> 02:08:23,880
There was a torrential
rain for quite a few days.

2051
02:08:23,880 --> 02:08:26,280
And all of a sudden,

the ground gave way.

2052

02:08:26,280 --> 02:08:28,890

And the house moved.

2053

02:08:28,890 --> 02:08:31,450

And we had to move out.

2054

02:08:31,450 --> 02:08:33,810

They told us to move
out, move our cars,

2055

02:08:33,810 --> 02:08:36,150

our golf carts, and
everything else.

2056

02:08:36,150 --> 02:08:40,050

And we were out of this house
for seven months and four days.

2057

02:08:40,050 --> 02:08:42,540

Oh, wow.

2058

02:08:42,540 --> 02:08:47,120

So first of all, it could
be estimated and repaired.

2059

02:08:47,120 --> 02:08:59,070

And ultimately, we moved back in
in March of last year, of 2013.

2060

02:08:59,070 --> 02:09:06,660

And so, we're still not
unpacking, mind you,

2061

02:09:06,660 --> 02:09:08,820

but there's things
that we've misplaced.

2062

02:09:08,820 --> 02:09:10,560

And you know how it is.

2063

02:09:10,560 --> 02:09:12,610
Sometimes, it's hard to find.

2064
02:09:12,610 --> 02:09:13,110
Right.

2065
02:09:13,110 --> 02:09:13,827
No, I understand.

2066
02:09:13,827 --> 02:09:16,410
Well, I'm sure that the museum
would love to see those things.

2067
02:09:16,410 --> 02:09:17,910
But take your time.

2068
02:09:17,910 --> 02:09:21,870
And whatever you come about,
we'll be certainly be in touch.

2069
02:09:21,870 --> 02:09:26,428
May I ask you, what do you
plan on doing from here?

2070
02:09:26,428 --> 02:09:28,320
Well, I have to
talk to the museum.

2071
02:09:28,320 --> 02:09:30,150
I actually don't
work for the museum.

2072
02:09:30,150 --> 02:09:32,190
I'm a volunteer interviewer.

2073
02:09:32,190 --> 02:09:34,200
But I just think
that they want to put

2074
02:09:34,200 --> 02:09:38,250
your interview in their archives
and in their collection.

2075

02:09:38,250 --> 02:09:40,470

I imagine there'll be
some sort of follow up,

2076

02:09:40,470 --> 02:09:45,120

in terms of what purposes
you would like for-- like can

2077

02:09:45,120 --> 02:09:47,910

people who are going
on their website access

2078

02:09:47,910 --> 02:09:50,170

the interview, those
sorts of things.

2079

02:09:50,170 --> 02:09:52,110

But I'm not entirely sure.

2080

02:09:52,110 --> 02:09:55,660

But I will certainly have
the museum contact you.

2081

02:09:55,660 --> 02:10:04,870

I wouldn't want sensitive
data be put in, such as--

2082

02:10:04,870 --> 02:10:08,450

well, you've got to be
sensitive about data

2083

02:10:08,450 --> 02:10:11,140

such as birthday, my birthdate.

2084

02:10:11,140 --> 02:10:13,750

Of course, yes, yes.

2085

02:10:13,750 --> 02:10:22,570

You know what I'm saying, now
with the fraudulent activities

2086

02:10:22,570 --> 02:10:25,120

that's going on, birthdays and--

2087

02:10:25,120 --> 02:10:26,110

No, absolutely.

2088

02:10:26,110 --> 02:10:30,280

No one random will have access
to this information or anything

2089

02:10:30,280 --> 02:10:31,780

like that.

2090

02:10:31,780 --> 02:10:34,750

I know, for example, my
grandfather did an interview

2091

02:10:34,750 --> 02:10:37,460

for the museum many years back.

2092

02:10:37,460 --> 02:10:41,140

And there's a portion
of it that discusses

2093

02:10:41,140 --> 02:10:42,940

a particular place and time.

2094

02:10:42,940 --> 02:10:46,450

I think his was talking
about the Krakow ghetto.

2095

02:10:46,450 --> 02:10:49,660

And so if someone were to
go on the museum's website,

2096

02:10:49,660 --> 02:10:53,350

and was researching information
about the Krakow ghetto,

2097

02:10:53,350 --> 02:10:56,290

and they want to hear a bit
about it from a survivor,

2098

02:10:56,290 --> 02:10:57,940
you can actually--
there's a link

2099
02:10:57,940 --> 02:11:00,460
to a clip from his interview.

2100
02:11:00,460 --> 02:11:04,120
I think those are the sorts of
things that they use it for,

2101
02:11:04,120 --> 02:11:07,420
research purposes, and
just educational purposes.

2102
02:11:07,420 --> 02:11:10,610
But again, I can't speak to
what they do with it entirely,

2103
02:11:10,610 --> 02:11:11,860
because I don't work for them.

2104
02:11:11,860 --> 02:11:14,200
But I certainly can have
someone from the museum

2105
02:11:14,200 --> 02:11:15,890
answer all those
questions for you.

2106
02:11:15,890 --> 02:11:23,350
OK, OK, well, I hope you
don't hold it against me

2107
02:11:23,350 --> 02:11:28,810
for not following Judaism.

2108
02:11:28,810 --> 02:11:30,200
Oh, of course I don't.

2109
02:11:30,200 --> 02:11:32,680
Please, I'm not
judgmental at all.

2110
02:11:32,680 --> 02:11:37,390
I'm so thankful that
you shared your story.

2111
02:11:37,390 --> 02:11:39,520
And you sound like
a wonderful person.

2112
02:11:39,520 --> 02:11:42,070
And it sounds like you
have a wonderful family.

2113
02:11:42,070 --> 02:11:44,170
And no judgment here.

2114
02:11:44,170 --> 02:11:46,780

2115
02:11:46,780 --> 02:11:48,280
By the way, I
talked to the rabbi

2116
02:11:48,280 --> 02:11:51,490
before submitting my paperwork.

2117
02:11:51,490 --> 02:11:58,770
This Rabbi Karen Allen,
who's out of Leesburg.

2118
02:11:58,770 --> 02:12:04,560
She's the principal
rabbi in the synagogue.

2119
02:12:04,560 --> 02:12:09,060

2120
02:12:09,060 --> 02:12:11,890
I was giving her my story.

2121
02:12:11,890 --> 02:12:15,900
I was giving her my

story and she compiled it

2122

02:12:15,900 --> 02:12:21,810
into the computer, in the word
processor, Microsoft Word.

2123

02:12:21,810 --> 02:12:24,570

2124

02:12:24,570 --> 02:12:29,170
And she was going to finalize
it and compile it, and this,

2125

02:12:29,170 --> 02:12:30,330
and that, and the other.

2126

02:12:30,330 --> 02:12:34,140
And it was never done.

2127

02:12:34,140 --> 02:12:42,180
And for months I had attended
some of her seminars.

2128

02:12:42,180 --> 02:12:44,160
I had attended some
of her seminars.

2129

02:12:44,160 --> 02:12:45,030
And I asked her--

2130

02:12:45,030 --> 02:12:47,730
I said, if you don't
have the time, rabbi,

2131

02:12:47,730 --> 02:12:50,280
because she's really active,
I said, why don't you

2132

02:12:50,280 --> 02:12:56,940
forward this document
on to me so I can do it.

2133

02:12:56,940 --> 02:12:57,480
Right.

2134
02:12:57,480 --> 02:13:00,900
And we had a--

2135
02:13:00,900 --> 02:13:06,020
she had done about 21 or
22 pages, of 23 pages.

2136
02:13:06,020 --> 02:13:10,410
But it was more gobbledygook
than anything else.

2137
02:13:10,410 --> 02:13:13,250
And so that's when I--

2138
02:13:13,250 --> 02:13:15,530
after I received it--

2139
02:13:15,530 --> 02:13:18,200
after four months of
pleading with her,

2140
02:13:18,200 --> 02:13:26,960
I received it, and was able was
able to compile it and write

2141
02:13:26,960 --> 02:13:28,500
what I had sent to you.

2142
02:13:28,500 --> 02:13:29,010
Yes.

2143
02:13:29,010 --> 02:13:34,230
And hopefully, you were able
to understand and decipher it.

2144
02:13:34,230 --> 02:13:44,220
And I was trying to instigate
more questions and more details

2145

02:13:44,220 --> 02:13:48,430
if you had any, and you did.

2146
02:13:48,430 --> 02:13:52,360
Yeah, it was great it
background for me to be

2147
02:13:52,360 --> 02:13:54,250
able to conduct the interview.

2148
02:13:54,250 --> 02:13:57,100
Because I sort of knew
the timeline of events.

2149
02:13:57,100 --> 02:14:00,250
And then I was able to ask
you more detailed questions

2150
02:14:00,250 --> 02:14:02,050
about each of the
things that happened.

2151
02:14:02,050 --> 02:14:02,620
Yes.

2152
02:14:02,620 --> 02:14:04,040
So it was very helpful.

2153
02:14:04,040 --> 02:14:05,010
Thank you very much.

2154
02:14:05,010 --> 02:14:10,270
And I appreciate your call
and your own time here.

2155
02:14:10,270 --> 02:14:10,850
Thank you.

2156
02:14:10,850 --> 02:14:11,590
Thank you, again.

2157
02:14:11,590 --> 02:14:14,170

And it was really a
pleasure to speak with you.

2158
02:14:14,170 --> 02:14:19,180
And yeah, I will definitely
have Noemi from the museum

2159
02:14:19,180 --> 02:14:21,760
be in touch with you so she
can answer your questions

2160
02:14:21,760 --> 02:14:23,860
about the interview.

2161
02:14:23,860 --> 02:14:27,335
And I'll send you a picture
when I was 57 pounds.

2162
02:14:27,335 --> 02:14:27,835
Yes.

2163
02:14:27,835 --> 02:14:30,580

2164
02:14:30,580 --> 02:14:33,010
I'm sure they would like
to see all of these.

2165
02:14:33,010 --> 02:14:36,610
And I don't know what you
plan on doing with them,

2166
02:14:36,610 --> 02:14:38,350
but a lot of people--
like my family

2167
02:14:38,350 --> 02:14:43,780
decided to donate their
pictures from the pre-war years

2168
02:14:43,780 --> 02:14:44,800
to the museum.

2169

02:14:44,800 --> 02:14:48,370

We have copies of everything,
but these are really

2170

02:14:48,370 --> 02:14:52,090

cherished documents, and
photos, and artifacts.

2171

02:14:52,090 --> 02:14:55,950

And the museum is able to
take better care of them

2172

02:14:55,950 --> 02:14:57,220

than we were able to.

2173

02:14:57,220 --> 02:15:02,380

So it's just something to
think about in case you decide

2174

02:15:02,380 --> 02:15:05,530

to move forward with pictures.

2175

02:15:05,530 --> 02:15:08,260

But will I be hearing
from anybody else?

2176

02:15:08,260 --> 02:15:10,720

You said I might.

2177

02:15:10,720 --> 02:15:13,270

Yes, well, if you have
questions about what

2178

02:15:13,270 --> 02:15:14,980

they're going to do
with the interview,

2179

02:15:14,980 --> 02:15:17,620

and I would certainly like
for them to follow up with you

2180

02:15:17,620 --> 02:15:19,960

about the pictures, then yes.

2181

02:15:19,960 --> 02:15:22,420

If that's OK with
you, I will tell them

2182

02:15:22,420 --> 02:15:23,920

to please follow up with you.

2183

02:15:23,920 --> 02:15:25,100

OK, OK.

2184

02:15:25,100 --> 02:15:26,200

That sounds good.

2185

02:15:26,200 --> 02:15:27,070

Great, great.

2186

02:15:27,070 --> 02:15:28,990

Thank you so much, Joe.

2187

02:15:28,990 --> 02:15:31,000

It was really nice
chatting with you.

2188

02:15:31,000 --> 02:15:33,310

And if you have any
other questions,

2189

02:15:33,310 --> 02:15:34,940

too, feel free to reach out.

2190

02:15:34,940 --> 02:15:35,800

OK.

2191

02:15:35,800 --> 02:15:36,370

OK.

2192

02:15:36,370 --> 02:15:37,100

Thank you.

2193

02:15:37,100 --> 02:15:38,890
With you or Noemi?

2194
02:15:38,890 --> 02:15:40,667
Noemi would probably
be the best person.

2195
02:15:40,667 --> 02:15:43,000
And if for some reason you
need to get in touch with me,

2196
02:15:43,000 --> 02:15:45,550
she can certainly pass along
my information as well.

2197
02:15:45,550 --> 02:15:46,760
That sounds good.

2198
02:15:46,760 --> 02:15:47,260
Great.

2199
02:15:47,260 --> 02:15:48,990
Thank you very much.

2200
02:15:48,990 --> 02:15:49,972
Have a great day.

2201
02:15:49,972 --> 02:15:50,680
Thank you, again.

2202
02:15:50,680 --> 02:15:51,280
Bye-bye.

2203
02:15:51,280 --> 02:15:52,830
Bye-bye.

2204
02:15:52,830 --> 02:15:59,000