

1
00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:09,090

2
00:00:09,090 --> 00:00:12,060
This is a United States
Holocaust Memorial Museum

3
00:00:12,060 --> 00:00:16,620
Volunteer Collection
interview of Madeleine Sigel.

4
00:00:16,620 --> 00:00:19,650
It is being conducted
by Gail Schwartz

5
00:00:19,650 --> 00:00:28,230
and is taking place on May 22,
2015 in Bethesda, Maryland.

6
00:00:28,230 --> 00:00:31,940
This is track number one.

7
00:00:31,940 --> 00:00:33,610
What is your full name?

8
00:00:33,610 --> 00:00:35,330
Madeleine Sigel.

9
00:00:35,330 --> 00:00:37,640
And what name were
you born with?

10
00:00:37,640 --> 00:00:43,820
Madeline Bartfeld,
B-A-R-T-F-E-L-D.

11
00:00:43,820 --> 00:00:45,390
And where were you born?

12
00:00:45,390 --> 00:00:48,110
I was born in Vienna, Austria.

13
00:00:48,110 --> 00:00:49,570
When?

14
00:00:49,570 --> 00:00:53,960
On February 16, 1924.

15
00:00:53,960 --> 00:00:56,610
Let's talk a little
bit about your family,

16
00:00:56,610 --> 00:00:58,620
your parents, their names.

17
00:00:58,620 --> 00:01:03,470
My parents were [? Milita ?]
and Albert Bartfeld.

18
00:01:03,470 --> 00:01:05,000
And your mother's maiden name?

19
00:01:05,000 --> 00:01:06,530
Was Bonyhady.

20
00:01:06,530 --> 00:01:11,060
B-O-N-Y-H-A-D-Y.

21
00:01:11,060 --> 00:01:13,340
Interesting name.

22
00:01:13,340 --> 00:01:15,740
And were there--

23
00:01:15,740 --> 00:01:17,300
I am an only child.

24
00:01:17,300 --> 00:01:18,450
No siblings.

25
00:01:18,450 --> 00:01:19,520
OK.

26
00:01:19,520 --> 00:01:21,980
And were they also
born in Vienna?

27
00:01:21,980 --> 00:01:23,210
Yes.

28
00:01:23,210 --> 00:01:25,116
How far back does your--

29
00:01:25,116 --> 00:01:26,741
that you know of that
your family goes?

30
00:01:26,741 --> 00:01:31,870
My parents were born
in 1895 in Vienna.

31
00:01:31,870 --> 00:01:38,260
So I don't know when my
grandparents on either side

32
00:01:38,260 --> 00:01:39,110
came.

33
00:01:39,110 --> 00:01:41,960
I don't know actually
when my grandmother--

34
00:01:41,960 --> 00:01:45,020
How many generations
were in Vienna?

35
00:01:45,020 --> 00:01:46,430
When they came to Vienna?

36
00:01:46,430 --> 00:01:51,140
I know that my grandfather on my
father's side was in the army,

37
00:01:51,140 --> 00:01:57,810

and he was with the
emperor's guard.

38
00:01:57,810 --> 00:01:58,380
Guard?

39
00:01:58,380 --> 00:02:00,810
Guard in Vienna.

40
00:02:00,810 --> 00:02:06,930
And actually when
I was there, it

41
00:02:06,930 --> 00:02:10,979
was pointed out
to me by my cousin

42
00:02:10,979 --> 00:02:18,930
where he was stationed at the
Vienna Burg, at the Hofburg.

43
00:02:18,930 --> 00:02:20,340
So anyway--

44
00:02:20,340 --> 00:02:22,590
Did you have a large
extended family

45
00:02:22,590 --> 00:02:25,070
of aunts and uncles and cousins?

46
00:02:25,070 --> 00:02:28,630
Not really, no.

47
00:02:28,630 --> 00:02:31,690
I'm an only child
on my mother's side.

48
00:02:31,690 --> 00:02:37,240
And on my father's side,
I had four cousins.

49

00:02:37,240 --> 00:02:39,050
That's about it.

50
00:02:39,050 --> 00:02:43,310
And one of the cousins lived
in the States all her life.

51
00:02:43,310 --> 00:02:47,410
And the other three
lived in Vienna.

52
00:02:47,410 --> 00:02:51,700
And my cousin's
Charles Bartfeld was

53
00:02:51,700 --> 00:02:54,130
interviewed by the
Holocaust Museum,

54
00:02:54,130 --> 00:02:57,340
so they have their record.

55
00:02:57,340 --> 00:02:59,650
What kind of work
did your father do?

56
00:02:59,650 --> 00:03:01,930
Well, that's a long story.

57
00:03:01,930 --> 00:03:10,860
My grand-- my grandfather and
his sons had a dairy business,

58
00:03:10,860 --> 00:03:14,220
wholesale dairy
business is in Vienna.

59
00:03:14,220 --> 00:03:17,460
And my father then
decided at some point

60
00:03:17,460 --> 00:03:26,920
to go out on his own, and he

opened a delicatessen store,

61
00:03:26,920 --> 00:03:29,520
like Balducci's in Washington.

62
00:03:29,520 --> 00:03:35,200
It was very fancy and
imported all kinds of goods

63
00:03:35,200 --> 00:03:37,510
from the States and things.

64
00:03:37,510 --> 00:03:41,320
And then after a
while, he branched out.

65
00:03:41,320 --> 00:03:44,770
He was always interested
in theater and stuff.

66
00:03:44,770 --> 00:03:48,340
And he branched out.

67
00:03:48,340 --> 00:03:51,130
And of course, I have
no idea how this all

68
00:03:51,130 --> 00:03:54,160
developed because I was a kid.

69
00:03:54,160 --> 00:04:03,180
But anyway, he took over the
largest or the best known,

70
00:04:03,180 --> 00:04:08,630
I should say, vaudeville
theater called the Ronacher,

71
00:04:08,630 --> 00:04:15,310
R-O-N-A-C-H-E-R, which was
a very well known place.

72

00:04:15,310 --> 00:04:20,350
And so I grew up being able
to go there all the time

73
00:04:20,350 --> 00:04:23,160
and see the acts and all that.

74
00:04:23,160 --> 00:04:29,610
And then after a while,
he also got a cabaret cafe

75
00:04:29,610 --> 00:04:32,100
called the Cafe de Paris.

76
00:04:32,100 --> 00:04:36,820
And by then he had
left the Ronacher.

77
00:04:36,820 --> 00:04:39,900
And by the time
the Anschluss came,

78
00:04:39,900 --> 00:04:44,640
he had the Cafe de Paris, which
was a very well-known cabaret

79
00:04:44,640 --> 00:04:52,860
where a lot of people,
comedians and dancers appeared.

80
00:04:52,860 --> 00:04:56,070
And many of them were--

81
00:04:56,070 --> 00:04:58,320
I don't know actually if
there are many of them--

82
00:04:58,320 --> 00:05:01,530

83
00:05:01,530 --> 00:05:08,140
former citizens of
so-called Germany.

84
00:05:08,140 --> 00:05:12,460
And so anyway, I'm
mentioning that because this

85
00:05:12,460 --> 00:05:20,080
was the cause for
his being informed

86
00:05:20,080 --> 00:05:24,250
by one of his loyal
employees that he was going

87
00:05:24,250 --> 00:05:27,010
to be picked up in
a couple of days

88
00:05:27,010 --> 00:05:29,740
to go to a concentration camp.

89
00:05:29,740 --> 00:05:34,330
And so he left before they came.

90
00:05:34,330 --> 00:05:36,640
But then I'm jumping ahead.

91
00:05:36,640 --> 00:05:38,202
Yeah, we'll get to that time.

92
00:05:38,202 --> 00:05:39,160
We'll get to that time.

93
00:05:39,160 --> 00:05:39,993
So I don't want to--

94
00:05:39,993 --> 00:05:42,430
But that's important,
what you just said.

95
00:05:42,430 --> 00:05:44,020
Did your mother work?

96
00:05:44,020 --> 00:05:47,140
My mother-- when he
opened the store,

97
00:05:47,140 --> 00:05:49,210
she helped out in the store.

98
00:05:49,210 --> 00:05:51,230
And then when he--

99
00:05:51,230 --> 00:05:53,770
in the business, I should say.

100
00:05:53,770 --> 00:05:56,590
When he then took over the--

101
00:05:56,590 --> 00:05:59,890
went off to the theater
side, she sort of

102
00:05:59,890 --> 00:06:05,142
ran the store on a part
time basis, I would say.

103
00:06:05,142 --> 00:06:07,600
So they kept the store when he
went into the theater world.

104
00:06:07,600 --> 00:06:10,120
Oh, they kept the
store the whole time.

105
00:06:10,120 --> 00:06:15,010
Because they supplied the food
for the buffet in the theater

106
00:06:15,010 --> 00:06:20,420
and for the cabaret afterwards.

107
00:06:20,420 --> 00:06:25,630
So the store was there until
it was taken over by the Nazis.

108
00:06:25,630 --> 00:06:27,130
What language did
you speak at home?

109
00:06:27,130 --> 00:06:27,760
German.

110
00:06:27,760 --> 00:06:28,640
Spoke German.

111
00:06:28,640 --> 00:06:29,140
Yes.

112
00:06:29,140 --> 00:06:31,120
How religious was your family?

113
00:06:31,120 --> 00:06:32,910
Not very.

114
00:06:32,910 --> 00:06:34,440
Did you celebrate any holidays?

115
00:06:34,440 --> 00:06:36,970
We celebrated holidays.

116
00:06:36,970 --> 00:06:38,040
Which ones?

117
00:06:38,040 --> 00:06:38,540
Huh?

118
00:06:38,540 --> 00:06:39,420
Which holidays?

119
00:06:39,420 --> 00:06:44,160
You know, the big holidays, Rosh
Hashanah, Yom Kippur, Passover.

120
00:06:44,160 --> 00:06:44,860
You know.

121
00:06:44,860 --> 00:06:46,320
That's about it, probably.

122
00:06:46,320 --> 00:06:49,200
Would you get together
with extended family?

123
00:06:49,200 --> 00:06:50,270
Passover.

124
00:06:50,270 --> 00:06:51,590
Yeah.

125
00:06:51,590 --> 00:06:54,720
I was with-- my grandfather
was still alive.

126
00:06:54,720 --> 00:06:57,360
Do you have any special
memories of those holidays?

127
00:06:57,360 --> 00:06:57,960
Oh, Yeah.

128
00:06:57,960 --> 00:07:01,440
Well, we were the
youngest, so my mother

129
00:07:01,440 --> 00:07:05,410
drilled me in the Ma Nishtana
when I was four years old,

130
00:07:05,410 --> 00:07:08,910
and I always had to
recite the Ma Nishtana.

131
00:07:08,910 --> 00:07:12,720
Even after my cousin
was born, but see,

132
00:07:12,720 --> 00:07:14,370

he was four years younger.

133
00:07:14,370 --> 00:07:17,820
So I don't recall
him ever reciting it.

134
00:07:17,820 --> 00:07:23,430
So that was sort of
my job on the seder.

135
00:07:23,430 --> 00:07:25,170
Did they belong to a synagogue?

136
00:07:25,170 --> 00:07:27,210
They belonged to a synagogue.

137
00:07:27,210 --> 00:07:29,010
Not my parents.

138
00:07:29,010 --> 00:07:33,510
Maybe one year they did, but
the my grandfather and uncle,

139
00:07:33,510 --> 00:07:34,940
they belonged to a synagogue.

140
00:07:34,940 --> 00:07:36,300
Were they quite observant?

141
00:07:36,300 --> 00:07:39,810
They were more
observant than we were.

142
00:07:39,810 --> 00:07:43,590
I don't know whether they
kept a kosher house or not.

143
00:07:43,590 --> 00:07:46,050
I don't think so,
but I don't know.

144
00:07:46,050 --> 00:07:48,820

Did your family observe
Shabbat, Friday night Shabbat?

145
00:07:48,820 --> 00:07:49,320
No.

146
00:07:49,320 --> 00:07:50,580
No, you did not.

147
00:07:50,580 --> 00:07:53,250
Did you have a Christmas tree?

148
00:07:53,250 --> 00:07:56,430
Only once.

149
00:07:56,430 --> 00:07:57,880
How did that happen?

150
00:07:57,880 --> 00:07:59,280
I don't know.

151
00:07:59,280 --> 00:08:02,880
I guess I carried I wanted a
tree, so they put a tree up.

152
00:08:02,880 --> 00:08:06,180
I don't know.

153
00:08:06,180 --> 00:08:07,980
What kind of neighborhood
did you live in?

154
00:08:07,980 --> 00:08:11,340
Was it a mixed neighborhood
of Jews and non-Jews?

155
00:08:11,340 --> 00:08:12,720
Well, yeah.

156
00:08:12,720 --> 00:08:14,520
I would say that was it.

157
00:08:14,520 --> 00:08:15,060
Yes.

158
00:08:15,060 --> 00:08:16,560
Were you in a house
or an apartment?

159
00:08:16,560 --> 00:08:17,200
Apartment.

160
00:08:17,200 --> 00:08:17,700
Apartment.

161
00:08:17,700 --> 00:08:21,320
Nobody lived in a
house in Vienna.

162
00:08:21,320 --> 00:08:22,400
Vienna is apartments.

163
00:08:22,400 --> 00:08:25,730
It's a big city with apartments.

164
00:08:25,730 --> 00:08:29,840
And I'm sorry, did you say Jews
and non-Jews in your build--

165
00:08:29,840 --> 00:08:30,340
Huh?

166
00:08:30,340 --> 00:08:33,039
Jews and non-Jews
in the building?

167
00:08:33,039 --> 00:08:33,780
Yeah, I guess so.

168
00:08:33,780 --> 00:08:36,120
Listen, remember I was a kid.

169
00:08:36,120 --> 00:08:36,740

OK?

170
00:08:36,740 --> 00:08:37,440
Yeah, yeah.

171
00:08:37,440 --> 00:08:37,940
All right?

172
00:08:37,940 --> 00:08:40,380
I left-- when we left, I was 14.

173
00:08:40,380 --> 00:08:41,280
Yeah.

174
00:08:41,280 --> 00:08:44,640
But when you were younger, you
played with non-Jewish children

175
00:08:44,640 --> 00:08:46,080
and Jewish children?

176
00:08:46,080 --> 00:08:47,280
No, not really.

177
00:08:47,280 --> 00:08:49,000
I don't think so.

178
00:08:49,000 --> 00:08:50,570
I don't know.

179
00:08:50,570 --> 00:08:52,030
I mean, we didn't--

180
00:08:52,030 --> 00:08:55,110
certainly when I was
in elementary school,

181
00:08:55,110 --> 00:08:56,900
there were a lot of
non-Jewish children.

182

00:08:56,900 --> 00:08:59,550

OK, so you went to
a public school.

183

00:08:59,550 --> 00:09:00,190

Public school.

184

00:09:00,190 --> 00:09:04,490

Public elementary school,
private school thereafter.

185

00:09:04,490 --> 00:09:07,045

My elementary school
was four grades.

186

00:09:07,045 --> 00:09:09,000

Oh, and what kind
of private school?

187

00:09:09,000 --> 00:09:10,300

Was it a Jewish school?

188

00:09:10,300 --> 00:09:11,490

No, no.

189

00:09:11,490 --> 00:09:17,910

It was a very advanced
what then was called--

190

00:09:17,910 --> 00:09:19,690

because it was called--

191

00:09:19,690 --> 00:09:21,960

it was for women.

192

00:09:21,960 --> 00:09:27,690

And it was-- the only
difference between that school

193

00:09:27,690 --> 00:09:30,990

and the Gymnasium
was that we did not

194

00:09:30,990 --> 00:09:34,110
have to learn Latin and Greek.

195

00:09:34,110 --> 00:09:37,470
But we had to learn-- have
chemistry, and physics,

196

00:09:37,470 --> 00:09:40,470
and history, and
all the same bit.

197

00:09:40,470 --> 00:09:44,730
And then of course,
which I always stress

198

00:09:44,730 --> 00:09:49,660
is religion was a subject.

199

00:09:49,660 --> 00:09:52,290
I don't know if
anybody ever told that.

200

00:09:52,290 --> 00:09:55,950
Religion was a
subject in school.

201

00:09:55,950 --> 00:09:58,620
And at the end of the--

202

00:09:58,620 --> 00:10:02,520
one day a week,
at the last hour,

203

00:10:02,520 --> 00:10:08,640
the kids used to divide and go
to their different classrooms,

204

00:10:08,640 --> 00:10:14,700
the Jews and the Catholics and
Protestants, different places.

205

00:10:14,700 --> 00:10:20,220

And it was, you were graded with
your report card in religion.

206
00:10:20,220 --> 00:10:20,940
And--

207
00:10:20,940 --> 00:10:23,930
What percentage were Jewish?

208
00:10:23,930 --> 00:10:27,450
In the upper school
where I went,

209
00:10:27,450 --> 00:10:30,970
there were, I would say, 80%.

210
00:10:30,970 --> 00:10:31,980
Were Jewish?

211
00:10:31,980 --> 00:10:33,030
I would say so.

212
00:10:33,030 --> 00:10:33,588
I don't know.

213
00:10:33,588 --> 00:10:34,630
I mean, I never thought--

214
00:10:34,630 --> 00:10:36,600
So it was predominantly Jewish.

215
00:10:36,600 --> 00:10:38,140
I guess so.

216
00:10:38,140 --> 00:10:39,630
But that didn't matter.

217
00:10:39,630 --> 00:10:42,390
I mean, it was Jewish,
but it was was--

218

00:10:42,390 --> 00:10:46,110
that didn't come up, except
when you had your religion.

219
00:10:46,110 --> 00:10:47,160
Yeah, yeah.

220
00:10:47,160 --> 00:10:51,960
I mean, it was not something
that was discussed or anything.

221
00:10:51,960 --> 00:10:54,360
Were your parents Zionists?

222
00:10:54,360 --> 00:10:54,860
No.

223
00:10:54,860 --> 00:10:55,710
No.

224
00:10:55,710 --> 00:10:57,010
No.

225
00:10:57,010 --> 00:10:58,300
OK.

226
00:10:58,300 --> 00:11:00,550
Nobody that I knew was Zionist.

227
00:11:00,550 --> 00:11:02,470
Not Zionist, then.

228
00:11:02,470 --> 00:11:03,180
OK.

229
00:11:03,180 --> 00:11:09,030
But again, you have to take into
consideration that I was a kid.

230
00:11:09,030 --> 00:11:10,480
Yes, yes, yes.

231
00:11:10,480 --> 00:11:10,980
OK?

232
00:11:10,980 --> 00:11:11,760
Yeah.

233
00:11:11,760 --> 00:11:14,640
Would you describe yourself
as an independent child?

234
00:11:14,640 --> 00:11:16,050
Yes, very much so.

235
00:11:16,050 --> 00:11:17,870
You did things on your own?

236
00:11:17,870 --> 00:11:18,370
Yeah.

237
00:11:18,370 --> 00:11:19,560
Went out on your own?

238
00:11:19,560 --> 00:11:20,560
Yeah, of course.

239
00:11:20,560 --> 00:11:22,890
We didn't have anybody
walking with us.

240
00:11:22,890 --> 00:11:27,760
I walked to school and home,
and I went afterwards to things

241
00:11:27,760 --> 00:11:29,340
and went home.

242
00:11:29,340 --> 00:11:37,640
Nobody had company
that I can remember.

243
00:11:37,640 --> 00:11:42,020

You know, we met our
friends and we went out.

244
00:11:42,020 --> 00:11:42,530
Yeah.

245
00:11:42,530 --> 00:11:44,560
And back and forth.

246
00:11:44,560 --> 00:11:45,980
It was different times.

247
00:11:45,980 --> 00:11:48,060
Yeah, yeah, yeah.

248
00:11:48,060 --> 00:11:49,290
What about sports?

249
00:11:49,290 --> 00:11:51,960
Were you interested in sports
when you were a young teenager?

250
00:11:51,960 --> 00:11:54,150
Yeah, soccer, football.

251
00:11:54,150 --> 00:11:59,490
My father was into soccer,
or football as we called it.

252
00:11:59,490 --> 00:12:00,970
And he would take me.

253
00:12:00,970 --> 00:12:03,510
He would go to
matches on Sunday,

254
00:12:03,510 --> 00:12:05,700
and I would go with him.

255
00:12:05,700 --> 00:12:06,510
Did you play?

256

00:12:06,510 --> 00:12:07,620

Did you play soccer?

257

00:12:07,620 --> 00:12:10,060

Only what we did
in school a little.

258

00:12:10,060 --> 00:12:10,780

Not too much.

259

00:12:10,780 --> 00:12:15,380

Girls didn't really
play soccer, God forbid.

260

00:12:15,380 --> 00:12:17,130

What about swimming
or anything like that?

261

00:12:17,130 --> 00:12:18,790

Oh, yeah, sure.

262

00:12:18,790 --> 00:12:21,450

I was taught to swim
when I was four.

263

00:12:21,450 --> 00:12:23,010

Everything when I was four.

264

00:12:23,010 --> 00:12:27,070

And then we were ice
skating when I was four.

265

00:12:27,070 --> 00:12:35,290

And they-- they
flooded tennis courts

266

00:12:35,290 --> 00:12:37,070

so you could go and skate.

267

00:12:37,070 --> 00:12:40,120

And so there were a lot
of skating rinks around.

268
00:12:40,120 --> 00:12:41,170
That's interesting.

269
00:12:41,170 --> 00:12:42,343
Yeah.

270
00:12:42,343 --> 00:12:44,010
Did you play tennis
as a young teenager?

271
00:12:44,010 --> 00:12:44,920
Well, yeah.

272
00:12:44,920 --> 00:12:48,040
My mother felt that I
should learn to play tennis

273
00:12:48,040 --> 00:12:50,530
on one of our many vacations.

274
00:12:50,530 --> 00:12:54,610
And she went to a store
and bought a racket, which

275
00:12:54,610 --> 00:12:57,550
was entirely too heavy for me.

276
00:12:57,550 --> 00:13:01,840
And then we had a tutor
or whatever you call it.

277
00:13:01,840 --> 00:13:04,710
Coach.

278
00:13:04,710 --> 00:13:06,710
At a hotel.

279
00:13:06,710 --> 00:13:08,960
And he was very
impatient, because I

280

00:13:08,960 --> 00:13:10,830
couldn't hold the racket.

281

00:13:10,830 --> 00:13:14,030
And so this was more
or less a disaster

282

00:13:14,030 --> 00:13:17,120
but it ruined my arm for life.

283

00:13:17,120 --> 00:13:19,250
Where did your family vacation?

284

00:13:19,250 --> 00:13:25,130
Well, they had a home in
a suburb out of Vienna

285

00:13:25,130 --> 00:13:30,020
in a little town called
Baden, a spa town.

286

00:13:30,020 --> 00:13:34,550
And actually it was more
like a family compound.

287

00:13:34,550 --> 00:13:39,050
It had two or three buildings.

288

00:13:39,050 --> 00:13:45,310
And my uncle and family went
there also in the summer.

289

00:13:45,310 --> 00:13:48,680
And I think they rented
out one building.

290

00:13:48,680 --> 00:13:50,540
I don't really quite remember.

291

00:13:50,540 --> 00:13:54,230
But anyway, and there was a--

292

00:13:54,230 --> 00:13:57,780

well, it was called
a beach bath,

293

00:13:57,780 --> 00:14:03,680

but it was a big building, and
it had large, very large pools.

294

00:14:03,680 --> 00:14:08,930

And they have imported sand
the whole length of the pool.

295

00:14:08,930 --> 00:14:13,210

296

00:14:13,210 --> 00:14:13,710

OK.

297

00:14:13,710 --> 00:14:17,070

298

00:14:17,070 --> 00:14:24,200

Anyway, my first-- the
first six years of my life,

299

00:14:24,200 --> 00:14:27,470

we went every summer
to Baden to be

300

00:14:27,470 --> 00:14:29,660

with the family in the house.

301

00:14:29,660 --> 00:14:32,960

And then my mother had enough.

302

00:14:32,960 --> 00:14:37,460

And so we traveled every
summer, my mother and I.

303

00:14:37,460 --> 00:14:43,410

And my father rarely
took vacation with us

304
00:14:43,410 --> 00:14:46,030
because he was busy
with the businesses.

305
00:14:46,030 --> 00:14:50,150
He would come out
weekends or something.

306
00:14:50,150 --> 00:14:54,410
So anyway, I had a
very interesting life,

307
00:14:54,410 --> 00:14:58,300
I must say, being an only child.

308
00:14:58,300 --> 00:15:04,090
While we had help very often
since they were busy all week,

309
00:15:04,090 --> 00:15:09,280
I spent weekends,
Sundays with them,

310
00:15:09,280 --> 00:15:14,380
and most frequently
wherever they went.

311
00:15:14,380 --> 00:15:16,990
So I went, you know,
wherever they went.

312
00:15:16,990 --> 00:15:18,890
Did your family have a car?

313
00:15:18,890 --> 00:15:21,450
No, they had a--

314
00:15:21,450 --> 00:15:23,790
well, that's later
on they had a car,

315

00:15:23,790 --> 00:15:28,980
but that was used only for
business, more or less.

316
00:15:28,980 --> 00:15:31,770
Did you-- when you were
old enough to remember,

317
00:15:31,770 --> 00:15:35,760
did you experience any
anti-Semitism before '38.

318
00:15:35,760 --> 00:15:37,320
We're talking about pre-'38.

319
00:15:37,320 --> 00:15:38,295
No, no.

320
00:15:38,295 --> 00:15:40,540
No Anti-Semitic--

321
00:15:40,540 --> 00:15:42,900
I had not felt nothing.

322
00:15:42,900 --> 00:15:46,110
How adults felt I
cannot tell you.

323
00:15:46,110 --> 00:15:47,520
As a child, I had--

324
00:15:47,520 --> 00:15:50,140
Up to '38, there
were no restrictions.

325
00:15:50,140 --> 00:15:51,570
No, no, of course not.

326
00:15:51,570 --> 00:15:56,280
A normal childhood
till the age of 14.

327

00:15:56,280 --> 00:15:57,320
Yes, yes.

328
00:15:57,320 --> 00:15:59,460
And there were no--

329
00:15:59,460 --> 00:16:01,210
of course not.

330
00:16:01,210 --> 00:16:05,290
Remember, we lived in
Vienna like everybody else.

331
00:16:05,290 --> 00:16:07,800
So did you feel very Austrian?

332
00:16:07,800 --> 00:16:11,030
Yes, very much so.

333
00:16:11,030 --> 00:16:12,900
And very Viennese.

334
00:16:12,900 --> 00:16:13,980
Very Viennese.

335
00:16:13,980 --> 00:16:17,320
And what about, did
you feel very Jewish?

336
00:16:17,320 --> 00:16:19,140
Yeah, to a certain extent.

337
00:16:19,140 --> 00:16:23,580
But I never felt that it was
any different from anybody else

338
00:16:23,580 --> 00:16:26,090
as a kid.

339
00:16:26,090 --> 00:16:28,610
And so it was a happy childhood?

340

00:16:28,610 --> 00:16:34,650

A very happy childhood with
a lot of things going on.

341

00:16:34,650 --> 00:16:42,420

My main interest in my years, I
would say starting maybe at 12

342

00:16:42,420 --> 00:16:45,510

or maybe at 10, I
don't remember when,

343

00:16:45,510 --> 00:16:50,370

was really getting autographs
from people, from actors

344

00:16:50,370 --> 00:16:54,750

and through my
father and all that.

345

00:16:54,750 --> 00:16:57,140

And that was really--

346

00:16:57,140 --> 00:16:58,710

Any famous autographs that you--

347

00:16:58,710 --> 00:16:59,390

Oh, yes.

348

00:16:59,390 --> 00:17:02,460

They're all at the University
of Maryland Library.

349

00:17:02,460 --> 00:17:02,995

Such as?

350

00:17:02,995 --> 00:17:04,470

I have a huge collection.

351

00:17:04,470 --> 00:17:05,609

Such as?

352

00:17:05,609 --> 00:17:08,700

And I'll give you
the write-up on it.

353

00:17:08,700 --> 00:17:12,960

And I had-- there were a lot
like this poster you have

354

00:17:12,960 --> 00:17:16,950

behind you, Comedian Harmonists,
they were very well known,

355

00:17:16,950 --> 00:17:21,480

appeared in the theater,
and I have their autographs

356

00:17:21,480 --> 00:17:22,410

to my father.

357

00:17:22,410 --> 00:17:26,349

Many of them were autographs
to my father, not to me.

358

00:17:26,349 --> 00:17:28,569

But many of them are to me.

359

00:17:28,569 --> 00:17:33,780

And then we spend a lot of
time, a few friends and I,

360

00:17:33,780 --> 00:17:36,780

at the stage door of
the largest theater,

361

00:17:36,780 --> 00:17:41,060

the Burg Theater, which was
the classical theater we

362

00:17:41,060 --> 00:17:45,200

[? visit often ?] and to get
autographs from the actors.

363

00:17:45,200 --> 00:17:48,210
And there was a particular
one that we all adored,

364
00:17:48,210 --> 00:17:51,720
a young man who was
very good-looking.

365
00:17:51,720 --> 00:17:54,630
And all his photographs
and autographs

366
00:17:54,630 --> 00:17:56,520
are at the University
of Maryland.

367
00:17:56,520 --> 00:17:57,480
Wonderful.

368
00:17:57,480 --> 00:18:06,120
And so, well, the school
was a private school.

369
00:18:06,120 --> 00:18:11,340
So we had classes all morning.

370
00:18:11,340 --> 00:18:20,310
And then in the afternoon,
I went to another school,

371
00:18:20,310 --> 00:18:22,110
I think one year.

372
00:18:22,110 --> 00:18:27,900
Just I guess now you would call
it day care in the afternoon.

373
00:18:27,900 --> 00:18:33,810
I had a governess for one year,
I remember in the afternoon.

374
00:18:33,810 --> 00:18:35,830
But we didn't get along.

375
00:18:35,830 --> 00:18:42,670
I was a very tomboy type child.

376
00:18:42,670 --> 00:18:46,000
I really didn't like
people to tell me

377
00:18:46,000 --> 00:18:47,600
what to do all the time.

378
00:18:47,600 --> 00:18:51,820
That got me into trouble
in school at times.

379
00:18:51,820 --> 00:18:52,930
Such as?

380
00:18:52,930 --> 00:18:55,162
Oh, no, just talking.

381
00:18:55,162 --> 00:18:57,280
Yeah, I was talking.

382
00:18:57,280 --> 00:19:03,770
And so anyway, we went--

383
00:19:03,770 --> 00:19:09,640
the school, the schools in
Austria and other places

384
00:19:09,640 --> 00:19:13,750
had a break, and we
went skiing for a week.

385
00:19:13,750 --> 00:19:21,130
I mean, so when we
was in, I guess,

386
00:19:21,130 --> 00:19:27,640
7th grade was when we started
to go on the ski trip.

387
00:19:27,640 --> 00:19:29,640
Which was very exciting.

388
00:19:29,640 --> 00:19:30,910
And then--

389
00:19:30,910 --> 00:19:32,860
Where would you go to go skiing?

390
00:19:32,860 --> 00:19:37,690
Oh, well, when we
went with school,

391
00:19:37,690 --> 00:19:40,570
we went into parts of Austria.

392
00:19:40,570 --> 00:19:45,130
And then there was an
area close to Vienna,

393
00:19:45,130 --> 00:19:48,610
about an hour or two
hours away, two hours.

394
00:19:48,610 --> 00:19:50,170
It was a big mountain.

395
00:19:50,170 --> 00:19:54,320
That was a big ski resort,
and a resort, really,

396
00:19:54,320 --> 00:19:58,010
and it still is,
called the Semmering.

397
00:19:58,010 --> 00:20:02,860
And we went skiing there,
and it was wonderful.

398
00:20:02,860 --> 00:20:04,250
Well, that's good to hear.

399

00:20:04,250 --> 00:20:07,930

Now, when did you
first start hearing

400

00:20:07,930 --> 00:20:09,610

about a man named Hitler?

401

00:20:09,610 --> 00:20:10,470

Oh, my.

402

00:20:10,470 --> 00:20:11,890

Heard very early.

403

00:20:11,890 --> 00:20:14,460

I remember being in--

404

00:20:14,460 --> 00:20:16,450

When you were 9 years old?

405

00:20:16,450 --> 00:20:18,030

No, I was 10.

406

00:20:18,030 --> 00:20:20,610

I meant when he came
into power in '33.

407

00:20:20,610 --> 00:20:21,110

Huh?

408

00:20:21,110 --> 00:20:22,920

He came in when you were nine.

409

00:20:22,920 --> 00:20:23,420

'33?

410

00:20:23,420 --> 00:20:23,920

Yeah.

411

00:20:23,920 --> 00:20:25,680

I don't think I

heard about that.

412
00:20:25,680 --> 00:20:26,180
Yeah.

413
00:20:26,180 --> 00:20:32,530
But in '34, we were in
Yugoslavia, my mother and I.

414
00:20:32,530 --> 00:20:36,040
And that was when
the chancellor,

415
00:20:36,040 --> 00:20:39,190
Austrian chancellor,
was assassinated

416
00:20:39,190 --> 00:20:42,340
in 1934 in the summer.

417
00:20:42,340 --> 00:20:46,420
And that's sort
of the first time

418
00:20:46,420 --> 00:20:49,050
that I remember that
I may have heard

419
00:20:49,050 --> 00:20:54,800
of things that were in Germany
that weren't good for the Jews.

420
00:20:54,800 --> 00:20:56,510
But I really don't recall.

421
00:20:56,510 --> 00:20:57,635
I mean, this is something--

422
00:20:57,635 --> 00:20:58,370
You were young.

423
00:20:58,370 --> 00:21:01,220

--that sinks in.

424

00:21:01,220 --> 00:21:04,630

And then of course, I was 10.

425

00:21:04,630 --> 00:21:09,170

Then so then as you get
older, you become more aware

426

00:21:09,170 --> 00:21:11,660

and you hear more
of what's going on.

427

00:21:11,660 --> 00:21:14,880

Did you listen to his
speeches on the radio?

428

00:21:14,880 --> 00:21:17,410

No, but that's another story.

429

00:21:17,410 --> 00:21:22,780

And so the-- while
you are asking me,

430

00:21:22,780 --> 00:21:32,290

the last time we were skiing
with a group was about two,

431

00:21:32,290 --> 00:21:35,190

three weeks, maybe,
before Hitler--

432

00:21:35,190 --> 00:21:37,080

before the Anschluss.

433

00:21:37,080 --> 00:21:40,620

And so we were skiing
on the Semmering.

434

00:21:40,620 --> 00:21:44,070

And then when we came
down, we had to--

435
00:21:44,070 --> 00:21:44,940
in the room.

436
00:21:44,940 --> 00:21:47,920
So by then we were 13.

437
00:21:47,920 --> 00:21:49,260
Yes.

438
00:21:49,260 --> 00:21:54,570
And in the dining room, and
Hitler was giving a speech.

439
00:21:54,570 --> 00:21:57,990
And we were supposed
to be very quiet

440
00:21:57,990 --> 00:22:00,400
while he was-- and listen.

441
00:22:00,400 --> 00:22:04,560
And so the table I was at,
we were fooling around.

442
00:22:04,560 --> 00:22:06,250
We didn't really want--

443
00:22:06,250 --> 00:22:08,950
whatever kids do.

444
00:22:08,950 --> 00:22:13,140
And they told us
to be quiet, so OK.

445
00:22:13,140 --> 00:22:19,340
So the next day was
the last day skiing.

446
00:22:19,340 --> 00:22:22,400
And they were giving us tests.

447

00:22:22,400 --> 00:22:28,750
And the woman who was the ski
instructor was a real Hitler

448
00:22:28,750 --> 00:22:31,050
type, Hitler-Madchen--

449
00:22:31,050 --> 00:22:35,200
blonde, blue-eyed, rather
good-looking as I recall.

450
00:22:35,200 --> 00:22:38,930
Anyway, as I came down
the hill to be tested

451
00:22:38,930 --> 00:22:44,170
and I came close to her,
she stuck her ski pole out

452
00:22:44,170 --> 00:22:45,970
and I fell.

453
00:22:45,970 --> 00:22:49,150
That was the result
of fooling around.

454
00:22:49,150 --> 00:22:54,760
And as it turned out
when we went on the train

455
00:22:54,760 --> 00:23:00,010
and went home, on the train I
had a very bad pain in my leg.

456
00:23:00,010 --> 00:23:05,010
And it turned out then when
I came home, I went to bed

457
00:23:05,010 --> 00:23:05,940
but they took--

458
00:23:05,940 --> 00:23:08,920
then they took me to

the emergency room,

459

00:23:08,920 --> 00:23:11,500

and I had torn my
meniscus in the knee.

460

00:23:11,500 --> 00:23:14,500

461

00:23:14,500 --> 00:23:20,530

So they put a cast
on, and that's

462

00:23:20,530 --> 00:23:23,620

what you did at
that time, I guess.

463

00:23:23,620 --> 00:23:30,530

And that was-- by that
time it was the week

464

00:23:30,530 --> 00:23:32,960

before Hitler came.

465

00:23:32,960 --> 00:23:38,770

And on the-- he entered
on the 13th, the troops.

466

00:23:38,770 --> 00:23:43,750

Or he entered on the
13th, which was a Sunday.

467

00:23:43,750 --> 00:23:47,720

And in between, they
called for elections.

468

00:23:47,720 --> 00:23:52,460

So they put slogans,
slogans on the streets.

469

00:23:52,460 --> 00:23:57,390

Elections for the Austrian
chancellor and all that.

470
00:23:57,390 --> 00:24:01,860
So before-- this
I always remember

471
00:24:01,860 --> 00:24:05,910
how kids do the crazy things.

472
00:24:05,910 --> 00:24:11,990
So the Sunday before
there was a custom

473
00:24:11,990 --> 00:24:16,130
that people were sort of
parading Sunday morning

474
00:24:16,130 --> 00:24:19,660
on the Ring, which
was a fancy area.

475
00:24:19,660 --> 00:24:22,340
And it was called the Corso.

476
00:24:22,340 --> 00:24:26,660
So my friend Madeleine, I had
a friend called Madeleine,

477
00:24:26,660 --> 00:24:30,440
had broken her leg
on the same trip.

478
00:24:30,440 --> 00:24:33,380
And so her left
leg was in a cast,

479
00:24:33,380 --> 00:24:37,880
and my right leg was in a
cast, and we both had canes.

480
00:24:37,880 --> 00:24:42,520
So we decided we would
parade on the Corso.

481

00:24:42,520 --> 00:24:46,190

The two Madeleines in
the casts on the Corso.

482

00:24:46,190 --> 00:24:47,090

People looked.

483

00:24:47,090 --> 00:24:50,810

You know, we thought
was it all a big joke.

484

00:24:50,810 --> 00:24:53,910

So that was the Sunday
before Hitler came in.

485

00:24:53,910 --> 00:24:58,820

486

00:24:58,820 --> 00:25:01,490

So he came on the 13th.

487

00:25:01,490 --> 00:25:03,080

On the 16th--

488

00:25:03,080 --> 00:25:06,710

When he came, where were
you and what did you see?

489

00:25:06,710 --> 00:25:08,680

I didn't see a damn thing.

490

00:25:08,680 --> 00:25:13,265

They didn't have news
reels or television.

491

00:25:13,265 --> 00:25:15,260

You did not go out to see him?

492

00:25:15,260 --> 00:25:16,380

Are you crazy?

493

00:25:16,380 --> 00:25:17,940
Why would I go to see?

494
00:25:17,940 --> 00:25:18,890
What did you--

495
00:25:18,890 --> 00:25:23,120
The only people went out
claimed they were taking over,

496
00:25:23,120 --> 00:25:29,150
who were screaming like crazy
welcome and all this and stuff.

497
00:25:29,150 --> 00:25:30,290
And--

498
00:25:30,290 --> 00:25:32,150
Did you feel
particularly frightened

499
00:25:32,150 --> 00:25:34,720
when he came, knowing
that he was there?

500
00:25:34,720 --> 00:25:35,400
No.

501
00:25:35,400 --> 00:25:38,310
I mean, you almost
have to view this

502
00:25:38,310 --> 00:25:40,620
from a kid's point of view.

503
00:25:40,620 --> 00:25:41,120
Right.

504
00:25:41,120 --> 00:25:44,930
Yeah, obviously this was
disturbing and stuff,

505

00:25:44,930 --> 00:25:49,610
but you really didn't
have any idea on the 13th.

506
00:25:49,610 --> 00:25:51,770
Now, let me go on to the 16th.

507
00:25:51,770 --> 00:25:54,880
I spent a lot of time
at my grandmother's,

508
00:25:54,880 --> 00:25:58,470
because my parents
were occupied.

509
00:25:58,470 --> 00:26:01,460
And then my father would
be sleeping during the day

510
00:26:01,460 --> 00:26:04,740
because he was up at
night with his business.

511
00:26:04,740 --> 00:26:08,470
And so I was at my grandmother's
when all this happened,

512
00:26:08,470 --> 00:26:12,480
and my parents were wherever,
I guess, in the apartment.

513
00:26:12,480 --> 00:26:21,580
And on the 16th, I think
we had no school that week.

514
00:26:21,580 --> 00:26:25,660
Yeah, I think we had
no school that week.

515
00:26:25,660 --> 00:26:32,050
I was going to go to the
business where my parents--

516

00:26:32,050 --> 00:26:34,650
not the nightclub, the business.

517
00:26:34,650 --> 00:26:43,320
And as I reached the bridge
across the canal, the Donau--

518
00:26:43,320 --> 00:26:48,670
the Danube canal,
one of the employees

519
00:26:48,670 --> 00:26:53,110
met me from my father,
from the business.

520
00:26:53,110 --> 00:26:56,380
And he says, your parents
want you not to come.

521
00:26:56,380 --> 00:26:59,620
They want you to go home,
go back to your grandmother

522
00:26:59,620 --> 00:27:01,790
and just stay there.

523
00:27:01,790 --> 00:27:04,030
Well, what was happening
in the business was

524
00:27:04,030 --> 00:27:07,420
that they had come, Nazis
had come in already.

525
00:27:07,420 --> 00:27:10,440
This was the 16th.

526
00:27:10,440 --> 00:27:14,190
And I guess they took
over the business.

527
00:27:14,190 --> 00:27:17,460
Honestly, I can't

really give you

528
00:27:17,460 --> 00:27:20,420
details, because obviously
I didn't know a damn thing.

529
00:27:20,420 --> 00:27:21,910
Right.

530
00:27:21,910 --> 00:27:30,570
And I think that same
evening, that same day--

531
00:27:30,570 --> 00:27:32,640
yeah, or maybe the next day.

532
00:27:32,640 --> 00:27:34,320
I don't know.

533
00:27:34,320 --> 00:27:37,880
They came to the
apartment and had them

534
00:27:37,880 --> 00:27:41,012
search through the apartment.

535
00:27:41,012 --> 00:27:41,720
But you weren't--

536
00:27:41,720 --> 00:27:42,900
I was not there.

537
00:27:42,900 --> 00:27:44,310
You were still at your gran--

538
00:27:44,310 --> 00:27:45,480
I was at my grandmother's.

539
00:27:45,480 --> 00:27:47,530
Is this your maternal
or paternal grandparent?

540
00:27:47,530 --> 00:27:48,030
Maternal.

541
00:27:48,030 --> 00:27:50,630

542
00:27:50,630 --> 00:27:54,810
I had a paternal grandfather
and a maternal grandmother.

543
00:27:54,810 --> 00:27:56,570
The other ones were deceased.

544
00:27:56,570 --> 00:27:59,030
Were gone.

545
00:27:59,030 --> 00:28:01,110
So I was not there.

546
00:28:01,110 --> 00:28:02,630
So I only hear--

547
00:28:02,630 --> 00:28:03,600
You heard about it.

548
00:28:03,600 --> 00:28:07,040
I heard about it time
and again when my parents

549
00:28:07,040 --> 00:28:09,410
would relate what went on.

550
00:28:09,410 --> 00:28:15,170
And apparently they marched
off with some stuff, and--

551
00:28:15,170 --> 00:28:16,820
Were your parents
there at the time?

552
00:28:16,820 --> 00:28:17,320

Oh, yeah.

553

00:28:17,320 --> 00:28:20,412

They had to be there.

554

00:28:20,412 --> 00:28:21,800

I don't know.

555

00:28:21,800 --> 00:28:23,220

Yeah, I guess they were there.

556

00:28:23,220 --> 00:28:26,370

I don't know if they
took them there or what.

557

00:28:26,370 --> 00:28:29,130

I have no idea how this was.

558

00:28:29,130 --> 00:28:31,670

But it was very
upsetting, obviously.

559

00:28:31,670 --> 00:28:34,160

Of course.

560

00:28:34,160 --> 00:28:37,820

And I think what stopped
the whole thing was

561

00:28:37,820 --> 00:28:42,410

when they learned that my father
was a lieutenant in the First

562

00:28:42,410 --> 00:28:43,130

World War.

563

00:28:43,130 --> 00:28:46,860

564

00:28:46,860 --> 00:28:51,400

And so that seemed to stop
whatever they were doing.

565
00:28:51,400 --> 00:28:55,380
So anyway, this is--

566
00:28:55,380 --> 00:29:01,290
and then I think school started
again, but we only had--

567
00:29:01,290 --> 00:29:03,600
we had some new teachers.

568
00:29:03,600 --> 00:29:06,000
Some of them had--
apparently were Jewish.

569
00:29:06,000 --> 00:29:08,380
Not that we knew
it ahead of time.

570
00:29:08,380 --> 00:29:13,450
But they weren't there when
we came back to school.

571
00:29:13,450 --> 00:29:15,120
The new teachers
were Jewish teachers?

572
00:29:15,120 --> 00:29:15,620
No.

573
00:29:15,620 --> 00:29:17,400
No, the Jewish
teachers had left.

574
00:29:17,400 --> 00:29:17,900
Had left.

575
00:29:17,900 --> 00:29:19,150
Some of them.

576
00:29:19,150 --> 00:29:20,220
Some of them?

577
00:29:20,220 --> 00:29:21,105
All of them?

578
00:29:21,105 --> 00:29:21,813
I don't remember.

579
00:29:21,813 --> 00:29:24,070
OK, Yeah.

580
00:29:24,070 --> 00:29:26,740
And--

581
00:29:26,740 --> 00:29:30,250
Did that upset you?

582
00:29:30,250 --> 00:29:32,240
I don't remember, really.

583
00:29:32,240 --> 00:29:34,310
OK.

584
00:29:34,310 --> 00:29:35,590
Yeah, I guess.

585
00:29:35,590 --> 00:29:37,510
Now the person who left--

586
00:29:37,510 --> 00:29:40,150
I know who left-- was
the English teacher.

587
00:29:40,150 --> 00:29:47,200
We had an English teacher, Frau
Professor, who was a dragon.

588
00:29:47,200 --> 00:29:49,220
She was really something.

589
00:29:49,220 --> 00:29:52,760
But I've been very

grateful to her

590
00:29:52,760 --> 00:29:57,020
ever since, because when
we left I spoke English.

591
00:29:57,020 --> 00:29:58,130
Fabulous, yeah.

592
00:29:58,130 --> 00:29:59,000
Yeah.

593
00:29:59,000 --> 00:30:00,560
We had to learn things by rote.

594
00:30:00,560 --> 00:30:05,060
First we had to learn things
phonetically for the first six

595
00:30:05,060 --> 00:30:08,450
months with a
handkerchief and a mirror,

596
00:30:08,450 --> 00:30:13,160
and we had to turn our tongue
the right way and all this.

597
00:30:13,160 --> 00:30:15,240
I mean, it was unbelievable.

598
00:30:15,240 --> 00:30:20,390
And then after-- so we
had her for four years.

599
00:30:20,390 --> 00:30:22,130
Yeah, four years.

600
00:30:22,130 --> 00:30:26,310
And we had to learn--

601
00:30:26,310 --> 00:30:30,510
as the years progressed,

not right away--

602
00:30:30,510 --> 00:30:31,800
books by heart.

603
00:30:31,800 --> 00:30:36,930
Like The Jungle Book,
every day two pages that

604
00:30:36,930 --> 00:30:38,430
you had to recite.

605
00:30:38,430 --> 00:30:41,460
Well, that was the way
you practiced speaking.

606
00:30:41,460 --> 00:30:44,970
Because who would you speak to?

607
00:30:44,970 --> 00:30:49,500
And it certainly turned
out to be a mis--

608
00:30:49,500 --> 00:30:53,040
it was a miserable
way to learn, but when

609
00:30:53,040 --> 00:30:55,560
I left I spoke English.

610
00:30:55,560 --> 00:30:56,880
I was fluent.

611
00:30:56,880 --> 00:30:58,800
Yes, good.

612
00:30:58,800 --> 00:31:01,858
I mean, I didn't have
many adult words.

613
00:31:01,858 --> 00:31:02,400
I don't know.

614
00:31:02,400 --> 00:31:05,910
I had never had any
problem communicating.

615
00:31:05,910 --> 00:31:08,900
So anyway, that's an aside.

616
00:31:08,900 --> 00:31:10,740
So you said you
went back to school

617
00:31:10,740 --> 00:31:11,865
and there was new teachers.

618
00:31:11,865 --> 00:31:15,930
We went back to school,
and we had to quit school

619
00:31:15,930 --> 00:31:16,853
when school was over.

620
00:31:16,853 --> 00:31:17,770
Because it was summer.

621
00:31:17,770 --> 00:31:20,700
That was the eighth
grade, and that was it.

622
00:31:20,700 --> 00:31:22,110
They closed the school.

623
00:31:22,110 --> 00:31:23,810
They closed the school?

624
00:31:23,810 --> 00:31:25,360
Oh, you mean for the summer?

625
00:31:25,360 --> 00:31:25,860
No, no.

626

00:31:25,860 --> 00:31:27,540

I think the school
was closed because I

627

00:31:27,540 --> 00:31:31,540

think the owner was Jewish,
but she was not in the country.

628

00:31:31,540 --> 00:31:37,470

She was a well-known educator,
and I have books for her.

629

00:31:37,470 --> 00:31:39,200

People still use her method.

630

00:31:39,200 --> 00:31:40,540

What is her name?

631

00:31:40,540 --> 00:31:41,885

Schwarzwald.

632

00:31:41,885 --> 00:31:43,500

Eugenie Schwarzwald.

633

00:31:43,500 --> 00:31:45,360

That's "Black
Forest" translated.

634

00:31:45,360 --> 00:31:47,520

Yes.

635

00:31:47,520 --> 00:31:49,420

So then what did you do?

636

00:31:49,420 --> 00:31:50,370

It was summertime now?

637

00:31:50,370 --> 00:31:53,800

It was summertime,
so what did we do?

638

00:31:53,800 --> 00:31:56,420

Did you still vacation at all?

639

00:31:56,420 --> 00:31:57,960

When Hitler was there?

640

00:31:57,960 --> 00:32:00,100

Who went on vacation?

641

00:32:00,100 --> 00:32:01,230

So you stayed in--

642

00:32:01,230 --> 00:32:04,240

We were in Vienna for the
first time in my life.

643

00:32:04,240 --> 00:32:06,540

I was in Vienna in
the summer, and I

644

00:32:06,540 --> 00:32:08,550

found it very uncomfortable.

645

00:32:08,550 --> 00:32:09,870

It was very hot.

646

00:32:09,870 --> 00:32:13,230

What about if you
saw the soldiers?

647

00:32:13,230 --> 00:32:16,020

No, you didn't see many.

648

00:32:16,020 --> 00:32:19,440

Again, we didn't get together.

649

00:32:19,440 --> 00:32:25,230

We, again, a couple of us
went to the stage door,

650

00:32:25,230 --> 00:32:29,370

and they gave us
autographs, and we

651
00:32:29,370 --> 00:32:33,790
gathered in a park or
something, a group of kids.

652
00:32:33,790 --> 00:32:35,630
But was it frightening
to see soldiers?

653
00:32:35,630 --> 00:32:37,890
Yeah, it was frightening.

654
00:32:37,890 --> 00:32:39,660
Or flags with the swastika?

655
00:32:39,660 --> 00:32:40,160
Oh, yeah.

656
00:32:40,160 --> 00:32:40,660
Of course.

657
00:32:40,660 --> 00:32:42,822
What did that mean
to you as a teenager?

658
00:32:42,822 --> 00:32:43,530
What do you mean?

659
00:32:43,530 --> 00:32:45,510
It was taken over.

660
00:32:45,510 --> 00:32:46,950
There was no Austria.

661
00:32:46,950 --> 00:32:47,820
It was Germany.

662
00:32:47,820 --> 00:32:49,670
Did you feel frightened?

663
00:32:49,670 --> 00:32:50,790

Huh?

664
00:32:50,790 --> 00:32:52,740
Do you remember
feeling frightened?

665
00:32:52,740 --> 00:32:54,340
At times, yes.

666
00:32:54,340 --> 00:32:54,840
Probably.

667
00:32:54,840 --> 00:32:57,400

668
00:32:57,400 --> 00:32:59,250
But your folks still
gave you freedom

669
00:32:59,250 --> 00:33:01,530
to travel in the neighborhood?

670
00:33:01,530 --> 00:33:02,295
Oh, yeah.

671
00:33:02,295 --> 00:33:04,550
We were walking around as usual.

672
00:33:04,550 --> 00:33:05,520
Even so.

673
00:33:05,520 --> 00:33:09,540
Of course they told us not to
do this and not to do that.

674
00:33:09,540 --> 00:33:10,890
Not my parents.

675
00:33:10,890 --> 00:33:15,870
Parents told us, don't go
there or don't go here.

676

00:33:15,870 --> 00:33:17,485

I don't know that
we paid attention.

677

00:33:17,485 --> 00:33:19,860

Were there any
anti-Jewish signs?

678

00:33:19,860 --> 00:33:21,730

Of course.

679

00:33:21,730 --> 00:33:25,780

There were stuff painted
on stores and things.

680

00:33:25,780 --> 00:33:26,940

And I did go--

681

00:33:26,940 --> 00:33:30,150

I think my father was
in the store sometimes.

682

00:33:30,150 --> 00:33:36,020

They put what they called
a Kommissar into the store,

683

00:33:36,020 --> 00:33:41,220

but he was unpleasant but not
too unpleasant, apparently.

684

00:33:41,220 --> 00:33:45,270

I mean, I really
cannot go into that.

685

00:33:45,270 --> 00:33:47,140

I really don't know.

686

00:33:47,140 --> 00:33:49,950

I mean, it was--

687

00:33:49,950 --> 00:33:52,450

you discussed where

would you end up

688

00:33:52,450 --> 00:33:55,930

and where did your friends
go and some had left.

689

00:33:55,930 --> 00:34:00,580

And there was a big thing about
always exchanging addresses

690

00:34:00,580 --> 00:34:05,260

among our group of kids.

691

00:34:05,260 --> 00:34:06,850

We then had turned--

692

00:34:06,850 --> 00:34:08,830

we had turned 14 a month--

693

00:34:08,830 --> 00:34:10,420

And some of your
friends had already

694

00:34:10,420 --> 00:34:11,628

left by the time you were 14?

695

00:34:11,628 --> 00:34:14,050

Some had left.

696

00:34:14,050 --> 00:34:15,534

They just disappeared.

697

00:34:15,534 --> 00:34:18,880

But the closer ones,
we didn't leave

698

00:34:18,880 --> 00:34:21,850

without exchanging addresses.

699

00:34:21,850 --> 00:34:24,280

And the idea was that
wherever you went

700
00:34:24,280 --> 00:34:27,699
you didn't know
where you would be,

701
00:34:27,699 --> 00:34:32,679
but you would write
to general delivery,

702
00:34:32,679 --> 00:34:35,080
so that you could
pick up your mail.

703
00:34:35,080 --> 00:34:36,550
Yes, yes.

704
00:34:36,550 --> 00:34:41,650
And there was a close-knit
group of about eight or nine

705
00:34:41,650 --> 00:34:46,730
that we had all gone to school
together all these years.

706
00:34:46,730 --> 00:34:48,610
So we were all in touch.

707
00:34:48,610 --> 00:34:51,190

708
00:34:51,190 --> 00:34:53,440
What countries did they go to?

709
00:34:53,440 --> 00:34:55,370
All over the world.

710
00:34:55,370 --> 00:34:57,040
And--

711
00:34:57,040 --> 00:34:58,720
So now it's the fall?

712
00:34:58,720 --> 00:34:59,740
No, it's not.

713
00:34:59,740 --> 00:35:01,930
Well, then there was the summer.

714
00:35:01,930 --> 00:35:07,780
And you learned where and
what countries gave you visas.

715
00:35:07,780 --> 00:35:09,710
I mean, we weren't oblivious.

716
00:35:09,710 --> 00:35:13,930
I mean, we were discussing
all these things all the time.

717
00:35:13,930 --> 00:35:22,510
And then some apartments
were taken over.

718
00:35:22,510 --> 00:35:26,030
It was a very--

719
00:35:26,030 --> 00:35:29,180
it was somewhat of a
difficult time as I recall.

720
00:35:29,180 --> 00:35:34,910
I mean, you didn't
feel easy or anything.

721
00:35:34,910 --> 00:35:40,240
So let me go back, if you
want to hear the whole story.

722
00:35:40,240 --> 00:35:48,470
In 1937, my mother and I were in
Venice at the Lido and spending

723
00:35:48,470 --> 00:35:49,040
the summer.

724
00:35:49,040 --> 00:35:52,370
This was, I think, the second
time already we were there.

725
00:35:52,370 --> 00:35:56,750
And we were in a very
nice hotel, a small hotel.

726
00:35:56,750 --> 00:35:59,660
Now they would call
them boutique hotels.

727
00:35:59,660 --> 00:36:01,580
I don't know what
they call them now.

728
00:36:01,580 --> 00:36:05,750
And there was a young man
there who was very nice,

729
00:36:05,750 --> 00:36:08,940
and he sort of became
friendly with my mother

730
00:36:08,940 --> 00:36:11,980
and me and we would talk.

731
00:36:11,980 --> 00:36:15,500
And I guess he
must've spoken German.

732
00:36:15,500 --> 00:36:21,210
I often wonder, now how did
I communicate with somebody?

733
00:36:21,210 --> 00:36:23,120
Anyway, I guess he did.

734
00:36:23,120 --> 00:36:28,040
And he was there because
he worked for the police

735

00:36:28,040 --> 00:36:29,940
in Venice.

736

00:36:29,940 --> 00:36:32,620
But in the summer, it
was too hot in Venice,

737

00:36:32,620 --> 00:36:37,220
so he would take a room
in the hotel at the Lido,

738

00:36:37,220 --> 00:36:40,120
where the air was
fresher, and be out there.

739

00:36:40,120 --> 00:36:44,990
And so at dinner we would talk
and all That and we exchanged

740

00:36:44,990 --> 00:36:46,760
addresses, and we were very--

741

00:36:46,760 --> 00:36:49,070
became friendly.

742

00:36:49,070 --> 00:36:54,460
So after Hitler
came at some point--

743

00:36:54,460 --> 00:36:58,760
I don't recall when
this was occurring,

744

00:36:58,760 --> 00:37:00,995
oh, when we went to
Vienna and he went,

745

00:37:00,995 --> 00:37:04,320
we would occasionally
write to each other.

746

00:37:04,320 --> 00:37:08,801

And so I think what happened--

747

00:37:08,801 --> 00:37:12,730

748

00:37:12,730 --> 00:37:17,770

now, again, you have to remember
that I was a kid, and not

749

00:37:17,770 --> 00:37:22,240

privileged to all this whatever.

750

00:37:22,240 --> 00:37:24,030

Anyway, I think
what happened was,

751

00:37:24,030 --> 00:37:33,630

he wrote my parents
that if we ever

752

00:37:33,630 --> 00:37:36,570

had to leave at
some point, there

753

00:37:36,570 --> 00:37:42,990

would be a compartment in
a certain sleeping car that

754

00:37:42,990 --> 00:37:47,520

leaves every night
at 10:00 for Venice,

755

00:37:47,520 --> 00:37:52,170

and we could go to
that compartment

756

00:37:52,170 --> 00:37:56,840

and we would be taken care of.

757

00:37:56,840 --> 00:37:59,120

So when my father
was told that he

758

00:37:59,120 --> 00:38:04,640
was going to be picked up the
next day or whenever, two day--

759

00:38:04,640 --> 00:38:06,950
next day.

760

00:38:06,950 --> 00:38:07,670
Two days.

761

00:38:07,670 --> 00:38:08,570
We went to--

762

00:38:08,570 --> 00:38:16,730

763

00:38:16,730 --> 00:38:17,230
[INAUDIBLE]

764

00:38:17,230 --> 00:38:17,813
No, it's fine.

765

00:38:17,813 --> 00:38:18,320
What?

766

00:38:18,320 --> 00:38:20,960
Just leave it.

767

00:38:20,960 --> 00:38:25,830
We went to the station, and
he went to that compartment

768

00:38:25,830 --> 00:38:28,230
and he went--

769

00:38:28,230 --> 00:38:29,470
showed his ticket.

770

00:38:29,470 --> 00:38:33,420
He had a ticket and
his passport and stuff,

771
00:38:33,420 --> 00:38:37,560
and he boarded the
train and he left--

772
00:38:37,560 --> 00:38:39,780
this was in September--

773
00:38:39,780 --> 00:38:42,090
and arrived in Venice.

774
00:38:42,090 --> 00:38:43,590
This is September '38.

775
00:38:43,590 --> 00:38:44,800
Yeah.

776
00:38:44,800 --> 00:38:47,840
And my mother and
I were still there.

777
00:38:47,840 --> 00:38:59,840
And the Kommissar was still in
the Store and at some point,

778
00:38:59,840 --> 00:39:04,880
there was talk about how you had
to get a quota number for the--

779
00:39:04,880 --> 00:39:07,550
to get-- even if you
get an affidavit,

780
00:39:07,550 --> 00:39:12,060
you have to have a quota number
from the US to be able to Enter

781
00:39:12,060 --> 00:39:16,010
and somebody told me that.

782
00:39:16,010 --> 00:39:20,000
And my father was not there.

783
00:39:20,000 --> 00:39:25,760
And my mother was, to put it
mildly, under the weather.

784
00:39:25,760 --> 00:39:28,850
I mean, her nerves were shot.

785
00:39:28,850 --> 00:39:31,940
Among other things, I
didn't mention this earlier,

786
00:39:31,940 --> 00:39:39,650
when they put slogans on the
sidewalks during the election,

787
00:39:39,650 --> 00:39:42,410
then when the Nazis
entered, they got the women

788
00:39:42,410 --> 00:39:44,810
to scrub the sidewalks.

789
00:39:44,810 --> 00:39:47,480
And my mother was one of them.

790
00:39:47,480 --> 00:39:51,020
And she was, I mean,
very devastated.

791
00:39:51,020 --> 00:39:54,380
And only somebody came
by and said, "What, you

792
00:39:54,380 --> 00:39:55,610
took Frau Bartfeld?

793
00:39:55,610 --> 00:39:56,680
That's not right."

794
00:39:56,680 --> 00:40:00,020
They took her out from the

line and she went back.

795

00:40:00,020 --> 00:40:03,290

So she didn't do very well.

796

00:40:03,290 --> 00:40:03,820

Anyway--

797

00:40:03,820 --> 00:40:05,350

Did you see her scrubbing?

798

00:40:05,350 --> 00:40:05,850

No.

799

00:40:05,850 --> 00:40:08,490

800

00:40:08,490 --> 00:40:10,920

I mean, I was told
that, or heard it

801

00:40:10,920 --> 00:40:13,560

when they told other people.

802

00:40:13,560 --> 00:40:18,120

I mean, nobody told
me things directly.

803

00:40:18,120 --> 00:40:21,480

And anyway, to go
back to that now,

804

00:40:21,480 --> 00:40:24,810

so she was not in great shape.

805

00:40:24,810 --> 00:40:28,450

She is managing whatever
she had to but not much.

806

00:40:28,450 --> 00:40:31,770

So anyway, I went to the
embassy, to the US embassy,

807
00:40:31,770 --> 00:40:35,280
and got the forms that
you had to fill out

808
00:40:35,280 --> 00:40:39,968
to get a quota number,
which I did very well.

809
00:40:39,968 --> 00:40:41,010
You did this on your own?

810
00:40:41,010 --> 00:40:41,885
You went on your own?

811
00:40:41,885 --> 00:40:43,090
On my own, yes.

812
00:40:43,090 --> 00:40:49,140
And since I had forged
my father's signature

813
00:40:49,140 --> 00:40:55,230
when I was in the school a
great deal, for excuse slips

814
00:40:55,230 --> 00:40:59,520
or something, I had no problem
signing his name and stuff.

815
00:40:59,520 --> 00:41:01,860
I filled all this
out in his name.

816
00:41:01,860 --> 00:41:02,980
You're 14-years-old.

817
00:41:02,980 --> 00:41:04,210
14-years-old.

818
00:41:04,210 --> 00:41:08,210
And we got a quota number.

819
00:41:08,210 --> 00:41:10,710
And that was-- however,
the quota number

820
00:41:10,710 --> 00:41:14,010
didn't help us much,
because my uncle who

821
00:41:14,010 --> 00:41:17,660
lived in the States,
my father's brother,

822
00:41:17,660 --> 00:41:20,820
didn't send any affidavits.

823
00:41:20,820 --> 00:41:22,762
The family had a--

824
00:41:22,762 --> 00:41:25,740
there was a rift in
the family, and he

825
00:41:25,740 --> 00:41:29,550
didn't send any affidavits, and
he didn't send any affidavits

826
00:41:29,550 --> 00:41:32,220
for his father, even.

827
00:41:32,220 --> 00:41:36,300
So that was a lot of it, but
we did have a quota number.

828
00:41:36,300 --> 00:41:44,480
So anyway, my father
was in Venice.

829
00:41:44,480 --> 00:41:46,790
And we were here.

830
00:41:46,790 --> 00:41:53,990

And then we-- there
were things left

831
00:41:53,990 --> 00:41:56,250
in the apartment, which we had.

832
00:41:56,250 --> 00:41:58,520
We packed big things in crates.

833
00:41:58,520 --> 00:42:03,430
And my uncle had a
visa for Palestine.

834
00:42:03,430 --> 00:42:06,660

835
00:42:06,660 --> 00:42:11,130
Which was always called
a capitalist visa.

836
00:42:11,130 --> 00:42:14,190
I don't know what
it meant, but what

837
00:42:14,190 --> 00:42:19,290
it did mean is that they could
take a lift or container, what

838
00:42:19,290 --> 00:42:21,180
now is called a container.

839
00:42:21,180 --> 00:42:25,170
And they were able to
take all their stuff.

840
00:42:25,170 --> 00:42:28,530
And the crates that we
packed of the stuff that

841
00:42:28,530 --> 00:42:33,960
was left, my mother that,
we sent over to his house.

842

00:42:33,960 --> 00:42:39,780

And those things went when they
left for Israel or Palestine.

843

00:42:39,780 --> 00:42:44,550

These crates went
with them, our crates.

844

00:42:44,550 --> 00:42:50,710

So we-- I don't know somebody
that took the apartment,

845

00:42:50,710 --> 00:42:54,810

it was very fancy
furniture and stuff.

846

00:42:54,810 --> 00:42:57,690

My parents both liked
antiques and stuff,

847

00:42:57,690 --> 00:43:00,720

so I don't know what
happened to that.

848

00:43:00,720 --> 00:43:03,510

Anyway, my mother and I left.

849

00:43:03,510 --> 00:43:06,358

And in December--

850

00:43:06,358 --> 00:43:06,900

December '38.

851

00:43:06,900 --> 00:43:08,460

My father left in September.

852

00:43:08,460 --> 00:43:12,900

We left in December '38,
the same way he did,

853

00:43:12,900 --> 00:43:18,150

in the compartment that

[? Santi ?] had arranged,

854
00:43:18,150 --> 00:43:22,620
which was ready every
night, and we got to Venice.

855
00:43:22,620 --> 00:43:25,230
We handed our stuff
to the conductor,

856
00:43:25,230 --> 00:43:30,320
and we never saw anybody again
until we arrived in Venice.

857
00:43:30,320 --> 00:43:31,390
In Venice.

858
00:43:31,390 --> 00:43:32,910
What about Kristallnacht?

859
00:43:32,910 --> 00:43:33,630
Huh?

860
00:43:33,630 --> 00:43:36,510
What about Crystal
Night, Kristallnacht?

861
00:43:36,510 --> 00:43:40,710
Ah, Kristallnacht, we
were at my grandmother's.

862
00:43:40,710 --> 00:43:44,265
I was at my
grandmother's and so.

863
00:43:44,265 --> 00:43:47,660
And my mother was there, too.

864
00:43:47,660 --> 00:43:50,260
We still had the
apartment somewhere else.

865

00:43:50,260 --> 00:43:50,890
I don't know.

866
00:43:50,890 --> 00:43:53,160
I don't remember.

867
00:43:53,160 --> 00:44:05,110
And so where we lived
they didn't really--

868
00:44:05,110 --> 00:44:08,920
it was part of the 1st
District, and there weren't

869
00:44:08,920 --> 00:44:11,890
any Jewish stores as such.

870
00:44:11,890 --> 00:44:14,830
So there wasn't
anything happening.

871
00:44:14,830 --> 00:44:19,160
My father's store was
in the 2nd district,

872
00:44:19,160 --> 00:44:22,060
which you crossed on--

873
00:44:22,060 --> 00:44:25,270
I mean, it just so
happened the way,

874
00:44:25,270 --> 00:44:30,010
you crossed on the Danube canal
on the bridge, and that's--

875
00:44:30,010 --> 00:44:30,820
oh, yeah.

876
00:44:30,820 --> 00:44:34,840
What happened was, we were
going to go for some reason

877
00:44:34,840 --> 00:44:36,580
to the second--

878
00:44:36,580 --> 00:44:39,490
to the store, or
to my grandfather.

879
00:44:39,490 --> 00:44:40,300
I don't know.

880
00:44:40,300 --> 00:44:43,600
We were on the
bridge the night--

881
00:44:43,600 --> 00:44:47,740
starting on the
bridge the night--

882
00:44:47,740 --> 00:44:50,840
the evening before
Crystal Night.

883
00:44:50,840 --> 00:44:59,100
And we saw these guys
in boots running with--

884
00:44:59,100 --> 00:45:02,350
they had stuff on their--

885
00:45:02,350 --> 00:45:06,730
they had like brooms, I
think, running towards there.

886
00:45:06,730 --> 00:45:11,070
And my mother said, let's
turn around and go back.

887
00:45:11,070 --> 00:45:13,360
Which is about what we did.

888
00:45:13,360 --> 00:45:17,100
And then it turned out

these were the hooligans

889

00:45:17,100 --> 00:45:21,420
and everything who were
running into the district,

890

00:45:21,420 --> 00:45:24,820
breaking everything up
in the temple and stuff.

891

00:45:24,820 --> 00:45:25,320
And--

892

00:45:25,320 --> 00:45:29,050

893

00:45:29,050 --> 00:45:32,200
What was it like to see
the damage the next day?

894

00:45:32,200 --> 00:45:34,590
I didn't see the damage.

895

00:45:34,590 --> 00:45:36,760
I didn't go near the place.

896

00:45:36,760 --> 00:45:39,790
Who knew what was
going to happen?

897

00:45:39,790 --> 00:45:43,626
We stayed where we were for--

898

00:45:43,626 --> 00:45:46,150
I don't know-- a couple
of days or something.

899

00:45:46,150 --> 00:45:46,650
OK.

900

00:45:46,650 --> 00:45:52,530
I mean, I didn't see anything.

901
00:45:52,530 --> 00:45:56,580
I mean, I am trying
to think what I--

902
00:45:56,580 --> 00:45:58,660
I guess after a
week or two I may

903
00:45:58,660 --> 00:46:00,490
have gone over there or not.

904
00:46:00,490 --> 00:46:04,855
I really stayed away
as much as possible.

905
00:46:04,855 --> 00:46:07,380

906
00:46:07,380 --> 00:46:08,430
What was your--

907
00:46:08,430 --> 00:46:12,120
My uncle, as I now
recall, they had

908
00:46:12,120 --> 00:46:15,060
to move out of their
apartment, and they

909
00:46:15,060 --> 00:46:19,170
moved into another place.

910
00:46:19,170 --> 00:46:21,600
This was earlier, not then.

911
00:46:21,600 --> 00:46:25,020
But I'm mentioning it
because they always--

912
00:46:25,020 --> 00:46:30,370
the new place, I think,

was backing onto a temple,

913
00:46:30,370 --> 00:46:32,200
and that was on fire.

914
00:46:32,200 --> 00:46:34,290
Cause they were
talking about it.

915
00:46:34,290 --> 00:46:39,570
I mean, I have no experience
of this, only hearsay.

916
00:46:39,570 --> 00:46:41,195
What was your home address?

917
00:46:41,195 --> 00:46:41,820
What was your--

918
00:46:41,820 --> 00:46:44,900
I lived on their 1st District.

919
00:46:44,900 --> 00:46:47,060
Do you remember the
name of the street or?

920
00:46:47,060 --> 00:46:49,440
In the Gonzagagasse.

921
00:46:49,440 --> 00:46:57,390
Anyway, and-- so
anyway, we ended up in--

922
00:46:57,390 --> 00:46:58,170
Venice.

923
00:46:58,170 --> 00:46:59,140
Venice.

924
00:46:59,140 --> 00:47:02,470
By that time, my father
was already in Switzerland.

925
00:47:02,470 --> 00:47:06,970
Because you only had
a certain permission

926
00:47:06,970 --> 00:47:09,300
to stay in a place was only--

927
00:47:09,300 --> 00:47:10,180
A number of days.

928
00:47:10,180 --> 00:47:14,860
Yeah, and the Italians
at first didn't do Much

929
00:47:14,860 --> 00:47:19,750
but then they said people had
to get out after a certain time.

930
00:47:19,750 --> 00:47:27,410
So [? Santi ?] was able to get
him a visa into Switzerland.

931
00:47:27,410 --> 00:47:30,060
And he met us when
we were in Venice.

932
00:47:30,060 --> 00:47:32,680
And we were in Venice two weeks.

933
00:47:32,680 --> 00:47:33,950
It was miserable.

934
00:47:33,950 --> 00:47:36,550
It was cold and rainy.

935
00:47:36,550 --> 00:47:40,930
And we had always been
there in the summer

936
00:47:40,930 --> 00:47:43,380
and it was gorgeous, blue sky.

937

00:47:43,380 --> 00:47:47,700

But because the summer
was long and the winter

938

00:47:47,700 --> 00:47:55,390

was short at that time, at
least the place we were in,

939

00:47:55,390 --> 00:48:01,460

they only had stone floors,
because they didn't need--

940

00:48:01,460 --> 00:48:05,640

So it was cold and
miserable I remember.

941

00:48:05,640 --> 00:48:09,200

And anyway, I was
very upset of course,

942

00:48:09,200 --> 00:48:11,800

because I was away
from my friends.

943

00:48:11,800 --> 00:48:14,830

When you're a teenager, you've
got to have your friends,

944

00:48:14,830 --> 00:48:17,450

never mind anybody else.

945

00:48:17,450 --> 00:48:18,130

And so--

946

00:48:18,130 --> 00:48:20,380

So you were upset
about leaving Vienna.

947

00:48:20,380 --> 00:48:23,450

Yeah, I was-- yes and no.

948

00:48:23,450 --> 00:48:28,995
Yes, I was upset about leaving
my environment, but not--

949
00:48:28,995 --> 00:48:30,620
Right, but you knew
what was happening.

950
00:48:30,620 --> 00:48:32,720
But here I was with my mother.

951
00:48:32,720 --> 00:48:34,100
Right.

952
00:48:34,100 --> 00:48:35,750
So what was I saying?

953
00:48:35,750 --> 00:48:38,150
I did find letters right away.

954
00:48:38,150 --> 00:48:40,280
This is what we did.

955
00:48:40,280 --> 00:48:48,140
So I think I confided in one
person that I was leaving.

956
00:48:48,140 --> 00:48:51,110
Because you really
didn't tell people.

957
00:48:51,110 --> 00:48:55,430
And so there was a letter
at the general delivery.

958
00:48:55,430 --> 00:49:00,860
All right, so that already
made it that much better.

959
00:49:00,860 --> 00:49:04,010
And so anyway, we were
there about two weeks,

960
00:49:04,010 --> 00:49:07,010
and then we joined my
father in Switzerland.

961
00:49:07,010 --> 00:49:07,640
What city?

962
00:49:07,640 --> 00:49:09,135
Where in Switzerland?

963
00:49:09,135 --> 00:49:09,810
ZÃ¼rich.

964
00:49:09,810 --> 00:49:11,480
In ZÃ¼rich.

965
00:49:11,480 --> 00:49:17,600
And he by then was
living at some woman

966
00:49:17,600 --> 00:49:20,450
who was renting rooms.

967
00:49:20,450 --> 00:49:25,820
There were Jewish organizations,
and they gave you addresses.

968
00:49:25,820 --> 00:49:28,100
I think that's how
he found the place.

969
00:49:28,100 --> 00:49:32,660
So we moved in there, and
we were in a one room.

970
00:49:32,660 --> 00:49:35,240
And except I was--

971
00:49:35,240 --> 00:49:38,120
they had two beds
in the room, and I

972

00:49:38,120 --> 00:49:40,880

was sleeping on the
couch in the living

973

00:49:40,880 --> 00:49:44,020

room of this woman's home.

974

00:49:44,020 --> 00:49:44,780

It was OK.

975

00:49:44,780 --> 00:49:46,030

I mean, you know.

976

00:49:46,030 --> 00:49:47,000

Yeah.

977

00:49:47,000 --> 00:49:50,690

The best part of it was,
as far as I was concerned,

978

00:49:50,690 --> 00:49:53,960

This other Madeleine,
her mother was Swiss.

979

00:49:53,960 --> 00:49:59,210

So she had left Vienna much
earlier, and she was in Zürich.

980

00:49:59,210 --> 00:50:03,620

And so this was wonderful,
of course, I had a friend.

981

00:50:03,620 --> 00:50:06,560

But also she had
an aunt and uncle.

982

00:50:06,560 --> 00:50:09,470

Her mother was in St. Moritz.

983

00:50:09,470 --> 00:50:12,080

She was a bridge lady.

984

00:50:12,080 --> 00:50:15,770

She ran bridge in a hotel.

985

00:50:15,770 --> 00:50:19,860

Bridge was a big
thing at this time.

986

00:50:19,860 --> 00:50:22,230

So she was living with
her aunt and uncle,

987

00:50:22,230 --> 00:50:23,750

and they were very nice.

988

00:50:23,750 --> 00:50:28,630

And we had dinner there, I
think, once a week and stuff.

989

00:50:28,630 --> 00:50:33,570

And my father, the
ever-outgoing man,

990

00:50:33,570 --> 00:50:38,100

he had connections with the
theater people in ZÃ¼rich,

991

00:50:38,100 --> 00:50:46,570

because they had
exchanged employees.

992

00:50:46,570 --> 00:50:48,510

They were called artists.

993

00:50:48,510 --> 00:50:49,860

They had exchanged.

994

00:50:49,860 --> 00:50:53,790

So anyway, so it wasn't too bad.

995

00:50:53,790 --> 00:50:56,700

So he went to the coffee house.

996

00:50:56,700 --> 00:50:59,580

They went to a coffee
house every afternoon,

997

00:50:59,580 --> 00:51:01,310

where they met other refugees.

998

00:51:01,310 --> 00:51:05,970

But they also met
Swiss Jews, people.

999

00:51:05,970 --> 00:51:13,120

And so we were there a
couple, two, three months.

1000

00:51:13,120 --> 00:51:14,950

I don't know how long it took.

1001

00:51:14,950 --> 00:51:16,330

But it was--

1002

00:51:16,330 --> 00:51:24,210

The rumor was always what
country can you go to?

1003

00:51:24,210 --> 00:51:28,240

This was the big thing that
everybody always discussed.

1004

00:51:28,240 --> 00:51:30,690

So one of the things
came up that you

1005

00:51:30,690 --> 00:51:33,450

could buy a visa to Cuba.

1006

00:51:33,450 --> 00:51:40,110

And you could get the visa
in Geneva at the consulate.

1007

00:51:40,110 --> 00:51:43,050

And you had to have a

certain amount of money.

1008
00:51:43,050 --> 00:51:45,840
You had to show that you
had that kind of money--

1009
00:51:45,840 --> 00:51:49,080
I forgot what it was--

1010
00:51:49,080 --> 00:51:54,240
in the bank, so that you're not
charged with the government.

1011
00:51:54,240 --> 00:51:57,480
So one of the Swiss
people that my father met,

1012
00:51:57,480 --> 00:51:59,460
one of the businessmen,
said to him,

1013
00:51:59,460 --> 00:52:02,310
"you know, I will
put this amount

1014
00:52:02,310 --> 00:52:06,540
in the bank in your
name, and open up

1015
00:52:06,540 --> 00:52:08,340
and give you a bank book.

1016
00:52:08,340 --> 00:52:11,490
And you show them that you
have this kind of money

1017
00:52:11,490 --> 00:52:12,440
and buy the visa.

1018
00:52:12,440 --> 00:52:15,510

1019

00:52:15,510 --> 00:52:18,870
And then when you come
back, I'll close the account

1020
00:52:18,870 --> 00:52:20,700
and you will have the visa."

1021
00:52:20,700 --> 00:52:23,640
So this was done.

1022
00:52:23,640 --> 00:52:28,560
My father went to Geneva and
got the three visas for Cuba.

1023
00:52:28,560 --> 00:52:30,240
We were going off to Cuba.

1024
00:52:30,240 --> 00:52:34,500
So then came the question,
how are you going to go there?

1025
00:52:34,500 --> 00:52:37,780
Well, I really don't
know how this worked,

1026
00:52:37,780 --> 00:52:44,070
but I think he was able to talk
one of the Jewish organizations

1027
00:52:44,070 --> 00:52:54,030
to pay for tickets on
a boat to go to Cuba.

1028
00:52:54,030 --> 00:52:58,230
And the boat was
leaving from France.

1029
00:52:58,230 --> 00:53:01,725
So we got on the train
and went to Paris.

1030
00:53:01,725 --> 00:53:05,210

1031
00:53:05,210 --> 00:53:11,100
Now, I think we were in Paris
for a week or two weeks.

1032
00:53:11,100 --> 00:53:12,840
I don't remember.

1033
00:53:12,840 --> 00:53:15,170
But again, my parents felt--

1034
00:53:15,170 --> 00:53:18,070
particularly my father again--

1035
00:53:18,070 --> 00:53:23,200
that the child, that was me,
may never be in Paris again,

1036
00:53:23,200 --> 00:53:26,900
and she has to see
everything there is to see.

1037
00:53:26,900 --> 00:53:30,220
So he schlepped
me to the museums

1038
00:53:30,220 --> 00:53:34,390
and to all the
sightseeing, all the sights

1039
00:53:34,390 --> 00:53:36,480
that you have to see.

1040
00:53:36,480 --> 00:53:39,730
Which at the time I
didn't really appreciate,

1041
00:53:39,730 --> 00:53:42,330
but you know.

1042
00:53:42,330 --> 00:53:47,920
Oh, and then I had to go

to the Galeries Lafayette,

1043

00:53:47,920 --> 00:53:52,470

because you have to
have a dress from Paris.

1044

00:53:52,470 --> 00:53:56,550

Because you can't go aboard
ship without a dress from Paris.

1045

00:53:56,550 --> 00:54:01,910

So I got me a cotton
dress or something.

1046

00:54:01,910 --> 00:54:05,820

I was it, as far as
they were concerned.

1047

00:54:05,820 --> 00:54:11,210

And so anyway, so we went to La
Rochelle and boarded the boat.

1048

00:54:11,210 --> 00:54:13,730

It was an English boat.

1049

00:54:13,730 --> 00:54:22,010

It was a cargo ship
that took passengers.

1050

00:54:22,010 --> 00:54:23,770

So there were 70 people aboard.

1051

00:54:23,770 --> 00:54:26,380

1052

00:54:26,380 --> 00:54:32,310

They were German and
French and Polish.

1053

00:54:32,310 --> 00:54:35,015

And that's about it.

1054

00:54:35,015 --> 00:54:37,410
A mixture.

1055
00:54:37,410 --> 00:54:40,030
I don't know how they got
to it, but they got to it.

1056
00:54:40,030 --> 00:54:42,670
So we were 70 aboard.

1057
00:54:42,670 --> 00:54:48,680
And the other group aboard
was returning fighters

1058
00:54:48,680 --> 00:54:50,840
from the Franco--

1059
00:54:50,840 --> 00:54:56,120
Spanish Civil War, Cubans
who were going back to Cuba.

1060
00:54:56,120 --> 00:55:02,300
Except they had been in
war such a long time,

1061
00:55:02,300 --> 00:55:03,860
there were no manners left.

1062
00:55:03,860 --> 00:55:07,310
It was steerage, and
it was disgusting.

1063
00:55:07,310 --> 00:55:10,280
Thoroughly disgusting
where we were.

1064
00:55:10,280 --> 00:55:14,090
Of course obviously we had
the cheapest possible thing.

1065
00:55:14,090 --> 00:55:16,130
But there were also
some passengers

1066
00:55:16,130 --> 00:55:19,190
who had taken passage
to go to Cuba,

1067
00:55:19,190 --> 00:55:25,070
who were first class, second
class, whatever they had.

1068
00:55:25,070 --> 00:55:26,240
Upstairs.

1069
00:55:26,240 --> 00:55:29,000
So I managed to go
through the door

1070
00:55:29,000 --> 00:55:32,150
upstairs, which was very good.

1071
00:55:32,150 --> 00:55:38,360
Because I was what, 14
and an innocent teenager.

1072
00:55:38,360 --> 00:55:41,810
But there were a couple of
young men who were very pleased.

1073
00:55:41,810 --> 00:55:43,100
What month was this?

1074
00:55:43,100 --> 00:55:43,830
May.

1075
00:55:43,830 --> 00:55:44,330
May.

1076
00:55:44,330 --> 00:55:45,080
May.

1077
00:55:45,080 --> 00:55:46,100
May '39.

1078
00:55:46,100 --> 00:55:47,210
May '39.

1079
00:55:47,210 --> 00:55:49,130
You were already 15.

1080
00:55:49,130 --> 00:55:50,400
I was already 15.

1081
00:55:50,400 --> 00:55:50,900
Yes.

1082
00:55:50,900 --> 00:55:53,600

1083
00:55:53,600 --> 00:55:55,970
And so we set out for Cuba.

1084
00:55:55,970 --> 00:56:01,940
And we came to Bermuda,
and I heard some officers

1085
00:56:01,940 --> 00:56:05,390
talking to each other.

1086
00:56:05,390 --> 00:56:07,370
And I heard them
say that we won't be

1087
00:56:07,370 --> 00:56:11,630
able to land in Cuba and stuff.

1088
00:56:11,630 --> 00:56:13,640
And I said, oh, that's weird.

1089
00:56:13,640 --> 00:56:17,660
So I told this to my
father and his buddies.

1090
00:56:17,660 --> 00:56:19,100
They were standing there.

1091
00:56:19,100 --> 00:56:26,220
And the reaction was,
what does your child know?

1092
00:56:26,220 --> 00:56:28,690
Who knows what she heard?

1093
00:56:28,690 --> 00:56:29,910
OK.

1094
00:56:29,910 --> 00:56:30,570
All right.

1095
00:56:30,570 --> 00:56:33,780
The only good part of--

1096
00:56:33,780 --> 00:56:36,110
makes a big impression.

1097
00:56:36,110 --> 00:56:39,480
There was a young man by
the name of Paul Jones.

1098
00:56:39,480 --> 00:56:41,930
And we used to dance together.

1099
00:56:41,930 --> 00:56:43,440
They had dancing.

1100
00:56:43,440 --> 00:56:46,200
And so he was going to Cuba.

1101
00:56:46,200 --> 00:56:47,450
He was an Englishman.

1102
00:56:47,450 --> 00:56:50,040
He going not to
Cuba, to Bermuda.

1103
00:56:50,040 --> 00:56:52,380

This was we stopped in Bermuda.

1104

00:56:52,380 --> 00:56:54,660

And so he left, and
we said goodbye.

1105

00:56:54,660 --> 00:56:56,675

It was all very innocent.

1106

00:56:56,675 --> 00:56:57,175

Nothing.

1107

00:56:57,175 --> 00:57:00,240

1108

00:57:00,240 --> 00:57:03,990

And then he came back
in the late afternoon

1109

00:57:03,990 --> 00:57:08,760

with a big bunch of oleander,
which was blooming in Cuba,

1110

00:57:08,760 --> 00:57:10,040

to give it to me.

1111

00:57:10,040 --> 00:57:11,250

Now, can you imagine?

1112

00:57:11,250 --> 00:57:14,850

I mean, what do
I-- a 15-year-old?

1113

00:57:14,850 --> 00:57:18,112

I was absolutely--

1114

00:57:18,112 --> 00:57:19,185

Smitten.

1115

00:57:19,185 --> 00:57:23,310

Yes, smitten and overcome.

1116
00:57:23,310 --> 00:57:27,820
And I've got tears
in my eyes now.

1117
00:57:27,820 --> 00:57:32,220
And so anyway, we
set out for Cuba.

1118
00:57:32,220 --> 00:57:32,850
We arrive.

1119
00:57:32,850 --> 00:57:35,700

1120
00:57:35,700 --> 00:57:38,610
We arrived in the--

1121
00:57:38,610 --> 00:57:41,490
yeah, I think in the evening.

1122
00:57:41,490 --> 00:57:43,620
Because in the morning--

1123
00:57:43,620 --> 00:57:47,790
my father had a cousin
who was in Cuba already.

1124
00:57:47,790 --> 00:57:50,160
She was from Germany.

1125
00:57:50,160 --> 00:57:55,950
And so we had exchanged
letters or whatever.

1126
00:57:55,950 --> 00:57:58,230
Obviously we haven't called.

1127
00:57:58,230 --> 00:58:00,510
And there was this big ship.

1128
00:58:00,510 --> 00:58:04,110

1129
00:58:04,110 --> 00:58:05,130
Not parked.

1130
00:58:05,130 --> 00:58:06,630
What do you call it?

1131
00:58:06,630 --> 00:58:10,680
Tied up next to
us, this big ship.

1132
00:58:10,680 --> 00:58:16,662
And so we learned
that it was the--

1133
00:58:16,662 --> 00:58:17,370
what's it called?

1134
00:58:17,370 --> 00:58:18,170
The St. Louis?

1135
00:58:18,170 --> 00:58:21,590
St. Louis, and it's
here from Germany

1136
00:58:21,590 --> 00:58:25,520
with all these refugees.

1137
00:58:25,520 --> 00:58:29,440
There were about 500
or something on there.

1138
00:58:29,440 --> 00:58:34,070
I remember my cousin standing
on the pier and waving

1139
00:58:34,070 --> 00:58:38,570
and my father waving to her
in the distance, very far

1140
00:58:38,570 --> 00:58:39,170

distance.

1141

00:58:39,170 --> 00:58:42,080

But he recognized her and stuff.

1142

00:58:42,080 --> 00:58:47,120

So anyway I don't remember how long we were there, whether it

1143

00:58:47,120 --> 00:58:50,150

was a day or two or what.

1144

00:58:50,150 --> 00:58:55,400

But the captain-- we were very fortunate because this was

1145

00:58:55,400 --> 00:58:59,330

a British ship, and the captain said, "you know,

1146

00:58:59,330 --> 00:59:02,900

I will take you down the coast, the West Coast of South

1147

00:59:02,900 --> 00:59:06,770

America, because that's where I have--

1148

00:59:06,770 --> 00:59:10,960

my cargo goes, and I have to land at various places.

1149

00:59:10,960 --> 00:59:15,710

And we'll see if they let you go, if somebody will give you

1150

00:59:15,710 --> 00:59:16,610

a visa."

1151

00:59:16,610 --> 00:59:19,430

So OK, we went.

1152

00:59:19,430 --> 00:59:24,620
I think we, too, sent telegrams
to Roosevelt or something.

1153
00:59:24,620 --> 00:59:26,150
You know, people trying to--

1154
00:59:26,150 --> 00:59:29,240
Were there are a lot of Jewish
passengers on your boat?

1155
00:59:29,240 --> 00:59:30,640
Yeah.

1156
00:59:30,640 --> 00:59:31,835
Were most of them Jews?

1157
00:59:31,835 --> 00:59:34,250
The 70 of us were Jews.

1158
00:59:34,250 --> 00:59:35,050
Were Jewish.

1159
00:59:35,050 --> 00:59:36,040
Were Jewish refugees.

1160
00:59:36,040 --> 00:59:37,100
Oh, OK.

1161
00:59:37,100 --> 00:59:39,470
The others were--

1162
00:59:39,470 --> 00:59:42,410
I think I'm not even sure
that there were any more left.

1163
00:59:42,410 --> 00:59:46,940
I think the other passengers,
the paying passengers were all

1164
00:59:46,940 --> 00:59:49,060
got off in Bermuda, I think.

1165
00:59:49,060 --> 00:59:50,950
So the rest--

1166
00:59:50,950 --> 00:59:55,250
It was just us left to go
to Cuba, as far as I-- maybe

1167
00:59:55,250 --> 00:59:58,550
there was some other rich
ones, but I don't know,

1168
00:59:58,550 --> 01:00:00,560
who were in the upper class.

1169
01:00:00,560 --> 01:00:01,770
I don't remember.

1170
01:00:01,770 --> 01:00:04,180
Anyway, we set out.

1171
01:00:04,180 --> 01:00:06,245
And we got to the--

1172
01:00:06,245 --> 01:00:09,680

1173
01:00:09,680 --> 01:00:15,470
to Cristobal, which is the
Atlantic side of the canal.

1174
01:00:15,470 --> 01:00:18,560
And that ship docked.

1175
01:00:18,560 --> 01:00:21,350
And a rabbi came aboard.

1176
01:00:21,350 --> 01:00:26,705
He was the chaplain
in the American army,

1177

01:00:26,705 --> 01:00:28,760
a Jewish chaplain.

1178
01:00:28,760 --> 01:00:30,020
And he came aboard.

1179
01:00:30,020 --> 01:00:32,180
He had heard about us.

1180
01:00:32,180 --> 01:00:36,800
And everybody said, ah,
what are we going to do?

1181
01:00:36,800 --> 01:00:38,740
And all that.

1182
01:00:38,740 --> 01:00:43,160
And my Yiddish wasn't very good.

1183
01:00:43,160 --> 01:00:45,430
It was nonexistent, really.

1184
01:00:45,430 --> 01:00:50,270
Whatever I picked up, I
picked up in the States.

1185
01:00:50,270 --> 01:00:54,410
But he said something
like "Zorg zikh nisht."

1186
01:00:54,410 --> 01:00:56,280
which means, "don't worry."

1187
01:00:56,280 --> 01:00:59,150
And it's the German
word "sorgen."

1188
01:00:59,150 --> 01:01:00,470
It's the same.

1189
01:01:00,470 --> 01:01:03,410
So I remember his saying

"Zorg zikh nisht."

1190
01:01:03,410 --> 01:01:05,820
I'll see what I can do.

1191
01:01:05,820 --> 01:01:08,540
So we went through the
canal, which of course, was

1192
01:01:08,540 --> 01:01:11,030
very interesting.

1193
01:01:11,030 --> 01:01:15,200
And then we went down the
coast to South America.

1194
01:01:15,200 --> 01:01:20,150
We stopped in Colombia
and then at Peru

1195
01:01:20,150 --> 01:01:25,160
it was really in my mind
because all these Indians came

1196
01:01:25,160 --> 01:01:28,520
aboard wanting to sell things,
and my father of course

1197
01:01:28,520 --> 01:01:30,280
bought a bracelet and all that.

1198
01:01:30,280 --> 01:01:32,850

1199
01:01:32,850 --> 01:01:37,490
Whatever money he had, he
was going to still make

1200
01:01:37,490 --> 01:01:38,690
like he had a lot.

1201
01:01:38,690 --> 01:01:42,940

1202
01:01:42,940 --> 01:01:48,820
And then we went further
down on the coast of Peru.

1203
01:01:48,820 --> 01:01:53,620
Callao was the port that
is really right near Lima.

1204
01:01:53,620 --> 01:01:57,880
And I still have this
vision of the church,

1205
01:01:57,880 --> 01:01:59,530
of the cathedral in Lima.

1206
01:01:59,530 --> 01:02:02,010
You could see that
from the boat.

1207
01:02:02,010 --> 01:02:04,360
It was very
impressive, this big--

1208
01:02:04,360 --> 01:02:08,710
and I've since seen pictures
and realized that's what it was.

1209
01:02:08,710 --> 01:02:16,430
So then when we hit the
northern part of Chile, Pisco,

1210
01:02:16,430 --> 01:02:20,740
I don't know if Pisco is still
the southern part of Peru

1211
01:02:20,740 --> 01:02:23,240
or it was Chile.

1212
01:02:23,240 --> 01:02:27,490
Anyway, the captain
said, this is the end.

1213

01:02:27,490 --> 01:02:31,150

I cannot take you any longer,
because I have to go around

1214

01:02:31,150 --> 01:02:34,900

the Cape and leave my cargo,
but there there's a sister ship

1215

01:02:34,900 --> 01:02:39,820

coming up from the same company,
and we are going to transfer

1216

01:02:39,820 --> 01:02:44,680

you from the sister ship to the
sister ship and take you back,

1217

01:02:44,680 --> 01:02:48,550

and you'll go through the canal,
and you will have to go back

1218

01:02:48,550 --> 01:02:51,160

to Europe if nobody
picks you up.

1219

01:02:51,160 --> 01:03:00,520

So anyway, they transferred
us on the bosun chair across.

1220

01:03:00,520 --> 01:03:04,390

Where you get on the wires,
you get transferred because you

1221

01:03:04,390 --> 01:03:05,930

couldn't touch land.

1222

01:03:05,930 --> 01:03:08,180

Our luggage could touch land.

1223

01:03:08,180 --> 01:03:11,100

They put that on the boat,
but we were on the chairs.

1224

01:03:11,100 --> 01:03:15,160

So anyway, so we got
on the [? Orbita. ?]

1225

01:03:15,160 --> 01:03:18,430

The original shape
was the Orduna,

1226

01:03:18,430 --> 01:03:22,720

And then we went on the
[? Orbita. ?] And we came back,

1227

01:03:22,720 --> 01:03:29,020

and we hit Balboa, which is
the Pacific side of the canal.

1228

01:03:29,020 --> 01:03:31,750

And the rabbi came
aboard, and he

1229

01:03:31,750 --> 01:03:34,900

said, "I was able
to arrange for you

1230

01:03:34,900 --> 01:03:39,940

to get off in the quarantine
station here in Balboa.

1231

01:03:39,940 --> 01:03:42,890

You do not have to
go back to Europe.

1232

01:03:42,890 --> 01:03:44,687

OK."

1233

01:03:44,687 --> 01:03:45,270

So we got off.

1234

01:03:45,270 --> 01:03:46,510

All 70 of you?

1235

01:03:46,510 --> 01:03:47,680

All 70.

1236

01:03:47,680 --> 01:03:49,540

We got off at the
quarantine station,

1237

01:03:49,540 --> 01:03:55,510

and apparently HIAS paid--

1238

01:03:55,510 --> 01:04:01,340

he arranged-- it was \$250 a
day for a family or something.

1239

01:04:01,340 --> 01:04:06,310

And the quarantine stations,
at the time I understand,

1240

01:04:06,310 --> 01:04:09,400

they had quarantine
stations in various ports

1241

01:04:09,400 --> 01:04:13,570

in the world for
the drunken sailors.

1242

01:04:13,570 --> 01:04:15,610

And so there are
buildings in there.

1243

01:04:15,610 --> 01:04:23,380

And it was a compound, a big
compound with a fence around it

1244

01:04:23,380 --> 01:04:25,810

and different buildings.

1245

01:04:25,810 --> 01:04:30,430

And we were all in, I
think, in the same building.

1246

01:04:30,430 --> 01:04:33,610

The families or the couples
in the one building.

1247
01:04:33,610 --> 01:04:36,000
There were a lot of young--

1248
01:04:36,000 --> 01:04:36,640
not a lot.

1249
01:04:36,640 --> 01:04:40,450
There were a few young
men among the 70.

1250
01:04:40,450 --> 01:04:41,440
Single men.

1251
01:04:41,440 --> 01:04:43,750
Single men, and they
were in another building.

1252
01:04:43,750 --> 01:04:44,860
What about children?

1253
01:04:44,860 --> 01:04:45,610
Where there a lot?

1254
01:04:45,610 --> 01:04:46,820
There were very few children.

1255
01:04:46,820 --> 01:04:49,660
There were a couple
of little children.

1256
01:04:49,660 --> 01:04:52,090
Nobody your age or anything?

1257
01:04:52,090 --> 01:04:53,560
Nobody my age.

1258
01:04:53,560 --> 01:04:55,500
But there were a couple
of little children.

1259

01:04:55,500 --> 01:04:59,320
One was-- as it turned out,
it was really very weird.

1260
01:04:59,320 --> 01:05:05,750
The person-- the couple
with a very young child,

1261
01:05:05,750 --> 01:05:13,080
like a two-year-old, turned
out to be a distant cousin

1262
01:05:13,080 --> 01:05:16,990
of my father's, who was--

1263
01:05:16,990 --> 01:05:20,760
and the woman who
was in Cuba was

1264
01:05:20,760 --> 01:05:26,120
his aunt, this cousin's aunt.

1265
01:05:26,120 --> 01:05:30,260
So he was going to Cuba to her.

1266
01:05:30,260 --> 01:05:36,350
And then it turns out that
another man, single man,

1267
01:05:36,350 --> 01:05:39,050
my mother and he exchanged--

1268
01:05:39,050 --> 01:05:44,800
it also turned out that he was
a distant member of the family.

1269
01:05:44,800 --> 01:05:49,250
I mean, really weird.

1270
01:05:49,250 --> 01:05:52,410
The father's side of
the family, the guy,

1271

01:05:52,410 --> 01:05:54,140
they had lived in Germany.

1272

01:05:54,140 --> 01:05:55,590
They were German.

1273

01:05:55,590 --> 01:05:59,990
Because the cousin that was
in Cuba lived in Germany also,

1274

01:05:59,990 --> 01:06:02,880
and had gone to Cuba.

1275

01:06:02,880 --> 01:06:06,730
The one in my mother's side,
I think, was from Vienna,

1276

01:06:06,730 --> 01:06:08,120
but they never met.

1277

01:06:08,120 --> 01:06:08,800
I don't know.

1278

01:06:08,800 --> 01:06:13,960
Anyway, so we were in
the quarantine station,

1279

01:06:13,960 --> 01:06:18,400
not permitted to
leave, to go outside.

1280

01:06:18,400 --> 01:06:22,570
And this went on for--

1281

01:06:22,570 --> 01:06:28,917
we were there for almost
a year and 1/2, 15 months.

1282

01:06:28,917 --> 01:06:30,000
In the quarantine station?

1283

01:06:30,000 --> 01:06:33,090
In the quarantine station.

1284
01:06:33,090 --> 01:06:37,110
After two or three months, we
were permitted to go outside,

1285
01:06:37,110 --> 01:06:40,980
and we went to Panama,
the city of Panama.

1286
01:06:40,980 --> 01:06:44,100
There was no-- the
Canal Zone, this

1287
01:06:44,100 --> 01:06:46,740
was still the American part.

1288
01:06:46,740 --> 01:06:49,390
I mean, recently,
comparatively recently

1289
01:06:49,390 --> 01:06:53,250
it was returned to Panama.

1290
01:06:53,250 --> 01:06:56,080
But at that time, there
was this Canal Zone,

1291
01:06:56,080 --> 01:06:59,060
and we were in
the American part.

1292
01:06:59,060 --> 01:07:02,000