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SCHINDLER

Ruth Goeth

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SCHINDLER

INTERVIEW - RUTH GOETH
SLATE 28/1

Q: Ruth, how did you meet Amon first of all?

RUTH: Pardon?

Q: How did you meet Amon when - at first?

RUTH: I was working in Krakow with ...

Q: As a ... handler, weren't you - in the factory.

RUTH: No. It - it was called (NAME) ... and - but I left there and went to another place to work and the girl who came after me was always sick and - and didn't work. So one day, it was about eight weeks or three weeks after I was no more there, they called me - made a phone call and asked me if I had some time for them. They had to make some business with that Hauptsturmführer Goeth and they had to come out and the boss didn't want to go alone, you see, he wanted a girl with him, and so we wanted - he didn't make it so - so formal, and um well I did him the favour and said alright, I'll have time for you and I will go with you there. And that was the first time I went out there and I met him, and well he was a very good-looking man and I flirted with him - not just for the business we had but because - well, I liked him. And later on it was a big feast, some other people came and it was very late when we left there, and um then I
RUTH: (CONT'D)... didn't hear anything, at least we had our business. He um promised to give us the people we needed and after three weeks or of fourteen days or so, I guess in the meantime he was somehow away in some business affairs, he made a phone call to me. And so it started.

Q: Eventually you moved into the house with him.

RUTH: Yes.

Q: What was the house like that you lived in in Plaszów?

RUTH: I had a small flat like here; two rooms and a kitchen and - but it didn't take - two or three days I was out there.

Q: What was the house like in Plaszów that you lived...

RUTH: Yes.

Q: ...in the camp, how was that house?

RUTH: I live in Plaszów.

Q: Yes, the house that you lived with Commandant Goebbels, what kind of house was that?

RUTH: It was a little villa.... you know what it means? Alright. Downstairs a big living-room and sleeping room and upstairs some guest room and a sport room and - and something like that, not any too big, a dinner room.
Q: What was the sport... room...
what - what...

RUTH: Oh it was just our things for
riding and um - what do you call it..

Q: A desk?

RUTH: Desk for playing playing
... tennis and so on.

Q: Was Amon fond of table-
tennis?

RUTH: No, no, he never did. It was
just some room where all these things were standing.
Nobody used it.

Q: How was the house decorated,
what was the furniture like?

RUTH: Oh.. furniture. I guess
partly of the furnishings were made in NAME you know?

Q: In the workshop?

RUTH: Workshop - where - which the
Jews had there.

Q: Do you think it had (TALKING
TOGETHER)...

RUTH: Yes, yes. It - it was not
very luxury, you see. No. It was a nice living-
room with big chairs and - and a piano and things
like that. (NAME)... I don't know what you call it....
Q: Our chimney, yes. A fire - there would be a fire ...?

RUTH: Yes, yes, yes.

Q: There used to be quite a lot of guests coming to the house?

RUTH: Of course, of course. Many, many people came, partly - on duty.

Q: Other S.S. officers and ... What kind of food would be available living there in the war time - what sort of food would you get there?

RUTH: The food comes in from - we had - for all these people, twenty thousand or - I don't know how much. And there, the food for us came.

Q: What sort of food would there be for the officers and for you and for the Commandant?

RUTH: The normal.

Q: Were there difficulties getting food during 1944, when the Russian.....?

RUTH: Oh we - we bought a lot on the black market too.

Q: Tell me what was the daily routine, as you remember it, for the Commandant, for Amon .... ?
RUTH: Oh he - he got up in the morning and went to his office, and came home for dinner. And then he went back and came home for supper.

Q: The routine of any other person in otherwords. Did he ever talk to you about what he did during his office hours?

RUTH: Pardon?

Q: Did he ever talk to you about what his work was, what it involved?

RUTH: Sometimes, sometimes.

Q: As far as you know, what did he actually do during those working hours there?

RUTH: All these people worked for tailors and - and (NAME) ... people who work with um (NAME) .... you know, you understand?

Q: Furs.

RUTH: Furs, and shoes and - and ....

Q: So what was Amos’s job as the Commandant with these people, what did he do?

RUTH: Organising ... You see, when he came to Krakow he was before in the Lublin and er came to Krakow to the Scherner (SPEAKING GERMAN)

Q: The - the S.S. Police Chief Scherner.

RUTH: Yes.
Q: He worked for Scherner didn't he?

RUTH: He worked for Scherner and Scherner er said to him, well I don't know what to do with you, I can give you a job in an office here. That was not his - he was not a - a guy who liked to sit behind desk and make office work. Or I can give the job out there. There was a ghetto, and this ghetto er authority (NAME) ....

Q: Was demolished?

RUTH: Yes. And should become a camp, and so he had to organise all these things, build these barracks and it was very difficult to get all these things, you see, you need for all the (NAME) ... the (NAME) .... we called it.

Q: Requisitions maybe.

RUTH: Yes, and so you didn't get these things and you had to um ...

CUT
Q: Frau Goeth, you were telling me of some of the problems that Amon had at the beginning.

RUTH: Oh well because he had no material and so he had to get in contact with many people or to get it privately, you see. And then all these ... invitations, he would drink and have a good time and - and then they were in a good mood, and so alright you can have wood and electric cables and - and whatever it was wanted, his needs. And so it was a hard job, anyway. Before he didn't have anything to do with Jews, it was just this camp in Krakow.

Q: What was the atmosphere like for you, you were a young woman living inside a labour camp, how - how was it?

RUTH: You see .... I always had the feeling that all this was wrong, but I couldn't do anything. I couldn't do anything against it. I didn't make these (NAME) ... what do you call it - these laws, you see. I couldn't - I didn't make ... And sometimes in every - in every partnership there are crisis and so and then sometimes I'd said I'd go. I don't want to see it any longer and so .. I remember both of the maids I had, they came and - and were asking please stay with us - stay with us. You are always helping and what are we going to do without you? It was not the reason why I stayed. Well, ...

Q: What was your feeling for Amon
29/1 - RUTH GOETH CONT'D

RUTH: I loved him. I told you, he was a very good-looking man and he had very - everybody liked him. All his friends had charm and - and was helpful and ...

Q: But you were aware, because your Jewish maid told you, that sometimes he wasn't using his charm on the prisoners?

RUTH: No. Really not.

Q: How was he with prisoners?

RUTH: Oh he had some prisoners which he - who he liked. Prisoners who worked directly with him and so - and .. he had a good.. sadness too, you know what I mean?

Q: Relationship with them.

RUTH: Good relationship to them. And all these others - my goodness - twenty thousand people. If you don't know anybody and everybody ...

Q: Let's move on for a moment and talk about Schindler. What was the impression that Schindler gave when you first met him. What kind of man did he appear to be?

RUTH: Oh he was a very nice man. He had - he had a certain charm too. He needed our Jews and he had a (NOT CLEAR) .. camp and he was nice to the prisoners, because everybody wanted to go to Schindler - I told you so.

Q: Why did everyone want to go to..
RUTH: Pardon? It was his idea - the more I do for the people, the more they do for me, you see.

Q: Why do you think so many people wanted to go to Schindler and away from Amon's camp?

RUTH: It was the best place for them. They had the most freedom there. Schindler - well, he closed his eyes and as long as you work everything is alright.

Q: What would happen at Schindler's camp if you didn't work?

RUTH: Pardon?

Q: You said if he - if he - you know he closed his eyes. If you worked it was fine, you could anything else. What happened at Schindler's camp if you didn't work?

RUTH: If you didn't work? He always worked.

Q: No, not Schindler, but the Jews. If they didn't work at Schindler's camp, what would happen to them do you think?

RUTH: Oh no, no, no, no. He expected them to work. The work had to be done.

Q: How did Amon think of Schindler, what was - what was his...?
RUTH: They were very good friends.

Q: Could you say that again for me ....... .......

......

RUTH: There was nothing - nothing between them. They worked hand in hand. He wanted a favour, alright.

Q: Did Amos ever talk to you about Schindler?

RUTH: No, because there wasn't anything to talk. It was a ... very good er relation.

Q: How did this relationship show itself?

RUTH: Pardon?

Q: How did the relationship, the friendship...

RUTH: Yes.

Q: ...show itself between the two men?

RUTH: Well, when Schindler came to - to all these officers' feasts and he came and it wasn't that - that .. we would have had any night, big feasts - no. Sometimes he came for an evening or for a nightcap or a .. And we sat together for an hour or two hours and talked and talked about political things and - not always
RUTH: (CONT'D). . . about prisoners and camps. This camp - it was then nobody could do anything against it.

Q: When you talked about politics, Amon and Schindler and yourself, what was said?

RUTH: Sometimes we heard London . . . B.B.C. and so on.

Q: You say - sorry to stop you, you're saying that Amon listen to the B.B.C.?

RUTH: Yes, yes.

Q: An S.S. Camp Commander?

RUTH: Yes, yes, yes. We did it. We did it.

Q: What did you talk about after you heard the B.B.C. broadcast?

RUTH: Well we - they were not convinced that we would um be the big um ... (NAME) . . . They had had their doubts and they heard it and so they believed it.

Q: Did Schindler give the impression, - because you moved to Plaszow in 1943 when the war was still going quite favourably with Germany, did you get the sense that Schindler was a good Nazi?
RUTH: We all were good Nazis in this sense. We couldn't be anything else.

Q: But I don't...

RUTH: We had to believe in - in all these things. What should - what could we have done? Nothing. Couldn't do anything against it.

CUT
Q: Was Oscar Schindler a frequent visitor to Plaszów?

RUTH: Oh yes.

Q: What did he come to the camp for?

RUTH: Just for talking. It was not always business, my goodness.

Q: Did he bring gifts...?

RUTH: To have a drink and then - to talk.

Q: Did he ever bring gifts with him?

RUTH: No. No.

Q: I've heard that he was one of the main suppliers of brandy and drink for the parties?

RUTH: No. I don't think so.

Q: Where did all the drink come from - for the parties?

RUTH: From the black market.

Q: But Amon couldn't go out on the black market himself, he was a senior S.S. officer, it wouldn't be good.

RUTH: We in - we drank wine, no whisky no hard stuff, and he got a lot of wine from Vienna, from his own father.
Q: There used to be quite a lot of drinking at these parties, people have told me.

RUTH: Yes. Yes, but ... normally, you see, if you would make a party it would be the same. A few bottles of wine and vodka. Vodka - and this - and this vodka was a Polish drink and they got the vodka from the black - black market and it was not difficult to get it. You could buy as much what size you wanted.

Q: Do you think people drank more than normal at these parties?

RUTH: No, no. Sometimes um .. one or the other was really drunk. But not so much. There were women there too.

Q: Describe to me a typical party that you remember at the house. Could you do that for me?

RUTH: Why, I told you, there was about ten or fifteen persons, or twenty, and then they had their band- a little band. The (NOT CLEAR) ... well there was some dancing and some drinking, some laughing and some fun and it was all.

Q: And Schindler used to come quite often to these parties, didn't he?

RUTH: Yes. But not - not .... Once in a month or ...

Q: Did Madritsch ever come?

RUTH: Oh yes.
Q: Tell me what Amon thought of the Jews?

RUTH: He thought of the Jews like us. He didn't like them.... with quite a few exceptions, you see.

Q: Do you know why he didn't like Jews?

RUTH: Um ... we - we were brought up with this (GERMAN)

Q: Belief.

RUTH: With this belief. And in - in Vienna it was no better than in Berlin also. Nobody liked the Jews. I can remember when I was a little girl of about eighteen years old or so, I was with a cousin in a Polish um cafe, they lived in Poland and just on the border, and it was... Katowitz ... and we went - we had a coffee, and some students were there and so one of these students were sitting at our table came in and sat at our table, and without any reason they hit (?) him and there was a big crush or what you call it ... just because he was a Jew. In Poland, you see.

Q: You were living with a man who hated Jews.

RUTH: He didn't hate them. That's too much.

Q: Let me put it a different way. You yourself have said that ....
RUTH: You think Schindler liked Jews? He loves them - oh no. No. He was what I said, he was a lovable opportunist and he needed them, so he worked with them. But he didn't take them on his heart and ... He had these good and reliable people there and worked good with them, and Goebbels we always - you see - I mean he was merely for all these people. He had his nice people too and liked them and worked good with them. And ... had a certain respect for them. For instance there was a good doctor there.

Q: Who was shot as a collaborator after the war.

RUTH: Pardon?

Q: The - the good doctor Gross

RUTH: Yes.

Q: ...was shot as a collaborator after the war?

RUTH: Yes. And he was a very nice man, and (NAME)... liked him very much. When anybody was sick we never took the S.S. out, Dr Gross came.

Q: Let me ask you about sick people. How were they treated in the camp?

RUTH: I never came in the camp. I never have seen anything from the inside of the camp. I always were in this house. They didn't like to leave Plessow too. They didn't want to go away from there.
Q: You saw the stone quarry, because that was close to your house, wasn't it?

RUTH: Pardon?

Q: The stone quarry - the - what's the stone ...?

RUTH: (GERMAN)...

Q: The (GERMAN) was close to your house.

RUTH: Yes, yes.

Q: You used to see the people working?

RUTH: Yes.

Q: What did it look like?

RUTH: Well... they worked like anybody else would work in a (GERMAN) .. they had their certain hours for working and ... when it was finished they went in their camp.

Q: The difference was that some people died in this stone quarry though, didn't they?

RUTH: I don't know. I don't know.

Q: Plaszów was different from some of the labour camps, because there were children there. There were families...

RUTH: Yes.
Q: There were old people.

RUTH: Yes.

Q: What did you think, living there, the life - quite a privileged life, with your friend the Commandant, with these families and old people and children there, did you see them as people? How did you see them?

RUTH: I never see any old people and I never saw any children. I just saw - I remember one afternoon, there came a train...um...um...a big car and this car was full of children and...they went somewhere and I had a girlfriend there that - the wife of um Mr. (NAME),.... and I said, oh, look at that. They are bringing the children somewhere - and I was down, you see and...it went to my heart somehow, and he had (NOT CLEAR) ... the children (NOT CLEAR) and she said, they're Jews.

CUT
Q: Frau Goeth, there was an occasion you told me about when Schindler and Amos got drunk - drunk together, can you tell me about that story again?

RUTH: Oh well, yes - yes .. um but I wasn't there, I just - they evidently always laughed about it as ... I guess it's - they made um .. it was the factory was ... the house was standing and they made - what you call it ...

Q: Celebration?

RUTH: Celebration.

Q: Tell me about the celebration that happened when the factory was built. I know you weren't there, but tell me what Amos told you how it happened?

RUTH: They just sprang, for the fun of it, through the closed window.

Q: What I'd like you to do is tell me that story again.....

....

RUTH: They got drunk together.

Q: Tell me about the time the factory was open and they had ...?

RUTH: I don't know anything about it because I wasn't there at this time, you see.
Q: Okay, not to worry about that. Show me how - can you tell me an example of how Schindler and Amon friendship showed itself?

RUTH: An example - it's hard to say, it's such a long time, you see. And ... well, ... they just had good relations together. That was all...

Q: What...

RUTH: ..I can't tell you anything special - special.

Q: What was the basis of the friendship between these two men; one was a businessman, one was an S.S. officer - what - what..

RUTH: The Schindler needs him um Amon ... because he needed the Jews. And he gave him as much as he could - many as he could.

Q: What did you call - you had a pet name for Amon ... didn't you?

RUTH: Mory(?)... everybody called him so whenever ... Mory(?)... everybody. At home it was - and his friends and - and everybody.

Q: What kind of man was your friend Amon Goeth?

RUTH: Oh I told you, he was very charming and for his friends and - they all liked him and he was helpful and ... and if they had any wishes they came to him and ....
Q: You told me that you were friendly with the two maids in the house, that they trusted you, they liked you and they asked for your protection: what did they need protection from?

RUTH: Well you see sometimes they didn't do this, or they forget— alright they always .... said it's alright. When something happened I always was the one who said, oh please no, excuse them and understand that it happened this way and that way and — I was kind of a — of guardings... guardian angel for them, you see...

Q: I don't understand why you had to be a guardian angel for them, what were you protecting them from?

RUTH: They got — they got hard punishment when something went wrong— to another place or at — in the camp or so. Or they — they have little wishes too, you see. One of these maids, her name was Suzannah (NAME) ... at the time, her mother was very ill and she was dying, and so she came and — and said can I go to the clinic, can I go to my mother, and I always said alright kid go, go — we do it alone here. And she could stay a night there or so and nobody knew it. You see they — they didn't take any — any (NOT CLEAR) ... for personal things.

Q: In 1944 Amon was arrested by the S.S. — wasn't he — why?

Q: I told you, it was a big affair between Frank ... and um (GERMAN) .... ...... ... General Governor and er....
Q: He was caught in the middle of an internal dispute between the S.S and the General (NAME) ... you were saying, yes?

RUTH: No um ... the (GERMAN) ... was um - went away and another came - another one came, and all this people who were working with him um they tried to get rid of them, and find anything.

Q: What did they find against Amon ?

RUTH: He had - he had a lot of money. He had a publishing house in Vienna, and he brought a lot of money from Vienna to buy our things, ice - refrigerator and things like that, and so they thought we took it from Jewish money, you see. And later on I - when I talked to that man who made these (GERMAN) ...

Q: Charges.

RUTH: Charges. He said, oh well I never knew he was a kind of millionaire - he's a kind of millionaire. And we - we're wrong at this. But it was forbidden to bring any money to Poland. It was - everybody did it or it was forbidden to bring any German money to er Germany, to Polish money to Germany. It was forbidden too. Everybody did it.

Q: They also found a lot of cigarettes and a lot of money in his apartment in Vienna, didn't they?
31/1 - RUTH GOETH CONT'D

RUTH: I don't know.

Q: No? Okay. How did Amo
react ......

CUT
Q: Frau Goeth, how did Amon react to his arrest?

RUTH: Sour. He didn't have so much opportunity to talk with him - about it, and he was in jail and he - I was in - I had to go to Katowice for a few weeks..weeks, to um just that I couldn't get in contact with him, you see. Later on I came back and I got the permission to see him once in a while. And ....

Q: You had made precautions, the two of you, in case something like that happened, hadn't you?

RUTH: I beg your pardon?

Q: You had made some arrangements in case something like that happened, hadn't you?

RUTH: No.

Q: Tell me about why you went to Brinnlitz when Amon was released.

RUTH: I don't know why. We just had to go somewhere.

Q: You told me last time we met that the Schindler's kept some of your personal possessions....?

RUTH: Yes, yes.

Q: That's what I was - I was talking about ...

RUTH: That's right, yes.
Q: Alright, I'm going to ask you the question again. Tell me why you went to Brinnlitz after Amou was released.

RUTH: Because we had some of our personal things...

Q: Can you say ..... Why did you go to Brinnlitz? ..... 

RUTH: We went to Brinnlitz because we had some of our personal things there, and needed them. We didn't have anything. So the suitcase and things like that were in Brinnlitz, that was one of the reasons. And it was all topsy-turvy, you see. That was a good place to go.

Q: Did Amou hope that Schindler would give him a job?

RUTH: No, no, no. No.

Q: Tell me about why you thought - well why Amou thought or you thought Schindler - the Schindlers were good people to look after your precious possessions?

RUTH: He was a friend of ours, and he had enough so what should I do with our things? It was self evident that we gave him a few suitcases that was away from Krakow. We didn't expect some personal things, but the whole situation was critical, you see. The Russians came nearer and nearer so we were no more convinced that we would stay forever there. We knew somehow that some day we should have to go out.
Q: What was it that were in these suitcases - what was Schindler looking after?

RUTH: Oh just uniforms and - and ... boots and towels and something like that. Normal things. Nothing precious, you see. No jewellery, nothing. No furs or nothing.

Q: The photographs you showed me from your life in Plaszów it looked like they were taken in the summer because it was nice and warm...

RUTH: Yes.

Q: Tell me about that summer, was it 1943 or 1944?

RUTH: I guess it was 1944... was the last summer there.

Q: What are your memories of the last summer in Plaszów?

RUTH: No good, because we started to pack suitcases and so and gave this away and that away and I bought some - something to - my parents. But just dresses and ...

Q: It looked like it was very warm that summer because you were able to sunbathe.

RUTH: Yes.

Q: Tell me about that kind of camp life.
RUTH: It was like - like winter too - it was always the same. They worked and.... I - I told you, I never have seen this camp from the inside. I never went to any one of these barracks. All the people I knew I knew from my own house. They came and didn't have to bring this and they had to bring that and I was in kitchen - saw them and said alright go in the kitchen, have some coffee and get something to eat and so on. They were people with whom we always had to do, the men from the stable and so on, and would drive the (GERMAN) ... who drove the (GERMAN) and so on.

Q: Amon used to enjoy riding, didn't he?

RUTH: Yes.

Q: Tell me about ...

RUTH: He enjoyed it.

Q: Tell me about the riding horses there.

RUTH: Oh sometimes - er some days or so we were ten or twelve people and went out with the horses for hours, for - for an afternoon - had something to eat later on and something to drink and ... that was a feast. But it wasn't that, so ... everytime we just were drinking and - and making big celebrations were really not ...
Q: An officer shot himself at one of these parties, didn't he?

RUTH: Pardon?

Q: Someone shot himself at one of these parties, didn't he? An S.S. officer.

RUTH: What did he..?

Q: That...the Rosners told me, that - that after one of these parties an S.S. officer went out onto the balcony and shot himself. Do you remember that?

RUTH: No. No. That's - that's wrong. No. Did you talk to the Rosners?

....

CUT
Q: Frau Goeth, you told me that the servants used to come to you asking for protection, can I ask you once more what they needed protection from?

RUTH: Well it was - they were all very small things. Somebody came and said, oh, I want to go to Schindler, my - my husband is there. Can you ask. So I said alright I'll try. Things like that - the small things, or - it was so, you see, when I was a few out - few months, Natzweiler, no not Naatzweiler came to me and said, you be careful. In - in this camp goes the saying 'the dear Lord has sent us an angel'. Me.

Q: The reason people told me they needed an angel, the reason they told me that you were that angel was because the man you were living with was a brutal killer. What do you think about that?

RUTH: No he wasn't a brutal killer. No. Not - no more than other people - other S.S. people was, it's no more. He didn't - it's just for the fun of it, you see. He wasn't a brutal killer. And - and his - official things in the camp - I don't know anything about it. I just had my small four walls round and had to do with people who came and ...

Q: Did Helen Hirsch ever tell you that Amon ...... used to beat her up?

RUTH: Pardon?

Q: Did Helen Hirsch ever tell you that Amon used to beat her up?

This is a verbatim transcript of spoken word. It is not the primary source, and it has not been checked for spelling or accuracy.
RUTH: Helen Hirsch it was one of my maids. Yes, yes. And I went between.

Q: Why did Amon beat her up?

RUTH: I don't - I can't almost say it. I thought about it, but I don't know. She did something - asked for some...something - to go to. I don't know. I don't know.

Q: He used to beat her up frequently though, didn't he?

RUTH: No. No, no. It was just once. Just once, and it was down in the kitchen. And I was there, and I went between it.

Q: What would you have said if she told me that she was completely terrified of him? She thought that at any moment during the year and a half that she worked for him that he would kill her?

RUTH: She told you so? Oh no, no. 

(Amon) No, no. I was there - I was there, and they both of these maids knew that I was helping them - didn't they tell you that?

Q: They all told me that you helped them, but that the reason they needed your help was because of the way Amon would treat them.

RUTH: Yes. Nobody treated er the personnel very good.
Q: What did Amon think about Jews?

RUTH: He felt that what every - what all the S.S. felt about Jews.

Q: And what was that?

RUTH: You see they're - they're just to work. He didn't kill them just for the fun of it, you see. And it was not a camp where people, for instance like - like Auschwhitz.

Q: But there were a lot of bodies that were dug up at Plaszów where did they come from?

RUTH: I don't know. I don't know. There - there were some occasions when he said, oh tomorrow ... Sometimes I went to Katowice saw my parents and so tomorrow can go - you can go to Katowice and see your parents - bring them something to eat or so and - alright? So I went to Katowice.

Q: He sent you away on the day that there were going to be executions?


Q: Did you ever hear anything?

RUTH: No.

Q: You lived approximately 300 metres at the very most from a hill where executions took place very frequently and you didn't hear anything?
RUTH: No. No. Really not.

Q: Did you have any regrets about what he'd done?

RUTH: Maybe - maybe. After the war. You see, when he was no more there and his (GERMAN) ... what do you call it?

Q: Substitute.

RUTH: Yes. So many people came to me and said, oh where's the Commander? One - when will he be back?

Q: When he was tried in Poland, he was unusual, as I understand it, because he was one of the very few S.S. officers to express no regrets for what he'd done.

RUTH: I never heard anything about that, you see.

Q: Do you have any regrets about that period?

RUTH: Yes. Yes. Really. I never did anything. I never harmed anything. After all - all these years, not one came and said he has done this or that. Nobody - nobody. On the contrary, in (NAME)... were many Jews in '45 or so, they all knew me and once I talked with one of these girls and - a woman and I said, oh, I'm afraid, and she said, you are afraid? What are you afraid for? You don't have any reason to be afraid. We don't want you anything. If we wanted you something, you could have - you could go through the North Pole or - we would find you. We don't want you anything. You have no reason to be afraid.
Q: They wanted Amon though, didn't they?

RUTH: Yes, and they found him.

Q: Why did they want Amon?

RUTH: He did ... he killed some Jews too, not really. Such camp it is no ... not amusing. It's not amusing - really not. I stayed often in - in the kitchen with my maids and always said to them if I could do anything I would. I would - to all of you say go home, but I can't do anything.

Q: How was it being in love with a man who you knew was killing people?

RUTH: I never saw so much of it.

Q: But you knew it was going on?

RUTH: From others. He didn't kill so much. On the contrary, I tell you he had some people he really liked and - and when I said this happened and that happened, for instance, one of our men in the stable who was a very good order some staff who were - what you call it ... He .. he slapped him ..., what I say in German. Then I told him (NOT CLEAR) ... I think this and that had happened. Then he personally with some wine and something to eat to him and said alright. It was not on my ...

Q: Everyone has said to me that your influence on Amon .... was very good, that when Amon .... was with you and a Jew came he was always kind to people and you made him very good to them. Why, when you weren't there, did Amon do some of the things that he did?
RUTH: Oh I - he liked me - he loved me.

Q: No, why did he sometimes be very brutal with the prisoners?

RUTH: It was the way that - we treated this people.

Q: Could he have been different?

RUTH: Of course he could have been different.

Q: How?

RUTH; I told you, he could be nice to people - Dr. Gross and - and ...

Q: Okay.

RUTH: Some people he liked.