SCHINDLER

Mariana 'Manci' Rosner

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Q: Manci, I was just going to say that the first question I'm going to ask you is about, you know, what your life was like before the war, before 1939.

Manci: Before 1939 I had a very good life, I have a very good husband who very much gave me a nice good life, and it was very very nice for me, till the war broke out.

Q: You were the wife of a musician who ... tell me about how that was for a Jewish girl being married to a musician ...
Q: Manci, tell me a little bit more detail about how your life was before the war, being married to Henri and so on.

MANCi: Um Henri was a very well known musician in Poland and very successful and I had a very nice and good life. He supported me in every respect, we - I had very nice apartment in Warsaw and er all the convenience a woman can dream of.

Q: Yet the war found you in Krakow didn't it, why ... Manci, just as a general thing if you wait until I finish before you start just cause eventually we're going to cut out all of my questions and ... 

MANCi: You are?

Q: Yes, absolutely, and so it'll be better if you wait until I finish. Um you were in Krakow at the beginning of the war, why was that?

MANCi: Er I didn't - we didn't want to - we couldn't er run away like a lot of all the people did because we didn't have enough money and we had a small child....
Manci, you were telling me about why you were in Krakow at the beginning of the war.

Er Henri had a job there and that's how the war - the war caught us in - in Krakow and we couldn't run away, we didn't have enough money and we had a small child, and so we were thinking how far can we run, so that's how we stayed there.

What was life like for you in the ghetto or in - first of all in Krakow when the war began before the ghetto and then after the ghetto was formed?

In the ghetto it wasn't too bad we really weren't hungry yet there. Er Henri used to play here and there sometimes and there was always enough food, but er it was no life, no life whatsoever, it was just an existence.

Did you, when you were in the ghetto, do you remember seeing any sort of actions by the Germans, any roundups, tell me a little bit, describe for me what - how it was in the ghetto in those days.

Er, it was very very bad, er Henri was er walking in (NOT CLEAR) which was a German office outfit, and he needed some people to clean the offices so he put a group of woman together between them was me, and we're - we're went every day out of the ghetto to work there and
MANCI CONT: in the evening we came back and we were fortunate enough to organise a little food, but we always had this scare what we're going to find when we come back, because today there were action taken and the children weren't taken away and er they had very - very, very close calls to lose our son already in this time in the ghetto, but somehow - somehow he survived.

Q: What were the living conditions like, cause you were quite wealthy before the war, you had a good apartment.

MANCI: Yeah, we had er we was living in a very large apartment, we had one room, in each room was living one family, so sometimes in a room of 4 or 5 rooms, there were 20 - 25 people living.

Q: Tell me a little bit about the fear every day of coming home and finding that your son had disappeared or that other people had disappeared, about the roundups, any of the roundups that you saw.

MANCI: It was so tragic to talk about it and I really don't think so I could describe it, because it's so, oh today it seems to me so unreal. It's very hard it was terrible, the people were put together on the - on the marketplace and and there came this - this (NOT CLEAR) and they put the man and they moved them out and they never saw them again.
Q: You feared you might lose your own son didn't you?

MANCI: Yes, very much so, very much so. But obviously our time wasn't up yet.

Q: In March 1943 the ghetto was liquidated, can you tell me as much as you remember about that period, about what happened?

MANCI: Yes the liquidated and er we er - we er went up there to Plaszów which is not too far from the Kraków ghetto, only this time it was not a concentration camp, it was an Arbeitslager which was a working camp, there were groups formed to do different, do this for the Germans tailors, shoemakers, er whatever possible and er I was chosen to become a block eldest there which was er I had to take care of a barrack, of a block of 300 woman, because I spoke German fluently, my mother language, and er ... by the way er (NAME) was also a block eldest there so we were comrades, and er it was very very difficult, very difficult.

Q: Do you remember the day that you were told you had to go to Plaszów from the ghetto what happened?

MANCI: We had to go we had er there came the order and we had to go, we had to go we was put in a line of people and we had to go, I was in this time in the hospital, I had some kind of womans thing, I was in the hospital I came and
MANCI CONT: I went, Henri was already up there, er my boy was out of the ghetto, some nice German people, nice German people took him over the difficult times, because we didn't know what to accept, expect - expected in Plas. I went with the group of the hospital people up there and it was the beginning of this German officer, or whoever he was, I don't remember his name, he chose, it was few - few girls, few woman and he chose me as a - between all the ones there were maybe 10 block eldest there, you know it was the head of the block.

Q: You eventually decided that you would have your son join you in the camp didn't you, tell me why you decided that and how it happened?

MANCI: Er ... he was out of town he was in a smaller town, I think it was, the name of the town was (NAME), and er when - when Henri played for the commandant somebody let him know that this town supposed to be raided and that this very big danger there, so Henri had the guts to go and ask the commandant why it is time for him to bring his boy in. So Goeth said to him, I let you know, and believe it or not he did let him know and they (NOT CLEAR) I don't remember exactly how was it, but he let him, so Henri it's time for you to bring your boy in now and Poldek Kajetanov he was the one and he struck, he smuggled him in.
Q: It may seem a strange decision now to people like me, that your boy was outside of the labour camp, but you decided he would be safer inside, tell me about that?

MANCI: Yes, I had to make the decision because this town supposed to be made (NOT CLEAR) supposed to be all the Jewish people from this town supposed to be liquidated, so I had to take this chance.

Q: Henri used to go and play at commandant Goebbels's house every night.

MANCI: Not every night.

Q: Well most - some nights.

MANCI: Yeah.

Q: Um, can you remember, were you living with Henri at the time or were you separate from him.

MANCI: We were separated but he - he er had the privilege as to to come and visit me occasional, and er I always ask him to let me know when he come out, when he went in there I wasn't worry, I only was worried that he come out, cause you never know what to expect.
Q: Manci tell me what life was like for you in Plaszów?

MANCi: Very scary.

Q: Could you start that by saying life in Plaszów was very scary, because remember again my question will be cut out ...

MANCi: Life in Plaszów for me as a - a block eldest it was very difficult, I had a lot of responsibilities and I suffered a great deal because of that, because when somebody did something wrong I was the one who was responsible, matter of fact I had very unpleasant er things happen there, woman run away, and there was er (NOT CLEAR) for this, but I was safe.

Q: Someone was shot?

MANCi: No, she wasn't shot she just run away.

Q: And then there was punishment?

MANCi: Was punishment for the block eldest because she was miss ...

Q: Can I stop you for a second, if we can start that again, I'm going to ask the same question what life was like, you can start again by saying life in Plaszów was very difficult or whatever the words you want to use and then explain how the block eldest, block
Q CONT: head of the block er was always punished if someone was - else did something or other. What, tell me about what life was like in Plaszów...

MANC: Life in Plaszów was very difficult for me as a block eldest there. Er we - we block eldest were responsible for our inmates, which I had 300, and er I (NOT CLEAR) hardly punished, very hard punished for anything that was wrong, when the window want clean, the block eldest was er responsible, and er when a woman run away the block eldest was responsible and got punished, I got once 50 my, you know, 50 beatings on my behind for this purpose, but I was very lucky that this guy which beat me (NOT CLEAR) private, er once he beat me on the second time he beat on his shoe and made the same sound, so actually I got only 25, and I had for 3 months a sore behind, but I got over that.

Q: Do you remember any other punishments or tell me about you mentioned earlier that life in - in Plaszów was very frightening, maybe you could tell me a little bit about that.

MANC: Yeah, it was very frightening.

Q: Can you start by saying life in Plaszów

MANC: Life in Plaszów was very frightening ...
104/1 CONT.

Q: Once more Manci, after I've finished.

Manci: Okay. Life in Plaszów was very frightening, er for everything that happened to block eldest there were responsible. Once there was er somebody what find stealing something I think, I don't remember what it was, but I know that all the block eldest had to come together and we had to watch how — how people were killed, in a mass grave, how they were shot in their neck and got a kick and were falling in in the hole, we had to watch this, that was the punishment, and all the time we had to make a lot of exercises, running and exercises as a matter of fact one of our fellow block eldest dropped dead on this exercises, very — very very difficult. And my mind is so far away from it, I have a hard time to believe it today, really went through it.

Q: Do you remember commandant Goebbels at Plaszów, tell me about your contact with commandant Goebbels?

Manci: I — personally I didn't have no confid ... I was so scared when I saw him from far away I run away, he was a very scaring personality, he went with his dog and shoot and er and terrible person, terrible.

Q: Henri must have talked to you about commandant Goebbels, tell me a bit about what Henri used to say to you about
Q CONT: Commandant Goeth and your own impressions of him. And if you could start that sentence by saying Commandant Goeth was a very scary ...

Manci: Er commandant Goeth was very scary, but Henri had er I don't know what is, Henri or was it Henri's violin which had a terrific influence on him, and he could make him calm like a lamb with playing for him, and most of the time on the end he - he went on his couch and he fall asleep. And usually when he did a lot of shooting during the day, in the evening he had a musician, that means Henri and his brother come to play for him.

Q: Manci, I'm going to ask you that again, not because you gave me a bad answer, but just because we can, it's nice to get it sometimes in a different way. I'm going to ask you what kind of man commandant Goeth was and if you could say you know that commandant Goeth used to go around shooting people and then he'd call Henri to come and play for him, that would, it's the same answer, but just tell it to me again.

Manci: Okay.... Excuse me ...

No, no, no ...

Q: Manci, tell me about commandant Goeth and about Henri playing for him ...
Manci: Commandant Goebbels was a very scaring personality, er very very handsome man but er scary and he - he went on his horse sometimes - sometimes by foot through the barracks (NOT CLEAR) without any reason, and usually on this days when he had a lot of killing to do, in the evening he called Henri and his brother to come and to play for him, er Henri's er somehow the music of Henri calmed him down.

Q: What would happen when Henri used to play for him?

Manci: On the end he went on his couch, he lay down and took his revolver onto his head and he fall asleep.

Q: I'm going to ask you about that question again, and perhaps you'd like to tell me when Henri used to play for commandant Goebbels it would have a calming influence and then he'd go and lie down, just tell me again in your own words just that little story again, tell me about commandant Goebbels and Henri's playing.

Manci: Er Henri used to play though most of the time he had company, he were very seldom that he was all by himself, so they eat and they drink, then on the end he laid down on the couch and he fall asleep and then it was time for Henri to leave, and Henri came to my block and said I'm alive.

Q: Were you scared that Henri would not come out of the villa alive?
104/1 CONT.

MANCI: Very scared.

Q: Could you start that by saying when Henri used to play for commandant Goeth ...

MANCI: When Henri used to play for commandant Goeth, I always was very scared, is he coming alive out of this villa or whatever it was, very scared, till I saw him then I was happy.

Q: Let's move onto another German now, er Oscar. Do you remember the first time you ever heard about Oscar or saw him or ...?

MANCI: The first time I heard about Oscar was also in Plaszó, there was um a thing going round in Plaszó that he took away everything from the (NOT CLEAR) you know the prisoners, er all the money he still had, was not much, but whatever they had they had to give everything away and this evening when Henri played for the commandant for Goeth, Oscar Schindler was there as a guest and he seems to take a like like likening to – to Henri, and he gave him 500 złoty in one bill, I think in this life Henri was the richest man in camp, that was the first time I heard about the existence of Oscar Schindler.

Q: Manci, can I ask you that again, not again because you gave a bad answer, but just so we get it in different words and then when you talk about the 500 złoty, tell me what you could buy with 500 złoty because now 500 złoty...
Q CONT: doesn't mean very much to us in England anyway. So perhaps if you could say about the story and say about what it is possible in the camp to buy.
JON: Manci let me ask you again about how you first heard about Oscar Schindler, and if you tell me the story about Henry going to commandants house getting those (NOT CLEAR) and what that meant in the camp, and how much you could buy.

MANCI: Er the first ever heard about Oscar was from Henry when he was playing, er it was er indeed it was this think going round in Plaszów that er the order came that everybody had to give everything they owned and money and all whatever they had they had to give everything up. And this evening Henry was called to the commandant, and Schindler was there, Oscar. On doing the evening he - he somehow he knew not - not official, he gave something in Henry's hand and Henry looked after it was 500 złoty. 500 złoty was a lot of money, and er Henry was probably the richest man this night in Plaszów, for 500 złoty. I would say er family er maybe of 2 or 3 people could eat maybe for a month, so that was a lot of money, you could pay a lot of food in er you know er around the corner, so it was a marvellous thing for Oscar to do.

JON: Why do you think Oscar did it?
MANCI: Why Oscar, why did Oscar do so many things? But you're never, you're never going to found out really why he did it. There were more things involved than having a good heart for sure.

JON: Manci, moving along a little bit, what was the next time you ever saw Schindler or heard about him, do you remember any stories from Plaszów at the time about Schindler?

MANCI: I never saw Schindler in my own eyes in Plaszów I personally, I only know about what Henry told me, the first time I saw Schindler was in (NAME) …
JON: Manci when did you first hear that there was a possibility of there being a Schindler list, what did you know about this?

MANCI: I heard the in block you know between woman they were talking when I heard a lot about it, and Henry was very anxious to get on the list, which wasn't easy because of course the people who worked for Schindler in the kumala had the reference I would say, but er luckily Oscar insisted of er having Henry on the to - to this I came, I was on the list too Henry.

JON: Did you actually have to do anything to get on the list? Tell me right from the beginning about how you heard about the list, and if you actually use the word list there rather than it, tell me about how you heard about the list, how you got onto it, what you had to do and so on, and the fact that Oscar then saved not only Henry and you but your whole family.

MANCI: I heard about the list to kamalitz and there was - there were a lot of things going on, not so nice things either which I really - I really hesitated to talk about it, there was um some of our people who took advantage of this and they took some money from - from all the people to get on this list. Oscar had nothing to do with this money, this was er just a dirty trick you know, he didn't have to pay anything because Oscar insisted of having Henry in kamalitz, onto Henry I came.
MANCI CONT: too, Henry of course
was unfortunately, er he couldn't ...
JON: Manci let's - let's do it again because of the siren. The question about how you heard about the list, how people got on the list, all the way through to everyone being on the list.

MANCI: There were in er I heard about the list in in the block you know woman especially was talking about it, talk a lot, and what you have to do in order to - to get on this list, and there were some - some dirty things going on, er people had to pay money er a certain man arranged this list on Oscar had nothing to do with this money, but we luckily didn't have to pay anything, Henry er Oscar loved Henry's playing very much, and he insisted of hanging - having Henry on the list, and that' how Henry's brother of course and me and my son Olek on er Henry's sister, and er the whole - luckily our whole family were on the list to Bnwalitz.

JON: You got on the list because Oscar liked music didn't he?

MANCI: Definitely, definitely, he loved Henry's playing, he had his favourite songs which Henry had to play over and over again for him all the time.

JON: Perhaps you might tell me something like we got on the list because Oscar liked music, something like that, however you'd like to do it.

MANCI: I think er we got on the list, it means me and my - and my son, I Olek, because of Henry's violin, he always said that there's one God on Henry's
Manci cont: violin.

Jon: You didn't go straight to Brunnitz did you? Tell me about the journey and ...

Manci: No, just is going to be a very difficult part. Er Henry went first ... after - after I went Henry went to different part, I went to Auschwitz, I don't think ... this was the worst thing when we were apart, and Henry couldn't stay in Brunnitz so they took him away and his - and his way back he found a nice German soldier, who told him that he has to go to Auschwitz to pick some woman up to bring them to Brunnitz and he ask him would he be so nice and take a - a letter or anything, and Henry wrote a few words and he put it in his (NOT CLEAR). And we were in this - we were in this train and there was a little hole and my sister in law was peeking through this hole here - her boy was and all of a sudden she yelled "Manci, Manci look, there's Zaddik and Rachel", and there was this German soldier, he was not an SS man, he was a real army soldier and I asked him to be permitted to go out of the wagon and go and meet off this son that my son is there, and I like to call him, whistle to him, and he said er what is your name?

Jon: (NOT CLEAR)
JON: Manci um let's leave that story alone for a little bit and tell me about what you remember of the train journey from Plaszó and your arrival at Auschwitz.

MANCI: When we left Plaszó, we were loaded up in cattle cars, we didn't really know where we're going till the train stopped, and we're - we were in Auschwitz, we were unloaded, counted and then there was not enough yet, not this group of woman which we arrive here went to (NOT CLEAR), you know probably (delousing). And er he took away our clothing, gave us their clothing, er woman were shaved, shaved their hair, luckily me they cut it only very very short, but it didn't really shave me with the - you know with the machine, cut it very slow, very very short like a mans hair, no shape, and after we were looking at each other, we didn't know should we cry or should we laugh, because a woman which was very tall, had a dress, a very short one, and a woman which was very short, got a dress of a very tall one and we looked like er menagerie, we really we were crying and laughing at the same time.

JON: What did you think about Schindlers list at this time?

MANCI: We were weren't sure yet, we were always in fear that they're really going to end up in Brunnlitz.

JON: Sorry, I don't completely understand that, tell me again.
JON CONT: in a different way
if you can what you thought about being on
Schindler's list then.

MANCI: Oh it was a wonderful
thing to be on the list, but we weren't
sure when we were in Auschwitz are we
going to go to Brinlitz or are we going to
be killed in Auschwitz. We didn't - we
didn't get the tattoos like er usually the
(not clear) which were in Auschwitz, they all
got tattoos. Henry got a tattoo and Olinka got a tattoo
I didn't get a tattoo, because we were
supposed to be only transit, but they weren't
sure till the last minute are we going to
go or not.

JON: There used to be
medical inspections sometimes at Auschwitz,
which even the Schindler people had to
go to didn't they, do you remember those
at all?

MANCI: There was so much
going on in Auschwitz, there was such a
- we had such a terrible life in this block,
we had the - we had a block eldest which
was such a witch that she was a - a German
er German prisoner from some prison ....
It was very very very, very difficult
being there, I don't think so many people
to have to stay there for a longer time
I don't think so, they could - they
couldn't stand it, Oscar Schindler really
besides the life that they had in Brinlitz but
only to take us out from Auschwitz was already
a very very very big thing.
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JON: You spend I think 3 weeks in Auschwitz, and around about the 8th or 9th of November I think or the 10th, or there was a call for all the Schindler women wasn't there, tell me about that?

MANCI: Yes it was very cold.

TALKING TOGETHER

MANCI: It was in the winter, it was in the beginning of the winter in Auschwitz, it was very very cold, we had no underwear we only wear - wear these dresses, no stockings, shoes and we had to go to the appellplatz, you know, somehow - somehow nobody caught the cold though it was very - we had to wash in snow and ice and it was very very very difficult, the food was very skimpy, we were all the time hungry and then I remember ... the block eldest caught me talking to an older woman, so she made me kneel down and gave me 2 bricks in each hand, I had to hold these 2 bricks and kneel down in this position, I supposed to remain for I don't remember, 2 hours, 3 hours, or 4 hours, I don't know however I - I survived, I don't think I could survived it today, maybe at this time I was young and strong, was very very bad.

JON: Do you remember when the call came for all the Schindler women to come out together to be called, and you were then loaded together, what did you think then?
MANCI: Yeah it was ... yeah I remember when the call came, and we went to the trains and we were loaded up and they still, they still was scared to - to believe, but we really go to Brimulation. I think unless we came to Brimulation but we didn't believe it but it came true, for us to go to Brimulation was like coming out from the hell and going to heaven.

JON: The train stayed at the station for a little while and then something happened didn't it, tell me about?

MANCI: Er .... there was so much happening in this short time that we was standing there and this and this (NAME) how you call it, (NAME) was standing there and there was a hole in the wagon, the wall of the wagon, My sister-in-law Regina, she peeked out through this hole and the view was to the mens er (NOT CLEAR) er the men's camp, and all of a sudden she started to yell, "Manci, look, look Manci, there are our children, there's Richard, there's Olek, there's" - there was another little boy er (NOT CLEAR) his name was (NAME) Ginter and er I looked through and I saw my boy, so I wanted to talk to him, I wanted to yell to him or to whistle to him or to make myself er that he should know that I'm here, and then came this, there was this - this German soldier in our car, and I went up to him, I went to him and I said please, my boy's standing there, please let me go and because the woman went down there and they had to make pee pee, they went to - and please let me go.
MANCI CONT: underneath of the train so I can ... so he said, what is your name? So I said my name is Manci Rosner, so he pulled a little letter, little piece of paper out of cuff and he gave it tome, that he was the - the soldier which was er bringing the men to Auschwitz or to Gross-Rosen, I really don't remember where he bought them, and there was a few words of my - from my husband. And I went under this train and I called out Olek, Olek, Olek and I whistled and he saw me, and I saw him ... I said O are you hungry, he said mammon look I have - I have er potatoes, on one hand he hand Richard and on hand he had (NAME), he was the oldest one, he's I think er 3 or 4 years older than Richard or (NAME).
JON: Manci you came to [NAME] to Oscar's factory, and maybe if you just call it Oscar's factory and not [NAME] and you arrived there at the station, now tell me what happened then.

MANCI: We came to [NAME]. We were quarters for us prepared—big rooms, 2 or 3 very big rooms, we were only 300 woman I think, I don't remember exactly, and we had to work on a drift, a drift which made—supposed to make patterns to fit, but they never did, they never fitted. You know how it was, you probably heard about the—that Oscar never never made one thing which fitted in any—um I don't know where it supposed to fit even. But I was working there at night and er Oscar came there, and I really saw him for the first time in person. And he walked through the hall, he put his cigarettes down so we could have a smoke, and my husband wasn't there any more.

JON: Tell me the story about Henry's violin, and how you got Henry's violin back.

MANCI: Er, Oscar went to ...

TALKING TOGETHER—MANCI IS EATING A MINT—

JON: Okay, um Manci tell me the story about how Oscar got Henry's violin back and gave it to you.
MANCI: Um Oscar went er to
to Auschwitz or to (GRUNWALITZ)

to bribe somebody, and Henry had to - they took away
Henry's violin, And Henry said that this
violin isn't his, so this violin belongs
to Oscar Schindler. So Oscar Schindler got
the violin back and brought it to (GRUNWALITZ),
And er I didn't get it yet, but I knew
er Oscar let me know that he has the
violin, And there was er - there was
Oscar's birthday and there was a party,
there was (ANOTHER FELLOW IN THE CAMP)
which er knew how
to play the violin but didn't have no
instrument, So Oscar lended him Henry's
violin, which for me was very - you know
very sad, very sad thing that I heard
somebody else playing on Henry's violin,
So of course I cried, naturally, so
came to - and he came to me and he said
Mrs. Rosner, Frau Rosner (NOT CLEAR).
That means it's the same violin but it's
a different sound.

PLANE O/HEAD

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JON: Might you tell me the story again about Henry's violin and how Oscar got it back.

MANCI: Oscar went to Gross Rosen to bribe something off of somebody and he got Henry's violin which was elsewhere at this time. He brought the violin to (OTHER) and on a celebration of Oscar's birthday some other prisoner played the violin, Oscar handed it to him. And for me that was emotional, very hard to take, and I was sitting and listening and crying, and Oscar came to me and he said, 'Don't worry, it is the same violin but a different sound.' Well at the end of the party, I think, he gave me - he gave me the violin back.

JON: You were a Jewish prisoner in the third Reich, and here was the boss of the factory comforting you. Was this how the boss of the factory, Herr Directoq, used to behave to his prisoners?

MANCI: Only Oscar Schindler could behave like that. I don't think so there's a second one like Oscar Schindler. As far as I'm concerned I'm only sitting here and talking to you because the Oscar Schindler did exist.

JON: From your memory of Oscar, what kind of man was Oscar?
MANCI: What kind of man was Oscar? He was a saint, a drunker, a woman chaser; he was everything he wanted, but he was still a saint because he saved Jewish lives.

JON: You say that Oscar was a womaniser and he certainly was. Did he ever make any advances to you or the other women prisoners?

MANCI: No, he never made any advances to me, was never did, because he respected Henry much (omitted). He was a gentleman besides all his faults he was a gentleman (not clear).

JON: What would you have done if he had?

MANCI: I don't know I could resist him; he was a big charmer. [LAUGH]

JON: As far as you know did he make any advances to any of the other women prisoners?

MANCI: Not that I know of.

JON: Manci, perhaps we can do that a different way, and if you could say, I'm going to ask you the same question, and if you could say "As far as I know Oscar never made any advances to any of the other women prisoners and he was a charmer he had too much savour faire, he once said tome, and then perhaps add in what you would feel if he had done it to you. Manci, as far as you know did he ever make any advances to any women prisoners?
MANCI: I don't think so he made any advances to any prisoners in [NAME] as much as - as much as I know. And he never did any tome, I don't know maybe I couldn't have resist him if he would.

JON: Why?

MANCI: He was a charmer, he was extremely handsome, he had - I think he had everything [NAME] what a man should have. He chased woman a lot, but I don't think so he chase prisoners, I don't think so, not that I remember.

JON: If I ask you again Manci, just so we can get in a different way, the answer you gave me was very good about what kind of man he was, and you said about him being, I wonder if you could do that for me again because there was a lot of noise outside at the time. Tell me what sort of man Oscar was?

MANCI: Oscar was a saint; he was a drunker, he chased woman if he could; he was charming, handsome, and in my eyes he was a dream of a man.

JON: That - that's fantastic, and again because of just me wanting to do it in different ways, let's let's do the same question again and then you can perhaps add as well that he saved all of you people, I mean that he was a saint, that he was a drunk, and tell me about what kind of man Oscar was.
MANCI: Oscar was in first at first he was a saint; afterwards he was an alcoholic; a drunker; a woman chaser, a very handsome man, charming man, and I don't think so I could resist him if he would make advances to me, but er but he saved us, in first place he was our saviour.

JON: Why do you think this alcoholic, this drunk, this womaniser, this Nazi saved people.

MANCI: I don't know, I don't know. I don't know.

JON: You must have asked yourself that question a lot?

MANCI: I did ask myself many times, and I came to the conclusion that he was not crazy, he was not stupid, he was such an idealistic person, I really, I really couldn't give me an answer.
JON: Manci, you were telling me what kind of man Oscar was in your view and I asked you why you think Oscar did what he did, and I mentioned to you if would be nice if you answered the question by saying I've asked myself many times. So why do you think Oscar did what he did?

MANCI: I ask myself many times the question, why did Oscar do what he did, and I - I still didn't find an answer for it, in my essay he was a saint, he was a drunkard, he was a woman chaser, he was charming, handsome ... but why he saves so many people, so many human lives, why he did it, I haven't got the answer.

JON: Some people say he did it for the money, what do you think about that?

MANCI: There might be a small part in it, but only for the money, I don't think so.

JON: Other people say that he was playing with two aces, if you see what I mean, so that if the Germans lost the war he would be alright, and if the Germans won the war he'd be alright.

MANCI: But when he started this there was the - he didn't know that the, he didn't know either way. He didn't know that the German are going to lose, and he didn't know, no I didn't think so, I don't think so, but er I don't think so but I still don't know.

JON: Very good, Manci. Thank you very much indeed.