

1
00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:02,790

2
00:00:02,790 --> 00:00:03,290
Go ahead.

3
00:00:03,290 --> 00:00:06,470

4
00:00:06,470 --> 00:00:10,370
Well, my name now
is Irving Horn.

5
00:00:10,370 --> 00:00:12,410
But that is not
my original name.

6
00:00:12,410 --> 00:00:13,370
OK.

7
00:00:13,370 --> 00:00:18,230
I was born as
Isachar Herszenhorn.

8
00:00:18,230 --> 00:00:20,730
And I was born in the
city of Radom, Poland.

9
00:00:20,730 --> 00:00:26,140

10
00:00:26,140 --> 00:00:27,510
You want the date of birth?

11
00:00:27,510 --> 00:00:28,830
Sure.

12
00:00:28,830 --> 00:00:32,310
I was born in 1927.

13

00:00:32,310 --> 00:00:33,240
1927.

14
00:00:33,240 --> 00:00:34,450
What was the date--

15
00:00:34,450 --> 00:00:36,750
the month and day of that?

16
00:00:36,750 --> 00:00:42,960
In February 1927.

17
00:00:42,960 --> 00:00:44,680
OK.

18
00:00:44,680 --> 00:00:48,780
Can you tell me a little bit
about your family life during--

19
00:00:48,780 --> 00:00:52,050
after you were born, that
period, before we get into--

20
00:00:52,050 --> 00:00:56,460
I come from a middle
income family,

21
00:00:56,460 --> 00:01:05,340
and my father was a salesman
in a tanning factory.

22
00:01:05,340 --> 00:01:09,360
And I would say we were
doing relatively well.

23
00:01:09,360 --> 00:01:14,370

24
00:01:14,370 --> 00:01:23,880
Life was comfortable except for
a large scale anti-Semitism.

25

00:01:23,880 --> 00:01:26,260

Do you remember some instances
of this anti-Semitism?

26

00:01:26,260 --> 00:01:26,760

Yeah.

27

00:01:26,760 --> 00:01:32,490

When I was seven
years old, because

28

00:01:32,490 --> 00:01:39,396

of an edict of the
Polish government,

29

00:01:39,396 --> 00:01:46,410

we were told that we had to
start integrating a school.

30

00:01:46,410 --> 00:01:54,410

And I was the only
Jewish kid in there,

31

00:01:54,410 --> 00:01:56,880

in a Polish public school.

32

00:01:56,880 --> 00:02:02,300

33

00:02:02,300 --> 00:02:06,170

The incident I remember
most is that when

34

00:02:06,170 --> 00:02:13,805

we were standing in the line
to register for school and--

35

00:02:13,805 --> 00:02:18,400

36

00:02:18,400 --> 00:02:20,260

Now, Polish schools
were not exactly

37
00:02:20,260 --> 00:02:21,370
like schools around here.

38
00:02:21,370 --> 00:02:23,930
They didn't have a
building by themselves.

39
00:02:23,930 --> 00:02:26,500
And I believe that
the school had

40
00:02:26,500 --> 00:02:29,300
the first and the second
floor, and on the other floors

41
00:02:29,300 --> 00:02:31,010
there were tenants, actually.

42
00:02:31,010 --> 00:02:33,490
Right

43
00:02:33,490 --> 00:02:35,900
The registration office
was on the second floor,

44
00:02:35,900 --> 00:02:45,060
and we were on the stairway
up to the second floor.

45
00:02:45,060 --> 00:02:48,740
And there's another
Jewish little boy

46
00:02:48,740 --> 00:02:52,910
who was thrown off that stairway
and he either broke a leg

47
00:02:52,910 --> 00:02:56,540
or he got badly hurt.

48
00:02:56,540 --> 00:03:02,240

And when he reached the
office and the subject

49
00:03:02,240 --> 00:03:05,910
was discussed, the principal
looked at my mother and says,

50
00:03:05,910 --> 00:03:08,240
well, it's a good thing
that it happened to him.

51
00:03:08,240 --> 00:03:10,120
He had no business being
here to begin with.

52
00:03:10,120 --> 00:03:13,490

53
00:03:13,490 --> 00:03:18,380
So life was miserable in school.

54
00:03:18,380 --> 00:03:20,560
We were always being beaten up.

55
00:03:20,560 --> 00:03:23,500
I was always being beaten up,
being the only Jewish kid.

56
00:03:23,500 --> 00:03:26,650

57
00:03:26,650 --> 00:03:31,420
After a year I transferred
to another public school

58
00:03:31,420 --> 00:03:36,670
where there were three or four
Jewish children in the class.

59
00:03:36,670 --> 00:03:39,820
And there at least we
had a chance of fight

60

00:03:39,820 --> 00:03:43,420
for the fighting.

61

00:03:43,420 --> 00:03:45,790
After a few years there I
transferred to a Jewish day

62

00:03:45,790 --> 00:03:46,720
school.

63

00:03:46,720 --> 00:03:48,750
And the last day
before the war I

64

00:03:48,750 --> 00:03:50,470
spent in the Jewish day school.

65

00:03:50,470 --> 00:03:52,470
So you were there right
before the war then?

66

00:03:52,470 --> 00:03:53,345
Right before the war.

67

00:03:53,345 --> 00:03:53,845
Yeah.

68

00:03:53,845 --> 00:03:54,870
That's 1939 then.

69

00:03:54,870 --> 00:03:58,210
1939, I was in the sixth grade.

70

00:03:58,210 --> 00:04:07,680
And the last thing I remember is
passing a test for junior high,

71

00:04:07,680 --> 00:04:15,820
and getting ready to return
to school on September 1939.

72

00:04:15,820 --> 00:04:18,029
OK.

73
00:04:18,029 --> 00:04:19,170
That never happened.

74
00:04:19,170 --> 00:04:21,954
Right.

75
00:04:21,954 --> 00:04:24,280
Did you have any
brothers and sisters?

76
00:04:24,280 --> 00:04:24,780
Yeah.

77
00:04:24,780 --> 00:04:30,140
I have two brothers, twins.

78
00:04:30,140 --> 00:04:33,320
And I have a--

79
00:04:33,320 --> 00:04:41,600
well, my father and
mother adopted a sister.

80
00:04:41,600 --> 00:04:44,480

81
00:04:44,480 --> 00:04:46,030
So I had an adopted sister.

82
00:04:46,030 --> 00:04:50,550

83
00:04:50,550 --> 00:04:55,320
Can you tell me a little bit
about when the Germans invaded

84
00:04:55,320 --> 00:04:57,900
in September-- what
you were doing,

85

00:04:57,900 --> 00:05:01,230
what your family was doing, what
happened, what you remember.

86

00:05:01,230 --> 00:05:07,400
Well, before they invaded we
were out on a summer vacation,

87

00:05:07,400 --> 00:05:08,490
then came back.

88

00:05:08,490 --> 00:05:12,210
And, of course, the war
started September the 1st.

89

00:05:12,210 --> 00:05:13,950
Where did you go to vacation?

90

00:05:13,950 --> 00:05:14,910
Do you remember?

91

00:05:14,910 --> 00:05:18,180
Small town not far away,
about 12 miles south of Radom.

92

00:05:18,180 --> 00:05:24,870

93

00:05:24,870 --> 00:05:26,915
And then we returned.

94

00:05:26,915 --> 00:05:29,700

95

00:05:29,700 --> 00:05:31,500
We returned because my--

96

00:05:31,500 --> 00:05:34,170

97

00:05:34,170 --> 00:05:37,530
well, actually, I was there
with my adopted sister.

98
00:05:37,530 --> 00:05:39,760
She was already married.

99
00:05:39,760 --> 00:05:43,260
And her husband
got a draft notice,

100
00:05:43,260 --> 00:05:44,900
and we know the war is on.

101
00:05:44,900 --> 00:05:45,862
That was a few days--

102
00:05:45,862 --> 00:05:47,260
This is back in Radom, right?

103
00:05:47,260 --> 00:05:47,760
Yeah.

104
00:05:47,760 --> 00:05:50,280
That was a few days
before the war started.

105
00:05:50,280 --> 00:05:56,610
And when I returned, well,
mobilization was fully on.

106
00:05:56,610 --> 00:06:01,260
And shortly afterwards, which
was Friday, if I remember,

107
00:06:01,260 --> 00:06:04,890
September 1, the war started.

108
00:06:04,890 --> 00:06:07,860

109
00:06:07,860 --> 00:06:14,370

There were bombings the
next day and the day after.

110
00:06:14,370 --> 00:06:15,870
On Saturday and Sunday?

111
00:06:15,870 --> 00:06:17,370
Yeah.

112
00:06:17,370 --> 00:06:20,880
In fact, one hit very close.

113
00:06:20,880 --> 00:06:23,530
There was some machine gunning.

114
00:06:23,530 --> 00:06:30,210
And the town was occupied a
week later, on Friday the 8th,

115
00:06:30,210 --> 00:06:30,790
I believe.

116
00:06:30,790 --> 00:06:41,835

117
00:06:41,835 --> 00:06:43,210
What did the
Germans do once they

118
00:06:43,210 --> 00:06:46,210
entered the town-- once they
took control and occupied

119
00:06:46,210 --> 00:06:48,460
the town?

120
00:06:48,460 --> 00:06:57,330
Well, at first-- well,
let me say something--

121
00:06:57,330 --> 00:06:57,930
Sure.

122
00:06:57,930 --> 00:06:58,170
Yeah.

123
00:06:58,170 --> 00:06:58,670
Go ahead.

124
00:06:58,670 --> 00:07:01,590
--which is-- maybe I shouldn't,
but historically it's true.

125
00:07:01,590 --> 00:07:06,330

126
00:07:06,330 --> 00:07:09,180
There were a number
of ethnic Germans

127
00:07:09,180 --> 00:07:12,850
in town, too, who were
actually welcoming the Germans.

128
00:07:12,850 --> 00:07:13,350
Right.

129
00:07:13,350 --> 00:07:17,220

130
00:07:17,220 --> 00:07:20,380
At the beginning what they--

131
00:07:20,380 --> 00:07:23,550
well, let me give you
a little incident that

132
00:07:23,550 --> 00:07:26,640
happened in the first week.

133
00:07:26,640 --> 00:07:30,780
My brother walked down
the street and he--

134

00:07:30,780 --> 00:07:34,560

135

00:07:34,560 --> 00:07:41,340

so my brothers are seven
years older than I am.

136

00:07:41,340 --> 00:07:45,240

And he saw a young
man, a friend of his,

137

00:07:45,240 --> 00:07:48,810

that he used to tutor
in high school, Paul.

138

00:07:48,810 --> 00:07:51,800

139

00:07:51,800 --> 00:07:54,390

And, all of a sudden,
Paul called over German,

140

00:07:54,390 --> 00:07:57,510

pointed to him, and
said that this Jew said

141

00:07:57,510 --> 00:08:00,120

that the Russians are coming.

142

00:08:00,120 --> 00:08:02,060

And the Germans
arrested my brother.

143

00:08:02,060 --> 00:08:07,080

And all of a sudden he found
himself in a Gestapo basement.

144

00:08:07,080 --> 00:08:10,000

Just on this Pole's
recommendation?

145

00:08:10,000 --> 00:08:10,930

Yes.

146

00:08:10,930 --> 00:08:13,800

With three other Jews who
were there, who we didn't know

147

00:08:13,800 --> 00:08:17,040

they were there, but they
found out they were there.

148

00:08:17,040 --> 00:08:21,900

And the Gestapo wouldn't
even talk to my mother.

149

00:08:21,900 --> 00:08:24,300

They were beating
him up, and they

150

00:08:24,300 --> 00:08:28,650

were ready to execute
him for spying.

151

00:08:28,650 --> 00:08:30,580

The only person they
wanted to talk to

152

00:08:30,580 --> 00:08:34,350

was a representative of
the Jewish population.

153

00:08:34,350 --> 00:08:37,740

Now, I don't think
we had one, per se,

154

00:08:37,740 --> 00:08:45,840

but we did talk to the elder
of the Jewish community.

155

00:08:45,840 --> 00:08:48,900

He went down, and after
some negotiations,

156

00:08:48,900 --> 00:08:54,150

they demanded the ransom
from the community.

157
00:08:54,150 --> 00:08:55,680
A pretty high ransom,
if I remember.

158
00:08:55,680 --> 00:08:59,060
I don't remember
the exact amount.

159
00:08:59,060 --> 00:09:00,880
I know we couldn't
pay it as a family.

160
00:09:00,880 --> 00:09:01,380
Sure.

161
00:09:01,380 --> 00:09:04,650
But the town got together
and they pay the ransom.

162
00:09:04,650 --> 00:09:08,380
And all those
prisoners got free.

163
00:09:08,380 --> 00:09:09,593
They did release them.

164
00:09:09,593 --> 00:09:10,760
Yeah, they did release them.

165
00:09:10,760 --> 00:09:16,030

166
00:09:16,030 --> 00:09:16,530
Yeah.

167
00:09:16,530 --> 00:09:18,260
That was the first incident.

168
00:09:18,260 --> 00:09:18,760

Yeah.

169

00:09:18,760 --> 00:09:22,860

Also, we couldn't get
any help from anybody

170

00:09:22,860 --> 00:09:27,450

else as far as the Polish
population was concerned.

171

00:09:27,450 --> 00:09:29,680

When we saw the mother
of that boy she said,

172

00:09:29,680 --> 00:09:32,400

well, maybe he deserved it.

173

00:09:32,400 --> 00:09:34,650

Right.

174

00:09:34,650 --> 00:09:39,930

I told you my father used to
work for a tanning factory.

175

00:09:39,930 --> 00:09:43,860

The tanning factory actually
belonged to ethnic Germans.

176

00:09:43,860 --> 00:09:46,710

And the day the war broke out,
they told them that they cannot

177

00:09:46,710 --> 00:09:50,160

possibly have anything to
do with a Jewish person,

178

00:09:50,160 --> 00:09:53,348

officially anyhow.

179

00:09:53,348 --> 00:09:54,750

So he was out of a job.

180

00:09:54,750 --> 00:09:57,850

181
00:09:57,850 --> 00:10:01,180
That's how it started.

182
00:10:01,180 --> 00:10:02,680
Now, this incident
with your brother

183
00:10:02,680 --> 00:10:04,805
started-- that was the
first week of the occupation

184
00:10:04,805 --> 00:10:06,310
or right around there?

185
00:10:06,310 --> 00:10:08,350
I believe it was on--
it happened on a Monday.

186
00:10:08,350 --> 00:10:09,640
It wasn't the first Monday.

187
00:10:09,640 --> 00:10:12,050
I think it was the second
Monday after the occupation.

188
00:10:12,050 --> 00:10:13,970
OK, but shortly thereafter.

189
00:10:13,970 --> 00:10:14,830
Shortly thereafter.

190
00:10:14,830 --> 00:10:15,330
OK.

191
00:10:15,330 --> 00:10:19,030

192
00:10:19,030 --> 00:10:21,280
The other thing is there

were a number of edicts

193
00:10:21,280 --> 00:10:23,410
that they issued.

194
00:10:23,410 --> 00:10:25,990
You were not allowed
to have a radio.

195
00:10:25,990 --> 00:10:27,730
They closed all the schools.

196
00:10:27,730 --> 00:10:29,410
There was no education allowed.

197
00:10:29,410 --> 00:10:32,950

198
00:10:32,950 --> 00:10:35,750
Assemblies of persons
of more than five people

199
00:10:35,750 --> 00:10:37,780
were not allowed.

200
00:10:37,780 --> 00:10:42,400
All this was punishable by
death penalty or 10 years

201
00:10:42,400 --> 00:10:43,200
or whatever.

202
00:10:43,200 --> 00:10:44,450
Very high.

203
00:10:44,450 --> 00:10:50,570
I don't remember the
exact punishment.

204
00:10:50,570 --> 00:10:54,690

205

00:10:54,690 --> 00:10:57,800

You said something
about the ethnic Germans

206

00:10:57,800 --> 00:11:01,670

welcoming the
Germans into Poland.

207

00:11:01,670 --> 00:11:05,330

Were Poles doing that
also, or was that--

208

00:11:05,330 --> 00:11:06,920

were they happy
to see the Germans

209

00:11:06,920 --> 00:11:09,410

or was it just usually
the ethnic Germans?

210

00:11:09,410 --> 00:11:10,970

I don't know the answer to that.

211

00:11:10,970 --> 00:11:12,680

I know there were
people with flowers

212

00:11:12,680 --> 00:11:16,250

who were welcoming them when
they were marching into town.

213

00:11:16,250 --> 00:11:17,900

I don't know who they were.

214

00:11:17,900 --> 00:11:18,860

I have no idea.

215

00:11:18,860 --> 00:11:21,540

But I presume they
were ethnic Germans.

216

00:11:21,540 --> 00:11:23,000

Right.

217
00:11:23,000 --> 00:11:28,670
Do you remember-- before
the Germans invaded,

218
00:11:28,670 --> 00:11:32,120
do you remember any--

219
00:11:32,120 --> 00:11:35,338
I don't know the best word.

220
00:11:35,338 --> 00:11:36,380
Do you remember anything?

221
00:11:36,380 --> 00:11:37,797
Were you frightened
of the Germans

222
00:11:37,797 --> 00:11:39,230
coming because you were Jewish?

223
00:11:39,230 --> 00:11:43,670

224
00:11:43,670 --> 00:11:44,170
Yes.

225
00:11:44,170 --> 00:11:44,670
Yeah.

226
00:11:44,670 --> 00:11:46,865
Absolutely, of course.

227
00:11:46,865 --> 00:11:50,570
By reputation we knew what
they are capable of doing.

228
00:11:50,570 --> 00:11:53,030
So we observed a number
of German refugees

229

00:11:53,030 --> 00:11:57,660
between 1936 and '39.

230

00:11:57,660 --> 00:12:02,570
In fact, there was a
German girl that used to--

231

00:12:02,570 --> 00:12:05,070
that we used to
feed in her house.

232

00:12:05,070 --> 00:12:07,510
She used to eat with us.

233

00:12:07,510 --> 00:12:08,990
And she was a German refugee.

234

00:12:08,990 --> 00:12:10,862
And we knew what's
going on in Germany.

235

00:12:10,862 --> 00:12:11,820
Knew what was going on.

236

00:12:11,820 --> 00:12:12,230
Right.

237

00:12:12,230 --> 00:12:12,730
Yeah.

238

00:12:12,730 --> 00:12:15,050
So we were aware of what
they are capable of doing,

239

00:12:15,050 --> 00:12:17,060
but not exactly of killing--

240

00:12:17,060 --> 00:12:17,990
Right, sure.

241

00:12:17,990 --> 00:12:21,860

--but of all the
anti-Jewish laws.

242
00:12:21,860 --> 00:12:25,230
You weren't allowed to own
anything or do anything.

243
00:12:25,230 --> 00:12:25,730
Yes.

244
00:12:25,730 --> 00:12:27,080
OK.

245
00:12:27,080 --> 00:12:32,420
Do you remember-- going back
to that last part of '39--

246
00:12:32,420 --> 00:12:34,370
what happened in Radom?

247
00:12:34,370 --> 00:12:37,130
Other than you told me these
edicts and things like that,

248
00:12:37,130 --> 00:12:40,670
what things can you remember
about that last part of '39,

249
00:12:40,670 --> 00:12:43,370
when the Germans had
already occupied the town?

250
00:12:43,370 --> 00:12:44,600
Shortages.

251
00:12:44,600 --> 00:12:51,920
There were bread shortages,
meat shortages, all types

252
00:12:51,920 --> 00:12:53,210
of different shortages.

253

00:12:53,210 --> 00:13:04,380

254

00:13:04,380 --> 00:13:07,020

Now, I was only a boy.

255

00:13:07,020 --> 00:13:08,590

I was only 12 years old.

256

00:13:08,590 --> 00:13:11,130

My world was probably different
than the world of adults.

257

00:13:11,130 --> 00:13:12,000

Sure.

258

00:13:12,000 --> 00:13:13,840

My main preoccupation
was the fact

259

00:13:13,840 --> 00:13:17,010

that we couldn't
go back to school.

260

00:13:17,010 --> 00:13:22,500

That changed, not immediately,
but within the next three

261

00:13:22,500 --> 00:13:24,660

months or so.

262

00:13:24,660 --> 00:13:28,440

One day I was
looking into a store,

263

00:13:28,440 --> 00:13:31,470

and the owner came
out and told me

264

00:13:31,470 --> 00:13:34,950

that he wants to
talk to my mother.

265

00:13:34,950 --> 00:13:37,470

266

00:13:37,470 --> 00:13:42,270

And then, the next day, we
were in a secret school.

267

00:13:42,270 --> 00:13:43,140

Oh, wow.

268

00:13:43,140 --> 00:13:45,930

There were 10 of us,
something like that,

269

00:13:45,930 --> 00:13:47,880

or that maybe 10, 11.

270

00:13:47,880 --> 00:13:49,260

Was this a Jewish school?

271

00:13:49,260 --> 00:13:50,610

All Jews, yeah.

272

00:13:50,610 --> 00:13:54,180

And mostly students
from the day school.

273

00:13:54,180 --> 00:13:57,120

And it was run by a Miss Sobal.

274

00:13:57,120 --> 00:13:59,760

She was a teacher
in that day school.

275

00:13:59,760 --> 00:14:06,030

And we always had
somebody on guard.

276

00:14:06,030 --> 00:14:08,910

And we were trying to
give signals in case

277

00:14:08,910 --> 00:14:10,590
the Germans would approach.

278

00:14:10,590 --> 00:14:13,920
Of course, it was very
dangerous if you were caught.

279

00:14:13,920 --> 00:14:19,790
But we were going to school
for 2 years, 2 and 1/2 years--

280

00:14:19,790 --> 00:14:20,390
Wow.

281

00:14:20,390 --> 00:14:24,730
--going through junior
high and most of--

282

00:14:24,730 --> 00:14:28,530
some of high school,
without being

283

00:14:28,530 --> 00:14:31,620
able to carry a
book or paperwork

284

00:14:31,620 --> 00:14:32,730
or anything of that sort.

285

00:14:32,730 --> 00:14:36,090
Because that immediately
became suspicious.

286

00:14:36,090 --> 00:14:40,650
And, of course, nobody
could have known.

287

00:14:40,650 --> 00:14:43,680
If a neighbor had known or
a Pole would have seen us

288

00:14:43,680 --> 00:14:49,490

or detected us, they immediately
would have pointed it out.

289
00:14:49,490 --> 00:14:51,480
That was quite an enterprise.

290
00:14:51,480 --> 00:14:53,790
Right.

291
00:14:53,790 --> 00:14:57,660
Was the teacher-- was she
involved in setting this up

292
00:14:57,660 --> 00:15:01,320
or was there someone
else who was--

293
00:15:01,320 --> 00:15:03,420
She lived with her family.

294
00:15:03,420 --> 00:15:05,130
I don't know if they
were related to her.

295
00:15:05,130 --> 00:15:06,930
They must've been.

296
00:15:06,930 --> 00:15:09,540
And in an apartment--
in fact, the apartment

297
00:15:09,540 --> 00:15:12,060
was right on Main Street.

298
00:15:12,060 --> 00:15:15,850
And they set it up.

299
00:15:15,850 --> 00:15:19,350
I presume she was
involved in it.

300
00:15:19,350 --> 00:15:20,280

I don't really know.

301
00:15:20,280 --> 00:15:20,780
Sure.

302
00:15:20,780 --> 00:15:22,290
Sure.

303
00:15:22,290 --> 00:15:23,190
But, yeah.

304
00:15:23,190 --> 00:15:26,130

305
00:15:26,130 --> 00:15:28,290
It was quite a group there.

306
00:15:28,290 --> 00:15:30,000
That's very interesting.

307
00:15:30,000 --> 00:15:32,460
In fact, that's a story
that I haven't heard about.

308
00:15:32,460 --> 00:15:33,090
You know, people have said--

309
00:15:33,090 --> 00:15:33,590
Oh, yes.

310
00:15:33,590 --> 00:15:36,120
I mean, I knew that people
would set up schools in ghettos

311
00:15:36,120 --> 00:15:37,000
and things like that.

312
00:15:37,000 --> 00:15:39,105
But this isn't a ghetto,
and this is very dangerous

313

00:15:39,105 --> 00:15:39,805
to set something up.

314
00:15:39,805 --> 00:15:39,908
No.

315
00:15:39,908 --> 00:15:40,570
This was not a ghetto.

316
00:15:40,570 --> 00:15:41,070
No.

317
00:15:41,070 --> 00:15:44,730
In fact, as we
went along, it got

318
00:15:44,730 --> 00:15:46,920
more and more difficult
to get to that place,

319
00:15:46,920 --> 00:15:48,420
because it was right
on Main Street.

320
00:15:48,420 --> 00:15:50,880
And for a while
there, later on, we

321
00:15:50,880 --> 00:15:53,820
weren't even allowed to
walk on Main Street as Jews.

322
00:15:53,820 --> 00:15:56,550
So we had to go in
through the back door.

323
00:15:56,550 --> 00:15:57,540
And we did that--

324
00:15:57,540 --> 00:16:00,816

325

00:16:00,816 --> 00:16:05,190
until it became a ghetto we
were going to that school.

326
00:16:05,190 --> 00:16:07,560
And that was almost
two years, you said?

327
00:16:07,560 --> 00:16:10,470
From 1941 until April of '41.

328
00:16:10,470 --> 00:16:12,690
And I believe we started in '39.

329
00:16:12,690 --> 00:16:14,250
I'm sure we started in '39.

330
00:16:14,250 --> 00:16:20,340

331
00:16:20,340 --> 00:16:20,840
Yeah.

332
00:16:20,840 --> 00:16:24,500
And so in 1941 the
ghetto was set up.

333
00:16:24,500 --> 00:16:27,410
In 1941 the ghetto was set up.

334
00:16:27,410 --> 00:16:27,910
Yeah.

335
00:16:27,910 --> 00:16:28,645
Was set up, OK.

336
00:16:28,645 --> 00:16:30,770
Can you tell me a little
bit about the ghetto, what

337
00:16:30,770 --> 00:16:34,910
that was like when they set it

up, what the restrictions were?

338

00:16:34,910 --> 00:16:37,550

Was it a closed walled ghetto
or was it more or less open?

339

00:16:37,550 --> 00:16:40,115

It was a closed ghetto wall.

340

00:16:40,115 --> 00:16:41,690

Now, wait a minute.

341

00:16:41,690 --> 00:16:43,400

The ghetto, it had--

342

00:16:43,400 --> 00:16:46,310

343

00:16:46,310 --> 00:16:47,915

well, no.

344

00:16:47,915 --> 00:16:49,845

It wasn't exactly walled, no.

345

00:16:49,845 --> 00:16:59,780

It had entrances on both
sides, which you could easily

346

00:16:59,780 --> 00:17:01,170

break, go through.

347

00:17:01,170 --> 00:17:06,050

In fact, to go from one
side of the non-ghetto area

348

00:17:06,050 --> 00:17:07,760

to the other side of
the non-ghetto area,

349

00:17:07,760 --> 00:17:09,440

they had to go
through a street which

350
00:17:09,440 --> 00:17:12,050
ran right through the ghetto.

351
00:17:12,050 --> 00:17:13,770
So, no, it wasn't walled.

352
00:17:13,770 --> 00:17:14,545
Wasn't walled.

353
00:17:14,545 --> 00:17:16,369
OK.

354
00:17:16,369 --> 00:17:18,290
Did you know people who
went back and forth,

355
00:17:18,290 --> 00:17:20,324
who would sneak back and forth?

356
00:17:20,324 --> 00:17:20,824
Yeah.

357
00:17:20,824 --> 00:17:21,339
I did, too.

358
00:17:21,339 --> 00:17:23,240
Did you?

359
00:17:23,240 --> 00:17:25,880
Well, there were people-- there
were two ghettos, actually,

360
00:17:25,880 --> 00:17:28,540
that they set up.

361
00:17:28,540 --> 00:17:33,310
There was one ghetto on one side
of town, and the other ghetto--

362
00:17:33,310 --> 00:17:35,290

the main ghetto.

363

00:17:35,290 --> 00:17:38,235

Where we lived before
the war was actually

364

00:17:38,235 --> 00:17:39,610

where the main
ghetto was set up.

365

00:17:39,610 --> 00:17:41,080

So we didn't even have to move.

366

00:17:41,080 --> 00:17:43,480

Was the main ghetto--

367

00:17:43,480 --> 00:17:45,890

was that in a suburb or
was in the middle of town?

368

00:17:45,890 --> 00:17:46,390

No.

369

00:17:46,390 --> 00:17:47,110

That's in the Old Town.

370

00:17:47,110 --> 00:17:48,152

It's called the Old Town.

371

00:17:48,152 --> 00:17:49,172

Yeah.

372

00:17:49,172 --> 00:17:50,380

And that was the main ghetto.

373

00:17:50,380 --> 00:17:52,430

Does that mean it was
larger than the other one?

374

00:17:52,430 --> 00:17:52,930

Yeah.

375

00:17:52,930 --> 00:18:01,630

Well, it was a historically,
traditionally a Jewish area.

376

00:18:01,630 --> 00:18:03,060

The other one-- yeah.

377

00:18:03,060 --> 00:18:04,570

That was larger
than the other one.

378

00:18:04,570 --> 00:18:07,680

The other one was not
historically a Jewish area,

379

00:18:07,680 --> 00:18:10,920

and it was on the
other side of town.

380

00:18:10,920 --> 00:18:13,380

But there were a
number of people

381

00:18:13,380 --> 00:18:16,443

who commuted between the
two because they had jobs.

382

00:18:16,443 --> 00:18:17,610

Oh, between the two ghettos.

383

00:18:17,610 --> 00:18:18,110

Right.

384

00:18:18,110 --> 00:18:21,140

And they have permits
to go on bicycles

385

00:18:21,140 --> 00:18:22,666

between one and the other.

386

00:18:22,666 --> 00:18:23,166

OK.

387
00:18:23,166 --> 00:18:30,880

388
00:18:30,880 --> 00:18:34,315
Well, I can give
you an incident.

389
00:18:34,315 --> 00:18:36,200
I am going to deviate slightly.

390
00:18:36,200 --> 00:18:36,700
Sure.

391
00:18:36,700 --> 00:18:38,590
No, that's fine.

392
00:18:38,590 --> 00:18:45,640
My father did-- in order to
make a living he went back

393
00:18:45,640 --> 00:18:51,100
to tanning during the war,
which was illegal, of course.

394
00:18:51,100 --> 00:18:55,920

395
00:18:55,920 --> 00:18:58,170
Why was it illegal to do?

396
00:18:58,170 --> 00:18:59,880
Anything was illegal for Jews.

397
00:18:59,880 --> 00:19:03,245
I mean, you were only supposed
to work for the Germans

398
00:19:03,245 --> 00:19:03,870
when they said.

399

00:19:03,870 --> 00:19:05,070
OK.

400
00:19:05,070 --> 00:19:07,200
So he was doing this
on the side in order

401
00:19:07,200 --> 00:19:09,050
to make a living for
himself and the family.

402
00:19:09,050 --> 00:19:09,550
Yes.

403
00:19:09,550 --> 00:19:12,740
And then what he
would do is take raw--

404
00:19:12,740 --> 00:19:16,390

405
00:19:16,390 --> 00:19:25,360
tan calf-- rawhide, and then
sell the leather someplace

406
00:19:25,360 --> 00:19:28,000
else, in other small
towns or something.

407
00:19:28,000 --> 00:19:30,867
But in order to transport it,
he couldn't transport it out

408
00:19:30,867 --> 00:19:31,450
of the ghetto.

409
00:19:31,450 --> 00:19:35,110
He would sometimes use
the Polish farmers,

410
00:19:35,110 --> 00:19:44,510
who would put it under a wagon
and put hay on top and then--

411
00:19:44,510 --> 00:19:45,946
Hide it and put it through.

412
00:19:45,946 --> 00:19:46,446
OK.

413
00:19:46,446 --> 00:19:46,946
Right.

414
00:19:46,946 --> 00:19:50,210
One day my brother used
to work and had a permit

415
00:19:50,210 --> 00:19:53,060
to go from one
ghetto to the other.

416
00:19:53,060 --> 00:20:00,180
And one day when he
was traveling through--

417
00:20:00,180 --> 00:20:03,960
going from the larger
ghetto to the other ghetto,

418
00:20:03,960 --> 00:20:09,540
he saw that wagon
of hay with the man

419
00:20:09,540 --> 00:20:11,700
that we knew-- with
the Pole that we knew,

420
00:20:11,700 --> 00:20:15,360
standing on the market
on the main street,

421
00:20:15,360 --> 00:20:17,710
near the police station.

422
00:20:17,710 --> 00:20:20,530

Unfortunately, he went
over to find out why.

423
00:20:20,530 --> 00:20:26,188
When the Polish police saw
him, they arrested him.

424
00:20:26,188 --> 00:20:28,230
Is this the same brother
who was arrested before?

425
00:20:28,230 --> 00:20:29,580
Yeah.

426
00:20:29,580 --> 00:20:36,198
And, after that of course, they
started looking for my father.

427
00:20:36,198 --> 00:20:37,740
Well, first of all,
he was in prison.

428
00:20:37,740 --> 00:20:40,230
Now, while he is in
prison, we wanted

429
00:20:40,230 --> 00:20:43,930
to find out what is happening,
because we had no idea.

430
00:20:43,930 --> 00:20:45,990
And what we find
out is routinely

431
00:20:45,990 --> 00:20:50,790
they would take him
out about 11 o'clock

432
00:20:50,790 --> 00:20:52,770
in the morning or
something of that hour,

433
00:20:52,770 --> 00:20:55,110

and take him from there
to Gestapo headquarters

434
00:20:55,110 --> 00:20:56,340
for interrogation.

435
00:20:56,340 --> 00:20:57,382
Now, this is your father?

436
00:20:57,382 --> 00:20:57,882
No.

437
00:20:57,882 --> 00:20:58,430
My brother.

438
00:20:58,430 --> 00:20:58,935
This is your brother.

439
00:20:58,935 --> 00:20:59,100
OK.

440
00:20:59,100 --> 00:21:01,140
From the prison to the
Gestapo headquarters.

441
00:21:01,140 --> 00:21:01,973
To the headquarters.

442
00:21:01,973 --> 00:21:03,090
OK.

443
00:21:03,090 --> 00:21:11,350
So that was early June 1941.

444
00:21:11,350 --> 00:21:15,970
And we were in the
ghetto already,

445
00:21:15,970 --> 00:21:21,040
so me and my other
brother, who's the twin,

446

00:21:21,040 --> 00:21:26,110

looks just like him,
we took our arm bands

447

00:21:26,110 --> 00:21:30,100

off that identify us
as Jews, and walked

448

00:21:30,100 --> 00:21:34,210

in front of the policeman and
him right down Main Street.

449

00:21:34,210 --> 00:21:36,070

I mean, not in
front, in the back.

450

00:21:36,070 --> 00:21:38,620

They were walking in front
and we were in the back,

451

00:21:38,620 --> 00:21:41,110

and had a conversation with him.

452

00:21:41,110 --> 00:21:41,770

Wow.

453

00:21:41,770 --> 00:21:42,837

He was talking.

454

00:21:42,837 --> 00:21:44,170

I mean, he wouldn't turn around.

455

00:21:44,170 --> 00:21:47,755

He was talking right in front,
but he was talking to us.

456

00:21:47,755 --> 00:21:49,630

And we were walking
right through Main Street

457

00:21:49,630 --> 00:21:52,480

without our arm bands on

458
00:21:52,480 --> 00:21:53,680
Had you done that before?

459
00:21:53,680 --> 00:21:55,190
No, never done it before.

460
00:21:55,190 --> 00:22:00,288
The amazing thing is that then
they had to cross the street.

461
00:22:00,288 --> 00:22:01,330
This was the main street.

462
00:22:01,330 --> 00:22:03,760
They had to cross the
street to take him

463
00:22:03,760 --> 00:22:06,160
to Gestapo headquarters.

464
00:22:06,160 --> 00:22:07,660
So they stopped to
cross the street.

465
00:22:07,660 --> 00:22:11,440
And they couldn't cross the
street for over 45 minutes,

466
00:22:11,440 --> 00:22:15,620
because the German armies
were marching east.

467
00:22:15,620 --> 00:22:18,490
There were hundreds of
thousands of German--

468
00:22:18,490 --> 00:22:19,540
and this was early June.

469
00:22:19,540 --> 00:22:21,380
Right, right before

the invasion.

470
00:22:21,380 --> 00:22:21,880
Right?

471
00:22:21,880 --> 00:22:23,783
There were thousands, yeah.

472
00:22:23,783 --> 00:22:25,950
Hundreds of thousands, just
walking down the street.

473
00:22:25,950 --> 00:22:27,408
So they were standing
at the corner

474
00:22:27,408 --> 00:22:28,930
and we were talking to him.

475
00:22:28,930 --> 00:22:31,540
And they couldn't
cross the street.

476
00:22:31,540 --> 00:22:35,070
So that's-- you're asking
if people would go out.

477
00:22:35,070 --> 00:22:37,480
Yes, some people would risk
and go out, and we did.

478
00:22:37,480 --> 00:22:38,440
That's amazing.

479
00:22:38,440 --> 00:22:41,060
But, yeah, people would do that.

480
00:22:41,060 --> 00:22:42,520
In the early days, yes.

481
00:22:42,520 --> 00:22:45,580
But then later they used to

catch them and execute them

482

00:22:45,580 --> 00:22:47,888

for that or put them in
prison for 10 years, which

483

00:22:47,888 --> 00:22:48,930

is the same as execution.

484

00:22:48,930 --> 00:22:50,140

Right.

485

00:22:50,140 --> 00:22:53,860

It was dangerous but,
yeah, sometimes we did go.

486

00:22:53,860 --> 00:22:57,340

Did people go outside
the ghetto to try

487

00:22:57,340 --> 00:23:00,400

to get food and things like
that from the out-- you know,

488

00:23:00,400 --> 00:23:02,650

from the region?

489

00:23:02,650 --> 00:23:04,840

Because you mentioned shortages.

490

00:23:04,840 --> 00:23:05,910

I don't know.

491

00:23:05,910 --> 00:23:07,285

I mean, you're
asking the wrong--

492

00:23:07,285 --> 00:23:08,380

I was a kid.

493

00:23:08,380 --> 00:23:09,295

Sure.

494
00:23:09,295 --> 00:23:13,510
I mean, I was, like, 13
years old, 14 years old.

495
00:23:13,510 --> 00:23:16,090
That wasn't really my duty.

496
00:23:16,090 --> 00:23:17,800
I don't know the outset.

497
00:23:17,800 --> 00:23:19,680
I did this later in the--

498
00:23:19,680 --> 00:23:20,980
in the concentration camp.

499
00:23:20,980 --> 00:23:22,440
But I didn't do
it in the ghetto.

500
00:23:22,440 --> 00:23:22,930
Not in the ghetto.

501
00:23:22,930 --> 00:23:23,220
OK.

502
00:23:23,220 --> 00:23:23,720
No.

503
00:23:23,720 --> 00:23:26,390
No, that's fine.

504
00:23:26,390 --> 00:23:26,890
OK.

505
00:23:26,890 --> 00:23:28,840
So we're talking
about June 1941,

506
00:23:28,840 --> 00:23:29,940

right before the invasion.

507

00:23:29,940 --> 00:23:31,023

Right before the invasion.

508

00:23:31,023 --> 00:23:35,950

Did things change in Radom
once the invasion started?

509

00:23:35,950 --> 00:23:39,580

Were things much-- could
you sense a difference?

510

00:23:39,580 --> 00:23:40,660

Well, yeah.

511

00:23:40,660 --> 00:23:43,510

Things in the ghetto started
getting worse and worse.

512

00:23:43,510 --> 00:23:47,770

I mean, there was hunger.

513

00:23:47,770 --> 00:23:53,230

Actually, there were different
levels of life in ghetto.

514

00:23:53,230 --> 00:23:58,930

There was an affluent
level, which lived normal.

515

00:23:58,930 --> 00:24:03,335

But the poor who had
no food, and there

516

00:24:03,335 --> 00:24:04,460

was disease and starvation.

517

00:24:04,460 --> 00:24:06,010

Right.

518

00:24:06,010 --> 00:24:12,580

And there was no way to get anything, and overcrowding.

519
00:24:12,580 --> 00:24:16,390
There were three or four families to an apartment.

520
00:24:16,390 --> 00:24:19,870
And disease was one of the worst.

521
00:24:19,870 --> 00:24:26,660
There was typhus and all kind of diseases.

522
00:24:26,660 --> 00:24:29,850

523
00:24:29,850 --> 00:24:32,310
And then there were raids by the Germans.

524
00:24:32,310 --> 00:24:39,412
They would come in at night and arrest and shoot people.

525
00:24:39,412 --> 00:24:41,370
Were there any particular reasons given or they

526
00:24:41,370 --> 00:24:41,970
just did this--

527
00:24:41,970 --> 00:24:42,470
No.

528
00:24:42,470 --> 00:24:43,900
They would have lists.

529
00:24:43,900 --> 00:24:46,350
And at various times there were different people

530

00:24:46,350 --> 00:24:47,460
they would arrest.

531

00:24:47,460 --> 00:24:50,670
At one time they
came and arrested--

532

00:24:50,670 --> 00:24:57,030
don't ask me why, but they
arrested the kosher butchers.

533

00:24:57,030 --> 00:25:00,690
They picked up the
kosher butchers.

534

00:25:00,690 --> 00:25:05,010
I had a friend who
was my age, lived

535

00:25:05,010 --> 00:25:07,410
in our house, a young boy.

536

00:25:07,410 --> 00:25:08,940
And they arrested him.

537

00:25:08,940 --> 00:25:16,410
And they held him for
a while, and then they

538

00:25:16,410 --> 00:25:19,350
brought him back one night.

539

00:25:19,350 --> 00:25:28,080
Right in front we had a
little area with just not--

540

00:25:28,080 --> 00:25:29,430
no building on it.

541

00:25:29,430 --> 00:25:30,390
It was a little garden.

542

00:25:30,390 --> 00:25:32,960

543

00:25:32,960 --> 00:25:36,280

And they brought him
back right to that garden

544

00:25:36,280 --> 00:25:38,010

in the middle of the night.

545

00:25:38,010 --> 00:25:40,640

We heard them all
scream Mama, Mama.

546

00:25:40,640 --> 00:25:44,300

They shot him right there
where his mother could hear.

547

00:25:44,300 --> 00:25:49,800

And then, a while
later, they came

548

00:25:49,800 --> 00:25:53,570

and picked up most of
the kosher butchers

549

00:25:53,570 --> 00:25:54,732

and sent them to Auschwitz.

550

00:25:54,732 --> 00:25:56,690

But, meanwhile, while
they were picking them up

551

00:25:56,690 --> 00:25:58,950

they would shoot
a number of them.

552

00:25:58,950 --> 00:26:00,992

And if they would
come to an apartment

553

00:26:00,992 --> 00:26:02,450

and not find the
right person, they

554

00:26:02,450 --> 00:26:05,450
would take somebody else, like
a brother or another relative.

555

00:26:05,450 --> 00:26:08,340
So they were looking
for specific people,

556

00:26:08,340 --> 00:26:09,385
as far as you could tell?

557

00:26:09,385 --> 00:26:10,760
Yeah, generally
they would come--

558

00:26:10,760 --> 00:26:12,230
They had, like, a list
or something with--

559

00:26:12,230 --> 00:26:12,730
Yeah.

560

00:26:12,730 --> 00:26:15,035
They would come to a
house and pick people up.

561

00:26:15,035 --> 00:26:18,110
But if they're not there,
they will pick others.

562

00:26:18,110 --> 00:26:20,600
But if they would find the--

563

00:26:20,600 --> 00:26:23,600
those raids usually
would be in the morning,

564

00:26:23,600 --> 00:26:24,560
early in the morning.

565

00:26:24,560 --> 00:26:26,030

And I know in some
of those raids

566

00:26:26,030 --> 00:26:29,420

they found some people who
had gone to work, like,

567

00:26:29,420 --> 00:26:32,960

5:30 or 6:00 in the
morning, and they shot them

568

00:26:32,960 --> 00:26:35,810

just because they were moving
around and going to work.

569

00:26:35,810 --> 00:26:36,400

Why?

570

00:26:36,400 --> 00:26:37,770

I have no idea.

571

00:26:37,770 --> 00:26:38,510

Right.

572

00:26:38,510 --> 00:26:43,130

So those raids got
more and more--

573

00:26:43,130 --> 00:26:44,383

came more and more often.

574

00:26:44,383 --> 00:26:45,050

More frequently.

575

00:26:45,050 --> 00:26:45,550

OK.

576

00:26:45,550 --> 00:26:47,677

More frequent.

577

00:26:47,677 --> 00:26:49,260
Do you remember when
those raids were?

578
00:26:49,260 --> 00:26:51,830
Do you remember dates at all?

579
00:26:51,830 --> 00:26:54,110
Roughly at--

580
00:26:54,110 --> 00:26:54,680
No.

581
00:26:54,680 --> 00:26:57,322
Between 1941 and 1942.

582
00:26:57,322 --> 00:26:57,822
OK.

583
00:26:57,822 --> 00:27:01,912

584
00:27:01,912 --> 00:27:03,120
There were a number of those.

585
00:27:03,120 --> 00:27:11,110

586
00:27:11,110 --> 00:27:13,720
Do you remember--
were you living--

587
00:27:13,720 --> 00:27:17,060
you were able to live in your
house in the ghetto since you--

588
00:27:17,060 --> 00:27:19,060
I know you mentioned that
your house was already

589
00:27:19,060 --> 00:27:20,740
in where the ghetto was set up.

590
00:27:20,740 --> 00:27:24,303
Yeah, except two other families
moved in, into our apartment.

591
00:27:24,303 --> 00:27:25,470
Two other families moved in?

592
00:27:25,470 --> 00:27:25,835
OK.

593
00:27:25,835 --> 00:27:26,335
Yeah.

594
00:27:26,335 --> 00:27:29,620
We shared-- we had a
three room apartment.

595
00:27:29,620 --> 00:27:30,590
So there were three.

596
00:27:30,590 --> 00:27:31,870
Two other families moved in.

597
00:27:31,870 --> 00:27:42,760

598
00:27:42,760 --> 00:27:46,300
Well, why don't
we go on and move

599
00:27:46,300 --> 00:27:50,110
to when you left the ghetto,
when you and your family

600
00:27:50,110 --> 00:27:51,850
left the ghetto?

601
00:27:51,850 --> 00:27:54,190
Well, we didn't really
leave the ghetto.

602

00:27:54,190 --> 00:28:08,380
Sometimes in August 1942, they
liquidated the second ghetto.

603

00:28:08,380 --> 00:28:11,470
They came and took
all the people

604

00:28:11,470 --> 00:28:14,600
and sent them to Treblinka,
to the gas chamber.

605

00:28:14,600 --> 00:28:19,180
Now, was just the SS
or was this just German

606

00:28:19,180 --> 00:28:20,920
guards or do you remember?

607

00:28:20,920 --> 00:28:25,200
That was mostly SS, helped
by the Ukrainians and--

608

00:28:25,200 --> 00:28:26,800
Ah, so the Ukrainians
were there.

609

00:28:26,800 --> 00:28:27,300
OK.

610

00:28:27,300 --> 00:28:28,315
Ukrainians were guards.

611

00:28:28,315 --> 00:28:31,900

612

00:28:31,900 --> 00:28:34,840
I really don't know,
because that was

613

00:28:34,840 --> 00:28:36,670
the other side of the ghetto.

614
00:28:36,670 --> 00:28:40,210
I mean, they only left--

615
00:28:40,210 --> 00:28:43,870
they killed several
hundred people that night.

616
00:28:43,870 --> 00:28:48,900
They only left about,
oh, probably 1,000 males.

617
00:28:48,900 --> 00:28:51,410
I don't know how many
females, not many.

618
00:28:51,410 --> 00:28:52,910
Was just in the
main ghetto or the--

619
00:28:52,910 --> 00:28:53,530
The other ghetto.

620
00:28:53,530 --> 00:28:53,975
The other ghetto.

621
00:28:53,975 --> 00:28:54,390
OK.

622
00:28:54,390 --> 00:28:54,970
The Glinice.

623
00:28:54,970 --> 00:28:57,910
It's called Glinice.

624
00:28:57,910 --> 00:29:03,282
And that was the beginning.

625
00:29:03,282 --> 00:29:04,740
Then there were
rumors that they're

626

00:29:04,740 --> 00:29:08,210

going to liquidate the
large ghetto any day now.

627

00:29:08,210 --> 00:29:15,210

Actually, they did, probably
about 10 days later, sometimes

628

00:29:15,210 --> 00:29:18,120

again, in August 1942.

629

00:29:18,120 --> 00:29:20,950

I don't know the exact date,
but sometimes in August.

630

00:29:20,950 --> 00:29:23,630

It was right before
the Jewish new year.

631

00:29:23,630 --> 00:29:34,500

632

00:29:34,500 --> 00:29:38,700

It was a Sunday morning,
and they started

633

00:29:38,700 --> 00:29:40,200

installing bright lights.

634

00:29:40,200 --> 00:29:42,410

So we knew something was
going to happen that day.

635

00:29:42,410 --> 00:29:49,040

636

00:29:49,040 --> 00:29:50,780

One of my brothers already--

637

00:29:50,780 --> 00:29:54,020

there were these two
ghettos, and there

638
00:29:54,020 --> 00:29:57,480
was a group of people
who worked in a factory.

639
00:29:57,480 --> 00:29:59,810
There was a factory
in town that produced

640
00:29:59,810 --> 00:30:01,910
weapons owned by Austrian--

641
00:30:01,910 --> 00:30:04,280
and Austrian company,
Steyr-Daimler-Puch.

642
00:30:04,280 --> 00:30:05,510
OK.

643
00:30:05,510 --> 00:30:07,790
And there was a
number of people who

644
00:30:07,790 --> 00:30:11,300
were stationed at that
factory, and one of my brothers

645
00:30:11,300 --> 00:30:13,380
was there.

646
00:30:13,380 --> 00:30:18,395
And my mother supposed that
they go to that factory.

647
00:30:18,395 --> 00:30:21,353

648
00:30:21,353 --> 00:30:23,020
When they started
installing the lights,

649
00:30:23,020 --> 00:30:25,720

everybody knew that something's
going to happen that day.

650
00:30:25,720 --> 00:30:27,820
And somehow they
came in that morning

651
00:30:27,820 --> 00:30:30,010
and they were looking
for some people

652
00:30:30,010 --> 00:30:36,760
to go and work on a place called
Waschnik, which is an estate

653
00:30:36,760 --> 00:30:39,370
four or five miles out of town.

654
00:30:39,370 --> 00:30:41,500
And so me and my father
volunteered for that,

655
00:30:41,500 --> 00:30:44,240
and we went to work there.

656
00:30:44,240 --> 00:30:49,090
So we worked out with that
group and mother was supposed

657
00:30:49,090 --> 00:30:51,430
to go to the weapons factory.

658
00:30:51,430 --> 00:30:57,630

659
00:30:57,630 --> 00:30:59,740
From what I hear, by the
time she was ready to go,

660
00:30:59,740 --> 00:31:02,200
the Ukrainians were there.

661

00:31:02,200 --> 00:31:04,270
And they wouldn't
let her go anymore.

662
00:31:04,270 --> 00:31:05,620
From the house?

663
00:31:05,620 --> 00:31:06,685
From the ghetto.

664
00:31:06,685 --> 00:31:07,810
Oh, from out of the ghetto.

665
00:31:07,810 --> 00:31:08,020
OK.

666
00:31:08,020 --> 00:31:09,700
The wouldn't let her
leave the ghetto.

667
00:31:09,700 --> 00:31:15,580
So she got deported with
everybody else in that ghetto.

668
00:31:15,580 --> 00:31:20,260
Only about 10% were left or so.

669
00:31:20,260 --> 00:31:21,640
But I wasn't there that night.

670
00:31:21,640 --> 00:31:23,391
I was in Waschnik.

671
00:31:23,391 --> 00:31:29,650

672
00:31:29,650 --> 00:31:35,900
We were on a little
estate working for it.

673
00:31:35,900 --> 00:31:38,540
And we didn't know

what is happening.

674

00:31:38,540 --> 00:31:40,550

Of course, we saw all
those bright lights

675

00:31:40,550 --> 00:31:42,055

and we heard shooting all night.

676

00:31:42,055 --> 00:31:43,760

From what I
understand, there are

677

00:31:43,760 --> 00:31:49,820

about 1,500 people
killed that night,

678

00:31:49,820 --> 00:31:55,050

and some 20 Italians or
so, which were departed.

679

00:31:55,050 --> 00:32:02,775

680

00:32:02,775 --> 00:32:07,900

A few days later we decided--

681

00:32:07,900 --> 00:32:09,620

well, the remainder
of us were then

682

00:32:09,620 --> 00:32:11,670

sent to something
called the small ghetto.

683

00:32:11,670 --> 00:32:12,170

Oh.

684

00:32:12,170 --> 00:32:13,890

They sent the rest of
them to the small ghetto.

685

00:32:13,890 --> 00:32:14,090
OK.

686
00:32:14,090 --> 00:32:14,160
Right.

687
00:32:14,160 --> 00:32:16,430
The small ghetto is the
remainder of about two

688
00:32:16,430 --> 00:32:19,520
or three streets
left from the ghetto.

689
00:32:19,520 --> 00:32:21,590
And that is walled in.

690
00:32:21,590 --> 00:32:36,730

691
00:32:36,730 --> 00:32:43,930
We decided to-- we, meaning
me and another fellow

692
00:32:43,930 --> 00:32:45,280
about a year older than I am.

693
00:32:45,280 --> 00:32:47,870

694
00:32:47,870 --> 00:32:49,990
We were standing in
water most of the time

695
00:32:49,990 --> 00:32:51,545
working on that estate.

696
00:32:51,545 --> 00:32:53,150
We had caught a cold.

697
00:32:53,150 --> 00:32:55,030
I didn't feel too

well, so we went to--

698

00:32:55,030 --> 00:32:57,040

The man who ran
that was a German.

699

00:32:57,040 --> 00:32:58,170

He was not an SS man.

700

00:32:58,170 --> 00:33:00,418

He was a civilian.

701

00:33:00,418 --> 00:33:02,585

So we went to him and we
told him we don't feel well

702

00:33:02,585 --> 00:33:03,988

and we'd like to
go see a doctor.

703

00:33:03,988 --> 00:33:05,530

We actually wanted
to go and see what

704

00:33:05,530 --> 00:33:07,390

happened to the little
ghetto, who was left.

705

00:33:07,390 --> 00:33:08,860

Right.

706

00:33:08,860 --> 00:33:12,590

And he finally relented
and said he'd let us go.

707

00:33:12,590 --> 00:33:14,950

And he gave us a
Jewish policeman

708

00:33:14,950 --> 00:33:17,140

who was there to escort us.

709

00:33:17,140 --> 00:33:20,830
And he said he'll give us a
letter so we can go safely.

710
00:33:20,830 --> 00:33:23,980
He gave us a letter and we left.

711
00:33:23,980 --> 00:33:25,300
On the way we--

712
00:33:25,300 --> 00:33:28,540
my brother worked in a
factory, which was on the way.

713
00:33:28,540 --> 00:33:30,160
So we stopped in to see him.

714
00:33:30,160 --> 00:33:32,210
This is the armaments factory.

715
00:33:32,210 --> 00:33:32,710
No, no.

716
00:33:32,710 --> 00:33:33,760
Oh, no?

717
00:33:33,760 --> 00:33:34,970
A different factory?

718
00:33:34,970 --> 00:33:36,550
My other brother
was in the ghetto.

719
00:33:36,550 --> 00:33:37,670
He survived.

720
00:33:37,670 --> 00:33:40,840
They had a selection.
some of the men were left.

721
00:33:40,840 --> 00:33:41,410
I see.

722
00:33:41,410 --> 00:33:41,910
OK.

723
00:33:41,910 --> 00:33:43,330
And he was part
of the remainder,

724
00:33:43,330 --> 00:33:46,930
and he was working in a
factory just on the way from us

725
00:33:46,930 --> 00:33:47,560
to the ghetto.

726
00:33:47,560 --> 00:33:50,860
So we stopped and he
told me, of course, we

727
00:33:50,860 --> 00:33:55,330
knew then my mother was gone and
most of the people were gone.

728
00:33:55,330 --> 00:33:58,870
But, at that time, we opened
the letter to see what it said.

729
00:33:58,870 --> 00:34:01,090
And what it said
was the-- it was

730
00:34:01,090 --> 00:34:06,850
a letter from that man to
the German police saying

731
00:34:06,850 --> 00:34:10,810
these two Jews are lazy.

732
00:34:10,810 --> 00:34:14,906
They don't want to work, and
I suggest you execute them.

733

00:34:14,906 --> 00:34:16,780

Of course, we never
delivered the letter.

734

00:34:16,780 --> 00:34:18,580

Right.

735

00:34:18,580 --> 00:34:23,110

We just went back to the
little ghetto and disappeared.

736

00:34:23,110 --> 00:34:26,770

And, luckily, he
didn't look for us.

737

00:34:26,770 --> 00:34:30,610

But that's how I got back
to the little ghetto.

738

00:34:30,610 --> 00:34:34,480

Now, this is what we
called the little ghetto.

739

00:34:34,480 --> 00:34:39,969

There, of course, everybody
was assigned a working detail.

740

00:34:39,969 --> 00:34:42,489

Most people were
working on cleaning up

741

00:34:42,489 --> 00:34:46,720

the remains of the large
ghetto or some other details.

742

00:34:46,720 --> 00:34:49,630

743

00:34:49,630 --> 00:34:53,020

I worked in a--

744

00:34:53,020 --> 00:35:01,840

in a place that provided

the shower and a steam bath

745

00:35:01,840 --> 00:35:04,480
for the people.

746

00:35:04,480 --> 00:35:05,485
It was outside.

747

00:35:05,485 --> 00:35:10,960
It was in the old ghetto, but
outside the little ghetto.

748

00:35:10,960 --> 00:35:13,900
And things there were very
bad, in the little ghetto.

749

00:35:13,900 --> 00:35:17,920
There were all
kind of bad actions

750

00:35:17,920 --> 00:35:23,050
constantly going on every few
weeks there's other things.

751

00:35:23,050 --> 00:35:28,750

752

00:35:28,750 --> 00:35:33,340
Well, let me tell you
one personal thing that

753

00:35:33,340 --> 00:35:35,980
happened when I was working--

754

00:35:35,980 --> 00:35:38,300
which is just an example
of what happened.

755

00:35:38,300 --> 00:35:48,570
When I was working in that
place outside in the ghetto,

756

00:35:48,570 --> 00:35:51,510
one day there was a bakery
right down the street,

757
00:35:51,510 --> 00:35:52,230
a Polish bakery.

758
00:35:52,230 --> 00:35:54,753

759
00:35:54,753 --> 00:35:55,670
Did you run out there?

760
00:35:55,670 --> 00:35:58,070

761
00:35:58,070 --> 00:35:58,570
OK.

762
00:35:58,570 --> 00:36:00,100
You were talking
about a Polish bakery.

763
00:36:00,100 --> 00:36:00,600
Yeah.

764
00:36:00,600 --> 00:36:03,080
There was a Polish
bakery, so we run out--

765
00:36:03,080 --> 00:36:05,710

766
00:36:05,710 --> 00:36:07,400
it was very difficult
to get food.

767
00:36:07,400 --> 00:36:09,490
The only way we got
food is the Poles

768
00:36:09,490 --> 00:36:13,240

would come to the wall,
which was a wooden wall--

769
00:36:13,240 --> 00:36:16,910
it was a fence, wooden fence.

770
00:36:16,910 --> 00:36:22,660
We would give them some of those
clothes that was left over,

771
00:36:22,660 --> 00:36:25,900
and we'll trade it for food.

772
00:36:25,900 --> 00:36:28,000
I wanted to buy some bread.

773
00:36:28,000 --> 00:36:32,840
So I went in and
there was a line up.

774
00:36:32,840 --> 00:36:35,645
I took my arm band off.

775
00:36:35,645 --> 00:36:39,935
Of course, I didn't
have much of an accent.

776
00:36:39,935 --> 00:36:44,140
And I was standing in line,
and I almost got to the counter

777
00:36:44,140 --> 00:36:46,340
to buy a piece of bread.

778
00:36:46,340 --> 00:36:47,375
And a young boy came in.

779
00:36:47,375 --> 00:36:50,050
He was probably my age,
maybe a year older.

780
00:36:50,050 --> 00:36:52,360

And he saw me at the counter
and started screaming,

781
00:36:52,360 --> 00:36:53,560
you're selling to Jews.

782
00:36:53,560 --> 00:36:56,910
You're selling to Jews.

783
00:36:56,910 --> 00:36:58,800
So I ran out, and he
went and got Germans.

784
00:36:58,800 --> 00:37:00,660
And the Germans
started looking for me.

785
00:37:00,660 --> 00:37:01,815
I had to hide.

786
00:37:01,815 --> 00:37:03,480
It's a good thing
they didn't find me.

787
00:37:03,480 --> 00:37:06,040
If they had found me, they
would have executed me.

788
00:37:06,040 --> 00:37:06,540
How?

789
00:37:06,540 --> 00:37:08,550
That's type of
relationship we had.

790
00:37:08,550 --> 00:37:10,980
Right.

791
00:37:10,980 --> 00:37:13,340
You asked him if we
risked going out.

792

00:37:13,340 --> 00:37:13,840
Sure.

793
00:37:13,840 --> 00:37:14,940
It got very difficult.

794
00:37:14,940 --> 00:37:17,400
Right.

795
00:37:17,400 --> 00:37:19,440
There were constant executions.

796
00:37:19,440 --> 00:37:22,530
People would-- I
mean, the Germans.

797
00:37:22,530 --> 00:37:24,480
A lot of the
executions were done

798
00:37:24,480 --> 00:37:28,560
by the SD, the
Sicherheitsdienst.

799
00:37:28,560 --> 00:37:32,520
They would bring people
in, we don't know who,

800
00:37:32,520 --> 00:37:34,360
and execute them right nearby.

801
00:37:34,360 --> 00:37:34,860
Right.

802
00:37:34,860 --> 00:37:44,350

803
00:37:44,350 --> 00:37:48,490
At one time in the little
ghetto there was a--

804
00:37:48,490 --> 00:37:51,640

805
00:37:51,640 --> 00:37:54,400
they announced that there
will be a list of people

806
00:37:54,400 --> 00:37:55,943
who want to go to Palestine.

807
00:37:55,943 --> 00:37:59,032

808
00:37:59,032 --> 00:38:00,740
At first, people didn't
want to register.

809
00:38:00,740 --> 00:38:02,470
But then, finally,
people registered.

810
00:38:02,470 --> 00:38:06,620
And I and my brother
registered for that.

811
00:38:06,620 --> 00:38:14,190
And then one day, and
that was January 13, 1943,

812
00:38:14,190 --> 00:38:20,430
they got everybody
out of the house

813
00:38:20,430 --> 00:38:26,370
and put them into a backyard,
and started calling names.

814
00:38:26,370 --> 00:38:29,830
And the names they were
calling were from that list.

815
00:38:29,830 --> 00:38:32,070
There was only one difference.

816

00:38:32,070 --> 00:38:34,590

They weren't all from that list.

817

00:38:34,590 --> 00:38:39,310

Some of the names were changed,
how and when, we don't know.

818

00:38:39,310 --> 00:38:42,300

But our names were not there.

819

00:38:42,300 --> 00:38:44,650

Somebody changed
some of the names.

820

00:38:44,650 --> 00:38:45,750

But names were called.

821

00:38:45,750 --> 00:38:48,100

They were called from that list.

822

00:38:48,100 --> 00:38:51,810

There were about 1,500
names on that list.

823

00:38:51,810 --> 00:38:56,070

And now those people
were put in the street.

824

00:38:56,070 --> 00:38:59,430

Now the question is we know
one of the groups will survive

825

00:38:59,430 --> 00:39:01,800

and the other will go away.

826

00:39:01,800 --> 00:39:04,110

And we just didn't know which.

827

00:39:04,110 --> 00:39:06,810

But the became apparent that,
because of the names who

828

00:39:06,810 --> 00:39:09,558

did appear on that list, that
the group who is on the list

829

00:39:09,558 --> 00:39:11,100

is going to be the
one that survives.

830

00:39:11,100 --> 00:39:16,310

831

00:39:16,310 --> 00:39:21,860

Eventually, I run forward, after
they finish reading the list.

832

00:39:21,860 --> 00:39:25,900

The elder of the
ghetto was a doctor.

833

00:39:25,900 --> 00:39:27,660

Is that who was
reading the list?

834

00:39:27,660 --> 00:39:28,670

No, the Germans.

835

00:39:28,670 --> 00:39:29,820

The Germans were.

836

00:39:29,820 --> 00:39:30,320

No.

837

00:39:30,320 --> 00:39:33,800

There was a-- a Jewish
man was reading the list,

838

00:39:33,800 --> 00:39:34,820

one of the secretaries.

839

00:39:34,820 --> 00:39:37,070

But there were two Germans
who were checking the list,

840
00:39:37,070 --> 00:39:38,570
because the men
weren't running out.

841
00:39:38,570 --> 00:39:40,987
If you didn't show up and your
name was called, forget it.

842
00:39:40,987 --> 00:39:42,120
You were in another one.

843
00:39:42,120 --> 00:39:45,230

844
00:39:45,230 --> 00:39:47,990
Did the Jewish Council
or the Judenrat,

845
00:39:47,990 --> 00:39:51,610
did they take the list down or
did the Germans take the list?

846
00:39:51,610 --> 00:39:52,110
Don't know.

847
00:39:52,110 --> 00:39:52,950
Don't remember.

848
00:39:52,950 --> 00:39:54,800
OK.

849
00:39:54,800 --> 00:39:58,550
Well, what happened
is I ran out there,

850
00:39:58,550 --> 00:40:03,560
and the lady who was running
the place where I worked,

851
00:40:03,560 --> 00:40:06,560
her name was Miss Zucker.

852
00:40:06,560 --> 00:40:11,630
And she was an
acquaintance of that doctor

853
00:40:11,630 --> 00:40:14,600
who is the elder of the ghetto.

854
00:40:14,600 --> 00:40:17,150
And all of a sudden
he called out

855
00:40:17,150 --> 00:40:20,940
for Miss Zucker and her family.

856
00:40:20,940 --> 00:40:23,660
And I ran out and
they stopped me.

857
00:40:23,660 --> 00:40:24,810
And they said, who are you?

858
00:40:24,810 --> 00:40:27,230
And I said, I'm her brother.

859
00:40:27,230 --> 00:40:29,630
And they checked with
him, and he said, yeah,

860
00:40:29,630 --> 00:40:30,510
he's her brother.

861
00:40:30,510 --> 00:40:32,330
Of course, he knew
I'm not but he did.

862
00:40:32,330 --> 00:40:34,130
So he saved my life for that.

863
00:40:34,130 --> 00:40:35,060
So they let me go.

864

00:40:35,060 --> 00:40:39,110

And that's how I wound up
with the column that are safe.

865

00:40:39,110 --> 00:40:41,840

Now, they took those 1,500
people, which was about half.

866

00:40:41,840 --> 00:40:46,830

Then they added some
other 50 or 100.

867

00:40:46,830 --> 00:40:48,350

That column stayed.

868

00:40:48,350 --> 00:40:51,380

The other people I
just sent on the train

869

00:40:51,380 --> 00:40:52,760

and send out to Treblinka.

870

00:40:52,760 --> 00:40:53,640

So you stayed.

871

00:40:53,640 --> 00:40:54,140

Yes.

872

00:40:54,140 --> 00:40:55,598

You were able to
stay in the ghetto

873

00:40:55,598 --> 00:40:58,400

because you were pretending
to be the brother.

874

00:40:58,400 --> 00:41:00,700

Yeah.

875

00:41:00,700 --> 00:41:03,450

Did your brother--
did he remain or--

876
00:41:03,450 --> 00:41:03,950
Yeah.

877
00:41:03,950 --> 00:41:06,050
He remained because
all of a sudden

878
00:41:06,050 --> 00:41:08,120
they needed another 50
people or something,

879
00:41:08,120 --> 00:41:10,250
and somehow they picked him.

880
00:41:10,250 --> 00:41:11,930
For work detail or
something like that?

881
00:41:11,930 --> 00:41:12,430
No.

882
00:41:12,430 --> 00:41:14,540
They just needed 50
more for something.

883
00:41:14,540 --> 00:41:15,260
I don't know why.

884
00:41:15,260 --> 00:41:18,320
And they pushed him
over, and he somehow

885
00:41:18,320 --> 00:41:19,520
wound up with those too.

886
00:41:19,520 --> 00:41:20,330
I don't know.

887
00:41:20,330 --> 00:41:22,440
At the end, he
wound up there too.

888
00:41:22,440 --> 00:41:24,320
So he was lucky too.

889
00:41:24,320 --> 00:41:26,930
So we both survived.

890
00:41:26,930 --> 00:41:31,290

891
00:41:31,290 --> 00:41:35,658
There were execution-- one day
they called all the people who

892
00:41:35,658 --> 00:41:36,200
had degrees--

893
00:41:36,200 --> 00:41:40,430
doctors, lawyers-- and
put them in a truck.

894
00:41:40,430 --> 00:41:46,280
And Ukrainians took them out to
a small town outside the city

895
00:41:46,280 --> 00:41:48,290
and shot them.

896
00:41:48,290 --> 00:41:50,270
But that type of
thing kept happening.

897
00:41:50,270 --> 00:41:52,280
Right.

898
00:41:52,280 --> 00:41:59,070
My father and my brother were in
the factory that produced the--

899
00:41:59,070 --> 00:42:01,140
the weapons factory.

900

00:42:01,140 --> 00:42:04,070

So sometimes, I
think, in April--

901

00:42:04,070 --> 00:42:05,955

Of '43?

902

00:42:05,955 --> 00:42:08,250

'43, yeah.

903

00:42:08,250 --> 00:42:11,610

904

00:42:11,610 --> 00:42:14,930

They took me over there, too.

905

00:42:14,930 --> 00:42:20,990

So I started working there, too.

906

00:42:20,990 --> 00:42:24,850

Now, there was a camp that--

907

00:42:24,850 --> 00:42:27,870

908

00:42:27,870 --> 00:42:28,950

there was a working camp.

909

00:42:28,950 --> 00:42:31,880

910

00:42:31,880 --> 00:42:37,020

We all worked in the
factory, two shifts,

911

00:42:37,020 --> 00:42:46,420

and slept in a camp a little
bit away from the factory.

912

00:42:46,420 --> 00:42:55,240

And we were guarded

by Ukrainians mostly.

913
00:42:55,240 --> 00:43:04,390
But in the factory there were
a number of ethnic Germans

914
00:43:04,390 --> 00:43:06,300
who were guard--

915
00:43:06,300 --> 00:43:12,530

916
00:43:12,530 --> 00:43:17,270
policemen-- what
do you call them?

917
00:43:17,270 --> 00:43:18,080
Security people?

918
00:43:18,080 --> 00:43:20,780
Security guard, security guard.

919
00:43:20,780 --> 00:43:22,610
And they really
had the upper hand.

920
00:43:22,610 --> 00:43:23,840
They used to--

921
00:43:23,840 --> 00:43:25,460
And these were ethnic Germans?

922
00:43:25,460 --> 00:43:26,090
Yeah.

923
00:43:26,090 --> 00:43:33,625
One of them, especially,
his name was Holz, H-O-L-Z,

924
00:43:33,625 --> 00:43:34,330
Jacob Holz.

925

00:43:34,330 --> 00:43:40,330

926

00:43:40,330 --> 00:43:44,110

He used to-- he executed
about 18 people.

927

00:43:44,110 --> 00:43:47,990

928

00:43:47,990 --> 00:43:52,670

One of them they forced
everybody to watch.

929

00:43:52,670 --> 00:43:54,230

Had this young boy--

930

00:43:54,230 --> 00:43:57,650

young man who I knew,
was a friend of mine,

931

00:43:57,650 --> 00:43:59,600

his name was Weinberg.

932

00:43:59,600 --> 00:44:07,560

And the whole camp had to watch
it when they executed him.

933

00:44:07,560 --> 00:44:09,930

They answer to that
every day is actually

934

00:44:09,930 --> 00:44:12,935

because I believe he fell
asleep on the night shift.

935

00:44:12,935 --> 00:44:13,810

While he was working?

936

00:44:13,810 --> 00:44:16,170

Yeah.

937

00:44:16,170 --> 00:44:19,900

One day, they called
me over and I--

938

00:44:19,900 --> 00:44:26,610

my job there was to sweep
the street, sweep the yard.

939

00:44:26,610 --> 00:44:31,020

They called me over one day in
the morning and here, there,

940

00:44:31,020 --> 00:44:33,090

and they told me to dig a grave.

941

00:44:33,090 --> 00:44:37,410

There was a freshly killed
body of a young boy.

942

00:44:37,410 --> 00:44:40,530

And he told me to bury it.

943

00:44:40,530 --> 00:44:44,110

And I started burying it, and
he kept that gun in front of me

944

00:44:44,110 --> 00:44:45,900

and said bury him,
and if you don't do it

945

00:44:45,900 --> 00:44:48,870

quickly you're going
to be buried too.

946

00:44:48,870 --> 00:44:50,730

He was something.

947

00:44:50,730 --> 00:44:52,170

This is the same Holz?

948

00:44:52,170 --> 00:44:53,140

Same Holz.

949
00:44:53,140 --> 00:44:54,750
He also killed a--

950
00:44:54,750 --> 00:44:58,350
there was some people
escaped from the camp.

951
00:44:58,350 --> 00:45:03,220
And they came and they
got I think some relatives

952
00:45:03,220 --> 00:45:04,960
with two children.

953
00:45:04,960 --> 00:45:07,030
And they executed--
I didn't see that,

954
00:45:07,030 --> 00:45:09,850
but they executed them too.

955
00:45:09,850 --> 00:45:12,840
About 18 people, now I went
and testified against him.

956
00:45:12,840 --> 00:45:13,736
Oh, you did?

957
00:45:13,736 --> 00:45:16,180
Yeah a few years ago,
a couple of years

958
00:45:16,180 --> 00:45:18,500
ago, not long ago
in east Germany.

959
00:45:18,500 --> 00:45:24,400
And they got him.

960
00:45:24,400 --> 00:45:30,380
OK, that's part in the factory.

961
00:45:30,380 --> 00:45:30,880
Let me--

962
00:45:30,880 --> 00:45:34,032
Now, sometime in 1944 they--

963
00:45:34,032 --> 00:45:35,740
Well, actually, let
me ask you a question

964
00:45:35,740 --> 00:45:38,860
real quick about where you
were working in this factory.

965
00:45:38,860 --> 00:45:42,340
You said that you used
to sleep at the factory.

966
00:45:42,340 --> 00:45:44,883
No, at the camp
outside the factory.

967
00:45:44,883 --> 00:45:45,550
At the camp, OK.

968
00:45:45,550 --> 00:45:47,342
Yeah, there was a camp
outside the factory.

969
00:45:47,342 --> 00:45:49,860
How far was this from
the ghetto in Radom?

970
00:45:49,860 --> 00:45:51,640
Oh, it was on the
other side of town.

971
00:45:51,640 --> 00:45:53,705
Oh, so it was very, very near.

972
00:45:53,705 --> 00:45:54,830

And then there was a camp--

973

00:45:54,830 --> 00:45:55,997

Near, what do you mean near?

974

00:45:55,997 --> 00:45:57,028

Well, it wasn't very--

975

00:45:57,028 --> 00:45:57,820

Other side of town.

976

00:45:57,820 --> 00:45:58,867

Other side of town, OK.

977

00:45:58,867 --> 00:46:01,450

But it wasn't like 20 miles out
of town or anything like that?

978

00:46:01,450 --> 00:46:02,420

No, no.

979

00:46:02,420 --> 00:46:05,410

OK, and there was a camp
set up around the factory

980

00:46:05,410 --> 00:46:09,520

for the workers
or the prisoners,

981

00:46:09,520 --> 00:46:12,730

basically I guess,
to be taken at night?

982

00:46:12,730 --> 00:46:15,067

Or did you all sleep
in the factory?

983

00:46:15,067 --> 00:46:15,650

Was that how--

984

00:46:15,650 --> 00:46:17,190

No, we never slept

in the factory.

985

00:46:17,190 --> 00:46:17,898

We slept in camp.

986

00:46:17,898 --> 00:46:19,493

We were just the two shifts.

987

00:46:19,493 --> 00:46:21,535

In the morning the shift
marched into the factory

988

00:46:21,535 --> 00:46:23,830

and worked all day, and
then the evening they

989

00:46:23,830 --> 00:46:25,070

went back to the camp.

990

00:46:25,070 --> 00:46:27,880

And then another shift
worked then and so on.

991

00:46:27,880 --> 00:46:30,300

We worked in the factory
and stayed in camp.

992

00:46:30,300 --> 00:46:31,150

OK, I got you.

993

00:46:31,150 --> 00:46:36,370

And another question,
the Holz, the guard, you

994

00:46:36,370 --> 00:46:37,690

said he was an ethnic German.

995

00:46:37,690 --> 00:46:40,870

Was he an ethnic German
who was a Polish citizen,

996

00:46:40,870 --> 00:46:44,680

or was he a German SS guard?

997

00:46:44,680 --> 00:46:47,200

Not-- no, he was
not an SS guard.

998

00:46:47,200 --> 00:46:50,740

He was an ethnic German
from what I understand now,

999

00:46:50,740 --> 00:46:55,600

and I didn't know then, he is
an illiterate ethnic German.

1000

00:46:55,600 --> 00:46:57,330

He is not an SS man.

1001

00:46:57,330 --> 00:46:58,306

[AUDIO OUT]

1002

00:46:58,306 --> 00:47:05,630

1003

00:47:05,630 --> 00:47:06,720

OK, go ahead.

1004

00:47:06,720 --> 00:47:09,890

Oh, wait, let me
stop real quick.

1005

00:47:09,890 --> 00:47:12,750

Go for it.

1006

00:47:12,750 --> 00:47:22,080

Sometime in 1943 we they
brought in the people

1007

00:47:22,080 --> 00:47:25,260

from the small ghetto and
combined the two camps

1008

00:47:25,260 --> 00:47:31,380

into the camp from the factory,
from the weapons factory.

1009

00:47:31,380 --> 00:47:34,410

Combined the two camps,
and shortly afterwards it

1010

00:47:34,410 --> 00:47:37,680

became a concentration camp.

1011

00:47:37,680 --> 00:47:39,850

And if you ask me for
a date, I don't know.

1012

00:47:39,850 --> 00:47:41,940

It might have been November '43.

1013

00:47:41,940 --> 00:47:43,660

OK, but sometime in '43?

1014

00:47:43,660 --> 00:47:46,820

Yeah, I think it was '43.

1015

00:47:46,820 --> 00:47:47,320

Yeah.

1016

00:47:47,320 --> 00:47:52,960

1017

00:47:52,960 --> 00:47:55,900

And then at that time
the SS took over.

1018

00:47:55,900 --> 00:47:57,100

We had new set of guards.

1019

00:47:57,100 --> 00:48:00,178

1020

00:48:00,178 --> 00:48:06,640

In fact, they were trained
concentration camp guards

1021
00:48:06,640 --> 00:48:08,440
and all that.

1022
00:48:08,440 --> 00:48:17,360
And we were in there on the--
we got concentration camp

1023
00:48:17,360 --> 00:48:20,390
uniforms, hats and all that.

1024
00:48:20,390 --> 00:48:34,778
And we were there
till July 1944.

1025
00:48:34,778 --> 00:48:36,070
Again, the same thing repeated.

1026
00:48:36,070 --> 00:48:39,430
There were constant
raids here and there.

1027
00:48:39,430 --> 00:48:44,020
They would pick a number
of people and kill them.

1028
00:48:44,020 --> 00:48:46,570
Just before we left, a
few months before that,

1029
00:48:46,570 --> 00:48:50,860
they took a number of
people who were carpenters.

1030
00:48:50,860 --> 00:48:52,570
I don't know why they
needed carpenters,

1031
00:48:52,570 --> 00:48:57,700
I think they wanted to
erase any of the marks

1032

00:48:57,700 --> 00:48:59,730
that they had left.

1033
00:48:59,730 --> 00:49:02,080
And these people disappeared.

1034
00:49:02,080 --> 00:49:04,450
Apparently, they executed them.

1035
00:49:04,450 --> 00:49:08,590
Did-- in this camp, you were
taken to the armaments factory

1036
00:49:08,590 --> 00:49:10,030
to work from this camp?

1037
00:49:10,030 --> 00:49:10,530
Yeah.

1038
00:49:10,530 --> 00:49:11,710
OK, could you tell
me a little bit

1039
00:49:11,710 --> 00:49:13,240
about working the
armaments factory?

1040
00:49:13,240 --> 00:49:14,930
What you did, what your job was?

1041
00:49:14,930 --> 00:49:15,430
Personally?

1042
00:49:15,430 --> 00:49:15,930
Yeah.

1043
00:49:15,930 --> 00:49:19,480
I personally cleaned the yard.

1044
00:49:19,480 --> 00:49:21,360
Oh, right, OK, you told me that.

1045
00:49:21,360 --> 00:49:22,610
Yeah.

1046
00:49:22,610 --> 00:49:29,260
Most of the other
people worked on a line

1047
00:49:29,260 --> 00:49:34,710
doing building bicycles or
building weapons or whatever.

1048
00:49:34,710 --> 00:49:36,685
Yeah.

1049
00:49:36,685 --> 00:49:38,560
And that's what your
brother and father did--

1050
00:49:38,560 --> 00:49:39,580
were doing at that time?

1051
00:49:39,580 --> 00:49:40,240
Yeah.

1052
00:49:40,240 --> 00:49:41,990
Were both your brothers
there or just one?

1053
00:49:41,990 --> 00:49:46,150
Well, my father was also working
on the cleaning the yard.

1054
00:49:46,150 --> 00:49:49,000
And both your brothers were
then working in the armaments?

1055
00:49:49,000 --> 00:49:50,700
They were doing on
the assembly line?

1056
00:49:50,700 --> 00:49:51,200
Yeah.

1057
00:49:51,200 --> 00:49:52,930
OK.

1058
00:49:52,930 --> 00:49:53,860
I'm sorry, go ahead.

1059
00:49:53,860 --> 00:49:59,660

1060
00:49:59,660 --> 00:50:13,650
Around July, shortly after
July 20th, 22nd, 23rd of July

1061
00:50:13,650 --> 00:50:19,920
we started hearing noises
which were surprising noises.

1062
00:50:19,920 --> 00:50:21,480
At first, we thought
it was thunder,

1063
00:50:21,480 --> 00:50:22,980
but it wasn't really thunder.

1064
00:50:22,980 --> 00:50:26,850
Those were the
approaching Russian army.

1065
00:50:26,850 --> 00:50:29,130
They were actually
in Lublin, which

1066
00:50:29,130 --> 00:50:32,430
is only 30 or 40
miles down the road.

1067
00:50:32,430 --> 00:50:34,620
Not too far, right

1068
00:50:34,620 --> 00:50:41,610
And we had some Polish people

that we did some trading with,

1069
00:50:41,610 --> 00:50:43,978
and at that time we
asked them whether we

1070
00:50:43,978 --> 00:50:46,020
could stay with them for
a week or two because we

1071
00:50:46,020 --> 00:50:48,810
thought the Russians would
be there within a week.

1072
00:50:48,810 --> 00:50:53,560
They refused, no way.

1073
00:50:53,560 --> 00:51:00,005
But around the 25th
or the 26th of July,

1074
00:51:00,005 --> 00:51:04,230
something around there-- again,
the dates I cannot be exact--

1075
00:51:04,230 --> 00:51:10,100

1076
00:51:10,100 --> 00:51:12,980
we were all evacuated.

1077
00:51:12,980 --> 00:51:14,780
We walked out of the camp.

1078
00:51:14,780 --> 00:51:19,220

1079
00:51:19,220 --> 00:51:23,340
We walk down the
streets of the city.

1080
00:51:23,340 --> 00:51:25,760

And if I remember, there
were a lot of Polish workers

1081
00:51:25,760 --> 00:51:32,780
who were just looking at us and
believe it or not, applauding.

1082
00:51:32,780 --> 00:51:33,830
Do you know what for?

1083
00:51:33,830 --> 00:51:35,380
Just that you were leaving?

1084
00:51:35,380 --> 00:51:39,330
The fact that we were
leaving the city.

1085
00:51:39,330 --> 00:51:41,480
I never forget that.

1086
00:51:41,480 --> 00:51:46,670
I've shut out a lot of sounds
that happened during the war,

1087
00:51:46,670 --> 00:51:48,980
but I'll never shut
out that sound.

1088
00:51:48,980 --> 00:51:49,713
I never will.

1089
00:51:49,713 --> 00:51:50,380
Of the applause?

1090
00:51:50,380 --> 00:51:52,200
No, I'll always remember that.

1091
00:51:52,200 --> 00:51:55,820

1092
00:51:55,820 --> 00:52:01,460
Yeah, there were some people

who tried to run away that day.

1093

00:52:01,460 --> 00:52:03,245

And they ran into
a local building

1094

00:52:03,245 --> 00:52:07,880

until some of the Poles
indicated where they are.

1095

00:52:07,880 --> 00:52:11,180

And the Germans got
them and they were shot.

1096

00:52:11,180 --> 00:52:17,660

We walked for several
nights, several days.

1097

00:52:17,660 --> 00:52:21,260

On the second day or the
third day, actually--

1098

00:52:21,260 --> 00:52:25,010

no, maybe it was the
second day of the march

1099

00:52:25,010 --> 00:52:30,050

they asked that the
people who were weak

1100

00:52:30,050 --> 00:52:34,370

and they couldn't walk be
put in a horse and buggy

1101

00:52:34,370 --> 00:52:37,580

on the back and then--

1102

00:52:37,580 --> 00:52:39,980

so they shouldn't get too weak.

1103

00:52:39,980 --> 00:52:42,665

And in the evening we
used to-- at night we

1104
00:52:42,665 --> 00:52:45,880
slept in the fields, wherever we
were they would select a field

1105
00:52:45,880 --> 00:52:49,040
and we would sleep
in that field.

1106
00:52:49,040 --> 00:52:53,870
And at night, before
we got to the field,

1107
00:52:53,870 --> 00:52:57,050
the people on the-- the
sick people in the buggy

1108
00:52:57,050 --> 00:53:04,130
were thrown into the forest
and executed by the guards.

1109
00:53:04,130 --> 00:53:07,340
Now, the guards for that
march were all Lithuanians

1110
00:53:07,340 --> 00:53:09,080
or Ukrainians.

1111
00:53:09,080 --> 00:53:10,835
Oh, so were there any SS?

1112
00:53:10,835 --> 00:53:13,927
There were SS, there was
the regular SS were with us.

1113
00:53:13,927 --> 00:53:15,260
But the majority of the guards--

1114
00:53:15,260 --> 00:53:20,300
But the majority-- they
used a lot of Lithuanians

1115

00:53:20,300 --> 00:53:26,410
and well, there might have been
other Latvians, I don't know.

1116
00:53:26,410 --> 00:53:26,910
OK.

1117
00:53:26,910 --> 00:53:30,510

1118
00:53:30,510 --> 00:53:31,970
It was a very tough march.

1119
00:53:31,970 --> 00:53:35,280
We marched to a place
called Tomaszow.

1120
00:53:35,280 --> 00:53:38,063
Did they tell you where you
were going or they not at all?

1121
00:53:38,063 --> 00:53:38,730
They just said--

1122
00:53:38,730 --> 00:53:39,000
No.

1123
00:53:39,000 --> 00:53:39,870
Just started marching you?

1124
00:53:39,870 --> 00:53:40,840
They started marching.

1125
00:53:40,840 --> 00:53:41,670
OK.

1126
00:53:41,670 --> 00:53:45,792
We were hoping anytime that
the Russians will get there.

1127
00:53:45,792 --> 00:53:46,500
Get there, right.

1128
00:53:46,500 --> 00:53:48,807
But they apparently, they
stopped-- as we know now,

1129
00:53:48,807 --> 00:53:50,140
they stopped for several months.

1130
00:53:50,140 --> 00:53:51,060
Right.

1131
00:53:51,060 --> 00:53:53,190
We didn't know it then.

1132
00:53:53,190 --> 00:53:57,720
They kept us in this
Tomaszow in a factory--

1133
00:53:57,720 --> 00:54:03,810
in a factory that idle at
the time-- for several days.

1134
00:54:03,810 --> 00:54:05,910
Could you spell the name
of that town for me?

1135
00:54:05,910 --> 00:54:12,840
T-O-M-A-S-Z-O-W.

1136
00:54:12,840 --> 00:54:13,370
OK.

1137
00:54:13,370 --> 00:54:16,480
And it's Mazowiecki on the
end because it belongs to.

1138
00:54:16,480 --> 00:54:21,010

1139
00:54:21,010 --> 00:54:24,740
And we stayed in
that factory for--

1140
00:54:24,740 --> 00:54:30,770
oh, I don't know, I think it
was about eight or nine days.

1141
00:54:30,770 --> 00:54:33,670

1142
00:54:33,670 --> 00:54:36,880
They separated the woman, but
the men stayed in the factory.

1143
00:54:36,880 --> 00:54:39,730
The woman, I believe,
stayed at a local jail.

1144
00:54:39,730 --> 00:54:40,430
I'm not sure.

1145
00:54:40,430 --> 00:54:44,560

1146
00:54:44,560 --> 00:54:48,060
Were they feeding you
on this march at all?

1147
00:54:48,060 --> 00:54:51,498

1148
00:54:51,498 --> 00:54:52,540
Or did you just kind of--

1149
00:54:52,540 --> 00:54:53,620
Yeah, I think they did.

1150
00:54:53,620 --> 00:54:54,830
I'm not quite sure.

1151
00:54:54,830 --> 00:54:57,730
Yeah, I don't remember any
hunger pains or anything

1152
00:54:57,730 --> 00:54:58,510
like that.

1153
00:54:58,510 --> 00:55:00,970
It wasn't that
type of thing, no.

1154
00:55:00,970 --> 00:55:04,640
They didn't-- we had
a shortage of water.

1155
00:55:04,640 --> 00:55:08,590
We did not have water, because
I remember one night when

1156
00:55:08,590 --> 00:55:11,087
we stopped everybody
ran to get water

1157
00:55:11,087 --> 00:55:12,170
and they started shooting.

1158
00:55:12,170 --> 00:55:14,050
And some people got
wounded because of that.

1159
00:55:14,050 --> 00:55:15,130
Because they went for the water?

1160
00:55:15,130 --> 00:55:16,540
Because they went for the water.

1161
00:55:16,540 --> 00:55:18,518
So we had water
problems, but I don't

1162
00:55:18,518 --> 00:55:19,810
think there were food problems.

1163
00:55:19,810 --> 00:55:20,860
I can't remember that.

1164

00:55:20,860 --> 00:55:24,800

1165

00:55:24,800 --> 00:55:33,740

On a Saturday, one Saturday
they put us in wagons

1166

00:55:33,740 --> 00:55:36,920

and transported us from
there to Auschwitz.

1167

00:55:36,920 --> 00:55:39,170

This is on a train,
train wagons?

1168

00:55:39,170 --> 00:55:39,702

On a train.

1169

00:55:39,702 --> 00:55:41,120

Yeah.

1170

00:55:41,120 --> 00:55:41,960

From this town?

1171

00:55:41,960 --> 00:55:43,850

From this town.

1172

00:55:43,850 --> 00:55:49,730

We arrived in Auschwitz
on a Sunday morning.

1173

00:55:49,730 --> 00:55:52,863

1174

00:55:52,863 --> 00:55:55,030

I can't-- I'm not going to
give you a date because I

1175

00:55:55,030 --> 00:55:55,610

don't know.

1176

00:55:55,610 --> 00:55:56,620
Sometime in August.

1177
00:55:56,620 --> 00:55:57,880
Sometime in 1944?

1178
00:55:57,880 --> 00:56:02,730
Sometime in August, yeah, 1944.

1179
00:56:02,730 --> 00:56:04,983
And I don't know
exactly what date,

1180
00:56:04,983 --> 00:56:06,150
but it was a Sunday morning.

1181
00:56:06,150 --> 00:56:09,470

1182
00:56:09,470 --> 00:56:14,000
And while there-- it was
early in the morning.

1183
00:56:14,000 --> 00:56:18,950

1184
00:56:18,950 --> 00:56:23,390
About the first
thing we know is they

1185
00:56:23,390 --> 00:56:30,290
told us to get out of the cars
and line up for a selection.

1186
00:56:30,290 --> 00:56:33,560
And while we were lining
up for a selection

1187
00:56:33,560 --> 00:56:37,640
they said hold it, hold it, go
back, it's a mistake, go back.

1188

00:56:37,640 --> 00:56:38,810
So we went back.

1189
00:56:38,810 --> 00:56:39,770
Into the cars?

1190
00:56:39,770 --> 00:56:41,250
Back into the cars.

1191
00:56:41,250 --> 00:56:43,940
And we heard another
train coming.

1192
00:56:43,940 --> 00:56:47,828
And while we were sitting
there, a train come in a place--

1193
00:56:47,828 --> 00:56:48,620
from Lodz, L-O-D-Z.

1194
00:56:48,620 --> 00:56:49,120
Right, OK.

1195
00:56:49,120 --> 00:56:51,855

1196
00:56:51,855 --> 00:56:53,522
I don't know how many
people were on it,

1197
00:56:53,522 --> 00:56:55,400
but it was a large train.

1198
00:56:55,400 --> 00:57:00,940
I think there were about
4,000 people on that train.

1199
00:57:00,940 --> 00:57:06,130
And while we were standing
there they emptied that train,

1200
00:57:06,130 --> 00:57:07,498

took all the people--

1201
00:57:07,498 --> 00:57:10,570
all of them.

1202
00:57:10,570 --> 00:57:13,000
And what we saw on that train
they came from a ghetto.

1203
00:57:13,000 --> 00:57:15,280
Lodz still was a
ghetto at that time.

1204
00:57:15,280 --> 00:57:20,423
And there were some
children on there.

1205
00:57:20,423 --> 00:57:22,840
And now, we didn't see children,
because we were in a camp

1206
00:57:22,840 --> 00:57:23,340
already.

1207
00:57:23,340 --> 00:57:24,820
There were no children there.

1208
00:57:24,820 --> 00:57:29,680
It's supposed to be a population
between 18 and 40 or so.

1209
00:57:29,680 --> 00:57:34,540
And they took all these
people and sent them

1210
00:57:34,540 --> 00:57:36,408
to the gas chamber.

1211
00:57:36,408 --> 00:57:39,820
All of them within
a few minutes.

1212

00:57:39,820 --> 00:57:48,120

1213

00:57:48,120 --> 00:57:53,880

Was there a sense on
your train that you

1214

00:57:53,880 --> 00:57:55,830

were being held for
some work purpose

1215

00:57:55,830 --> 00:57:57,330

or not, since you
hadn't been sent--

1216

00:57:57,330 --> 00:57:57,955

We didn't know.

1217

00:57:57,955 --> 00:57:59,077

We didn't know.

1218

00:57:59,077 --> 00:57:59,910

You didn't know, OK.

1219

00:57:59,910 --> 00:58:00,930

We had no idea.

1220

00:58:00,930 --> 00:58:01,950

We had no idea.

1221

00:58:01,950 --> 00:58:06,070

We thought then they
told us to line up.

1222

00:58:06,070 --> 00:58:09,000

We thought they going to
do the same thing with us.

1223

00:58:09,000 --> 00:58:10,080

But they didn't.

1224

00:58:10,080 --> 00:58:13,350

What they did is they took
the people who looked young

1225
00:58:13,350 --> 00:58:15,600
and who looked old.

1226
00:58:15,600 --> 00:58:18,102
We were also told to
watch out because they

1227
00:58:18,102 --> 00:58:19,060
were looking for twins.

1228
00:58:19,060 --> 00:58:20,610
Now, my brothers were twins.

1229
00:58:20,610 --> 00:58:21,360
Right.

1230
00:58:21,360 --> 00:58:32,020
My father at the time was 48 or
49, and I, of course, was 17.

1231
00:58:32,020 --> 00:58:36,960
So we're all a problem.

1232
00:58:36,960 --> 00:58:38,907
What we did is they separated.

1233
00:58:38,907 --> 00:58:40,490
I mean, they weren't
standing together

1234
00:58:40,490 --> 00:58:42,560
so it wouldn't be obvious.

1235
00:58:42,560 --> 00:58:43,850
Identified, right.

1236
00:58:43,850 --> 00:58:47,850
I didn't shave, my
father shaved twice.

1237
00:58:47,850 --> 00:58:49,130
Somehow, we got through.

1238
00:58:49,130 --> 00:58:51,710
But they did pick, I don't
know, maybe a dozen people,

1239
00:58:51,710 --> 00:58:53,540
maybe two dozen people.

1240
00:58:53,540 --> 00:58:55,260
Did they ask you your age?

1241
00:58:55,260 --> 00:58:55,760
No.

1242
00:58:55,760 --> 00:58:56,260
No one did?

1243
00:58:56,260 --> 00:58:58,310
He just went through like
a short arm inspection

1244
00:58:58,310 --> 00:58:59,285
in the army.

1245
00:58:59,285 --> 00:59:01,190
You know what a short
arm inspection is?

1246
00:59:01,190 --> 00:59:01,370
Yeah.

1247
00:59:01,370 --> 00:59:03,537
They went through a short
arm, that's what they did.

1248
00:59:03,537 --> 00:59:05,885
They just picked out you go
this way, you go this way,

1249

00:59:05,885 --> 00:59:07,660

you go this way and that's it.

1250

00:59:07,660 --> 00:59:10,460

OK, can we backtrack
just a little bit?

1251

00:59:10,460 --> 00:59:16,730

Can you tell me about the
train ride to Auschwitz?

1252

00:59:16,730 --> 00:59:18,770

There was no event.

1253

00:59:18,770 --> 00:59:20,450

It's just, it was locked in.

1254

00:59:20,450 --> 00:59:23,780

We were about 60, 70 to a car.

1255

00:59:23,780 --> 00:59:27,420

And the car was locked,
and it was overnight.

1256

00:59:27,420 --> 00:59:29,810

I mean, we left in the afternoon
and got in there at 3:00

1257

00:59:29,810 --> 00:59:30,977

in the morning or something.

1258

00:59:30,977 --> 00:59:32,320

It wasn't that long a ride.

1259

00:59:32,320 --> 00:59:32,820

OK.

1260

00:59:32,820 --> 00:59:35,210

1261

00:59:35,210 --> 00:59:37,100

It was not that
momentous a ride.

1262
00:59:37,100 --> 00:59:42,170
We were mostly in
fear, so I don't

1263
00:59:42,170 --> 00:59:44,180
have any other recollections.

1264
00:59:44,180 --> 00:59:45,980
OK.

1265
00:59:45,980 --> 00:59:48,140
All right, go ahead, I'm sorry.

1266
00:59:48,140 --> 00:59:56,420
We left Auschwitz, and
the thing that I recall

1267
00:59:56,420 --> 00:59:59,630
is that we stopped
in Czechoslovakia.

1268
00:59:59,630 --> 01:00:05,253
We left Auschwitz
Sunday afternoon.

1269
01:00:05,253 --> 01:00:06,920
They put you back on
the train to leave?

1270
01:00:06,920 --> 01:00:09,130
Except the women,
they kept the women.

1271
01:00:09,130 --> 01:00:10,490
Women remained in Auschwitz.

1272
01:00:10,490 --> 01:00:16,990

1273

01:00:16,990 --> 01:00:18,670

The men were put
back on the train.

1274

01:00:18,670 --> 01:00:26,310

1275

01:00:26,310 --> 01:00:30,750

And essentially, most
of the same SS guards

1276

01:00:30,750 --> 01:00:34,950

came back, and
then some new ones.

1277

01:00:34,950 --> 01:00:39,112

But not the Lithuanians, don't
know what happened to them.

1278

01:00:39,112 --> 01:00:48,690

1279

01:00:48,690 --> 01:00:50,880

Well, some of them--

1280

01:00:50,880 --> 01:00:54,630

not all of the Lithuanians,
but some of the guards we knew.

1281

01:00:54,630 --> 01:00:59,010

And we started off
on a journey to--

1282

01:00:59,010 --> 01:01:01,860

well, the first stop
was in Czechoslovakia,

1283

01:01:01,860 --> 01:01:03,630

if I remember the next morning.

1284

01:01:03,630 --> 01:01:06,890

1285

01:01:06,890 --> 01:01:14,110

It is interesting that when
we stopped in Czechoslovakia

1286

01:01:14,110 --> 01:01:20,920

we saw a train going the other
way filled with French Jews.

1287

01:01:20,920 --> 01:01:22,630

With French Jews?

1288

01:01:22,630 --> 01:01:23,770

Yeah.

1289

01:01:23,770 --> 01:01:26,260

And all they wanted to
know is how far it is--

1290

01:01:26,260 --> 01:01:32,350

how much longer they
have to get to Auschwitz.

1291

01:01:32,350 --> 01:01:34,150

That's the only thing--

1292

01:01:34,150 --> 01:01:36,545

the only signals we exchanged.

1293

01:01:36,545 --> 01:01:41,880

1294

01:01:41,880 --> 01:01:45,090

And then we continued,
and essentially,

1295

01:01:45,090 --> 01:01:49,210

we went through-- well, I don't
really know what path we took.

1296

01:01:49,210 --> 01:01:50,850

Did they let you off
the train at all?

1297
01:01:50,850 --> 01:01:52,683
Or did you stay on the
train the whole time?

1298
01:01:52,683 --> 01:01:55,800
No, only on the train,
yeah, only on the train.

1299
01:01:55,800 --> 01:02:00,300
We stayed-- we went
all the way from there,

1300
01:02:00,300 --> 01:02:03,100
I guess, through Czechoslovakia
and Austria, Bavaria,

1301
01:02:03,100 --> 01:02:06,240
into Stuttgart.

1302
01:02:06,240 --> 01:02:08,170
Stuttgart, OK.

1303
01:02:08,170 --> 01:02:11,740
And in Stuttgart, I
think, they took us

1304
01:02:11,740 --> 01:02:15,040
into a delousing and shower.

1305
01:02:15,040 --> 01:02:24,170

1306
01:02:24,170 --> 01:02:28,550
And then they reloaded
us and took us to a camp

1307
01:02:28,550 --> 01:02:33,308
called Vaihingen, which
is near Stuttgart,

1308
01:02:33,308 --> 01:02:35,717

20 miles from Stuttgart.

1309
01:02:35,717 --> 01:02:36,800
It's Vaihingen an der Enz.

1310
01:02:36,800 --> 01:02:39,490
There is also a suburb in
Stuttgart called Vaihingen,

1311
01:02:39,490 --> 01:02:42,530
it's not that one, it's
Vaihingen an der Enz.

1312
01:02:42,530 --> 01:02:45,080
It's just about 20
miles down the road.

1313
01:02:45,080 --> 01:02:49,740

1314
01:02:49,740 --> 01:02:54,260
Now, that camp brand new,
there was nobody there.

1315
01:02:54,260 --> 01:02:56,374
We were the first inhabitants.

1316
01:02:56,374 --> 01:03:01,240
It consisted of five
wooden buildings,

1317
01:03:01,240 --> 01:03:03,108
maybe six wooden buildings.

1318
01:03:03,108 --> 01:03:06,040

1319
01:03:06,040 --> 01:03:13,760
No walks, all mud, a
latrine that was just a hole

1320
01:03:13,760 --> 01:03:24,350

covered with a roof, and very few basic things available.

1321
01:03:24,350 --> 01:03:30,890
And the labor there was to build--

1322
01:03:30,890 --> 01:03:33,890
well, I really don't know what we were building.

1323
01:03:33,890 --> 01:03:37,890
I think we are building some kind of armament factory

1324
01:03:37,890 --> 01:03:39,858
or something.

1325
01:03:39,858 --> 01:03:42,170
OK, but you weren't actually building armaments?

1326
01:03:42,170 --> 01:03:43,712
It was building some sort of factory?

1327
01:03:43,712 --> 01:03:46,130
No, a factory, it was building a building.

1328
01:03:46,130 --> 01:03:47,600
It was Baustelle.

1329
01:03:47,600 --> 01:03:49,510
The German word for Baustelle.

1330
01:03:49,510 --> 01:03:52,400
The work was for Baustelle.

1331
01:03:52,400 --> 01:03:54,900
That's what we worked on, a Baustelle.

1332

01:03:54,900 --> 01:03:57,934

I really don't know
what we were building.

1333

01:03:57,934 --> 01:04:01,280

1334

01:04:01,280 --> 01:04:09,280

We would line up in the morning
and the age group would go out

1335

01:04:09,280 --> 01:04:11,000

do different type of work.

1336

01:04:11,000 --> 01:04:16,470

Now, the food
situation was awful.

1337

01:04:16,470 --> 01:04:23,582

You'd get a cup of
coffee in the morning,

1338

01:04:23,582 --> 01:04:24,540

and that wasn't coffee.

1339

01:04:24,540 --> 01:04:28,020

That was smoked
chicory or something.

1340

01:04:28,020 --> 01:04:33,000

And a cup of soup and a
slice of bread, that's it.

1341

01:04:33,000 --> 01:04:33,810

For the day?

1342

01:04:33,810 --> 01:04:34,590

That's it.

1343

01:04:34,590 --> 01:04:36,760

OK.

1344

01:04:36,760 --> 01:04:43,720

And it didn't take very long
before people started dying.

1345

01:04:43,720 --> 01:04:45,960

And the rate of death
was pretty high.

1346

01:04:45,960 --> 01:04:50,830

1347

01:04:50,830 --> 01:04:55,850

Of course, the
diseases came in, lice,

1348

01:04:55,850 --> 01:05:02,080

and there was no soap, no
washing facilities, no shower.

1349

01:05:02,080 --> 01:05:05,680

There was a shower built
later, but the shower built

1350

01:05:05,680 --> 01:05:08,380

was outside the camp.

1351

01:05:08,380 --> 01:05:10,600

I wasn't there when
the shower was built,

1352

01:05:10,600 --> 01:05:12,550

but I understand
the day they built

1353

01:05:12,550 --> 01:05:14,680

the shower they evacuated.

1354

01:05:14,680 --> 01:05:17,810

So I don't know about it, but
it was built outside the camp.

1355

01:05:17,810 --> 01:05:20,570

So you had to run out naked to
take the shower and come back.

1356
01:05:20,570 --> 01:05:21,700
And come back.

1357
01:05:21,700 --> 01:05:24,080
OK, but I wasn't even there.

1358
01:05:24,080 --> 01:05:26,155
I couldn't even take
a shower this way.

1359
01:05:26,155 --> 01:05:27,675
There was no shower.

1360
01:05:27,675 --> 01:05:29,350
Were you working--
this building,

1361
01:05:29,350 --> 01:05:31,617
was this building underground
or was it above ground?

1362
01:05:31,617 --> 01:05:32,200
The buildings?

1363
01:05:32,200 --> 01:05:34,390
Yeah, the buildings that
you were-- the factories

1364
01:05:34,390 --> 01:05:34,900
or whatever.

1365
01:05:34,900 --> 01:05:37,475
No, it was a factory,
it was a Baustelle.

1366
01:05:37,475 --> 01:05:39,850
We were building things, we
were putting things together.

1367

01:05:39,850 --> 01:05:40,940

I see, OK.

1368

01:05:40,940 --> 01:05:44,500

There were German Baumeisters,
and they were directing us.

1369

01:05:44,500 --> 01:05:47,440

We were taking stones from here
and putting them over here,

1370

01:05:47,440 --> 01:05:47,980

or putting--

1371

01:05:47,980 --> 01:05:49,292

OK, I see.

1372

01:05:49,292 --> 01:05:50,500

We were doing some buildings.

1373

01:05:50,500 --> 01:05:51,778

We were building some things.

1374

01:05:51,778 --> 01:05:53,320

I don't know what
they were building.

1375

01:05:53,320 --> 01:05:54,160

I have no idea.

1376

01:05:54,160 --> 01:05:59,110

1377

01:05:59,110 --> 01:06:04,540

There are things I can-- there
are some things I can tell you

1378

01:06:04,540 --> 01:06:06,800

about this camp which
might be of interest--

1379

01:06:06,800 --> 01:06:07,300

Sure.

1380
01:06:07,300 --> 01:06:08,860
Which is unusual.

1381
01:06:08,860 --> 01:06:12,820
The guards, we started learning
about some of the guards.

1382
01:06:12,820 --> 01:06:15,730
Some of them were very mean.

1383
01:06:15,730 --> 01:06:17,680
They beat us.

1384
01:06:17,680 --> 01:06:18,790
They were very mean.

1385
01:06:18,790 --> 01:06:22,060
But some of them were less mean.

1386
01:06:22,060 --> 01:06:25,010
One of the less
means of the guards,

1387
01:06:25,010 --> 01:06:27,950
whose nickname was Gabba.

1388
01:06:27,950 --> 01:06:30,700
G-A-B-B-A?

1389
01:06:30,700 --> 01:06:33,420
Yeah, we called him the Gabba.

1390
01:06:33,420 --> 01:06:35,510
I don't know what
his real name is.

1391
01:06:35,510 --> 01:06:38,090
Right.

1392

01:06:38,090 --> 01:06:40,130

I learned that if you
went with the Gabba

1393

01:06:40,130 --> 01:06:45,410

you usually got a
better assignment.

1394

01:06:45,410 --> 01:06:51,350

So one day, I went to
work with the Gabba.

1395

01:06:51,350 --> 01:06:53,510

And it turned out
that that day he

1396

01:06:53,510 --> 01:06:59,330

took us to a place which
was not the building, not

1397

01:06:59,330 --> 01:07:03,710

the Baustelle, but in
the opposite direction.

1398

01:07:03,710 --> 01:07:08,360

I went to the forest, and
I wound up on an estate.

1399

01:07:08,360 --> 01:07:10,140

And that was quite different.

1400

01:07:10,140 --> 01:07:17,330

First of all, there was a big
pot of potatoes being boiled.

1401

01:07:17,330 --> 01:07:20,733

And some of the people,
there were maybe 30 people,

1402

01:07:20,733 --> 01:07:23,150

but they called some of the
people to go and get some hay.

1403

01:07:23,150 --> 01:07:25,275
And the rest of the people
were near the potato pot

1404
01:07:25,275 --> 01:07:27,920
and there was nobody near us.

1405
01:07:27,920 --> 01:07:28,912
So when we saw--

1406
01:07:28,912 --> 01:07:29,870
I mean, we were hungry.

1407
01:07:29,870 --> 01:07:30,370
Sure.

1408
01:07:30,370 --> 01:07:33,065
And we saw boiled potatoes,
and this was a big estate.

1409
01:07:33,065 --> 01:07:37,330
There was in the background
there was a nice house.

1410
01:07:37,330 --> 01:07:39,140
And we turned that
pot over and started

1411
01:07:39,140 --> 01:07:41,960
going after the potatoes,
grabbing the potatoes starting

1412
01:07:41,960 --> 01:07:43,180
to eat them.

1413
01:07:43,180 --> 01:07:46,100
And the SS, of course, started
hitting us with their rifles.

1414
01:07:46,100 --> 01:07:49,170
And then this lady came on and
started screaming at the SS,

1415

01:07:49,170 --> 01:07:50,600
telling them to stop it.

1416

01:07:50,600 --> 01:07:52,860
That they cannot do
this, not on her place.

1417

01:07:52,860 --> 01:07:54,468
They will never do this.

1418

01:07:54,468 --> 01:07:56,510
And all of a sudden, they
stopped, they listened.

1419

01:07:56,510 --> 01:07:57,010
Wow.

1420

01:07:57,010 --> 01:07:59,720
We didn't know why,
how, what's happening.

1421

01:07:59,720 --> 01:08:04,920
Turned out that the place
belonged to a Baroness von

1422

01:08:04,920 --> 01:08:06,950
Neurath.

1423

01:08:06,950 --> 01:08:10,610
She was a German noble.

1424

01:08:10,610 --> 01:08:12,830
Her brother-in-law
was the secretary

1425

01:08:12,830 --> 01:08:16,399
of state in Hitler's cabinet.

1426

01:08:16,399 --> 01:08:19,779
During the war, he was
the protector of Bohemia.

1427

01:08:19,779 --> 01:08:23,960

He got 12 years in Nuremberg.

1428

01:08:23,960 --> 01:08:27,859

But she said that

while we work at her,

1429

01:08:27,859 --> 01:08:29,729

we are not to be touched.

1430

01:08:29,729 --> 01:08:32,390

She was a good protector,

she protected us.

1431

01:08:32,390 --> 01:08:33,620

And they wouldn't.

1432

01:08:33,620 --> 01:08:35,390

After that, she

made an agreement.

1433

01:08:35,390 --> 01:08:42,529

She said we're going to work for

her, we're going to get fruit,

1434

01:08:42,529 --> 01:08:45,680

we're going to help to get

the fruit from the trees.

1435

01:08:45,680 --> 01:08:47,720

Any fruit that's on

the trees is hers.

1436

01:08:47,720 --> 01:08:52,920

Any fruit that falls off we

can have, that type of thing.

1437

01:08:52,920 --> 01:08:53,960

And she was very nice.

1438

01:08:53,960 --> 01:08:57,770

There was one young man

that she particularly liked,

1439

01:08:57,770 --> 01:09:02,479

and she would sometimes
invite him, give him

1440

01:09:02,479 --> 01:09:04,370

some special things.

1441

01:09:04,370 --> 01:09:07,304

And she was good to us.

1442

01:09:07,304 --> 01:09:09,290

She was a very nice lady.

1443

01:09:09,290 --> 01:09:13,310

And we used to get
a lot of fruit,

1444

01:09:13,310 --> 01:09:15,890

and things improved
because we had extra food.

1445

01:09:15,890 --> 01:09:16,790

Sure.

1446

01:09:16,790 --> 01:09:17,779

We could live there.

1447

01:09:17,779 --> 01:09:23,300

I worked on that place for about
two weeks, something like that.

1448

01:09:23,300 --> 01:09:25,790

And it really helped me.

1449

01:09:25,790 --> 01:09:27,210

It really put me on my feet.

1450

01:09:27,210 --> 01:09:29,655

And one of my brothers
worked there too.

1451
01:09:29,655 --> 01:09:32,640
He was on the same detail.

1452
01:09:32,640 --> 01:09:34,220
That helped us a lot.

1453
01:09:34,220 --> 01:09:37,970

1454
01:09:37,970 --> 01:09:40,609
Now, her daughter is alive.

1455
01:09:40,609 --> 01:09:41,750
She wrote a book about it.

1456
01:09:41,750 --> 01:09:42,350
Oh, really?

1457
01:09:42,350 --> 01:09:43,399
Yeah.

1458
01:09:43,399 --> 01:09:51,760
And so--

1459
01:09:51,760 --> 01:09:55,613
Your other brother and your
father were back in the camp?

1460
01:09:55,613 --> 01:09:56,530
Yeah, they worked on--

1461
01:09:56,530 --> 01:09:56,710
On other work details?

1462
01:09:56,710 --> 01:09:58,275
--they worked on
other details, yeah.

1463
01:09:58,275 --> 01:10:00,490
But we worked on that detail.

1464

01:10:00,490 --> 01:10:02,900

Well, it turned out
that after two weeks,

1465

01:10:02,900 --> 01:10:05,690

they decided this is
constantly going on.

1466

01:10:05,690 --> 01:10:08,493

They were sending out 50
people to one camp, 50 people

1467

01:10:08,493 --> 01:10:09,160

to another camp.

1468

01:10:09,160 --> 01:10:12,775

Slowly, new people were coming
into the camp of Vaihingen

1469

01:10:12,775 --> 01:10:15,850

from other camps,
other nationalities.

1470

01:10:15,850 --> 01:10:19,158

At first, when we first went in
we were all from the same town,

1471

01:10:19,158 --> 01:10:20,200

and we were all the same.

1472

01:10:20,200 --> 01:10:24,800

Slowly, new people came
in from the other cities,

1473

01:10:24,800 --> 01:10:27,160

other nations.

1474

01:10:27,160 --> 01:10:29,360

And after working
there for two weeks,

1475

01:10:29,360 --> 01:10:35,440
they took the four of us, my
two brothers, my father, and me,

1476
01:10:35,440 --> 01:10:44,809
and they send us
to Unterriexingen.

1477
01:10:44,809 --> 01:10:49,080
It's another camp, which
is about seven miles down

1478
01:10:49,080 --> 01:10:50,160
the road.

1479
01:10:50,160 --> 01:10:52,350
From Stuttgart or
from the other camp?

1480
01:10:52,350 --> 01:10:56,130
From Vaihingen, about seven,
eight miles down the road.

1481
01:10:56,130 --> 01:11:01,940
Now, when we came there,
there was really--

1482
01:11:01,940 --> 01:11:04,870

1483
01:11:04,870 --> 01:11:06,310
again, nothing was there.

1484
01:11:06,310 --> 01:11:07,390
It was a new camp.

1485
01:11:07,390 --> 01:11:11,320
There are only-- well, one
building was fully completed.

1486
01:11:11,320 --> 01:11:12,850
One building they just started.

1487

01:11:12,850 --> 01:11:17,910

I'm not sure they even started.

1488

01:11:17,910 --> 01:11:28,160

By a building, I mean it
was a block, one block where

1489

01:11:28,160 --> 01:11:30,090

kept for prisoners.

1490

01:11:30,090 --> 01:11:38,120

And again, the toilet was
a slit with a roof on top.

1491

01:11:38,120 --> 01:11:40,320

In there we didn't
even have water.

1492

01:11:40,320 --> 01:11:41,750

There was no water inside camp.

1493

01:11:41,750 --> 01:11:43,910

To get the water we had
to go outside the camp.

1494

01:11:43,910 --> 01:11:51,395

1495

01:11:51,395 --> 01:11:54,888

[AUDIO OUT]

1496

01:11:54,888 --> 01:12:18,370

1497

01:12:18,370 --> 01:12:21,020

The was no water being brought.

1498

01:12:21,020 --> 01:12:23,840

Water had to be brought in.

1499

01:12:23,840 --> 01:12:30,430

That camp was [AUDIO OUT]
the heat consisted

1500
01:12:30,430 --> 01:12:38,770
of potbelly stoves, except
they didn't give us any wood.

1501
01:12:38,770 --> 01:12:40,900
The last time we
had given underwear

1502
01:12:40,900 --> 01:12:45,700
was sometimes in August.

1503
01:12:45,700 --> 01:12:47,350
And by that time,
it was November

1504
01:12:47,350 --> 01:12:51,250
so our underwear was
probably torn to pieces.

1505
01:12:51,250 --> 01:12:54,220
Head was full of lice.

1506
01:12:54,220 --> 01:12:57,670
We had no shoes anymore.

1507
01:12:57,670 --> 01:13:02,380
The shoes were wooden shoes,
and the straps were gone.

1508
01:13:02,380 --> 01:13:05,560
There was no nails to fix them.

1509
01:13:05,560 --> 01:13:10,340
There was no soap,
nothing to wash.

1510
01:13:10,340 --> 01:13:16,665
There was no-- there
were no basics, nothing.

1511

01:13:16,665 --> 01:13:18,040

The best way to
describe the camp

1512

01:13:18,040 --> 01:13:21,700

is look around and see what
it is you can't live without,

1513

01:13:21,700 --> 01:13:24,378

and then say to yourself,
well, we didn't have that.

1514

01:13:24,378 --> 01:13:25,420

We just didn't have that.

1515

01:13:25,420 --> 01:13:26,320

Right.

1516

01:13:26,320 --> 01:13:30,780

There was a doctor, and we had
some probably some basic pills,

1517

01:13:30,780 --> 01:13:36,430

but there was also one room
reserved for sick people.

1518

01:13:36,430 --> 01:13:39,810

The death rate was very high.

1519

01:13:39,810 --> 01:13:40,900

It was an awful camp.

1520

01:13:40,900 --> 01:13:45,790

1521

01:13:45,790 --> 01:13:49,240

We worked there on
building a landing strip

1522

01:13:49,240 --> 01:13:53,230

for German planes.

1523

01:13:53,230 --> 01:13:56,490

I believe that's what it was.

1524

01:13:56,490 --> 01:14:03,240

But in the meantime,

I learned that one way

1525

01:14:03,240 --> 01:14:07,380

to supplement the

food and not to die

1526

01:14:07,380 --> 01:14:09,145

of hunger-- most of

the people, of course,

1527

01:14:09,145 --> 01:14:10,020

were dying of hunger.

1528

01:14:10,020 --> 01:14:14,690

Hunger was probably the

biggest cause of death--

1529

01:14:14,690 --> 01:14:22,410

was to try to get outside

the camp and get some food.

1530

01:14:22,410 --> 01:14:27,890

And so I did that.

1531

01:14:27,890 --> 01:14:33,560

And especially in Unterriexingen

I learned how to run away.

1532

01:14:33,560 --> 01:14:37,190

I remember the first

time I ran away actually

1533

01:14:37,190 --> 01:14:40,880

I was still in Vaihingen,

when I started first,

1534

01:14:40,880 --> 01:14:47,730

when they first started
building Unterriexingen.

1535
01:14:47,730 --> 01:14:52,510
When I found myself
working in the field,

1536
01:14:52,510 --> 01:14:58,150
and we were
de-weeding the field.

1537
01:14:58,150 --> 01:15:01,130
And the grass was
very high, and we

1538
01:15:01,130 --> 01:15:05,410
were laying deep in the grass.

1539
01:15:05,410 --> 01:15:08,620
And the guards were
front and behind us,

1540
01:15:08,620 --> 01:15:14,200
and I was falling behind
the column of people.

1541
01:15:14,200 --> 01:15:17,960
I looked up and I was
like 50 feet behind them,

1542
01:15:17,960 --> 01:15:21,545
and I had a choice of either
trying to catch up to them.

1543
01:15:21,545 --> 01:15:24,560
And I knew if I do that
then he will see me,

1544
01:15:24,560 --> 01:15:27,780
he will beat me up, or turn
around and go the other way.

1545
01:15:27,780 --> 01:15:30,030

And I decided to
go the other way.

1546
01:15:30,030 --> 01:15:34,700
And I did, I went the other
way, started turning around

1547
01:15:34,700 --> 01:15:36,470
and running away.

1548
01:15:36,470 --> 01:15:41,420
And I did, I crawled
away successfully.

1549
01:15:41,420 --> 01:15:50,030
And first thing I did was
go into a farmer's barn

1550
01:15:50,030 --> 01:15:53,270
and find some vegetable.

1551
01:15:53,270 --> 01:15:55,760
And I got some of
that vegetable,

1552
01:15:55,760 --> 01:15:58,430
but then I had to make a
decision, what do I do?

1553
01:15:58,430 --> 01:16:00,050
I was outside the camp.

1554
01:16:00,050 --> 01:16:01,490
There was really no place to go.

1555
01:16:01,490 --> 01:16:04,520
I couldn't go back to Poland.

1556
01:16:04,520 --> 01:16:06,470
I couldn't be in
Germany, there's

1557

01:16:06,470 --> 01:16:07,850
nobody to trust in Germany.

1558
01:16:07,850 --> 01:16:10,560

1559
01:16:10,560 --> 01:16:14,530
I knew if they find out that
I escaped they could probably

1560
01:16:14,530 --> 01:16:17,620
harm my father and brothers.

1561
01:16:17,620 --> 01:16:19,660
So I crawled back.

1562
01:16:19,660 --> 01:16:21,280
You snuck back into the camp?

1563
01:16:21,280 --> 01:16:25,180
Snuck back into
the labor brigade

1564
01:16:25,180 --> 01:16:29,140
and brought home the vegetables.

1565
01:16:29,140 --> 01:16:31,270
It helped us.

1566
01:16:31,270 --> 01:16:34,120
What did you manage to
get, do you remember?

1567
01:16:34,120 --> 01:16:41,110
I think I got some
carrots and some garlic

1568
01:16:41,110 --> 01:16:43,283
from that first time.

1569
01:16:43,283 --> 01:16:47,830
In Unterriexingen I

did this several times.

1570
01:16:47,830 --> 01:16:52,540
But one time, and
I'll tell you this so

1571
01:16:52,540 --> 01:16:58,150
that we can make this
a little shorter--

1572
01:16:58,150 --> 01:17:05,200
one time I went into
a farm, into a--

1573
01:17:05,200 --> 01:17:14,050
now, the German farmers used
to store their food outside

1574
01:17:14,050 --> 01:17:20,720
in a storage shed.

1575
01:17:20,720 --> 01:17:22,510
They never even closed
the storage sheds,

1576
01:17:22,510 --> 01:17:27,950
they would put a little branch
into the storage shed just

1577
01:17:27,950 --> 01:17:28,840
to keep it closed.

1578
01:17:28,840 --> 01:17:31,820
So it was easy enough to
open it up and walk in.

1579
01:17:31,820 --> 01:17:36,550
And so I went into that farm
and opened up the storage shed.

1580
01:17:36,550 --> 01:17:40,750
And that storage shed was
full of potatoes and carrots

1581
01:17:40,750 --> 01:17:47,280
and all kind of what to me
are goodies at that time.

1582
01:17:47,280 --> 01:17:50,270
And I started loading
up some of that.

1583
01:17:50,270 --> 01:17:57,640
And all of a sudden, I felt this
thing in the back of my back.

1584
01:17:57,640 --> 01:18:01,690
Turned out to be a gun, and a
lady's voice says "Hande hoch."

1585
01:18:01,690 --> 01:18:04,180
It means "Put up your arms."

1586
01:18:04,180 --> 01:18:08,080
And I put up my arms and
she said turn around.

1587
01:18:08,080 --> 01:18:09,920
I turned around,
and she looked at me

1588
01:18:09,920 --> 01:18:12,130
and she said oh my god, she
says, you're only a baby,

1589
01:18:12,130 --> 01:18:13,030
you're only a boy.

1590
01:18:13,030 --> 01:18:16,690

1591
01:18:16,690 --> 01:18:21,070
We started talking and
I told her I'm only--

1592

01:18:21,070 --> 01:18:25,470

I was only 17 years
old at the time.

1593

01:18:25,470 --> 01:18:28,840

And I told her I'm hungry,
I don't want anything else.

1594

01:18:28,840 --> 01:18:32,280

I just want some
food, and that's all.

1595

01:18:32,280 --> 01:18:37,710

And she looked at me
for a while and she

1596

01:18:37,710 --> 01:18:41,280

said-- you know
something, she said

1597

01:18:41,280 --> 01:18:44,160

we're very short on potatoes.

1598

01:18:44,160 --> 01:18:47,400

And closed the door and left me.

1599

01:18:47,400 --> 01:18:51,630

So I took some of the
stuff, and went out.

1600

01:18:51,630 --> 01:18:56,100

Now, I went back to that
shed a couple more times.

1601

01:18:56,100 --> 01:18:59,730

I know one time that I went
back I saw her in the window.

1602

01:18:59,730 --> 01:19:01,080

She saw me go in.

1603

01:19:01,080 --> 01:19:03,990

I think she waved, I'm not sure.

1604
01:19:03,990 --> 01:19:06,538
But she didn't say anything.

1605
01:19:06,538 --> 01:19:08,580
Now, this was in the
second-- this was in Unter--

1606
01:19:08,580 --> 01:19:11,850
Unterriexingen, yeah.

1607
01:19:11,850 --> 01:19:13,960
One day--

1608
01:19:13,960 --> 01:19:17,410
And this was a farm that
was not far from the camp?

1609
01:19:17,410 --> 01:19:19,110
Not far from the camp.

1610
01:19:19,110 --> 01:19:20,140
It wasn't a big farm.

1611
01:19:20,140 --> 01:19:21,820
It wasn't a farm like
you imagine here.

1612
01:19:21,820 --> 01:19:22,320
Sure.

1613
01:19:22,320 --> 01:19:24,450
It was a farm of several
acres, that's all.

1614
01:19:24,450 --> 01:19:27,030
It was just a small farm.

1615
01:19:27,030 --> 01:19:33,840
One day-- and
remember that well--

1616

01:19:33,840 --> 01:19:38,500

I went into that shed and the
door opened and she came in.

1617

01:19:38,500 --> 01:19:44,000

And she said, I want you
to come in the kitchen.

1618

01:19:44,000 --> 01:19:48,610

And she went in first,
and I followed her.

1619

01:19:48,610 --> 01:19:54,010

When I went into the
kitchen I sat there,

1620

01:19:54,010 --> 01:19:55,960

and she gave me a lot of food.

1621

01:19:55,960 --> 01:19:59,360

She gave me all kinds, cookies.

1622

01:19:59,360 --> 01:20:00,240

Wow.

1623

01:20:00,240 --> 01:20:02,800

And she even gave
me a drink of wine.

1624

01:20:02,800 --> 01:20:05,410

She wanted to know if I
know what day this is.

1625

01:20:05,410 --> 01:20:08,780

I didn't know, but it happened
to be the day before Christmas.

1626

01:20:08,780 --> 01:20:11,200

And it was 1944.

1627

01:20:11,200 --> 01:20:14,800

And when I was there

it started snowing.

1628

01:20:14,800 --> 01:20:19,630

And it was a cloudy day,
and it snowed very hard.

1629

01:20:19,630 --> 01:20:24,040

And she told me that she
cooked for the guards.

1630

01:20:24,040 --> 01:20:27,670

And the guards told her
that the only people that

1631

01:20:27,670 --> 01:20:30,250

are in this camp are
political prisoners who

1632

01:20:30,250 --> 01:20:33,070

are against the German right.

1633

01:20:33,070 --> 01:20:35,000

And I told her this isn't true.

1634

01:20:35,000 --> 01:20:36,460

How can I be a
political prisoner?

1635

01:20:36,460 --> 01:20:38,940

I'm 12 years old, what did
I have to do with politics?

1636

01:20:38,940 --> 01:20:42,820

1637

01:20:42,820 --> 01:20:46,050

I sat there for a
while, and then I left.

1638

01:20:46,050 --> 01:20:49,840

But you realize that I
walked around barefoot,

1639

01:20:49,840 --> 01:20:51,790

and the snow was
high by that time.

1640

01:20:51,790 --> 01:20:54,000

It was very difficult
for me to get back.

1641

01:20:54,000 --> 01:20:58,330

So by the time I got back
it was too late for lunch.

1642

01:20:58,330 --> 01:21:00,790

I mean, I got back past 12:00.

1643

01:21:00,790 --> 01:21:06,870

And the group apparently
had already assembled

1644

01:21:06,870 --> 01:21:11,440

and they knew that
I was missing.

1645

01:21:11,440 --> 01:21:14,155

In fact, they had sent
guards out looking for me.

1646

01:21:14,155 --> 01:21:16,920

So I knew I'm in trouble.

1647

01:21:16,920 --> 01:21:19,290

But I put the
stuff away that she

1648

01:21:19,290 --> 01:21:22,380

gave me to try to preserve it.

1649

01:21:22,380 --> 01:21:25,520

I just left a couple
of apples in there,

1650

01:21:25,520 --> 01:21:29,430

and I waited till they came
back to the working place.

1651
01:21:29,430 --> 01:21:31,770
And I mixed in so
they couldn't see me,

1652
01:21:31,770 --> 01:21:34,830
but they immediately knew who it
was because there were only one

1653
01:21:34,830 --> 01:21:38,210
or two who used to run away.

1654
01:21:38,210 --> 01:21:42,350
And they beat me up
pretty well that day.

1655
01:21:42,350 --> 01:21:45,340
Tried to tell-- they wanted
me to tell them where I went

1656
01:21:45,340 --> 01:21:48,080
and what I did.

1657
01:21:48,080 --> 01:21:53,180
I kept telling them that
I went to the [AUDIO OUT]

1658
01:21:53,180 --> 01:21:57,170
and that they gave
me some apples.

1659
01:21:57,170 --> 01:21:59,780
I knew that they couldn't do
anything with the German wives.

1660
01:21:59,780 --> 01:22:02,720

1661
01:22:02,720 --> 01:22:05,920
Then in the evening, they put
me at the end of the column

1662
01:22:05,920 --> 01:22:07,820
when we marched
back to the camp.

1663
01:22:07,820 --> 01:22:13,610
Now, two weeks before
that, there were two Poles.

1664
01:22:13,610 --> 01:22:16,430
What I left out is that
meanwhile some Poles

1665
01:22:16,430 --> 01:22:21,250
came in to camp, a
couple hundred Poles.

1666
01:22:21,250 --> 01:22:24,190
They were just-- they were not
Jews, they were just Poles?

1667
01:22:24,190 --> 01:22:25,690
They were not Jews,
they were Poles.

1668
01:22:25,690 --> 01:22:28,570
And two of these Poles escaped.

1669
01:22:28,570 --> 01:22:31,600
And they'll caught
them, and the punishment

1670
01:22:31,600 --> 01:22:35,140
was that they-- after
they caught them,

1671
01:22:35,140 --> 01:22:38,890
they exposed them overnight.

1672
01:22:38,890 --> 01:22:42,400
They were kneeling with
their hands up all night,

1673

01:22:42,400 --> 01:22:45,100

and in the morning
they were frozen there.

1674

01:22:45,100 --> 01:22:49,230

So when the kapo went in they
made me do the same thing,

1675

01:22:49,230 --> 01:22:50,560

kneel with my hands up.

1676

01:22:50,560 --> 01:22:54,433

And I was sitting there,
and I didn't know what

1677

01:22:54,433 --> 01:22:55,600

they're going to do with me.

1678

01:22:55,600 --> 01:22:57,140

I knew I was going to
get some punishment,

1679

01:22:57,140 --> 01:22:58,840

but I didn't know what
type of punishment.

1680

01:22:58,840 --> 01:23:00,757

And this is already after
they had beaten you?

1681

01:23:00,757 --> 01:23:02,350

After, yeah.

1682

01:23:02,350 --> 01:23:09,520

And it got to be
very late at night.

1683

01:23:09,520 --> 01:23:15,990

And a guy who worked for
them and cleaned up the SS,

1684

01:23:15,990 --> 01:23:19,818

the guard's barracks, came out.

1685
01:23:19,818 --> 01:23:21,610
And I asked him what
they were going to do,

1686
01:23:21,610 --> 01:23:24,330
and he said they
decided to shoot me.

1687
01:23:24,330 --> 01:23:27,750
I thought this might be right.

1688
01:23:27,750 --> 01:23:30,425
And then finally, they came
out, two or three of them,

1689
01:23:30,425 --> 01:23:32,125
I don't remember how many.

1690
01:23:32,125 --> 01:23:37,570
And they came over and
they said, well, they said,

1691
01:23:37,570 --> 01:23:39,950
we decided to commute
your sentence.

1692
01:23:39,950 --> 01:23:42,260
These were the SS guards?

1693
01:23:42,260 --> 01:23:43,310
Yeah, they weren't SS.

1694
01:23:43,310 --> 01:23:46,850
They were guards,
but they weren't SS.

1695
01:23:46,850 --> 01:23:51,260
In fact, the one that
said that was actually

1696

01:23:51,260 --> 01:23:58,350
a member of the German Air
Force, but he was a guard.

1697
01:23:58,350 --> 01:23:58,850
Right.

1698
01:23:58,850 --> 01:24:02,390

1699
01:24:02,390 --> 01:24:06,103
He said we just won
a great victory.

1700
01:24:06,103 --> 01:24:08,270
Now, that happened to to
be the Battle of the Bulge.

1701
01:24:08,270 --> 01:24:10,425
We know that now,
I didn't know that.

1702
01:24:10,425 --> 01:24:12,050
And he said, you
know, we just happened

1703
01:24:12,050 --> 01:24:13,760
to win a great
victory, and we're

1704
01:24:13,760 --> 01:24:16,010
going to need people
like-- slaves like you,

1705
01:24:16,010 --> 01:24:18,320
becuase the German
Reich is going to win

1706
01:24:18,320 --> 01:24:20,870
and going to rule
the whole world.

1707
01:24:20,870 --> 01:24:24,890

So we commuted your sentence,
and instead of executing you

1708
01:24:24,890 --> 01:24:27,890
you're going to get 50 lashes.

1709
01:24:27,890 --> 01:24:30,740
And that's what I got,
I got 50 lashes instead.

1710
01:24:30,740 --> 01:24:34,608
And then they threw me into an--

1711
01:24:34,608 --> 01:24:36,993
what do you call it--

1712
01:24:36,993 --> 01:24:43,210

1713
01:24:43,210 --> 01:24:44,570
isolation.

1714
01:24:44,570 --> 01:24:45,640
Into--

1715
01:24:45,640 --> 01:24:47,994
Solitary confinement.

1716
01:24:47,994 --> 01:24:52,028
Solitary confinement,
and actually, there

1717
01:24:52,028 --> 01:24:54,070
were two other guys in
that solitary confinement.

1718
01:24:54,070 --> 01:24:55,570
One Pole and one other Jew.

1719
01:24:55,570 --> 01:24:58,600
The Pole was released about 15
minutes after I got in there.

1720
01:24:58,600 --> 01:25:00,385
And I was there
with the other guy.

1721
01:25:00,385 --> 01:25:03,160
And I remember it was midnight.

1722
01:25:03,160 --> 01:25:06,700
The Germans were
singing Holy Night.

1723
01:25:06,700 --> 01:25:12,430
And they broke several bones
that-- well, they healed,

1724
01:25:12,430 --> 01:25:13,330
you can see it now.

1725
01:25:13,330 --> 01:25:16,000
I've taken x-rays done
the doctors keep asking me

1726
01:25:16,000 --> 01:25:18,670
if I ever had a big
accident because I

1727
01:25:18,670 --> 01:25:20,238
got lots of broken bones.

1728
01:25:20,238 --> 01:25:22,530
And that's when they beat
you, that's when it happened?

1729
01:25:22,530 --> 01:25:23,630
Sure, sure.

1730
01:25:23,630 --> 01:25:28,060
But I think the fact that
I was frozen helped me--

1731
01:25:28,060 --> 01:25:29,200

the pain wasn't so bad.

1732

01:25:29,200 --> 01:25:33,230

Because I was frozen.

1733

01:25:33,230 --> 01:25:38,530

Well, that's what happened that
Christmas night, Christman Eve.

1734

01:25:38,530 --> 01:25:44,740

Shortly after, because of that
night I guess, I got pneumonia.

1735

01:25:44,740 --> 01:25:49,540

And then they kept me in
a hospital about 10 days.

1736

01:25:49,540 --> 01:25:55,110

And after I got
out of the hospital

1737

01:25:55,110 --> 01:25:56,700

they put me right to work.

1738

01:25:56,700 --> 01:26:03,030

And they made me
carry a load of brick.

1739

01:26:03,030 --> 01:26:05,270

I couldn't carry
it, I was too weak.

1740

01:26:05,270 --> 01:26:07,800

I was just out of the
hospital, so I dropped it.

1741

01:26:07,800 --> 01:26:13,890

Because of that they threw me
in solitary confinement again.

1742

01:26:13,890 --> 01:26:19,500

And when they let me out of
that solitary confinement

1743
01:26:19,500 --> 01:26:20,970
they were evacuating the camp.

1744
01:26:20,970 --> 01:26:25,460

1745
01:26:25,460 --> 01:26:29,555
And all of a sudden, everybody
was in the second barracks.

1746
01:26:29,555 --> 01:26:32,470

1747
01:26:32,470 --> 01:26:43,000
Now, and I found
my father there.

1748
01:26:43,000 --> 01:26:46,190

1749
01:26:46,190 --> 01:26:48,740
And my two brothers
were too sick,

1750
01:26:48,740 --> 01:26:51,380
so the sick people were
sent back to Vaihingen,

1751
01:26:51,380 --> 01:26:54,932
and all the people who
were not sick enough

1752
01:26:54,932 --> 01:26:58,130
were send out to a
camp called Kochendorf.

1753
01:26:58,130 --> 01:26:59,330
There were very few left.

1754
01:26:59,330 --> 01:27:02,630

1755
01:27:02,630 --> 01:27:04,010
Most-- a lot of people died.

1756
01:27:04,010 --> 01:27:06,890
The rate of death
was like four or five

1757
01:27:06,890 --> 01:27:13,130
a day in Unterriexingen.
A lot of the Poles died.

1758
01:27:13,130 --> 01:27:15,290
I don't know how many Poles
survived, but very few,

1759
01:27:15,290 --> 01:27:15,790
I think.

1760
01:27:15,790 --> 01:27:19,535
There was over 100 Poles that
came in, and very few of them

1761
01:27:19,535 --> 01:27:20,035
survived.

1762
01:27:20,035 --> 01:27:21,470
Most of them died.

1763
01:27:21,470 --> 01:27:25,800

1764
01:27:25,800 --> 01:27:30,570
When we arrived in
Kochendorf, well again,

1765
01:27:30,570 --> 01:27:35,110
we went through a procedure
of trying to get washed.

1766
01:27:35,110 --> 01:27:37,330
The way we were

going to get clean

1767

01:27:37,330 --> 01:27:41,760

is they kept us out-- it
was winter, it was January.

1768

01:27:41,760 --> 01:27:44,370

I'm sure it was January.

1769

01:27:44,370 --> 01:27:48,060

And it was cold, it was Sunday.

1770

01:27:48,060 --> 01:27:52,050

And we were being kept
outside, and inside they

1771

01:27:52,050 --> 01:27:58,500

had a big tub of water,
which had been warmed on one

1772

01:27:58,500 --> 01:28:00,700

of these potbelly stoves.

1773

01:28:00,700 --> 01:28:04,320

And they filled this
up with warm water,

1774

01:28:04,320 --> 01:28:07,770

and four or five guys
would get into that tub

1775

01:28:07,770 --> 01:28:08,640

and wash themselves.

1776

01:28:08,640 --> 01:28:13,180

After the first guy that tub
was as dark as the ground,

1777

01:28:13,180 --> 01:28:16,170

because we didn't take
a bath in eight months,

1778

01:28:16,170 --> 01:28:18,840
in five months or something.

1779
01:28:18,840 --> 01:28:21,605
Between August and January,
five months, four months.

1780
01:28:21,605 --> 01:28:25,410

1781
01:28:25,410 --> 01:28:29,100
So after that, there
were no towels either.

1782
01:28:29,100 --> 01:28:33,660
Then you went to that
around the potbelly stove

1783
01:28:33,660 --> 01:28:35,610
and waited there
until you dried.

1784
01:28:35,610 --> 01:28:37,780
Meanwhile, they
took your clothes,

1785
01:28:37,780 --> 01:28:41,430
whatever clothes you had, and
they sent it to the steamer.

1786
01:28:41,430 --> 01:28:43,740
When it came out of the
steamer it was all wet.

1787
01:28:43,740 --> 01:28:45,720
And you put it on and
they sent you outside,

1788
01:28:45,720 --> 01:28:47,470
and you waited till
everybody was ready,

1789
01:28:47,470 --> 01:28:49,400

which means you waited outside
for two or three hours.

1790
01:28:49,400 --> 01:28:50,040
All wet.

1791
01:28:50,040 --> 01:28:52,830
When this procedure-- I
just got through pneumonia,

1792
01:28:52,830 --> 01:28:55,680
and with this
procedure, by the time

1793
01:28:55,680 --> 01:29:02,475
I got back to the barracks in
Kochendorf I was pretty sick.

1794
01:29:02,475 --> 01:29:06,870
Now, there we had a guy, the guy
who was heading that barracks,

1795
01:29:06,870 --> 01:29:08,310
his name was Teddy.

1796
01:29:08,310 --> 01:29:10,680
He was a Pole too.

1797
01:29:10,680 --> 01:29:14,460
And he has pretty tough, he
was one of the toughest guys.

1798
01:29:14,460 --> 01:29:18,720
He beat us up pretty
badly, beat up some guys.

1799
01:29:18,720 --> 01:29:22,590
And people were
very scared of him.

1800
01:29:22,590 --> 01:29:23,790
But he gave us a lecture.

1801

01:29:23,790 --> 01:29:27,390

He said, tomorrow you
can go and see a doctor

1802

01:29:27,390 --> 01:29:30,520

if you don't feel
good, but he said

1803

01:29:30,520 --> 01:29:32,910

if you have 104 he'll
send you to the hospital.

1804

01:29:32,910 --> 01:29:35,910

If you don't have 104
he'll send you back here.

1805

01:29:35,910 --> 01:29:39,210

And I guarantee if you get
back here, I'll kill you.

1806

01:29:39,210 --> 01:29:41,560

And he meant it, he would.

1807

01:29:41,560 --> 01:29:43,230

But I went anyhow, I felt bad.

1808

01:29:43,230 --> 01:29:44,420

So I went to see a doctor.

1809

01:29:44,420 --> 01:29:49,350

1810

01:29:49,350 --> 01:29:58,230

But I walked in, he asked
me what's wrong with me.

1811

01:29:58,230 --> 01:30:00,300

First, he took my
temperature, and I

1812

01:30:00,300 --> 01:30:02,708

must have had high temperature.

1813
01:30:02,708 --> 01:30:05,250
He took my temperature and then
asked me what's wrong with me

1814
01:30:05,250 --> 01:30:06,780
and I said I just had pneumonia.

1815
01:30:06,780 --> 01:30:13,418
But the German word for
pneumonia is a lung infection,

1816
01:30:13,418 --> 01:30:16,970
and that's what I told him.

1817
01:30:16,970 --> 01:30:20,765
And so he put in the
hospital first in a hospital

1818
01:30:20,765 --> 01:30:22,880
there in Kochendorf.

1819
01:30:22,880 --> 01:30:27,200
Well, it was warm,
and it was a bed.

1820
01:30:27,200 --> 01:30:29,330
And I was in that bed
until about 10:00,

1821
01:30:29,330 --> 01:30:33,910
and then he came in and he
took the temperature again.

1822
01:30:33,910 --> 01:30:36,960
And then a guy came in and
told me to get up and follow.

1823
01:30:36,960 --> 01:30:38,900
And then I thought,
well, they're

1824

01:30:38,900 --> 01:30:42,260
going to take me right back
to Teddy and this is it.

1825
01:30:42,260 --> 01:30:44,790
And he took me like
halfway to the barracks,

1826
01:30:44,790 --> 01:30:46,520
and that's all I
know about Kochendorf

1827
01:30:46,520 --> 01:30:47,780
is the hospital to Teeddy.

1828
01:30:47,780 --> 01:30:52,160

1829
01:30:52,160 --> 01:30:55,250
And then all of a sudden
he turned to the left.

1830
01:30:55,250 --> 01:30:59,240
And I saw a structure which I've
never seen in a camp before.

1831
01:30:59,240 --> 01:31:05,030
There was a building,
barracks like,

1832
01:31:05,030 --> 01:31:08,090
which was all fenced
in inside the camp.

1833
01:31:08,090 --> 01:31:09,890
The camp itself
was fenced, there

1834
01:31:09,890 --> 01:31:12,230
was a building that
was fenced in inside.

1835
01:31:12,230 --> 01:31:14,070

And we went to that building.

1836

01:31:14,070 --> 01:31:15,830

The guy went as
far as the fence,

1837

01:31:15,830 --> 01:31:19,100

said something in a
different language.

1838

01:31:19,100 --> 01:31:22,670

Somebody came out, opened
the fence, pushed me in,

1839

01:31:22,670 --> 01:31:25,304

and that's it, and
they closed the fence.

1840

01:31:25,304 --> 01:31:28,380

All of a sudden I asked
where is this, where am I?

1841

01:31:28,380 --> 01:31:31,830

They told me it's a TB hospital.

1842

01:31:31,830 --> 01:31:33,610

I was in a TB hospital.

1843

01:31:33,610 --> 01:31:37,360

That's the only one of
it's kind that I know of.

1844

01:31:37,360 --> 01:31:42,560

It was all fenced in,
nobody could get to it.

1845

01:31:42,560 --> 01:31:45,650

I don't know how many
people that were in there.

1846

01:31:45,650 --> 01:31:48,170

It was a room full of people.

1847

01:31:48,170 --> 01:31:51,530

They were all Hungarian,
mostly Hungarian.

1848

01:31:51,530 --> 01:31:53,540

I couldn't understand
most of the people

1849

01:31:53,540 --> 01:31:59,510

unless they spoke my language,
either German or Yiddish that I

1850

01:31:59,510 --> 01:32:01,070

understood.

1851

01:32:01,070 --> 01:32:02,990

If they wanted me to
understand they spoke,

1852

01:32:02,990 --> 01:32:06,300

otherwise they spoke Hungarian.

1853

01:32:06,300 --> 01:32:09,770

But they treated me very
well, and I actually

1854

01:32:09,770 --> 01:32:11,060

recovered in that place.

1855

01:32:11,060 --> 01:32:15,510

1856

01:32:15,510 --> 01:32:18,620

The only problem is, if
you're talking about a place

1857

01:32:18,620 --> 01:32:21,560

with no way out, that's
a place with no way out.

1858

01:32:21,560 --> 01:32:23,090

There's no reason

why the Germans

1859

01:32:23,090 --> 01:32:32,720
would maintain a TB hospital
inside a concentration camp.

1860

01:32:32,720 --> 01:32:36,080
And I stayed in that hospital
till the middle of March--

1861

01:32:36,080 --> 01:32:36,830
til the of March.

1862

01:32:36,830 --> 01:32:41,420

1863

01:32:41,420 --> 01:32:47,190
Nothing much happened, just
stayed in that hospital.

1864

01:32:47,190 --> 01:32:48,390
Nobody ever came there.

1865

01:32:48,390 --> 01:32:49,530
Nobody came to the door.

1866

01:32:49,530 --> 01:32:52,230

1867

01:32:52,230 --> 01:32:54,180
Were there doctors inside?

1868

01:32:54,180 --> 01:32:55,440
Same doctor that let me in.

1869

01:32:55,440 --> 01:32:56,970
He came--

1870

01:32:56,970 --> 01:32:59,280
And he never left either?

1871

01:32:59,280 --> 01:33:01,480

Well, no, he would
go in and out.

1872

01:33:01,480 --> 01:33:04,170

He came in and he would
go over to some people who

1873

01:33:04,170 --> 01:33:05,530

didn't feel well.

1874

01:33:05,530 --> 01:33:08,220

And once in awhile, he'd come
over and ask me how I feel.

1875

01:33:08,220 --> 01:33:10,030

They would take
temperature twice a day

1876

01:33:10,030 --> 01:33:12,840

and keep a record of it.

1877

01:33:12,840 --> 01:33:16,530

And I asked him to
please, take my father

1878

01:33:16,530 --> 01:33:18,615

into a hospital, a
regular hospital,

1879

01:33:18,615 --> 01:33:20,730

and he promised he would.

1880

01:33:20,730 --> 01:33:23,100

And I think he did.

1881

01:33:23,100 --> 01:33:25,740

Why, I have no idea,
but he promised.

1882

01:33:25,740 --> 01:33:27,850

Was the doctor German?

1883

01:33:27,850 --> 01:33:28,975

No, he was a Hungarian Jew.

1884

01:33:28,975 --> 01:33:29,892

He was Hungarian also?

1885

01:33:29,892 --> 01:33:31,080

His name was Dr. Weiss.

1886

01:33:31,080 --> 01:33:34,650

1887

01:33:34,650 --> 01:33:36,465

No, he was a very gentle person.

1888

01:33:36,465 --> 01:33:39,120

1889

01:33:39,120 --> 01:33:42,180

We didn't have any
problems with him.

1890

01:33:42,180 --> 01:33:45,220

And he was, as far
as I'm concerned,

1891

01:33:45,220 --> 01:33:48,420

very well liked, no problem.

1892

01:33:48,420 --> 01:33:51,840

He would come in and he would
visit and talk and probably

1893

01:33:51,840 --> 01:33:53,770

be our only link to
the outside world.

1894

01:33:53,770 --> 01:33:54,480

Yeah.

1895

01:33:54,480 --> 01:33:57,030

He would go out, come
on, and that's it.

1896
01:33:57,030 --> 01:33:58,140
But nobody else would.

1897
01:33:58,140 --> 01:34:01,470
They would bring in
food, take it back.

1898
01:34:01,470 --> 01:34:03,930
And that's it.

1899
01:34:03,930 --> 01:34:07,170
And then one day, late

1900
01:34:07,170 --> 01:34:09,000