

1
00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:07,020

2
00:00:07,020 --> 00:00:09,090
There are many orders
that the Germans

3
00:00:09,090 --> 00:00:11,850
came in requesting
that they want

4
00:00:11,850 --> 00:00:13,800
to have for their families--

5
00:00:13,800 --> 00:00:18,570
rings, and earrings, and
dresses, and things like that.

6
00:00:18,570 --> 00:00:20,520
The first thing they did
is they came in to us

7
00:00:20,520 --> 00:00:24,160
because we were the first
house almost in town.

8
00:00:24,160 --> 00:00:29,380
And my father was the person
that used to deal with them.

9
00:00:29,380 --> 00:00:31,440
They came in, they
gave all of us orders.

10
00:00:31,440 --> 00:00:33,960
They need this and they need
that, if not, they will do this

11
00:00:33,960 --> 00:00:37,230
and they will that
as punishment.

12

00:00:37,230 --> 00:00:40,860

And most of the time he
succeeded to annul this

13

00:00:40,860 --> 00:00:44,280

or to come down with the
orders that they wanted.

14

00:00:44,280 --> 00:00:48,810

And sometimes happened that
they couldn't do it either.

15

00:00:48,810 --> 00:00:55,710

They killed a family of two
children and a friend of one

16

00:00:55,710 --> 00:00:59,850

of them was a very
bad situation.

17

00:00:59,850 --> 00:01:04,709

But most of the time, although
it was very painful, but it did

18

00:01:04,709 --> 00:01:06,510

succeed a lot of them.

19

00:01:06,510 --> 00:01:10,870

Now there was no
wired ghetto though?

20

00:01:10,870 --> 00:01:11,370

No.

21

00:01:11,370 --> 00:01:13,860

It was just a designated area?

22

00:01:13,860 --> 00:01:16,020

There was a
designated, the ghetto

23

00:01:16,020 --> 00:01:19,530

was whatever the Jew lived,
in Kaluszyn it was the ghetto.

24
00:01:19,530 --> 00:01:20,070
That means--

25
00:01:20,070 --> 00:01:21,795
But it was not closed in?

26
00:01:21,795 --> 00:01:24,130
There was no closed
in like you had

27
00:01:24,130 --> 00:01:31,230
in Warsaw ghetto with a gate
or with a closed around.

28
00:01:31,230 --> 00:01:32,200
There was no closed in.

29
00:01:32,200 --> 00:01:35,640
But the closing in the ghetto,
but meant that they cannot go

30
00:01:35,640 --> 00:01:37,950
beyond the area where they live.

31
00:01:37,950 --> 00:01:40,410
They can only go in the town.

32
00:01:40,410 --> 00:01:42,230
They're not allowed
to go to the village.

33
00:01:42,230 --> 00:01:45,990
They're not allowed to go out
of the city without a permit.

34
00:01:45,990 --> 00:01:48,910

35
00:01:48,910 --> 00:01:51,400

There was also was succeeded,
my father succeeded

36
00:01:51,400 --> 00:01:59,660
is to bring back food from the
County, because the gendarmes,

37
00:01:59,660 --> 00:02:02,320
the police, the
German police used

38
00:02:02,320 --> 00:02:06,850
to confiscate from the farmers.

39
00:02:06,850 --> 00:02:11,590
They used to bring
to take food to sell

40
00:02:11,590 --> 00:02:13,480
in Warsaw and other places.

41
00:02:13,480 --> 00:02:16,180
When they passed by, they
did not allow to do it.

42
00:02:16,180 --> 00:02:17,830
They used to confiscate it.

43
00:02:17,830 --> 00:02:19,720
So they used to give
out to the churches

44
00:02:19,720 --> 00:02:21,560
and to different areas.

45
00:02:21,560 --> 00:02:23,350
So my father used
to go there and ask

46
00:02:23,350 --> 00:02:29,020
him to give some of them to the
town where they made a kitchen

47

00:02:29,020 --> 00:02:31,840

to feed the poor
people and children.

48

00:02:31,840 --> 00:02:34,960

My mother was attending
this kitchen for a long time

49

00:02:34,960 --> 00:02:38,386

to see that they would
supplies are enough.

50

00:02:38,386 --> 00:02:41,480

But your father's business
was totally disrupted?

51

00:02:41,480 --> 00:02:44,180

Or did he continue
to [INAUDIBLE]??

52

00:02:44,180 --> 00:02:46,880

There were no, the business
was disrupted in 1939

53

00:02:46,880 --> 00:02:48,530

because there was no guests.

54

00:02:48,530 --> 00:02:51,500

Jews could have no guest
business and the trucks,

55

00:02:51,500 --> 00:02:54,470

they were not available and
we did not have any supplies.

56

00:02:54,470 --> 00:02:56,500

The only thing is
what he had was

57

00:02:56,500 --> 00:02:59,090

the store that we
could still have,

58

00:02:59,090 --> 00:03:01,670

the restaurant going
for a part time,

59

00:03:01,670 --> 00:03:04,700

and some groceries to sell.

60

00:03:04,700 --> 00:03:06,680

But most of time
my father was busy

61

00:03:06,680 --> 00:03:13,250

because they made my father
busy with Judenrat business.

62

00:03:13,250 --> 00:03:16,090

What did you do?

63

00:03:16,090 --> 00:03:19,150

I was also getting there.

64

00:03:19,150 --> 00:03:25,150

They also requested
that the Judenrat get

65

00:03:25,150 --> 00:03:28,850

the Jewish police and
Jewish sanitation people,

66

00:03:28,850 --> 00:03:34,130

people that help out
to keep the clean,

67

00:03:34,130 --> 00:03:37,840

to keep clean the houses
because on top of that,

68

00:03:37,840 --> 00:03:44,570

our town was destroyed in 1939.

69

00:03:44,570 --> 00:03:48,050

They send in a transport of

Jews from two other towns

70
00:03:48,050 --> 00:03:52,250
that the Germans
annexed to Germany.

71
00:03:52,250 --> 00:03:56,990
There was a town called
Pabianice and Kalisz.

72
00:03:56,990 --> 00:03:59,810
A few hundred people
from each of those towns

73
00:03:59,810 --> 00:04:01,370
were brought into Kalisz.

74
00:04:01,370 --> 00:04:02,950
And they were settled there.

75
00:04:02,950 --> 00:04:06,230
Said this is where
they have to live.

76
00:04:06,230 --> 00:04:13,980
They had to be given a place
to live and to other families

77
00:04:13,980 --> 00:04:18,810
and some to live to repair
in the buildings that

78
00:04:18,810 --> 00:04:20,040
were destroyed.

79
00:04:20,040 --> 00:04:21,690
And many of them couldn't do it.

80
00:04:21,690 --> 00:04:24,510
And they felt that to go
away someplace else where

81

00:04:24,510 --> 00:04:26,730
all of their relatives lived.

82
00:04:26,730 --> 00:04:29,580
And that remained.

83
00:04:29,580 --> 00:04:36,990
Then to be able to keep the
apartments, or their houses,

84
00:04:36,990 --> 00:04:43,950
or their houses clean, there
was no facilities to bathe.

85
00:04:43,950 --> 00:04:46,140
There was only one mikveh.

86
00:04:46,140 --> 00:04:49,110
And to have these people,
they did not have much.

87
00:04:49,110 --> 00:04:55,200
And to have these people
to have clean to where

88
00:04:55,200 --> 00:05:02,975
to take them properly by
inducing them with bread

89
00:05:02,975 --> 00:05:03,850
or with other things.

90
00:05:03,850 --> 00:05:06,510
They should go and take it
because they were afraid

91
00:05:06,510 --> 00:05:09,050
that going to the
mikveh or something

92
00:05:09,050 --> 00:05:11,400
being that is an
order from the Germans

93
00:05:11,400 --> 00:05:13,230
will be something wrong.

94
00:05:13,230 --> 00:05:17,100
And being that
everything was closed,

95
00:05:17,100 --> 00:05:19,935
the city had become
infected with typhus.

96
00:05:19,935 --> 00:05:22,840

97
00:05:22,840 --> 00:05:31,450
I was one of the men going to
the sanitary committee, about

98
00:05:31,450 --> 00:05:33,040
a dozen friends.

99
00:05:33,040 --> 00:05:35,500
Not friends, a dozen
friends and non-friends,

100
00:05:35,500 --> 00:05:36,910
other people that
were designated

101
00:05:36,910 --> 00:05:41,440
to go out to those houses to
see that the people keep clean.

102
00:05:41,440 --> 00:05:49,200
There were times that
we used to take a brush

103
00:05:49,200 --> 00:05:52,260
and clean up so many, you
could see on the floor

104

00:05:52,260 --> 00:06:01,020
so many lice walking
like bugs, was terrible.

105
00:06:01,020 --> 00:06:06,290
And slowly we had to induce the
people to come to get clean.

106
00:06:06,290 --> 00:06:09,310
So every day, every
day of the week,

107
00:06:09,310 --> 00:06:13,380
we had other groups of people
to take in to the mikveh

108
00:06:13,380 --> 00:06:16,650
so they can go in there and
take baths and get clean.

109
00:06:16,650 --> 00:06:18,990
And the meantime
some people leftover,

110
00:06:18,990 --> 00:06:22,920
while they were in the bath to
clean out the house that they

111
00:06:22,920 --> 00:06:26,310
can go back and clean.

112
00:06:26,310 --> 00:06:31,070
What would the non-Jewish have?

113
00:06:31,070 --> 00:06:34,378
The non-Jewish population,
they had not do anything.

114
00:06:34,378 --> 00:06:35,170
They were staying--

115
00:06:35,170 --> 00:06:35,660
Lived there?

116
00:06:35,660 --> 00:06:37,577
--They still lived there
because many of them,

117
00:06:37,577 --> 00:06:39,110
they all got burned out.

118
00:06:39,110 --> 00:06:44,810
But they had the right to
go anywhere they wanted.

119
00:06:44,810 --> 00:06:47,120
They were not restricted.

120
00:06:47,120 --> 00:06:48,920
It's only the Jews
that were restricted.

121
00:06:48,920 --> 00:06:52,520

122
00:06:52,520 --> 00:06:56,120
And that went on and on.

123
00:06:56,120 --> 00:07:03,075
And then came the
German companies.

124
00:07:03,075 --> 00:07:07,490
Wait, what was your sister?

125
00:07:07,490 --> 00:07:09,530
My sister wasn't do anything.

126
00:07:09,530 --> 00:07:12,530
They occasionally they
used to-- yes, occasionally

127
00:07:12,530 --> 00:07:16,250
my sister also
helped out to induce

128
00:07:16,250 --> 00:07:21,440
people to go because they needed
to have people direct them

129
00:07:21,440 --> 00:07:22,100
where to go.

130
00:07:22,100 --> 00:07:27,150
Because some of them were
children without families.

131
00:07:27,150 --> 00:07:32,478
Some of them were older
people and they needed help.

132
00:07:32,478 --> 00:07:39,060
And so all of you were involved
in some way in the effort?

133
00:07:39,060 --> 00:07:39,570
Yes.

134
00:07:39,570 --> 00:07:41,040
In the effort to, yes.

135
00:07:41,040 --> 00:07:44,150

136
00:07:44,150 --> 00:07:57,040
And this went on to in many
ways that the beginning of 1940,

137
00:07:57,040 --> 00:07:59,230
1939, '40.

138
00:07:59,230 --> 00:08:07,160
And your grandmother and your
grand uncle, they were all--

139
00:08:07,160 --> 00:08:10,520
I don't know what happened to

my grand uncle during the war.

140
00:08:10,520 --> 00:08:12,320
I don't know what
happened to him.

141
00:08:12,320 --> 00:08:12,965
But he died.

142
00:08:12,965 --> 00:08:14,090
But was still in--

143
00:08:14,090 --> 00:08:17,900
I don't remember him
what happened to the war.

144
00:08:17,900 --> 00:08:23,060
But my grandmother went to live
because they were burned out.

145
00:08:23,060 --> 00:08:26,060
They went to live with my
uncle's family, with my uncle.

146
00:08:26,060 --> 00:08:27,390
Which uncle?

147
00:08:27,390 --> 00:08:30,110
My mother's sister, my
mother's brother-in-law.

148
00:08:30,110 --> 00:08:35,929
My mother's sister's husband had
relatives in Minsk Mazowiecki.

149
00:08:35,929 --> 00:08:38,640
And Minsk Mazowiecki
was not destroyed.

150
00:08:38,640 --> 00:08:41,000
So he went to live in that town.

151

00:08:41,000 --> 00:08:44,000
And it took along
my grandmother.

152
00:08:44,000 --> 00:08:47,128
My aunt with her husband
took along my grandmother.

153
00:08:47,128 --> 00:08:50,060

154
00:08:50,060 --> 00:08:57,790
She lived there until 1942 or
even before 1941 because they,

155
00:08:57,790 --> 00:09:01,390
my aunt did not have a
apartment large enough,

156
00:09:01,390 --> 00:09:04,180
so they send in my
grandmother to live with us.

157
00:09:04,180 --> 00:09:07,090
My grandmother, my mother's
mother, lived with us.

158
00:09:07,090 --> 00:09:10,560
My father's mother also
lived with us during a time.

159
00:09:10,560 --> 00:09:13,770
And she died of heart failure.

160
00:09:13,770 --> 00:09:14,520
My mother--

161
00:09:14,520 --> 00:09:15,353
[INTERPOSING VOICES]

162
00:09:15,353 --> 00:09:17,116
--My father, my father's mother.

163
00:09:17,116 --> 00:09:18,110
In 1940?

164
00:09:18,110 --> 00:09:21,720
In 1940 or '41.

165
00:09:21,720 --> 00:09:23,880
'40 and '41.

166
00:09:23,880 --> 00:09:25,880
But did people
have enough to eat?

167
00:09:25,880 --> 00:09:30,270
Did your family have
enough to eat [INAUDIBLE]??

168
00:09:30,270 --> 00:09:32,220
There was always enough,
not enough to eat.

169
00:09:32,220 --> 00:09:36,160
But you could always
get for money to buy,

170
00:09:36,160 --> 00:09:38,920
was very expensive.

171
00:09:38,920 --> 00:09:49,750
We managed, there was a lot
of, of course, there were--

172
00:09:49,750 --> 00:09:51,340
there was a flour mill nearby.

173
00:09:51,340 --> 00:09:53,650
They used to mill flour.

174
00:09:53,650 --> 00:09:57,350
We used to get it, and
the food was a problem.

175

00:09:57,350 --> 00:09:58,540

It was expensive.

176

00:09:58,540 --> 00:10:00,970

But things a lot of people
did not have the money.

177

00:10:00,970 --> 00:10:05,810

And they did not have
much to do in the work.

178

00:10:05,810 --> 00:10:09,640

So I'm coming back now to
work, they came in a time

179

00:10:09,640 --> 00:10:12,340

that the Germans came in
to take people to work.

180

00:10:12,340 --> 00:10:14,080

But they needed to
clean up the roads

181

00:10:14,080 --> 00:10:22,600

because the army used to pass by
and the road was full of snow.

182

00:10:22,600 --> 00:10:26,740

They could not pass by and
they grabbed Jews to clean.

183

00:10:26,740 --> 00:10:30,640

Later on, they had to repair
the roads and came in a civilian

184

00:10:30,640 --> 00:10:33,340

company, a German civilian
company by the name

185

00:10:33,340 --> 00:10:37,630

[? Vulffer ?] & [? Gable. ?] And
they used to grab Jews to come

186

00:10:37,630 --> 00:10:40,930

to work for them without
anything just to come

187

00:10:40,930 --> 00:10:43,450

in as Germans.

188

00:10:43,450 --> 00:10:46,570

Although they were in civilian
clothes, but he was a German,

189

00:10:46,570 --> 00:10:47,650

he had the power.

190

00:10:47,650 --> 00:10:51,610

Nobody could go
fight against them.

191

00:10:51,610 --> 00:10:53,230

They used to go for days.

192

00:10:53,230 --> 00:10:56,770

Grab every day some other people
to come to work, and take them

193

00:10:56,770 --> 00:11:00,010

away four or five kilometers
from the house, from the town,

194

00:11:00,010 --> 00:11:01,330

and used the work on the roads.

195

00:11:01,330 --> 00:11:04,390

196

00:11:04,390 --> 00:11:08,680

Break stones and work on the
road, and do different things.

197

00:11:08,680 --> 00:11:12,540

Later on, being that
this has happened,

198
00:11:12,540 --> 00:11:16,750
and my father used to go to
the Germans for many things

199
00:11:16,750 --> 00:11:17,770
that they wanted.

200
00:11:17,770 --> 00:11:20,980
So he said, you always
coming to bring me this

201
00:11:20,980 --> 00:11:22,360
and bring me that.

202
00:11:22,360 --> 00:11:25,112
Why don't you see that the
company that takes the Jews

203
00:11:25,112 --> 00:11:26,320
to work that they should pay?

204
00:11:26,320 --> 00:11:30,270

205
00:11:30,270 --> 00:11:33,270
So he was calling the
German civilian company,

206
00:11:33,270 --> 00:11:36,720
told them that they have to
pay for the work that they did.

207
00:11:36,720 --> 00:11:40,230
And although before,
more people wanted

208
00:11:40,230 --> 00:11:42,090
to go to work because
they got beaten up.

209
00:11:42,090 --> 00:11:43,650

They didn't get paid.

210

00:11:43,650 --> 00:11:46,050

After there was the arrangement
that they have to pay,

211

00:11:46,050 --> 00:11:47,790

a lot of people
wanted to go to work.

212

00:11:47,790 --> 00:11:50,415

But it still was
not enough payment

213

00:11:50,415 --> 00:11:52,290

what they wanted to pay
because at that time,

214

00:11:52,290 --> 00:11:58,650

they paid 5 zlotys a day,
which is a kilo bread, which is

215

00:11:58,650 --> 00:12:01,710

about 2 and 1/4 pounds cost 10.

216

00:12:01,710 --> 00:12:05,992

So all they could make
is a half a kilo bread.

217

00:12:05,992 --> 00:12:07,200

So how could they go to work?

218

00:12:07,200 --> 00:12:11,400

So being that the
people, the Judenrat

219

00:12:11,400 --> 00:12:15,130

wanted to have the
people work and do

220

00:12:15,130 --> 00:12:18,900

in something, so the Judenrat
supplied with the bread

221
00:12:18,900 --> 00:12:20,460
with each worker
that goes to work

222
00:12:20,460 --> 00:12:22,170
will get a half a kilo bread.

223
00:12:22,170 --> 00:12:26,910
And the money, what we
will get for the work,

224
00:12:26,910 --> 00:12:28,770
you will have for other things.

225
00:12:28,770 --> 00:12:31,710
And there was also
some other supplies

226
00:12:31,710 --> 00:12:36,870
that used to bring in from
sequestrated merchandise.

227
00:12:36,870 --> 00:12:43,540
The potatoes, or onions, or
salad, or some vegetables

228
00:12:43,540 --> 00:12:44,915
just to bring in
for the kitchen.

229
00:12:44,915 --> 00:12:47,100
There used to many times
to be extra potatoes used

230
00:12:47,100 --> 00:12:52,080
to give the poor people to,
and this is how they lived.

231
00:12:52,080 --> 00:12:55,530
Was very hard and,
but this how they--

232
00:12:55,530 --> 00:12:56,830
They were alive, yes.

233
00:12:56,830 --> 00:12:57,330
--Yeah.

234
00:12:57,330 --> 00:12:59,400
But you had typhus.

235
00:12:59,400 --> 00:13:00,330
That's right.

236
00:13:00,330 --> 00:13:02,580
A matter of fact, [INAUDIBLE]
typhus a matter of fact,

237
00:13:02,580 --> 00:13:04,320
I got sick of typhus, too.

238
00:13:04,320 --> 00:13:07,000
And your family was able
to get medicine, or?

239
00:13:07,000 --> 00:13:10,120
Yeah, the only thing we got
is there was strychnine,

240
00:13:10,120 --> 00:13:12,210
there was the injections.

241
00:13:12,210 --> 00:13:15,760
And my brother was also
got sick of typhus.

242
00:13:15,760 --> 00:13:17,150
That was in 19--

243
00:13:17,150 --> 00:13:19,130
That was in 1940.

244
00:13:19,130 --> 00:13:20,680

And they established--

245
00:13:20,680 --> 00:13:22,540
You were really sick?

246
00:13:22,540 --> 00:13:24,140
Yeah.

247
00:13:24,140 --> 00:13:24,740
I was sick.

248
00:13:24,740 --> 00:13:26,270
I had a lot of fever.

249
00:13:26,270 --> 00:13:29,960
The typhus, it's not
water typhus, no.

250
00:13:29,960 --> 00:13:35,040
It's [INAUDIBLE] typhus that
you get a very high fever.

251
00:13:35,040 --> 00:13:35,540
I say to--

252
00:13:35,540 --> 00:13:37,530
[INAUDIBLE]?

253
00:13:37,530 --> 00:13:40,060
--Well, a lot of people died.

254
00:13:40,060 --> 00:13:42,650
And there was also
they built a hospital.

255
00:13:42,650 --> 00:13:44,680
They established a hospital.

256
00:13:44,680 --> 00:13:48,100
There was only one doctor
and there was one nurse.

257

00:13:48,100 --> 00:13:52,660

One, she was actually, before
the war she was a midwife.

258

00:13:52,660 --> 00:13:54,100

And when the
hospital established,

259

00:13:54,100 --> 00:13:56,530

she was supposedly running it.

260

00:13:56,530 --> 00:13:58,570

And the only thing
the hospital to do

261

00:13:58,570 --> 00:14:00,580

is to at least take
out the patients

262

00:14:00,580 --> 00:14:04,030

from the house that they
should not infect the others

263

00:14:04,030 --> 00:14:05,740

and attend to that.

264

00:14:05,740 --> 00:14:10,780

But later on, other patients
from that family also came.

265

00:14:10,780 --> 00:14:14,460

A lot of them died, which there
was no medicine to support,

266

00:14:14,460 --> 00:14:16,986

and some of them came out.

267

00:14:16,986 --> 00:14:19,230

So how long were you sick?

268

00:14:19,230 --> 00:14:23,301

I was sick about I would

say about three, four weeks.

269

00:14:23,301 --> 00:14:26,050

And you and your brother were
the only ones who got it?

270

00:14:26,050 --> 00:14:26,550

Yes.

271

00:14:26,550 --> 00:14:27,967

My brother and I
was the only ones

272

00:14:27,967 --> 00:14:30,360

that got it, because
we stayed in our house

273

00:14:30,360 --> 00:14:33,480

because we tried to keep the
house clean that should not

274

00:14:33,480 --> 00:14:36,210

get someone else get infected.

275

00:14:36,210 --> 00:14:38,910

And this is how
we got out of it.

276

00:14:38,910 --> 00:14:43,860

But a lot of people got out
from the hospital [INAUDIBLE]

277

00:14:43,860 --> 00:14:47,292

it's the luck, it's the
attention, and everything.

278

00:14:47,292 --> 00:14:50,990

279

00:14:50,990 --> 00:14:57,690

So well more explanations
is in the story

280

00:14:57,690 --> 00:15:00,540

that I wrote in Yiddish
when different sections

281

00:15:00,540 --> 00:15:01,480

of different times.

282

00:15:01,480 --> 00:15:08,100

What the Judenrats had to
do and how they did it,

283

00:15:08,100 --> 00:15:11,440

and who was responsible,
where, and how, and so on.

284

00:15:11,440 --> 00:15:18,270

How many people were working
and what the work was there.

285

00:15:18,270 --> 00:15:22,000

If it would work out
from on the pages,

286

00:15:22,000 --> 00:15:25,336

what would be if you are
someone that reads Yiddish?

287

00:15:25,336 --> 00:15:27,320

[INAUDIBLE]

288

00:15:27,320 --> 00:15:28,550

Yeah.

289

00:15:28,550 --> 00:15:32,600

If you will make the copies,
so if there's any question,

290

00:15:32,600 --> 00:15:35,840

you'll tell me which page it
is, then I'll call on the phone

291

00:15:35,840 --> 00:15:38,450

and I'll talk to the
person exactly what it is.

292
00:15:38,450 --> 00:15:41,260

293
00:15:41,260 --> 00:15:47,110
Then when it came in
1942 when they started

294
00:15:47,110 --> 00:15:50,920
to send the Jews
to the gas chambers

295
00:15:50,920 --> 00:15:55,090
and supposedly to
work in the East

296
00:15:55,090 --> 00:15:57,460
for the start of the Warsaw.

297
00:15:57,460 --> 00:16:00,520
Then we get closer and
closer again to Minsk,

298
00:16:00,520 --> 00:16:01,885
and they came to Kaluszyń.

299
00:16:01,885 --> 00:16:04,760

300
00:16:04,760 --> 00:16:05,260
And--

301
00:16:05,260 --> 00:16:08,380
Did you have news of what
was happening in the war?

302
00:16:08,380 --> 00:16:08,880
--Yes.

303
00:16:08,880 --> 00:16:10,115

We had news of the fact.

304

00:16:10,115 --> 00:16:13,920

Matter fact, we had news
because there was a time

305

00:16:13,920 --> 00:16:21,060

that we could get a permit
from the German authorities

306

00:16:21,060 --> 00:16:25,070

to allow us to bring in
the family from Warsaw.

307

00:16:25,070 --> 00:16:29,930

And there was also many
German wehrmacht soldiers that

308

00:16:29,930 --> 00:16:32,510

were drivers that were there.

309

00:16:32,510 --> 00:16:41,120

That was in 1941, '41 or '42.

310

00:16:41,120 --> 00:16:45,470

They were working and to
dismantling the synagogue.

311

00:16:45,470 --> 00:16:48,080

So we used to induce
him to go to Warsaw

312

00:16:48,080 --> 00:16:50,880

and bring out some people.

313

00:16:50,880 --> 00:16:54,140

So my brother used to go
out with him to Warsaw

314

00:16:54,140 --> 00:16:57,440

and bring out the relatives
and some other relatives

315

00:16:57,440 --> 00:16:59,900

of other people who
used to be there.

316

00:16:59,900 --> 00:17:03,440

And of course, we took
them out from there,

317

00:17:03,440 --> 00:17:04,490

and they came in to us.

318

00:17:04,490 --> 00:17:07,550

And they perished
through later on.

319

00:17:07,550 --> 00:17:10,880

It was very hard, but
this is what happened.

320

00:17:10,880 --> 00:17:13,508

321

00:17:13,508 --> 00:17:17,579

Did they have to sneak out
of the ghetto in Warsaw?

322

00:17:17,579 --> 00:17:21,300

Oh yes, unless they come
with a group that was going

323

00:17:21,300 --> 00:17:24,760

to work outside the ghetto.

324

00:17:24,760 --> 00:17:28,230

This is what happened
when I was in Warsaw.

325

00:17:28,230 --> 00:17:32,710

Didn't the East German army
people know what was going on?

326

00:17:32,710 --> 00:17:35,970

They were bribed, or?

327
00:17:35,970 --> 00:17:37,940
Most of them knew.

328
00:17:37,940 --> 00:17:41,250
Those that knew that
were working in around

329
00:17:41,250 --> 00:17:43,250
say if there were guards
around the ghetto,

330
00:17:43,250 --> 00:17:46,160
they knew, they guarded
the Jews not to go out.

331
00:17:46,160 --> 00:17:49,250
Or many, many Germans that
were just in the wehrmacht,

332
00:17:49,250 --> 00:17:51,650
just in the army did
not know, they just

333
00:17:51,650 --> 00:17:53,360
knew that the Jews
are their enemies,

334
00:17:53,360 --> 00:17:55,430
but they didn't
tell them anything.

335
00:17:55,430 --> 00:18:00,110
But those that they used
to take care of all these

336
00:18:00,110 --> 00:18:05,090
the re-settlements
are mostly SS,

337
00:18:05,090 --> 00:18:10,040
and their helpers were mostly

Ukrainians, Lithuanians,

338
00:18:10,040 --> 00:18:14,120
Estonians, Latvians
from Latvia, and Poles.

339
00:18:14,120 --> 00:18:16,610
Or Volksdeutsche--
the Germans they

340
00:18:16,610 --> 00:18:18,815
used to live in
Poland before, we used

341
00:18:18,815 --> 00:18:19,940
to call them Volksdeutsche.

342
00:18:19,940 --> 00:18:21,320
That means they're Germans--

343
00:18:21,320 --> 00:18:23,870
Poles of German extraction.

344
00:18:23,870 --> 00:18:28,190
And they were the worst, because
they knew exactly who was who,

345
00:18:28,190 --> 00:18:32,000
and what is what, and they
were the biggest obstacles.

346
00:18:32,000 --> 00:18:35,726

347
00:18:35,726 --> 00:18:43,200
So you got some people
out and then what now?

348
00:18:43,200 --> 00:18:45,120
When Germans came in 1942.

349
00:18:45,120 --> 00:18:46,860

What month was that?

350

00:18:46,860 --> 00:18:50,800

It was in September, which I
already told in the beginning.

351

00:18:50,800 --> 00:18:58,108

Yes, when I ran away, then I
ran away to they came to Warsaw.

352

00:18:58,108 --> 00:19:00,560

Can you repeat that story?

353

00:19:00,560 --> 00:19:01,060

Yeah.

354

00:19:01,060 --> 00:19:04,000

Or [INAUDIBLE].

355

00:19:04,000 --> 00:19:07,700

In 1942 when the Germans
came, it was in Yom Kippur,

356

00:19:07,700 --> 00:19:10,520

it's 21st of September.

357

00:19:10,520 --> 00:19:12,470

And told the Judenrat
that they have

358

00:19:12,470 --> 00:19:16,700

to have people to go to
the camps to work in camps,

359

00:19:16,700 --> 00:19:19,250

because they need a
lot of people there.

360

00:19:19,250 --> 00:19:22,880

Whether they needed or
not because Germans want,

361

00:19:22,880 --> 00:19:25,020
a lot of Jews don't want to go.

362
00:19:25,020 --> 00:19:29,400
But some of them,
a lot of them went

363
00:19:29,400 --> 00:19:32,700
and they remained
alive until later on.

364
00:19:32,700 --> 00:19:36,400
And those that didn't
want to go, there used to,

365
00:19:36,400 --> 00:19:38,320
they remained there.

366
00:19:38,320 --> 00:19:42,280
Four days later
they came and they

367
00:19:42,280 --> 00:19:51,880
had an action to take to
send them out to Treblinka.

368
00:19:51,880 --> 00:19:55,720
At that time, I ran away
from the marketplace

369
00:19:55,720 --> 00:19:59,050
through a [INAUDIBLE]
that I took pails of water

370
00:19:59,050 --> 00:20:01,705
to supply the people
that were on the market.

371
00:20:01,705 --> 00:20:03,580
And I went a few times
with a friend of mine.

372
00:20:03,580 --> 00:20:08,080

And later on, at the evening
when the evening approached,

373

00:20:08,080 --> 00:20:11,170

his name by [? Yosef ?]
[? Gontarski ?] he was

374

00:20:11,170 --> 00:20:14,230

a neighbor of mine and
lived across the street.

375

00:20:14,230 --> 00:20:19,490

And after we watched
them taking away

376

00:20:19,490 --> 00:20:27,090

the people in the horse and
buggy to the railroad station.

377

00:20:27,090 --> 00:20:28,970

And when the night
approached, we

378

00:20:28,970 --> 00:20:33,060

ran away to a camp to our labor
camp called [? Nienya. ?] There

379

00:20:33,060 --> 00:20:34,540

I was for about a month.

380

00:20:34,540 --> 00:20:36,760

And I met my brother
that was in another camp.

381

00:20:36,760 --> 00:20:39,520

So we got together
and we stayed there

382

00:20:39,520 --> 00:20:45,010

in a little place working on
the roads until December 1st.

383

00:20:45,010 --> 00:20:49,720

On December 1st, the Germans released all the labor camps,

384
00:20:49,720 --> 00:20:53,500
which were around the city, around the coalition,

385
00:20:53,500 --> 00:20:57,570
and other places, and sent them all into town

386
00:20:57,570 --> 00:20:59,850
to make a new ghetto, supposedly.

387
00:20:59,850 --> 00:21:03,300
But that was only for the reason to make another settlement

388
00:21:03,300 --> 00:21:08,010
instead of sending each one from 15 different places,

389
00:21:08,010 --> 00:21:12,150
they got everybody in one place and sent them out together.

390
00:21:12,150 --> 00:21:16,120
At that time, I ran away again and tried to run away,

391
00:21:16,120 --> 00:21:18,540
but one of the policemen tried to cut us

392
00:21:18,540 --> 00:21:26,310
and was aiming at me and at a friend of mine

393
00:21:26,310 --> 00:21:27,630
running together.

394
00:21:27,630 --> 00:21:29,760

And he killed him.

395

00:21:29,760 --> 00:21:35,770

I ran back and hid in a
cellar all through the night

396

00:21:35,770 --> 00:21:38,530

and about 3:00, 4
o'clock in the morning,

397

00:21:38,530 --> 00:21:42,790

I walked to another to the
County town, Minsk Mazowiecki

398

00:21:42,790 --> 00:21:46,330

where there still
remained a place of work.

399

00:21:46,330 --> 00:21:48,490

And I was there for
a few days, and I

400

00:21:48,490 --> 00:21:51,610

met another friend
that was came there

401

00:21:51,610 --> 00:21:55,330

and we both made
passports, Polish passports

402

00:21:55,330 --> 00:21:58,000

that we are Poles,
that we are Christians.

403

00:21:58,000 --> 00:22:02,650

And he looked for a place for us
in Warsaw, and they are inside.

404

00:22:02,650 --> 00:22:06,280

We lived with a woman
whose husband supposedly

405

00:22:06,280 --> 00:22:12,550

was in a prisoner of war
camps with the Germans

406
00:22:12,550 --> 00:22:14,650
or was killed during the war.

407
00:22:14,650 --> 00:22:17,440
And she was a poor woman,
and we paid her well.

408
00:22:17,440 --> 00:22:22,180
And we were there since
more or less December 15

409
00:22:22,180 --> 00:22:25,690
'till about January
10 or January 15.

410
00:22:25,690 --> 00:22:27,580
Where we heard
that there's still

411
00:22:27,580 --> 00:22:30,670
a lot of Jews in the ghetto and
that life goes on as before,

412
00:22:30,670 --> 00:22:34,670
and there is nothing
much is expected.

413
00:22:34,670 --> 00:22:39,610
So we decided that we'll go into
the ghetto to see what's what.

414
00:22:39,610 --> 00:22:45,170
My friend had a sister with
a family living in ghetto.

415
00:22:45,170 --> 00:22:45,790
In Warsaw?

416
00:22:45,790 --> 00:22:46,930
In Warsaw ghetto.

417
00:22:46,930 --> 00:22:49,960
And while there, I found
out that I had cousins

418
00:22:49,960 --> 00:22:51,800
living in Warsaw ghetto.

419
00:22:51,800 --> 00:22:54,710
So he went to the sister
and I went to the cousins.

420
00:22:54,710 --> 00:22:58,810
We were only about a block
away, let's say about 200 yards

421
00:22:58,810 --> 00:22:59,860
from each other.

422
00:22:59,860 --> 00:23:02,080
And we saw each
other occasionally.

423
00:23:02,080 --> 00:23:06,750
And this, we were only
there about a week,

424
00:23:06,750 --> 00:23:12,630
maybe less than a week, 'till
January 18, 1943, when we got

425
00:23:12,630 --> 00:23:15,030
caught in another deportation.

426
00:23:15,030 --> 00:23:18,660
The Germans surrounded
again the Warsaw ghetto

427
00:23:18,660 --> 00:23:21,840
and took out a lot of
people, a lot of people

428

00:23:21,840 --> 00:23:24,330
to send them to Treblinka.

429
00:23:24,330 --> 00:23:28,890
So my cousins and I
were going to the place

430
00:23:28,890 --> 00:23:30,670
to the gathering place.

431
00:23:30,670 --> 00:23:34,680
And at the gathering place, I
met my friend with his family

432
00:23:34,680 --> 00:23:36,130
together.

433
00:23:36,130 --> 00:23:38,910
So I said to them and they said
to me, let's stay together.

434
00:23:38,910 --> 00:23:41,790
Whatever we decide to
do, we'll do it together.

435
00:23:41,790 --> 00:23:44,820
Meantime, my cousins
were wise guys.

436
00:23:44,820 --> 00:23:46,980
They did not let
themselves go that easy.

437
00:23:46,980 --> 00:23:50,590
And they run away right away
from the gathering place.

438
00:23:50,590 --> 00:23:54,030
They went back and hid
and then was all right.

439
00:23:54,030 --> 00:23:56,130
My friend and his

family, which was

440

00:23:56,130 --> 00:24:00,870

a couple of mother and
father and two sons.

441

00:24:00,870 --> 00:24:03,480

One son remained hiding.

442

00:24:03,480 --> 00:24:08,130

And just the couple, and the
son, and I, and the friend

443

00:24:08,130 --> 00:24:12,060

went into the train.

444

00:24:12,060 --> 00:24:15,870

We were together with a plan
that as soon as we move out,

445

00:24:15,870 --> 00:24:17,700

we will jump the train.

446

00:24:17,700 --> 00:24:19,710

And we made up that
whoever jumped--

447

00:24:19,710 --> 00:24:21,120

This a regular train with--

448

00:24:21,120 --> 00:24:22,500

--No, not a regular train.

449

00:24:22,500 --> 00:24:23,220

Not with seats.

450

00:24:23,220 --> 00:24:25,845

There was no first class train,
or second, or even third class.

451

00:24:25,845 --> 00:24:27,900

It was a cattle train.

452
00:24:27,900 --> 00:24:28,970
OK.

453
00:24:28,970 --> 00:24:30,755
So this was a deportation?

454
00:24:30,755 --> 00:24:31,630
It was a deportation.

455
00:24:31,630 --> 00:24:32,463
[INTERPOSING VOICES]

456
00:24:32,463 --> 00:24:36,280
It was a deportation
to Treblinka, not a--

457
00:24:36,280 --> 00:24:37,120
Forced labor?

458
00:24:37,120 --> 00:24:38,060
--Forced labor.

459
00:24:38,060 --> 00:24:39,730
This a deportation to Treblinka.

460
00:24:39,730 --> 00:24:48,240

461
00:24:48,240 --> 00:24:52,760
So my friend, and
his family, and I

462
00:24:52,760 --> 00:24:56,810
decided that he will
jump first to go forward

463
00:24:56,810 --> 00:24:58,400
to meet the other jumpers.

464
00:24:58,400 --> 00:25:00,860

And this one that will
jump the last to go

465
00:25:00,860 --> 00:25:03,200
backwards to meet the jumpers.

466
00:25:03,200 --> 00:25:06,870
So the first one jumped, the
woman, my friend's sister.

467
00:25:06,870 --> 00:25:11,270
She was also from Kaluszyn
but she lived in Warsaw.

468
00:25:11,270 --> 00:25:13,880
His father, his
name was Michelson.

469
00:25:13,880 --> 00:25:16,800
I mean my friend's.

470
00:25:16,800 --> 00:25:18,570
His father was
originally the president

471
00:25:18,570 --> 00:25:20,280
of the Jewish
community in Kaluszyn

472
00:25:20,280 --> 00:25:21,840
His name was Michelson.

473
00:25:21,840 --> 00:25:24,750
In that explanation in
that story what I have

474
00:25:24,750 --> 00:25:28,244
there is written about
that he was there.

475
00:25:28,244 --> 00:25:34,260
Anyhow, when she jumped
perfect, very good.

476
00:25:34,260 --> 00:25:38,060
Then jumped her husband.

477
00:25:38,060 --> 00:25:39,247
What was it below?

478
00:25:39,247 --> 00:25:41,190
Was there a ravine or?

479
00:25:41,190 --> 00:25:42,420
Below was just a train.

480
00:25:42,420 --> 00:25:46,500
But on top on the roof
were the Germans with guns.

481
00:25:46,500 --> 00:25:48,810
And you only had to jump
to realize where you're

482
00:25:48,810 --> 00:25:51,300
jumping because
along the railway,

483
00:25:51,300 --> 00:25:56,280
there were poles of
telegraph, or electric poles

484
00:25:56,280 --> 00:25:58,800
that you should not hit.

485
00:25:58,800 --> 00:26:04,180
The second one that jumped
was the husband of the woman.

486
00:26:04,180 --> 00:26:07,050
The third one jumped, the son.

487
00:26:07,050 --> 00:26:10,440
I jumped the fourth one
and I started to go back.

488
00:26:10,440 --> 00:26:15,190
So I found the son
a little injured.

489
00:26:15,190 --> 00:26:19,510
Then going more forward, I
found the father more injured

490
00:26:19,510 --> 00:26:21,040
on his head here.

491
00:26:21,040 --> 00:26:23,980
And we were waiting to go
forwards the three of us

492
00:26:23,980 --> 00:26:27,640
because we didn't see the
woman coming forward because it

493
00:26:27,640 --> 00:26:29,200
was already quite a distance.

494
00:26:29,200 --> 00:26:31,430
So we presumed whatever
happened to her,

495
00:26:31,430 --> 00:26:33,890
she has to be on her own.

496
00:26:33,890 --> 00:26:35,420
We were three of us.

497
00:26:35,420 --> 00:26:37,120
So I said, let's go
forward and we'll

498
00:26:37,120 --> 00:26:40,570
see whether his
relative, my friend,

499
00:26:40,570 --> 00:26:43,900

which was a brother-in-law of
the father, whether he jumped.

500
00:26:43,900 --> 00:26:46,930
Wait, so the train
was moving very fast?

501
00:26:46,930 --> 00:26:49,520
The train was moving
very fast and to me,

502
00:26:49,520 --> 00:26:52,590
the only thing that
happened to me is a button.

503
00:26:52,590 --> 00:26:56,160
I button from my overcoat
on my jacket that broke.

504
00:26:56,160 --> 00:27:00,390
But the two, Michelson,
the two friends,

505
00:27:00,390 --> 00:27:03,420
the two people from
the family, one

506
00:27:03,420 --> 00:27:06,420
got injured alongside
on his face,

507
00:27:06,420 --> 00:27:09,270
and the other one on his
head, very heavy injury.

508
00:27:09,270 --> 00:27:10,230
But we had no choice.

509
00:27:10,230 --> 00:27:12,060
I could not take him
the way they are.

510
00:27:12,060 --> 00:27:15,310

And we went over to where
I knocked on the door.

511
00:27:15,310 --> 00:27:17,080
And a farmer saw a village.

512
00:27:17,080 --> 00:27:17,580
There was--

513
00:27:17,580 --> 00:27:19,100
Did a lot people try to jump?

514
00:27:19,100 --> 00:27:20,850
Oh yes, there were a
lot of people jumping

515
00:27:20,850 --> 00:27:22,695
and a lot of people got killed.

516
00:27:22,695 --> 00:27:24,270
They were being
shot at [INAUDIBLE]..

517
00:27:24,270 --> 00:27:26,250
[INAUDIBLE] they got
shot because you were,

518
00:27:26,250 --> 00:27:28,680
you had no-- there
was no other way out.

519
00:27:28,680 --> 00:27:30,780
You got to take your
chance here while you can.

520
00:27:30,780 --> 00:27:35,045
But you knew that you
were taken to be killed?

521
00:27:35,045 --> 00:27:35,820
Yes, Yes.

522

00:27:35,820 --> 00:27:37,380
How did you know that?

523
00:27:37,380 --> 00:27:39,930
Because we already knew that
everything goes to Treblinka.

524
00:27:39,930 --> 00:27:45,510
The way the road took, because
see, I know the area Warsaw.

525
00:27:45,510 --> 00:27:48,240
Then the whole
land of the road, I

526
00:27:48,240 --> 00:27:52,110
know whether the goes
if the train goes East,

527
00:27:52,110 --> 00:27:54,060
it's on the way to Treblinka.

528
00:27:54,060 --> 00:27:58,285
And Treblinka was from Kaluszyn
was about 50, 60 kilometers.

529
00:27:58,285 --> 00:27:59,910
And you had already
heard [INAUDIBLE]..

530
00:27:59,910 --> 00:28:02,100
We already-- at that
time, we already

531
00:28:02,100 --> 00:28:05,340
knew because when they
started at the beginning

532
00:28:05,340 --> 00:28:09,210
to resettle the
Jews, the news was

533
00:28:09,210 --> 00:28:11,190

that they are
resettling to the East

534
00:28:11,190 --> 00:28:14,910
because they need a lot of
workers to help on the front

535
00:28:14,910 --> 00:28:18,102
because they are attacked
the Russians in 1941.

536
00:28:18,102 --> 00:28:19,560
And they need people
to work there,

537
00:28:19,560 --> 00:28:21,640
and this is what
they need people.

538
00:28:21,640 --> 00:28:25,440
So this was the thought.

539
00:28:25,440 --> 00:28:27,120
But later on, we
knew because there

540
00:28:27,120 --> 00:28:30,170
were a lot of people that
ran away from Treblinka.

541
00:28:30,170 --> 00:28:32,030
So being that I
knew that I'm going,

542
00:28:32,030 --> 00:28:35,840
here is my chance to do
it now or to do it later.

543
00:28:35,840 --> 00:28:39,070
If out right now,
I have a chance.

544
00:28:39,070 --> 00:28:41,913

So I jumped from the train
and nothing happened to me.

545
00:28:41,913 --> 00:28:43,830
But I had to do something
with my two friends.

546
00:28:43,830 --> 00:28:45,900
I could not leave them.

547
00:28:45,900 --> 00:28:47,530
So I knocked on the door.

548
00:28:47,530 --> 00:28:50,290
And there was a woman that
opened up and she let us in.

549
00:28:50,290 --> 00:28:51,810
She gave us some water.

550
00:28:51,810 --> 00:28:53,850
She gave us some things
to clean them up,

551
00:28:53,850 --> 00:28:57,010
that they should not be visible
on his face and his head

552
00:28:57,010 --> 00:28:58,670
that something happened to him.

553
00:28:58,670 --> 00:29:00,960
Being that was wintertime,
took heavy clothes.

554
00:29:00,960 --> 00:29:04,350
They had a big hat.

555
00:29:04,350 --> 00:29:08,430
I fixed him up good and then
she said we have to pay her.

556

00:29:08,430 --> 00:29:10,080
All of us had money.

557
00:29:10,080 --> 00:29:13,740
The money we had were
bills, not double bills,

558
00:29:13,740 --> 00:29:16,980
they were bills that
you could put in money

559
00:29:16,980 --> 00:29:20,800
in between belt. He had
money, the son had money,

560
00:29:20,800 --> 00:29:22,110
and I had money.

561
00:29:22,110 --> 00:29:25,050
But he told me he cannot
take out the money yet

562
00:29:25,050 --> 00:29:26,730
because she'll see it.

563
00:29:26,730 --> 00:29:27,840
I should pay her.

564
00:29:27,840 --> 00:29:29,520
So I had actually
money in the belt

565
00:29:29,520 --> 00:29:31,230
and I had money in my pockets.

566
00:29:31,230 --> 00:29:34,680
So I took out the money and I
paid her a few thousand zlotys,

567
00:29:34,680 --> 00:29:36,390
I don't remember
how much it was,

568

00:29:36,390 --> 00:29:41,100

but quite a lot and quite
nothing, but we were saved.

569

00:29:41,100 --> 00:29:46,830

We went back to the station, to
station was a station away from

570

00:29:46,830 --> 00:29:48,600

Warsaw was Rembertów.

571

00:29:48,600 --> 00:29:51,505

The name of the
station was Rembertów.

572

00:29:51,505 --> 00:29:52,380

I went to Rembertów--

573

00:29:52,380 --> 00:29:54,150

How far was that?

574

00:29:54,150 --> 00:29:57,280

We walked about three
kilometers to the station.

575

00:29:57,280 --> 00:30:02,010

And I went in and I bought
three tickets back to Warsaw.

576

00:30:02,010 --> 00:30:03,960

My looks were like a Pole.

577

00:30:03,960 --> 00:30:07,080

Nobody could recognize me
that I am a Jew, because I

578

00:30:07,080 --> 00:30:09,080

had from pictures
that you will see,

579

00:30:09,080 --> 00:30:12,480

you will see if you know

the features of Poles

580
00:30:12,480 --> 00:30:14,370
and see my features.

581
00:30:14,370 --> 00:30:16,260
I bought the tickets.

582
00:30:16,260 --> 00:30:21,660
They had a place, my friends
had a place in Praga.

583
00:30:21,660 --> 00:30:25,050
Warsaw was a two town,
there was one side

584
00:30:25,050 --> 00:30:27,260
of Vistula called Praga, on
the other side of Vistula

585
00:30:27,260 --> 00:30:28,265
called Warsaw.

586
00:30:28,265 --> 00:30:29,910
But together was Warsaw.

587
00:30:29,910 --> 00:30:32,350
They had a place prepared.

588
00:30:32,350 --> 00:30:37,500
So I took the train, and
he went off with his son

589
00:30:37,500 --> 00:30:40,020
where they supposed to.

590
00:30:40,020 --> 00:30:41,520
And they got to the
place where they

591
00:30:41,520 --> 00:30:45,090
were hiding then right

when I took him back.

592

00:30:45,090 --> 00:30:49,050

I went further to Warsaw,
and I had also a place

593

00:30:49,050 --> 00:30:51,900

that I could go in
because my brother had

594

00:30:51,900 --> 00:30:55,660

a friend, a Polish
girl, and she took him.

595

00:30:55,660 --> 00:31:00,620

That Polish girl's sister
got an apartment in Warsaw.

596

00:31:00,620 --> 00:31:02,820

And she took my brother there.

597

00:31:02,820 --> 00:31:04,860

She was hiding him for them.

598

00:31:04,860 --> 00:31:08,180

When I came back, I
had to go someplace in.

599

00:31:08,180 --> 00:31:11,340

I went in to that place
together with my brother.

600

00:31:11,340 --> 00:31:17,260

We were staying there together
'till a few weeks, maybe two,

601

00:31:17,260 --> 00:31:19,290

three weeks.

602

00:31:19,290 --> 00:31:23,700

At that time, there were
two ghettos in Warsaw.

603

00:31:23,700 --> 00:31:26,200

There was the regular
ghetto and a small ghetto.

604

00:31:26,200 --> 00:31:28,830

The small ghetto
was a place where

605

00:31:28,830 --> 00:31:36,570

many Jews and tradesmen,
tailors, or [INAUDIBLE] to work

606

00:31:36,570 --> 00:31:40,980

and letter things to provide
the Germans with their needs

607

00:31:40,980 --> 00:31:44,490

for their clothing, for
whatever they needed.

608

00:31:44,490 --> 00:31:50,220

So they needed people that know
how to sew, how to cut things.

609

00:31:50,220 --> 00:31:52,080

So we thought we'll
go in, my brother

610

00:31:52,080 --> 00:31:54,660

and I, we'll go into
that ghetto and see maybe

611

00:31:54,660 --> 00:31:58,620

we can stay there, because
we did not want to antagonize

612

00:31:58,620 --> 00:32:00,180

the people that took us in.

613

00:32:00,180 --> 00:32:02,370

But being that there is
a place in case something

614

00:32:02,370 --> 00:32:07,230

will happen, we have
a place to fall back.

615

00:32:07,230 --> 00:32:10,250

So we went in there, but we
couldn't arrange anything.

616

00:32:10,250 --> 00:32:11,910

We couldn't do anything.

617

00:32:11,910 --> 00:32:13,790

So we went back.

618

00:32:13,790 --> 00:32:16,610

He was staying there, but
being that my brother was there

619

00:32:16,610 --> 00:32:21,500

and I seen that this will not be
too good to stay two together,

620

00:32:21,500 --> 00:32:24,560

if something will happen let
happen to one, not to two.

621

00:32:24,560 --> 00:32:27,130

622

00:32:27,130 --> 00:32:29,000

So we'll look for another place.

623

00:32:29,000 --> 00:32:33,250

And I went to a separate
place to another Pole.

624

00:32:33,250 --> 00:32:36,250

He was a shoemaker,
and I remember

625

00:32:36,250 --> 00:32:37,870

how much money I paid him.

626
00:32:37,870 --> 00:32:40,840
And every time I paid
him for the week,

627
00:32:40,840 --> 00:32:42,730
he said oh, the price
went up so much,

628
00:32:42,730 --> 00:32:45,240
it cost so much money
and this, and this.

629
00:32:45,240 --> 00:32:47,530
I've seen that shortly
I'll be out of money

630
00:32:47,530 --> 00:32:49,540
and I want to have
a place to be there.

631
00:32:49,540 --> 00:32:52,000
At the same time,
I knew that there

632
00:32:52,000 --> 00:32:55,450
is a place that the regular
ghetto is still alive,

633
00:32:55,450 --> 00:32:56,780
still there.

634
00:32:56,780 --> 00:32:59,410
And so I thought, I'll
go into the ghetto again.

635
00:32:59,410 --> 00:33:00,970
When I came in to
the ghetto again,

636
00:33:00,970 --> 00:33:04,600
I found my cousins,
the same ones

637
00:33:04,600 --> 00:33:07,150
that we were taken
to the umschlagplatz,

638
00:33:07,150 --> 00:33:09,130
to the gathering
place to go away.

639
00:33:09,130 --> 00:33:11,860
And they hollered at me,
why didn't you stay with me?

640
00:33:11,860 --> 00:33:12,850
Why did you run away?

641
00:33:12,850 --> 00:33:14,230
Why did you went with them?

642
00:33:14,230 --> 00:33:17,680
I said look, he's
also [? calashina. ?]

643
00:33:17,680 --> 00:33:21,190
Well I started to live
with them, period.

644
00:33:21,190 --> 00:33:24,850
And we went occasionally
we went out from the ghetto

645
00:33:24,850 --> 00:33:28,330
because you could
go out with a group,

646
00:33:28,330 --> 00:33:34,120
supposedly to work to get
the bricks here and there.

647
00:33:34,120 --> 00:33:36,160
And I saw my
brother and told him

648

00:33:36,160 --> 00:33:38,950

what's going on that
they're still alive,

649

00:33:38,950 --> 00:33:40,660

and we could come in there.

650

00:33:40,660 --> 00:33:43,750

And being that they
were my cousins

651

00:33:43,750 --> 00:33:48,430

were dealing in food,
the place what they had,

652

00:33:48,430 --> 00:33:53,560

where they lived was called
[? Smutcher ?] and Miller.

653

00:33:53,560 --> 00:33:56,500

There was almost
a corner building.

654

00:33:56,500 --> 00:34:01,690

And right after the
building was the wall.

655

00:34:01,690 --> 00:34:04,600

656

00:34:04,600 --> 00:34:08,500

From one side of the wall used
to come in the workers that

657

00:34:08,500 --> 00:34:17,870

used to work in the canals
in not the underground, the,

658

00:34:17,870 --> 00:34:20,020

you call it?

659

00:34:20,020 --> 00:34:23,199

Where all the water goes
through, the sewers,

660
00:34:23,199 --> 00:34:24,460
to work in the sewers.

661
00:34:24,460 --> 00:34:26,170
They brought in
through the sewers,

662
00:34:26,170 --> 00:34:31,300
they brought in to my cousins
hams, and butter, and breads,

663
00:34:31,300 --> 00:34:32,170
and everything.

664
00:34:32,170 --> 00:34:34,790
And there was a regular
business going on.

665
00:34:34,790 --> 00:34:36,969
So it came up with the
story in case something

666
00:34:36,969 --> 00:34:39,520
will happen, those
Poles will lead us out

667
00:34:39,520 --> 00:34:43,389
to the inside to take us away
from there, which was good.

668
00:34:43,389 --> 00:34:46,210
But nobody trusted
them it was said,

669
00:34:46,210 --> 00:34:49,469
and we built a bunker in
the building we were there.

670
00:34:49,469 --> 00:34:52,610
The bunker, what was

you call the bunker?

671
00:34:52,610 --> 00:34:54,100
That was closed
from all the sides.

672
00:34:54,100 --> 00:34:57,910
They could only know one
opening to get inside

673
00:34:57,910 --> 00:35:02,500
and was so camouflaged that
seldom anybody could find it.

674
00:35:02,500 --> 00:35:04,300
Of course, we did.

675
00:35:04,300 --> 00:35:06,630
As a fact, when the--

676
00:35:06,630 --> 00:35:08,055
Say that again.

677
00:35:08,055 --> 00:35:10,700
The bunker was made of?

678
00:35:10,700 --> 00:35:12,380
--It was a basement.

679
00:35:12,380 --> 00:35:16,280
It was so camouflaged to get
in there that you could not

680
00:35:16,280 --> 00:35:18,830
see that this wall,
one touch of this wall

681
00:35:18,830 --> 00:35:21,440
would come out and
be able to go in.

682
00:35:21,440 --> 00:35:22,880

Was camouflaged.

683

00:35:22,880 --> 00:35:27,590

So we were there
until May 8 since--

684

00:35:27,590 --> 00:35:28,400

May 8.

685

00:35:28,400 --> 00:35:36,290

--1943 when the action started
I think in the 19th or the 18th

686

00:35:36,290 --> 00:35:40,770

or 19th in Warsaw ghetto.

687

00:35:40,770 --> 00:35:42,810

I have it written someplace.

688

00:35:42,810 --> 00:35:46,260

So we were there up
almost three weeks.

689

00:35:46,260 --> 00:35:51,030

We were there and we couldn't
be found, because we always

690

00:35:51,030 --> 00:35:54,870

heard that the Germans are
coming in through the walls

691

00:35:54,870 --> 00:35:56,450

to the places and
they're looking

692

00:35:56,450 --> 00:35:58,950

because they were knocking in
places, they couldn't find it.

693

00:35:58,950 --> 00:36:00,150

Finally what they did--

694

00:36:00,150 --> 00:36:01,860
You hid in the basement?

695
00:36:01,860 --> 00:36:04,080
--We hid, we hid
under the building.

696
00:36:04,080 --> 00:36:04,920
Three weeks?

697
00:36:04,920 --> 00:36:05,840
For three weeks.

698
00:36:05,840 --> 00:36:07,590
How many of [INAUDIBLE]?

699
00:36:07,590 --> 00:36:08,520
How many we were?

700
00:36:08,520 --> 00:36:13,980
Well, my cousins there were
three boys and two had wives.

701
00:36:13,980 --> 00:36:18,330
Is five, the wife
had a sister, is six.

702
00:36:18,330 --> 00:36:20,850
Is six and there were
all, those people

703
00:36:20,850 --> 00:36:22,830
that live in the
building was a dentist

704
00:36:22,830 --> 00:36:24,030
and his brother was eight.

705
00:36:24,030 --> 00:36:28,080
The brother has a girlfriend
is nine and a child.

706

00:36:28,080 --> 00:36:29,960
We were about 15 people.

707
00:36:29,960 --> 00:36:30,760
In this cellar?

708
00:36:30,760 --> 00:36:31,420
In this cellar.

709
00:36:31,420 --> 00:36:33,540
That was connected by
sewers [INAUDIBLE]??

710
00:36:33,540 --> 00:36:34,170
Yeah.

711
00:36:34,170 --> 00:36:35,587
We could go out
through the sewer.

712
00:36:35,587 --> 00:36:37,980
And from there, we could
go out into the sewer

713
00:36:37,980 --> 00:36:39,450
and go out, in and out.

714
00:36:39,450 --> 00:36:41,370
You did that all the time?

715
00:36:41,370 --> 00:36:41,880
You went in?

716
00:36:41,880 --> 00:36:43,830
No, we did not go in.

717
00:36:43,830 --> 00:36:47,010
The workers, the Poles that
sold all the merchandise,

718
00:36:47,010 --> 00:36:50,800
they delivered to us

through the sewers.

719

00:36:50,800 --> 00:36:52,658

Was this common in the ghetto?

720

00:36:52,658 --> 00:36:55,748

Were the other people
building bunkers like this?

721

00:36:55,748 --> 00:36:56,290

That's right.

722

00:36:56,290 --> 00:36:57,114

That's right.

723

00:36:57,114 --> 00:36:58,906

And the Germans, they
didn't know about it?

724

00:36:58,906 --> 00:37:01,630

They knew, but they didn't
know which way to get in there.

725

00:37:01,630 --> 00:37:07,710

But you see, there is when to
get into a building in Warsaw

726

00:37:07,710 --> 00:37:11,080

were built in such a way
that there's an arch.

727

00:37:11,080 --> 00:37:13,923

The two sides of the
building, inside is an arch.

728

00:37:13,923 --> 00:37:15,340

When you go in the
middle, usually

729

00:37:15,340 --> 00:37:21,940

was concrete in the middle and
the like trucks or wagons used

730

00:37:21,940 --> 00:37:25,210

to go in used to
pass by here and then

731

00:37:25,210 --> 00:37:28,510

they realized maybe
they should bomb here.

732

00:37:28,510 --> 00:37:31,390

So they started
to throw in bombs

733

00:37:31,390 --> 00:37:34,870

into that concrete while
getting into the building

734

00:37:34,870 --> 00:37:38,070

into the complex with gas.

735

00:37:38,070 --> 00:37:41,380

736

00:37:41,380 --> 00:37:44,090

And this gas got to us.

737

00:37:44,090 --> 00:37:48,410

So instead of being
caught by them,

738

00:37:48,410 --> 00:37:51,770

we went out through the
sewer to another place

739

00:37:51,770 --> 00:37:57,380

to another bunker, which that
bunker was already raided.

740

00:37:57,380 --> 00:38:01,070

And that was a bakery, we
went there and we hid behind,

741

00:38:01,070 --> 00:38:06,590

my two cousins and I hid in
that bakery behind the flowers,

742
00:38:06,590 --> 00:38:08,947
because a lot of-- the
bunker was already raided

743
00:38:08,947 --> 00:38:10,030
so there was nobody there.

744
00:38:10,030 --> 00:38:12,530
There are few people came back.

745
00:38:12,530 --> 00:38:18,988
But my brother meantime wanted
and another cousin and one

746
00:38:18,988 --> 00:38:20,780
of the other people
that were in the bunker

747
00:38:20,780 --> 00:38:23,322
wanted to know what happened to
the people across the street,

748
00:38:23,322 --> 00:38:25,700
because we were live in
the side of the street.

749
00:38:25,700 --> 00:38:28,580
And another side of the
street was another bunker.

750
00:38:28,580 --> 00:38:29,810
We were connected.

751
00:38:29,810 --> 00:38:31,970
We could go to them,
they could come to us.

752
00:38:31,970 --> 00:38:34,880
So while they went to see
what happened to them,

753
00:38:34,880 --> 00:38:37,220
my brother got caught
from the Germans.

754
00:38:37,220 --> 00:38:40,070
And they took him to
the umschlagplatz.

755
00:38:40,070 --> 00:38:42,530
And they sent him away.

756
00:38:42,530 --> 00:38:44,380
We were waiting a whole night.

757
00:38:44,380 --> 00:38:45,270
He survived?

758
00:38:45,270 --> 00:38:46,520
He survived.

759
00:38:46,520 --> 00:38:48,980
We were waiting almost
the whole night or a day,

760
00:38:48,980 --> 00:38:51,727
we don't remember whether
it was day or night.

761
00:38:51,727 --> 00:38:52,810
And they didn't come back.

762
00:38:52,810 --> 00:38:55,160
So we presumed
that what happened.

763
00:38:55,160 --> 00:38:58,970
Meantime, the Germans knocked
us out from our bunker

764
00:38:58,970 --> 00:39:01,515
and we went into the bakery.

765
00:39:01,515 --> 00:39:03,640
And they came, later on,
they came into the bakery.

766
00:39:03,640 --> 00:39:05,255
We had some guns with us.

767
00:39:05,255 --> 00:39:05,755
And--

768
00:39:05,755 --> 00:39:06,700
You did?

769
00:39:06,700 --> 00:39:09,370
--Yes, we did, but we
were afraid to shoot

770
00:39:09,370 --> 00:39:14,120
because as long as you were
quiet, they did not find us.

771
00:39:14,120 --> 00:39:18,050
And they find us this way, we
would been there much longer.

772
00:39:18,050 --> 00:39:20,770
But we were thinking
the only time

773
00:39:20,770 --> 00:39:25,210
we'll use the gun is for
last resort, you or me.

774
00:39:25,210 --> 00:39:29,220
How did the Germans
try to find you?

775
00:39:29,220 --> 00:39:32,980
They knew that
each building, they

776

00:39:32,980 --> 00:39:36,010
know that each building
had people in there.

777
00:39:36,010 --> 00:39:38,440
The upper floors were bombed.

778
00:39:38,440 --> 00:39:39,590
There was nobody there.

779
00:39:39,590 --> 00:39:43,992
But the main floors
were also nothing there.

780
00:39:43,992 --> 00:39:46,450
But they knew that people in
there, but how they get there,

781
00:39:46,450 --> 00:39:48,944
they didn't know.

782
00:39:48,944 --> 00:39:51,260
Then they would put tear gas?

783
00:39:51,260 --> 00:39:53,510
So they put tear gas in.

784
00:39:53,510 --> 00:39:55,310
First they bombed
it to make a hole,

785
00:39:55,310 --> 00:39:57,140
and then they put tear gas in.

786
00:39:57,140 --> 00:39:59,565
Or there was tear gas or
whatever kinds of mustard gas,

787
00:39:59,565 --> 00:40:00,440
or other kind of gas.

788
00:40:00,440 --> 00:40:02,300

As matter of fact, I
got gassed, which I'll

789
00:40:02,300 --> 00:40:05,470
come later on to tell about it.

790
00:40:05,470 --> 00:40:14,370
So they came in to the get us
out from the bakery bunker.

791
00:40:14,370 --> 00:40:18,400
We, my friends, my
cousins and I we had,

792
00:40:18,400 --> 00:40:20,250
there were two guns between us.

793
00:40:20,250 --> 00:40:22,350
We were three of us.

794
00:40:22,350 --> 00:40:24,450
And we threw the gun away.

795
00:40:24,450 --> 00:40:28,530
When they took us out, they
found the gun [INAUDIBLE]

796
00:40:28,530 --> 00:40:31,167
and they ask, whose gun is it?

797
00:40:31,167 --> 00:40:32,000
Said, we don't know.

798
00:40:32,000 --> 00:40:33,588
We just came in this morning.

799
00:40:33,588 --> 00:40:34,880
We know nothing about the guns.

800
00:40:34,880 --> 00:40:36,995
And they looked us and
they didn't find anything.

801
00:40:36,995 --> 00:40:39,470
What language did you speak?

802
00:40:39,470 --> 00:40:40,293
German.

803
00:40:40,293 --> 00:40:40,980
Oh.

804
00:40:40,980 --> 00:40:41,660
I speak German.

805
00:40:41,660 --> 00:40:42,620
Oh, you speak German.

806
00:40:42,620 --> 00:40:43,790
Yeah everybody spoke German.

807
00:40:43,790 --> 00:40:47,330
I mean, they spoke
Yiddish, they spoke German.

808
00:40:47,330 --> 00:40:50,000
I speak German well.

809
00:40:50,000 --> 00:40:54,500
So they took us into
the gathering place,

810
00:40:54,500 --> 00:40:58,130
the umschlagplatz, to the
place where this and that.

811
00:40:58,130 --> 00:41:05,840
I was gassed heavily from
the gas they threw in.

812
00:41:05,840 --> 00:41:08,030
I could not breathe too well.

813

00:41:08,030 --> 00:41:10,790
But my cousin, one of
my cousins was worse.

814
00:41:10,790 --> 00:41:13,730
So I ask to drag him to
come to the place because he

815
00:41:13,730 --> 00:41:15,920
at least while
they're pushing you

816
00:41:15,920 --> 00:41:18,620
and they shoving you and
this, so you should not

817
00:41:18,620 --> 00:41:20,270
get killed on the way there.

818
00:41:20,270 --> 00:41:22,580
Maybe you'll sit down and
relax and feel better.

819
00:41:22,580 --> 00:41:23,900
Whatever happens later on.

820
00:41:23,900 --> 00:41:26,720
Before we got into
the umschlagplatz,

821
00:41:26,720 --> 00:41:29,750
he came over a German
says, why your [INAUDIBLE]

822
00:41:29,750 --> 00:41:32,870
this dog or something.

823
00:41:32,870 --> 00:41:39,710
He took me away from him, put
a bullet in his head, finished.

824
00:41:39,710 --> 00:41:40,990
So I remained.

825
00:41:40,990 --> 00:41:42,380
[INAUDIBLE]

826
00:41:42,380 --> 00:41:46,140
His name was Manischewitz.

827
00:41:46,140 --> 00:41:51,830
This leave this now because
we'll cover a lot of thing.

828
00:41:51,830 --> 00:41:57,590
And I remain by myself
there with two of them

829
00:41:57,590 --> 00:41:59,940
with another cousin because
there were two of them.

830
00:41:59,940 --> 00:42:02,210
One cousin was been my brother.

831
00:42:02,210 --> 00:42:05,930
And somehow, the other cousin
either he wanted to run away,

832
00:42:05,930 --> 00:42:08,210
I didn't hear from
him since then.

833
00:42:08,210 --> 00:42:11,180
And I came in on the
road to my Majdanek.

834
00:42:11,180 --> 00:42:15,050
I could not escape anymore,
because I felt very bad.

835
00:42:15,050 --> 00:42:18,500
I could not get into another
window to crawl out to escape.

836

00:42:18,500 --> 00:42:20,690
And then in the condition
that I was then,

837
00:42:20,690 --> 00:42:23,090
I wasn't sure that
I would make it.

838
00:42:23,090 --> 00:42:25,670
But I'll see what
happens where we go.

839
00:42:25,670 --> 00:42:26,720
Where did you go?

840
00:42:26,720 --> 00:42:28,550
We went to Majdanek.

841
00:42:28,550 --> 00:42:32,180
Majdanek is a camp near Lublin.

842
00:42:32,180 --> 00:42:34,760
It was a concentration camp.

843
00:42:34,760 --> 00:42:36,720
You were deported in the train?

844
00:42:36,720 --> 00:42:39,090
Deported in the train,
whole train to Majdanek.

845
00:42:39,090 --> 00:42:40,960
How long did it
you to get there?

846
00:42:40,960 --> 00:42:41,648
Overnight.

847
00:42:41,648 --> 00:42:43,190
Well, I don't know
what time it took,

848

00:42:43,190 --> 00:42:46,810
but we left in the
evening and we will not

849
00:42:46,810 --> 00:42:51,730
how long we were sitting in the
trains until we were send out.

850
00:42:51,730 --> 00:42:53,310
That was what month?

851
00:42:53,310 --> 00:42:56,880
That was in May, in May 10.

852
00:42:56,880 --> 00:42:58,400
I came to Majdanek May 10.

853
00:42:58,400 --> 00:43:01,080

854
00:43:01,080 --> 00:43:04,680
Then we had to, Majdanek
we had to strip.

855
00:43:04,680 --> 00:43:09,230
They said whoever
has a double built

856
00:43:09,230 --> 00:43:11,450
throws it away over
there, because they

857
00:43:11,450 --> 00:43:14,510
knew that double
belts contain money,

858
00:43:14,510 --> 00:43:17,990
jewelry, anything
that they wanted.

859
00:43:17,990 --> 00:43:19,610
So I happen to
have a double belt.

860
00:43:19,610 --> 00:43:22,400
I throw it away, a single
belt, but means it's only

861
00:43:22,400 --> 00:43:26,420
a piece of leather like this.

862
00:43:26,420 --> 00:43:29,090
No danger, so you could keep it.

863
00:43:29,090 --> 00:43:33,320
OK and then they were
taking, go here, go there.

864
00:43:33,320 --> 00:43:36,590
There's and Majdanek
also had gas chambers.

865
00:43:36,590 --> 00:43:40,400
They also had the people that
did not take into the camp.

866
00:43:40,400 --> 00:43:43,770
So they killed by various means.

867
00:43:43,770 --> 00:43:47,720
I was into the line
to go into the camp.

868
00:43:47,720 --> 00:43:51,860
I showered, and they throw us,
they gave us some new clothes,

869
00:43:51,860 --> 00:43:52,640
camp clothing.

870
00:43:52,640 --> 00:43:54,760
And I went into the camp.

871
00:43:54,760 --> 00:43:59,630
I was assigned in a certain

bunker, a certain bunk

872
00:43:59,630 --> 00:44:00,200
to be there.

873
00:44:00,200 --> 00:44:01,520
And that's what there.

874
00:44:01,520 --> 00:44:04,760
The following day, they
took us out to work.

875
00:44:04,760 --> 00:44:07,370
Yeah, while they were
assigning us, they name this.

876
00:44:07,370 --> 00:44:10,010
I got a number 14677.

877
00:44:10,010 --> 00:44:13,685
My number in Majdanek was 14677.

878
00:44:13,685 --> 00:44:18,560
I realized later that I
not the 14,000th men there.

879
00:44:18,560 --> 00:44:21,500
These numbers are
taken away from one

880
00:44:21,500 --> 00:44:24,300
died before and given new ones.

881
00:44:24,300 --> 00:44:28,430
So that same number could have
gone out four or five, 10 times

882
00:44:28,430 --> 00:44:31,190
of the quantity that
the number said.

883
00:44:31,190 --> 00:44:32,870

But did they put that on your--

884
00:44:32,870 --> 00:44:33,390
No, no.

885
00:44:33,390 --> 00:44:37,100
It was a not a
bracelet, but a piece

886
00:44:37,100 --> 00:44:41,745
of metal, a piece
of thing you put on

887
00:44:41,745 --> 00:44:45,980
and scraped on the uniform,
the number what you have.

888
00:44:45,980 --> 00:44:47,360
There was no tattoo.

889
00:44:47,360 --> 00:44:49,010
In Majdanek was no tattoo.

890
00:44:49,010 --> 00:44:53,780
In the barracks in Majdanek
was it mostly men your age?

891
00:44:53,780 --> 00:44:57,547
Mostly men my age, older ones,
younger ones mostly my age.

892
00:44:57,547 --> 00:45:01,000
How old would you
say the youngest was?

893
00:45:01,000 --> 00:45:03,040
The youngest was, later
on came younger ones.

894
00:45:03,040 --> 00:45:08,210
The oldest must have been
about 16 at that time.

895

00:45:08,210 --> 00:45:12,970

But because I felt very bad, I
was afraid if I would go out,

896

00:45:12,970 --> 00:45:16,832

they took us to work to dig
ditches, what kind of dishes

897

00:45:16,832 --> 00:45:18,040

was for before, I don't know.

898

00:45:18,040 --> 00:45:20,800

But we had to do
whatever they wanted us.

899

00:45:20,800 --> 00:45:25,120

And I felt that one of go
another day, another day, I'll

900

00:45:25,120 --> 00:45:26,830

collapse.

901

00:45:26,830 --> 00:45:29,890

And at the end of
the work, they m

902

00:45:29,890 --> 00:45:33,070

the Kapo ask who wants
to go to the hospital?

903

00:45:33,070 --> 00:45:34,780

Who feels bad?

904

00:45:34,780 --> 00:45:35,810

I volunteered.

905

00:45:35,810 --> 00:45:39,010

I had no choice, because if
I'm not going to hospital,

906

00:45:39,010 --> 00:45:42,396

I'll be shot on the

road going or coming.

907
00:45:42,396 --> 00:45:43,450
You couldn't breath.

908
00:45:43,450 --> 00:45:44,860
Lucky me, I couldn't breath.

909
00:45:44,860 --> 00:45:48,293
Lucky me, I got into a hospital.

910
00:45:48,293 --> 00:45:49,960
The [INAUDIBLE]
hospital and I was there

911
00:45:49,960 --> 00:45:52,500
and they gave me medicine.

912
00:45:52,500 --> 00:45:55,200
I remember that I was on a diet.

913
00:45:55,200 --> 00:45:58,110
They gave me a hard boiled
egg where nobody else

914
00:45:58,110 --> 00:45:59,970
got a hard boiled egg.

915
00:45:59,970 --> 00:46:03,885
The medicine that they gave
me, everything was on my chest.

916
00:46:03,885 --> 00:46:05,010
I couldn't breathe heavily.

917
00:46:05,010 --> 00:46:05,802
I couldn't breathe.

918
00:46:05,802 --> 00:46:12,150
And they gave me a medicine
like a liqueur, a little sweet,

919

00:46:12,150 --> 00:46:17,780

and it put the flag
down and it helped me.

920

00:46:17,780 --> 00:46:22,200

By coincidence, I found a
man in the hospital that

921

00:46:22,200 --> 00:46:26,183

was a son-in-law of somebody
that I knew in Kaluszyn he

922

00:46:26,183 --> 00:46:26,850

lived in Warsaw.

923

00:46:26,850 --> 00:46:29,560

And I asked him what
happened to your family?

924

00:46:29,560 --> 00:46:30,630

No.

925

00:46:30,630 --> 00:46:33,430

And he was there and I said,
your here, they treat you,

926

00:46:33,430 --> 00:46:34,500

it'll go out.

927

00:46:34,500 --> 00:46:38,100

I never heard from him again,
because he went probably went--

928

00:46:38,100 --> 00:46:40,380

either he was in another--

929

00:46:40,380 --> 00:46:51,510

930

00:46:51,510 --> 00:46:54,760

what happened to the
man, I do not know.

931
00:46:54,760 --> 00:46:56,140
But anyhow, I felt better.

932
00:46:56,140 --> 00:47:00,060
And I went back to
work in Majdanek.

933
00:47:00,060 --> 00:47:02,970
By coincidence, I
heard that my brother

934
00:47:02,970 --> 00:47:08,790
is in Majdanek but in another
camp, in another part.

935
00:47:08,790 --> 00:47:11,670
And going to work or
from work I met him.

936
00:47:11,670 --> 00:47:14,060
And we talked, and
we greeted each other

937
00:47:14,060 --> 00:47:16,020
and we'll say we'll talk.

938
00:47:16,020 --> 00:47:17,550
We hope that we'll
see [INAUDIBLE]..

939
00:47:17,550 --> 00:47:19,800
We did see another time also.

940
00:47:19,800 --> 00:47:23,250
At that time what also
happened to be transports.

941
00:47:23,250 --> 00:47:25,890
There was picking up
people that were there

942

00:47:25,890 --> 00:47:29,590
to send of transport
to some other places.

943
00:47:29,590 --> 00:47:31,770
So being that it was
end of transport,

944
00:47:31,770 --> 00:47:34,200
I communicated with
my brother and he

945
00:47:34,200 --> 00:47:36,270
with me that when it
comes the next transport,

946
00:47:36,270 --> 00:47:38,310
we should run to get
into the transport.

947
00:47:38,310 --> 00:47:40,680
At least, maybe we'll be
together, shipped out,

948
00:47:40,680 --> 00:47:43,350
whatever is going to be.

949
00:47:43,350 --> 00:47:45,400
Something happened
that he went and when

950
00:47:45,400 --> 00:47:47,740
they came the next
transport, he was taken.

951
00:47:47,740 --> 00:47:49,230
I was not.

952
00:47:49,230 --> 00:47:53,350
And he was sent to a camp
called [? Calzrisk. ?]

953
00:47:53,350 --> 00:47:55,660

There was a camp that
they were a place of work

954
00:47:55,660 --> 00:48:01,060
that they were making
ammunitions for the Germans.

955
00:48:01,060 --> 00:48:02,860
From there, they sent
them to Czestochowa

956
00:48:02,860 --> 00:48:05,600
to different places,
to Buchenwald and there

957
00:48:05,600 --> 00:48:07,540
where he was liberated.

958
00:48:07,540 --> 00:48:11,910
I remained in Majdanek
for about two months

959
00:48:11,910 --> 00:48:13,620
'till about July or mid-July.

960
00:48:13,620 --> 00:48:15,970
What did you do there?

961
00:48:15,970 --> 00:48:16,620
Pardon me?

962
00:48:16,620 --> 00:48:17,410
Did you work?

963
00:48:17,410 --> 00:48:21,310
Yes, we worked on the gang
outside digging ditches.

964
00:48:21,310 --> 00:48:23,410
What kind of, what
the ditches were for?

965

00:48:23,410 --> 00:48:25,840
Many times we were thinking
digging ditches for us,

966
00:48:25,840 --> 00:48:32,920
maybe one of these days, they'll
line us up there and that.

967
00:48:32,920 --> 00:48:34,690
Then it came new transports.

968
00:48:34,690 --> 00:48:37,160
And we're talking, we've got
friendly with one another.

969
00:48:37,160 --> 00:48:38,840
And said look, what
do we have here?

970
00:48:38,840 --> 00:48:39,550
The war is up.

971
00:48:39,550 --> 00:48:41,008
At the beginning,
when I came there

972
00:48:41,008 --> 00:48:43,630
I couldn't eat anything
because nothing tasted good.

973
00:48:43,630 --> 00:48:46,960
I came out from a place
that the Poles brought out

974
00:48:46,960 --> 00:48:50,050
hams, and cheeses, and butters
and breads and all kind.

975
00:48:50,050 --> 00:48:54,625
So you come into a camp,
they give you water and soup

976
00:48:54,625 --> 00:48:56,440

and nothing help you.

977

00:48:56,440 --> 00:48:57,880

So I said, let's go in a camp.

978

00:48:57,880 --> 00:48:59,480

Let's go someplace else.

979

00:48:59,480 --> 00:49:02,935

A little water and soup we'll
get someplace else also.

980

00:49:02,935 --> 00:49:05,210

Or the piece of bread,
whatever it was.

981

00:49:05,210 --> 00:49:08,000

Well they came, the
next transport came,

982

00:49:08,000 --> 00:49:10,790

and I run in there
to the next transport

983

00:49:10,790 --> 00:49:15,300

and we shipped me
out to Auschwitz.

984

00:49:15,300 --> 00:49:19,650

We came to Auschwitz was in
July, end of July or beginning

985

00:49:19,650 --> 00:49:21,460

was, I don't remember.

986

00:49:21,460 --> 00:49:23,480

And we came to a camp and they--

987

00:49:23,480 --> 00:49:24,990

So it was totally your choice?

988

00:49:24,990 --> 00:49:27,080

The way you described
to me, they just

989
00:49:27,080 --> 00:49:29,110
wanted a certain
number of people?

990
00:49:29,110 --> 00:49:29,610
Probably.

991
00:49:29,610 --> 00:49:31,100
I was lucky.

992
00:49:31,100 --> 00:49:33,068
They kept send me from
one camp to another.

993
00:49:33,068 --> 00:49:35,700

994
00:49:35,700 --> 00:49:39,170
So I came to
Auschwitz, it was part

995
00:49:39,170 --> 00:49:42,000
of Auschwitz two, Birkenau.

996
00:49:42,000 --> 00:49:44,340
There where the
gas chambers are.

997
00:49:44,340 --> 00:49:47,040
We came in, we
met by car person,

998
00:49:47,040 --> 00:49:48,990
by other one and
the language that I

999
00:49:48,990 --> 00:49:53,290
heard there, I did not
hear until at that age when

1000
00:49:53,290 --> 00:49:53,890
I was there.

1001
00:49:53,890 --> 00:49:56,810
Such foul language,
unbelievable.

1002
00:49:56,810 --> 00:49:59,800
And such murderous
language not by

1003
00:49:59,800 --> 00:50:06,880
Kapos, not by SS, but by
Kapos, by Jews, by Germans.

1004
00:50:06,880 --> 00:50:09,530
All [INAUDIBLE] all people
that were in the camps.

1005
00:50:09,530 --> 00:50:11,920
What date did you arrive there?

1006
00:50:11,920 --> 00:50:15,340
End of July or August, 1943.

1007
00:50:15,340 --> 00:50:19,720
And we were assigned to the
camp which the camp Birkenau was

1008
00:50:19,720 --> 00:50:21,310
just building.

1009
00:50:21,310 --> 00:50:25,420
It was started to build maybe
three or four months before.

1010
00:50:25,420 --> 00:50:27,010
And when we came
in, we're all going

1011
00:50:27,010 --> 00:50:28,690
to have to start building.

1012
00:50:28,690 --> 00:50:31,120
The grounds were all full
of mud, full of clay.

1013
00:50:31,120 --> 00:50:34,480
We had to straighten out and
this, and work was not easy

1014
00:50:34,480 --> 00:50:40,360
because everything was hard
to push wagons, and rails,

1015
00:50:40,360 --> 00:50:41,890
and with a shovel.

1016
00:50:41,890 --> 00:50:45,812
And pick and shovel, and
carry cement up or down

1017
00:50:45,812 --> 00:50:46,645
in different places.

1018
00:50:46,645 --> 00:50:49,240

1019
00:50:49,240 --> 00:50:50,070
But you still

1020
00:50:50,070 --> 00:50:50,970
I was still--

1021
00:50:50,970 --> 00:50:51,803
[INTERPOSING VOICES]

1022
00:50:51,803 --> 00:50:54,700
--because the fright
made me strong.

1023
00:50:54,700 --> 00:50:56,440
But I mean, constitutionally--

1024
00:50:56,440 --> 00:50:56,940
Yes.

1025
00:50:56,940 --> 00:50:57,440
[INAUDIBLE]

1026
00:50:57,440 --> 00:50:59,130
My mind was strong
because I always

1027
00:50:59,130 --> 00:51:01,170
said whenever I've
been assessed,

1028
00:51:01,170 --> 00:51:03,990
I have to live this through.

1029
00:51:03,990 --> 00:51:07,260
Because if anyone
in the camps that

1030
00:51:07,260 --> 00:51:11,960
said, oh, what should I do,
was beaten up and if he would

1031
00:51:11,960 --> 00:51:14,485
stood up because they're
beaten up by a German, by SS

1032
00:51:14,485 --> 00:51:17,020
man because it didn't work.

1033
00:51:17,020 --> 00:51:20,020
If he would get up
by the first hit,

1034
00:51:20,020 --> 00:51:22,010
he wouldn't have
beat him anymore.

1035
00:51:22,010 --> 00:51:24,490
He would go up and

start to do something.

1036

00:51:24,490 --> 00:51:26,980

But he didn't, he beat him more.

1037

00:51:26,980 --> 00:51:28,930

And we ask why didn't you do it?

1038

00:51:28,930 --> 00:51:30,370

I says what for?

1039

00:51:30,370 --> 00:51:32,710

I'll be killed anyhow.

1040

00:51:32,710 --> 00:51:34,210

My philosophy was different.

1041

00:51:34,210 --> 00:51:36,420

I said, I have to
live it through.

1042

00:51:36,420 --> 00:51:39,640

And no matter how much
of beatings I got.

1043

00:51:39,640 --> 00:51:42,910

Why did you think you
had to live it through?

1044

00:51:42,910 --> 00:51:45,840

I wanted to see
the end of Hitler.

1045

00:51:45,840 --> 00:51:49,550

I want to see why is
it that the world--

1046

00:51:49,550 --> 00:51:57,970

1047

00:51:57,970 --> 00:52:00,190

later on, will you close it?

1048
00:52:00,190 --> 00:52:03,270

1049
00:52:03,270 --> 00:52:07,800
And I try to do my best to
work as hard as possible, as

1050
00:52:07,800 --> 00:52:08,880
cooperative as possible.

1051
00:52:08,880 --> 00:52:11,100
Not to give anyone a
chance, whether it's

1052
00:52:11,100 --> 00:52:14,530
a German, whether it's
a Kapo at the work,

1053
00:52:14,530 --> 00:52:16,410
whether it's a
blockalteste, which

1054
00:52:16,410 --> 00:52:18,000
is the headman of the block.

1055
00:52:18,000 --> 00:52:21,240
Whoever it is, not to give
him a chance to beat me.

1056
00:52:21,240 --> 00:52:23,190
I could only take a
chance to be beaten

1057
00:52:23,190 --> 00:52:25,230
when I've seen
someplace that were

1058
00:52:25,230 --> 00:52:27,190
like it's a piece of bread.

1059
00:52:27,190 --> 00:52:28,660

That I have to nourish me.

1060
00:52:28,660 --> 00:52:30,310
That I have to take a chance.

1061
00:52:30,310 --> 00:52:32,170
If I'll catch it, I'll have it.

1062
00:52:32,170 --> 00:52:34,977
If I'll get beaten up for it,
but I had a piece of bread.

1063
00:52:34,977 --> 00:52:36,470
Did you get beaten?

1064
00:52:36,470 --> 00:52:36,980
Yes.

1065
00:52:36,980 --> 00:52:39,506
I got beaten, but I had a bread.

1066
00:52:39,506 --> 00:52:41,780
How many months were
you in [INAUDIBLE]??

1067
00:52:41,780 --> 00:52:44,760
I was there 'till May 8.

1068
00:52:44,760 --> 00:52:46,570
'Till May 8 'till
the end of the war.

1069
00:52:46,570 --> 00:52:47,570
Oh you were?

1070
00:52:47,570 --> 00:52:50,700
OK, so you were there
almost three years?

1071
00:52:50,700 --> 00:52:51,670
Yes.

1072

00:52:51,670 --> 00:52:57,480

So then the work place is in--

1073

00:52:57,480 --> 00:53:01,170

Birkenau worked mostly those people that belong live

1074

00:53:01,170 --> 00:53:05,700

in one bunk in one place,
they go out altogether

1075

00:53:05,700 --> 00:53:07,890

with a Kapo work
from this place.

1076

00:53:07,890 --> 00:53:10,110

So he does not have to
go out from other places

1077

00:53:10,110 --> 00:53:12,940

to look for people to work.

1078

00:53:12,940 --> 00:53:17,670

So I was working there from one
or two places, but not steady.

1079

00:53:17,670 --> 00:53:20,950

They transit me from
there to another bunk.

1080

00:53:20,950 --> 00:53:24,930

The first one was
block number 24.

1081

00:53:24,930 --> 00:53:28,440

From then, they transferred
to block number 16.

1082

00:53:28,440 --> 00:53:31,620

Was a Kapo, a Czech.

1083

00:53:31,620 --> 00:53:36,240

He took us in to work
and in the third camp

1084
00:53:36,240 --> 00:53:38,760
with which was
the hospital camp.

1085
00:53:38,760 --> 00:53:43,590
See there were four camps,
four blocks, four camps.

1086
00:53:43,590 --> 00:53:48,570
The women's camp, the
men's camp, the Gypsy camp,

1087
00:53:48,570 --> 00:53:52,330
the krankenhaus, the hospital.

1088
00:53:52,330 --> 00:53:55,210
And beyond the hospital
were the crematoriums.

1089
00:53:55,210 --> 00:53:58,050
So we were, I was
working with the--

1090
00:53:58,050 --> 00:53:59,800
You were all Jewish.

1091
00:53:59,800 --> 00:54:02,590
Yeah, but all Jews, there were
occasionally some non-Jews,

1092
00:54:02,590 --> 00:54:04,526
but most of them Jews.

1093
00:54:04,526 --> 00:54:06,240
All of you from [INAUDIBLE].

1094
00:54:06,240 --> 00:54:08,650
No, no because there were
no such thing as from.

1095

00:54:08,650 --> 00:54:10,150

We did not have a name.

1096

00:54:10,150 --> 00:54:11,490

We had a numbers.

1097

00:54:11,490 --> 00:54:15,015

And Birkenau I got
a number 129354

1098

00:54:15,015 --> 00:54:17,500

it was a tattooed number.

1099

00:54:17,500 --> 00:54:21,370

I forgot to mention that while
we were still in Majdanek

1100

00:54:21,370 --> 00:54:24,590

came a transport from Greece.

1101

00:54:24,590 --> 00:54:30,850

And they were very,
very, very fast to fall.

1102

00:54:30,850 --> 00:54:32,920

It was, even if
it was summertime,

1103

00:54:32,920 --> 00:54:36,160

they were not used
to the climate.

1104

00:54:36,160 --> 00:54:40,120

And they were falling
like flies, very bad.

1105

00:54:40,120 --> 00:54:43,140

We, although we had it
bad, we had pity on them.

1106

00:54:43,140 --> 00:54:45,940

1107
00:54:45,940 --> 00:54:59,080
So when the Dutch Czech
Kapo that was the last--

1108
00:54:59,080 --> 00:55:02,960
that was another Kapo have
to work, he was from Krakow.

1109
00:55:02,960 --> 00:55:07,180
We used to work in
the hospital block

1110
00:55:07,180 --> 00:55:09,580
because the hospital
they had lot of people,

1111
00:55:09,580 --> 00:55:12,820
although they were taking
people to the crematorium,

1112
00:55:12,820 --> 00:55:18,670
but they're still taking
people, taking the inmates

1113
00:55:18,670 --> 00:55:22,260
to the hospital.

1114
00:55:22,260 --> 00:55:22,890
Why?

1115
00:55:22,890 --> 00:55:23,580
I don't know.

1116
00:55:23,580 --> 00:55:25,140
First they made
them well and then

1117
00:55:25,140 --> 00:55:27,100
they took them to
the crematoriums.

1118

00:55:27,100 --> 00:55:33,280
So we worked in the hospital
block in hospital camp

1119
00:55:33,280 --> 00:55:38,240
to straighten out the roads
or they should be straight.

1120
00:55:38,240 --> 00:55:39,820
There should be no mud.

1121
00:55:39,820 --> 00:55:44,330
And the walkways and
flowers, and there--

1122
00:55:44,330 --> 00:55:47,950
Would this be considered
an inside job?

1123
00:55:47,950 --> 00:55:50,800
Not an inside job, because
we came in the morning

1124
00:55:50,800 --> 00:55:53,380
and went out in the
evening back to the block.

1125
00:55:53,380 --> 00:55:56,020
Oh, so how far did
you have to walk?

1126
00:55:56,020 --> 00:55:58,970
To walk, maybe a kilometer.

1127
00:55:58,970 --> 00:56:01,860
And not far to walk.

1128
00:56:01,860 --> 00:56:06,270
And the later on we were
told that they beautifying up

1129
00:56:06,270 --> 00:56:09,780
this path that the Germans

ordered to beautify up

1130
00:56:09,780 --> 00:56:12,360
the hospital camp,
because there eventually

1131
00:56:12,360 --> 00:56:18,450
is going to be a International
Commission come to see

1132
00:56:18,450 --> 00:56:21,240
how they treating the people.

1133
00:56:21,240 --> 00:56:23,010
They will show that
they have a hospital,

1134
00:56:23,010 --> 00:56:28,130
and they have a nice
place to stay, and so on.

1135
00:56:28,130 --> 00:56:33,110
Somehow I lost that job.

1136
00:56:33,110 --> 00:56:36,290
Not that I didn't lose the
job, but I lost the work

1137
00:56:36,290 --> 00:56:38,350
in that area.

1138
00:56:38,350 --> 00:56:41,520
So being that I was left
over, they transferred me

1139
00:56:41,520 --> 00:56:44,070
to another block number 4.

1140
00:56:44,070 --> 00:56:48,330
The prisoners that
were in block number 4

1141

00:56:48,330 --> 00:56:51,490
did not have a steady
place of block.

1142
00:56:51,490 --> 00:56:56,790
So whenever somebody needed
some prisoners to work,

1143
00:56:56,790 --> 00:56:59,250
you went there and
got them 10 people.

1144
00:56:59,250 --> 00:57:00,380
So they were never steady.

1145
00:57:00,380 --> 00:57:03,210
Today you worked in one
place, tomorrow they take you,

1146
00:57:03,210 --> 00:57:06,230
another Kapo takes
you someplace else.

1147
00:57:06,230 --> 00:57:09,190
So I was in that place
maybe for two months,

1148
00:57:09,190 --> 00:57:11,580
maybe for a month or six weeks.

1149
00:57:11,580 --> 00:57:14,790
That was the worst
block, the worst

1150
00:57:14,790 --> 00:57:16,500
that I was there
because you would never

1151
00:57:16,500 --> 00:57:18,420
know where you're going
tomorrow and where

1152
00:57:18,420 --> 00:57:19,830

you're not going tomorrow.

1153
00:57:19,830 --> 00:57:23,280
Also at that time
was a selection.

1154
00:57:23,280 --> 00:57:25,560
They came in, the
Germans, the SS and

1155
00:57:25,560 --> 00:57:28,110
took out a selection
of a lot of people

1156
00:57:28,110 --> 00:57:31,080
to dig right into
the crematorium.

1157
00:57:31,080 --> 00:57:33,090
We won an appeal
[INAUDIBLE] outstanding

1158
00:57:33,090 --> 00:57:36,040
and they used to take out,
this out, this in, this out.

1159
00:57:36,040 --> 00:57:38,190
People who looked most ill?

1160
00:57:38,190 --> 00:57:43,620
Not the looks who was more ill
than no who had swollen legs

1161
00:57:43,620 --> 00:57:47,950
and who had injured
legs, and this, and that.

1162
00:57:47,950 --> 00:57:53,530
And I remember like today,
there was one prisoner

1163
00:57:53,530 --> 00:57:55,780
that they choose him to

go to the crematorium.

1164
00:57:55,780 --> 00:57:58,420
And he ran away and he hid.

1165
00:57:58,420 --> 00:58:02,045
He hid someplace, and
they couldn't find him.

1166
00:58:02,045 --> 00:58:03,920
They couldn't find him,
and they were held up

1167
00:58:03,920 --> 00:58:05,712
practically a whole
day, but they could not

1168
00:58:05,712 --> 00:58:09,260
let go because they thought
who knows what this guy is?

1169
00:58:09,260 --> 00:58:12,630
Maybe he's a spy, maybe he's
something that he knows?

1170
00:58:12,630 --> 00:58:14,540
They finally, they
took the rest of them

1171
00:58:14,540 --> 00:58:17,020
that selected to
go to crematoria,

1172
00:58:17,020 --> 00:58:19,490
took them and they kept
on looking for him.

1173
00:58:19,490 --> 00:58:22,340
They finally got him.

1174
00:58:22,340 --> 00:58:25,910
And they walked with
him through the camp

1175
00:58:25,910 --> 00:58:27,660
that everybody should
see what happens

1176
00:58:27,660 --> 00:58:30,590
to somebody that runs away.

1177
00:58:30,590 --> 00:58:33,980
Separately, I witnessed
they were in camp,

1178
00:58:33,980 --> 00:58:39,600
they were brought back
some guys that run away.

1179
00:58:39,600 --> 00:58:41,160
That run away from
the middle of work

1180
00:58:41,160 --> 00:58:44,340
because they want to
run away from camp.

1181
00:58:44,340 --> 00:58:46,582
And they got a beating.

1182
00:58:46,582 --> 00:58:49,040
I don't remember whether they
shot him or they hanged them.

1183
00:58:49,040 --> 00:58:50,460
I don't remember that.

1184
00:58:50,460 --> 00:58:52,476
But the hanging was
in another place.

1185
00:58:52,476 --> 00:58:54,390
You didn't see any
public hangings?

1186

00:58:54,390 --> 00:58:55,770

I saw.

1187

00:58:55,770 --> 00:59:00,060

They were also the
one, two bunkers,

1188

00:59:00,060 --> 00:59:05,340

two blocks that I call it bunker
or block that we lived in.

1189

00:59:05,340 --> 00:59:12,210

That called [? affect ?]
kommando and Sonderkommando.

1190

00:59:12,210 --> 00:59:14,680

They were all our people.

1191

00:59:14,680 --> 00:59:17,660

The Sonderkommando
worked-- excuse me--

1192

00:59:17,660 --> 00:59:19,730

the first, the
[? affect ?] kommando.

1193

00:59:19,730 --> 00:59:24,400

When the transports came
to Auschwitz II-Birkenau,

1194

00:59:24,400 --> 00:59:27,530

the [? affect ?] kommando
used to look up and look

1195

00:59:27,530 --> 00:59:30,728

at all the clothing
after they got undressed.

1196

00:59:30,728 --> 00:59:32,270

They look all the
clothing and looked

1197

00:59:32,270 --> 00:59:35,390

for all the hidden valuables--

1198
00:59:35,390 --> 00:59:38,390
rings, and the money, and
all the things that they

1199
00:59:38,390 --> 00:59:40,780
have to bring it all there.

1200
00:59:40,780 --> 00:59:42,200
They themselves
had nice uniforms

1201
00:59:42,200 --> 00:59:44,810
because the Germans
treated them nice.

1202
00:59:44,810 --> 00:59:47,570
Everybody wanted to
go that job to do it

1203
00:59:47,570 --> 00:59:50,090
because you had a lot of bread,
and a lot of this, and all

1204
00:59:50,090 --> 00:59:50,590
that.

1205
00:59:50,590 --> 00:59:51,800
They well fed.

1206
00:59:51,800 --> 00:59:53,090
And this what they did.

1207
00:59:53,090 --> 00:59:55,610
The other one was
called Sonderkommando

1208
00:59:55,610 --> 00:59:57,200
The Sonderkommando
were the ones that

1209

00:59:57,200 --> 01:00:00,350
were working to put the people
in from the gas chambers

1210
01:00:00,350 --> 01:00:01,700
into the fire.

1211
01:00:01,700 --> 01:00:04,670
And they were also well fed.

1212
01:00:04,670 --> 01:00:06,950
But they were also
very dangerous.

1213
01:00:06,950 --> 01:00:11,930
And the [? affect ?]
kommando they are black.

1214
01:00:11,930 --> 01:00:15,290
And the Sonderkommando they are
black, being that they had fed,

1215
01:00:15,290 --> 01:00:17,990
they were fed before very
well so they had portions,

1216
01:00:17,990 --> 01:00:19,250
they had rations.

1217
01:00:19,250 --> 01:00:21,830
What they were getting,
they gave it away.

1218
01:00:21,830 --> 01:00:24,320
So it comes after we
came back from work,

1219
01:00:24,320 --> 01:00:26,210
we all congregated
in front of them

1220
01:00:26,210 --> 01:00:30,080
because they were throwing out

their bread and their potato.

1221

01:00:30,080 --> 01:00:34,680

We could have a piece of
potato, something we're all--

1222

01:00:34,680 --> 01:00:37,500

separately, the Sonderkommando
made a revolution then they

1223

01:00:37,500 --> 01:00:38,820

was trying to--

1224

01:00:38,820 --> 01:00:45,860

so they was the one's that
were working for them.

1225

01:00:45,860 --> 01:00:48,350

And they realized today they
work, tomorrow don't know.

1226

01:00:48,350 --> 01:00:48,830

What's the difference?

1227

01:00:48,830 --> 01:00:49,800

We got to do something.

1228

01:00:49,800 --> 01:00:51,717

And they tried, some of
them, they got caught,

1229

01:00:51,717 --> 01:00:53,390

and this is what happened.

1230

01:00:53,390 --> 01:00:58,580

I was in that block for 'till
about December 1 or December

1231

01:00:58,580 --> 01:01:01,220

10, something like [INAUDIBLE]
when it got colder.

1232

01:01:01,220 --> 01:01:03,500
When it came a new
transport, they're

1233
01:01:03,500 --> 01:01:06,180
sending away new transports.

1234
01:01:06,180 --> 01:01:08,880
The new transport they used
to send to the coal mines.

1235
01:01:08,880 --> 01:01:11,487
There were coal mines
[NON-ENGLISH] there were

1236
01:01:11,487 --> 01:01:13,320
different, I don't
remember the other one's.

1237
01:01:13,320 --> 01:01:15,190
There were more than
few different ones.

1238
01:01:15,190 --> 01:01:17,130
So we thought we'll go there.

1239
01:01:17,130 --> 01:01:22,510
As long as we go away
from the crematoriums.

1240
01:01:22,510 --> 01:01:24,180
Let's go away from
the crematoriums.

1241
01:01:24,180 --> 01:01:26,055
But we didn't realize
that they can bring you

1242
01:01:26,055 --> 01:01:28,390
from there to here too.

1243
01:01:28,390 --> 01:01:30,340
And they send us

away to a new camp

1244

01:01:30,340 --> 01:01:34,500
to build a new camp
called Lagischa.

1245

01:01:34,500 --> 01:01:38,460
At camp Lagischa, they
had almost two barracks.

1246

01:01:38,460 --> 01:01:42,030
And we had to finish
up all the things what

1247

01:01:42,030 --> 01:01:44,910
was necessary to live
there to stay there.

1248

01:01:44,910 --> 01:01:46,470
And lageralteste.

1249

01:01:46,470 --> 01:01:49,740
A lageralteste means
that German that he is

1250

01:01:49,740 --> 01:01:52,530
the head of the lageralteste.

1251

01:01:52,530 --> 01:01:55,500
You'll build yourself
a camp, you'll have it.

1252

01:01:55,500 --> 01:01:57,750
That means it's my business,
I have to have a camp.

1253

01:01:57,750 --> 01:01:59,520
Otherwise, I cannot
live without it.

1254

01:01:59,520 --> 01:02:01,060
But we had no choice.

1255

01:02:01,060 --> 01:02:02,460

We had to build one.

1256

01:02:02,460 --> 01:02:04,830

And the building of the
camp is the worst thing

1257

01:02:04,830 --> 01:02:07,200

that can ever happen,
because you come in

1258

01:02:07,200 --> 01:02:11,380

to roll places that there
is not anything there.

1259

01:02:11,380 --> 01:02:12,800

You got to start from scratch.

1260

01:02:12,800 --> 01:02:15,430

There was very little food,
and very little bread,

1261

01:02:15,430 --> 01:02:16,510

and very little--

1262

01:02:16,510 --> 01:02:19,880

but hard labor, and a lot of
beatings and a lot of that.

1263

01:02:19,880 --> 01:02:20,380

Well--

1264

01:02:20,380 --> 01:02:24,020

So you were doing
like pick and shovel?

1265

01:02:24,020 --> 01:02:26,540

We even doing the things
that we didn't do.

1266

01:02:26,540 --> 01:02:29,300

Everything, there was no water.

1267
01:02:29,300 --> 01:02:34,040
Winter time we had to get
the ice, not ice, snow

1268
01:02:34,040 --> 01:02:37,000
to if you want to wash yourself
because if your hands were

1269
01:02:37,000 --> 01:02:38,750
dirty from the work,
one thing we could do

1270
01:02:38,750 --> 01:02:41,540
is to wash with snow.

1271
01:02:41,540 --> 01:02:44,070
Where did you sleep?

1272
01:02:44,070 --> 01:02:45,180
We had bunks.

1273
01:02:45,180 --> 01:02:48,330
We had had some
[INAUDIBLE] places to sleep

1274
01:02:48,330 --> 01:02:49,650
and this is how we did.

1275
01:02:49,650 --> 01:02:51,840
Slowly, it build up the place.

1276
01:02:51,840 --> 01:03:01,730
But it's still coming, there was
in the winter of 1943 December

1277
01:03:01,730 --> 01:03:04,560
or beginning of January.

1278
01:03:04,560 --> 01:03:07,770
I found and when
I was in Birkenau,

1279
01:03:07,770 --> 01:03:10,710
I found a [? lance-men ?]
of mine from Kaluszyn.

1280
01:03:10,710 --> 01:03:12,690
That they also
came from Majdanek,

1281
01:03:12,690 --> 01:03:15,870
but he was in a different place.

1282
01:03:15,870 --> 01:03:19,350
So we didn't see each other,
but we came to Lagischa

1283
01:03:19,350 --> 01:03:21,000
we saw each other.

1284
01:03:21,000 --> 01:03:24,900
And we're keeping together
to see what we can do.

1285
01:03:24,900 --> 01:03:26,170
He was an older man.

1286
01:03:26,170 --> 01:03:29,430
He was a man maybe 10, 15
years older than I was.

1287
01:03:29,430 --> 01:03:34,420
And somehow, he got beaten down.

1288
01:03:34,420 --> 01:03:36,430
And they were starting
to get a selection

1289
01:03:36,430 --> 01:03:38,380
to get some people and--

1290
01:03:38,380 --> 01:03:41,230
no, I'm sorry-- it

was not a selection.

1291
01:03:41,230 --> 01:03:44,890
He registered to go to the
hospital to the krankenhaus,

1292
01:03:44,890 --> 01:03:47,290
they call it a
krankenhaus, the infirmary.

1293
01:03:47,290 --> 01:03:50,030

1294
01:03:50,030 --> 01:03:53,060
He had an infirmary and
he had, and one thing

1295
01:03:53,060 --> 01:03:55,610
I have to mention whenever
I see my friends of mine,

1296
01:03:55,610 --> 01:03:57,980
I mention it because I
was frightened that I

1297
01:03:57,980 --> 01:04:01,350
was sorry about for asking him.

1298
01:04:01,350 --> 01:04:03,980
Of course, you did not
have anything yours,

1299
01:04:03,980 --> 01:04:05,660
everything was from the camp.

1300
01:04:05,660 --> 01:04:06,590
You got a jacket.

1301
01:04:06,590 --> 01:04:08,000
You got out pants.

1302
01:04:08,000 --> 01:04:09,560

You got a shirt.

1303

01:04:09,560 --> 01:04:12,600

Somehow he had a sweater.

1304

01:04:12,600 --> 01:04:15,450

And you knew it that whenever
you go from here to there,

1305

01:04:15,450 --> 01:04:19,620

they take away everything,
even the spoon.

1306

01:04:19,620 --> 01:04:22,560

And I ask him, would you
please give me the sweater?

1307

01:04:22,560 --> 01:04:25,110

1308

01:04:25,110 --> 01:04:28,890

And he said to me,
I'm still alive.

1309

01:04:28,890 --> 01:04:31,980

You want to be my inheritance?

1310

01:04:31,980 --> 01:04:35,040

You want my inheritance?

1311

01:04:35,040 --> 01:04:37,350

I said, please, you know
that you'll go there,

1312

01:04:37,350 --> 01:04:39,520

they'll take it away from you.

1313

01:04:39,520 --> 01:04:41,740

At least, I'll have to the
time for the time being.

1314

01:04:41,740 --> 01:04:45,440

And if you come back,
I'll give it back to you.

1315
01:04:45,440 --> 01:04:47,200
He said that I did
not take it from him.

1316
01:04:47,200 --> 01:04:50,290
And for this day, I'm sorry
that I mentioned it to him.

1317
01:04:50,290 --> 01:04:55,920
For this reason
I keep repeating.

1318
01:04:55,920 --> 01:04:57,790
You should forgive me
that I ask of that.

1319
01:04:57,790 --> 01:05:03,720

1320
01:05:03,720 --> 01:05:05,910
It did not take
a week or 10 days

1321
01:05:05,910 --> 01:05:08,411
to send him to crematorium.

1322
01:05:08,411 --> 01:05:11,020
He's gone, we remained there.

1323
01:05:11,020 --> 01:05:15,030

1324
01:05:15,030 --> 01:05:16,650
We remained there
working and they

1325
01:05:16,650 --> 01:05:19,980
were building their new
factories, new buildings.

1326

01:05:19,980 --> 01:05:24,930

The buildings we were
working on with the wagons

1327

01:05:24,930 --> 01:05:31,930

and on rails to supply
coal, to supply cement,

1328

01:05:31,930 --> 01:05:34,580

and sand different things.

1329

01:05:34,580 --> 01:05:42,450

And to work different,
to work a lot.

1330

01:05:42,450 --> 01:05:46,340

And the one time
as I got beaten up.

1331

01:05:46,340 --> 01:05:51,200

1332

01:05:51,200 --> 01:05:55,490

I got beaten up from
here, I got a scar.

1333

01:05:55,490 --> 01:05:57,440

That whatever, was no blood.

1334

01:05:57,440 --> 01:06:01,580

Everything was so thin that
water was could not heal.

1335

01:06:01,580 --> 01:06:03,170

For working there
for a few months

1336

01:06:03,170 --> 01:06:08,490

and it came sometimes
in May, April of 19.

1337

01:06:08,490 --> 01:06:11,640

April, May or
maybe June of 1944.

1338
01:06:11,640 --> 01:06:13,650
It came in a new
selection, a new guys

1339
01:06:13,650 --> 01:06:15,960
from another place
taking away people

1340
01:06:15,960 --> 01:06:18,850
from our camp either to
send them to the crematorium

1341
01:06:18,850 --> 01:06:21,120
because they couldn't
work or sending from there

1342
01:06:21,120 --> 01:06:24,120
to coal mines.

1343
01:06:24,120 --> 01:06:26,520
I presume that I will
go to a coal mine.

1344
01:06:26,520 --> 01:06:28,950
So I was rushing to
get into the line

1345
01:06:28,950 --> 01:06:30,960
to be taken to the coal mine.

1346
01:06:30,960 --> 01:06:35,192
When the SS men showed me,
he put me out over there.

1347
01:06:35,192 --> 01:06:37,610
That means he doesn't want me.

1348
01:06:37,610 --> 01:06:39,070
I did not want to give up.

1349

01:06:39,070 --> 01:06:40,420

I wanted to go to coal mine.

1350

01:06:40,420 --> 01:06:42,770

I sneaked in again.

1351

01:06:42,770 --> 01:06:51,390

And he recognized me because
he said, he took his stick

1352

01:06:51,390 --> 01:06:52,060

and he hit me.

1353

01:06:52,060 --> 01:06:53,820

He says, you are already here.

1354

01:06:53,820 --> 01:06:55,530

I told you I don't want you.

1355

01:06:55,530 --> 01:07:00,600

And he called in the other SS
men said to give me a beating.

1356

01:07:00,600 --> 01:07:04,500

So I got a beating
from him later on.

1357

01:07:04,500 --> 01:07:09,530

But I got lucky, because the
men from the block for the head

1358

01:07:09,530 --> 01:07:11,600

man from the place
we were there,

1359

01:07:11,600 --> 01:07:14,780

he went over to the SS man
says, I'll take care of him.

1360

01:07:14,780 --> 01:07:17,060

That means he'll
give me the beating.

1361

01:07:17,060 --> 01:07:20,030
He was not a Kapo, he was he'll
give me the beating, not he.

1362

01:07:20,030 --> 01:07:23,030
Which was good because I
saw of course many times

1363

01:07:23,030 --> 01:07:25,470
Kapos were beating
up guys, but it

1364

01:07:25,470 --> 01:07:30,170
was still better than the
SS men were beating up.

1365

01:07:30,170 --> 01:07:33,950
So he said to the SS man that
he'll give me the beating.

1366

01:07:33,950 --> 01:07:36,110
Of course, he gave
me the beating

1367

01:07:36,110 --> 01:07:39,350
because there was
somebody was squealing.

1368

01:07:39,350 --> 01:07:43,160
I was glad that I
got it from him.

1369

01:07:43,160 --> 01:07:47,620
And I was there, I wasn't
taken not to the crematorium,

1370

01:07:47,620 --> 01:07:50,420
and not to [NON-ENGLISH]
to the coal mines.

1371

01:07:50,420 --> 01:07:56,270
Later on came, of

about a month later

1372

01:07:56,270 --> 01:08:00,980
came another group to go
for another transport.

1373

01:08:00,980 --> 01:08:04,070
And they were sending
me into Monowitz,

1374

01:08:04,070 --> 01:08:08,330
Buna was another Auschwitz camp
called Auschwitz III, Monowitz

1375

01:08:08,330 --> 01:08:10,820
II-Buna.

1376

01:08:10,820 --> 01:08:15,330
When I came to Buna,
I got a vacation.

1377

01:08:15,330 --> 01:08:20,720
For a week I walked around the
camp and I didn't do a thing.

1378

01:08:20,720 --> 01:08:23,779
I was just getting
breakfast and dinner.

1379

01:08:23,779 --> 01:08:25,880
In morning, I got
a piece of bread

1380

01:08:25,880 --> 01:08:27,410
and at night I got a soup.

1381

01:08:27,410 --> 01:08:28,910
Nobody took me to work.

1382

01:08:28,910 --> 01:08:33,172
A whole group of us because
we were so undernourished that

1383

01:08:33,172 --> 01:08:34,380
couldn't do anything with us.

1384

01:08:34,380 --> 01:08:35,340
Why they did us to us?

1385

01:08:35,340 --> 01:08:35,882
I don't know.

1386

01:08:35,882 --> 01:08:42,029
They could have as well
sent us to the crematorium.

1387

01:08:42,029 --> 01:08:45,757
There I got, they
sent me to a place

1388

01:08:45,757 --> 01:08:47,340
where they start
take us to work and I

1389

01:08:47,340 --> 01:08:53,550
was working in a place
they called Karbidworke.

1390

01:08:53,550 --> 01:08:57,300
They produced synthetic carbide.

1391

01:08:57,300 --> 01:08:58,649
Know what carbide is?

1392

01:08:58,649 --> 01:09:01,260
It's a chemical that when
it comes together with water

1393

01:09:01,260 --> 01:09:03,420
it gives out gases.

1394

01:09:03,420 --> 01:09:06,600
And we were work in that
factory to make that.

1395

01:09:06,600 --> 01:09:08,850

There was also a place
they said that they making

1396

01:09:08,850 --> 01:09:14,010

their synthetic gasoline.

1397

01:09:14,010 --> 01:09:16,680

I don't know, this is what the
synthetic gasoline or whatever

1398

01:09:16,680 --> 01:09:18,729

it is.

1399

01:09:18,729 --> 01:09:22,560

And this is what I
was doing in Buna.

1400

01:09:22,560 --> 01:09:25,319

Later on, I left that
place and I went to work

1401

01:09:25,319 --> 01:09:31,410

in a [NON-ENGLISH] it's called
they put up pieces of to go up

1402

01:09:31,410 --> 01:09:35,580

to a building alongside the
building to go higher there.

1403

01:09:35,580 --> 01:09:41,160

Builders using it, not
to put up stents to--

1404

01:09:41,160 --> 01:09:42,300

Oh, scaffolding?

1405

01:09:42,300 --> 01:09:42,859

--Scaffolds.

1406

01:09:42,859 --> 01:09:47,590

I work with the scaffold part.

1407
01:09:47,590 --> 01:09:55,330
Until it came 'till
1945 in January 18.

1408
01:09:55,330 --> 01:10:04,270
But during the time
there were some prisoners

1409
01:10:04,270 --> 01:10:05,650
that wanted to run away.

1410
01:10:05,650 --> 01:10:08,110
And they caught them,
and brought them back

1411
01:10:08,110 --> 01:10:11,660
and everybody had to come
out and watch hanging them.

1412
01:10:11,660 --> 01:10:16,020
There were two men that were
hanged that I had to watch.

1413
01:10:16,020 --> 01:10:17,460
That was the most
horrible thing.

1414
01:10:17,460 --> 01:10:24,180

1415
01:10:24,180 --> 01:10:26,460
The horrible thing
you could ever see.

1416
01:10:26,460 --> 01:10:30,365
And then they played
the music, and they--

1417
01:10:30,365 --> 01:10:30,950
it's terrible.

1418

01:10:30,950 --> 01:10:34,260

1419

01:10:34,260 --> 01:10:37,700

And came January 18, we
knew that the Russians

1420

01:10:37,700 --> 01:10:39,560

are coming closer to the camps.

1421

01:10:39,560 --> 01:10:45,230

And we had to evacuate.

1422

01:10:45,230 --> 01:10:47,180

And they sent us
out an evacuation.

1423

01:10:47,180 --> 01:10:51,440

We walked towards an area
called Gliwice different cities.

1424

01:10:51,440 --> 01:10:54,157

We walked until
we came to a place

1425

01:10:54,157 --> 01:10:55,490

that we couldn't go any further.

1426

01:10:55,490 --> 01:10:57,830

They load us up.

1427

01:10:57,830 --> 01:11:02,000

We were in trains.

1428

01:11:02,000 --> 01:11:03,890

And there was one time
we stopped in a train,

1429

01:11:03,890 --> 01:11:07,070

we couldn't go and not left or
right because the Russians had

1430

01:11:07,070 --> 01:11:08,990
bombed the railroad.

1431
01:11:08,990 --> 01:11:14,870
That the cart, we could not
go either there or here.

1432
01:11:14,870 --> 01:11:17,464
And they took us out,
and we started to march.

1433
01:11:17,464 --> 01:11:19,440
How did you walk to the train?

1434
01:11:19,440 --> 01:11:20,430
That wasn't very far?

1435
01:11:20,430 --> 01:11:24,510
Well the train, we were loading
the train from Auschwitz.

1436
01:11:24,510 --> 01:11:27,730
But the train stopped in the
middle near Gliwice a place,

1437
01:11:27,730 --> 01:11:31,650
[NON-ENGLISH] is in place there
that the train could not go any

1438
01:11:31,650 --> 01:11:34,890
further because the
rails were broken.

1439
01:11:34,890 --> 01:11:41,220
And that then we started
to walk on the roads.

1440
01:11:41,220 --> 01:11:45,360
While walking, we came into
a place called Woldenberg.

1441
01:11:45,360 --> 01:11:49,050
Today belongs to Poland

called [? Wolbzech. ?]

1442
01:11:49,050 --> 01:11:51,570
They had no place where
to put us to sleep,

1443
01:11:51,570 --> 01:11:53,670
because we were working
days, days and nights.

1444
01:11:53,670 --> 01:11:57,270
And some places, they
had to place to put us up

1445
01:11:57,270 --> 01:11:59,050
in a school or another place.

1446
01:11:59,050 --> 01:12:01,440
And in this place, they
did not have a place.

1447
01:12:01,440 --> 01:12:06,140
But there was, Woldenberg
was a mine, had a mine.

1448
01:12:06,140 --> 01:12:08,640
I don't know what kind of mine,
but the entrance to the mine

1449
01:12:08,640 --> 01:12:11,160
was a big entrance.

1450
01:12:11,160 --> 01:12:15,480
When I say maybe 30 feet
wide and maybe 30 feet high.

1451
01:12:15,480 --> 01:12:18,000
And you had to walk,
and walk, and walk.

1452
01:12:18,000 --> 01:12:20,340
When you walked in,
they closed the doors.

1453
01:12:20,340 --> 01:12:23,610
We were maybe 1,000
people, maybe more.

1454
01:12:23,610 --> 01:12:25,950
And from the heat,
a lot of people

1455
01:12:25,950 --> 01:12:30,510
got in heat and
hunger and everything.

1456
01:12:30,510 --> 01:12:33,660
They collapsed I think.

1457
01:12:33,660 --> 01:12:37,910
I had two friends
that were with me.

1458
01:12:37,910 --> 01:12:42,080
And although I was very
poor and at that time,

1459
01:12:42,080 --> 01:12:46,740
we walked out of Buna
we wasn't that bad

1460
01:12:46,740 --> 01:12:50,850
because we had the
situation was bad,

1461
01:12:50,850 --> 01:12:54,540
but not as bad as in
Birkenau or in other places.

1462
01:12:54,540 --> 01:13:01,560
And they got where they made
[INAUDIBLE] themselves and they

1463
01:13:01,560 --> 01:13:03,690
had to be cleaned up,
and they opened up

1464
01:13:03,690 --> 01:13:05,400
the gate in the
morning, there was

1465
01:13:05,400 --> 01:13:11,460
a leak from the water
from the snow was a leak.

1466
01:13:11,460 --> 01:13:12,450
I took them over there.

1467
01:13:12,450 --> 01:13:13,560
I cleaned them up.

1468
01:13:13,560 --> 01:13:15,480
And there were a
lot of civilians

1469
01:13:15,480 --> 01:13:17,280
that were also evacuated.

1470
01:13:17,280 --> 01:13:19,650
And I went toward the
civilians to beg them

1471
01:13:19,650 --> 01:13:22,590
for a piece of bread, a piece
of this, and a piece of that.

1472
01:13:22,590 --> 01:13:26,580
And I brought them something to
eat and there for myself also.

1473
01:13:26,580 --> 01:13:31,110
And we stucked all together,
the three of us continuously.

1474
01:13:31,110 --> 01:13:38,100
And that was one of our
first days of on the road.

1475

01:13:38,100 --> 01:13:41,190
We were walking in I
don't know whether we're

1476
01:13:41,190 --> 01:13:43,530
walking towards the
East or toward West.

1477
01:13:43,530 --> 01:13:46,080
And until we came to a
place that was almost

1478
01:13:46,080 --> 01:13:48,030
in the front with the Russians.

1479
01:13:48,030 --> 01:13:53,460
We were in stalls in
places that farmers left.

1480
01:13:53,460 --> 01:13:55,070
And we were there.

1481
01:13:55,070 --> 01:14:02,680
The German, the army took us
to the front to dig ditches.

1482
01:14:02,680 --> 01:14:04,000
Wait a minute.

1483
01:14:04,000 --> 01:14:06,100
So you escape from the--

1484
01:14:06,100 --> 01:14:08,880
We did not escape.

1485
01:14:08,880 --> 01:14:09,720
We could not escape.

1486
01:14:09,720 --> 01:14:12,420
But all this time while
we were with the Germans

1487

01:14:12,420 --> 01:14:13,200
from the camp--

1488
01:14:13,200 --> 01:14:16,308
Oh, the Germans took you to
dig ditches near the front.

1489
01:14:16,308 --> 01:14:18,600
--They took us on the road,
we were always on the road.

1490
01:14:18,600 --> 01:14:22,220
How many days were you
after you left Auschwitz?

1491
01:14:22,220 --> 01:14:23,406
'Till May 8.

1492
01:14:23,406 --> 01:14:24,342
Oh, OK.

1493
01:14:24,342 --> 01:14:25,490
So you walked--

1494
01:14:25,490 --> 01:14:25,700
[INTERPOSING VOICES]

1495
01:14:25,700 --> 01:14:27,080
Through all this
time, we walked.

1496
01:14:27,080 --> 01:14:29,450
Where we were tonight,
we were not tomorrow.

1497
01:14:29,450 --> 01:14:31,820
For every, let's
say we found a place

1498
01:14:31,820 --> 01:14:34,280
that we could stay
overnight, the Germans

1499

01:14:34,280 --> 01:14:37,100
could stay with us overnight,
then we stayed for a few days.

1500

01:14:37,100 --> 01:14:39,170
How many were with
you [INAUDIBLE]??

1501

01:14:39,170 --> 01:14:40,920
We were few hundred.

1502

01:14:40,920 --> 01:14:43,750
It was less and less
because they're falling.

1503

01:14:43,750 --> 01:14:44,910
All men?

1504

01:14:44,910 --> 01:14:47,050
All men.

1505

01:14:47,050 --> 01:14:49,690
And especially
when it's not only

1506

01:14:49,690 --> 01:14:53,540
that it was hard to walk in
the snow, but we were walking,

1507

01:14:53,540 --> 01:14:54,040
Silesia--

1508

01:14:54,040 --> 01:14:58,450
that is the area
are a lot of hills.

1509

01:14:58,450 --> 01:15:00,790
We had to go up
hills and down hills.

1510

01:15:00,790 --> 01:15:07,510
And we also had to carry or push

the equipment of the Germans

1511

01:15:07,510 --> 01:15:08,710

that walk with us.

1512

01:15:08,710 --> 01:15:13,990

They had their backpacks, and they put it all on a wagons,

1513

01:15:13,990 --> 01:15:16,450

and we had to push and pull.

1514

01:15:16,450 --> 01:15:17,080

That was--

1515

01:15:17,080 --> 01:15:18,700

You have blankets or jackets?

1516

01:15:18,700 --> 01:15:19,900

They had blankets.

1517

01:15:19,900 --> 01:15:21,700

The Germans had blankets.

1518

01:15:21,700 --> 01:15:22,990

We didn't have any.

1519

01:15:22,990 --> 01:15:26,140

We just had what we had a little jacket.

1520

01:15:26,140 --> 01:15:27,670

The jacket depends what we were.

1521

01:15:27,670 --> 01:15:32,490

There were no such thing as winter clothes as anything.

1522

01:15:32,490 --> 01:15:33,760

We had nothing.

1523

01:15:33,760 --> 01:15:37,420
But we had to carry them.

1524
01:15:37,420 --> 01:15:41,120
The later on for maybe
there was some blankets.

1525
01:15:41,120 --> 01:15:42,570
No, I don't think so.

1526
01:15:42,570 --> 01:15:45,040
We were sleeping in our
clothes and just like that.

1527
01:15:45,040 --> 01:15:46,750
One next to the other.

1528
01:15:46,750 --> 01:15:50,140
Our bodily heat to keep us.

1529
01:15:50,140 --> 01:15:53,590
We were pulling and
pushing a wagons

1530
01:15:53,590 --> 01:15:57,160
with their equipment with
their packs, with their guns,

1531
01:15:57,160 --> 01:15:58,340
and so on.

1532
01:15:58,340 --> 01:16:03,370
This was a type
of death penalty.

1533
01:16:03,370 --> 01:16:07,090
Each wagon, there were no
horses, we were the horses.

1534
01:16:07,090 --> 01:16:13,450
Each wagon had about
15 or 20 prisoners.

1535

01:16:13,450 --> 01:16:18,020

Those that were on
the sides and the back

1536

01:16:18,020 --> 01:16:22,760

were beaten up by the
Germans to push to go faster.

1537

01:16:22,760 --> 01:16:25,610

Those that were in
the front to pull

1538

01:16:25,610 --> 01:16:29,180

were beaten up while you're
running so fast to pull back.

1539

01:16:29,180 --> 01:16:33,110

So no matter what, if
you went to the wagon,

1540

01:16:33,110 --> 01:16:35,790

you were a dead man.

1541

01:16:35,790 --> 01:16:39,360

Well I was having
two friends that

1542

01:16:39,360 --> 01:16:43,770

were close to death, not close
to death, but were very weak.

1543

01:16:43,770 --> 01:16:46,890

Carrying them, the
smell and the vision

1544

01:16:46,890 --> 01:16:49,080

that some place over there
is something maybe you'll

1545

01:16:49,080 --> 01:16:54,200

find a piece of bread was
so great that you felt it.

1546

01:16:54,200 --> 01:16:57,410

You felt that even not
you had eyes in your back.

1547

01:16:57,410 --> 01:16:59,930

I realized that over
there in the ditch

1548

01:16:59,930 --> 01:17:02,720

is a piece of
apple laying there.

1549

01:17:02,720 --> 01:17:03,470

Who threw it away?

1550

01:17:03,470 --> 01:17:04,170

I don't know.

1551

01:17:04,170 --> 01:17:08,937

I left my two friends and I ran
over get the piece of apple.

1552

01:17:08,937 --> 01:17:11,020

The German that were beating
up all the other ones

1553

01:17:11,020 --> 01:17:12,590

saw me running.

1554

01:17:12,590 --> 01:17:15,160

He says to me, oh,
you're running well.

1555

01:17:15,160 --> 01:17:16,060

Oh good.

1556

01:17:16,060 --> 01:17:19,150

Come into the wagon.

1557

01:17:19,150 --> 01:17:24,620

He got me to the wagon, and when
I came into the wagon to a side

1558
01:17:24,620 --> 01:17:26,510
to relieve other
ones, those that

1559
01:17:26,510 --> 01:17:28,340
were beaten to relieve them.

1560
01:17:28,340 --> 01:17:33,970
And I was to the wagon that
the guy says to me, stay here.

1561
01:17:33,970 --> 01:17:38,410
He put his harness that
you put in like on a horse

1562
01:17:38,410 --> 01:17:39,290
because we had to.

1563
01:17:39,290 --> 01:17:41,240
He says, stay here.

1564
01:17:41,240 --> 01:17:42,940
This is not so bad.

1565
01:17:42,940 --> 01:17:44,150
And I was there for--

1566
01:17:44,150 --> 01:17:44,870
Another--

1567
01:17:44,870 --> 01:17:46,570
Another because I relieved him.

1568
01:17:46,570 --> 01:17:47,788
--I see.

1569
01:17:47,788 --> 01:17:48,580
He said, stay here.

1570
01:17:48,580 --> 01:17:49,870

This is not so bad.

1571

01:17:49,870 --> 01:17:52,690

Because the German that was
walking alongside him maybe

1572

01:17:52,690 --> 01:17:56,500

had a little heart, maybe
his heart wasn't that bad.

1573

01:17:56,500 --> 01:18:00,910

And I was there and pulling that
wagon maybe for an hour or two.

1574

01:18:00,910 --> 01:18:05,140

But the two friends of mine
already said goodbye to me,

1575

01:18:05,140 --> 01:18:07,690

because they knew that
you're going to the wagon,

1576

01:18:07,690 --> 01:18:10,030

you are through.

1577

01:18:10,030 --> 01:18:13,780

When they saw me coming
back, like Messiah

1578

01:18:13,780 --> 01:18:17,193

came, because they actually--
they were no organizers.

1579

01:18:17,193 --> 01:18:19,360

Organizers mean somebody
that can produce something,

1580

01:18:19,360 --> 01:18:21,850

somebody can lead something.

1581

01:18:21,850 --> 01:18:24,910

They praised me and
we were still a group.

1582
01:18:24,910 --> 01:18:26,620
And we were walking
from one place

1583
01:18:26,620 --> 01:18:28,570
to another 'till
we came to a place

1584
01:18:28,570 --> 01:18:33,680
that we were in front
of the Russians.

1585
01:18:33,680 --> 01:18:41,060
And then digging ditches
to defend the Germans.

1586
01:18:41,060 --> 01:18:43,230
'Till it came almost at the end.

1587
01:18:43,230 --> 01:18:45,020
The Germans were approaching.

1588
01:18:45,020 --> 01:18:49,190
And we remained maybe 50,
maybe 100 of us on the road

1589
01:18:49,190 --> 01:18:51,210
with the Germans,
German soldiers.

1590
01:18:51,210 --> 01:18:53,660
And they did not know
what to do with us.

1591
01:18:53,660 --> 01:18:55,910
The artillery was
knocking so much

1592
01:18:55,910 --> 01:18:58,490
and fire was from all places.

1593

01:18:58,490 --> 01:19:01,580
And they wanted to leave
us, but they were afraid

1594
01:19:01,580 --> 01:19:02,810
that we will attack them.

1595
01:19:02,810 --> 01:19:05,720
We were afraid that they will
attack us at the last minute

1596
01:19:05,720 --> 01:19:08,210
because what have
they've got to lose?

1597
01:19:08,210 --> 01:19:11,750
And some of us guys that
while we were walking through

1598
01:19:11,750 --> 01:19:14,510
on the road, many
times you see water

1599
01:19:14,510 --> 01:19:17,630
from one side to the other,
and there's a little bridge.

1600
01:19:17,630 --> 01:19:19,650
That some of us wanted
to help themselves

1601
01:19:19,650 --> 01:19:22,220
being that so it is the end of
it, they wanted to run away.

1602
01:19:22,220 --> 01:19:25,070
And they went in through that
tunnel to get from one side

1603
01:19:25,070 --> 01:19:27,075
to hiding.

1604
01:19:27,075 --> 01:19:29,700

And they were so, by the time of
the Germans saw them going in,

1605

01:19:29,700 --> 01:19:33,130
they went right in shoot them
and many of these places.

1606

01:19:33,130 --> 01:19:36,450
So I was afraid to run away and
see what's going to be the end.

1607

01:19:36,450 --> 01:19:41,310
When the Germans, we
were remain three of us,

1608

01:19:41,310 --> 01:19:46,230
my friends three of us
together, and maybe another 5

1609

01:19:46,230 --> 01:19:48,750
or 10 groups of three
to four together.

1610

01:19:48,750 --> 01:19:53,490
And they were about five
Germans SS guarding us.

1611

01:19:53,490 --> 01:19:55,470
And slowly they moved away.

1612

01:19:55,470 --> 01:19:57,480
While they moved
away, we saw some

1613

01:19:57,480 --> 01:20:01,500
stalls, little buildings there.

1614

01:20:01,500 --> 01:20:02,940
So we said we'll hide there.

1615

01:20:02,940 --> 01:20:06,430
So we went in there to hide
and every time the morning gets

1616
01:20:06,430 --> 01:20:07,370
in closer and closer.

1617
01:20:07,370 --> 01:20:10,410
And we hear more shouting,
more artillery, more this.

1618
01:20:10,410 --> 01:20:12,520
And then it's quiet.

1619
01:20:12,520 --> 01:20:15,430
We walked out and you
don't hear anything.

1620
01:20:15,430 --> 01:20:19,212
We start to walk down to a town
so from the mountains to a town

1621
01:20:19,212 --> 01:20:20,170
and said let's go down.

1622
01:20:20,170 --> 01:20:22,150
At least we'll look
for some clothes

1623
01:20:22,150 --> 01:20:25,630
because the clothes that
we had, we and this.

1624
01:20:25,630 --> 01:20:27,700
So we got some clothes.

1625
01:20:27,700 --> 01:20:30,220
And we went into a house,
and we stayed there.

1626
01:20:30,220 --> 01:20:33,100
And we saw the
Russians coming in.

1627
01:20:33,100 --> 01:20:34,830

Meantime, we started
to get pales,

1628
01:20:34,830 --> 01:20:36,700
so we're going to get soup.

1629
01:20:36,700 --> 01:20:40,810
So we started to get three of
us, we got three pails of soup.

1630
01:20:40,810 --> 01:20:41,713
While three pails?

1631
01:20:41,713 --> 01:20:43,630
Because we were always
hungry, we were afraid,

1632
01:20:43,630 --> 01:20:45,280
who knows what's
going to be later?

1633
01:20:45,280 --> 01:20:48,640
We ate a soup and we later
on came the afternoon,

1634
01:20:48,640 --> 01:20:50,848
we started to eat
the soup is sour.

1635
01:20:50,848 --> 01:20:53,140
Saw the Russians still there,
we spilled the sour soup,

1636
01:20:53,140 --> 01:20:54,610
we went for other soup.

1637
01:20:54,610 --> 01:20:57,820
This what we used to do
that three times a day.

1638
01:20:57,820 --> 01:21:00,450
Whatever we could eat up and
the rest of we spilled out

1639
01:21:00,450 --> 01:21:01,630
and we got the other one.

1640
01:21:01,630 --> 01:21:04,630
And we decided
that we'll go home.

1641
01:21:04,630 --> 01:21:06,190
I was from near Warsaw.

1642
01:21:06,190 --> 01:21:07,780
They were also from
Northern Warsaw.

1643
01:21:07,780 --> 01:21:11,040
We went together by train.

1644
01:21:11,040 --> 01:21:13,450
Hitchhiked by train
maybe two, three days.

1645
01:21:13,450 --> 01:21:16,280
We came back to Warsaw.

1646
01:21:16,280 --> 01:21:17,228
Then--

1647
01:21:17,228 --> 01:21:19,720
Can you give me friends' names?

1648
01:21:19,720 --> 01:21:20,560
I don't remember.

1649
01:21:20,560 --> 01:21:24,520
One friend I remember
because one I missed.

1650
01:21:24,520 --> 01:21:30,289
One friend was name,
he had a number 126655.

1651

01:21:30,289 --> 01:21:35,558

665 or 655 his name
was [? Jacob ?] Evans.

1652

01:21:35,558 --> 01:21:36,850

I think that's what he gave me.

1653

01:21:36,850 --> 01:21:40,630

And he told me that he has a
brother in Uruguay, Montevideo.

1654

01:21:40,630 --> 01:21:44,550

I asked people from
Uruguay, Montevideo,

1655

01:21:44,550 --> 01:21:46,650

did they ever heard
a name like that?

1656

01:21:46,650 --> 01:21:48,720

They did not find
any name like that.

1657

01:21:48,720 --> 01:21:52,470

I looked in their registration
at the American Holocaust

1658

01:21:52,470 --> 01:21:55,320

survivors at American
gathering, I didn't find.

1659

01:21:55,320 --> 01:21:59,490

Maybe I think he gave
me the name Evans.

1660

01:21:59,490 --> 01:22:00,940

Maybe the name is not right.

1661

01:22:00,940 --> 01:22:04,140

Maybe it was different,
but they did not find him.

1662

01:22:04,140 --> 01:22:08,460

A fact that one after we I
got liberated, after we got

1663

01:22:08,460 --> 01:22:13,230

liberated, I went from
Warsaw from one end to Warsaw

1664

01:22:13,230 --> 01:22:16,290

to the other because I had to
take a train to go to Kaluszyn.

1665

01:22:16,290 --> 01:22:18,100

And Warsaw was destroyed.

1666

01:22:18,100 --> 01:22:21,510

So I walked from one end
to Warsaw to the other end

1667

01:22:21,510 --> 01:22:24,210

to get another train
to come to Kaluszyn.

1668

01:22:24,210 --> 01:22:25,860

When I came on the
road to Kaluszyn

1669

01:22:25,860 --> 01:22:29,740

I met a guy, a Polish
guy, and he looked at me.

1670

01:22:29,740 --> 01:22:34,470

He was scared because I
looked like a dead man.

1671

01:22:34,470 --> 01:22:45,190

And I told him who I am I asked
you [CRYING] but the first

1672

01:22:45,190 --> 01:22:49,280

[CRYING] was the first good
news I heard that my brother is

1673

01:22:49,280 --> 01:22:50,449
the [NON-ENGLISH].

1674
01:22:50,449 --> 01:22:56,200

1675
01:22:56,200 --> 01:23:06,740
Then May 15 or May 20 and
I was sleeping and eating

1676
01:23:06,740 --> 01:23:08,720
for two weeks.

1677
01:23:08,720 --> 01:23:11,860
And this is how I looked after
two weeks gaining 15 kilos.

1678
01:23:11,860 --> 01:23:32,100

1679
01:23:32,100 --> 01:23:35,380
This [INAUDIBLE].

1680
01:23:35,380 --> 01:23:36,410
Pardon me?

1681
01:23:36,410 --> 01:23:38,620
I don't know
[INAUDIBLE] all the ones

1682
01:23:38,620 --> 01:23:43,088
that are marked you want
to go into the archives?

1683
01:23:43,088 --> 01:23:44,630
Yes, I'll give you
all those pictures

1684
01:23:44,630 --> 01:23:48,350
that you want and you'll
send them back to me?

1685

01:23:48,350 --> 01:23:49,010
Right, right.

1686
01:23:49,010 --> 01:23:53,610

1687
01:23:53,610 --> 01:23:58,516
This is my brother and his wife.

1688
01:23:58,516 --> 01:24:08,953

1689
01:24:08,953 --> 01:24:13,790
You went back to Kaluszyn

1690
01:24:13,790 --> 01:24:17,960
I went back to Kaluszyn
and I found my brother.

1691
01:24:17,960 --> 01:24:22,210
He was staying there
for about a month

1692
01:24:22,210 --> 01:24:29,110
and we had to leave
because before our arrival,

1693
01:24:29,110 --> 01:24:35,920
one Jew was killed by the
National Army, National

1694
01:24:35,920 --> 01:24:37,720
Polish army.

1695
01:24:37,720 --> 01:24:42,670
They claimed that he was
a Russian sympathizer

1696
01:24:42,670 --> 01:24:46,860
and they had to get rid of him.

1697
01:24:46,860 --> 01:24:49,950

At the same time,
there was a few people

1698
01:24:49,950 --> 01:24:56,760
that were hidden in
villages and forests,

1699
01:24:56,760 --> 01:24:59,190
came back and
worked at a factory

1700
01:24:59,190 --> 01:25:04,320
that they made originally
they made a sheepskin jackets.

1701
01:25:04,320 --> 01:25:06,660
Their family name
is [? Berman. ?]

1702
01:25:06,660 --> 01:25:14,790
And because of the fact
that this person was killed,

1703
01:25:14,790 --> 01:25:16,950
they had to leave the town.

1704
01:25:16,950 --> 01:25:20,530
And since then, no Jews
live there anymore.

1705
01:25:20,530 --> 01:25:24,450
We left, my brother and
I, we left for lodge.

1706
01:25:24,450 --> 01:25:25,980
We're staying there
for a few months

1707
01:25:25,980 --> 01:25:29,690
and then we went
back to Germany.

1708
01:25:29,690 --> 01:25:34,994

To Landshut and from Landshut
[INAUDIBLE] to America.

1709

01:25:34,994 --> 01:25:37,020

What year did you immigrate?

1710

01:25:37,020 --> 01:25:37,912

In 1947.

1711

01:25:37,912 --> 01:25:45,114

Now can you tell briefly what
happened to the family members?

1712

01:25:45,114 --> 01:25:49,030

They were all in the
ghetto [INAUDIBLE]??

1713

01:25:49,030 --> 01:25:49,930

Well, they all--

1714

01:25:49,930 --> 01:25:54,040

Who was there and the days?

1715

01:25:54,040 --> 01:25:56,610

Well the other family
members that were

1716

01:25:56,610 --> 01:26:02,070

first, we were at a time when
there was the liquidation,

1717

01:26:02,070 --> 01:26:08,420

the first liquidation
was in September 25 1942.

1718

01:26:08,420 --> 01:26:16,390

It was my mother, my sister,
my mother's sister, my aunt,

1719

01:26:16,390 --> 01:26:17,140

and her mother.

1720

01:26:17,140 --> 01:26:20,350

1721

01:26:20,350 --> 01:26:24,190

And some other cousins,
and my father's relatives,

1722

01:26:24,190 --> 01:26:28,960

my father's brothers and his
family were all on the market.

1723

01:26:28,960 --> 01:26:31,670

They were all sent to Majdanek.

1724

01:26:31,670 --> 01:26:35,485

I'm sorry, not to
Majdanek, to Treblinka.

1725

01:26:35,485 --> 01:26:39,530

And they were all killed?

1726

01:26:39,530 --> 01:26:41,110

They all perished.

1727

01:26:41,110 --> 01:26:42,950

And your father?

1728

01:26:42,950 --> 01:26:49,040

My father was killed in Kaluszyn
in Yon Kippur night 1942,

1729

01:26:49,040 --> 01:26:50,621

September 21.

1730

01:26:50,621 --> 01:26:54,860

Was he killed, was the
whole committee killed then?

1731

01:26:54,860 --> 01:26:58,520

No, the whole committee--
they were just sent for him

1732

01:26:58,520 --> 01:27:04,590
before was killed, the
SS sent for him to come.

1733
01:27:04,590 --> 01:27:08,610
And when he went
to see them, they

1734
01:27:08,610 --> 01:27:10,020
told him that he's arrested.

1735
01:27:10,020 --> 01:27:16,230
And they later on, they sent
to inform the other members

1736
01:27:16,230 --> 01:27:19,710
of the Judenrat that they
should inform the family

1737
01:27:19,710 --> 01:27:21,840
to come say hello to
him because they're

1738
01:27:21,840 --> 01:27:23,090
going to send him to Warsaw.

1739
01:27:23,090 --> 01:27:26,020

1740
01:27:26,020 --> 01:27:29,380
And when my brother
and I came to the jail

1741
01:27:29,380 --> 01:27:34,137
where he was supposed to
be to call the window,

1742
01:27:34,137 --> 01:27:36,470
called him, father, father,
we are here waiting for you.

1743
01:27:36,470 --> 01:27:38,830
We didn't hear any reply.

1744
01:27:38,830 --> 01:27:41,230
But staying there for about
10 minutes, 15 minutes

1745
01:27:41,230 --> 01:27:44,170
and waiting for his
reply, we heard shots,

1746
01:27:44,170 --> 01:27:47,500
which was in the square nearby.

1747
01:27:47,500 --> 01:27:50,950
And we went over there and
then we found our father dead.

1748
01:27:50,950 --> 01:27:54,700
It happened once before that
the SS came once and arrested

1749
01:27:54,700 --> 01:27:57,370
my father, took him to Warsaw.

1750
01:27:57,370 --> 01:28:00,370
He was sitting at that time
he was in jail in the Warsaw

1751
01:28:00,370 --> 01:28:05,260
together with Czerniak³w, the
leader of the Jewish community

1752
01:28:05,260 --> 01:28:07,030
in Warsaw.

1753
01:28:07,030 --> 01:28:09,100
And of course,
when he came back,

1754
01:28:09,100 --> 01:28:12,880
he told the problem
what the Warsaw has.

1755

01:28:12,880 --> 01:28:16,600

And that no matter
how bad we have it,

1756

01:28:16,600 --> 01:28:19,090

that they have it worse.

1757

01:28:19,090 --> 01:28:25,050

And there were many, many ways
that the Judenrats in our area

1758

01:28:25,050 --> 01:28:26,850

communicated with one another.

1759

01:28:26,850 --> 01:28:29,520

They did help each
other in many ways,

1760

01:28:29,520 --> 01:28:32,850

but there was,
they could never be

1761

01:28:32,850 --> 01:28:38,520

ahead of the Germans what
their plans were to realize

1762

01:28:38,520 --> 01:28:39,720

what they want to do.

1763

01:28:39,720 --> 01:28:45,060

There were always trying
to think that only would

1764

01:28:45,060 --> 01:28:48,270

this law, only would
this special thing

1765

01:28:48,270 --> 01:28:50,010

that the Jews have
to do, this will

1766

01:28:50,010 --> 01:28:52,830

be it and no more, and no more.

1767
01:28:52,830 --> 01:28:55,020
And everything now will be
good, and good, and good.

1768
01:28:55,020 --> 01:29:00,240

1769
01:29:00,240 --> 01:29:06,430
Is there anything else that
you want to say for the record?

1770
01:29:06,430 --> 01:29:09,170
I don't know.

1771
01:29:09,170 --> 01:29:12,500
You came to the United
States and you met your wife.

1772
01:29:12,500 --> 01:29:16,290
I came to United States, my
wife originally is from Poland.

1773
01:29:16,290 --> 01:29:21,240
Her family emigrated
from Poland to Costa Rica

1774
01:29:21,240 --> 01:29:22,800
in Central America.

1775
01:29:22,800 --> 01:29:25,710
And she was in Costa
Rica by chance,

1776
01:29:25,710 --> 01:29:28,020
she came to New York
on a business trip

1777
01:29:28,020 --> 01:29:32,180
with other people
who are my relatives.

1778

01:29:32,180 --> 01:29:36,650
And I meet my wife at
that time on a trip

1779
01:29:36,650 --> 01:29:41,400
and I felt that she's a nice
person for me to meet again.

1780
01:29:41,400 --> 01:29:43,430
And for me that met a few times.

1781
01:29:43,430 --> 01:29:46,642
And we decided to get married.

1782
01:29:46,642 --> 01:29:49,810
And then you got
married [INAUDIBLE]..

1783
01:29:49,810 --> 01:29:51,910
I got married in Costa Rica.

1784
01:29:51,910 --> 01:29:59,310
Going to Costa Rica to marry
her, it was in January 9,

1785
01:29:59,310 --> 01:30:00,206
or is it 8?

1786
01:30:00,206 --> 01:30:03,862

1787
01:30:03,862 --> 01:30:04,362
1949.

1788
01:30:04,362 --> 01:30:07,600
[INTERPOSING VOICES]

1789
01:30:07,600 --> 01:30:10,672
January 9, 1949.

1790
01:30:10,672 --> 01:30:12,530
And you had three--

1791
01:30:12,530 --> 01:30:15,755
And we have two daughters.

1792
01:30:15,755 --> 01:30:17,630
And we came, of course,
we came to live here.

1793
01:30:17,630 --> 01:30:18,850
We lived in Brooklyn.

1794
01:30:18,850 --> 01:30:21,400
And then we lived in Queens.

1795
01:30:21,400 --> 01:30:24,350
And since then, I lived there.

1796
01:30:24,350 --> 01:30:25,350
You live in Queens?

1797
01:30:25,350 --> 01:30:27,255
I live in Queens.

1798
01:30:27,255 --> 01:30:28,330
What do you [INAUDIBLE]?

1799
01:30:28,330 --> 01:30:29,770
I have two [INAUDIBLE].

1800
01:30:29,770 --> 01:30:30,580
Are you retired?

1801
01:30:30,580 --> 01:30:35,580
I am now retired,
I was since 1948.

1802
01:30:35,580 --> 01:30:37,960
When I came to the
first to the states,

1803
01:30:37,960 --> 01:30:43,120

I got a job as a messenger
in a shipping company.

1804
01:30:43,120 --> 01:30:45,340
This gave me a lot
of, a big break

1805
01:30:45,340 --> 01:30:48,850
as I learned English
I believe well.

1806
01:30:48,850 --> 01:30:50,770
I also went to night school.

1807
01:30:50,770 --> 01:30:55,100
And about six months, I went to
night school whatever it was.

1808
01:30:55,100 --> 01:30:58,750
And then I went for
about six months to a--

1809
01:30:58,750 --> 01:31:04,708

1810
01:31:04,708 --> 01:31:06,960
[INAUDIBLE]

1811
01:31:06,960 --> 01:31:08,430
Can you imagine
you get so excited

1812
01:31:08,430 --> 01:31:09,780
that you're missing a word?

1813
01:31:09,780 --> 01:31:11,200
I went to high school.

1814
01:31:11,200 --> 01:31:13,240
I believe that I learned
the language well

1815

01:31:13,240 --> 01:31:16,500
to my writing I could
say is perfect, as

1816
01:31:16,500 --> 01:31:18,990
good as any American born.

1817
01:31:18,990 --> 01:31:22,710
And although I believe I have an
accent, I'm not ashamed of it.

1818
01:31:22,710 --> 01:31:26,340

1819
01:31:26,340 --> 01:31:32,400
And then after learning
working for the company, which

1820
01:31:32,400 --> 01:31:35,040
is an export, which is
a forwarding company

1821
01:31:35,040 --> 01:31:40,470
dealing and arranging shipments
for customers overseas

1822
01:31:40,470 --> 01:31:44,430
who actually introduced me
to that job because they

1823
01:31:44,430 --> 01:31:49,140
were a client of that company
who they gave business

1824
01:31:49,140 --> 01:31:53,880
to that company to ship for
them to Costa Rica merchandise.

1825
01:31:53,880 --> 01:31:56,610
So through them, I got
the job and I worked there

1826
01:31:56,610 --> 01:31:59,480

for almost two years.

1827

01:31:59,480 --> 01:32:02,620

And then we started
to go into business

1828

01:32:02,620 --> 01:32:06,520

and to provide my
relatives in Costa Rica who

1829

01:32:06,520 --> 01:32:10,107

are importers with
samples of textiles,

1830

01:32:10,107 --> 01:32:11,440

and different kind of materials.

1831

01:32:11,440 --> 01:32:15,370

And this is how I got into
the export business, which

1832

01:32:15,370 --> 01:32:18,400

was called in 1948 I
went into the business,

1833

01:32:18,400 --> 01:32:21,790

and we called [? Keschell ?]
Brothers Trading Company.

1834

01:32:21,790 --> 01:32:25,110

Later we incorporated,
became a corporations.

1835

01:32:25,110 --> 01:32:27,340

Of course, our name
was no one in New York

1836

01:32:27,340 --> 01:32:31,434

and a lot of companies in the
states we had a very good name.

1837

01:32:31,434 --> 01:32:33,750

So you did this

with your brother?

1838
01:32:33,750 --> 01:32:34,250
Yeah.

1839
01:32:34,250 --> 01:32:36,590
We had a very good
name, my brother and I,

1840
01:32:36,590 --> 01:32:44,540
and very well known in the
trade of textiles, and clothing,

1841
01:32:44,540 --> 01:32:52,130
cosmetics, and anything that
my customers wanted we had.

1842
01:32:52,130 --> 01:32:54,800
We export our merchandise
to South America,

1843
01:32:54,800 --> 01:32:59,840
to Central America, and even
to Saudi Arabia, Kuwait,

1844
01:32:59,840 --> 01:33:02,960
and Lebanon.

1845
01:33:02,960 --> 01:33:07,630
I retired in 1988
after my brother

1846
01:33:07,630 --> 01:33:10,710
got a few times heart attacks.

1847
01:33:10,710 --> 01:33:14,140
Then we decided that business
is not going to be better.

1848
01:33:14,140 --> 01:33:18,550
And I'd rather, I said to myself
that I would rather go out

1849

01:33:18,550 --> 01:33:20,860
of business than be taken out.

1850

01:33:20,860 --> 01:33:23,650
And that's what I did and
I'm very happy for it.

1851

01:33:23,650 --> 01:33:28,210
After all the things
that I recall and think

1852

01:33:28,210 --> 01:33:33,330
of what happened to me,
what makes me so lucky?

1853

01:33:33,330 --> 01:33:34,000