

1
00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:05,100

2
00:00:05,100 --> 00:00:09,520
So you worked for a
week in this restaurant.

3
00:00:09,520 --> 00:00:12,300
And this little boy--

4
00:00:12,300 --> 00:00:13,260
Pointed.

5
00:00:13,260 --> 00:00:16,230
Called me Jew, yes.

6
00:00:16,230 --> 00:00:21,062
And I was back in my
little room, locked.

7
00:00:21,062 --> 00:00:24,450
Did anybody else say
anything on the streetcar

8
00:00:24,450 --> 00:00:25,640
after he said that?

9
00:00:25,640 --> 00:00:26,880
The first step I got off.

10
00:00:26,880 --> 00:00:29,980

11
00:00:29,980 --> 00:00:31,980
I didn't know what would
happen if I would stay.

12
00:00:31,980 --> 00:00:35,070
Maybe one could get
up and he's an SS man

13
00:00:35,070 --> 00:00:37,440
or he's a police officer.

14
00:00:37,440 --> 00:00:38,910
I didn't want to take chances.

15
00:00:38,910 --> 00:00:40,840
There was another
asset I needed.

16
00:00:40,840 --> 00:00:43,770

17
00:00:43,770 --> 00:00:47,820
Nobody knew physically
how much you

18
00:00:47,820 --> 00:00:57,160
can take when SS men caught
you who lived with family,

19
00:00:57,160 --> 00:00:59,740
with another Jewish family.

20
00:00:59,740 --> 00:01:03,090
And if they hit you really
hard that you cannot stand it,

21
00:01:03,090 --> 00:01:06,130
can you keep your mouth shut
and not say where your sister,

22
00:01:06,130 --> 00:01:07,110
your mother, lives?

23
00:01:07,110 --> 00:01:10,530
Most of the time, for that
reason we did not ask.

24
00:01:10,530 --> 00:01:15,180
We did not know the
addresses of our relatives.

25
00:01:15,180 --> 00:01:16,650
We were taken there.

26
00:01:16,650 --> 00:01:20,470
And this was security
for me and for them.

27
00:01:20,470 --> 00:01:24,420
So when I escaped from that
streetcar, this was the reason.

28
00:01:24,420 --> 00:01:26,040
I didn't want to
take chances and I

29
00:01:26,040 --> 00:01:28,440
didn't know if I will tell
where my mother, sister,

30
00:01:28,440 --> 00:01:31,020
or father is.

31
00:01:31,020 --> 00:01:33,570
And then you just went
back to your sister?

32
00:01:33,570 --> 00:01:36,000
I was running for a long time.

33
00:01:36,000 --> 00:01:39,675
Then I called my sister at
the hospital where she worked.

34
00:01:39,675 --> 00:01:42,270

35
00:01:42,270 --> 00:01:45,830
And I met her.

36
00:01:45,830 --> 00:01:48,450
We went home and she

made the decision

37

00:01:48,450 --> 00:01:50,940
that I can't go out anymore.

38

00:01:50,940 --> 00:01:57,870
For me to survive I have to
be locked because of my looks.

39

00:01:57,870 --> 00:02:01,275
I could not fool
that little boy even

40

00:02:01,275 --> 00:02:06,120
with my big cross
and bleached hair.

41

00:02:06,120 --> 00:02:07,320
It was not convincing.

42

00:02:07,320 --> 00:02:09,979

43

00:02:09,979 --> 00:02:12,190
And then how long was it until--

44

00:02:12,190 --> 00:02:13,178
Oh, a few months.

45

00:02:13,178 --> 00:02:13,720
A few months.

46

00:02:13,720 --> 00:02:14,220
Yes.

47

00:02:14,220 --> 00:02:16,330
You were just in the
apartment this whole time.

48

00:02:16,330 --> 00:02:17,740
Yes.

49

00:02:17,740 --> 00:02:20,020

Would you do anything
special to pass the time?

50

00:02:20,020 --> 00:02:21,220

Reading.

51

00:02:21,220 --> 00:02:23,510

The same thing, the
same magazine or book I

52

00:02:23,510 --> 00:02:26,540

read that probably 102 times.

53

00:02:26,540 --> 00:02:32,030

And talking to the cat.

54

00:02:32,030 --> 00:02:34,670

Whispering to the cat, who
became my biggest friend

55

00:02:34,670 --> 00:02:40,130

and my biggest enemy because
he could go out and I didn't.

56

00:02:40,130 --> 00:02:43,310

He could knock down a glass
from the table not be afraid.

57

00:02:43,310 --> 00:02:46,540

When it would happen to
me, I was scared to death.

58

00:02:46,540 --> 00:02:47,610

What was the cat's name?

59

00:02:47,610 --> 00:02:49,450

Do you remember?

60

00:02:49,450 --> 00:02:52,040

No.

61
00:02:52,040 --> 00:02:57,800
And then there was a
decision that everyone

62
00:02:57,800 --> 00:02:58,770
was leaving Warsaw.

63
00:02:58,770 --> 00:02:59,540
Yes.

64
00:02:59,540 --> 00:03:00,390
We were told.

65
00:03:00,390 --> 00:03:02,020
It was not our decision.

66
00:03:02,020 --> 00:03:06,770
The German decision that we
were going to be leaving Warsaw.

67
00:03:06,770 --> 00:03:08,150
Jews will be leaving Warsaw.

68
00:03:08,150 --> 00:03:08,840
Not Jews.

69
00:03:08,840 --> 00:03:10,440
Everybody.

70
00:03:10,440 --> 00:03:11,300
OK.

71
00:03:11,300 --> 00:03:14,330
And we were all in
tremendous groups.

72
00:03:14,330 --> 00:03:18,800
And there was a lot of gunfire
in the background, not exactly

73
00:03:18,800 --> 00:03:23,930

following us but between
the Russian [INAUDIBLE]

74
00:03:23,930 --> 00:03:27,070
and the German Army.

75
00:03:27,070 --> 00:03:32,240
And we were put on
trains, loaded on trains,

76
00:03:32,240 --> 00:03:39,230
and after a whole day's
travel end up in Tiegenhof,

77
00:03:39,230 --> 00:03:42,560
not knowing what the
next day would bring us.

78
00:03:42,560 --> 00:03:45,050
Were there other Jews with
you, or did you not know?

79
00:03:45,050 --> 00:03:46,550
We didn't know, but
you could guess.

80
00:03:46,550 --> 00:03:48,640
Just like the little
boy could recognize me,

81
00:03:48,640 --> 00:03:50,900
we could recognize.

82
00:03:50,900 --> 00:03:55,520
Maybe more sense than recognize.

83
00:03:55,520 --> 00:03:57,218
We behaved different.

84
00:03:57,218 --> 00:04:01,430

85

00:04:01,430 --> 00:04:02,940
And then in Stutthof.

86
00:04:02,940 --> 00:04:06,420

87
00:04:06,420 --> 00:04:15,750
Stutthof we already saw the
Jews under the wire in camp

88
00:04:15,750 --> 00:04:22,680
and looking terrible,
sad, underfed, frightened.

89
00:04:22,680 --> 00:04:25,910
At this point you were
still considered a Gentile.

90
00:04:25,910 --> 00:04:26,880
Yes.

91
00:04:26,880 --> 00:04:29,270
I thought of it more than
I was considered, I think.

92
00:04:29,270 --> 00:04:34,020
I knew I had that name
which I assumed which wasn't

93
00:04:34,020 --> 00:04:40,630
mine, which didn't help at all.

94
00:04:40,630 --> 00:04:45,740
And time passed by.

95
00:04:45,740 --> 00:04:51,070
We did little chores, picking
up trees, cotton trees.

96
00:04:51,070 --> 00:04:58,520
And the news, from time to time
somebody heard from somebody

97

00:04:58,520 --> 00:05:01,970

who had a radio, or
somebody overheard

98

00:05:01,970 --> 00:05:07,910

what the SS men said
that the American Army's

99

00:05:07,910 --> 00:05:09,950

close and the Russian
Army is getting

100

00:05:09,950 --> 00:05:16,380

somewhere close, that maybe
this is the end of the war,

101

00:05:16,380 --> 00:05:20,870

maybe we would be free, but
these were just guesses.

102

00:05:20,870 --> 00:05:29,200

And the real proof,
it was obvious

103

00:05:29,200 --> 00:05:32,470

that something was going on when
there was a lot of confusion

104

00:05:32,470 --> 00:05:36,340

and less and less guards
were left in the camp.

105

00:05:36,340 --> 00:05:39,400

And they gradually
started transporting us

106

00:05:39,400 --> 00:05:41,960

from one place to the other.

107

00:05:41,960 --> 00:05:47,140

Sometimes it was just an hour,
sometimes two or three hours,

108

00:05:47,140 --> 00:05:52,920
and we end up again
in the deep woods.

109

00:05:52,920 --> 00:05:54,840
So it just seemed they
were moving you away

110

00:05:54,840 --> 00:05:56,820
from Stutthof for a few hours.

111

00:05:56,820 --> 00:05:58,950
And permanently
we didn't go back.

112

00:05:58,950 --> 00:06:04,050
But it became to us obvious
that something was going on,

113

00:06:04,050 --> 00:06:08,010
that somebody is getting closer
to that area where we were.

114

00:06:08,010 --> 00:06:14,580
And then less guards
were left in the camp.

115

00:06:14,580 --> 00:06:18,750
And then one day we heard
that music, that harmonica

116

00:06:18,750 --> 00:06:21,060
and singing.

117

00:06:21,060 --> 00:06:22,860
And that was at Gross-Rosen.

118

00:06:22,860 --> 00:06:23,520
Yes.

119

00:06:23,520 --> 00:06:25,843
This was when the

German Army came in.

120
00:06:25,843 --> 00:06:27,510
So as they moved you
away from Stutthof,

121
00:06:27,510 --> 00:06:30,030
eventually you
reached Gross-Rosen.

122
00:06:30,030 --> 00:06:32,760
Over how many days,
do you recall?

123
00:06:32,760 --> 00:06:33,670
I know it's hard to--

124
00:06:33,670 --> 00:06:34,170
Yes.

125
00:06:34,170 --> 00:06:39,840
Well, time is so uncertain now.

126
00:06:39,840 --> 00:06:42,910
I don't know if it
was hours or days.

127
00:06:42,910 --> 00:06:50,060
And it was wintertime.

128
00:06:50,060 --> 00:06:55,040
Because when we were finally
freed and walked back to Poland

129
00:06:55,040 --> 00:06:56,360
it was January.

130
00:06:56,360 --> 00:07:01,870

131
00:07:01,870 --> 00:07:05,560
So your time at

Gross-Rosen was short.

132
00:07:05,560 --> 00:07:07,660
Yes.

133
00:07:07,660 --> 00:07:08,530
Just a month?

134
00:07:08,530 --> 00:07:12,970
To know where you were was
something you didn't care

135
00:07:12,970 --> 00:07:14,960
and you were not told.

136
00:07:14,960 --> 00:07:20,680
So it was not actually
important even

137
00:07:20,680 --> 00:07:27,700
to know where we were as long as
we're not chased or beaten here

138
00:07:27,700 --> 00:07:31,540
it was strange that we
were stripped completely

139
00:07:31,540 --> 00:07:33,290
from dignity.

140
00:07:33,290 --> 00:07:36,400
People didn't matter.

141
00:07:36,400 --> 00:07:40,060
Just to fill your stomach for
a few hours was very important.

142
00:07:40,060 --> 00:07:43,490
And to be alive
is very important.

143
00:07:43,490 --> 00:07:49,120

And as I mentioned
before, the closer you

144
00:07:49,120 --> 00:07:54,070
are facing a tragedy the
more you want to live.

145
00:07:54,070 --> 00:07:58,400

146
00:07:58,400 --> 00:08:01,640
And your father was
sent where from Warsaw?

147
00:08:01,640 --> 00:08:06,810
My father was at Stutthof,
and then he went back.

148
00:08:06,810 --> 00:08:08,780
Then he went back to Warsaw?

149
00:08:08,780 --> 00:08:12,180
Back to Poland.

150
00:08:12,180 --> 00:08:12,680
Yeah.

151
00:08:12,680 --> 00:08:18,050

152
00:08:18,050 --> 00:08:23,480
And if we can go way back,
back to before the war,

153
00:08:23,480 --> 00:08:28,130
I just wanted to clarify
some things in my head.

154
00:08:28,130 --> 00:08:30,620
Now you were the--

155
00:08:30,620 --> 00:08:32,120

Third in the family.

156
00:08:32,120 --> 00:08:33,740
The third oldest?

157
00:08:33,740 --> 00:08:34,460
Yes.

158
00:08:34,460 --> 00:08:38,000
My oldest sister was Hannah.

159
00:08:38,000 --> 00:08:40,970

160
00:08:40,970 --> 00:08:43,940
She's now 80.

161
00:08:43,940 --> 00:08:45,470
And then was Irene.

162
00:08:45,470 --> 00:08:51,140
Irene was the one
who saved us all.

163
00:08:51,140 --> 00:08:51,710
The nurse.

164
00:08:51,710 --> 00:08:52,790
Yes.

165
00:08:52,790 --> 00:08:58,040
And then the third one was I,
then was Frances, the youngest.

166
00:08:58,040 --> 00:09:02,000
And after public school
you went to this other town

167
00:09:02,000 --> 00:09:05,750
30 kilometers away
for gymnasium.

168

00:09:05,750 --> 00:09:07,070

And after gymnasium?

169

00:09:07,070 --> 00:09:10,760

After gymnasium my
sister was near Katowice.

170

00:09:10,760 --> 00:09:14,150

She worked there and I had a
place to live so I went there

171

00:09:14,150 --> 00:09:19,610

and I registered in Katowice
to a school of business

172

00:09:19,610 --> 00:09:22,040

administration.

173

00:09:22,040 --> 00:09:26,600

And as I mentioned
before, Katowice

174

00:09:26,600 --> 00:09:29,990

belonged once to Germany and
then went back to Poland.

175

00:09:29,990 --> 00:09:34,280

Most of the population there
were called Volksdeutsche,

176

00:09:34,280 --> 00:09:38,840

which means partly belong
to Germany, part to Poland.

177

00:09:38,840 --> 00:09:43,370

They spoke a broken
Polish and broken German.

178

00:09:43,370 --> 00:09:47,420

This was not a good
element either.

179

00:09:47,420 --> 00:09:54,008
And then in August
1939, my sister and I

180
00:09:54,008 --> 00:09:55,550
went back to our
hometown [INAUDIBLE]

181
00:09:55,550 --> 00:09:57,620
Because you heard that
the war was going to--

182
00:09:57,620 --> 00:10:01,610
Yes, so we felt that the
war would mean the larger

183
00:10:01,610 --> 00:10:03,920
cities the army
will fight but we

184
00:10:03,920 --> 00:10:07,190
will be safe in the little
town on the Vistula River.

185
00:10:07,190 --> 00:10:10,010
But we were wrong.

186
00:10:10,010 --> 00:10:12,840
When the Germans did
come into your town,

187
00:10:12,840 --> 00:10:15,710
were you made to wear badges?

188
00:10:15,710 --> 00:10:17,060
Yes.

189
00:10:17,060 --> 00:10:21,830
When they started the
ghetto and the labor camp,

190
00:10:21,830 --> 00:10:24,080
we all had the yellow--

191
00:10:24,080 --> 00:10:28,340
We had bands on our
arms and yellow stars.

192
00:10:28,340 --> 00:10:30,870
Yeah, this was our
identification.

193
00:10:30,870 --> 00:10:34,640
The people who did not
wear were not Jews.

194
00:10:34,640 --> 00:10:36,050
Where did you get the armband?

195
00:10:36,050 --> 00:10:38,120
The Germans brought them.

196
00:10:38,120 --> 00:10:42,120
I think the Jewish community,
which they established.

197
00:10:42,120 --> 00:10:42,990
The Judenrat.

198
00:10:42,990 --> 00:10:43,780
Yes.

199
00:10:43,780 --> 00:10:47,253
The Judenrat had to supply
everything for the Germans,

200
00:10:47,253 --> 00:10:48,545
and this was one of the orders.

201
00:10:48,545 --> 00:10:51,350

202
00:10:51,350 --> 00:10:54,380
And when you were taken out
of your apartment, what do

203
00:10:54,380 --> 00:10:56,750
you remember taking with you?

204
00:10:56,750 --> 00:10:57,860
Nothing.

205
00:10:57,860 --> 00:11:01,550
Because we thought they called
us to leave the apartment

206
00:11:01,550 --> 00:11:04,050
this did not mean that
we will never go back.

207
00:11:04,050 --> 00:11:06,360
We thought we were just
going for a little talk.

208
00:11:06,360 --> 00:11:08,030
To the town square.

209
00:11:08,030 --> 00:11:09,020
That's right.

210
00:11:09,020 --> 00:11:11,960
But we never went back.

211
00:11:11,960 --> 00:11:14,240
Was there what was considered
a Jewish neighborhood?

212
00:11:14,240 --> 00:11:16,010
You said there was Jewish--

213
00:11:16,010 --> 00:11:18,560
Yes, there was a Jewish street
where the synagogue was.

214
00:11:18,560 --> 00:11:21,230
All the Jews who lived there
lived on the Jewish street,

215
00:11:21,230 --> 00:11:26,690
just like you would say
the [NON-ENGLISH] Road.

216
00:11:26,690 --> 00:11:29,900
It was a street
but some non-Jewish

217
00:11:29,900 --> 00:11:31,465
lived there too, very poor.

218
00:11:31,465 --> 00:11:33,840
And your father's store was
in this neighborhood as well?

219
00:11:33,840 --> 00:11:40,430
No, my father's store was
across from the city hall.

220
00:11:40,430 --> 00:11:42,740
This is where they
gathered all the Jews.

221
00:11:42,740 --> 00:11:48,560
And we lived on the same street
which was called the Petoska.

222
00:11:48,560 --> 00:11:52,460
We lived across the
street from a hospital

223
00:11:52,460 --> 00:11:53,690
and a Catholic church.

224
00:11:53,690 --> 00:12:03,370

225
00:12:03,370 --> 00:12:05,920
Were you within the ghetto?

226
00:12:05,920 --> 00:12:08,440

You went immediately
to this barracks

227
00:12:08,440 --> 00:12:09,830
to work at this school.

228
00:12:09,830 --> 00:12:14,080
We were first on that city
hall place, all the Jews were.

229
00:12:14,080 --> 00:12:19,690
Then part they selected
who will stay in this part

230
00:12:19,690 --> 00:12:21,580
that they called ghetto.

231
00:12:21,580 --> 00:12:26,620
They also brought Jews from the
little towns around Sadowice.

232
00:12:26,620 --> 00:12:32,140
And then the rest of
the Jews from that place

233
00:12:32,140 --> 00:12:39,010
were taken to that labor
camp I where I washed floors

234
00:12:39,010 --> 00:12:42,940
for the Hitlerejugend.

235
00:12:42,940 --> 00:12:44,410
And when you were
there they just

236
00:12:44,410 --> 00:12:50,560
assign jobs to people
at the labor camp?

237
00:12:50,560 --> 00:12:54,070
Well, they gave orders,
you do this, you do this,

238
00:12:54,070 --> 00:12:56,940
and there were some they
didn't have anything to do.

239
00:12:56,940 --> 00:12:59,710
We didn't know what
happened to them.

240
00:12:59,710 --> 00:13:03,040
You were on their mercy
and their caprice.

241
00:13:03,040 --> 00:13:05,080
Whatever they wanted
to do they will do.

242
00:13:05,080 --> 00:13:08,440

243
00:13:08,440 --> 00:13:10,740
You remember anything else
about those Hitler Youth?

244
00:13:10,740 --> 00:13:13,700
You mentioned that they would
walk on your hands and--

245
00:13:13,700 --> 00:13:16,450

246
00:13:16,450 --> 00:13:18,240
They had no manners.

247
00:13:18,240 --> 00:13:20,450
They were rigid.

248
00:13:20,450 --> 00:13:23,800

249
00:13:23,800 --> 00:13:28,240
Young kids you expect

they would smile or--

250

00:13:28,240 --> 00:13:29,200

They weren't too happy.

251

00:13:29,200 --> 00:13:32,590

They didn't look happy.

252

00:13:32,590 --> 00:13:35,560

It was a military school.

253

00:13:35,560 --> 00:13:37,000

And they were all in uniform?

254

00:13:37,000 --> 00:13:37,510

Yes.

255

00:13:37,510 --> 00:13:39,010

Oh yes, with the heil Hitler.

256

00:13:39,010 --> 00:13:43,135

257

00:13:43,135 --> 00:13:45,010

Do you remember anything
about the kommandant

258

00:13:45,010 --> 00:13:47,500

of that labor camp?

259

00:13:47,500 --> 00:13:48,550

They were many.

260

00:13:48,550 --> 00:13:51,010

They were not one.

261

00:13:51,010 --> 00:13:53,590

They never approached single.

262

00:13:53,590 --> 00:13:58,318

They always were in the

company of two or three

263
00:13:58,318 --> 00:14:04,180
with rifles or revolvers
or armed, always armed.

264
00:14:04,180 --> 00:14:07,660

265
00:14:07,660 --> 00:14:11,210
And in the barrack, was
the whole family together?

266
00:14:11,210 --> 00:14:12,264
No.

267
00:14:12,264 --> 00:14:16,270
They had younger
women and older women.

268
00:14:16,270 --> 00:14:20,480
My mother and father
were not together.

269
00:14:20,480 --> 00:14:23,860
What was your father doing
in terms of work there?

270
00:14:23,860 --> 00:14:29,200
He was working in the fields.

271
00:14:29,200 --> 00:14:33,520
Just like we in the
beginning work in the fields,

272
00:14:33,520 --> 00:14:37,870
like digging, planting potatoes
or digging out potatoes.

273
00:14:37,870 --> 00:14:39,520
You couldn't straighten out.

274

00:14:39,520 --> 00:14:42,550
If you ever saw people digging--

275
00:14:42,550 --> 00:14:45,100
We didn't have any
machinery at that time.

276
00:14:45,100 --> 00:14:47,060
It was very primitive.

277
00:14:47,060 --> 00:14:48,520
We had to be in a
bending position.

278
00:14:48,520 --> 00:14:52,760

279
00:14:52,760 --> 00:14:55,560
It was hard labor.

280
00:14:55,560 --> 00:14:58,250
Nothing you would pick to work.

281
00:14:58,250 --> 00:15:01,510

282
00:15:01,510 --> 00:15:03,520
You mentioned very early
on that your father

283
00:15:03,520 --> 00:15:04,960
was in the city council.

284
00:15:04,960 --> 00:15:09,070
Yes, he was,

285
00:15:09,070 --> 00:15:13,690
Was he a member of the city
council when the Germans came?

286
00:15:13,690 --> 00:15:15,280
They had a

representative of Jews.

287

00:15:15,280 --> 00:15:18,760

There were several, but
my father was one of them.

288

00:15:18,760 --> 00:15:21,250

He was paid for every meeting.

289

00:15:21,250 --> 00:15:25,030

They had let's say one
or two meetings a month.

290

00:15:25,030 --> 00:15:28,090

They paid him I remember
something like 10 zloty.

291

00:15:28,090 --> 00:15:30,790

It would be like \$10.

292

00:15:30,790 --> 00:15:35,320

And he wasn't asked to
become part of the Judenrat.

293

00:15:35,320 --> 00:15:36,470

He was in the beginning.

294

00:15:36,470 --> 00:15:36,970

Yes.

295

00:15:36,970 --> 00:15:40,720

296

00:15:40,720 --> 00:15:43,750

There were two
lawyers, my father,

297

00:15:43,750 --> 00:15:47,450

and there were about six
or eight business people.

298

00:15:47,450 --> 00:15:50,540

My father was one of them.

299

00:15:50,540 --> 00:15:52,330

They didn't have any
privileges for them.

300

00:15:52,330 --> 00:15:56,860

On the contrary, this
was a very hard part.

301

00:15:56,860 --> 00:16:01,300

The demands came to
them and they usually

302

00:16:01,300 --> 00:16:05,500

came either/or, which
means you supply

303

00:16:05,500 --> 00:16:09,820

us a hundred pairs of boots,
which soldiers wear leather

304

00:16:09,820 --> 00:16:11,020

boots.

305

00:16:11,020 --> 00:16:12,310

They gave you three days.

306

00:16:12,310 --> 00:16:15,420

307

00:16:15,420 --> 00:16:20,210

And if you didn't meet
the order, somebody died.

308

00:16:20,210 --> 00:16:23,240

309

00:16:23,240 --> 00:16:29,630

So the position of
the Judenrat members

310

00:16:29,630 --> 00:16:33,920
was very difficult,
very responsible.

311
00:16:33,920 --> 00:16:38,990
And least to say
not appreciated.

312
00:16:38,990 --> 00:16:40,850
What can you do?

313
00:16:40,850 --> 00:16:43,460
Do you remember your
father talking about--

314
00:16:43,460 --> 00:16:46,880
My father just hoped that
he wouldn't be there.

315
00:16:46,880 --> 00:16:53,680

316
00:16:53,680 --> 00:16:56,100
And early on when the
Germans came in to

317
00:16:56,100 --> 00:16:59,630
gave an order that the Jews
were to leave their homes--

318
00:16:59,630 --> 00:17:01,680
Yes, to stay until next order.

319
00:17:01,680 --> 00:17:03,490
The order was a knock.

320
00:17:03,490 --> 00:17:04,650
I see.

321
00:17:04,650 --> 00:17:09,300
Not a gentle knock,
let me correct this.

322

00:17:09,300 --> 00:17:11,490
What other orders came about?

323

00:17:11,490 --> 00:17:19,290
He had to supply tailors to
do, I don't know, uniforms.

324

00:17:19,290 --> 00:17:25,109
And they wanted
cigars or cigarettes.

325

00:17:25,109 --> 00:17:28,860
I don't think our town
even had that supply.

326

00:17:28,860 --> 00:17:34,725
You had to perform a miracle
to meet their demand.

327

00:17:34,725 --> 00:17:38,420

328

00:17:38,420 --> 00:17:38,945
All kinds.

329

00:17:38,945 --> 00:17:42,220

330

00:17:42,220 --> 00:17:46,420
The most common
was shoes, boots.

331

00:17:46,420 --> 00:17:49,120

332

00:17:49,120 --> 00:17:49,620
tailors.

333

00:17:49,620 --> 00:17:53,620

334

00:17:53,620 --> 00:18:01,700
Cigarettes sometimes they did
not ask the Judenrat to supply.

335
00:18:01,700 --> 00:18:03,980
They help themselves.

336
00:18:03,980 --> 00:18:07,270
What about money
or gold or jewelry?

337
00:18:07,270 --> 00:18:10,673
They took this away at
the first meeting we had.

338
00:18:10,673 --> 00:18:12,340
Everyone brings it
and just turns it in?

339
00:18:12,340 --> 00:18:13,060
Not bringing.

340
00:18:13,060 --> 00:18:18,820
They stripped off your
finger if you had.

341
00:18:18,820 --> 00:18:20,500
They didn't send
you home to dig out

342
00:18:20,500 --> 00:18:23,230
what you put away because
you didn't have a chance even

343
00:18:23,230 --> 00:18:24,530
to do that.

344
00:18:24,530 --> 00:18:28,240
But if you had a watch, a
ring, a chain on your neck

345
00:18:28,240 --> 00:18:33,730
or earrings they didn't ask

for it, they pulled it off.

346
00:18:33,730 --> 00:18:36,300

347
00:18:36,300 --> 00:18:37,770
What about food at that time?

348
00:18:37,770 --> 00:18:41,910

349
00:18:41,910 --> 00:18:45,390
We still had enough to eat.

350
00:18:45,390 --> 00:18:48,810
You could still go out and shop?

351
00:18:48,810 --> 00:18:50,550
At certain hours.

352
00:18:50,550 --> 00:18:52,680
You had to have
the hour went on.

353
00:18:52,680 --> 00:18:53,658
Yes, you could.

354
00:18:53,658 --> 00:18:55,200
What were those
hours, do you recall?

355
00:18:55,200 --> 00:18:57,750

356
00:18:57,750 --> 00:19:01,480
From 8:00 to 4:00.

357
00:19:01,480 --> 00:19:04,500
And I remember one
time, and this probably

358

00:19:04,500 --> 00:19:07,920
was the last few days,
it was just half a day,

359
00:19:07,920 --> 00:19:12,030
like 8:00 to 12:00
and then stay in.

360
00:19:12,030 --> 00:19:15,300
If it was quiet, we worried.

361
00:19:15,300 --> 00:19:17,790
If it was noisy, we worried.

362
00:19:17,790 --> 00:19:19,860
I mean, you could
go to the window

363
00:19:19,860 --> 00:19:22,110
and just peek see
if they're walking.

364
00:19:22,110 --> 00:19:25,020
You could hear the
soldiers walking, talking.

365
00:19:25,020 --> 00:19:26,520
And there were
some days that were

366
00:19:26,520 --> 00:19:31,110
so quiet that we knew something
bad is going to happen.

367
00:19:31,110 --> 00:19:34,320
You learn to sense.

368
00:19:34,320 --> 00:19:36,720
Or maybe it was
easier to believe

369
00:19:36,720 --> 00:19:39,750
that something bad is going

to happen than to hope

370
00:19:39,750 --> 00:19:42,870
for something better.

371
00:19:42,870 --> 00:19:44,710
Did you speak German?

372
00:19:44,710 --> 00:19:46,640
Yes, I had German at school.

373
00:19:46,640 --> 00:19:49,190
So you were able to
communicate with the guards.

374
00:19:49,190 --> 00:19:51,840

375
00:19:51,840 --> 00:19:53,580
They spoke Polish too.

376
00:19:53,580 --> 00:19:57,900
As I said, they were
spies, some of them.

377
00:19:57,900 --> 00:20:02,460
Before we started recording you
had talked about the cemetery

378
00:20:02,460 --> 00:20:05,490
and when they uplifted
the headstones.

379
00:20:05,490 --> 00:20:07,560
Would you mind telling
me about that again?

380
00:20:07,560 --> 00:20:10,320

381
00:20:10,320 --> 00:20:16,740
The Germans ordered all the

headstones from the cemetery

382

00:20:16,740 --> 00:20:23,008
to remove and to pave
the streets of our town.

383

00:20:23,008 --> 00:20:25,050
Were they just dirt streets
before, some of them?

384

00:20:25,050 --> 00:20:27,760
No, some of them had
sidewalks but they were maybe

385

00:20:27,760 --> 00:20:33,020
in bad condition or some
of them had nothing,

386

00:20:33,020 --> 00:20:37,170
and these were the sidewalks.

387

00:20:37,170 --> 00:20:44,610
And after the war when my son
and I took the trip to Poland

388

00:20:44,610 --> 00:20:48,740
this was the only familiar place
was the Jewish cemetery, which

389

00:20:48,740 --> 00:20:50,840
was there without headstones.

390

00:20:50,840 --> 00:20:53,450
But in the center
of the cemetery

391

00:20:53,450 --> 00:20:59,360
was a monument put
together all the headstones

392

00:20:59,360 --> 00:21:05,630
were again removed from the
sidewalks and pushed together.

393
00:21:05,630 --> 00:21:10,220
Not a patch, but they
were standing together.

394
00:21:10,220 --> 00:21:15,260
But the inscriptions and the
names are completely erased.

395
00:21:15,260 --> 00:21:17,690
Just by virtue of
weather and age.

396
00:21:17,690 --> 00:21:19,300
Yes, walking on it.

397
00:21:19,300 --> 00:21:22,800

398
00:21:22,800 --> 00:21:25,675
Were you ordered to
help remove headstones?

399
00:21:25,675 --> 00:21:28,470
Men, not women.

400
00:21:28,470 --> 00:21:30,390
Yes, men in some Poles.

401
00:21:30,390 --> 00:21:35,040
Not Jews, Poles were
made to work too.

402
00:21:35,040 --> 00:21:37,890
This was before the ghetto was
established they had done this.

403
00:21:37,890 --> 00:21:40,920

404
00:21:40,920 --> 00:21:45,810
Do you remember seeing the

headstones in the town serving

405

00:21:45,810 --> 00:21:48,050

as sidewalks?

406

00:21:48,050 --> 00:21:49,732

Yeah, when I went back.

407

00:21:49,732 --> 00:21:53,730

408

00:21:53,730 --> 00:21:54,930

OK.

409

00:21:54,930 --> 00:21:56,780

Thank you.

410

00:21:56,780 --> 00:22:00,000