

1
00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:08,420

2
00:00:08,420 --> 00:00:12,530
We're speaking with Mrs.
Polak about her parents.

3
00:00:12,530 --> 00:00:14,360
Let's start with your
father, could you

4
00:00:14,360 --> 00:00:17,780
tell me your father's full name
and his date of birth and where

5
00:00:17,780 --> 00:00:21,110
he was born and anything you
might know about his family?

6
00:00:21,110 --> 00:00:26,150
My father's name was
Abraham Soep, S-O-E-P,

7
00:00:26,150 --> 00:00:27,710
which is the Dutch
word for soup,

8
00:00:27,710 --> 00:00:30,200
which was not a nice name
to go off with as a child,

9
00:00:30,200 --> 00:00:34,010
as you can imagine,
was teased a lot.

10
00:00:34,010 --> 00:00:48,960
He was born on April 17, 1892.

11
00:00:48,960 --> 00:00:50,510
Do you know about his childhood?

12

00:00:50,510 --> 00:00:52,790

I don't know too much
about his childhood.

13

00:00:52,790 --> 00:00:57,230

I know that his mother was very
young when she got married.

14

00:00:57,230 --> 00:01:00,680

Polak His father
started a diamond

15

00:01:00,680 --> 00:01:02,780

factory which was
built, I guess,

16

00:01:02,780 --> 00:01:04,280

with money of his father.

17

00:01:04,280 --> 00:01:08,990

Before that, as far as I
know they were cigar makers.

18

00:01:08,990 --> 00:01:13,340

They were out of a poor
Ashkenazi background.

19

00:01:13,340 --> 00:01:16,010

But the diamond
factory was a success

20

00:01:16,010 --> 00:01:18,410

and they became
well-to-do later.

21

00:01:18,410 --> 00:01:20,300

My grandmother I
remember very well.

22

00:01:20,300 --> 00:01:26,030

She was a very wise person
but very uneducated.

23

00:01:26,030 --> 00:01:29,120

She had an inner
wisdom about her

24

00:01:29,120 --> 00:01:32,420

but she didn't know
much about anything.

25

00:01:32,420 --> 00:01:34,645

My grandfather died
when I was four,

26

00:01:34,645 --> 00:01:36,020

so I don't remember
him too well.

27

00:01:36,020 --> 00:01:39,230

I think he was quite a
bit more intelligent.

28

00:01:39,230 --> 00:01:40,580

My father was the oldest.

29

00:01:40,580 --> 00:01:44,050

He was born 10 years after
his parents were married.

30

00:01:44,050 --> 00:01:45,740

They couldn't have children.

31

00:01:45,740 --> 00:01:48,605

They adopted or took in a niece.

32

00:01:48,605 --> 00:01:52,940

A sister of my grandfather's
had one child after another

33

00:01:52,940 --> 00:01:54,680

and didn't know how
to take care of them,

34

00:01:54,680 --> 00:01:58,040

so they took one

of those children

35

00:01:58,040 --> 00:02:00,500

as a child who I
consider my aunt.

36

00:02:00,500 --> 00:02:03,800

And my father, who was born
after 10 years of marriage,

37

00:02:03,800 --> 00:02:07,220

after the adoption,
considered his sister.

38

00:02:07,220 --> 00:02:08,660

She was quite a bit older.

39

00:02:08,660 --> 00:02:11,240

Then they had four
other children

40

00:02:11,240 --> 00:02:15,390

who all died before age
one for different reasons.

41

00:02:15,390 --> 00:02:19,070

One had diphtheria, another one
was dropped by somebody else,

42

00:02:19,070 --> 00:02:22,190

and horrible stories
that never really

43

00:02:22,190 --> 00:02:24,830

was talked about because in
those days a lot of people

44

00:02:24,830 --> 00:02:26,360

lost a lot of children.

45

00:02:26,360 --> 00:02:28,520

And then my uncle
was born was 10 years

46
00:02:28,520 --> 00:02:29,820
younger than my father.

47
00:02:29,820 --> 00:02:35,368
His name was Hans, Hans Soep,
and he was a very sickly child

48
00:02:35,368 --> 00:02:37,910
and they thought they were going
to lose him but they didn't.

49
00:02:37,910 --> 00:02:41,840
Where my father was this
tall, broad, heavy person,

50
00:02:41,840 --> 00:02:43,740
my uncle was the opposite.

51
00:02:43,740 --> 00:02:48,320
He was small and very small
boned and a small build.

52
00:02:48,320 --> 00:02:49,730
And they got along well.

53
00:02:49,730 --> 00:02:51,890
My uncle looked up
to my father a lot

54
00:02:51,890 --> 00:02:54,260
and he was always a
little bit in his shadow.

55
00:02:54,260 --> 00:02:55,940
He went into business.

56
00:02:55,940 --> 00:03:00,095
After schooling he went
into business with my father

57
00:03:00,095 --> 00:03:02,840

as a partner or junior partner.

58

00:03:02,840 --> 00:03:06,800

My father had three years of high school, which at that time

59

00:03:06,800 --> 00:03:07,820

was already quite a bit.

60

00:03:07,820 --> 00:03:11,720

It was an official three-year course high school.

61

00:03:11,720 --> 00:03:14,240

62

00:03:14,240 --> 00:03:19,310

And after he finished, he went into business with his father.

63

00:03:19,310 --> 00:03:25,610

His father died at age 64, and his mother

64

00:03:25,610 --> 00:03:34,250

died during the beginning of the war in 1942, I think.

65

00:03:34,250 --> 00:03:36,200

What else do you want to know about them?

66

00:03:36,200 --> 00:03:38,120

I think we have most of the story.

67

00:03:38,120 --> 00:03:39,260

The basic bit.

68

00:03:39,260 --> 00:03:40,430

Yeah, my father.

69

00:03:40,430 --> 00:03:44,610
My mother was a family
of six children.

70
00:03:44,610 --> 00:03:49,805
She was born on
December 8, 1895.

71
00:03:49,805 --> 00:03:51,360
Would you state her name?

72
00:03:51,360 --> 00:03:56,180
Her name is Toni Frederica
Kaufman was her maiden name.

73
00:03:56,180 --> 00:03:58,760
Everybody called her Toni.

74
00:03:58,760 --> 00:04:00,870
She came from a
very liberal family.

75
00:04:00,870 --> 00:04:02,750
My father came from
an orthodox family.

76
00:04:02,750 --> 00:04:06,230
But when she married
my father, she

77
00:04:06,230 --> 00:04:08,450
became a dutiful
kosher housewife

78
00:04:08,450 --> 00:04:11,750
and later on took an
interest in Hebrew.

79
00:04:11,750 --> 00:04:16,070
She took Hebrew lessons
as a conversation, lessons

80
00:04:16,070 --> 00:04:18,620

to learn the language.

81
00:04:18,620 --> 00:04:21,890
Her parents were German but
they had moved to Holland

82
00:04:21,890 --> 00:04:23,540
in the 1880s.

83
00:04:23,540 --> 00:04:29,960
And the six children were all
born in Holland, the oldest

84
00:04:29,960 --> 00:04:32,450
one I think in '87,
and it was a span

85
00:04:32,450 --> 00:04:35,840
of 20 years between the
oldest and the youngest.

86
00:04:35,840 --> 00:04:37,580
And one of my aunts
is still alive

87
00:04:37,580 --> 00:04:39,650
and lives in Israel,
the youngest one who

88
00:04:39,650 --> 00:04:42,377
is going to be 85 in May.

89
00:04:42,377 --> 00:04:44,960
And we're all going to Israel,
all the nieces and nephews that

90
00:04:44,960 --> 00:04:46,252
are still there, for a reunion.

91
00:04:46,252 --> 00:04:50,030

92

00:04:50,030 --> 00:04:51,510
She was a dutiful housewife.

93
00:04:51,510 --> 00:04:52,880
It was a very good marriage.

94
00:04:52,880 --> 00:04:57,260
But my father was a
very dominant person.

95
00:04:57,260 --> 00:04:59,990
Not of many words
but his whole being

96
00:04:59,990 --> 00:05:02,330
was a little authoritarian.

97
00:05:02,330 --> 00:05:04,640
But my mother was
perfectly happy in her role

98
00:05:04,640 --> 00:05:08,810
and not until after he
died, which was in 1953,

99
00:05:08,810 --> 00:05:12,800
and she lived till 1980, not
a few years after he died

100
00:05:12,800 --> 00:05:17,270
did she become her
own person and showed

101
00:05:17,270 --> 00:05:22,160
a lot more personality and
initiative and everything

102
00:05:22,160 --> 00:05:23,760
than I had ever seen before.

103
00:05:23,760 --> 00:05:25,970
And we were on very
good terms always.

104
00:05:25,970 --> 00:05:27,890
We were good friends.

105
00:05:27,890 --> 00:05:30,310
How was she as a mother
when you were growing up?

106
00:05:30,310 --> 00:05:31,970
Well, when we were
growing up she

107
00:05:31,970 --> 00:05:36,890
was like a mother should
be, very nurturing.

108
00:05:36,890 --> 00:05:40,760
But we lived in a fairly big
house and we had two maids,

109
00:05:40,760 --> 00:05:43,463
and one of them was
more or less what

110
00:05:43,463 --> 00:05:44,630
they call a kinder fraulein.

111
00:05:44,630 --> 00:05:47,148
They all came from Germany.

112
00:05:47,148 --> 00:05:48,440
They took care of the children.

113
00:05:48,440 --> 00:05:50,857
And there was a cleaning woman
and there was a seamstress,

114
00:05:50,857 --> 00:05:54,020
so there was a lot of other
people to take care of us.

115
00:05:54,020 --> 00:05:55,610

My father traveled a lot.

116
00:05:55,610 --> 00:05:57,080
He was in the diamond business.

117
00:05:57,080 --> 00:05:59,240
He went every other
week to Belgium

118
00:05:59,240 --> 00:06:03,233
to sell and once a month to
England, to London, to buy.

119
00:06:03,233 --> 00:06:04,650
And he was on a
lot of committees,

120
00:06:04,650 --> 00:06:09,890
so my mother was
often alone with us.

121
00:06:09,890 --> 00:06:12,200
But she was kind of a--

122
00:06:12,200 --> 00:06:14,750
She doesn't stand out
in my mind as a child.

123
00:06:14,750 --> 00:06:18,740
I used to say as a child
I'm not being brought up I'm

124
00:06:18,740 --> 00:06:21,030
just growing up by myself.

125
00:06:21,030 --> 00:06:25,580
So I felt kind of independent,
I guess, from young years on,

126
00:06:25,580 --> 00:06:29,150
not realizing that I probably
wasn't but it seemed that way.

127
00:06:29,150 --> 00:06:30,200
But she was very sweet.

128
00:06:30,200 --> 00:06:31,430
Everybody loved her.

129
00:06:31,430 --> 00:06:32,420
She was a real lady.

130
00:06:32,420 --> 00:06:33,620
She looked like a lady.

131
00:06:33,620 --> 00:06:36,430

132
00:06:36,430 --> 00:06:37,570
And she was cultured.

133
00:06:37,570 --> 00:06:41,110
She came from a cultural
background like my father.

134
00:06:41,110 --> 00:06:43,030
She was fond of music.

135
00:06:43,030 --> 00:06:44,680
She played piano quite nicely.

136
00:06:44,680 --> 00:06:47,200
She spoke beautifully in French.

137
00:06:47,200 --> 00:06:49,630
My father took an
interest later in music

138
00:06:49,630 --> 00:06:51,510
and became very
musically inclined.

139
00:06:51,510 --> 00:06:53,240
I think he played

the violin when

140
00:06:53,240 --> 00:06:56,050
he was a young boy so there
must have been something

141
00:06:56,050 --> 00:06:58,150
there already.

142
00:06:58,150 --> 00:07:00,850
They traveled quite
a bit without us,

143
00:07:00,850 --> 00:07:04,840
which we resented at the
time we were children.

144
00:07:04,840 --> 00:07:06,460
When we used to
complain, my mother

145
00:07:06,460 --> 00:07:08,290
used to say in a
German expression which

146
00:07:08,290 --> 00:07:10,157
her mother used to say
to her, you'll just

147
00:07:10,157 --> 00:07:11,365
travel with your own husband.

148
00:07:11,365 --> 00:07:15,580

149
00:07:15,580 --> 00:07:20,470
That's about all I can say about
my mother from the early years.

150
00:07:20,470 --> 00:07:23,080

151

00:07:23,080 --> 00:07:27,070
Yeah, and then about my sister,
well she she's still alive.

152
00:07:27,070 --> 00:07:29,000
She was there with us.

153
00:07:29,000 --> 00:07:32,100
Well, in that case, I have
to talk to her directly.

154
00:07:32,100 --> 00:07:37,030
Yes, she has lots of problems.

155
00:07:37,030 --> 00:07:38,710
I don't think they
relate to the war.

156
00:07:38,710 --> 00:07:41,510
She's been a problem
their whole life.

157
00:07:41,510 --> 00:07:43,720
She doesn't have a very
happy, pleasant life.

158
00:07:43,720 --> 00:07:46,190
She lives in Los Angeles.

159
00:07:46,190 --> 00:07:49,330
She is a very strong,
determined person

160
00:07:49,330 --> 00:07:51,070
but with lots of problems.

161
00:07:51,070 --> 00:07:54,123

162
00:07:54,123 --> 00:07:56,040
Can we go on and talk
about these two friends?

163

00:07:56,040 --> 00:07:58,240

Yes, let's talk about
these two friends.

164

00:07:58,240 --> 00:08:05,380

One of them is Rudy Acohen,
A-C-O-H-E-N and who was really

165

00:08:05,380 --> 00:08:06,100

my boyfriend.

166

00:08:06,100 --> 00:08:08,560

I met him when he
was 13 and I was 12.

167

00:08:08,560 --> 00:08:12,380

We lived next to each other
during the summer at summer

168

00:08:12,380 --> 00:08:14,865

resort our parents
had rented homes.

169

00:08:14,865 --> 00:08:16,240

What was the name
of that resort?

170

00:08:16,240 --> 00:08:17,610

Zandvort.

171

00:08:17,610 --> 00:08:22,930

Z-A-N-D-V-O-R-T. And it was
very close to Amsterdam.

172

00:08:22,930 --> 00:08:27,547

My father commuted every
day for business by car

173

00:08:27,547 --> 00:08:29,380

because the chauffeur
came and picked him up

174

00:08:29,380 --> 00:08:30,370
and brought him down.

175
00:08:30,370 --> 00:08:31,930
That's what was
done in those days.

176
00:08:31,930 --> 00:08:34,510

177
00:08:34,510 --> 00:08:38,260
He also went to Montessori
school but a different one

178
00:08:38,260 --> 00:08:39,590
than mine.

179
00:08:39,590 --> 00:08:45,910
And I remember hearing
his name when in June '35

180
00:08:45,910 --> 00:08:49,270
we went to visit our Montessori
high school for the first time

181
00:08:49,270 --> 00:08:52,220
just for orientation and
everybody's name was mentioned,

182
00:08:52,220 --> 00:08:54,790
I thought what a strange
name this boy has.

183
00:08:54,790 --> 00:08:57,610
And then we went a few
weeks later to Zandvort,

184
00:08:57,610 --> 00:09:00,040
and who lived next door
the boy was a strange name.

185
00:09:00,040 --> 00:09:04,105
And we were very crazy about

each other even at that young,

186
00:09:04,105 --> 00:09:05,230
you know like children are.

187
00:09:05,230 --> 00:09:06,440
We played together.

188
00:09:06,440 --> 00:09:09,700
We played ball, we went to
the dunes, we went swimming.

189
00:09:09,700 --> 00:09:11,950
And then he was in my
class for several years

190
00:09:11,950 --> 00:09:13,930
and then he was transferred
to another school.

191
00:09:13,930 --> 00:09:15,360
He wasn't a terribly
good student

192
00:09:15,360 --> 00:09:17,890
and couldn't stay in our school.

193
00:09:17,890 --> 00:09:20,590
But I stayed very
friendly with him

194
00:09:20,590 --> 00:09:25,570
actually till he was arrested
also in a raid, again

195
00:09:25,570 --> 00:09:29,020
a reprisal raid
in July '42, just

196
00:09:29,020 --> 00:09:32,170
before the deportation started.

197

00:09:32,170 --> 00:09:34,840
Also a German soldier
had been killed

198
00:09:34,840 --> 00:09:37,090
and they emptied that whole
street of all the Jews,

199
00:09:37,090 --> 00:09:40,540
one very long, very
nice residential street.

200
00:09:40,540 --> 00:09:43,840
Went in every home who were
Jewish and arrested them.

201
00:09:43,840 --> 00:09:45,670
Do you know what
year Rudy was born?

202
00:09:45,670 --> 00:09:47,650
Yes.

203
00:09:47,650 --> 00:09:54,190
His birthday was June 4th
and he was born in 1922.

204
00:09:54,190 --> 00:09:59,340
And did he have other
interests, any musical interest?

205
00:09:59,340 --> 00:10:04,390
We also play tennis and
he played the violin.

206
00:10:04,390 --> 00:10:06,250
He had violin lessons.

207
00:10:06,250 --> 00:10:09,615
He liked popular music
records and stuff like that.

208
00:10:09,615 --> 00:10:12,610

Do you remember
songs in particular?

209

00:10:12,610 --> 00:10:18,880

Well, we listened a lot to
French songs like [INAUDIBLE]..

210

00:10:18,880 --> 00:10:22,360

You probably don't
even know that name.

211

00:10:22,360 --> 00:10:23,860

He was very popular then.

212

00:10:23,860 --> 00:10:30,730

And also Austrian songs
like Marthe Keller I think

213

00:10:30,730 --> 00:10:32,350

was her name.

214

00:10:32,350 --> 00:10:35,440

No, that was not her name.

215

00:10:35,440 --> 00:10:36,790

We listened to American songs.

216

00:10:36,790 --> 00:10:39,460

Frank Sinatra was big.

217

00:10:39,460 --> 00:10:41,770

We played we played a
lot of classical records.

218

00:10:41,770 --> 00:10:43,240

We had an old fashioned--

219

00:10:43,240 --> 00:10:45,190

For his bar mitzvah
he got a record player

220

00:10:45,190 --> 00:10:50,080

that you turn the
handle to play,

221
00:10:50,080 --> 00:10:53,830
and we play a lot
of classical music.

222
00:10:53,830 --> 00:10:54,567
What else?

223
00:10:54,567 --> 00:10:55,150
I don't /know.

224
00:10:55,150 --> 00:10:56,380
What did young people do?

225
00:10:56,380 --> 00:10:59,870
We went on bike trips
and stuff like that.

226
00:10:59,870 --> 00:11:02,890
And he was caught in
one of those raids

227
00:11:02,890 --> 00:11:04,120
and that was the end of him.

228
00:11:04,120 --> 00:11:05,830
The day after he
was arrested they

229
00:11:05,830 --> 00:11:09,700
were sent on to
Auschwitz or wherever,

230
00:11:09,700 --> 00:11:11,777
I never heard, with his
parents and his brother.

231
00:11:11,777 --> 00:11:12,610
[INTERPOSING VOICES]

232

00:11:12,610 --> 00:11:16,060
Yes, they came to his home.

233
00:11:16,060 --> 00:11:20,020
And I even went in a day
or two after because I

234
00:11:20,020 --> 00:11:23,420
worked with the Jewish council
in that department of it

235
00:11:23,420 --> 00:11:28,280
was called Aid to
Departing People.

236
00:11:28,280 --> 00:11:31,780
And I was able to send
some stuff to Westerbork

237
00:11:31,780 --> 00:11:32,950
because most people stayed.

238
00:11:32,950 --> 00:11:36,340
But later on I heard that
they were in and there.

239
00:11:36,340 --> 00:11:38,120
Packed some clothes
for all of them.

240
00:11:38,120 --> 00:11:41,380

241
00:11:41,380 --> 00:11:43,330
And of course he
never came back.

242
00:11:43,330 --> 00:11:45,035
And I didn't know
that at the time.

243
00:11:45,035 --> 00:11:47,410
During all those years I always

thought he might be back.

244
00:11:47,410 --> 00:11:49,410
He was young and everything.

245
00:11:49,410 --> 00:11:51,420
Of course I realized
that he probably didn't

246
00:11:51,420 --> 00:11:54,300
live three days afterwards.

247
00:11:54,300 --> 00:11:56,220
What month was that again?

248
00:11:56,220 --> 00:12:00,660
It was June 1942.

249
00:12:00,660 --> 00:12:02,780
And it was just
after his birthday.

250
00:12:02,780 --> 00:12:04,050
It was on a Sunday.

251
00:12:04,050 --> 00:12:06,540
And I'm trying to look back.

252
00:12:06,540 --> 00:12:11,880
His birthday was
on June 4, 1942,

253
00:12:11,880 --> 00:12:13,980
and whatever the
Sunday was after that.

254
00:12:13,980 --> 00:12:18,310
I think it was June
9th was that date.

255
00:12:18,310 --> 00:12:19,837
He had just turned 20.

256
00:12:19,837 --> 00:12:24,900

257
00:12:24,900 --> 00:12:28,930
And he had a younger brother who
was very, very bright and very,

258
00:12:28,930 --> 00:12:29,850
very musical.

259
00:12:29,850 --> 00:12:32,700
He was three or four
years younger than he,

260
00:12:32,700 --> 00:12:37,020
and of course he went with
his parents, everybody.

261
00:12:37,020 --> 00:12:42,630
And then after that I had some
sort of a boyfriend who lived--

262
00:12:42,630 --> 00:12:45,540
His name was Hans Rudelshein.

263
00:12:45,540 --> 00:12:48,930

264
00:12:48,930 --> 00:12:58,370
And he was born in Kampen which
was near Zwollen in Overijssel

265
00:12:58,370 --> 00:13:00,380
I don't know any specifics.

266
00:13:00,380 --> 00:13:01,950
But he was very interesting.

267
00:13:01,950 --> 00:13:03,380
He went into hiding.

268

00:13:03,380 --> 00:13:04,730

He came out a lot.

269

00:13:04,730 --> 00:13:07,710

His father was a tailor and
he was a good tailor too.

270

00:13:07,710 --> 00:13:12,650

As a matter of fact, he
remodeled some sports clothes

271

00:13:12,650 --> 00:13:16,880

of my father for my sister and
me into skirts and little tops.

272

00:13:16,880 --> 00:13:20,090

And he was also
very gifted pianist.

273

00:13:20,090 --> 00:13:25,190

And he took some piano lessons
from a blind Jewish Hungarian

274

00:13:25,190 --> 00:13:28,700

pianist who lived in Holland,
was also caught in Holland.

275

00:13:28,700 --> 00:13:30,080

And we used to practice.

276

00:13:30,080 --> 00:13:31,940

When he couldn't play
concerts anymore he

277

00:13:31,940 --> 00:13:34,430

would give a house
concerts, that pianist,

278

00:13:34,430 --> 00:13:36,440

and he practiced at
my parents' house.

279

00:13:36,440 --> 00:13:38,120
We had a grand piano.

280
00:13:38,120 --> 00:13:40,310
And he got to know
this friend of mine

281
00:13:40,310 --> 00:13:43,940
and he gave him lessons.

282
00:13:43,940 --> 00:13:46,460
Do you know what year this was?

283
00:13:46,460 --> 00:13:49,490
I think probably also in 1922.

284
00:13:49,490 --> 00:13:50,520
May have been '21.

285
00:13:50,520 --> 00:13:52,310
He may be a year older.

286
00:13:52,310 --> 00:13:54,680
And he had to leave
Kampen for Amsterdam

287
00:13:54,680 --> 00:13:57,450
like all the people from the
provinces were sent to Holland.

288
00:13:57,450 --> 00:14:01,100
And then he looked very Jewish
and then dyed his hair blonde

289
00:14:01,100 --> 00:14:04,040
and went into hiding and did
all kinds of reckless things--

290
00:14:04,040 --> 00:14:06,050
traveled and went everywhere.

291
00:14:06,050 --> 00:14:07,425

And of course they
were betrayed.

292
00:14:07,425 --> 00:14:11,290
Do you know when that was?

293
00:14:11,290 --> 00:14:13,000
I don't know exactly
when that was.

294
00:14:13,000 --> 00:14:16,810
We were still in our
house, and we left there--

295
00:14:16,810 --> 00:14:24,130

296
00:14:24,130 --> 00:14:32,350
May '43, so it must have been
maybe in February, March '43.

297
00:14:32,350 --> 00:14:35,200
And I don't know
what happened to him.

298
00:14:35,200 --> 00:14:40,300
He was sent away and nothing.

299
00:14:40,300 --> 00:14:45,700
And then this other picture here
is of a young man named Gideon.

300
00:14:45,700 --> 00:14:47,170
In Dutch it's called Jideon.

301
00:14:47,170 --> 00:14:49,090
And we called him
Ji [PERSONAL NAME]..

302
00:14:49,090 --> 00:14:53,710
He was from a very prominent
Dutch Gentile family.

303

00:14:53,710 --> 00:14:57,400

They were originally Huguenots,
therefore did the French name.

304

00:14:57,400 --> 00:15:01,450

305

00:15:01,450 --> 00:15:02,690

We were very good friends.

306

00:15:02,690 --> 00:15:03,910

We were in the same grade.

307

00:15:03,910 --> 00:15:06,405

He was a very good friend
of my boyfriend Rudy.

308

00:15:06,405 --> 00:15:09,310

309

00:15:09,310 --> 00:15:13,540

In the very beginning I hear
of the Dutch National Socialist

310

00:15:13,540 --> 00:15:14,230

movement.

311

00:15:14,230 --> 00:15:17,500

In the early 30s a
lot of people became

312

00:15:17,500 --> 00:15:24,370

members of this Nazi group,
even Jews, because they thought

313

00:15:24,370 --> 00:15:26,560

it was a good system
and very orderly

314

00:15:26,560 --> 00:15:29,110

and everything before we
knew all this stuff was

315
00:15:29,110 --> 00:15:29,960
going to happen.

316
00:15:29,960 --> 00:15:33,460
But this family
eventually of course

317
00:15:33,460 --> 00:15:36,370
totally abandoned this and
they were very, very good,

318
00:15:36,370 --> 00:15:38,170
had many Jewish friends.

319
00:15:38,170 --> 00:15:42,370
He went in the resistance
was two of his brothers.

320
00:15:42,370 --> 00:15:45,610
He and his older brother
were caught and killed.

321
00:15:45,610 --> 00:15:49,720
His parents were in the
resistance and hid Jews.

322
00:15:49,720 --> 00:15:53,230
His father was
sent away and died

323
00:15:53,230 --> 00:15:58,420
in I think it was Buchenwald
or Dacha, one of the two.

324
00:15:58,420 --> 00:16:02,530
His mother was in Ravensbruck,
survived, came back wreck

325
00:16:02,530 --> 00:16:05,830
and lived for quite a
few years as a wreck

326

00:16:05,830 --> 00:16:09,820

and never really got
over all this horrible--

327

00:16:09,820 --> 00:16:11,260

What can you tell--

328

00:16:11,260 --> 00:16:14,290

Either about Ji, Hans or both?

329

00:16:14,290 --> 00:16:15,933

And Rudy, what were they like?

330

00:16:15,933 --> 00:16:17,350

What was their
personalities like?

331

00:16:17,350 --> 00:16:22,060

Well, when you grow up
together as children

332

00:16:22,060 --> 00:16:27,760

you don't delve that much in
the personalities or whatever.

333

00:16:27,760 --> 00:16:30,340

He was just also
not a great student

334

00:16:30,340 --> 00:16:33,590

but a very sweet guy and fun.

335

00:16:33,590 --> 00:16:34,820

We had a lot of fun together.

336

00:16:34,820 --> 00:16:35,800

We were young.

337

00:16:35,800 --> 00:16:36,640

We had parties.

338

00:16:36,640 --> 00:16:37,930
We organized our own parties.

339
00:16:37,930 --> 00:16:40,930
We decided were we going
formal to this party

340
00:16:40,930 --> 00:16:43,390
or should we go another way.

341
00:16:43,390 --> 00:16:46,330
And we everybody brought
their best records

342
00:16:46,330 --> 00:16:47,740
and we played and we danced.

343
00:16:47,740 --> 00:16:51,640
And we had very
happy teenage years.

344
00:16:51,640 --> 00:16:53,590
It was mostly for fun.

345
00:16:53,590 --> 00:16:56,290
Although I do remember, though,
once we were in high school

346
00:16:56,290 --> 00:16:58,960
that we had very
deep conversation

347
00:16:58,960 --> 00:17:04,690
subjects about the incarnation
or vivisection experiments

348
00:17:04,690 --> 00:17:11,650
on animals, who was for or was
against, like teenagers who

349
00:17:11,650 --> 00:17:15,490
go to a decent school and do.

350

00:17:15,490 --> 00:17:19,339

But it was mostly just
friends together all the time.

351

00:17:19,339 --> 00:17:23,030

I spent really my all my years
in high school with my friends

352

00:17:23,030 --> 00:17:24,760

rather than with my family.

353

00:17:24,760 --> 00:17:26,560

We did our homework,
but that had

354

00:17:26,560 --> 00:17:29,080

to be done quick as
we could and then we

355

00:17:29,080 --> 00:17:32,920

would get together and play
records and talk and have fun.

356

00:17:32,920 --> 00:17:34,670

And there were, of
course, girls involved.

357

00:17:34,670 --> 00:17:35,890

He had a girlfriend too.

358

00:17:35,890 --> 00:17:37,810

So--

359

00:17:37,810 --> 00:17:41,740

Hans, how did you
get in you circle?

360

00:17:41,740 --> 00:17:43,420

Hans really didn't
move to Amsterdam

361

00:17:43,420 --> 00:17:45,250

until the war was already on.

362

00:17:45,250 --> 00:17:50,080

And his uncle was a
physician in Amsterdam

363

00:17:50,080 --> 00:17:52,240

and they were the best
friend of Rudy's parents.

364

00:17:52,240 --> 00:17:54,310

So I know him
really through Rudy.

365

00:17:54,310 --> 00:17:57,940

And then he was deported.

366

00:17:57,940 --> 00:18:00,370

He went after me because he
liked me from the beginning

367

00:18:00,370 --> 00:18:01,840

but then--

368

00:18:01,840 --> 00:18:07,990

So somehow that's how
all these people fit in.

369

00:18:07,990 --> 00:18:09,670

I mean, these are
just three of them,

370

00:18:09,670 --> 00:18:11,350

I showed you a little
tennis picture.

371

00:18:11,350 --> 00:18:16,270

There were several more that
we were always together with.

372

00:18:16,270 --> 00:18:17,720

That was already after school.

373

00:18:17,720 --> 00:18:20,080

These were already
after-school friends.

374

00:18:20,080 --> 00:18:22,630

What was Rudy like?

375

00:18:22,630 --> 00:18:29,770

Rudy was a very nice,
down-to-Earth, very simple kind

376

00:18:29,770 --> 00:18:31,630

of a guy, I think.

377

00:18:31,630 --> 00:18:32,440

You don't know.

378

00:18:32,440 --> 00:18:36,910

I always sometimes wonder what
would Rudy have been or become?

379

00:18:36,910 --> 00:18:41,890

He was, as I say, he didn't have
a very good head for learning.

380

00:18:41,890 --> 00:18:43,880

But his father
was a stockbroker,

381

00:18:43,880 --> 00:18:46,270

and I think he could
have become that too.

382

00:18:46,270 --> 00:18:49,840

He was interested in
business and everything.

383

00:18:49,840 --> 00:18:54,970

But there wasn't much
time for development yet.

384

00:18:54,970 --> 00:18:58,090

We were both 16 when the war
broke out in Europe and 17

385
00:18:58,090 --> 00:18:59,290
when Holland was invaded.

386
00:18:59,290 --> 00:19:01,130
We were kids.

387
00:19:01,130 --> 00:19:04,512
I mean even today 16- and
17-year-olds aren't, and they

388
00:19:04,512 --> 00:19:06,220
are much more
sophisticated than we were.

389
00:19:06,220 --> 00:19:08,380
But even they're little kids.

390
00:19:08,380 --> 00:19:13,360
Well, they know more what goes
on in the world with television

391
00:19:13,360 --> 00:19:15,970
and--

392
00:19:15,970 --> 00:19:17,690
We didn't have
television, of course.

393
00:19:17,690 --> 00:19:21,137
We didn't have a radio in
the house till I was 14.

394
00:19:21,137 --> 00:19:22,970
If I wanted to hear
some children's programs

395
00:19:22,970 --> 00:19:26,570
on the radio, I walked for 25
minutes to my grandmother's

396

00:19:26,570 --> 00:19:29,060
every Tuesday afternoon to
hear children's programs.

397

00:19:29,060 --> 00:19:31,490
We were not severely
spoiled kids.

398

00:19:31,490 --> 00:19:32,420
It wasn't that much.

399

00:19:32,420 --> 00:19:36,302

400

00:19:36,302 --> 00:19:37,760
Is there anything
else you'd like--

401

00:19:37,760 --> 00:19:41,150
I know I've picked your brain.

402

00:19:41,150 --> 00:19:42,530
And she's the ringer here.

403

00:19:42,530 --> 00:19:45,980
So if there's nothing
else you'd like to add--

404

00:19:45,980 --> 00:19:48,030
There's probably a
million things I can add.

405

00:19:48,030 --> 00:19:49,610
You have to stop somewhere.

406

00:19:49,610 --> 00:19:50,210
Right.

407

00:19:50,210 --> 00:19:50,720
OK.

408

00:19:50,720 --> 00:19:52,350

Well, thank you very, very much.

409

00:19:52,350 --> 00:19:54,280

You're very welcome.

410

00:19:54,280 --> 00:19:56,000