

1
00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:03,760

2
00:00:03,760 --> 00:00:07,940
Were you required to
perform work at Gross-Rosen?

3
00:00:07,940 --> 00:00:13,250
I don't recall any work
being required of us.

4
00:00:13,250 --> 00:00:14,780
Maybe not all of us.

5
00:00:14,780 --> 00:00:17,100
I personally don't
recall doing any work.

6
00:00:17,100 --> 00:00:20,430
It was kind of
idleness, sitting,

7
00:00:20,430 --> 00:00:25,250
and the situation began
to look very desperate.

8
00:00:25,250 --> 00:00:28,940
We forgot about Oskar
Schindler, or at least I

9
00:00:28,940 --> 00:00:32,420
was unaware of anything
what's happening

10
00:00:32,420 --> 00:00:35,690
with Oskar Schindler which was
still in the back of our mind

11
00:00:35,690 --> 00:00:37,340
when we traveled in the cars.

12

00:00:37,340 --> 00:00:40,820

But at this point,
it looked desperate.

13

00:00:40,820 --> 00:00:46,310

And also one other
thing that I noticed

14

00:00:46,310 --> 00:00:49,970

was that the 700 of us
that were in this barrack

15

00:00:49,970 --> 00:00:57,490

were no longer the same group of
people with whom I worked back

16

00:00:57,490 --> 00:00:59,980

in Poland at the enamel works.

17

00:00:59,980 --> 00:01:03,940

It looked like a
total stranger group.

18

00:01:03,940 --> 00:01:07,100

Some of the people that
I knew were still there,

19

00:01:07,100 --> 00:01:08,710

but most of the
people were missing

20

00:01:08,710 --> 00:01:11,980

from this original group.

21

00:01:11,980 --> 00:01:14,100

In fact, some of
the friends that

22

00:01:14,100 --> 00:01:17,760

were with me at
that time in Krakow

23

00:01:17,760 --> 00:01:19,440

were no longer here
in Gross-Rosen.

24
00:01:19,440 --> 00:01:22,650
So somehow, it looked like
a different mix of people

25
00:01:22,650 --> 00:01:28,400
except for a smaller group of
us that worked for Schindler

26
00:01:28,400 --> 00:01:30,110
and were still here.

27
00:01:30,110 --> 00:01:35,450
So I did not know of
what is happening to us,

28
00:01:35,450 --> 00:01:38,045
and I did not know what
the future is bringing.

29
00:01:38,045 --> 00:01:41,160

30
00:01:41,160 --> 00:01:44,610
One occasion, I recall, I
could not find myself a place.

31
00:01:44,610 --> 00:01:47,450

32
00:01:47,450 --> 00:01:50,810
Somehow arrived
late in the barrack,

33
00:01:50,810 --> 00:01:56,090
and everybody was already
sitting in one another's lap.

34
00:01:56,090 --> 00:01:59,000
Walking in, I just
couldn't find a place.

35

00:01:59,000 --> 00:02:07,940

So the guard, Ukrainian guard
with a nightstick and his hand,

36

00:02:07,940 --> 00:02:11,270

went after me to
find myself a place.

37

00:02:11,270 --> 00:02:14,360

I couldn't because
everybody was sitting tight.

38

00:02:14,360 --> 00:02:18,680

So I recall jumping over people
running to escape from him,

39

00:02:18,680 --> 00:02:20,600

and he running with
that nightstick

40

00:02:20,600 --> 00:02:22,640

and just hitting
whatever came along.

41

00:02:22,640 --> 00:02:28,860

And on the way of chasing me,
he probably hit many people.

42

00:02:28,860 --> 00:02:33,600

I eventually found a
place to collapse into,

43

00:02:33,600 --> 00:02:36,480

and the chase was over.

44

00:02:36,480 --> 00:02:41,980

45

00:02:41,980 --> 00:02:44,800

After a number of
nights and days

46

00:02:44,800 --> 00:02:51,320
of this terror-ridden
concentration camp,

47

00:02:51,320 --> 00:02:54,230
we were sitting
assembled as I described

48

00:02:54,230 --> 00:02:56,690
before in one another's lap.

49

00:02:56,690 --> 00:03:03,850
Somehow the guard came in with
a list and began to read names.

50

00:03:03,850 --> 00:03:07,390
Where this was leading
to, I didn't know,

51

00:03:07,390 --> 00:03:11,860
but everybody was hoping
to somehow be on that list.

52

00:03:11,860 --> 00:03:15,660
Whatever this was
turning out to be,

53

00:03:15,660 --> 00:03:17,980
it seemed like getting
out of here someplace

54

00:03:17,980 --> 00:03:20,260
or doing something
else was a relief.

55

00:03:20,260 --> 00:03:27,400
So everybody was extremely
anxious to hear his name.

56

00:03:27,400 --> 00:03:33,040
I recall being extremely
anxious because my name starts

57

00:03:33,040 --> 00:03:36,370

with a U, and so
this reading of names

58

00:03:36,370 --> 00:03:40,420

seemed like a whole
night process,

59

00:03:40,420 --> 00:03:42,650

and my name just
was not coming up.

60

00:03:42,650 --> 00:03:48,750

61

00:03:48,750 --> 00:03:52,570

Eventually, it did
get to my name,

62

00:03:52,570 --> 00:03:57,550

and after all the
names were called out.

63

00:03:57,550 --> 00:04:01,610

And up to this point in time--

64

00:04:01,610 --> 00:04:05,810

it was 1992 in Flemington--

65

00:04:05,810 --> 00:04:12,660

I have absolutely no idea
where these names came from.

66

00:04:12,660 --> 00:04:16,930

The only thing I can
suspect is that somehow when

67

00:04:16,930 --> 00:04:23,760

we left the Krakow Plaszow
concentration camp,

68

00:04:23,760 --> 00:04:29,260

somebody submitted
a list of names

69
00:04:29,260 --> 00:04:35,880
to some German authorities,
and the [GERMAN]

70
00:04:35,880 --> 00:04:37,890
of the German
authorities somehow

71
00:04:37,890 --> 00:04:42,900
led them to forward
this list of people

72
00:04:42,900 --> 00:04:47,940
that are evidently destined
to go into Oskar Schindler's

73
00:04:47,940 --> 00:04:49,950
factory again.

74
00:04:49,950 --> 00:04:51,010
I don't know.

75
00:04:51,010 --> 00:04:54,780
I can't tell it
for sure, but I do

76
00:04:54,780 --> 00:04:58,380
know that in
Gross-Rosen there was

77
00:04:58,380 --> 00:05:04,460
a list from which the
Ukrainian guards were reading.

78
00:05:04,460 --> 00:05:16,100
And as I said before
probably, since 1941 or even

79
00:05:16,100 --> 00:05:19,610
since the beginning

of the war, I

80

00:05:19,610 --> 00:05:23,540
don't ever recall having
to give anybody my name.

81

00:05:23,540 --> 00:05:25,010
I don't recall.

82

00:05:25,010 --> 00:05:27,350
Maybe in the ghetto, when
we arrived in the ghetto,

83

00:05:27,350 --> 00:05:28,790
we would have given names.

84

00:05:28,790 --> 00:05:33,230
But other than that, we became
totally nameless people.

85

00:05:33,230 --> 00:05:35,450
I don't recall
anybody ever requiring

86

00:05:35,450 --> 00:05:38,000
of me to give them my name.

87

00:05:38,000 --> 00:05:42,510
But nevertheless,
in Gross-Rosen,

88

00:05:42,510 --> 00:05:47,920
in the concentration camp
there, that particular night,

89

00:05:47,920 --> 00:05:50,650
all the names were called.

90

00:05:50,650 --> 00:05:55,340
As I said before also,
most of the names

91

00:05:55,340 --> 00:05:56,540
were not familiar to me.

92
00:05:56,540 --> 00:05:58,970
They were people
simply that came

93
00:05:58,970 --> 00:06:03,020
from the Krakow-Plaszow
ghetto, and were no longer

94
00:06:03,020 --> 00:06:08,030
the same people that were
working with me in the enameled

95
00:06:08,030 --> 00:06:11,310
works at the Oskar
Schindler in Krakow.

96
00:06:11,310 --> 00:06:14,130
My name was eventually called.

97
00:06:14,130 --> 00:06:16,170
Eventually, all the
names were called,

98
00:06:16,170 --> 00:06:20,320
and we were loaded
into carloads.

99
00:06:20,320 --> 00:06:24,700

100
00:06:24,700 --> 00:06:29,189
Railway cars again, and
shipped to somewhere.

101
00:06:29,189 --> 00:06:33,410

102
00:06:33,410 --> 00:06:35,990
Of the few people
that you remember

103
00:06:35,990 --> 00:06:38,420
from the enamel factory
who were still with you,

104
00:06:38,420 --> 00:06:42,140
were they also on this list?

105
00:06:42,140 --> 00:06:46,610
Yes, those few people that
I recognized, that I knew,

106
00:06:46,610 --> 00:06:49,370
were from the list of--

107
00:06:49,370 --> 00:06:51,860
were from those people that
worked for Oskar Schindler

108
00:06:51,860 --> 00:06:53,060
before.

109
00:06:53,060 --> 00:06:56,300
But the bulk of them was not.

110
00:06:56,300 --> 00:07:01,780
The bulk of them simply came
to this Gross-Rosen camp

111
00:07:01,780 --> 00:07:04,300
by some knowledge
that this was going

112
00:07:04,300 --> 00:07:08,560
to be a shipment to Oskar
Schindler's concentration camp

113
00:07:08,560 --> 00:07:13,300
where the survival
chances were the greatest.

114
00:07:13,300 --> 00:07:16,930

I was totally unaware of
it, being the youngster.

115
00:07:16,930 --> 00:07:20,920
I was simply probably
amongst this group

116
00:07:20,920 --> 00:07:26,530
because of my stepping
forward at one time into Oskar

117
00:07:26,530 --> 00:07:28,870
Schindler and where
Oskar Schindler placed me

118
00:07:28,870 --> 00:07:34,590
in the end group that
would eventually survive.

119
00:07:34,590 --> 00:07:37,230
When were you transferred
out of Gross-Rosen?

120
00:07:37,230 --> 00:07:40,350
Gross-Rosen, we were
transferred after a weeks stay.

121
00:07:40,350 --> 00:07:45,680
we were shipped out of
by railroad cars again

122
00:07:45,680 --> 00:07:50,210
and I think that this time the
railroad cars again traveled

123
00:07:50,210 --> 00:07:59,070
seven eight nights eight
days into a place that

124
00:07:59,070 --> 00:08:00,120
in Czechoslovakia.

125
00:08:00,120 --> 00:08:03,780

Deep in Czechoslovakia.

126
00:08:03,780 --> 00:08:06,060
The name of the
town was Brunnlitz.

127
00:08:06,060 --> 00:08:08,730

128
00:08:08,730 --> 00:08:11,340
We were marched from
the railroad cars

129
00:08:11,340 --> 00:08:17,530
to a factory someplace
in the vicinity.

130
00:08:17,530 --> 00:08:20,960
I don't recall the
distance of that march.

131
00:08:20,960 --> 00:08:24,350
But at this time,
we were 700 of us

132
00:08:24,350 --> 00:08:29,150
that left Gross-Rosen,
and 700 of us males only.

133
00:08:29,150 --> 00:08:31,710

134
00:08:31,710 --> 00:08:35,345
I don't recall any women
in Gross-Rosen also.

135
00:08:35,345 --> 00:08:37,470
They could have been there
in a different barracks,

136
00:08:37,470 --> 00:08:42,220
but in our situation,
I only recall males.

137
00:08:42,220 --> 00:08:45,160
We were, when we
arrived, 700 of us

138
00:08:45,160 --> 00:08:49,010
were marched into
this factory, which

139
00:08:49,010 --> 00:08:51,750
looked like a olfactory that--

140
00:08:51,750 --> 00:08:55,770

141
00:08:55,770 --> 00:08:57,390
what's it called?

142
00:08:57,390 --> 00:09:00,090
Materials were made.

143
00:09:00,090 --> 00:09:01,380
You mean a warehouse?

144
00:09:01,380 --> 00:09:01,880
No.

145
00:09:01,880 --> 00:09:03,550
Where they make materials.

146
00:09:03,550 --> 00:09:06,110

147
00:09:06,110 --> 00:09:06,650
Linen.

148
00:09:06,650 --> 00:09:08,570
Oh, a textile.

149
00:09:08,570 --> 00:09:12,830
Which looked like

a textile factory.

150
00:09:12,830 --> 00:09:15,440
And we were marched
into that thing.

151
00:09:15,440 --> 00:09:19,190
And if I recall correctly,
we were greeted by Schindler

152
00:09:19,190 --> 00:09:23,150
when we arrived on that site.

153
00:09:23,150 --> 00:09:26,450
It didn't look like
a concentration camp.

154
00:09:26,450 --> 00:09:28,880
It simply looked like
a textile factory.

155
00:09:28,880 --> 00:09:32,000
The building was
textile machinery.

156
00:09:32,000 --> 00:09:35,030
But it was fairly
obvious at that time

157
00:09:35,030 --> 00:09:39,870
that Oskar Schindler received
this factory, again, as a gift,

158
00:09:39,870 --> 00:09:45,830
and he was going to convert this
textile factory into some kind

159
00:09:45,830 --> 00:09:48,290
of a armament factory.

160
00:09:48,290 --> 00:09:51,230
How this was to be
done I don't know.

161
00:09:51,230 --> 00:09:54,270
None of us had any training.

162
00:09:54,270 --> 00:09:57,920
None of us was skilled
workers, at least that I

163
00:09:57,920 --> 00:10:00,880
was aware of, in that area.

164
00:10:00,880 --> 00:10:05,110
But Oskar Schindler
evidently received permission

165
00:10:05,110 --> 00:10:06,670
to build a concentration camp.

166
00:10:06,670 --> 00:10:08,140
Barbed wires went up.

167
00:10:08,140 --> 00:10:11,170
Watchtowers went up.

168
00:10:11,170 --> 00:10:17,270
And the German
contingent of escorts

169
00:10:17,270 --> 00:10:19,340
to watch as was in place.

170
00:10:19,340 --> 00:10:23,040

171
00:10:23,040 --> 00:10:26,520
If I recall, this was not
an extremely large group

172
00:10:26,520 --> 00:10:27,540
of SS guards.

173

00:10:27,540 --> 00:10:29,880

If I had to place a
number of them on them,

174

00:10:29,880 --> 00:10:32,190

would have been
50 or 60 SS guards

175

00:10:32,190 --> 00:10:35,400

being housed in one barrack.

176

00:10:35,400 --> 00:10:38,970

And we were being housed
in the upper floor

177

00:10:38,970 --> 00:10:43,500

of this textile factory.

178

00:10:43,500 --> 00:10:47,010

Were all the SS Germans?

179

00:10:47,010 --> 00:10:49,500

It looked at that
time like those were--

180

00:10:49,500 --> 00:10:51,870

all the SS were Germans.

181

00:10:51,870 --> 00:10:56,880

And also, one additional factor
that I noticed at that time

182

00:10:56,880 --> 00:11:01,530

were that these SS
Germans were older people.

183

00:11:01,530 --> 00:11:08,700

They were no longer the
younger, full of spic and span

184

00:11:08,700 --> 00:11:09,900

and polish.

185

00:11:09,900 --> 00:11:13,020

They were tired,
old people that were

186

00:11:13,020 --> 00:11:17,800

in the SS uniforms watching us.

187

00:11:17,800 --> 00:11:22,260

This factory began
to take shape,

188

00:11:22,260 --> 00:11:29,030

and some work is being done and
disassembling the old textile

189

00:11:29,030 --> 00:11:31,650

factory.

190

00:11:31,650 --> 00:11:38,580

Shortly after we arrived in this
camp, a group of 300 women that

191

00:11:38,580 --> 00:11:43,680

evidently underwent exactly the
same thing in Auschwitz when

192

00:11:43,680 --> 00:11:49,380

we were being transported from
Krakow-Plaszow to Gross-Rosen--

193

00:11:49,380 --> 00:11:57,660

evidently, these women
were shipped to Auschwitz.

194

00:11:57,660 --> 00:12:01,500

And it was fairly obvious
that this group of people

195

00:12:01,500 --> 00:12:05,700

was somehow also arrived
in Auschwitz with a list,

196

00:12:05,700 --> 00:12:09,450
and somehow, by name, were
called out from Auschwitz

197
00:12:09,450 --> 00:12:14,190
and set on a March from
Auschwitz to Brunnlitz.

198
00:12:14,190 --> 00:12:18,480
So 300 women
arrived in Brunnlitz

199
00:12:18,480 --> 00:12:26,210
in a much worse situation
that we did because this was--

200
00:12:26,210 --> 00:12:29,930
could have been October
or November of 1944,

201
00:12:29,930 --> 00:12:35,580
and they were set on a march,
marching from Auschwitz

202
00:12:35,580 --> 00:12:47,520
to Brunnlitz, and being guarded
by Polish, Ukrainian convicts

203
00:12:47,520 --> 00:12:50,970
that are set in
charge of those women

204
00:12:50,970 --> 00:12:53,820
to march them towards the camp.

205
00:12:53,820 --> 00:12:58,480
From what I heard from the
women that arrived in our camp,

206
00:12:58,480 --> 00:13:03,900
these official guards were
brutal during the road

207

00:13:03,900 --> 00:13:07,080
to those women on the march
from Auschwitz to Brunnlitz.

208
00:13:07,080 --> 00:13:08,880
But eventually, they
arrived in Brunnlitz,

209
00:13:08,880 --> 00:13:17,060
and a small section of this
housing or the textile factory

210
00:13:17,060 --> 00:13:22,610
was surrounded by barbed
wire, and the 300 women

211
00:13:22,610 --> 00:13:25,910
lived in the same
complex with us

212
00:13:25,910 --> 00:13:30,395
but being separated from
the men by barbed wire.

213
00:13:30,395 --> 00:13:33,220

214
00:13:33,220 --> 00:13:40,140
The productivity in
this particular camp

215
00:13:40,140 --> 00:13:45,510
was not of great value
as it appeared to me.

216
00:13:45,510 --> 00:13:50,220
It was dismantling,
shifting around,

217
00:13:50,220 --> 00:13:54,870
building of offices for
Oskar Schindler and his staff

218

00:13:54,870 --> 00:13:59,040
that evidently was
meant to appear

219
00:13:59,040 --> 00:14:04,710
as if he was going to do great
things for the German effort.

220
00:14:04,710 --> 00:14:10,660
I wound up working in
one of the buildings that

221
00:14:10,660 --> 00:14:17,750
was renovated into a
offices for Oskar Schindler.

222
00:14:17,750 --> 00:14:22,370
I remember doing pine
paneling, and since there

223
00:14:22,370 --> 00:14:29,800
was a shortage of
materials, we used a torch

224
00:14:29,800 --> 00:14:36,280
to sort of burn lightly the
pine materials that would appear

225
00:14:36,280 --> 00:14:38,440
like a finished material.

226
00:14:38,440 --> 00:14:40,420
But actually, it
was simply scorched

227
00:14:40,420 --> 00:14:43,090
from the flame of the torch.

228
00:14:43,090 --> 00:14:46,180
And we eventually
wound up constructing

229
00:14:46,180 --> 00:14:48,820

some offices for
a Schindler that

230
00:14:48,820 --> 00:14:52,060
was very impressive looking.

231
00:14:52,060 --> 00:14:55,090
The factory, I
don't ever remember

232
00:14:55,090 --> 00:14:57,670
doing any work that
would have been

233
00:14:57,670 --> 00:15:01,990
close to what the
Germans were hoping for,

234
00:15:01,990 --> 00:15:03,480
but we were kept busy.

235
00:15:03,480 --> 00:15:07,510
Some woodworking shop
was in existence.

236
00:15:07,510 --> 00:15:11,800
Everything on the inside
looked rather peaceful.

237
00:15:11,800 --> 00:15:19,760
The SS guards were somehow
led to believe and understand

238
00:15:19,760 --> 00:15:23,390
that their duty is only
to keep us from escaping.

239
00:15:23,390 --> 00:15:29,030
And I don't recall any
torture or anything

240
00:15:29,030 --> 00:15:33,140
that these SS guards

would inflict on us.

241
00:15:33,140 --> 00:15:35,740

242
00:15:35,740 --> 00:15:37,630
There were occasional
shipments that

243
00:15:37,630 --> 00:15:46,540
were arriving in the camp
of Jews that were evidently

244
00:15:46,540 --> 00:15:51,400
rounded up as escapees
someplace or potentially

245
00:15:51,400 --> 00:15:55,540
from liquidating small
groups of inmates.

246
00:15:55,540 --> 00:16:00,190
Those who were
arriving at our doors

247
00:16:00,190 --> 00:16:04,300
or in our camp in horrible,
desperate situation.

248
00:16:04,300 --> 00:16:09,490
We occasionally had to go to the
railroad cars and open them up.

249
00:16:09,490 --> 00:16:12,880
Pry them open to
get to the people.

250
00:16:12,880 --> 00:16:17,590
On the inside, we would
occasionally find dead people.

251
00:16:17,590 --> 00:16:20,470
People with frozen bodies

to the railroad cars.

252
00:16:20,470 --> 00:16:24,340

253
00:16:24,340 --> 00:16:30,760
Torn pieces of flesh
from the frost bites.

254
00:16:30,760 --> 00:16:34,210
There were not great
numbers that were arriving,

255
00:16:34,210 --> 00:16:37,960
but those that were arriving
from some other sources

256
00:16:37,960 --> 00:16:40,880
were in desperate situation.

257
00:16:40,880 --> 00:16:43,690
Many of the people
were buried there

258
00:16:43,690 --> 00:16:47,460
on the inside of that camp.

259
00:16:47,460 --> 00:16:53,700

260
00:16:53,700 --> 00:16:57,000
I, along with another
friend of mine

261
00:16:57,000 --> 00:17:02,700
who was also a
woodworker like myself,

262
00:17:02,700 --> 00:17:12,829
we were assigned now to
renovate a villa that

263

00:17:12,829 --> 00:17:18,420
was given to Oskar
Schindler as his residence.

264
00:17:18,420 --> 00:17:21,290

265
00:17:21,290 --> 00:17:26,020
The villa was outside
of the camp or maybe

266
00:17:26,020 --> 00:17:27,640
some distance away.

267
00:17:27,640 --> 00:17:33,430
Maybe a 15, 20 minute
walk to that villa.

268
00:17:33,430 --> 00:17:40,840
The villa was located
on the inside of a mill.

269
00:17:40,840 --> 00:17:46,870
And I recall also it was behind
a canal with water and a bridge

270
00:17:46,870 --> 00:17:49,000
leading up to his villa.

271
00:17:49,000 --> 00:17:55,400
But from this villa, you
could walk out to the mill

272
00:17:55,400 --> 00:17:57,170
and be inside the mill.

273
00:17:57,170 --> 00:17:58,940
It was obvious that
this villa once

274
00:17:58,940 --> 00:18:03,020
belonged to the owner of the
mill, a rather large complex

275
00:18:03,020 --> 00:18:07,340
of a mill where there
was flour and oatmeal

276
00:18:07,340 --> 00:18:08,570
and stuff like that.

277
00:18:08,570 --> 00:18:13,640

278
00:18:13,640 --> 00:18:20,530
Schindler's villa appeared
like a unoccupied building.

279
00:18:20,530 --> 00:18:25,630
Also, once in a great
while, we would notice

280
00:18:25,630 --> 00:18:27,970
Mrs. Schindler being there.

281
00:18:27,970 --> 00:18:30,130
I don't ever recall
him being there,

282
00:18:30,130 --> 00:18:36,400
but our assignment was
to polish his furniture,

283
00:18:36,400 --> 00:18:41,080
clean up the villa,
do whatever we thought

284
00:18:41,080 --> 00:18:45,490
the two of us inmates from the
concentration camp thought that

285
00:18:45,490 --> 00:18:50,290
can be done to improve
Mr. Schindler's residence.

286

00:18:50,290 --> 00:18:57,270

287

00:18:57,270 --> 00:19:05,660

The two of us were marched
daily out of the concentration

288

00:19:05,660 --> 00:19:10,430

camp on the textile grounds,
textile factory grounds

289

00:19:10,430 --> 00:19:18,230

were, marched out daily by
two SS guards to that villa.

290

00:19:18,230 --> 00:19:21,790

291

00:19:21,790 --> 00:19:25,030

On occasion, also, one SS
card would lead us out.

292

00:19:25,030 --> 00:19:30,780

And if things
seemed rather normal

293

00:19:30,780 --> 00:19:33,210

and there was no
great fear of escaping

294

00:19:33,210 --> 00:19:37,860

and the SS guards, as I
mentioned, were older people.

295

00:19:37,860 --> 00:19:42,090

And somehow, it just began
to feel like something

296

00:19:42,090 --> 00:19:43,420

is coming to an end.

297

00:19:43,420 --> 00:19:48,900

There's no longer that fear

of some kind of concentration

298

00:19:48,900 --> 00:19:52,140
camps that I was in
before that somehow

299

00:19:52,140 --> 00:19:56,620
had the appearance of a
more relaxed situation.

300

00:19:56,620 --> 00:19:59,310
In fact, the SS
guard or the SS--

301

00:19:59,310 --> 00:20:05,400
the two SS guards would
come in to the villa

302

00:20:05,400 --> 00:20:10,180
and would sit down on a
sofa, and the two of us

303

00:20:10,180 --> 00:20:12,100
were pretty much
free to do whatever

304

00:20:12,100 --> 00:20:14,590
we thought we should do.

305

00:20:14,590 --> 00:20:19,270
Polishing, making believe
that we're polishing.

306

00:20:19,270 --> 00:20:26,540
Occasionally working
on some radio where

307

00:20:26,540 --> 00:20:29,480
we will turn it on
and hear BBC talking

308

00:20:29,480 --> 00:20:36,740
about the tremendous losses

that the Germans are undergoing,

309

00:20:36,740 --> 00:20:40,850
and we would be able to bring
that news back to the camp.

310

00:20:40,850 --> 00:20:44,900
The reason we were able to
hear this occasionally, listen

311

00:20:44,900 --> 00:20:47,990
to the radio occasionally,
was that the SS

312

00:20:47,990 --> 00:20:52,580
guards who came in to watch
us, either one or two of them,

313

00:20:52,580 --> 00:20:56,810
would sit down on the
sofa with their carbine

314

00:20:56,810 --> 00:21:02,930
or bayonet between their
legs, and they would doze off

315

00:21:02,930 --> 00:21:04,430
and went into deep sleep.

316

00:21:04,430 --> 00:21:08,540
And we were able to simply
roam around that building

317

00:21:08,540 --> 00:21:13,550
and do what we thought
should be done.

318

00:21:13,550 --> 00:21:16,550
On numerous occasions,
I would even

319

00:21:16,550 --> 00:21:22,670
be able to jump out of

the window of that villa--

320

00:21:22,670 --> 00:21:26,940

as I described, it was
located inside of a mill--

321

00:21:26,940 --> 00:21:31,170

and somehow make my way into
one of the mill buildings

322

00:21:31,170 --> 00:21:35,220

where lots of stuff was being--

323

00:21:35,220 --> 00:21:37,430

was laying around.

324

00:21:37,430 --> 00:21:41,980

I was able to go in these
buildings, these warehouses,

325

00:21:41,980 --> 00:21:44,980

and by that time,
I learned the trick

326

00:21:44,980 --> 00:21:48,460

of tying my pants at
the bottom, whatever

327

00:21:48,460 --> 00:22:00,680

pants I had at that time, and
filling up my pant, pant leg,

328

00:22:00,680 --> 00:22:04,280

with some stuff like
oatmeal, cornmeal,

329

00:22:04,280 --> 00:22:06,390

or something like that.

330

00:22:06,390 --> 00:22:10,500

With that, I came
back into the villa.

331
00:22:10,500 --> 00:22:12,630
Acted as if I was nowhere.

332
00:22:12,630 --> 00:22:14,430
Did not get out of the building.

333
00:22:14,430 --> 00:22:20,030
And the SS guard didn't
even know the difference.

334
00:22:20,030 --> 00:22:26,290
That material that I
stole from the mill,

335
00:22:26,290 --> 00:22:31,210
I, on occasion, I would
walk with those pant legs

336
00:22:31,210 --> 00:22:35,480
tied at the bottom
with stuff in them.

337
00:22:35,480 --> 00:22:38,270
Or by that time,
I had a tool box

338
00:22:38,270 --> 00:22:45,680
which I managed to build a
fake tarp, whereby on the tarp,

339
00:22:45,680 --> 00:22:49,210
I had some tools laid out.

340
00:22:49,210 --> 00:22:53,320
And on the inside of the
box was a rather large box

341
00:22:53,320 --> 00:22:57,220
would hold all that material
that I stole from the mill.

342
00:22:57,220 --> 00:23:02,260

And with that, I was able
to pass through the guards

343
00:23:02,260 --> 00:23:05,530
when we were marched
back to the campsite.

344
00:23:05,530 --> 00:23:08,740

345
00:23:08,740 --> 00:23:11,980
In the campsite, I
was able to give out

346
00:23:11,980 --> 00:23:15,480
all that stuff that I stole.

347
00:23:15,480 --> 00:23:17,590
I became quite good at it.

348
00:23:17,590 --> 00:23:22,350
I was able to hand this out, and
there were many occasions where

349
00:23:22,350 --> 00:23:25,110
people would, the inmates
there, some of the inmates

350
00:23:25,110 --> 00:23:30,060
became aware of it that I am
in this enviable position.

351
00:23:30,060 --> 00:23:32,640
Was having all this food stuff.

352
00:23:32,640 --> 00:23:34,410
And some people
would approach me

353
00:23:34,410 --> 00:23:38,460
because of the illness
of a particular inmate

354

00:23:38,460 --> 00:23:43,380

or a relative, and I became
a person much in demand

355

00:23:43,380 --> 00:23:46,590

by giving out that
food to other inmates.

356

00:23:46,590 --> 00:23:51,960

On many occasions, I
also stole other things.

357

00:23:51,960 --> 00:23:56,790

It somehow appears that I became
an important inmate because

358

00:23:56,790 --> 00:24:02,530

of my employment in
Oskar Schindler's villa.

359

00:24:02,530 --> 00:24:06,670

So I was somehow treated and
was able to on occasion steal

360

00:24:06,670 --> 00:24:12,400

things from cartloads that
were passing by or arriving.

361

00:24:12,400 --> 00:24:16,380

And I would also be able
to hand out these things,

362

00:24:16,380 --> 00:24:17,490

as I said, to friends.

363

00:24:17,490 --> 00:24:23,040

But on many occasions, I
was able to sneak these food

364

00:24:23,040 --> 00:24:26,820

materials, foodstuffs, into
the women's barracks, which

365

00:24:26,820 --> 00:24:30,750
was simply a way--

366

00:24:30,750 --> 00:24:33,250
the way I got that into
the women's barracks

367

00:24:33,250 --> 00:24:37,800
and by throwing it over
those barbed wires.

368

00:24:37,800 --> 00:24:40,000
I somehow had the freedom--

369

00:24:40,000 --> 00:24:44,150
so did my friend who worked
with me at the villa--

370

00:24:44,150 --> 00:24:44,960
to do that.

371

00:24:44,960 --> 00:24:52,440
On one of those occasions,
I was discovered

372

00:24:52,440 --> 00:24:56,520
that I'm bringing in food
stuff from the outside

373

00:24:56,520 --> 00:25:01,970
and that somebody
threw over some food

374

00:25:01,970 --> 00:25:05,250
into the women's barracks.

375

00:25:05,250 --> 00:25:09,020

376

00:25:09,020 --> 00:25:16,070
I recall at the gathering at the
appelplatz this case was held.

377

00:25:16,070 --> 00:25:20,090

The gathering of all the inmates for accounting purposes

378

00:25:20,090 --> 00:25:26,240

and all that was held inside of this factory building.

379

00:25:26,240 --> 00:25:31,940

In one of those inspections, the head of the SS

380

00:25:31,940 --> 00:25:39,590

guards, whose name I don't recall is the moment,

381

00:25:39,590 --> 00:25:48,780

came to the appelplatz and yelled out, [SPEAKING GERMAN]..

382

00:25:48,780 --> 00:25:56,790

383

00:25:56,790 --> 00:25:59,120

That means, where are those people

384

00:25:59,120 --> 00:26:03,880

that were inside the women's barracks?

385

00:26:03,880 --> 00:26:17,390

Evidently, a woman SS guard who watched the women's quarters

386

00:26:17,390 --> 00:26:20,940

noticed us, and we were reported, the two of us

387

00:26:20,940 --> 00:26:22,530

were reported that we were actually

388

00:26:22,530 --> 00:26:27,210

at one time inside
the woman's quarters.

389

00:26:27,210 --> 00:26:31,960

And as I said before, on many
occasions, I would do that.

390

00:26:31,960 --> 00:26:34,960

I would somehow make my way
into the woman's barracks,

391

00:26:34,960 --> 00:26:36,820

either throwing it over
or getting in there

392

00:26:36,820 --> 00:26:39,220

and getting away.

393

00:26:39,220 --> 00:26:43,750

All that food
stuff that I had, I

394

00:26:43,750 --> 00:26:49,330

have never received anything
from anyone for the stuff

395

00:26:49,330 --> 00:26:51,360

that I gave out.

396

00:26:51,360 --> 00:26:56,260

It was simply a very
enjoyable moment for me

397

00:26:56,260 --> 00:26:57,650

to be able to do it.

398

00:26:57,650 --> 00:27:00,680

I had never asked,
never received,

399

00:27:00,680 --> 00:27:04,220
never knew of any things
that I could have asked

400
00:27:04,220 --> 00:27:06,530
or could have received.

401
00:27:06,530 --> 00:27:12,070
So at this appelplatz, this
SS guard, head of the SS unit,

402
00:27:12,070 --> 00:27:14,020
is yelling, [SPEAKING GERMAN].

403
00:27:14,020 --> 00:27:17,890

404
00:27:17,890 --> 00:27:21,720
Out of fear, I did
not step out first.

405
00:27:21,720 --> 00:27:23,950
Neither did my friend.

406
00:27:23,950 --> 00:27:26,350
But eventually, it
appeared very serious

407
00:27:26,350 --> 00:27:32,510
that somebody could pay for
it if we didn't step out.

408
00:27:32,510 --> 00:27:34,100
We did step out finally.

409
00:27:34,100 --> 00:27:40,510
We said, we were the ones that
were in the women's barracks.

410
00:27:40,510 --> 00:27:45,100
And as it turned out to
be, he did not possess,

411

00:27:45,100 --> 00:27:47,920

this SS guard did not
possess enough authority

412

00:27:47,920 --> 00:27:54,740

to punish or hang us or
punish us in any way.

413

00:27:54,740 --> 00:27:59,890

All he wanted to know is who
permitted us-- who let us

414

00:27:59,890 --> 00:28:01,075

into the woman's barracks.

415

00:28:01,075 --> 00:28:05,470

416

00:28:05,470 --> 00:28:09,640

These were reactions
that we had to rely on,

417

00:28:09,640 --> 00:28:11,860

both my friend and myself.

418

00:28:11,860 --> 00:28:17,830

And our reaction was to simply
point to two SS guards, women,

419

00:28:17,830 --> 00:28:22,400

that they were at the door,
and they saw us going in.

420

00:28:22,400 --> 00:28:27,850

And at that point, if there
was any punishment unleashed,

421

00:28:27,850 --> 00:28:31,720

it was on the two SS
guard women opposed to us.

422

00:28:31,720 --> 00:28:35,830

We were permitted to
join our ranks back.

423
00:28:35,830 --> 00:28:41,170
And we were not punished
at all for this violation.

424
00:28:41,170 --> 00:28:42,760
Not even for stealing food?

425
00:28:42,760 --> 00:28:45,730

426
00:28:45,730 --> 00:28:48,250
We were not punished
for anything.

427
00:28:48,250 --> 00:28:56,180
Now, as I said before,
this was 1945 already.

428
00:28:56,180 --> 00:29:01,915
It was-- somehow, the air was
filled with something going on.

429
00:29:01,915 --> 00:29:05,340

430
00:29:05,340 --> 00:29:08,700
There were many demonstrations
of that already.

431
00:29:08,700 --> 00:29:15,420
I recall one day
when we were all

432
00:29:15,420 --> 00:29:20,660
told to stay in our
barracks not to step out.

433
00:29:20,660 --> 00:29:24,260
I remember looking out of
the barracks where Schindler

434
00:29:24,260 --> 00:29:29,270
was ordered to appear
to some authorities

435
00:29:29,270 --> 00:29:33,830
outside of the camp, obviously,
to some authorities in Prague

436
00:29:33,830 --> 00:29:36,620
or outside of Prague.

437
00:29:36,620 --> 00:29:40,190
And we can only
go by stories that

438
00:29:40,190 --> 00:29:49,070
were circling in amongst us is
that Schindler was called in

439
00:29:49,070 --> 00:29:57,170
to explain how it is that
the inmates inside the camp

440
00:29:57,170 --> 00:30:02,450
receive some food while the
population outside is now

441
00:30:02,450 --> 00:30:03,350
being starved.

442
00:30:03,350 --> 00:30:06,560
The free Czechoslovaks
that were free,

443
00:30:06,560 --> 00:30:13,370
supposedly, did not have as much
food arriving into their homes

444
00:30:13,370 --> 00:30:16,300
as we were getting
into the camp.

445

00:30:16,300 --> 00:30:20,320

And I recall distinctly
being in the barracks.

446

00:30:20,320 --> 00:30:23,670

Nobody went out
to work any place.

447

00:30:23,670 --> 00:30:26,370

And eventually,
after many hours,

448

00:30:26,370 --> 00:30:31,760

Schindler arrived back
from that appearance

449

00:30:31,760 --> 00:30:38,790

before some authorities
in a total drunk state.

450

00:30:38,790 --> 00:30:46,370

He had the engineer
with him that he was--

451

00:30:46,370 --> 00:30:48,350

as I said, we were
inside the barracks

452

00:30:48,350 --> 00:30:54,920

looking out looking for some
signs of what is going on.

453

00:30:54,920 --> 00:30:58,190

Nobody bothering us
inside the camp at all.

454

00:30:58,190 --> 00:30:59,900

The SS guards being outside.

455

00:30:59,900 --> 00:31:03,050

Schindler arrives with
this engineer of his.

456

00:31:03,050 --> 00:31:09,970

And we hear him distinctly
pointing at the end of the camp

457

00:31:09,970 --> 00:31:21,420

ordering this engineer to build
a fence, a very high fence,

458

00:31:21,420 --> 00:31:28,480

with corrugated metal
solid so the outside

459

00:31:28,480 --> 00:31:32,430

the residents would not
be able to look inside

460

00:31:32,430 --> 00:31:35,430

to see that we have
food in the camp where

461

00:31:35,430 --> 00:31:36,510

they don't have any food.

462

00:31:36,510 --> 00:31:39,000

And that fence actually went up.

463

00:31:39,000 --> 00:31:41,490

He ordered the
engineer to do that,

464

00:31:41,490 --> 00:31:43,920

and that fence
eventually went up.

465

00:31:43,920 --> 00:31:46,830

Where in time this
was, I don't know.

466

00:31:46,830 --> 00:31:50,250

But weather wise that
I would remember,

467

00:31:50,250 --> 00:31:55,350
it could have been maybe
already April of 1945

468
00:31:55,350 --> 00:31:56,610
that this was happening.

469
00:31:56,610 --> 00:32:01,050
And it appeared that the
SS guards were totally

470
00:32:01,050 --> 00:32:05,560
under control of
Oskar Schindler.

471
00:32:05,560 --> 00:32:11,260
So the defense went up,
and there was peace.

472
00:32:11,260 --> 00:32:14,440
And also, the rumors
began to circulate

473
00:32:14,440 --> 00:32:24,780
that all this food and
sometimes carloads of kohlrabis

474
00:32:24,780 --> 00:32:32,340
or other foodstuffs, bread,
would arrive in large numbers

475
00:32:32,340 --> 00:32:33,870
into the camp.

476
00:32:33,870 --> 00:32:36,990
And the rumor had it
that Oskar Schindler

477
00:32:36,990 --> 00:32:41,800
was stealing those at
the railroad station

478
00:32:41,800 --> 00:32:47,010

and was able to commandeer
things to bring them

479
00:32:47,010 --> 00:32:48,930
into the camp.

480
00:32:48,930 --> 00:32:53,400
There was total chaos
amongst the Germans,

481
00:32:53,400 --> 00:32:56,850
and he appeared as the
highest ranking officer

482
00:32:56,850 --> 00:33:01,500
when he put on his SA uniform.

483
00:33:01,500 --> 00:33:04,650
And he had a bunch
of decorations on him

484
00:33:04,650 --> 00:33:07,640
that he obviously appeared
like the man in charge.

485
00:33:07,640 --> 00:33:09,470
And when he went to
the railroad stations

486
00:33:09,470 --> 00:33:15,710
and ordered things to be loaded
on cars and shipped to his camp

487
00:33:15,710 --> 00:33:17,090
or wherever he ordered them.

488
00:33:17,090 --> 00:33:19,650
He somehow succeeded in that.

489
00:33:19,650 --> 00:33:22,970
And it is also my understanding
that on occasion, he

490

00:33:22,970 --> 00:33:27,820

would unseal some
railroad cars that

491

00:33:27,820 --> 00:33:40,450

had some armaments or parts of
armaments that he was unable--

492

00:33:40,450 --> 00:33:44,680

he was able to unseal
those and put his own seal

493

00:33:44,680 --> 00:33:48,460

and his own name on them as
if he produced those things

494

00:33:48,460 --> 00:33:52,900

and ship them on to
the German hierarchy.

495

00:33:52,900 --> 00:33:57,470

496

00:33:57,470 --> 00:34:02,610

All this was going
on inside the camp.

497

00:34:02,610 --> 00:34:03,900

Things were bearable.

498

00:34:03,900 --> 00:34:06,840

I continued my
work at the villa,

499

00:34:06,840 --> 00:34:09,780

bringing back news that
the things for the Germans

500

00:34:09,780 --> 00:34:12,030

are turning bad.

501

00:34:12,030 --> 00:34:16,710

The BBC talking
about the Americans,

502
00:34:16,710 --> 00:34:22,239
the English successess.

503
00:34:22,239 --> 00:34:29,850
And eventually, on
May 8, Schindler

504
00:34:29,850 --> 00:34:34,120
called together all
this all his inmates.

505
00:34:34,120 --> 00:34:35,370
I have to correct that.

506
00:34:35,370 --> 00:34:41,480
On May 7, Schindler called
all his inmates together

507
00:34:41,480 --> 00:34:48,190
into this what used to be the
appelplatz inside the factory

508
00:34:48,190 --> 00:34:50,210
building.

509
00:34:50,210 --> 00:34:57,000
When we were all assembled,
he pointed to his open door

510
00:34:57,000 --> 00:35:00,840
in his own office inside
the factory, and he said,

511
00:35:00,840 --> 00:35:06,860
I have assembled 30
revolvers in that they were

512
00:35:06,860 --> 00:35:10,100
all on the table in his office.

513

00:35:10,100 --> 00:35:12,860

And for those of you who
know how to use them,

514

00:35:12,860 --> 00:35:17,450

you should distribute
them amongst yourselves

515

00:35:17,450 --> 00:35:22,940

and begin protecting
yourselves because all the SS

516

00:35:22,940 --> 00:35:28,240

guards from the camp are gone.

517

00:35:28,240 --> 00:35:32,880

Rumor later on had it that
Schindler faked an order

518

00:35:32,880 --> 00:35:37,170

for them to leave the barracks
and immediately report

519

00:35:37,170 --> 00:35:39,340

to the SS units in Prague.

520

00:35:39,340 --> 00:35:46,280

So that he announced to us
that we are no longer being

521

00:35:46,280 --> 00:35:47,750

watched by SS guards.

522

00:35:47,750 --> 00:35:55,720

But there is the potential
of stray German units coming

523

00:35:55,720 --> 00:35:59,260

through this area that could
still hurt us unless we

524

00:35:59,260 --> 00:36:01,970

begin to protect ourselves.

525

00:36:01,970 --> 00:36:07,160

And additionally, he said,
I have to leave this camp,

526

00:36:07,160 --> 00:36:11,380

I have to leave this
factory immediately.

527

00:36:11,380 --> 00:36:16,620

Because if I stay here, this
is deep in Czechoslovakia.

528

00:36:16,620 --> 00:36:19,350

529

00:36:19,350 --> 00:36:32,360

The Czechoslovaks would treat
him as a German authority,

530

00:36:32,360 --> 00:36:33,780

and he could potentially face--

531

00:36:33,780 --> 00:36:34,050

Prisoner of war?

532

00:36:34,050 --> 00:36:34,550

Yeah.

533

00:36:34,550 --> 00:36:36,780

And he could
potentially face trouble

534

00:36:36,780 --> 00:36:41,490

because since his original
contributions to the Germans

535

00:36:41,490 --> 00:36:43,630

took place inside
Czechoslovakia.

536

00:36:43,630 --> 00:36:47,390
So he was in danger of his life.

537
00:36:47,390 --> 00:36:51,710
And here, he asked that
some of our inmates

538
00:36:51,710 --> 00:36:57,200
volunteer to help him get across
into some American or English

539
00:36:57,200 --> 00:36:59,000
zone.

540
00:36:59,000 --> 00:37:02,690
And some of our inmates, whether
there were two or three that

541
00:37:02,690 --> 00:37:05,030
stepped forth to
help him get them

542
00:37:05,030 --> 00:37:11,540
across into the English
zone or American zone.

543
00:37:11,540 --> 00:37:12,890
It did take place.

544
00:37:12,890 --> 00:37:14,330
Schindler left.

545
00:37:14,330 --> 00:37:17,780
We were left inside
that concentration camp,

546
00:37:17,780 --> 00:37:19,640
inside that factory.

547
00:37:19,640 --> 00:37:22,280

548

00:37:22,280 --> 00:37:25,520
Until the next day or
on that appelplatz,

549
00:37:25,520 --> 00:37:33,030
he also announced to us
that the Germans will be

550
00:37:33,030 --> 00:37:35,760
signing a surrender tomorrow.

551
00:37:35,760 --> 00:37:36,990
This was on the 7th.

552
00:37:36,990 --> 00:37:40,500
And he told us that by
tomorrow, the Germans

553
00:37:40,500 --> 00:37:45,880
will be signing surrender,
and the war will be over.

554
00:37:45,880 --> 00:37:47,875
He announced those words to us.

555
00:37:47,875 --> 00:37:50,510

556
00:37:50,510 --> 00:37:56,560
The cries, the
laughs, the outburst

557
00:37:56,560 --> 00:38:01,840
that went up from our people
is still vivid in my memory

558
00:38:01,840 --> 00:38:02,870
till today.

559
00:38:02,870 --> 00:38:09,150
It was just a scene of
unbelievable confusion,

560

00:38:09,150 --> 00:38:15,280

happiness, unhappiness,
everything mixed together.

561

00:38:15,280 --> 00:38:21,310

As this developed, and the next
day, as Schindler promised,

562

00:38:21,310 --> 00:38:24,700

we did not hear about any
announcement of surrender.

563

00:38:24,700 --> 00:38:27,940

But we did see a
Russian soldier,

564

00:38:27,940 --> 00:38:31,900

a single Russian
soldier that looked

565

00:38:31,900 --> 00:38:35,860

like he was 20 foot tall on a
horse that was extremely small.

566

00:38:35,860 --> 00:38:38,680

At least, that's how it
appeared to me at the time.

567

00:38:38,680 --> 00:38:43,210

Marched into our camp and
declared that the Germans

568

00:38:43,210 --> 00:38:44,380

are no longer here.

569

00:38:44,380 --> 00:38:47,170

That the Russians have
marched into here,

570

00:38:47,170 --> 00:38:48,570

and we are free people.

571

00:38:48,570 --> 00:38:55,530

572

00:38:55,530 --> 00:39:01,020

We remained in there because
we had no guidance from anyone

573

00:39:01,020 --> 00:39:05,370

inside the camp other
than to protect ourselves.

574

00:39:05,370 --> 00:39:08,910

We really did not know what
and when-- some of our people

575

00:39:08,910 --> 00:39:10,875

were sick, weak.

576

00:39:10,875 --> 00:39:13,950

577

00:39:13,950 --> 00:39:19,430

And we did not know the
next step immediately.

578

00:39:19,430 --> 00:39:23,060

Some of the older
inmates knew that amongst

579

00:39:23,060 --> 00:39:28,550

us are some of those
Ukrainian Polish guards

580

00:39:28,550 --> 00:39:34,700

that brought the women
from Auschwitz to our camp,

581

00:39:34,700 --> 00:39:37,790

and these inmates of
ours wanted to know

582

00:39:37,790 --> 00:39:41,000

from the Russians what we do

with that because now, we--

583
00:39:41,000 --> 00:39:42,980
evidently, they
had an eye on them

584
00:39:42,980 --> 00:39:46,490
and took them as prisoners.

585
00:39:46,490 --> 00:39:52,760
And they wanted to know from the
Russians what we do with them.

586
00:39:52,760 --> 00:39:59,240
And the Russians evidently
gave our inmates permission

587
00:39:59,240 --> 00:40:02,610
to deal with them as
we see appropriate.

588
00:40:02,610 --> 00:40:07,140
So some of those
inmates that were now

589
00:40:07,140 --> 00:40:10,200
held by the former
prisoners were actually

590
00:40:10,200 --> 00:40:15,540
hung on the factory pipes
right after the war.

591
00:40:15,540 --> 00:40:18,260

592
00:40:18,260 --> 00:40:21,690
We eventually were freed.

593
00:40:21,690 --> 00:40:29,530
And when Schindler was
leaving, he also pointed to us,

594

00:40:29,530 --> 00:40:35,730

pointed out to us, that he
has warehouses full of stuff.

595

00:40:35,730 --> 00:40:40,000

As I spoke about this, he
was able to organize those

596

00:40:40,000 --> 00:40:45,160

by going to the train stations
and ordering things to be

597

00:40:45,160 --> 00:40:48,610

shipped wherever he desired.

598

00:40:48,610 --> 00:40:51,190

In this, he had
warehouses full of stuff.

599

00:40:51,190 --> 00:40:56,170

Full of liquors,
full of foodstuffs.

600

00:40:56,170 --> 00:40:57,910

He had materials.

601

00:40:57,910 --> 00:41:00,460

He had clothing.

602

00:41:00,460 --> 00:41:04,000

He had house shoes, as
I recall, in all those.

603

00:41:04,000 --> 00:41:08,050

And he told us on in
his parting message

604

00:41:08,050 --> 00:41:16,030

that all this should be
divided amongst the inmates.

605

00:41:16,030 --> 00:41:19,750

And we should do it as fast as
we can because the Russians are

606
00:41:19,750 --> 00:41:22,600
marching in here, and
there is a good chance

607
00:41:22,600 --> 00:41:26,570
that they would take this
because they needed probably

608
00:41:26,570 --> 00:41:29,210
almost as much as we did.

609
00:41:29,210 --> 00:41:32,950
So some of our inmates
took charge immediately

610
00:41:32,950 --> 00:41:37,700
of those revolvers, of the
ammunition that was available.

611
00:41:37,700 --> 00:41:40,150
And we were obviously protected.

612
00:41:40,150 --> 00:41:45,620
No one was harmed by
stray German units.

613
00:41:45,620 --> 00:41:49,520
Schindler has left,
and we were now

614
00:41:49,520 --> 00:41:53,720
being dispensed all
those materials that were

615
00:41:53,720 --> 00:41:57,740
in warehouses and that factory.

616
00:41:57,740 --> 00:42:02,330
I recall receiving some
shoes, some house shoes,

617
00:42:02,330 --> 00:42:05,180
some materials that
I eventually could

618
00:42:05,180 --> 00:42:07,850
make a suit and
some other stuff,

619
00:42:07,850 --> 00:42:10,250
which I don't recall
at the moment.

620
00:42:10,250 --> 00:42:16,540
But eventually, we were free.

621
00:42:16,540 --> 00:42:20,990
And it also appears that
everybody was totally

622
00:42:20,990 --> 00:42:21,810
on his own.

623
00:42:21,810 --> 00:42:23,930
There was no authority.

624
00:42:23,930 --> 00:42:27,140
No Russian authority
directing us any place.

625
00:42:27,140 --> 00:42:31,010
No Czechoslovakian authority
directing us anyplace.

626
00:42:31,010 --> 00:42:35,780
We just had to follow what
our own imaginations would

627
00:42:35,780 --> 00:42:38,480
guide us to do.

628
00:42:38,480 --> 00:42:42,410

I joined a group of 17 people.

629
00:42:42,410 --> 00:42:50,640
That is 13 men, 4 women,
that evidently selected

630
00:42:50,640 --> 00:42:53,460
Krakow was our destination.

631
00:42:53,460 --> 00:42:57,990
And we would begin a
march towards Krakow.

632
00:42:57,990 --> 00:43:03,575
We simply left the camp under
no one's guidance, under--

633
00:43:03,575 --> 00:43:06,792

634
00:43:06,792 --> 00:43:09,550
with lack of
knowledge of what we

635
00:43:09,550 --> 00:43:11,330
are going to have
to pass through.

636
00:43:11,330 --> 00:43:15,970
Whether there was still some
fighting going on in place.

637
00:43:15,970 --> 00:43:19,640
We nonetheless left
the camp, 17 of us.

638
00:43:19,640 --> 00:43:25,995
We were able to round
up a horse and wagon.

639
00:43:25,995 --> 00:43:29,160

640

00:43:29,160 --> 00:43:31,500

The horses at that
time were simply

641

00:43:31,500 --> 00:43:34,500

roaming the fields, some
of them being injured

642

00:43:34,500 --> 00:43:37,950

from the war and some
of them simply left

643

00:43:37,950 --> 00:43:40,905

by fleeing German units.

644

00:43:40,905 --> 00:43:42,405

They were simply
roaming the fields,

645

00:43:42,405 --> 00:43:47,940

so we were able to take a
horse or two and a wagon,

646

00:43:47,940 --> 00:43:51,480

load up on this wagon
whatever materials we just

647

00:43:51,480 --> 00:44:00,060

received from the warehouses
of Oskar Schindler,

648

00:44:00,060 --> 00:44:02,220

take those with us.

649

00:44:02,220 --> 00:44:05,940

And those of us
that were stronger

650

00:44:05,940 --> 00:44:09,030

would march behind the wagon.

651

00:44:09,030 --> 00:44:13,110

Those that were weaker
were on the wagon.

652
00:44:13,110 --> 00:44:17,280
And we would exchanged
those that were riding

653
00:44:17,280 --> 00:44:18,360
and those were walking.

654
00:44:18,360 --> 00:44:21,840
And we did that for
the next seven days.

655
00:44:21,840 --> 00:44:25,980

656
00:44:25,980 --> 00:44:28,800
The horses would
not last that long

657
00:44:28,800 --> 00:44:30,480
because they were
injured horses.

658
00:44:30,480 --> 00:44:35,950
So during that March of
the seven or so days,

659
00:44:35,950 --> 00:44:38,580
we would have to exchange
these injured horses

660
00:44:38,580 --> 00:44:42,990
for other injured
horses to pull our wagon

661
00:44:42,990 --> 00:44:49,500
to help us get to our
destination of Krakow.

662
00:44:49,500 --> 00:44:54,840
We never reached Krakow itself.

663

00:44:54,840 --> 00:45:01,950

We went as far as Wroclaw, which
was a former city of Breslau,

664

00:45:01,950 --> 00:45:05,470

a German city.

665

00:45:05,470 --> 00:45:12,760

When we got to Wroclaw, there
was some semblance of normality

666

00:45:12,760 --> 00:45:14,440

already existing there.

667

00:45:14,440 --> 00:45:19,780

There were already residents
trying to rebuild the city.

668

00:45:19,780 --> 00:45:22,870

All the outskirts
and railroad cars

669

00:45:22,870 --> 00:45:28,150

and the city itself
of Breslau was totally

670

00:45:28,150 --> 00:45:30,960

destroyed during the
war from bombardments.

671

00:45:30,960 --> 00:45:34,330

I recall buildings
that were totally

672

00:45:34,330 --> 00:45:38,120

destroyed with just one room
still functioning or something.

673

00:45:38,120 --> 00:45:44,920

And we were accommodated in
those bombed-out buildings.

674

00:45:44,920 --> 00:45:53,020

And eventually, from
Wroclow, or Breslau,

675

00:45:53,020 --> 00:45:58,030

I would have to think that
I was able to eventually get

676

00:45:58,030 --> 00:46:01,210

on a train and go
from there to Poland

677

00:46:01,210 --> 00:46:04,850

and eventually
wind up in Krakow.

678

00:46:04,850 --> 00:46:06,140

Potentially.

679

00:46:06,140 --> 00:46:10,910

Three or four weeks after
the May 8, of end of the war,

680

00:46:10,910 --> 00:46:13,661

I arrived in Krakow.

681

00:46:13,661 --> 00:46:15,200

And what did you find there?

682

00:46:15,200 --> 00:46:28,100

683

00:46:28,100 --> 00:46:30,690

But somehow, within
the next few days,

684

00:46:30,690 --> 00:46:36,600

we all went out on our
own in search of families,

685

00:46:36,600 --> 00:46:39,345

whether family members of ours.

686
00:46:39,345 --> 00:46:49,030

687
00:46:49,030 --> 00:46:54,130
As I mentioned, all of our
group, all the 17 people,

688
00:46:54,130 --> 00:46:55,810
went out on their own.

689
00:46:55,810 --> 00:47:01,770
I traveled back to Borek
FaÅ,Ä™cki immediately and inquired

690
00:47:01,770 --> 00:47:06,960
of neighbors, of
my former employer,

691
00:47:06,960 --> 00:47:12,630
whether he has seen any
one of my family members.

692
00:47:12,630 --> 00:47:17,900
No one was able to
shed any light on that.

693
00:47:17,900 --> 00:47:22,490
The situation was very difficult
for me to remain in Borek

694
00:47:22,490 --> 00:47:27,500
FaÅ,Ä™cki because it's just
seemed like it was unsafe yet

695
00:47:27,500 --> 00:47:31,640
because of the anti-Semitism,
which didn't somehow disappear

696
00:47:31,640 --> 00:47:34,380
with the war.

697

00:47:34,380 --> 00:47:38,400
And from word that we got
from other Jewish members who

698
00:47:38,400 --> 00:47:42,090
traveled to different
locations of their homes,

699
00:47:42,090 --> 00:47:45,760
and they felt extremely
unsafe, based on that,

700
00:47:45,760 --> 00:47:51,960
I also felt unsafe and
returned back to Krakow.

701
00:47:51,960 --> 00:47:59,060
By that time, I discovered that
some of the people from the 17

702
00:47:59,060 --> 00:48:02,620
people that I returned
with have found

703
00:48:02,620 --> 00:48:07,090
some relatives, either
close ones or distant ones.

704
00:48:07,090 --> 00:48:09,070
And in fact, I
discovered that I was

705
00:48:09,070 --> 00:48:14,320
the only one of the
group of 17 that

706
00:48:14,320 --> 00:48:18,600
so far did not find
anyone, distant relative

707
00:48:18,600 --> 00:48:20,980
or a close relative.

708

00:48:20,980 --> 00:48:28,110

Eventually, one
of the 17 people I

709

00:48:28,110 --> 00:48:32,250

was able to find a
place for me to stay

710

00:48:32,250 --> 00:48:36,960

with them in a
one-room situation

711

00:48:36,960 --> 00:48:39,450

where it seemed
like maybe 20 or 30

712

00:48:39,450 --> 00:48:44,100

people that had no place
to go were accommodated

713

00:48:44,100 --> 00:48:46,105

by this one person in Krakow.

714

00:48:46,105 --> 00:48:50,230

715

00:48:50,230 --> 00:48:54,910

In Krakow, the organization's,
Jewish organizations,

716

00:48:54,910 --> 00:49:01,090

UNRRA, other organizations,
became active

717

00:49:01,090 --> 00:49:05,530

and sent out calls
for people to begin

718

00:49:05,530 --> 00:49:10,810

to look for lists at certain
places of people who survived

719

00:49:10,810 --> 00:49:13,090

and returned so that
we will be able to look

720
00:49:13,090 --> 00:49:19,560
whether any of our relatives
returned from the war.

721
00:49:19,560 --> 00:49:24,450
This was my daily function
to go to those places

722
00:49:24,450 --> 00:49:28,120
and look for lists up and down.

723
00:49:28,120 --> 00:49:35,480
I did not find any names of my
family on any of those lists.

724
00:49:35,480 --> 00:49:38,180
Eventually, I was assigned
some housing in Krakow

725
00:49:38,180 --> 00:49:43,940
itself were myself with
three other people lived

726
00:49:43,940 --> 00:49:51,200
in one room, which was formerly
a student's building in Krakow.

727
00:49:51,200 --> 00:49:56,960
On one of those daily trips
to these schools or gathering

728
00:49:56,960 --> 00:49:59,780
places where they were
bringing in some inmates

729
00:49:59,780 --> 00:50:06,510
from some concentration
camps like Mauthausen,

730
00:50:06,510 --> 00:50:13,120

other Theresienstadt,
Auschwitz, I, by that time,

731
00:50:13,120 --> 00:50:18,250
I already gave up or
did not have any hope

732
00:50:18,250 --> 00:50:21,460
anymore that any one of my
family members is alive.

733
00:50:21,460 --> 00:50:26,800
This was already going on
a few weeks into post-war,

734
00:50:26,800 --> 00:50:28,180
and no one was appearing.

735
00:50:28,180 --> 00:50:32,430
And I practically gave up hope.

736
00:50:32,430 --> 00:50:37,400
But on one of those trips,
I found a bunch of returnees

737
00:50:37,400 --> 00:50:45,020
from Mauthausen, and I
somehow had knowledge

738
00:50:45,020 --> 00:50:49,650
that one of my close friends,
a fellow by the name of Adam

739
00:50:49,650 --> 00:50:54,480
Mundell, was in Mauthausen.

740
00:50:54,480 --> 00:51:00,480
When we were separated once
before in Krakow-Plaszow,

741
00:51:00,480 --> 00:51:03,780
we were close
friends, and I somehow

742
00:51:03,780 --> 00:51:05,760
understood that he
went to Mauthausen.

743
00:51:05,760 --> 00:51:09,690
And so in this
transport of people

744
00:51:09,690 --> 00:51:11,310
that arrived from
the Mauthausen,

745
00:51:11,310 --> 00:51:15,560
those that survived-- and
they were all very ill.

746
00:51:15,560 --> 00:51:18,050
When I arrived in
this school building

747
00:51:18,050 --> 00:51:23,660
where those survivors arrived,
they were all sitting or laying

748
00:51:23,660 --> 00:51:26,420
on the floors.

749
00:51:26,420 --> 00:51:27,950
Very poor shape.

750
00:51:27,950 --> 00:51:30,920
Very bad health wise.

751
00:51:30,920 --> 00:51:33,380
I already have
eaten, and I already

752
00:51:33,380 --> 00:51:34,970
had closing by that time.

753
00:51:34,970 --> 00:51:41,420

But those people were
in horrible shape.

754
00:51:41,420 --> 00:51:44,830
Some of them not even
remembering their names.

755
00:51:44,830 --> 00:51:48,670
So I, along with
another friend of mine,

756
00:51:48,670 --> 00:51:53,500
began walking through those
survivors of Mauthausen

757
00:51:53,500 --> 00:51:58,390
and shouting Adam
Mundell loudly.

758
00:51:58,390 --> 00:52:03,190
Was it this friend of ours would
be amongst those survivors?

759
00:52:03,190 --> 00:52:09,300
Because no one was
recognizable, really.

760
00:52:09,300 --> 00:52:11,820
We couldn't recognize anyone.

761
00:52:11,820 --> 00:52:15,730
Poorly clothed, poorly
fed, and in real bad shape.

762
00:52:15,730 --> 00:52:17,340
So the only way
we could discover

763
00:52:17,340 --> 00:52:20,760
whether anyone that we know was
there was to yell their name,

764
00:52:20,760 --> 00:52:23,070

and maybe somebody
would respond.

765
00:52:23,070 --> 00:52:26,190
And sure enough, on
one of those trips,

766
00:52:26,190 --> 00:52:29,820
I was there was a friend of
mine yelling Adam Mundell.

767
00:52:29,820 --> 00:52:32,520
And a fellow answered
to that name.

768
00:52:32,520 --> 00:52:35,670
Stood up, unfolded from
the floor and stood up,

769
00:52:35,670 --> 00:52:38,190
and that was my friend
of Adam Mundell.

770
00:52:38,190 --> 00:52:40,790
This was about
the closest that I

771
00:52:40,790 --> 00:52:45,990
came to seeing any
one of my friends.

772
00:52:45,990 --> 00:52:48,290
My relatives were not
found by that time,

773
00:52:48,290 --> 00:52:51,470
and no one was ever
found from my relatives,

774
00:52:51,470 --> 00:52:53,570
but this was the closest
friend that I found

775

00:52:53,570 --> 00:52:57,350
and the only close friend that I
found that I knew from before--

776
00:52:57,350 --> 00:52:58,400
Adam Mundell.

777
00:52:58,400 --> 00:53:03,980
Took him with me out of this
waiting room in the school

778
00:53:03,980 --> 00:53:07,490
and he began living together
with us in that building,

779
00:53:07,490 --> 00:53:09,230
in that students
building in Krakow.

780
00:53:09,230 --> 00:53:13,670

781
00:53:13,670 --> 00:53:18,460
As far as you can
tell, your family

782
00:53:18,460 --> 00:53:22,945
was killed during that
liquidation of March?

783
00:53:22,945 --> 00:53:24,250
March 13.

784
00:53:24,250 --> 00:53:25,670
March 1943.

785
00:53:25,670 --> 00:53:26,170
Yes.

786
00:53:26,170 --> 00:53:29,890
As far as I can
ascertain at this point

787

00:53:29,890 --> 00:53:32,860

from reading
different materials,

788

00:53:32,860 --> 00:53:42,420

from talking to former
residents of the Krakow ghetto,

789

00:53:42,420 --> 00:53:46,320

very few people from
there went anyplace else

790

00:53:46,320 --> 00:53:49,200

but to Krakow-Plaszow.

791

00:53:49,200 --> 00:53:52,410

Some few only want
to Krakow-Plaszow.

792

00:53:52,410 --> 00:53:58,420

And only us, the ones that
worked at the Oskar Schindler

793

00:53:58,420 --> 00:54:01,450

factory and held
overnight, those

794

00:54:01,450 --> 00:54:05,110

were the only ones survived,
that survived that camp.

795

00:54:05,110 --> 00:54:09,280

And to the best of my
knowledge, at this point,

796

00:54:09,280 --> 00:54:12,910

no one left from there
to any other camp

797

00:54:12,910 --> 00:54:16,410

simply was killed in
the ghetto itself.

798

00:54:16,410 --> 00:54:18,090

All the shooting
and all the killing

799

00:54:18,090 --> 00:54:19,320

was done inside the ghetto.

800

00:54:19,320 --> 00:54:23,970

Those transports never
left any place at all.

801

00:54:23,970 --> 00:54:29,110

So I have never found
anyone from my family,

802

00:54:29,110 --> 00:54:32,252

not even from distant relatives.

803

00:54:32,252 --> 00:54:39,460

And to this point, I always
look through books and lists,

804

00:54:39,460 --> 00:54:44,260

but at this point
in 1992, I still

805

00:54:44,260 --> 00:54:46,720

have not found any
close relative of mine

806

00:54:46,720 --> 00:54:48,010

that survived the war.

807

00:54:48,010 --> 00:54:49,780

I'm the only one that survived.

808

00:54:49,780 --> 00:54:52,060

You're the only
survivor of the Urbach.

809

00:54:52,060 --> 00:54:55,490

Of the Urbach or any Bolinger

family from that area.

810
00:54:55,490 --> 00:54:58,920

811
00:54:58,920 --> 00:55:04,354
When did you realize
that the Oskar Schindler

812
00:55:04,354 --> 00:55:06,140
episode would become famous?

813
00:55:06,140 --> 00:55:14,130

814
00:55:14,130 --> 00:55:32,940
After my settling in Krakow, the
situation became clearer to me

815
00:55:32,940 --> 00:55:35,820
that no one survived.

816
00:55:35,820 --> 00:55:42,730
It also became clear to me
that Poland was no place

817
00:55:42,730 --> 00:55:47,320
to remain, number 1, because
of my previous knowledge

818
00:55:47,320 --> 00:55:49,540
of anti-Semitism.

819
00:55:49,540 --> 00:55:53,350
Number 2, the Russians
were there now,

820
00:55:53,350 --> 00:55:56,560
and we already
began to understand

821
00:55:56,560 --> 00:55:59,620

the Russians were not
only the liberators

822
00:55:59,620 --> 00:56:03,670
but they also have a
totalitarian state.

823
00:56:03,670 --> 00:56:07,480
And certainly, Poland
was no place to remain.

824
00:56:07,480 --> 00:56:12,210
And I began to look
towards traveling out

825
00:56:12,210 --> 00:56:18,630
of Poland into the
American or English zone

826
00:56:18,630 --> 00:56:22,870
to somehow get away
from communism.

827
00:56:22,870 --> 00:56:31,310
For a while, I traveled to Usti
nad Labem or the German name

828
00:56:31,310 --> 00:56:36,100
for it would have
been Aussig, and hoped

829
00:56:36,100 --> 00:56:39,490
to settle in Czechoslovakia
because I was,

830
00:56:39,490 --> 00:56:46,650
when the war ended and from
my experience and knowledge

831
00:56:46,650 --> 00:56:50,730
of the Czechoslovak people,
they were the friendliest people

832

00:56:50,730 --> 00:56:51,940
I have ever come across.

833
00:56:51,940 --> 00:56:54,450

834
00:56:54,450 --> 00:57:00,300
And my own thinking led me to
believe that maybe, somehow,

835
00:57:00,300 --> 00:57:04,320
settling in Czechoslovakia
would be the place.

836
00:57:04,320 --> 00:57:10,050
And three of us
made that decision

837
00:57:10,050 --> 00:57:15,660
to somehow escape from Poland
and travel to Czechoslovakia

838
00:57:15,660 --> 00:57:18,870
and settle in the
city of Aussig.

839
00:57:18,870 --> 00:57:22,950
I don't remember at this moment
how we have to pick Aussig,

840
00:57:22,950 --> 00:57:25,620
but that's where we
were heading for.

841
00:57:25,620 --> 00:57:28,340

842
00:57:28,340 --> 00:57:32,770
But when we got to
Aussig and we already

843
00:57:32,770 --> 00:57:38,790
had some living quarters

there, we were not in touch

844

00:57:38,790 --> 00:57:42,360
with any Jewish organizations
that would provide us

845

00:57:42,360 --> 00:57:46,710
more definite instructions or
more definite help as to where

846

00:57:46,710 --> 00:57:48,970
and what.

847

00:57:48,970 --> 00:57:52,220
We were somehow on our own.

848

00:57:52,220 --> 00:57:57,660
And we began to recognize that
the Russians or the communists

849

00:57:57,660 --> 00:57:58,560
are there, too.

850

00:57:58,560 --> 00:58:02,440
And this was no place to stay.

851

00:58:02,440 --> 00:58:05,130
So we began to look,
the three of us

852

00:58:05,130 --> 00:58:09,090
began to look to escaping
from Czechoslovakia

853

00:58:09,090 --> 00:58:13,140
into the American
or English zone.

854

00:58:13,140 --> 00:58:16,250
And that's what
we eventually did.

855

00:58:16,250 --> 00:58:18,860
But before we escaped
from Czechoslovakia,

856
00:58:18,860 --> 00:58:22,670
we also discovered
that we acquired

857
00:58:22,670 --> 00:58:25,130
all of a sudden
the skill of being

858
00:58:25,130 --> 00:58:31,280
able to cross the
Polish-Czechoslov border fairly

859
00:58:31,280 --> 00:58:38,700
efficiently and without being
caught by the Russians or Poles

860
00:58:38,700 --> 00:58:40,200
or Czechoslovaks.

861
00:58:40,200 --> 00:58:45,120
So for a while, I
acted as a courier

862
00:58:45,120 --> 00:58:47,130
in trying to help
some people that

863
00:58:47,130 --> 00:58:51,150
wanted to get out of Poland
and help them smuggle them

864
00:58:51,150 --> 00:58:55,770
out of Poland into
Czechoslovakia and eventually

865
00:58:55,770 --> 00:58:59,570
into West Germany.

866
00:58:59,570 --> 00:59:03,290

I was able to smuggle out
at least two people out

867
00:59:03,290 --> 00:59:08,390
of the Krakow to Czechoslovakia
and from Czechoslovakia

868
00:59:08,390 --> 00:59:14,780
to help them get into
the American zone,

869
00:59:14,780 --> 00:59:19,720
and eventually wound up
settling in Bamberg, Germany.

870
00:59:19,720 --> 00:59:23,320

871
00:59:23,320 --> 00:59:34,790
Oskar Schindler re-entered
into my knowledge

872
00:59:34,790 --> 00:59:41,130
that he, in fact, survived,
and he lived in Munich.

873
00:59:41,130 --> 00:59:45,670
And I went to see him in Munich.

874
00:59:45,670 --> 00:59:49,460
He somehow had the
knowledge to recognize me.

875
00:59:49,460 --> 00:59:52,100
And he called me by
the name of Romick.

876
00:59:52,100 --> 00:59:56,020

877
00:59:56,020 --> 00:59:59,380
Romick somehow was given to me.

878

00:59:59,380 --> 01:00:02,410

The name Romick was given
to me somehow in the process

879

01:00:02,410 --> 01:00:07,540

of the war because at one
time, I was called Schlomick,

880

01:00:07,540 --> 01:00:12,460

but that became an awkward name,
so somebody popped out Romick.

881

01:00:12,460 --> 01:00:14,500

And the name Romick stuck.

882

01:00:14,500 --> 01:00:17,770

And evidently, Schindler
remember that name,

883

01:00:17,770 --> 01:00:20,830

and so he still
remembered Romick.

884

01:00:20,830 --> 01:00:23,770

885

01:00:23,770 --> 01:00:26,770

Later on in years,
I became aware of it

886

01:00:26,770 --> 01:00:33,610

that Schindler was,
in fact, a recognized

887

01:00:33,610 --> 01:00:36,370

Christian for helping Jews.

888

01:00:36,370 --> 01:00:38,740

And it became common
knowledge that he

889

01:00:38,740 --> 01:00:41,950

was a guest of the
Israeli government

890
01:00:41,950 --> 01:00:46,600
and that he frequently
traveled to Israel, where

891
01:00:46,600 --> 01:00:50,890
he was celebrated as a
hero by the former inmates

892
01:00:50,890 --> 01:00:57,410
of the concentration camps and
especially those that he helped

893
01:00:57,410 --> 01:00:57,910
survive.

894
01:00:57,910 --> 01:01:00,490

895
01:01:00,490 --> 01:01:04,550
In one of those
trips, on my trips

896
01:01:04,550 --> 01:01:13,430
that I went to Israel in
1973, I was aware of it

897
01:01:13,430 --> 01:01:15,800
that Schindler was in
the country at that time

898
01:01:15,800 --> 01:01:21,620
and found the address
of Oskar Schindler.

899
01:01:21,620 --> 01:01:26,120
And I, together with
my family at that time,

900
01:01:26,120 --> 01:01:30,970
my wife, my children,

we went to visit

901
01:01:30,970 --> 01:01:36,160
Oskar Schindler in Tel Aviv.

902
01:01:36,160 --> 01:01:39,730
And when I walked in,
he was already a man

903
01:01:39,730 --> 01:01:45,470
after a slight stroke,
but he did recognize me.

904
01:01:45,470 --> 01:01:49,340
And he yelled out, Romick.

905
01:01:49,340 --> 01:01:52,950

906
01:01:52,950 --> 01:01:54,220
He called my name again.

907
01:01:54,220 --> 01:01:56,340
He still remembered
my name at that time.

908
01:01:56,340 --> 01:01:57,240
We spoke briefly.

909
01:01:57,240 --> 01:02:00,990

910
01:02:00,990 --> 01:02:02,410
And we parted.

911
01:02:02,410 --> 01:02:04,920
And he eventually
died the same year

912
01:02:04,920 --> 01:02:08,240
and was buried on Mount
Scopus in Jerusalem.

913
01:02:08,240 --> 01:02:10,880

914
01:02:10,880 --> 01:02:13,480
He didn't know your
last name, then.

915
01:02:13,480 --> 01:02:15,250
So the mystery of the list.

916
01:02:15,250 --> 01:02:18,490
The mystery of the
list continues, right.

917
01:02:18,490 --> 01:02:21,280
There was only, as I
speculated already,

918
01:02:21,280 --> 01:02:24,580
that was one chance that
some German official

919
01:02:24,580 --> 01:02:29,523
in the Krakow-Plaszow ghetto
was handed a list of who

920
01:02:29,523 --> 01:02:30,440
is going to Schindler.

921
01:02:30,440 --> 01:02:33,690
It was unbeknown to me,
but there is a good chance

922
01:02:33,690 --> 01:02:37,010
that there are some people
who would have known

923
01:02:37,010 --> 01:02:38,540
how this list was created.

924
01:02:38,540 --> 01:02:42,790

It certainly was not
born in Gross-Rosen.

925
01:02:42,790 --> 01:02:49,000
As you know, there's been a
literature grown regarding

926
01:02:49,000 --> 01:02:52,350
his factory and his lists.

927
01:02:52,350 --> 01:02:56,360
I'm sure you're familiar
with some of them.

928
01:02:56,360 --> 01:03:02,710
What can you tell us regarding
how the system really operated

929
01:03:02,710 --> 01:03:07,267
and how were people
saved by Schindler?

930
01:03:07,267 --> 01:03:11,650

931
01:03:11,650 --> 01:03:31,260
Schindler managed to befriend
the head of the SS guards

932
01:03:31,260 --> 01:03:35,800
of Krakow-Plaszow, Amon Goth.

933
01:03:35,800 --> 01:03:39,350
He somehow managed
to befriend him.

934
01:03:39,350 --> 01:03:42,380
And from what it
appeared at that time

935
01:03:42,380 --> 01:03:48,720
and it was confirmed later
on, this brutal murderer,

936
01:03:48,720 --> 01:03:55,880
Amon Goth, looked to
Schindler and believed

937
01:03:55,880 --> 01:04:01,920
that Schindler is a
capable individual

938
01:04:01,920 --> 01:04:06,180
and that he would somehow
help them accumulate

939
01:04:06,180 --> 01:04:08,960
wealth and well-being.

940
01:04:08,960 --> 01:04:11,690
And so somehow, a
extreme friendship

941
01:04:11,690 --> 01:04:16,470
developed with those two people.

942
01:04:16,470 --> 01:04:19,970
And there is also
the slight chance

943
01:04:19,970 --> 01:04:27,390
that Schindler was able to
hand a list later on also.

944
01:04:27,390 --> 01:04:29,610
I have no knowledge of
this because someplace

945
01:04:29,610 --> 01:04:33,510
along the line, at that
particular time of confusion

946
01:04:33,510 --> 01:04:36,930
when we were being transferred
from one camp to another,

947

01:04:36,930 --> 01:04:43,070
Oskar Schindler, as well as Amon
Goth, wound up in German jail.

948

01:04:43,070 --> 01:04:46,760
This was not the first time that
they wound up in German jail

949

01:04:46,760 --> 01:04:49,940
or that Oskar Schindler
wound up in German jail.

950

01:04:49,940 --> 01:04:54,020
And he wound up in German
jail, as rumor would have it

951

01:04:54,020 --> 01:04:59,810
at that time, because
German authorities became

952

01:04:59,810 --> 01:05:05,060
aware of his ability to
accumulate wealth and having

953

01:05:05,060 --> 01:05:08,720
warehouses of materials,
even back in Poland.

954

01:05:08,720 --> 01:05:11,570
That something was fishy.

955

01:05:11,570 --> 01:05:14,210
But Oskar Schindler never
stayed long enough in jail

956

01:05:14,210 --> 01:05:18,320
because some of his cohorts
and good friends from Berlin

957

01:05:18,320 --> 01:05:22,820
would set him free
again, and he went back

958

01:05:22,820 --> 01:05:27,230
to doing exactly what he was
doing before after he came out

959

01:05:27,230 --> 01:05:28,980
from jail.

960

01:05:28,980 --> 01:05:41,190
I recall that Oskar Schindler
was just came out of jail

961

01:05:41,190 --> 01:05:46,140
not long before we
came to Brunnlitz.

962

01:05:46,140 --> 01:05:49,750
And when we were
already in Brunnlitz,

963

01:05:49,750 --> 01:05:55,360
this Amon Goth who conducted
all these hangings and shootings

964

01:05:55,360 --> 01:05:59,480
and murders acts
in Krakow-Plaszow

965

01:05:59,480 --> 01:06:02,990
also appeared in Brunnlitz.

966

01:06:02,990 --> 01:06:05,180
At one time, I
remember seeing him.

967

01:06:05,180 --> 01:06:08,110

968

01:06:08,110 --> 01:06:13,810
But this Amon Goth was
no longer the Amon Goth

969

01:06:13,810 --> 01:06:17,790

of the SS guard with
the almighty power,

970
01:06:17,790 --> 01:06:21,820
but somehow, they stripped
him of all his ranks

971
01:06:21,820 --> 01:06:29,530
while he was in jail because
he was in jail at that time,

972
01:06:29,530 --> 01:06:35,320
as rumor would have it, for
stealing the transfers of foods

973
01:06:35,320 --> 01:06:38,470
that would arrive
into the concentration

974
01:06:38,470 --> 01:06:42,460
camp from some Jewish
organizations abroad

975
01:06:42,460 --> 01:06:44,710
or Red Cross or so on.

976
01:06:44,710 --> 01:06:48,490
He was stealing those,
and he was turning them

977
01:06:48,490 --> 01:06:51,980
into gold and diamonds
and other things.

978
01:06:51,980 --> 01:06:55,390
So when he appeared
in Brunnlitz,

979
01:06:55,390 --> 01:06:58,030
he looked like a former inmate.

980
01:06:58,030 --> 01:06:59,950
The clothes that he

once wore and looked

981

01:06:59,950 --> 01:07:03,840

so tall and big and fat--

982

01:07:03,840 --> 01:07:05,970

it was not the same man anymore.

983

01:07:05,970 --> 01:07:08,700

He looked like he went through
hell in the German jail.

984

01:07:08,700 --> 01:07:11,920

985

01:07:11,920 --> 01:07:17,110

This Amon Goth eventually
traveled back to Poland

986

01:07:17,110 --> 01:07:19,690

because evidently, that's
where he was assigned.

987

01:07:19,690 --> 01:07:22,180

He did not-- he came to
Brunnlitz only because

988

01:07:22,180 --> 01:07:24,460

of his friendship
with Oskar Schindler.

989

01:07:24,460 --> 01:07:28,180

So he evidently came to
visit Oskar Schindler.

990

01:07:28,180 --> 01:07:30,490

But it also appears
that Oskar Schindler

991

01:07:30,490 --> 01:07:34,540

didn't return the
friendship and did not

992

01:07:34,540 --> 01:07:39,430

help him stay with
him in Czechoslovakia.

993

01:07:39,430 --> 01:07:42,850

But from what I
discovered later on,

994

01:07:42,850 --> 01:07:50,850

Amon Goth returned
to Poland, to Krakow.

995

01:07:50,850 --> 01:07:53,500

And in fact, when the
Russians marched in,

996

01:07:53,500 --> 01:08:01,520

Amon Goth was captured by the
Poles in that city of Krakow,

997

01:08:01,520 --> 01:08:06,260

where he conducted this
horribly brutal camp

998

01:08:06,260 --> 01:08:10,250

and eventually was sentenced
to death by hanging.

999

01:08:10,250 --> 01:08:14,570

And he was hung in Krakow
by the Polish authorities.

1000

01:08:14,570 --> 01:08:17,200

1001

01:08:17,200 --> 01:08:20,080

Oskar Schindler also
had great influence

1002

01:08:20,080 --> 01:08:22,060

from what I have observed.

1003

01:08:22,060 --> 01:08:25,220

1004

01:08:25,220 --> 01:08:29,899

While the criminal acts of
Amon Goth were going on inside

1005

01:08:29,899 --> 01:08:34,250

the camp-- hangings,
lynchings, shootings, beatings,

1006

01:08:34,250 --> 01:08:36,890

the whole catastrophe--

1007

01:08:36,890 --> 01:08:42,700

it was also known to us at that
time that if Oskar Schindler

1008

01:08:42,700 --> 01:08:48,330

entered the Krakow-Plaszow of
camp on a visit to Amon Goth,

1009

01:08:48,330 --> 01:08:52,740

Krakow-Plaszow Amon would
suspend all the activities

1010

01:08:52,740 --> 01:08:59,370

of hangings and killings because
he somehow didn't want Amon--

1011

01:08:59,370 --> 01:09:02,310

he didn't want Schindler
to know that he

1012

01:09:02,310 --> 01:09:05,830

is conducting such a affairs.

1013

01:09:05,830 --> 01:09:09,580

So in that way, many
of the Jews were

1014

01:09:09,580 --> 01:09:14,069

spared from hangings

and killings

1015

01:09:14,069 --> 01:09:18,060
and beatings were simply spared
by Oskar Schindler appearing

1016

01:09:18,060 --> 01:09:19,319
in this killing camp.

1017

01:09:19,319 --> 01:09:22,880

1018

01:09:22,880 --> 01:09:25,430
Now, how did people
get on lists?

1019

01:09:25,430 --> 01:09:28,710
I imagine that over
a period of time,

1020

01:09:28,710 --> 01:09:32,260
it was obvious this was
not a bad place to be,

1021

01:09:32,260 --> 01:09:35,284
working for Mr. Schindler.

1022

01:09:35,284 --> 01:09:38,790
And I suspect that there
were people who were trying

1023

01:09:38,790 --> 01:09:43,149
to get put on these lists.

1024

01:09:43,149 --> 01:09:46,060
Did you have any
inside knowledge

1025

01:09:46,060 --> 01:09:48,609
about this either
during the time

1026

01:09:48,609 --> 01:09:53,580
you were there, after
the fact, after the war?

1027
01:09:53,580 --> 01:09:56,250
Yes.

1028
01:09:56,250 --> 01:10:02,140
As I stated before probably,
towards the end of the war,

1029
01:10:02,140 --> 01:10:05,040
it became fairly
obvious that if anyone

1030
01:10:05,040 --> 01:10:09,740
will survive this
nightmare, it would

1031
01:10:09,740 --> 01:10:13,730
be through the help somehow
of this character, Oskar

1032
01:10:13,730 --> 01:10:15,140
Schindler.

1033
01:10:15,140 --> 01:10:16,940
That being with him,
he would somehow

1034
01:10:16,940 --> 01:10:22,300
protect us, whether we
knew it fully or not.

1035
01:10:22,300 --> 01:10:24,730
I personally can't
say I know it,

1036
01:10:24,730 --> 01:10:26,920
but instinct would
lead me to believe

1037
01:10:26,920 --> 01:10:32,760

all the time that was a better
place than any place else.

1038
01:10:32,760 --> 01:10:37,840
in Krakow-Plaszow,
when we return

1039
01:10:37,840 --> 01:10:43,300
to Krakow-Plaszow because Oskar
Schindler's camp was closed,

1040
01:10:43,300 --> 01:10:50,190
it became common knowledge
that Oskar Schindler is still

1041
01:10:50,190 --> 01:10:53,400
searching for a place
someplace that he

1042
01:10:53,400 --> 01:10:57,750
would be able to move
his people to that place

1043
01:10:57,750 --> 01:11:00,180
maybe further away
from the front.

1044
01:11:00,180 --> 01:11:03,810
That somehow became
common knowledge.

1045
01:11:03,810 --> 01:11:08,310
Also, at this particular time,
being maybe one of the younger

1046
01:11:08,310 --> 01:11:11,610
members of the
inmates, being one

1047
01:11:11,610 --> 01:11:17,340
of the lesser known inmates, I
did not personally know that.

1048

01:11:17,340 --> 01:11:20,370

But it was fairly
obvious that some

1049

01:11:20,370 --> 01:11:25,200

of the Jewish
leaders in connection

1050

01:11:25,200 --> 01:11:29,140

with some of the
Germans, the SS guards,

1051

01:11:29,140 --> 01:11:31,720

were aware of this
in Krakow-Plaszow

1052

01:11:31,720 --> 01:11:36,250

that Oskar Schindler is
out there someplace deeper

1053

01:11:36,250 --> 01:11:38,500

into the country of
Czechoslovakia, maybe,

1054

01:11:38,500 --> 01:11:43,910

or Germany, escaping further
away from the Russians.

1055

01:11:43,910 --> 01:11:48,330

And that he would create,
again, a concentration camp,

1056

01:11:48,330 --> 01:11:52,160

and it would be
desirable for anyone

1057

01:11:52,160 --> 01:11:58,220

from the Krakow-Plaszow camp
to get to Oskar Schindler.

1058

01:11:58,220 --> 01:12:04,310

And somehow, some of the Jewish
authorities knew all that.

1059

01:12:04,310 --> 01:12:09,320

And some of the, in the process,
some of the former inmates

1060

01:12:09,320 --> 01:12:13,730

or workers for Oskar
Schindler would be shipped out

1061

01:12:13,730 --> 01:12:15,740

to Mauthausen and--

1062

01:12:15,740 --> 01:12:17,939

[PHONE RINGING]

1063

01:12:17,939 --> 01:12:22,530

1064

01:12:22,530 --> 01:12:24,360

OK.

1065

01:12:24,360 --> 01:12:29,370

So as I explained
before, but to clarify,

1066

01:12:29,370 --> 01:12:37,900

it would have appeared that
the 1,000 people that survived

1067

01:12:37,900 --> 01:12:43,150

in Oskar Schindler's camp in
Brunnlitz, which was composed

1068

01:12:43,150 --> 01:12:48,500

of 700 men and 300
women approximately,

1069

01:12:48,500 --> 01:12:51,830

were no longer the
same 1,000 people that

1070

01:12:51,830 --> 01:12:59,630

were at one time in the Krakow

concentration camp near Oskar

1071

01:12:59,630 --> 01:13:01,850

Schindler's factory

1072

01:13:01,850 --> 01:13:06,710

But, in fact, were

those that were

1073

01:13:06,710 --> 01:13:11,960

placed in the

process of shipments

1074

01:13:11,960 --> 01:13:18,630

leaving Krakow-Plaszow to

uncertain destinies in camps

1075

01:13:18,630 --> 01:13:20,340

like Mauthausen.

1076

01:13:20,340 --> 01:13:23,900

Those former workers

of that factory

1077

01:13:23,900 --> 01:13:28,520

were shipped to those camps

and replaced by other people

1078

01:13:28,520 --> 01:13:31,450

from the Krakow-Plaszow camp.

1079

01:13:31,450 --> 01:13:34,120

And those people

essentially spent

1080

01:13:34,120 --> 01:13:39,440

in Brunnlitz the last

six months of the war

1081

01:13:39,440 --> 01:13:42,070

and survive that way.

1082

01:13:42,070 --> 01:13:43,900
So you would say
that some people were

1083
01:13:43,900 --> 01:13:47,110
bumped from the original
list and then other names

1084
01:13:47,110 --> 01:13:48,250
were added?

1085
01:13:48,250 --> 01:13:51,790
It would appear at this
point that some people that

1086
01:13:51,790 --> 01:13:56,050
were originally destined to
go into Oskar Schindler's camp

1087
01:13:56,050 --> 01:14:01,150
were bumped in the
process at Krakow-Plaszow

1088
01:14:01,150 --> 01:14:04,640
and were replaced by others.

1089
01:14:04,640 --> 01:14:07,540
Now, Mr. Schindler, apparently
he made a lot of money

1090
01:14:07,540 --> 01:14:09,230
during these years.

1091
01:14:09,230 --> 01:14:11,470
On the other hand,
he saved people.

1092
01:14:11,470 --> 01:14:13,630
He saved lives.

1093
01:14:13,630 --> 01:14:18,100
In your opinion, based on your
knowledge of the man, which

1094
01:14:18,100 --> 01:14:19,540
was the more important for him?

1095
01:14:19,540 --> 01:14:22,670

1096
01:14:22,670 --> 01:14:28,950
It would appear to me that the
Oskar Schindler of the earlier

1097
01:14:28,950 --> 01:14:34,810
days of the war was
a opportunist looking

1098
01:14:34,810 --> 01:14:37,300
upon the war as a great
opportunity for him

1099
01:14:37,300 --> 01:14:41,260
to enrich himself.

1100
01:14:41,260 --> 01:14:46,720
And certainly, being given
that Jewish factor in Poland

1101
01:14:46,720 --> 01:14:49,570
led them to believe
that the future is his

1102
01:14:49,570 --> 01:14:53,020
and that he was going
to make a lot of money.

1103
01:14:53,020 --> 01:14:58,160
But someplace along
the line, he began

1104
01:14:58,160 --> 01:15:01,910
to feel that his
ideas of making money,

1105

01:15:01,910 --> 01:15:12,410
being a industrialist in
Poland and accumulating wealth,

1106
01:15:12,410 --> 01:15:18,630
were not exactly what the
German Reich would eventually

1107
01:15:18,630 --> 01:15:20,270
lead into.

1108
01:15:20,270 --> 01:15:25,050
And that is that the Jews
would eventually be killed,

1109
01:15:25,050 --> 01:15:30,170
and he would have to either
stand on the side of Germans,

1110
01:15:30,170 --> 01:15:32,040
or else he would have problems.

1111
01:15:32,040 --> 01:15:36,260
So he probably someplace
along that line

1112
01:15:36,260 --> 01:15:39,680
began to figure out things
that unless he appears

1113
01:15:39,680 --> 01:15:43,220
as an extremely loyal
German, he will not

1114
01:15:43,220 --> 01:15:46,430
be able to conduct his
business, and he will not

1115
01:15:46,430 --> 01:15:47,990
be able to save anyone.

1116
01:15:47,990 --> 01:15:51,440
And there is no doubt

in my mind that he

1117
01:15:51,440 --> 01:15:55,850
began to look upon the
potential of ending the war.

1118
01:15:55,850 --> 01:15:58,410
And unless he had
friends on both sides,

1119
01:15:58,410 --> 01:15:59,630
he wasn't going to make it.

1120
01:15:59,630 --> 01:16:04,250
And so the rest of
the war he spent

1121
01:16:04,250 --> 01:16:08,870
appearing extremely loyal to
Germans, and at the same time,

1122
01:16:08,870 --> 01:16:16,100
appearing and acting
as a friend of the Jews

1123
01:16:16,100 --> 01:16:18,290
and inmates of the
concentration camp.

1124
01:16:18,290 --> 01:16:20,850

1125
01:16:20,850 --> 01:16:26,940
Now, your story, we left
you in Bamberg in 1945.

1126
01:16:26,940 --> 01:16:28,440
How did you get to America?

1127
01:16:28,440 --> 01:16:31,160

1128

01:16:31,160 --> 01:16:42,850
I arrived in Bamberg,
Germany on March 13th,

1129
01:16:42,850 --> 01:16:46,000
which happens to coincide with
the date of the liquidation

1130
01:16:46,000 --> 01:16:52,550
of the Krakow ghetto in 1943.

1131
01:16:52,550 --> 01:16:59,190
And I arrived in Bamberg
in March 13, 1949.

1132
01:16:59,190 --> 01:17:00,150
In Bamberg?

1133
01:17:00,150 --> 01:17:03,050
In Bamberg.

1134
01:17:03,050 --> 01:17:14,930
And where I settled and began
to continue my education, which

1135
01:17:14,930 --> 01:17:17,750
I interrupted in 1939.

1136
01:17:17,750 --> 01:17:21,110
And the way I had done that
has by private tutoring

1137
01:17:21,110 --> 01:17:24,770
from a German professor
of a university who

1138
01:17:24,770 --> 01:17:31,460
undertook to meet with me
and continue my education.

1139
01:17:31,460 --> 01:17:34,520
This continued
education eventually

1140
01:17:34,520 --> 01:17:38,570
led me to apply to
a engineering school

1141
01:17:38,570 --> 01:17:44,580
in Nuremberg, where
I was eventually

1142
01:17:44,580 --> 01:17:49,230
rejected as not either
being well prepared enough

1143
01:17:49,230 --> 01:17:56,072
or not having enough room
to accommodate everyone.

1144
01:17:56,072 --> 01:17:59,690

1145
01:17:59,690 --> 01:18:03,020
I also, at the same time,
had to support myself.

1146
01:18:03,020 --> 01:18:07,770
And I began work at
the UNRRA, for UNRRA,

1147
01:18:07,770 --> 01:18:12,725
in warehouses, where we were
distributing food to other DPs.

1148
01:18:12,725 --> 01:18:15,555

1149
01:18:15,555 --> 01:18:20,380
In 1946.

1150
01:18:20,380 --> 01:18:27,650
Ada Burnbaum with
he family of Edith,

1151

01:18:27,650 --> 01:18:32,420
Fred, Ann Burnbaum,
Joe Burnbaum,

1152
01:18:32,420 --> 01:18:38,170
arrived in Bamberg, Germany.

1153
01:18:38,170 --> 01:18:43,460
At that time, I met
Ada and her family,

1154
01:18:43,460 --> 01:18:47,890
And We established a
friendship, a courtship.

1155
01:18:47,890 --> 01:18:52,480
I established a friendship and
courtship with Ada Burnbaum.

1156
01:18:52,480 --> 01:18:55,080

1157
01:18:55,080 --> 01:19:00,420
I continued my education
and working for the UNRRA

1158
01:19:00,420 --> 01:19:07,590
in Germany, and I also began
working in a radio phonograph

1159
01:19:07,590 --> 01:19:11,460
repair shop, where I learned
the trade of repairing

1160
01:19:11,460 --> 01:19:12,840
small appliances.

1161
01:19:12,840 --> 01:19:15,450

1162
01:19:15,450 --> 01:19:25,920
All through this time, I kept
company with Ada Burnbaum,

1163
01:19:25,920 --> 01:19:56,530
In 1949, I left Germany
for the United States.

1164
01:19:56,530 --> 01:20:04,790
I traveled by a former troop
transport ship, United States

1165
01:20:04,790 --> 01:20:13,160
jumper, that were arriving
in the United States in 1949.

1166
01:20:13,160 --> 01:20:17,360
Ada Burnbaum and her family
arrived in the United States

1167
01:20:17,360 --> 01:20:24,200
about three months
later in June of 1949.

1168
01:20:24,200 --> 01:20:30,860
In 1950, we were
married in New York

1169
01:20:30,860 --> 01:20:37,340
and lived a while till
1951 in New York City.

1170
01:20:37,340 --> 01:20:41,350
I continued working in
woodworking shops and furniture

1171
01:20:41,350 --> 01:20:48,010
shops, and Ada began work as
a seamstress in the garment

1172
01:20:48,010 --> 01:20:51,350
center in New York.

1173
01:20:51,350 --> 01:20:59,030
Eventually, in
1951, Ada's parents

1174
01:20:59,030 --> 01:21:02,720
bought a farm in Flemington
New Jersey where they moved to.

1175
01:21:02,720 --> 01:21:08,120
And since our roots were
not very deep in New York,

1176
01:21:08,120 --> 01:21:12,020
making a living was
difficult. In fact, both Ada

1177
01:21:12,020 --> 01:21:15,950
and myself decided to move
to Flemington, New Jersey,

1178
01:21:15,950 --> 01:21:20,030
where her parents were already
settled to a chicken farm.

1179
01:21:20,030 --> 01:21:28,270
And I began work as a carpenter
in the Flemington area.

1180
01:21:28,270 --> 01:21:33,400
I became a Union member,
a Carpenters Union member,

1181
01:21:33,400 --> 01:21:41,420
and was able, in fact, to make
a decent living in Flemington.

1182
01:21:41,420 --> 01:21:45,290
Our first child
was born in 1952.

1183
01:21:45,290 --> 01:21:46,025
That is David.

1184
01:21:46,025 --> 01:21:48,790

1185
01:21:48,790 --> 01:21:53,740
Our second child
was born in 1955.

1186
01:21:53,740 --> 01:21:56,040
That is Barbara.

1187
01:21:56,040 --> 01:22:00,870
And the third child was born
and also in Flemington in 1963,

1188
01:22:00,870 --> 01:22:01,920
and that is Henry.

1189
01:22:01,920 --> 01:22:04,740

1190
01:22:04,740 --> 01:22:10,020
I continued my work as
a carpenter for a while.

1191
01:22:10,020 --> 01:22:14,760
In 1953, I established
a construction business

1192
01:22:14,760 --> 01:22:17,130
which began
operating as the firm

1193
01:22:17,130 --> 01:22:20,100
of [? Reemer ?] and Urbach.

1194
01:22:20,100 --> 01:22:27,450
And that business or that
partnership lasted till 1959.

1195
01:22:27,450 --> 01:22:30,570
And from 1959 on,
I began operating

1196
01:22:30,570 --> 01:22:33,510
the business, the same

building construction business,

1197
01:22:33,510 --> 01:22:35,790
as Urbach and Urbach
in Flemington.

1198
01:22:35,790 --> 01:22:39,940

1199
01:22:39,940 --> 01:22:44,100
The oldest son is married
to Zipporah Kohane,

1200
01:22:44,100 --> 01:22:47,090
and they have three children--

1201
01:22:47,090 --> 01:22:50,500
Rebecca, Simone, Jonathan.

1202
01:22:50,500 --> 01:22:53,110
They now reside in Cape
Cod, Falmouth, Cape

1203
01:22:53,110 --> 01:22:56,530
Cod, where David is a
cardiologist at the hospital

1204
01:22:56,530 --> 01:23:02,200
and has a private practice
of a group of five.

1205
01:23:02,200 --> 01:23:07,530
Barbara is married
to Michael Listener,

1206
01:23:07,530 --> 01:23:12,020
now residing in
[PLACE NAME],, New Jersey.

1207
01:23:12,020 --> 01:23:17,390
Barbara is an attorney graduated
from Hofstra University,

1208

01:23:17,390 --> 01:23:20,680

and her husband is
also an attorney.

1209

01:23:20,680 --> 01:23:23,410

They have two children.

1210

01:23:23,410 --> 01:23:29,280

One is Samuel, and
the daughter is Elise.

1211

01:23:29,280 --> 01:23:33,930

They both practice law in
New Jersey and New York.

1212

01:23:33,930 --> 01:23:39,820

The youngest one,
Henry, is single.

1213

01:23:39,820 --> 01:23:42,250

He is a graduate
of the principal

1214

01:23:42,250 --> 01:23:44,620

of Princeton University.

1215

01:23:44,620 --> 01:23:47,590

Went on to Columbia
Law School where

1216

01:23:47,590 --> 01:23:51,910

he finished a successful
first year of law school.

1217

01:23:51,910 --> 01:23:55,750

Decided that he
did not like law.

1218

01:23:55,750 --> 01:23:58,360

Transferred into architecture.

1219

01:23:58,360 --> 01:24:01,540

Graduated with honors from
the School of Architecture

1220
01:24:01,540 --> 01:24:04,180
in Columbia.

1221
01:24:04,180 --> 01:24:10,630
And at present in 1992
is entering a PhD program

1222
01:24:10,630 --> 01:24:16,760
in architecture at
Princeton University.

1223
01:24:16,760 --> 01:24:20,270
Sounds like congratulations
are in order.

1224
01:24:20,270 --> 01:24:23,990
I certainly can add that
you're a very young-looking

1225
01:24:23,990 --> 01:24:26,370
grandfather.

1226
01:24:26,370 --> 01:24:28,660
Thank you very much.

1227
01:24:28,660 --> 01:24:31,720
It was a little bit of
a trip again to do that,

1228
01:24:31,720 --> 01:24:33,850
but it had to be done.

1229
01:24:33,850 --> 01:24:37,500
And I thank you on behalf
of the museum for your time

1230
01:24:37,500 --> 01:24:39,620
and for your story.

1231

01:24:39,620 --> 01:24:43,000