

1
00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:27,670

2
00:00:27,670 --> 00:00:31,590
Why don't you a little
about your experience

3
00:00:31,590 --> 00:00:37,250
before liberation took place?

4
00:00:37,250 --> 00:00:39,050
Immediately before liberation?

5
00:00:39,050 --> 00:00:41,510
Is that what you're asking for?

6
00:00:41,510 --> 00:00:42,790
Go back a little bit.

7
00:00:42,790 --> 00:00:48,780

8
00:00:48,780 --> 00:00:51,900
Well, I'll just
touch the highlights.

9
00:00:51,900 --> 00:00:57,100

10
00:00:57,100 --> 00:01:01,640
The Holocaust began
for me exactly the day

11
00:01:01,640 --> 00:01:08,910
that World War II started, which
is Friday morning, September 1,

12
00:01:08,910 --> 00:01:11,650
1939.

13

00:01:11,650 --> 00:01:20,690
Our house was bombed Saturday
morning, September 2, 1939,

14
00:01:20,690 --> 00:01:23,930
and we were on the
run since then.

15
00:01:23,930 --> 00:01:29,090
We finally returned to
our hometown of Radomsko

16
00:01:29,090 --> 00:01:32,340
in Poland, where we
stayed with friends.

17
00:01:32,340 --> 00:01:37,730
And soon after that,
the ghetto was formed.

18
00:01:37,730 --> 00:01:45,760
We stayed in the Radomsko
Ghetto through 1942.

19
00:01:45,760 --> 00:01:52,000
In 1940, September of 1942, my
parents were taken away from us

20
00:01:52,000 --> 00:01:56,440
and sent to Treblinka,
where they perished.

21
00:01:56,440 --> 00:02:03,630
My two sisters and I then
remained in the ghetto,

22
00:02:03,630 --> 00:02:07,740
but we stayed there until the
liquidation of the ghetto.

23
00:02:07,740 --> 00:02:14,300
I was able to escape the
march to the railroad station,

24

00:02:14,300 --> 00:02:18,910

having sent away my
other two sisters before.

25

00:02:18,910 --> 00:02:20,950

And I was hiding.

26

00:02:20,950 --> 00:02:24,670

I was hiding for a
long time, and then I

27

00:02:24,670 --> 00:02:26,780

couldn't hide any longer.

28

00:02:26,780 --> 00:02:33,430

I was able to find my way
to a large ghetto in Warsaw.

29

00:02:33,430 --> 00:02:40,030

I stayed in the Warsaw
ghetto until the uprising,

30

00:02:40,030 --> 00:02:42,010

and then just
before the uprising

31

00:02:42,010 --> 00:02:44,980

I was able to get
out of the ghetto.

32

00:02:44,980 --> 00:02:50,860

And I was on so-called Aryan
papers, which was false papers.

33

00:02:50,860 --> 00:02:59,090

In the meantime, I was caught
and worked in a labor camp

34

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

but then was released
and was taken back

35

00:03:01,670 --> 00:03:02,780
to the Warsaw ghetto.

36
00:03:02,780 --> 00:03:05,340

37
00:03:05,340 --> 00:03:16,910
I was liberated in Poland
February 17 of 1945

38
00:03:16,910 --> 00:03:23,940
and tried to find
my two sisters.

39
00:03:23,940 --> 00:03:33,300
We were able to reunite
after a long, long search,

40
00:03:33,300 --> 00:03:36,060
and then the decision was
made that we could not

41
00:03:36,060 --> 00:03:39,810
stay in Poland because
we lost everyone.

42
00:03:39,810 --> 00:03:43,170
We lost everything,
and there was no reason

43
00:03:43,170 --> 00:03:49,490
to stay in Poland, mostly
because the atmosphere was not

44
00:03:49,490 --> 00:03:52,150
very inviting.

45
00:03:52,150 --> 00:03:56,830
People resented those Jews
who have been liberated

46
00:03:56,830 --> 00:04:00,055
and resented the fact

that some Jews survived.

47
00:04:00,055 --> 00:04:02,820

48
00:04:02,820 --> 00:04:07,190
And we had some
personal experiences

49
00:04:07,190 --> 00:04:12,420
which persuaded us
not to stay in Poland.

50
00:04:12,420 --> 00:04:15,050
Tell me about those.

51
00:04:15,050 --> 00:04:22,160
Well, for example, prior to
us leaving for the ghetto,

52
00:04:22,160 --> 00:04:27,080
we had some personal possessions
that we took when we fled,

53
00:04:27,080 --> 00:04:30,470
and we entrusted
these possessions

54
00:04:30,470 --> 00:04:33,580
to a so-called friend.

55
00:04:33,580 --> 00:04:39,910
And after we returned after
the end of the World War II

56
00:04:39,910 --> 00:04:43,630
to claim these positions,
they wouldn't recognize us.

57
00:04:43,630 --> 00:04:45,550
They wouldn't give
them back to us,

58

00:04:45,550 --> 00:04:50,710
and they just
totally dismissed us.

59

00:04:50,710 --> 00:04:54,760
So we decided that this was
not a very favorable atmosphere

60

00:04:54,760 --> 00:04:59,225
to stay at, and then it was much
too painful to stay in Poland.

61

00:04:59,225 --> 00:05:03,440

62

00:05:03,440 --> 00:05:10,950
Poland was not very hospitable,
and it was very, very painful.

63

00:05:10,950 --> 00:05:16,410
The memories and the experiences
connected with living in Poland

64

00:05:16,410 --> 00:05:18,060
were just too devastating.

65

00:05:18,060 --> 00:05:20,770

66

00:05:20,770 --> 00:05:25,300
We were contacted by
some people who told us

67

00:05:25,300 --> 00:05:30,190
that there is a group
of Israeli young boys

68

00:05:30,190 --> 00:05:33,760
who formed an
organization called Bricha

69

00:05:33,760 --> 00:05:39,820

and that they are helping
survivors of the Holocaust

70
00:05:39,820 --> 00:05:43,660
to rehabilitate
themselves and, possibly,

71
00:05:43,660 --> 00:05:47,800
to find a way of taking
them to Palestine.

72
00:05:47,800 --> 00:05:53,620
Now, Palestine was a
place we knew about

73
00:05:53,620 --> 00:05:56,920
because our father
was a great Zionist,

74
00:05:56,920 --> 00:06:01,550
and he had purchased land
in Palestine in the 1930s.

75
00:06:01,550 --> 00:06:05,510
And he had traveled to
Palestine several times.

76
00:06:05,510 --> 00:06:13,060
So we knew that, eventually, we
would like to reach Palestine.

77
00:06:13,060 --> 00:06:16,340
Parenthetically, as
a matter of fact,

78
00:06:16,340 --> 00:06:23,740
my father had signed me on
the list of a higher education

79
00:06:23,740 --> 00:06:29,560
institution which later became
the Rehovot Weizmann Institute

80

00:06:29,560 --> 00:06:33,730
in Rehovot in Palestine.

81
00:06:33,730 --> 00:06:38,140

82
00:06:38,140 --> 00:06:40,930
So we decided to put
our lives in their hands

83
00:06:40,930 --> 00:06:44,770
because there was
no real alternative.

84
00:06:44,770 --> 00:06:48,140

85
00:06:48,140 --> 00:06:52,010
We were contacted by them,
and we were told just

86
00:06:52,010 --> 00:06:55,160
to follow their instructions.

87
00:06:55,160 --> 00:06:59,210
And they took us
on a long journey

88
00:06:59,210 --> 00:07:01,770
over the Carpathian Mountains.

89
00:07:01,770 --> 00:07:05,890

90
00:07:05,890 --> 00:07:10,390
And we found ourselves on
the Czechoslovakia side

91
00:07:10,390 --> 00:07:13,000
of the mountains.

92
00:07:13,000 --> 00:07:18,340

In Czechoslovakia, we were met
by another group of young boys

93

00:07:18,340 --> 00:07:24,100
who took us through
the countryside,

94

00:07:24,100 --> 00:07:29,070
and we finally
arrived in Bratislava.

95

00:07:29,070 --> 00:07:43,140
In Bratislava there was a kind
of a camp which was actually

96

00:07:43,140 --> 00:07:46,230
in a square surrounded
by buildings,

97

00:07:46,230 --> 00:07:54,030
like a large apartment building
complex, and we arrive there.

98

00:07:54,030 --> 00:08:00,150
And there were many, many, many
people meandering back and fro,

99

00:08:00,150 --> 00:08:07,040
and everyone was in the
same situation as we were.

100

00:08:07,040 --> 00:08:13,820
Well, we were staying
there for a certain time,

101

00:08:13,820 --> 00:08:16,370
and I really don't
recall how long it was.

102

00:08:16,370 --> 00:08:18,880
But I remember that
we were walking

103

00:08:18,880 --> 00:08:21,460
through the streets
of Bratislava,

104
00:08:21,460 --> 00:08:24,040
trying to find people
who looked familiar.

105
00:08:24,040 --> 00:08:26,860
As a matter of fact, we
did find some friends who

106
00:08:26,860 --> 00:08:31,060
came from our hometown
just by sheer chance,

107
00:08:31,060 --> 00:08:33,700
and we were very
delighted to have

108
00:08:33,700 --> 00:08:35,230
found somebody we have known.

109
00:08:35,230 --> 00:08:41,020

110
00:08:41,020 --> 00:08:47,700
And then we were told that we
were going to go on a journey

111
00:08:47,700 --> 00:08:51,870
and that journey is going
to take us into Austria.

112
00:08:51,870 --> 00:08:55,170
The object of our
journey was to go out

113
00:08:55,170 --> 00:09:01,620
of the Russian occupation zone,
leave the Russian occupation

114
00:09:01,620 --> 00:09:06,030

zone, and go to the
American occupation zone

115
00:09:06,030 --> 00:09:08,220
because the conditions
were much better,

116
00:09:08,220 --> 00:09:15,300
and there were some displaced
persons camps formed already

117
00:09:15,300 --> 00:09:20,670
in Austrian territory of the
American occupational zone.

118
00:09:20,670 --> 00:09:23,540

119
00:09:23,540 --> 00:09:28,040
We were met by two or three
young boys who told us

120
00:09:28,040 --> 00:09:32,000
that, from now on, we
have to shed our identity,

121
00:09:32,000 --> 00:09:36,350
that we are no longer
Polish Jews, that we are

122
00:09:36,350 --> 00:09:43,010
Jews who are trying to return
to Greece simply because it was

123
00:09:43,010 --> 00:09:47,180
felt that no one,
really, in Austria

124
00:09:47,180 --> 00:09:52,130
would know the Greek language,
but people knew German,

125
00:09:52,130 --> 00:09:55,190

or Czech, or Polish, or Russian.

126
00:09:55,190 --> 00:09:57,440
And they could always
find somebody who

127
00:09:57,440 --> 00:10:00,560
could be the translator for us.

128
00:10:00,560 --> 00:10:04,790
So we played the role of Greek
Jews knowing full well that we

129
00:10:04,790 --> 00:10:08,430
cannot communicate
in the language.

130
00:10:08,430 --> 00:10:12,890
So one of the young
boys told us that,

131
00:10:12,890 --> 00:10:15,950
since we cannot be
numb all together,

132
00:10:15,950 --> 00:10:20,210
that we have to make an
appearance of being able

133
00:10:20,210 --> 00:10:24,950
to communicate to one another,
that perhaps we ought to use

134
00:10:24,950 --> 00:10:31,100
the Hebrew prayers because
very few of us really could

135
00:10:31,100 --> 00:10:33,210
communicate in Hebrew.

136
00:10:33,210 --> 00:10:38,840
So we actually did communicate
by gesticulating and using

137
00:10:38,840 --> 00:10:45,230
the prayers that everybody knew
in a very conversational tone

138
00:10:45,230 --> 00:10:50,960
so that we would give
some kind of an indication

139
00:10:50,960 --> 00:10:55,130
that we are communicating
with each other.

140
00:10:55,130 --> 00:10:58,190
When we were traveling,
the International Red Cross

141
00:10:58,190 --> 00:11:01,700
would meet us at different
points of the journey

142
00:11:01,700 --> 00:11:05,060
and try to help us,
and they actually

143
00:11:05,060 --> 00:11:08,720
tried to find somebody who
knew the Greek language to be

144
00:11:08,720 --> 00:11:10,480
able to speak to us.

145
00:11:10,480 --> 00:11:10,980
OK.

146
00:11:10,980 --> 00:11:14,516
We have to put another
roll of film [INAUDIBLE]..

147
00:11:14,516 --> 00:11:29,530

148

00:11:29,530 --> 00:11:31,920
Now?

149
00:11:31,920 --> 00:11:34,770
So we had to communicate
in some kind of a language,

150
00:11:34,770 --> 00:11:38,190
and because we didn't
know the Greek language,

151
00:11:38,190 --> 00:11:41,910
we used Hebrew prayers
by simply using them

152
00:11:41,910 --> 00:11:45,120
in a conversational
tone and gesticulating

153
00:11:45,120 --> 00:11:47,310
as if we understood each other.

154
00:11:47,310 --> 00:11:49,910

155
00:11:49,910 --> 00:11:53,900
Well, we were taken by different
modes of transportation,

156
00:11:53,900 --> 00:11:56,840
either by train if
we were not worried

157
00:11:56,840 --> 00:12:00,230
about going through
stations and being met there

158
00:12:00,230 --> 00:12:02,600
by some officials or by trucks.

159
00:12:02,600 --> 00:12:08,060
Eventually, we reached the
shores of the Danube River

160
00:12:08,060 --> 00:12:12,750
at night, and there were
little boats waiting for us.

161
00:12:12,750 --> 00:12:17,930
And we got onto the boats,
and we crossed the Danube.

162
00:12:17,930 --> 00:12:22,730
And then we found ourselves
on the other shore, which was

163
00:12:22,730 --> 00:12:25,700
already in the American sector.

164
00:12:25,700 --> 00:12:30,050
From there, we were taken
by foot and then later

165
00:12:30,050 --> 00:12:33,290
by some other
conveyance, I remember--

166
00:12:33,290 --> 00:12:35,420
it must have been trucks--

167
00:12:35,420 --> 00:12:39,600
to a camp past Mauthausen
concentration camp,

168
00:12:39,600 --> 00:12:41,855
which was Wels in Austria.

169
00:12:41,855 --> 00:12:44,590

170
00:12:44,590 --> 00:12:53,590
And there, the experience of a
displaced persons camp began.

171
00:12:53,590 --> 00:12:59,180

This was our first
displaced persons camp,

172
00:12:59,180 --> 00:13:02,780
and it was a very
depressing experience.

173
00:13:02,780 --> 00:13:10,830
First of all, the camp
had a fence around it.

174
00:13:10,830 --> 00:13:15,750
Secondly, it was guarded by
American military police,

175
00:13:15,750 --> 00:13:21,990
by the MPs, dressed in the
white helmets that say MP.

176
00:13:21,990 --> 00:13:24,300
They were wearing
the MP uniform,

177
00:13:24,300 --> 00:13:29,450
and they were always
carrying guns.

178
00:13:29,450 --> 00:13:31,700
We had to register, and
this is the first time

179
00:13:31,700 --> 00:13:32,840
that we registered.

180
00:13:32,840 --> 00:13:37,910

181
00:13:37,910 --> 00:13:43,650
We got food rations,
and I remember

182
00:13:43,650 --> 00:13:45,810
that the entire

experience for us

183
00:13:45,810 --> 00:13:51,100
was very depressing
and very devastating.

184
00:13:51,100 --> 00:13:55,000
This was supposed to
have been the liberating

185
00:13:55,000 --> 00:14:05,050
aspect of our situation,
but it was not.

186
00:14:05,050 --> 00:14:09,400
I remember the anguish,
and I remembered

187
00:14:09,400 --> 00:14:12,265
the thought processes
that went through my mind.

188
00:14:12,265 --> 00:14:15,040

189
00:14:15,040 --> 00:14:21,492
And I remember asking
myself, what am I doing here?

190
00:14:21,492 --> 00:14:22,200
Where am I going?

191
00:14:22,200 --> 00:14:25,040

192
00:14:25,040 --> 00:14:28,540
Who is going to
be waiting for me?

193
00:14:28,540 --> 00:14:31,420
How am I going to begin
my so-called new life?

194
00:14:31,420 --> 00:14:35,070

195
00:14:35,070 --> 00:14:36,710
What is in store for me?

196
00:14:36,710 --> 00:14:41,210

197
00:14:41,210 --> 00:14:45,860
I remember one night we were
awakened about 2:00 or 3:00

198
00:14:45,860 --> 00:14:51,560
in the morning, and the
MPs stormed in and told

199
00:14:51,560 --> 00:14:55,070
us to get off our bunks.

200
00:14:55,070 --> 00:14:58,910
And our banks were
just that, bunks,

201
00:14:58,910 --> 00:15:03,590
with burlap sacks
filled with straw.

202
00:15:03,590 --> 00:15:06,230
This is what we slept on.

203
00:15:06,230 --> 00:15:07,850
And they said that
they were there

204
00:15:07,850 --> 00:15:13,520
because somebody stole
a can of peaches,

205
00:15:13,520 --> 00:15:17,180
and they searched
all those straw sacks

206
00:15:17,180 --> 00:15:19,200
for the hidden can of peaches.

207
00:15:19,200 --> 00:15:21,900

208
00:15:21,900 --> 00:15:26,910
I remember that the following
day we gathered together,

209
00:15:26,910 --> 00:15:30,585
and we tried to think, my
God, what is this all about?

210
00:15:30,585 --> 00:15:33,800

211
00:15:33,800 --> 00:15:37,550
Fortunately, we didn't
stay very long in Wels.

212
00:15:37,550 --> 00:15:39,710
I really don't recall how long.

213
00:15:39,710 --> 00:15:47,574
I believe that perhaps six
weeks or so, maybe two months.

214
00:15:47,574 --> 00:15:50,110
Were you locked in?

215
00:15:50,110 --> 00:15:54,040
We were not locked in, but
we were surrounded by fences.

216
00:15:54,040 --> 00:15:57,370
And we really couldn't get
out because, number one,

217
00:15:57,370 --> 00:15:59,360
we didn't know where to go.

218
00:15:59,360 --> 00:16:01,670
It was a very isolated place.

219
00:16:01,670 --> 00:16:05,530
And secondly, we were really
guarded for whatever reason.

220
00:16:05,530 --> 00:16:06,340
I don't know.

221
00:16:06,340 --> 00:16:09,490

222
00:16:09,490 --> 00:16:12,745
They took us from Wels
to Linz in Germany.

223
00:16:12,745 --> 00:16:15,580

224
00:16:15,580 --> 00:16:18,580
Linz was another
displaced persons camp,

225
00:16:18,580 --> 00:16:22,810
but when we arrived there,
it was full to capacity,

226
00:16:22,810 --> 00:16:25,360
and they couldn't receive us.

227
00:16:25,360 --> 00:16:28,150
So we were waiting there
on a temporary basis.

228
00:16:28,150 --> 00:16:31,030
They couldn't
accommodate us there.

229
00:16:31,030 --> 00:16:33,640
And finally, they

told us that we

230
00:16:33,640 --> 00:16:37,510
have to go back on those
trucks, and they took us

231
00:16:37,510 --> 00:16:46,250
to the south of Austria and
to a beautiful place called

232
00:16:46,250 --> 00:16:52,710
Bad Gastein, which was
a resort in the Alps.

233
00:16:52,710 --> 00:16:56,660
And the accommodations
were absolutely phenomenal.

234
00:16:56,660 --> 00:16:59,180

235
00:16:59,180 --> 00:17:05,490
They put us up in hotels,
and we had nice beddings.

236
00:17:05,490 --> 00:17:08,859
And we didn't have to
use outhouses any longer.

237
00:17:08,859 --> 00:17:13,619
We had bathrooms, and
we had indoor showers.

238
00:17:13,619 --> 00:17:17,869
In Wels, we had outdoor showers.

239
00:17:17,869 --> 00:17:23,369
And that was a
tremendous improvement.

240
00:17:23,369 --> 00:17:29,470
This camp was under the auspices
of UNRRA, the United Nations

241
00:17:29,470 --> 00:17:35,380
Refugee Rehabilitation
Administration,

242
00:17:35,380 --> 00:17:39,385
and the conditions
were much improved.

243
00:17:39,385 --> 00:17:44,650

244
00:17:44,650 --> 00:17:48,400
There was a certain
aspect of that camp which

245
00:17:48,400 --> 00:17:52,780
was different from any other.

246
00:17:52,780 --> 00:18:02,210
First of all, we were freer
to think about our future.

247
00:18:02,210 --> 00:18:08,060
There was a free movement
of people in and out,

248
00:18:08,060 --> 00:18:12,740
and we were aware of what
was going on in the world.

249
00:18:12,740 --> 00:18:19,710
So we knew that there was
such a thing as exodus.

250
00:18:19,710 --> 00:18:21,480
We could leave.

251
00:18:21,480 --> 00:18:27,510
We could go by way of
Switzerland to Italy,

252

00:18:27,510 --> 00:18:35,590
and we could sign up to go on
those boats towards Palestine.

253
00:18:35,590 --> 00:18:40,030
And we could dream, at
least, of a certain kind

254
00:18:40,030 --> 00:18:43,480
of an objective, certain
kind of a goal, certain kind

255
00:18:43,480 --> 00:18:47,020
of a future that was in sight.

256
00:18:47,020 --> 00:18:48,910
It was concrete.

257
00:18:48,910 --> 00:18:51,010
It was achievable.

258
00:18:51,010 --> 00:18:51,920
It was doable.

259
00:18:51,920 --> 00:18:55,090

260
00:18:55,090 --> 00:18:59,610
So those of us who had dreams
of going to Palestine did so.

261
00:18:59,610 --> 00:19:00,570
We signed up.

262
00:19:00,570 --> 00:19:04,330

263
00:19:04,330 --> 00:19:07,690
I believe that we
arrived in Bad Gastein

264
00:19:07,690 --> 00:19:10,390

towards the end of
September, probably

265
00:19:10,390 --> 00:19:17,000
beginning of October 1945.

266
00:19:17,000 --> 00:19:22,590
The International Red
Cross sent us packages,

267
00:19:22,590 --> 00:19:28,210
and we were able to find
some decent clothes to wear.

268
00:19:28,210 --> 00:19:31,060
With the approaching
fall and winter,

269
00:19:31,060 --> 00:19:35,545
however, we didn't have
much winter clothes.

270
00:19:35,545 --> 00:19:38,130

271
00:19:38,130 --> 00:19:41,760
But we were satisfied that
we could at least have

272
00:19:41,760 --> 00:19:45,630
some decent attire,
not too much of it,

273
00:19:45,630 --> 00:19:49,540
but we were wearing
decent clothes.

274
00:19:49,540 --> 00:19:52,700
When winter
approached, I remember

275
00:19:52,700 --> 00:19:57,655
a very fine young Lieutenant

from Dayton, Ohio--

276
00:19:57,655 --> 00:20:00,530

277
00:20:00,530 --> 00:20:02,605
I remember his name,
Lieutenant Kyle--

278
00:20:02,605 --> 00:20:06,240

279
00:20:06,240 --> 00:20:09,570
approached me once and asked
me if I had a winter coat.

280
00:20:09,570 --> 00:20:15,150
And I said, no, I didn't, so
he brought me a GI blanket.

281
00:20:15,150 --> 00:20:18,990
And I remember I cut a hole
in the middle of the blanket,

282
00:20:18,990 --> 00:20:21,090
and I wore it as a Cape.

283
00:20:21,090 --> 00:20:23,130
And that was my
[? winter coat, ?] and

284
00:20:23,130 --> 00:20:27,120
I was very grateful for that.

285
00:20:27,120 --> 00:20:32,070
In the camp, I was able
to work in the office

286
00:20:32,070 --> 00:20:36,140
because I spoke
fluent German, and it

287

00:20:36,140 --> 00:20:39,620
helped us to know
the German language

288
00:20:39,620 --> 00:20:44,480
to communicate with the
rest of the population.

289
00:20:44,480 --> 00:20:50,450
The population was not very
happy with our presence there,

290
00:20:50,450 --> 00:20:53,690
but we did the best we
could not to aggravate them

291
00:20:53,690 --> 00:20:55,450
and to stay out of their way.

292
00:20:55,450 --> 00:20:59,510

293
00:20:59,510 --> 00:21:07,180
The life inside
displaced persons camp

294
00:21:07,180 --> 00:21:10,670
was very interesting.

295
00:21:10,670 --> 00:21:19,940
First of all, we tried
to gain awareness of what

296
00:21:19,940 --> 00:21:25,070
the potential-- what our
future opportunities may be.

297
00:21:25,070 --> 00:21:27,650

298
00:21:27,650 --> 00:21:32,360
And we got together quite
often, young men and women,

299
00:21:32,360 --> 00:21:34,480
to discuss our situation.

300
00:21:34,480 --> 00:21:38,030

301
00:21:38,030 --> 00:21:40,430
The first thing
that we did and that

302
00:21:40,430 --> 00:21:47,090
was a very determined act--

303
00:21:47,090 --> 00:21:52,820
we were told that if we are
of a certain nationality

304
00:21:52,820 --> 00:21:56,030
we will be given the
opportunity to return

305
00:21:56,030 --> 00:21:57,375
to the country of our origin.

306
00:21:57,375 --> 00:22:00,590

307
00:22:00,590 --> 00:22:04,630
and if we made that
choice, we had to sign up,

308
00:22:04,630 --> 00:22:09,310
and we would go to our
respective countries.

309
00:22:09,310 --> 00:22:11,910
The other choice was,
the other alternative

310
00:22:11,910 --> 00:22:17,460
was to declare

ourselves stateless

311

00:22:17,460 --> 00:22:22,960

and then leave it
to whatever fate

312

00:22:22,960 --> 00:22:27,614

there is going to
be available to us.

313

00:22:27,614 --> 00:22:30,560

We have to re-load.

314

00:22:30,560 --> 00:22:32,235