

1

00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:14,850

2

00:00:14,850 --> 00:00:17,100

I have just a couple  
of other questions.

3

00:00:17,100 --> 00:00:20,100

Did you run into a teacher  
from your hometown right

4

00:00:20,100 --> 00:00:21,540

after liberation?

5

00:00:21,540 --> 00:00:22,500

Yes, I did.

6

00:00:22,500 --> 00:00:25,080

Tell me about that.

7

00:00:25,080 --> 00:00:33,090

In the barn, very  
close to me, there

8

00:00:33,090 --> 00:00:38,910

was a woman that I thought  
looked very familiar.

9

00:00:38,910 --> 00:00:43,560

And after talking to  
her, I realized that she

10

00:00:43,560 --> 00:00:45,660

was one of my teachers.

11

00:00:45,660 --> 00:00:48,270

Because we didn't  
recognize each other.

12

00:00:48,270 --> 00:00:52,910

So somehow, we got

a little bit closer.

13

00:00:52,910 --> 00:00:56,680

Because that was the only person  
that I could relate to, that I

14

00:00:56,680 --> 00:00:59,850

felt like it was my family.

15

00:00:59,850 --> 00:01:04,260

So when the Russian soldier  
carried me, she said to him,

16

00:01:04,260 --> 00:01:07,260

please, don't separate us.

17

00:01:07,260 --> 00:01:09,810

That's all we have, each other.

18

00:01:09,810 --> 00:01:16,070

So he brought her in that  
same house that I was.

19

00:01:16,070 --> 00:01:21,350

She was put on the same  
straw stack, not a mattress.

20

00:01:21,350 --> 00:01:22,880

We didn't have mattresses.

21

00:01:22,880 --> 00:01:25,570

It was like a stack of straw.

22

00:01:25,570 --> 00:01:27,980

And she was laying there.

23

00:01:27,980 --> 00:01:33,290

And I remember there were  
women in that room cooking

24

00:01:33,290 --> 00:01:36,950

water or doing something,

some little bit stronger

25

00:01:36,950 --> 00:01:39,820

ladies, Jewish ladies.

26

00:01:39,820 --> 00:01:45,060

And one day, I remember them--

27

00:01:45,060 --> 00:01:46,050

I begged them.

28

00:01:46,050 --> 00:01:51,670

I said give me a little bit  
of water to give to my friend

29

00:01:51,670 --> 00:01:53,520

here.

30

00:01:53,520 --> 00:01:55,980

They said she's dead.

31

00:01:55,980 --> 00:01:59,448

Why do you need water for her?

32

00:01:59,448 --> 00:02:02,260

And I didn't realize  
that the last person

33

00:02:02,260 --> 00:02:07,250

that I thought I had was dead.

34

00:02:07,250 --> 00:02:11,290

I remember them taking  
her out to be buried.

35

00:02:11,290 --> 00:02:14,970

And I couldn't even  
walk out to be there.

36

00:02:14,970 --> 00:02:17,970

37

00:02:17,970 --> 00:02:23,650

And in the hospital, was  
there a hunger strike?

38

00:02:23,650 --> 00:02:25,680

There was no hunger  
strike for anybody.

39

00:02:25,680 --> 00:02:29,550

I see you really  
learned a lot about me.

40

00:02:29,550 --> 00:02:32,160

There was no hunger  
strike for anybody.

41

00:02:32,160 --> 00:02:35,790

But there was a  
hunger strike for me,

42

00:02:35,790 --> 00:02:38,430

after I was getting  
better really.

43

00:02:38,430 --> 00:02:44,410

And one day I thought  
I don't have anybody.

44

00:02:44,410 --> 00:02:48,460

My last friend is  
dead, that teacher.

45

00:02:48,460 --> 00:02:51,630

Now, what do I need to live for?

46

00:02:51,630 --> 00:02:55,210

It's really no use  
for me to continue.

47

00:02:55,210 --> 00:02:58,200

So I thought if I would  
continue not to eat,

48

00:02:58,200 --> 00:03:01,620

maybe I would die and be  
with all my dear people

49

00:03:01,620 --> 00:03:04,180

that are not here anymore.

50

00:03:04,180 --> 00:03:07,840

But somebody in the  
next bed told on me.

51

00:03:07,840 --> 00:03:10,300

And then they started to  
watch me and make sure

52

00:03:10,300 --> 00:03:12,630

that I'm eating.

53

00:03:12,630 --> 00:03:16,910

I see you learned  
quite a bit about me.

54

00:03:16,910 --> 00:03:22,970

Now, tell me how you and your  
mother came to go to Feldafing?

55

00:03:22,970 --> 00:03:26,360

How did we come to  
go to Feldafing?

56

00:03:26,360 --> 00:03:30,050

We decided that there  
was no purpose for us

57

00:03:30,050 --> 00:03:31,460

to go back to Lithuania.

58

00:03:31,460 --> 00:03:35,750

Lithuania was already  
a communist country.

59

00:03:35,750 --> 00:03:40,730

So we hung around  
in the city of Lodz

60  
00:03:40,730 --> 00:03:43,880  
in case somebody else of  
the family will survive

61  
00:03:43,880 --> 00:03:45,770  
or somebody that we know.

62  
00:03:45,770 --> 00:03:49,670  
People started talking  
about Palestine,

63  
00:03:49,670 --> 00:03:51,230  
at that time how it was called.

64  
00:03:51,230 --> 00:03:53,860  
It was not Israel yet.

65  
00:03:53,860 --> 00:03:59,830  
And by the later part of  
May, beginning of June,

66  
00:03:59,830 --> 00:04:05,040  
men started to come that  
were liberated in Dachau.

67  
00:04:05,040 --> 00:04:10,050  
And I remember a young man  
coming with the whole list

68  
00:04:10,050 --> 00:04:14,070  
saying that they send out,  
well, I don't know how many,

69  
00:04:14,070 --> 00:04:20,010  
half a dozen men to go and  
see if any of the families

70  
00:04:20,010 --> 00:04:21,450  
are alive.

71

00:04:21,450 --> 00:04:25,110

They should try to  
reunite somehow.

72

00:04:25,110 --> 00:04:30,480

On that list was my brother's  
name, Jecheskel Galperin,

73

00:04:30,480 --> 00:04:34,000

who was liberated in Dachau.

74

00:04:34,000 --> 00:04:38,080

He sent word that in  
case any of the family

75

00:04:38,080 --> 00:04:42,010

is there, that young men  
will meet any of the family,

76

00:04:42,010 --> 00:04:47,140

they should tell them  
that we should try

77

00:04:47,140 --> 00:04:50,020

to get to the American zone.

78

00:04:50,020 --> 00:04:52,420

Now, before I continue,  
let me tell you,

79

00:04:52,420 --> 00:04:55,730

when we were brought to  
the concentration camp,

80

00:04:55,730 --> 00:04:58,930

the last words that  
we said to each other

81

00:04:58,930 --> 00:05:03,520

was in case we survived that  
hell, our meeting point should

82

00:05:03,520 --> 00:05:06,120  
be back home in Lithuania.

83  
00:05:06,120 --> 00:05:10,760  
So each of us had that idea in  
case somebody else comes back,

84  
00:05:10,760 --> 00:05:13,070  
we should go to Lithuania.

85  
00:05:13,070 --> 00:05:19,250  
But that's why my brother  
also remembered it and made

86  
00:05:19,250 --> 00:05:23,000  
sure that in case someone  
of the family is alive,

87  
00:05:23,000 --> 00:05:24,380  
we should try to go.

88  
00:05:24,380 --> 00:05:28,700  
Now, if you look through  
history at that time,

89  
00:05:28,700 --> 00:05:32,685  
you will see it really was  
not too difficult to go over

90  
00:05:32,685 --> 00:05:35,090  
the border, walk  
across the border,

91  
00:05:35,090 --> 00:05:37,250  
especially for survivors.

92  
00:05:37,250 --> 00:05:39,710  
They could tell  
we are survivors.

93  
00:05:39,710 --> 00:05:41,660  
Somehow, a group of people--



94

00:05:41,660 --> 00:05:44,750

95

00:05:44,750 --> 00:05:47,360

somebody said that the  
best way to get over

96

00:05:47,360 --> 00:05:51,260

to the American zone  
would be through Berlin.

97

00:05:51,260 --> 00:05:54,810

Because in Berlin, they had the  
Russian zone, the French zone,

98

00:05:54,810 --> 00:05:57,290

the English zone,  
the American zone.

99

00:05:57,290 --> 00:06:02,660

Now, I remember riding on a  
truck and walking by foot.

100

00:06:02,660 --> 00:06:05,540

We wound up in one of the zones.

101

00:06:05,540 --> 00:06:08,210

I don't really remember  
anymore whether it was

102

00:06:08,210 --> 00:06:10,520

the English or the French zone.

103

00:06:10,520 --> 00:06:14,230

And we just walked over  
to the American zone.

104

00:06:14,230 --> 00:06:17,140

And there, we registered.

105

00:06:17,140 --> 00:06:23,260

And if you had family, they

helped you to get reunited.

106

00:06:23,260 --> 00:06:29,350

And when we told them that  
my brother was in Feldafing,

107

00:06:29,350 --> 00:06:34,650

they actually brought us there.

108

00:06:34,650 --> 00:06:37,650

So we wound up--

109

00:06:37,650 --> 00:06:45,270

in October of 1945, we  
arrived in Feldafing.

110

00:06:45,270 --> 00:06:49,050

Took a long time  
for us together,

111

00:06:49,050 --> 00:06:54,100

you can see from some  
time in June till October.

112

00:06:54,100 --> 00:06:55,890

So it wasn't an easy thing.

113

00:06:55,890 --> 00:06:58,440

You went from one  
place to another.

114

00:06:58,440 --> 00:07:02,920

You had to wait for  
documents, your papers.

115

00:07:02,920 --> 00:07:11,520

In the time from  
June till October,

116

00:07:11,520 --> 00:07:14,650

I met my husband to be.

117

00:07:14,650 --> 00:07:17,420  
And he joined us.

118  
00:07:17,420 --> 00:07:21,566  
And before we actually  
arrived in Feldafing,

119  
00:07:21,566 --> 00:07:24,960  
Jack and I were married.

120  
00:07:24,960 --> 00:07:27,810  
In 1945.

121  
00:07:27,810 --> 00:07:30,730  
So tell me a little  
bit about that.

122  
00:07:30,730 --> 00:07:33,940  
Well, this is always--

123  
00:07:33,940 --> 00:07:36,250  
especially children  
in school when

124  
00:07:36,250 --> 00:07:39,400  
I talk to them about my  
experiences, they ask me,

125  
00:07:39,400 --> 00:07:41,290  
how did you meet your husband?

126  
00:07:41,290 --> 00:07:45,580  
And I always tell them  
sincerely, in those days,

127  
00:07:45,580 --> 00:07:47,170  
you needed each other.

128  
00:07:47,170 --> 00:07:50,290  
My husband is a survivor  
of the Holocaust.

129

00:07:50,290 --> 00:07:52,810

He doesn't even have  
a distant cousin.

130

00:07:52,810 --> 00:07:57,440

131

00:07:57,440 --> 00:08:00,950

There was a long story  
behind it, how I met him.

132

00:08:00,950 --> 00:08:05,750

He was a friend of a  
friend of one of my uncles

133

00:08:05,750 --> 00:08:08,680

by marriage on my father's side.

134

00:08:08,680 --> 00:08:12,570

And when we found these  
people in the city of Lodz,

135

00:08:12,570 --> 00:08:16,710

when my mom and I found  
his uncle and his friends,

136

00:08:16,710 --> 00:08:19,920

we became a little bit  
like a family unit.

137

00:08:19,920 --> 00:08:27,330

And that's who we traveled with  
from Lodz to the American zone.

138

00:08:27,330 --> 00:08:31,390

139

00:08:31,390 --> 00:08:35,559

At one point, I remember  
in Lodz my mother

140

00:08:35,559 --> 00:08:39,360

saying to me, Nessela--

141  
00:08:39,360 --> 00:08:44,090  
that's an endearing word for  
your name Nesse, Nessela--

142  
00:08:44,090 --> 00:08:48,650  
we are two women alone, I  
think it would be a good idea

143  
00:08:48,650 --> 00:08:52,280  
if one of us would get married.

144  
00:08:52,280 --> 00:08:54,860  
Now, my mom was 46 years old.

145  
00:08:54,860 --> 00:09:00,620  
And I thought in my heart, why  
would she want to get married?

146  
00:09:00,620 --> 00:09:01,840  
She has me.

147  
00:09:01,840 --> 00:09:03,710  
I was angry.

148  
00:09:03,710 --> 00:09:06,350  
But the next thing out  
of my mother's mouth

149  
00:09:06,350 --> 00:09:10,490  
was, my child, I had  
a wonderful husband.

150  
00:09:10,490 --> 00:09:13,110  
I don't think I  
will marry again.

151  
00:09:13,110 --> 00:09:15,200  
But I think you should marry.

152  
00:09:15,200 --> 00:09:17,420  
Look, here's a few guys.

153  
00:09:17,420 --> 00:09:19,640  
They're all very nice.

154  
00:09:19,640 --> 00:09:21,830  
Choose one, and get married.

155  
00:09:21,830 --> 00:09:26,400  
We'll have a man that'll  
help us and take care of us.

156  
00:09:26,400 --> 00:09:30,690  
So honestly, I just looked at  
Jack and I thought he was cute.

157  
00:09:30,690 --> 00:09:36,000  
And many times I ask him,  
I say, Jack, who proposed?

158  
00:09:36,000 --> 00:09:39,840  
How did we decide  
to get married?

159  
00:09:39,840 --> 00:09:44,640  
I don't remember kissing  
him before we got married.

160  
00:09:44,640 --> 00:09:48,810  
I don't remember us being in  
love before we got married.

161  
00:09:48,810 --> 00:09:50,400  
We needed each other.

162  
00:09:50,400 --> 00:09:54,630  
But let me tell you, we  
are married a long time.

163  
00:09:54,630 --> 00:09:58,030

164  
00:09:58,030 --> 00:09:59,830

We are very much in love now.

165

00:09:59,830 --> 00:10:07,050

166

00:10:07,050 --> 00:10:09,330

We have a little bit  
left on this roll.

167

00:10:09,330 --> 00:10:11,560

Just tell me what Feldafing is.

168

00:10:11,560 --> 00:10:13,140

I don't know anything about it.

169

00:10:13,140 --> 00:10:13,830

OK.

170

00:10:13,830 --> 00:10:15,990

What I remember of Feldafing--

171

00:10:15,990 --> 00:10:18,390

when I came to  
Feldafing, I was curious.

172

00:10:18,390 --> 00:10:22,070

It looked a beautiful  
place, with villas,

173

00:10:22,070 --> 00:10:26,570

with a golf course,  
tennis courts,

174

00:10:26,570 --> 00:10:29,780

with some bags down the town.

175

00:10:29,780 --> 00:10:32,750

And I was told at  
that time that this

176

00:10:32,750 --> 00:10:35,840

was a resort place

for assessment,

177

00:10:35,840 --> 00:10:40,770  
to come and enjoy themselves  
and have a good time.

178

00:10:40,770 --> 00:10:42,330  
It was a small little town.

179

00:10:42,330 --> 00:10:48,270  
The town itself was maybe 10  
blocks long, a small town,

180

00:10:48,270 --> 00:10:52,860  
small European town,  
very pretty, very nice.

181

00:10:52,860 --> 00:10:56,730  
And as you went down  
to the area where,

182

00:10:56,730 --> 00:11:00,570  
we called, the DP  
camp was, you still

183

00:11:00,570 --> 00:11:05,420  
saw those beautiful villas,  
you saw the beautiful trees,

184

00:11:05,420 --> 00:11:07,310  
the beautiful area.

185

00:11:07,310 --> 00:11:11,630  
But you have to understand,  
we were not given a villa.

186

00:11:11,630 --> 00:11:14,900  
In that villa, 10  
families had to live.

187

00:11:14,900 --> 00:11:27,210



188

00:11:27,210 --> 00:11:28,550

Slate four, mark.

189

00:11:28,550 --> 00:11:36,850

190

00:11:36,850 --> 00:11:39,280

So we were back at

Feldafing, and you

191

00:11:39,280 --> 00:11:42,100

were describing the DP camp.

192

00:11:42,100 --> 00:11:47,380

So what I started to say,

those villas were beautiful.

193

00:11:47,380 --> 00:11:51,490

But you have to understand,

if we were assigned a place

194

00:11:51,490 --> 00:11:54,970

in the villa, that meant that

10 families instead of one

195

00:11:54,970 --> 00:11:58,000

lived in that pretty house.

196

00:11:58,000 --> 00:12:01,810

For instance, my brother

was there already

197

00:12:01,810 --> 00:12:04,830

with his wife to be.

198

00:12:04,830 --> 00:12:08,220

Well, she was his wife

already actually, maybe.

199

00:12:08,220 --> 00:12:10,800

And they had one room.

200

00:12:10,800 --> 00:12:15,340

Now, when we came, my  
mom and my husband and I,

201

00:12:15,340 --> 00:12:18,420

we were just given two  
beds in the kitchen.

202

00:12:18,420 --> 00:12:22,920

And the kitchen was used by  
the rest of the 10 families.

203

00:12:22,920 --> 00:12:26,760

So yes, the place  
looked beautiful,

204

00:12:26,760 --> 00:12:32,830

but we were still crammed  
into small places.

205

00:12:32,830 --> 00:12:39,490

We still had to go down to the  
main kitchen to get the food.

206

00:12:39,490 --> 00:12:42,220

Because at the  
beginning, they did not

207

00:12:42,220 --> 00:12:45,340

give you for each  
family separate ration.

208

00:12:45,340 --> 00:12:49,690

You still had to go to the main  
kitchen with your little coupon

209

00:12:49,690 --> 00:12:50,950

to get your food.

210

00:12:50,950 --> 00:12:54,190

You also received a coupon for  
a pair of shoes, let's say.

211

00:12:54,190 --> 00:12:57,250

You went to that  
special place where

212

00:12:57,250 --> 00:13:00,310

they assigned you that  
you can get a coat

213

00:13:00,310 --> 00:13:04,610

or if you needed a dress or  
if you needed something else.

214

00:13:04,610 --> 00:13:12,340

So yes, we were free, but we  
were still in organized living.

215

00:13:12,340 --> 00:13:17,510

216

00:13:17,510 --> 00:13:21,280

So what else about  
the conditions?

217

00:13:21,280 --> 00:13:24,310

I mean, were there  
other things that

218

00:13:24,310 --> 00:13:30,110

were similar to how your  
life had been before?

219

00:13:30,110 --> 00:13:33,320

Well, everything  
is in comparison.

220

00:13:33,320 --> 00:13:37,430

Naturally, when you start to  
compare to the concentration

221

00:13:37,430 --> 00:13:41,570

camp or the ghetto or the  
labor camp, this was heaven.

222

00:13:41,570 --> 00:13:45,030

But if you compare  
to normal lifestyle,

223

00:13:45,030 --> 00:13:46,730

this was still a camp.

224

00:13:46,730 --> 00:13:49,370

You still had a  
curfew, you were not

225

00:13:49,370 --> 00:13:53,570

allowed to go to the little  
town after a certain time

226

00:13:53,570 --> 00:13:54,570

at the beginning.

227

00:13:54,570 --> 00:13:56,030

Later as time went on--

228

00:13:56,030 --> 00:13:58,790

I was in Feldafing five years.

229

00:13:58,790 --> 00:14:02,030

So later on was different.

230

00:14:02,030 --> 00:14:06,140

Some of the people had already  
little jobs in the little town.

231

00:14:06,140 --> 00:14:08,840

Some people worked  
within the camp.

232

00:14:08,840 --> 00:14:12,440

Some people went to school.

233

00:14:12,440 --> 00:14:13,700

So things changed.

234

00:14:13,700 --> 00:14:17,690

But at the beginning, it  
was very organized living.

235

00:14:17,690 --> 00:14:21,830

We still were told we were  
not allowed to go out.

236

00:14:21,830 --> 00:14:23,600

We were not allowed to--

237

00:14:23,600 --> 00:14:26,640

and then we didn't  
have money to go.

238

00:14:26,640 --> 00:14:32,060

If somebody wanted to take a  
ride to Munich, unless they

239

00:14:32,060 --> 00:14:36,330

assigned you a ticket to  
go for a certain purpose,

240

00:14:36,330 --> 00:14:38,370

like if I had to go  
with my [? face ?]

241

00:14:38,370 --> 00:14:41,760

to the doctor in Munich,  
I had the ticket to go.

242

00:14:41,760 --> 00:14:44,760

But at the beginning, we  
couldn't go wherever we wanted.

243

00:14:44,760 --> 00:14:47,130

We were displaced persons.

244

00:14:47,130 --> 00:14:51,080

That's what our documents said.

245

00:14:51,080 --> 00:14:54,510

So you sort of had no rights.

246  
00:14:54,510 --> 00:15:00,610  
Well, I don't want to say no  
rights but very limited rights,

247  
00:15:00,610 --> 00:15:03,600  
very limited rights.

248  
00:15:03,600 --> 00:15:06,210  
Did Ben-Gurion come while  
you were at Feldafing?

249  
00:15:06,210 --> 00:15:06,710  
Yes.

250  
00:15:06,710 --> 00:15:07,970  
I remember.

251  
00:15:07,970 --> 00:15:09,720  
I remember it well.

252  
00:15:09,720 --> 00:15:14,940  
Because after we were there a  
year or so, within the camp,

253  
00:15:14,940 --> 00:15:17,930  
the Jewish community  
organized a little bit.

254  
00:15:17,930 --> 00:15:20,390  
There was a president  
of the camp.

255  
00:15:20,390 --> 00:15:23,120  
People were in charge  
of Cultural Affairs.

256  
00:15:23,120 --> 00:15:24,860  
They started to have--

257  
00:15:24,860 --> 00:15:28,190  
some people started

to come that were

258

00:15:28,190 --> 00:15:32,150  
in hiding or in the  
Russian occupied areas,

259

00:15:32,150 --> 00:15:34,550  
and they had some  
little children.

260

00:15:34,550 --> 00:15:40,580  
Some schools were organized  
and different organizations,

261

00:15:40,580 --> 00:15:42,440  
Zionist organizations.

262

00:15:42,440 --> 00:15:47,240  
And I remember Ben-Gurion  
coming to the camp

263

00:15:47,240 --> 00:15:54,770  
and speaking about Palestine  
and about what's going to be.

264

00:15:54,770 --> 00:15:59,720  
And I remember people  
going illegal immigration,

265

00:15:59,720 --> 00:16:02,960  
leaving the camp  
and going there.

266

00:16:02,960 --> 00:16:06,200  
But I remember  
Ben-Gurion with his hair

267

00:16:06,200 --> 00:16:09,710  
standing out on both  
sides and giving us hope.

268

00:16:09,710 --> 00:16:13,150  
And I'll never forget that.

269  
00:16:13,150 --> 00:16:16,160

270  
00:16:16,160 --> 00:16:19,170  
Did they decorate Feldafig  
when he was coming.

271  
00:16:19,170 --> 00:16:21,780  
Oh, yes.

272  
00:16:21,780 --> 00:16:25,590  
I don't even know  
how we got, maybe

273  
00:16:25,590 --> 00:16:30,630  
somehow with the  
help of the UNRRA.

274  
00:16:30,630 --> 00:16:38,540  
Blue and white flags and as  
much as we could decorate it.

275  
00:16:38,540 --> 00:16:42,930  
It was like a little parade  
and everybody coming.

276  
00:16:42,930 --> 00:16:44,730  
There was a big area.

277  
00:16:44,730 --> 00:16:46,890  
It was called the turnhalle.

278  
00:16:46,890 --> 00:16:50,160  
Turnhalle means  
the sports arena,

279  
00:16:50,160 --> 00:16:53,700  
which was a big building.

280  
00:16:53,700 --> 00:16:58,050  
And that's where



we met that time.

281  
00:16:58,050 --> 00:17:02,160  
And in this time,  
especially back in 1945,

282  
00:17:02,160 --> 00:17:04,109  
before you even  
got to Feldafing,

283  
00:17:04,109 --> 00:17:07,470  
were you afraid  
traveling [INAUDIBLE]

284  
00:17:07,470 --> 00:17:09,210  
We were very much afraid.

285  
00:17:09,210 --> 00:17:14,250  
Because we heard already that  
so many people that went back--

286  
00:17:14,250 --> 00:17:16,140  
not just afraid in Germany.

287  
00:17:16,140 --> 00:17:18,099  
We were afraid in Poland.

288  
00:17:18,099 --> 00:17:21,690  
We heard that people went  
back to their hometowns,

289  
00:17:21,690 --> 00:17:25,099  
and the people that  
lived in their homes

290  
00:17:25,099 --> 00:17:28,460  
or had their  
businesses killed them.

291  
00:17:28,460 --> 00:17:35,380  
So we felt like we were really  
not welcome nowhere yet.

292

00:17:35,380 --> 00:17:40,330

Now, when we got to  
Germany, especially when

293

00:17:40,330 --> 00:17:44,280

we got to Feldafig, I  
had a very hard time.

294

00:17:44,280 --> 00:17:46,080

I tell you the truth.

295

00:17:46,080 --> 00:17:50,260

At that time, you  
were just free.

296

00:17:50,260 --> 00:17:54,190

But you were in the  
midst of a people

297

00:17:54,190 --> 00:17:57,700

that you were wondering which of  
them killed your father, which

298

00:17:57,700 --> 00:18:01,000

of them killed your  
uncle, your grandmother

299

00:18:01,000 --> 00:18:02,560

or your grandfather.

300

00:18:02,560 --> 00:18:09,130

It was very difficult, very  
difficult. You were suspicious.

301

00:18:09,130 --> 00:18:12,120

You were scared.

302

00:18:12,120 --> 00:18:15,420

Wanted to get out.

303

00:18:15,420 --> 00:18:22,620

Every one of us dreamed to be

able to leave those camps as

304

00:18:22,620 --> 00:18:24,040  
soon as possible.

305

00:18:24,040 --> 00:18:28,380  
Now, I don't know if I mentioned  
to you, as soon as we arrived

306

00:18:28,380 --> 00:18:33,810  
in Feldafing, we wrote a letter  
to my aunt to Washington DC.

307

00:18:33,810 --> 00:18:37,050  
My mom's sister, we  
remembered her address.

308

00:18:37,050 --> 00:18:39,540  
She lived in Washington DC.

309

00:18:39,540 --> 00:18:43,820  
They had a tiny little grocery  
store on Sherman and Euclid St

310

00:18:43,820 --> 00:18:45,060  
Washington DC.

311

00:18:45,060 --> 00:18:48,000  
That's all you had to  
write, South Market, Sherman

312

00:18:48,000 --> 00:18:48,885  
and Euclid.

313

00:18:48,885 --> 00:18:51,240  
No zip code in those days.

314

00:18:51,240 --> 00:18:53,910  
My aunt received that letter.

315

00:18:53,910 --> 00:18:56,730  
She went right away to

the State Department.

316  
00:18:56,730 --> 00:19:01,860  
She found friends and family  
that would sponsor us,

317  
00:19:01,860 --> 00:19:07,050  
make sure that we wouldn't be  
a burden to the United States

318  
00:19:07,050 --> 00:19:08,410  
government.

319  
00:19:08,410 --> 00:19:11,700  
But because of  
the quota system--

320  
00:19:11,700 --> 00:19:15,690  
in those days, we  
had the quota system.

321  
00:19:15,690 --> 00:19:18,870  
I'm saying it carefully  
because at one time,

322  
00:19:18,870 --> 00:19:22,410  
somebody wrote down Nesse  
didn't come to the United

323  
00:19:22,410 --> 00:19:25,160  
States because of a quarter.

324  
00:19:25,160 --> 00:19:27,880  
Quota system in those days.

325  
00:19:27,880 --> 00:19:31,490  
I was from Lithuania  
with a small quota.

326  
00:19:31,490 --> 00:19:36,270  
We had to wait five years,  
five years to be let in.

327

00:19:36,270 --> 00:19:39,320

We had to go through  
medical examination.

328

00:19:39,320 --> 00:19:43,010

We had to be checked  
and checked and checked

329

00:19:43,010 --> 00:19:44,650

until we were let go.

330

00:19:44,650 --> 00:19:49,460

331

00:19:49,460 --> 00:19:54,330

Tell me more about life in  
Feldafing and the organization.

332

00:19:54,330 --> 00:19:58,070

333

00:19:58,070 --> 00:20:03,530

After the first year, I would  
say maybe a year and a half,

334

00:20:03,530 --> 00:20:08,460

you get accustomed to  
your way of life actually.

335

00:20:08,460 --> 00:20:11,160

People started to have children.

336

00:20:11,160 --> 00:20:15,150

I, myself, my oldest  
daughter and my son

337

00:20:15,150 --> 00:20:17,580

were born in Feldafing.

338

00:20:17,580 --> 00:20:20,460

In 1947, I became a mom.

339

00:20:20,460 --> 00:20:23,790

I was not quite 19 years old.

340

00:20:23,790 --> 00:20:26,910

And then you saw those  
beautiful children,

341

00:20:26,910 --> 00:20:32,880

and people started to  
have a little more hope.

342

00:20:32,880 --> 00:20:35,445

When you see children, you  
know there is a future,

343

00:20:35,445 --> 00:20:39,820

you know there's  
something else coming.

344

00:20:39,820 --> 00:20:42,130

And everyone was waiting.

345

00:20:42,130 --> 00:20:44,560

It was a time of waiting.

346

00:20:44,560 --> 00:20:51,670

But people really joined  
the Zionist organizations

347

00:20:51,670 --> 00:20:58,540

with the hope of  
having our own land.

348

00:20:58,540 --> 00:21:03,460

I remember when Israel  
was declared a country,

349

00:21:03,460 --> 00:21:05,650

we were in Feldafing.

350

00:21:05,650 --> 00:21:11,200

The celebrations,

the ecstasy just

351  
00:21:11,200 --> 00:21:15,760  
to know that, in  
case we won, there

352  
00:21:15,760 --> 00:21:18,750  
is a place that will take us.

353  
00:21:18,750 --> 00:21:19,900  
It was very exciting.

354  
00:21:19,900 --> 00:21:22,640

355  
00:21:22,640 --> 00:21:24,550  
[AUDIO OUT] the question  
once we get rolling.

356  
00:21:24,550 --> 00:21:25,050  
Sweet.

357  
00:21:25,050 --> 00:21:26,410  
This is marker five.

358  
00:21:26,410 --> 00:21:29,400

359  
00:21:29,400 --> 00:21:31,890  
We were very much  
afraid of the MPs.

360  
00:21:31,890 --> 00:21:39,540  
Because when you are used to  
being afraid of the military,

361  
00:21:39,540 --> 00:21:43,200  
you really did not know yet,  
am I supposed to go here?

362  
00:21:43,200 --> 00:21:45,150  
Am I not supposed to go here?

363  
00:21:45,150 --> 00:21:48,570  
Even when we were free  
to go in the little town

364  
00:21:48,570 --> 00:21:52,210  
and we saw military  
police, we were scared.

365  
00:21:52,210 --> 00:21:54,690  
We thought of they're going  
to do something to us,

366  
00:21:54,690 --> 00:21:57,390  
they are going to tell us  
don't go here, don't go there,

367  
00:21:57,390 --> 00:21:59,540  
don't do this.

368  
00:21:59,540 --> 00:22:03,740  
When you live through  
such a traumatic time

369  
00:22:03,740 --> 00:22:10,915  
as the Holocaust, and you  
know that these people assess

370  
00:22:10,915 --> 00:22:13,190  
and just stop where  
people in uniform

371  
00:22:13,190 --> 00:22:17,350  
mistreated you, sometime  
you make a mistake

372  
00:22:17,350 --> 00:22:22,090  
and even this police was being  
kind to you, you were afraid.

373  
00:22:22,090 --> 00:22:26,430  
I tell you the truth, I'm  
still afraid of military.



374

00:22:26,430 --> 00:22:27,690

I really am.

375

00:22:27,690 --> 00:22:34,380

Sometimes I think, oh, here goes  
a policemen, here goes a guard.

376

00:22:34,380 --> 00:22:36,180

Thank you.

377

00:22:36,180 --> 00:22:38,330

Now, we have--