

1
00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:16,950

2
00:00:16,950 --> 00:00:17,470
Take one.

3
00:00:17,470 --> 00:00:22,180

4
00:00:22,180 --> 00:00:23,110
OK, Pat.

5
00:00:23,110 --> 00:00:25,780
I want you to tell me
about the first time

6
00:00:25,780 --> 00:00:29,560
that you came into a
real concentration camp.

7
00:00:29,560 --> 00:00:34,780
What did you see and
how did you feel?

8
00:00:34,780 --> 00:00:37,160
Well, I saw people who
are just desperately ill.

9
00:00:37,160 --> 00:00:38,980
I never saw such sick
people in my life,

10
00:00:38,980 --> 00:00:42,190
and I just went limp really.

11
00:00:42,190 --> 00:00:43,660
I was disbelief.

12
00:00:43,660 --> 00:00:45,550
I just could not
believe what I saw,

13
00:00:45,550 --> 00:00:48,100
and I stood there
for a few minutes.

14
00:00:48,100 --> 00:00:50,470
And I waited around.

15
00:00:50,470 --> 00:00:52,640
I kept saying, am I going
to be able to do this?

16
00:00:52,640 --> 00:00:54,390
I just don't know if
I can do this or not.

17
00:00:54,390 --> 00:00:55,790
So I kind of stood by the door.

18
00:00:55,790 --> 00:00:58,930
Then I went in and
started working,

19
00:00:58,930 --> 00:01:00,280
trying to take care of them.

20
00:01:00,280 --> 00:01:03,700
Well, there other patients
with very, very high fevers

21
00:01:03,700 --> 00:01:10,810
with typhus and tuberculosis.

22
00:01:10,810 --> 00:01:17,720
And they were so starved,
we couldn't give him

23
00:01:17,720 --> 00:01:18,590
any medication.

24
00:01:18,590 --> 00:01:22,310
You couldn't use a hypo

because there's no place.

25

00:01:22,310 --> 00:01:24,170

Let's start again,
and you tell me

26

00:01:24,170 --> 00:01:29,000

where you were at point, and
that many of you were there,

27

00:01:29,000 --> 00:01:33,620

and how you approach the
camp, and what you saw.

28

00:01:33,620 --> 00:01:36,950

Well, we were in an
evacuation hospital close by.

29

00:01:36,950 --> 00:01:39,470

I was in small hospital,
it moved a lot.

30

00:01:39,470 --> 00:01:42,410

And this was probably
one of the subcamps.

31

00:01:42,410 --> 00:01:43,910

We'd been to Rhine
first, and then

32

00:01:43,910 --> 00:01:48,590

we moved around, moved on down
south, and this was a subcamp.

33

00:01:48,590 --> 00:01:50,780

And so there were a few
of us went over there

34

00:01:50,780 --> 00:01:53,030

because not all the
nurses and doctors

35

00:01:53,030 --> 00:01:55,970

could go because somebody
to take care of our patients

36
00:01:55,970 --> 00:01:56,880
at our hospital.

37
00:01:56,880 --> 00:01:59,770
So take a few each
day and go over.

38
00:01:59,770 --> 00:02:02,120
And it was it was just terrible.

39
00:02:02,120 --> 00:02:03,140
I couldn't believe it.

40
00:02:03,140 --> 00:02:04,630
Absolutely.

41
00:02:04,630 --> 00:02:07,630
And I stood there for a while.

42
00:02:07,630 --> 00:02:09,090
And some of the
girls walked out,

43
00:02:09,090 --> 00:02:11,583
and I thought to
myself, if I walk out,

44
00:02:11,583 --> 00:02:12,750
I will not get back in here.

45
00:02:12,750 --> 00:02:14,250
I've got to stay.

46
00:02:14,250 --> 00:02:17,100
I can't walk out, but they
walked out, made a circle

47
00:02:17,100 --> 00:02:19,730
around and came back in.

48

00:02:19,730 --> 00:02:21,860

So I said, how am I going
to be able to do this?

49

00:02:21,860 --> 00:02:24,350

I thought for a little while,
I don't think I can do this.

50

00:02:24,350 --> 00:02:27,870

But then I got busy
and started working.

51

00:02:27,870 --> 00:02:30,630

How did it compare to
what you had been doing?

52

00:02:30,630 --> 00:02:33,000

Oh, no comparison at all.

53

00:02:33,000 --> 00:02:35,250

Tell me, I've never
been in one of those.

54

00:02:35,250 --> 00:02:38,740

I don't even know what
you know you were saving

55

00:02:38,740 --> 00:02:40,870

men who were wounded, maybe.

56

00:02:40,870 --> 00:02:42,610

So tell me the contrast.

57

00:02:42,610 --> 00:02:46,000

Oh, well, of course, our
patients had the best of care.

58

00:02:46,000 --> 00:02:48,430

And they weren't neglected.

59

00:02:48,430 --> 00:02:50,260

And even though they're
out in the field,

60
00:02:50,260 --> 00:02:53,080
we did everything
we could for them.

61
00:02:53,080 --> 00:02:55,150
And we were kind to
them, but here we

62
00:02:55,150 --> 00:02:58,460
go in this place where these
people have been abused

63
00:02:58,460 --> 00:03:01,220
and didn't have medical
care, didn't have anything.

64
00:03:01,220 --> 00:03:04,570
That was a real sharp contrast.

65
00:03:04,570 --> 00:03:07,360
Well, we didn't have
the best equipment.

66
00:03:07,360 --> 00:03:11,260
We had the best that we could
have out in a field hospital,

67
00:03:11,260 --> 00:03:14,013
but they were fed and we
took good care of them.

68
00:03:14,013 --> 00:03:15,430
And then go someplace
where people

69
00:03:15,430 --> 00:03:18,830
had no care at all,
nobody cared for them,

70
00:03:18,830 --> 00:03:21,270

no one was interested in them.

71

00:03:21,270 --> 00:03:23,820

And they were just lying
on concrete, some of them,

72

00:03:23,820 --> 00:03:26,280

with temperatures of 108.

73

00:03:26,280 --> 00:03:27,450

And they hadn't been fed.

74

00:03:27,450 --> 00:03:30,960

They had some old wooden
bowls about so big

75

00:03:30,960 --> 00:03:32,910

around with some soup in.

76

00:03:32,910 --> 00:03:37,260

And I noticed that particularly
the patients were too

77

00:03:37,260 --> 00:03:38,680

weak to reach over and get it.

78

00:03:38,680 --> 00:03:43,180

That was only pretense that
they made of feeding them.

79

00:03:43,180 --> 00:03:45,018

And they were so thin.

80

00:03:45,018 --> 00:03:46,810

I couldn't pick any of
them up, I tried to.

81

00:03:46,810 --> 00:03:49,930

But if I go to pick them
up, I'd tear the skin.

82

00:03:49,930 --> 00:03:52,810

So we had to be very, very
careful moving them out.

83
00:03:52,810 --> 00:03:54,520
The skin was just so terrible.

84
00:03:54,520 --> 00:03:57,850
So take about at
least three people.

85
00:03:57,850 --> 00:04:00,340
One person take the head,
one person take the legs,

86
00:04:00,340 --> 00:04:02,963
and very carefully lift them
up and get them outside.

87
00:04:02,963 --> 00:04:04,630
When you get them
outside of that place,

88
00:04:04,630 --> 00:04:06,880
we put up tents outside.

89
00:04:06,880 --> 00:04:11,380
We had cots and clean bedding,
so we take them out there.

90
00:04:11,380 --> 00:04:13,810
Or if there was a
hospital nearby,

91
00:04:13,810 --> 00:04:17,200
we'd go and take
over that hospital

92
00:04:17,200 --> 00:04:20,320
and move them in there.

93
00:04:20,320 --> 00:04:25,050
But for typhus, that
was the main thing,

94

00:04:25,050 --> 00:04:27,600
there was no medication, it was
just is supportive treatment

95

00:04:27,600 --> 00:04:30,100
and get fluids down and, well,
they couldn't drink anything,

96

00:04:30,100 --> 00:04:32,545
so we had to feed him
with medicine droppers.

97

00:04:32,545 --> 00:04:34,920
And we couldn't give him hypos
because there was no place

98

00:04:34,920 --> 00:04:38,940
to stick them with no skin
at all, no muscle, just

99

00:04:38,940 --> 00:04:40,060
skin and bone.

100

00:04:40,060 --> 00:04:43,040
There's no place
to give him a hypo.

101

00:04:43,040 --> 00:04:44,850
So it was--

102

00:04:44,850 --> 00:04:48,430

103

00:04:48,430 --> 00:04:49,148
I was just weak.

104

00:04:49,148 --> 00:04:50,440
I couldn't believe it happened.

105

00:04:50,440 --> 00:04:52,180
I couldn't, and then

I was so afraid.

106
00:04:52,180 --> 00:04:54,620
I thought, what else are
we going to run into?

107
00:04:54,620 --> 00:04:56,760
Is this going to go on?

108
00:04:56,760 --> 00:04:59,010
And then later on,
I think we were

109
00:04:59,010 --> 00:05:03,630
all just infuriated and
outraged at what had happened.

110
00:05:03,630 --> 00:05:06,023
Right in the beginning,
we were so afraid.

111
00:05:06,023 --> 00:05:07,190
First, we didn't believe it.

112
00:05:07,190 --> 00:05:13,300

113
00:05:13,300 --> 00:05:15,820
How many-- what were
the numbers like

114
00:05:15,820 --> 00:05:18,500
that you were confronted with?

115
00:05:18,500 --> 00:05:20,950
How many of you were
there and how many people

116
00:05:20,950 --> 00:05:22,630
were you trying to help?

117
00:05:22,630 --> 00:05:26,680

Oh, see, those that
were able to be moved,

118
00:05:26,680 --> 00:05:30,820
now, they went to DP camps
from the concentration camps.

119
00:05:30,820 --> 00:05:32,980
And if they were
able to be moved,

120
00:05:32,980 --> 00:05:34,720
they hurried up move
them over there.

121
00:05:34,720 --> 00:05:37,450
And I don't know what
the DP camps were,

122
00:05:37,450 --> 00:05:39,580
whether they were
buildings or, to me,

123
00:05:39,580 --> 00:05:42,010
it sounded like they were
camps outdoors someplace.

124
00:05:42,010 --> 00:05:44,900
But nevertheless, they were
much better than what they had.

125
00:05:44,900 --> 00:05:46,720
And so they moved those.

126
00:05:46,720 --> 00:05:49,000
Then those that were
really too sick to move, we

127
00:05:49,000 --> 00:05:52,910
had to find a building
or put a tent up outside.

128
00:05:52,910 --> 00:05:54,410

We had to get them
out of the camps,

129
00:05:54,410 --> 00:05:56,300
it was too dirty in there.

130
00:05:56,300 --> 00:05:58,900
And so we put tents
up, and we knew

131
00:05:58,900 --> 00:06:01,060
how to run a hospital
under tents because that's

132
00:06:01,060 --> 00:06:01,977
what we've been doing.

133
00:06:01,977 --> 00:06:03,640
See, the evacuation
hospital and I

134
00:06:03,640 --> 00:06:07,040
was with was all
tents, so even surgery,

135
00:06:07,040 --> 00:06:10,190
we knew how to run a
hospital under tents.

136
00:06:10,190 --> 00:06:13,700
So we put tents outside
and got clean bedding

137
00:06:13,700 --> 00:06:17,120
for them and they were
bathed, and took care of them

138
00:06:17,120 --> 00:06:20,533
there until we could
move them someplace else.

139
00:06:20,533 --> 00:06:22,450
But mainly, to get them

out of those buildings

140
00:06:22,450 --> 00:06:24,000
that were just terrible.

141
00:06:24,000 --> 00:06:28,180
They were infested with
mice, and, oh, it's awful.

142
00:06:28,180 --> 00:06:29,680
If they didn't
have typhus, they'd

143
00:06:29,680 --> 00:06:33,070
get it if they didn't get out.

144
00:06:33,070 --> 00:06:35,950
So how did you guys
protect yourselves?

145
00:06:35,950 --> 00:06:37,250
Oh, we had--

146
00:06:37,250 --> 00:06:40,660
I'd had training in communicable
diseases, that's what I did,

147
00:06:40,660 --> 00:06:42,460
and that's one reason
they sent me there

148
00:06:42,460 --> 00:06:45,580
because I'd had some training
in communicable diseases.

149
00:06:45,580 --> 00:06:47,920
We had DDT powder that we used.

150
00:06:47,920 --> 00:06:52,540
It was a thing looks
like an old flint gun.

151

00:06:52,540 --> 00:06:55,517
They used to spray flies, had
a canister and a pump on it.

152
00:06:55,517 --> 00:06:57,100
So we put the powder
in, and then we'd

153
00:06:57,100 --> 00:07:01,900
stick it down our slacks
and socks and underarms

154
00:07:01,900 --> 00:07:03,902
and did inside of our fatigues.

155
00:07:03,902 --> 00:07:05,860
I don't know what we did
about our hair, that's

156
00:07:05,860 --> 00:07:08,560
one thing I'm trying to
figure out how did we--

157
00:07:08,560 --> 00:07:12,700
must have dusted
some kind of a cap

158
00:07:12,700 --> 00:07:15,340
and then put that on
or, maybe, we had a--

159
00:07:15,340 --> 00:07:17,440
we may have tied up with
a cloth, dusted the cloth

160
00:07:17,440 --> 00:07:19,900
and tied our hair up, because
if the mite had get on us,

161
00:07:19,900 --> 00:07:22,007
we'd get it, too.

162
00:07:22,007 --> 00:07:23,590

So that's about the
only thing that we

163
00:07:23,590 --> 00:07:25,948
did that I remember, and
try to get as much rest

164
00:07:25,948 --> 00:07:28,240
as we could because that
wasn't very easy because we've

165
00:07:28,240 --> 00:07:32,570
been working 16 hours a day,
but to keep well-rested.

166
00:07:32,570 --> 00:07:35,210
Our food wasn't very good it.

167
00:07:35,210 --> 00:07:39,750
Was K rations and C rations
and no fresh fruit, no milk,

168
00:07:39,750 --> 00:07:42,140
no fresh potatoes, no
vegetables, everything

169
00:07:42,140 --> 00:07:43,460
was powdered.

170
00:07:43,460 --> 00:07:46,820
And I never had any fruit all
the time I was there, no milk.

171
00:07:46,820 --> 00:07:50,757
But anyway, we managed
to stay healthy.

172
00:07:50,757 --> 00:07:52,340
Where these people
hadn't had anything

173
00:07:52,340 --> 00:07:54,920
to eat except bread

crust and coffee grounds.

174
00:07:54,920 --> 00:07:57,450

175
00:07:57,450 --> 00:08:00,360
And so our general
health was good.

176
00:08:00,360 --> 00:08:02,160
The resistance was
good, so that's probably

177
00:08:02,160 --> 00:08:03,860
would keep us from getting it.

178
00:08:03,860 --> 00:08:08,010

179
00:08:08,010 --> 00:08:11,310
Were things well-organized
or was it pretty chaotic?

180
00:08:11,310 --> 00:08:14,040
And how did you see light
at the end of the tunnel

181
00:08:14,040 --> 00:08:14,970
or did you ever?

182
00:08:14,970 --> 00:08:16,855
I thought that when
they got organized,

183
00:08:16,855 --> 00:08:19,230
it was pretty well-organized
because all the leaders came

184
00:08:19,230 --> 00:08:24,450
forth among the people in
the camps, the survivors,

185

00:08:24,450 --> 00:08:26,638
the leaders all came
forth and helped out.

186
00:08:26,638 --> 00:08:28,680
See, we didn't get there
first, American soldiers

187
00:08:28,680 --> 00:08:31,710
got there first, so the soldiers
and the people in the camps

188
00:08:31,710 --> 00:08:33,720
started running the camps.

189
00:08:33,720 --> 00:08:36,230
And I thought they
did pretty well.

190
00:08:36,230 --> 00:08:40,059
And then they recruited German
people to do the laundry,

191
00:08:40,059 --> 00:08:44,420
to do the cooking, to clean,
and do all sorts of things.

192
00:08:44,420 --> 00:08:47,170
So pretty soon, things
were going pretty well.

193
00:08:47,170 --> 00:08:49,540
It was a matter of just taking
care of these desperately

194
00:08:49,540 --> 00:08:50,680
ill patients.

195
00:08:50,680 --> 00:08:52,570
Then, we started
getting better supplies.

196
00:08:52,570 --> 00:08:54,700

Also, after we
took over a tower,

197
00:08:54,700 --> 00:08:57,012
after the infantry tank,
of course, got in there,

198
00:08:57,012 --> 00:08:58,720
they go to the
burgermeister of the town,

199
00:08:58,720 --> 00:08:59,762
tell them what we needed.

200
00:08:59,762 --> 00:09:04,570
So we just said we need so many
beds and so much clean linen.

201
00:09:04,570 --> 00:09:06,640
And we brought what
we had, what we

202
00:09:06,640 --> 00:09:09,280
could spare from
our hospital, but we

203
00:09:09,280 --> 00:09:11,500
did tell him what we want.

204
00:09:11,500 --> 00:09:14,460
And they hurry up and find it.

205
00:09:14,460 --> 00:09:19,040
So in that way,
it wasn't too bad.

206
00:09:19,040 --> 00:09:23,420
It was primitive, but
we got by, I'll say.

207
00:09:23,420 --> 00:09:26,870
What was the attitude of
the Germans that helped?

208
00:09:26,870 --> 00:09:28,440
That helped us?

209
00:09:28,440 --> 00:09:28,940
Yeah.

210
00:09:28,940 --> 00:09:32,960
Oh, they hung on to us and
hugged like they thought

211
00:09:32,960 --> 00:09:35,010
we were going to go away.

212
00:09:35,010 --> 00:09:37,230
I mean, just-- oh,
the German people.

213
00:09:37,230 --> 00:09:37,730
Yeah.

214
00:09:37,730 --> 00:09:39,870
Oh, excuse me.

215
00:09:39,870 --> 00:09:43,500
Oh, they were very
submissive for the most part.

216
00:09:43,500 --> 00:09:46,410
They were very cooperative.

217
00:09:46,410 --> 00:09:49,040
And the burgermeister would
send whatever we wanted

218
00:09:49,040 --> 00:09:51,000
if he possibly could find it.

219
00:09:51,000 --> 00:09:54,480
Of course, I said with a
German efficiency, go find it.

220

00:09:54,480 --> 00:09:56,400

Go get what we need.

221

00:09:56,400 --> 00:10:01,860

But no, as far as the
survivors were concerned,

222

00:10:01,860 --> 00:10:02,880

they just hung on.

223

00:10:02,880 --> 00:10:05,640

Those who could, many
of them were too weak.

224

00:10:05,640 --> 00:10:07,170

They couldn't lift
their arms up.

225

00:10:07,170 --> 00:10:09,330

They hung on to us and
grabbed our clothes for fear

226

00:10:09,330 --> 00:10:11,360

we're going to leave.

227

00:10:11,360 --> 00:10:14,300

But, no, the people who came
in to work, for the most part,

228

00:10:14,300 --> 00:10:15,050

were cooperative.

229

00:10:15,050 --> 00:10:17,300

They probably didn't
want to be there.

230

00:10:17,300 --> 00:10:19,982

There was only one nurse
that I didn't get along with.

231

00:10:19,982 --> 00:10:21,690

But one hospital we'd

taken over and we'd

232
00:10:21,690 --> 00:10:23,870
taken the survivors in there.

233
00:10:23,870 --> 00:10:25,790
And she was a little abrupt.

234
00:10:25,790 --> 00:10:27,860
She was a good nurse,
but a German nurse,

235
00:10:27,860 --> 00:10:28,880
but she was abrupt.

236
00:10:28,880 --> 00:10:32,420
And I'd hear her
talking to the patients.

237
00:10:32,420 --> 00:10:35,360
She'd say, swallow that, drink
that, kind of barking at them.

238
00:10:35,360 --> 00:10:36,860
And so I took her
aside and told her

239
00:10:36,860 --> 00:10:38,570
she'd have to be more caring.

240
00:10:38,570 --> 00:10:42,132
I said, you can't talk
to those people that way.

241
00:10:42,132 --> 00:10:43,590
Well, she didn't
like me very well.

242
00:10:43,590 --> 00:10:46,670
So every time she went by me,
she'd give me a dirty look.

243

00:10:46,670 --> 00:10:48,080
But otherwise, I got along fine.

244
00:10:48,080 --> 00:10:50,520
There was another nurse
there, her name was Margaret.

245
00:10:50,520 --> 00:10:51,770
And I got along fine with her.

246
00:10:51,770 --> 00:10:54,593
She was a little bit older.

247
00:10:54,593 --> 00:10:56,010
The people we had
the trouble with

248
00:10:56,010 --> 00:10:57,930
were the Hitler
Youth, the young ones.

249
00:10:57,930 --> 00:11:00,140
They were starting up again.

250
00:11:00,140 --> 00:11:01,970
And some of our
officers and our men

251
00:11:01,970 --> 00:11:05,600
found them out in a cemetery
starting up all over again

252
00:11:05,600 --> 00:11:07,130
marching around, Heil Hitler.

253
00:11:07,130 --> 00:11:08,403
So I don't know what they did.

254
00:11:08,403 --> 00:11:10,070
And I guess they
called the MPs and told

255

00:11:10,070 --> 00:11:11,270
them to take them on home.

256
00:11:11,270 --> 00:11:11,810
OK.

257
00:11:11,810 --> 00:11:13,816
We have to stop and reload.

258
00:11:13,816 --> 00:11:14,316
OK.

259
00:11:14,316 --> 00:11:20,670

260
00:11:20,670 --> 00:11:23,850
Camera roll two, take two.

261
00:11:23,850 --> 00:11:27,210
I want you to start again and
tell me about the Hitler Youth,

262
00:11:27,210 --> 00:11:31,650
and tell me about the difference
in the older German people who

263
00:11:31,650 --> 00:11:35,850
had to help out and
the younger ones.

264
00:11:35,850 --> 00:11:40,320
I think the older Germans, if
they were telling the truth,

265
00:11:40,320 --> 00:11:42,400
they told us that they
didn't want to be Nazis,

266
00:11:42,400 --> 00:11:45,030
and they were afraid
and they had to go along

267

00:11:45,030 --> 00:11:47,070
with him or they'd been killed.

268
00:11:47,070 --> 00:11:49,630
But the Hitler Youth,
they're very bold.

269
00:11:49,630 --> 00:11:50,340
And I think if--

270
00:11:50,340 --> 00:11:51,960
I was really afraid of them.

271
00:11:51,960 --> 00:11:55,500
After the war was over
and we could ride around--

272
00:11:55,500 --> 00:11:58,652
we couldn't go any place
before without an armed escort.

273
00:11:58,652 --> 00:12:00,360
And of course, the
doctors weren't armed,

274
00:12:00,360 --> 00:12:01,590
we had to find somebody.

275
00:12:01,590 --> 00:12:03,567
If we wanted to go to
another little town

276
00:12:03,567 --> 00:12:06,150
to visit a friend or something,
we had to find an armed escort

277
00:12:06,150 --> 00:12:07,145
to go with us.

278
00:12:07,145 --> 00:12:09,270
But I was always afraid of
that Hitler Youth group,

279

00:12:09,270 --> 00:12:11,835

because I don't think
they'd stop at anything.

280

00:12:11,835 --> 00:12:13,960

And they were having their
demonstrations at night.

281

00:12:13,960 --> 00:12:17,110

They'd find them in cemeteries
and places and caring on.

282

00:12:17,110 --> 00:12:19,010

They were starting up again.

283

00:12:19,010 --> 00:12:22,170

See, they're about 12
years, from 12 years on.

284

00:12:22,170 --> 00:12:27,733

So they just call the MPs
and tell them take them home

285

00:12:27,733 --> 00:12:29,400

or I don't know what
they did with them.

286

00:12:29,400 --> 00:12:31,260

But our doctors found
them a few times,

287

00:12:31,260 --> 00:12:37,300

and were a little
scared of them.

288

00:12:37,300 --> 00:12:42,760

What about were the German
people surprised by--

289

00:12:42,760 --> 00:12:45,370

you were shocked and didn't
believe what you saw.

290

00:12:45,370 --> 00:12:47,870

What about the Germans?

291

00:12:47,870 --> 00:12:49,640

Oh, they said that they didn't--

292

00:12:49,640 --> 00:12:52,150

now, they say they didn't
know that was going on.

293

00:12:52,150 --> 00:12:54,950

294

00:12:54,950 --> 00:12:58,490

They just didn't say
too much of anything.

295

00:12:58,490 --> 00:13:00,340

They just went about the work.

296

00:13:00,340 --> 00:13:02,030

I'm sure they knew
what was going on.

297

00:13:02,030 --> 00:13:05,270

They were probably
in there helping.

298

00:13:05,270 --> 00:13:07,262

And the German citizens
probably were in there.

299

00:13:07,262 --> 00:13:09,470

I always thought they were
probably in there helping.

300

00:13:09,470 --> 00:13:12,360

301

00:13:12,360 --> 00:13:15,390

What about, did the
townspeople have

302
00:13:15,390 --> 00:13:17,220
to bury some of the people who--

303
00:13:17,220 --> 00:13:21,420
tell me in detail about that.

304
00:13:21,420 --> 00:13:24,300
The soldiers told them that they
would have to bury these people

305
00:13:24,300 --> 00:13:27,720
and give them a decent burial
with the Star of David and all.

306
00:13:27,720 --> 00:13:30,990
So I happened to be going
through a little village

307
00:13:30,990 --> 00:13:34,140
one day, and I saw these
ladies carrying the caskets

308
00:13:34,140 --> 00:13:36,610
and they did look remorseful.

309
00:13:36,610 --> 00:13:39,450
The dark circles
under their eyes,

310
00:13:39,450 --> 00:13:42,690
and they were dressed in black,
and they look pretty sad.

311
00:13:42,690 --> 00:13:46,680
There weren't too many
of them because, well, I

312
00:13:46,680 --> 00:13:49,110
would say there weren't
more than 30 or 40

313

00:13:49,110 --> 00:13:53,320
that I saw walking along to the
cemetery carrying the caskets.

314
00:13:53,320 --> 00:13:55,880
But our soldiers
made them do that.

315
00:13:55,880 --> 00:13:58,558
They probably didn't
want to, but I

316
00:13:58,558 --> 00:14:00,850
think that's the only time
I saw them look a little bit

317
00:14:00,850 --> 00:14:01,600
remorseful.

318
00:14:01,600 --> 00:14:05,480

319
00:14:05,480 --> 00:14:09,820
Did you talk to some of the
survivors that you helped?

320
00:14:09,820 --> 00:14:12,270
Tell me what you
remember of that.

321
00:14:12,270 --> 00:14:16,432
Oh, they'd just hang
on to us and grab us,

322
00:14:16,432 --> 00:14:17,640
they didn't want us to leave.

323
00:14:17,640 --> 00:14:20,610
And then some that
were going to DP camps.

324
00:14:20,610 --> 00:14:24,783
I remember one group

going, and we did all sorts

325
00:14:24,783 --> 00:14:25,950
of things for them that day.

326
00:14:25,950 --> 00:14:28,470
I helped one man
or maybe several.

327
00:14:28,470 --> 00:14:30,480
Their feet were just cut
up something terrible.

328
00:14:30,480 --> 00:14:33,240
They wore wooden shoes,
so I bandage them all up

329
00:14:33,240 --> 00:14:34,800
and put socks on them.

330
00:14:34,800 --> 00:14:36,160
And, oh, other things.

331
00:14:36,160 --> 00:14:37,860
They had sore
throats and whatever,

332
00:14:37,860 --> 00:14:41,670
and they went to get in
this truck or ambulances.

333
00:14:41,670 --> 00:14:43,388
And they were all crying.

334
00:14:43,388 --> 00:14:45,930
And I said, well, where you're
going, they'll be nice to you,

335
00:14:45,930 --> 00:14:46,980
too.

336
00:14:46,980 --> 00:14:50,220

And they were so grateful.

337

00:14:50,220 --> 00:14:51,990

And I'll never forget,
they were saying,

338

00:14:51,990 --> 00:14:53,400

auf wiedersehen,
auf wiedersehen,

339

00:14:53,400 --> 00:14:55,490

crying as they left.

340

00:14:55,490 --> 00:14:58,410

And I said, well, they'll be
real nice to you in the camps.

341

00:14:58,410 --> 00:15:00,055

And if you get sick,
anything happens,

342

00:15:00,055 --> 00:15:01,680

if they can't take
care of you, they'll

343

00:15:01,680 --> 00:15:04,230

send you back to our hospital
which was the 123rd Evac.

344

00:15:04,230 --> 00:15:06,120

We'd be set up, and
they'll bring you

345

00:15:06,120 --> 00:15:08,100

back there if anything happens.

346

00:15:08,100 --> 00:15:09,900

And that's what they did.

347

00:15:09,900 --> 00:15:13,440

See, later on, this typhus, I
thought the typhus epidemic was

348

00:15:13,440 --> 00:15:16,230

pretty well under control
towards summer, and it wasn't.

349

00:15:16,230 --> 00:15:18,010

And we were back
at our hospital,

350

00:15:18,010 --> 00:15:20,880

and we had gotten into a
permanent building by that time

351

00:15:20,880 --> 00:15:22,740

because we were
generally in tents.

352

00:15:22,740 --> 00:15:25,380

And we were getting an awful
lot of people from the DP camps

353

00:15:25,380 --> 00:15:27,970

in with typhus.

354

00:15:27,970 --> 00:15:31,640

And I thought, by that time,
the epidemic was under control.

355

00:15:31,640 --> 00:15:35,070

356

00:15:35,070 --> 00:15:38,250

Tell me how you dealt
with this personally.

357

00:15:38,250 --> 00:15:40,980

I mean, did you feel guilt?

358

00:15:40,980 --> 00:15:45,480

You must have been a
young woman, healthy.

359

00:15:45,480 --> 00:15:46,590

Tell me how you felt.

360
00:15:46,590 --> 00:15:49,950
Oh, I felt very guilty
because I thought here I am.

361
00:15:49,950 --> 00:15:51,630
Well, why did we
let this happen?

362
00:15:51,630 --> 00:15:53,820
Why didn't somebody stop it?

363
00:15:53,820 --> 00:15:58,320
We should have put a stop
to it, and nobody did.

364
00:15:58,320 --> 00:16:00,900
And then, I felt, well,
here I'm living over

365
00:16:00,900 --> 00:16:04,968
in a tent with the minimum,
eating C rations and K rations,

366
00:16:04,968 --> 00:16:07,260
but if I get sick, someone
is going to take care of me.

367
00:16:07,260 --> 00:16:09,120
I'm going to be treated nice.

368
00:16:09,120 --> 00:16:12,150
Where those people were
treated so terrible.

369
00:16:12,150 --> 00:16:15,035
And I felt guilty to hear
I'll always be taken care of,

370
00:16:15,035 --> 00:16:16,410
and look what's
happened to them.

371
00:16:16,410 --> 00:16:19,380
It was so disgraceful.

372
00:16:19,380 --> 00:16:21,000
We had a lot of guilt feelings.

373
00:16:21,000 --> 00:16:25,032
Why did we survive?

374
00:16:25,032 --> 00:16:26,410
Why are we treated so well?

375
00:16:26,410 --> 00:16:29,220
And here, these people have
nothing, they're starving.

376
00:16:29,220 --> 00:16:30,700
We certainly didn't
have very much,

377
00:16:30,700 --> 00:16:33,420
but we had a lot of
parents what they had.

378
00:16:33,420 --> 00:16:35,940
And I think the guilt
was why in the world

379
00:16:35,940 --> 00:16:38,533
did anyone let this happen.

380
00:16:38,533 --> 00:16:39,700
We just couldn't believe it.

381
00:16:39,700 --> 00:16:44,970

382
00:16:44,970 --> 00:16:46,560
Did you pray?

383

00:16:46,560 --> 00:16:47,910
Oh, I guess.

384
00:16:47,910 --> 00:16:51,900
I'm still wearing
my St. Jude medal.

385
00:16:51,900 --> 00:16:53,670
I prayed all the time.

386
00:16:53,670 --> 00:16:57,300
St. Jude is my Patron Saint,
and if I can pull it out.

387
00:16:57,300 --> 00:16:59,340
I said, if I can save
some of these patients,

388
00:16:59,340 --> 00:17:01,750
I'll wear the St. Jude
medal the rest of my life.

389
00:17:01,750 --> 00:17:03,450
So here it is.

390
00:17:03,450 --> 00:17:05,160
Oh, I prayed all the time.

391
00:17:05,160 --> 00:17:06,810
And I carry the St. Jude--

392
00:17:06,810 --> 00:17:12,690
St. Jude is the saint of
hopeless cases in our church.

393
00:17:12,690 --> 00:17:15,690
And so I had the little
card, and I carried that

394
00:17:15,690 --> 00:17:16,420
all the time.

395

00:17:16,420 --> 00:17:18,003
In fact, I still
have one in my purse.

396
00:17:18,003 --> 00:17:18,630
It's a new one.

397
00:17:18,630 --> 00:17:21,400
The other one is all dogeared.

398
00:17:21,400 --> 00:17:22,180
We all prayed.

399
00:17:22,180 --> 00:17:25,420

400
00:17:25,420 --> 00:17:29,920
Tell me again about what you
had to deal with medically

401
00:17:29,920 --> 00:17:32,630
with these people?

402
00:17:32,630 --> 00:17:35,600
Describe it to me,
thinking that I'm not

403
00:17:35,600 --> 00:17:39,680
a nurse, how difficult it was to
get an IV started, for example.

404
00:17:39,680 --> 00:17:43,970
Well, starting IVs was almost
impossible because, here, they

405
00:17:43,970 --> 00:17:45,830
were starving and if
you start shooting

406
00:17:45,830 --> 00:17:49,340
fluid in would be just
a little bit too much

407

00:17:49,340 --> 00:17:53,270

in the heart and lungs,
start shooting all that in.

408

00:17:53,270 --> 00:17:54,980

They couldn't even swallow.

409

00:17:54,980 --> 00:17:59,660

But we started IVs very, very
carefully and very slowly,

410

00:17:59,660 --> 00:18:01,820

but we fed them with
medicine droppers.

411

00:18:01,820 --> 00:18:03,410

And then I'd try
to prop them up,

412

00:18:03,410 --> 00:18:06,530

and if you give them a
little piece of a cracker

413

00:18:06,530 --> 00:18:08,660

or something, that
wouldn't go down.

414

00:18:08,660 --> 00:18:10,760

They hadn't swallowed
anything for so long,

415

00:18:10,760 --> 00:18:13,430

but I used to rub this
way, give them a little bit

416

00:18:13,430 --> 00:18:14,720

on a spoon, a little fluid.

417

00:18:14,720 --> 00:18:18,860

And then rub this way and
finally get them to swallow it.

418

00:18:18,860 --> 00:18:22,120
But they had big old bowls
of, I don't know what,

419
00:18:22,120 --> 00:18:24,170
some kind of soup
sitting around.

420
00:18:24,170 --> 00:18:26,660
Like, the pretense of feeding
them, big old wooden bowls

421
00:18:26,660 --> 00:18:28,040
and a big tablespoon.

422
00:18:28,040 --> 00:18:30,230
Well, they were too weak
to reach over and pick up

423
00:18:30,230 --> 00:18:31,220
that spoon.

424
00:18:31,220 --> 00:18:32,845
And they couldn't
get it in their mouth

425
00:18:32,845 --> 00:18:35,387
anyway because the mouth was
just kind of set and drawn.

426
00:18:35,387 --> 00:18:37,220
And so they couldn't
have opened their mouth

427
00:18:37,220 --> 00:18:38,563
to eat whatever this--

428
00:18:38,563 --> 00:18:40,230
I think had been there
about three days,

429
00:18:40,230 --> 00:18:41,930
it was just terrible.

430
00:18:41,930 --> 00:18:45,050
But they had this food sitting
there, this soup or whatever

431
00:18:45,050 --> 00:18:47,656
under the pretense
of having fed them.

432
00:18:47,656 --> 00:18:49,380
See, most of them
weren't getting

433
00:18:49,380 --> 00:18:52,650
anything but a little
crust of bread every day.

434
00:18:52,650 --> 00:18:55,560
The people were going out
to work got a crust of bread

435
00:18:55,560 --> 00:18:56,610
and some coffee grounds.

436
00:18:56,610 --> 00:18:59,892
And they try and save a little
bit of bread for the next day.

437
00:18:59,892 --> 00:19:01,100
I don't know how they worked.

438
00:19:01,100 --> 00:19:10,570

439
00:19:10,570 --> 00:19:13,800
Now, why don't you tell
me about the one woman

440
00:19:13,800 --> 00:19:16,560
in charge of the camp that
you got to see that time.

441

00:19:16,560 --> 00:19:18,210
Oh, she was terrible.

442
00:19:18,210 --> 00:19:19,140
I'll never forget her.

443
00:19:19,140 --> 00:19:21,720
They managed to get her because
most of the people from the--

444
00:19:21,720 --> 00:19:24,360
see, the soldiers, the
German soldiers in the camps

445
00:19:24,360 --> 00:19:25,960
and people running
the camp, they

446
00:19:25,960 --> 00:19:27,960
knew that the Americans
were coming pretty soon.

447
00:19:27,960 --> 00:19:29,160
They figured that out.

448
00:19:29,160 --> 00:19:31,200
So they just took
off to the villages.

449
00:19:31,200 --> 00:19:33,893
Well, then the survivors in
the camp kind of took over.

450
00:19:33,893 --> 00:19:36,060
And then when the American
soldiers got there, well,

451
00:19:36,060 --> 00:19:37,890
between the American
soldiers and the survivors,

452
00:19:37,890 --> 00:19:39,060
they were running the camps.

453
00:19:39,060 --> 00:19:41,100
But they got this
woman and put her up

454
00:19:41,100 --> 00:19:43,300
on the third floor in a cell.

455
00:19:43,300 --> 00:19:44,580
This was in Rhine.

456
00:19:44,580 --> 00:19:47,160
And that place was
more like a jail.

457
00:19:47,160 --> 00:19:49,710
It had catwalks and
little tiny cells,

458
00:19:49,710 --> 00:19:52,630
but they're more like-- they
look like animal cages to me.

459
00:19:52,630 --> 00:19:56,280
But they had her up there locked
up, and she was just terrible.

460
00:19:56,280 --> 00:19:57,980
Worst looking thing
I've ever seen.

461
00:19:57,980 --> 00:20:02,470
Mean, and so she would be tried
for war crimes, of course.

462
00:20:02,470 --> 00:20:05,258
But they couldn't wait to
get us up there and see her.

463
00:20:05,258 --> 00:20:06,800
They said, don't
you want to see her?

464

00:20:06,800 --> 00:20:08,570

I said, well, I can't right now.

465

00:20:08,570 --> 00:20:12,520

But before the day is over,

I'll go up and see her.

466

00:20:12,520 --> 00:20:16,270

And the man who is in charge

there was from Holland.

467

00:20:16,270 --> 00:20:18,070

He knew nothing

about his family.

468

00:20:18,070 --> 00:20:19,870

Had daughters and

his wife and he said

469

00:20:19,870 --> 00:20:21,910

he had no idea where they were.

470

00:20:21,910 --> 00:20:26,650

He had kind of taken over, and

he spoke beautiful English.

471

00:20:26,650 --> 00:20:29,890

And so he came around several

times that day I was working

472

00:20:29,890 --> 00:20:31,840

and said, don't you

want to go upstairs?

473

00:20:31,840 --> 00:20:33,670

And I said, well,

when I'm through,

474

00:20:33,670 --> 00:20:36,330

I'm going to go up and

see her, that's for sure.

475

00:20:36,330 --> 00:20:38,610
I had nightmares about
her for a long time.

476
00:20:38,610 --> 00:20:40,770
I talked to other
soldiers after that.

477
00:20:40,770 --> 00:20:44,950
One particular fellow from
our town, he just died.

478
00:20:44,950 --> 00:20:46,380
But he had gone into Buchenwald.

479
00:20:46,380 --> 00:20:48,262
The nurses didn't go in there.

480
00:20:48,262 --> 00:20:50,220
I heard that they said
it was just so terrible,

481
00:20:50,220 --> 00:20:52,020
they couldn't let
us go in there.

482
00:20:52,020 --> 00:20:54,750
But he said the women
in charge of the camps

483
00:20:54,750 --> 00:20:55,860
were worse than the men.

484
00:20:55,860 --> 00:20:58,670
He'd been in several and
been some of the subcamps.

485
00:20:58,670 --> 00:21:00,420
And he managed to see
some of these women.

486
00:21:00,420 --> 00:21:02,310
He said they were

worse than the men.

487

00:21:02,310 --> 00:21:04,830

They were meaner.

488

00:21:04,830 --> 00:21:08,410

And she was mean
looking, just terrible.

489

00:21:08,410 --> 00:21:12,340

Did you see any
survivors have reunions

490

00:21:12,340 --> 00:21:15,850

with other people they
knew or family members?

491

00:21:15,850 --> 00:21:17,770

Not really.

492

00:21:17,770 --> 00:21:20,900

They were having a hard time
finding their family members.

493

00:21:20,900 --> 00:21:23,440

So many of them had been killed.

494

00:21:23,440 --> 00:21:27,460

And after they left there, I
didn't see too much of them

495

00:21:27,460 --> 00:21:28,870

unless they got sick again.

496

00:21:28,870 --> 00:21:32,740

Then they came back to our
hospital that following summer.

497

00:21:32,740 --> 00:21:36,160

And they came back with
typhus and tuberculosis

498

00:21:36,160 --> 00:21:37,960
and, oh, any number of things.

499
00:21:37,960 --> 00:21:41,790
We even had maternity cases,
and we set up a maternity ward.

500
00:21:41,790 --> 00:21:44,290
Some of the people were pregnant
when they went to DP camps,

501
00:21:44,290 --> 00:21:46,248
and then they brought
them over to our hospital

502
00:21:46,248 --> 00:21:48,020
to deliver the babies.

503
00:21:48,020 --> 00:21:51,650
And so I got to see them again.

504
00:21:51,650 --> 00:21:52,900
And spend more time with them.

505
00:21:52,900 --> 00:21:54,580
I wasn't so busy then,
so I got to spend

506
00:21:54,580 --> 00:21:56,050
a little more time with them.

507
00:21:56,050 --> 00:21:59,430
There were a lot of ladies
that came in with typhus.

508
00:21:59,430 --> 00:22:03,450
One beautiful gal,
she was so pretty.

509
00:22:03,450 --> 00:22:06,800
She was a Jewish doctor,
and she had tuberculosis.

510

00:22:06,800 --> 00:22:09,560

No, she was very
young, just beautiful.

511

00:22:09,560 --> 00:22:11,930

And I took care of
her for a long time.

512

00:22:11,930 --> 00:22:15,825

There wasn't much-- later on,
they were giving streptomycin

513

00:22:15,825 --> 00:22:17,450

for tuberculosis,
but we didn't have it

514

00:22:17,450 --> 00:22:19,555

then so it was just
supportive treatment.

515

00:22:19,555 --> 00:22:28,770

516

00:22:28,770 --> 00:22:32,100

When they started sending
patients back to our hospital,

517

00:22:32,100 --> 00:22:34,650

say, through the
summer of '45, we

518

00:22:34,650 --> 00:22:38,190

were getting the Russians and
the survivors from the camps.

519

00:22:38,190 --> 00:22:41,000

520

00:22:41,000 --> 00:22:43,475

We got a lot of
Russian children.

521

00:22:43,475 --> 00:22:43,975
OK.

522
00:22:43,975 --> 00:22:47,130

523
00:22:47,130 --> 00:22:51,240
Let's start first at the time
when the small group of you

524
00:22:51,240 --> 00:22:54,990
went into the subcamp
of Dachau, and tell me

525
00:22:54,990 --> 00:22:58,900
what a typical day was like.

526
00:22:58,900 --> 00:23:00,340
Start in the morning.

527
00:23:00,340 --> 00:23:01,120
Start the morning.

528
00:23:01,120 --> 00:23:05,530
First of all, you try to get
many of the patients were dead.

529
00:23:05,530 --> 00:23:10,250
And of course, they were
removing them right away.

530
00:23:10,250 --> 00:23:13,160
And we'd try to get the
sickest ones first and get

531
00:23:13,160 --> 00:23:16,550
them cleaned up and get them
outside, get them on a bed

532
00:23:16,550 --> 00:23:18,330
and take care of them.

533

00:23:18,330 --> 00:23:21,950
And if there's any way that
they had any flesh at all

534
00:23:21,950 --> 00:23:25,070
under the skin, we inject water.

535
00:23:25,070 --> 00:23:26,845
Yeah, they call it
hypodermoclysis.

536
00:23:26,845 --> 00:23:28,220
Sometimes, in the
shoulder, there

537
00:23:28,220 --> 00:23:30,380
would be a little fatty
tissue, their muscle.

538
00:23:30,380 --> 00:23:31,940
And we'd inject
some water into them

539
00:23:31,940 --> 00:23:34,090
because they're all dehydrated.

540
00:23:34,090 --> 00:23:36,850
And trying to feed them.

541
00:23:36,850 --> 00:23:39,910
And did I tell you
about the minute

542
00:23:39,910 --> 00:23:41,730
those people whose
feet were so terribly

543
00:23:41,730 --> 00:23:42,730
bad, they're all cut up.

544
00:23:42,730 --> 00:23:45,235
They were wooden shoes
and no stockings.

545
00:23:45,235 --> 00:23:47,860
Well, there were a lot of people
whose feet were just terrible,

546
00:23:47,860 --> 00:23:49,880
so we took care of those.

547
00:23:49,880 --> 00:23:53,690
And I'd bandage them
up, put A&D ointment

548
00:23:53,690 --> 00:23:56,150
or whatever I could find
on them and little two

549
00:23:56,150 --> 00:23:57,350
by four bandages.

550
00:23:57,350 --> 00:24:01,210
And get clean socks on them.

551
00:24:01,210 --> 00:24:03,970
But taking care of
these patients who

552
00:24:03,970 --> 00:24:06,490
were starving and
had typhus, there

553
00:24:06,490 --> 00:24:08,680
wasn't a specific
medication for typhus.

554
00:24:08,680 --> 00:24:11,030
We just use
supportive treatment.

555
00:24:11,030 --> 00:24:12,860
We concocted some kind of--

556
00:24:12,860 --> 00:24:16,850

all we had was powdered milk
and some canned vegetables.

557
00:24:16,850 --> 00:24:18,350

And so the fellas
in the mess hall

558
00:24:18,350 --> 00:24:21,165

would try to make
some kind of soup.

559
00:24:21,165 --> 00:24:23,040

They put the vegetables
in the powdered milk,

560
00:24:23,040 --> 00:24:25,360

and we would try
to feed them that.

561
00:24:25,360 --> 00:24:29,340

But if we get water down them
and get the temperature down,

562
00:24:29,340 --> 00:24:32,280

that was the important
thing because there

563
00:24:32,280 --> 00:24:36,040

was nothing specific
for typhus at that time.

564
00:24:36,040 --> 00:24:38,720

How could they be alive with
the temperature that high?

565
00:24:38,720 --> 00:24:39,650

Oh, I don't know.

566
00:24:39,650 --> 00:24:41,150

I don't know how
they stayed around.

567
00:24:41,150 --> 00:24:44,260

Sometimes, they were
just on concrete floor.

568
00:24:44,260 --> 00:24:48,130
You just go in there and find
them lying on the concrete.

569
00:24:48,130 --> 00:24:50,150
I don't know how they survived.

570
00:24:50,150 --> 00:24:53,390
Well, many didn't, of course.

571
00:24:53,390 --> 00:24:54,950
But some we were able to help.

572
00:24:54,950 --> 00:24:57,630

573
00:24:57,630 --> 00:25:02,580
Do you know about the
overeating and people

574
00:25:02,580 --> 00:25:05,040
dying from overeating
when the camps were open?

575
00:25:05,040 --> 00:25:05,970
Did you see any?

576
00:25:05,970 --> 00:25:06,810
I heard about it.

577
00:25:06,810 --> 00:25:09,000
The GIs, of course,
the GIs always

578
00:25:09,000 --> 00:25:11,930
had a candy bar someplace
and they want to be kind.

579
00:25:11,930 --> 00:25:13,680

And these people who
are up and around but

580
00:25:13,680 --> 00:25:15,850
hadn't had much to eat, but they
were still able to walk around,

581
00:25:15,850 --> 00:25:16,650
they were working.

582
00:25:16,650 --> 00:25:20,490
Well, they gave them candy
bars and they got very sick.

583
00:25:20,490 --> 00:25:22,560
They just couldn't
handle the sugar.

584
00:25:22,560 --> 00:25:25,190
I had just heard about that
after I went over two years ago

585
00:25:25,190 --> 00:25:28,950
how they gave him candy bars
and it just about killed them.

586
00:25:28,950 --> 00:25:32,340
When you're starved
like that, as a nurse,

587
00:25:32,340 --> 00:25:35,670
what is the description,
the scientific description

588
00:25:35,670 --> 00:25:40,770
of what happens to your body
when you're starved like that?

589
00:25:40,770 --> 00:25:42,570
Oh, they just can't
possibly eat anything.

590
00:25:42,570 --> 00:25:45,330

It just won't go down.

591

00:25:45,330 --> 00:25:48,420

If they haven't eaten
anything or swallow anything,

592

00:25:48,420 --> 00:25:50,550

you just can't handle it.

593

00:25:50,550 --> 00:25:54,660

And the skin dries
up, dehydration.

594

00:25:54,660 --> 00:25:59,220

And, oh, just all sorts of
complications from starvation.

595

00:25:59,220 --> 00:26:03,870

Their eyes were all sunken
in, and terribly thin,

596

00:26:03,870 --> 00:26:06,120

just skin and bones.

597

00:26:06,120 --> 00:26:10,140

But to try and get them to
eat, it was just terrible.

598

00:26:10,140 --> 00:26:13,120

They just could
not swallow things.

599

00:26:13,120 --> 00:26:17,600

So we used the medicine
droppers, little by little

600

00:26:17,600 --> 00:26:19,300

they started to improve.

601

00:26:19,300 --> 00:26:21,910

But the skin gets so terrible.

602

00:26:21,910 --> 00:26:23,620

No nutrition, the
skin is terrible,

603

00:26:23,620 --> 00:26:25,270

and they break out in rashes.

604

00:26:25,270 --> 00:26:27,820

And then, as I said, you
couldn't lift them up

605

00:26:27,820 --> 00:26:30,745

because if I go like
so, I'd tear their skin.

606

00:26:30,745 --> 00:26:34,840

it was in such a
terrible condition.

607

00:26:34,840 --> 00:26:37,210

But they were about as close
to dead as anyone could be.

608

00:26:37,210 --> 00:26:46,850

609

00:26:46,850 --> 00:26:50,570

Tell me about a small
incident that you remember,

610

00:26:50,570 --> 00:26:53,030

maybe an individual
incident with somebody

611

00:26:53,030 --> 00:26:55,730

who touched you in some way.

612

00:26:55,730 --> 00:26:57,480

Did you have any
personal incidents?

613

00:26:57,480 --> 00:26:58,030

Oh.

614
00:26:58,030 --> 00:26:58,530
yeah.

615
00:26:58,530 --> 00:26:59,947
They would grab
on to us like they

616
00:26:59,947 --> 00:27:01,530
thought we were going to leave.

617
00:27:01,530 --> 00:27:06,430
And one man I had taken care
of, and he was going to DP camp.

618
00:27:06,430 --> 00:27:08,610
He was able to walk
around, he'd been working.

619
00:27:08,610 --> 00:27:13,620
But he had lesions all over
him, and his feet were so bad.

620
00:27:13,620 --> 00:27:16,690
And he cried when he left.

621
00:27:16,690 --> 00:27:19,050
He was saying auf
wiedersehen, auf wiedersehen.

622
00:27:19,050 --> 00:27:20,910
And I said, well,
they'll be nice to you

623
00:27:20,910 --> 00:27:23,480
when you get over there,
and you'll get along fine.

624
00:27:23,480 --> 00:27:24,480
He didn't want to leave.

625
00:27:24,480 --> 00:27:27,150

He thought he'd rather stay
there with the American nurses.

626
00:27:27,150 --> 00:27:29,310
I said, if you get
real sick, they'll

627
00:27:29,310 --> 00:27:31,140
send you back to
our hospital anyway.

628
00:27:31,140 --> 00:27:32,940
I hadn't been to the
DP camp, but I said

629
00:27:32,940 --> 00:27:34,660
I know they'll be nice to you.

630
00:27:34,660 --> 00:27:37,410
You'll get food, and
you'll get treated well.

631
00:27:37,410 --> 00:27:41,220
But he was leaving and
crying, it was sad.

632
00:27:41,220 --> 00:27:45,270
Now, let's jump forward
to when people came in

633
00:27:45,270 --> 00:27:49,110
from the DP camps, and you
even had maternity cases.

634
00:27:49,110 --> 00:27:52,080
Do you remember seeing any--

635
00:27:52,080 --> 00:27:54,210
were the people joyous?

636
00:27:54,210 --> 00:27:55,860
Where they were
totally different

637

00:27:55,860 --> 00:27:57,180

than they had been before?

638

00:27:57,180 --> 00:27:59,910

Well, not too joyous, but
they were looking better.

639

00:27:59,910 --> 00:28:04,000

They started to eat, and
they looked much better.

640

00:28:04,000 --> 00:28:06,070

And well, they were
glad to see us.

641

00:28:06,070 --> 00:28:08,930

They were glad to come
into our hospital.

642

00:28:08,930 --> 00:28:12,082

And I thought that they
looked much better.

643

00:28:12,082 --> 00:28:13,540

They looked like
they'd been eating

644

00:28:13,540 --> 00:28:16,320

and put out a little
bit of weight.

645

00:28:16,320 --> 00:28:19,180

I remember going back to
Rhine, the first camp I was in,

646

00:28:19,180 --> 00:28:21,840

and we would put patients--

647

00:28:21,840 --> 00:28:24,600

I think there must have been a
staff room where the soldiers

648

00:28:24,600 --> 00:28:26,550
lived or dining room.

649

00:28:26,550 --> 00:28:30,052
We put a lot of them down
there and set up a hospital.

650

00:28:30,052 --> 00:28:32,010
And when I went back two
or three months later,

651

00:28:32,010 --> 00:28:33,630
they look so much different.

652

00:28:33,630 --> 00:28:36,290
You wouldn't believe it.

653

00:28:36,290 --> 00:28:39,150
They had changed a lot.

654

00:28:39,150 --> 00:28:42,210
By that time, they were eating
and their color was good,

655

00:28:42,210 --> 00:28:43,200
and they were laughing.

656

00:28:43,200 --> 00:28:45,690
And they were too
sick to be out of bed.

657

00:28:45,690 --> 00:28:48,910
They had typhus, they
were much too sick,

658

00:28:48,910 --> 00:28:51,190
but they looked much different.

659

00:28:51,190 --> 00:28:56,170
So you saw a huge change in
those months between March

660
00:28:56,170 --> 00:28:57,520
and, say, August.

661
00:28:57,520 --> 00:28:59,350
Oh, yeah, definitely.

662
00:28:59,350 --> 00:29:00,530
Tell me about that.

663
00:29:00,530 --> 00:29:01,930
How did it make you feel?

664
00:29:01,930 --> 00:29:03,280
Oh, it made me feel marvelous.

665
00:29:03,280 --> 00:29:04,180
It was so rewarding.

666
00:29:04,180 --> 00:29:07,000
It was the most rewarding
thing I've ever done.

667
00:29:07,000 --> 00:29:11,390
That we were able to do
something for those people.

668
00:29:11,390 --> 00:29:14,530
Then one regret that
I had that I didn't--

669
00:29:14,530 --> 00:29:16,510
I was just so busy I
couldn't stop and talk

670
00:29:16,510 --> 00:29:17,260
to them sometimes.

671
00:29:17,260 --> 00:29:20,290
If I could just stopped
and held their hand

672

00:29:20,290 --> 00:29:22,720
or asked them their
name or something,

673
00:29:22,720 --> 00:29:24,960
but we were just
going so fast, we

674
00:29:24,960 --> 00:29:27,050
didn't have time
to talk to them.

675
00:29:27,050 --> 00:29:30,910
I always think about it, I wish
I knew who some of them were.

676
00:29:30,910 --> 00:29:34,130
But I do think about that a lot.

677
00:29:34,130 --> 00:29:36,130
And I wish they'd spent
just a little more time,

678
00:29:36,130 --> 00:29:38,530
but I couldn't.

679
00:29:38,530 --> 00:29:40,780
How long hours did you work?

680
00:29:40,780 --> 00:29:46,720
Oh, we weren't supposed to
work more than 16 or 12.

681
00:29:46,720 --> 00:29:48,460
But I think that
was about the limit.

682
00:29:48,460 --> 00:29:50,830
We had a pretty
strict rule on that

683
00:29:50,830 --> 00:29:53,500
because if our chief

nurse said if we get sick,

684

00:29:53,500 --> 00:29:56,350

well, then we'd be
no value to her.

685

00:29:56,350 --> 00:29:59,990

And we'd just be more or
less of a burden on her.

686

00:29:59,990 --> 00:30:05,440

So she expects you, one, just
to sleep eight hours in 24,

687

00:30:05,440 --> 00:30:07,630

not to just stay on
duty 24 hours a day.

688

00:30:07,630 --> 00:30:09,760

But sometimes, we
stayed longer than that.

689

00:30:09,760 --> 00:30:12,400

That's the only thing I
was ever reprimanded for.

690

00:30:12,400 --> 00:30:14,720

She came around one morning
and said, she looked at me

691

00:30:14,720 --> 00:30:15,880

and said, how come?

692

00:30:15,880 --> 00:30:18,587

And I said, I just can't leave,
there's too much work to do.

693

00:30:18,587 --> 00:30:20,170

And she's, well,
you'll have to leave.

694

00:30:20,170 --> 00:30:20,950

She said, I'll stay here.

695

00:30:20,950 --> 00:30:22,780

And I said, well, I
haven't charted things.

696

00:30:22,780 --> 00:30:24,322

I've got to get
these things charted.

697

00:30:24,322 --> 00:30:27,995

The patients had a little
envelope with the card on them.

698

00:30:27,995 --> 00:30:29,620

It wasn't a chart
like in the hospital.

699

00:30:29,620 --> 00:30:32,530

We just jotted down when they'd
had penicillin and morphine

700

00:30:32,530 --> 00:30:33,498

and whatever.

701

00:30:33,498 --> 00:30:35,290

And she said, well,
I'll take care of that,

702

00:30:35,290 --> 00:30:37,460

but you have got to go.

703

00:30:37,460 --> 00:30:40,600

So that's the only time I was
ever reprimanded for anything.

704

00:30:40,600 --> 00:30:42,310

Staying on duty too long.

705

00:30:42,310 --> 00:30:45,370

Nobody wanted to go,
actually, that was hard.

706

00:30:45,370 --> 00:30:48,280
There's work to do, they
didn't want to leave.

707
00:30:48,280 --> 00:30:52,120
Under stress, people
always work much harder.

708
00:30:52,120 --> 00:30:53,980
And they didn't
want to go off duty.

709
00:30:53,980 --> 00:30:57,870
They could see too
many things to be done.

710
00:30:57,870 --> 00:31:00,410
So you got up at dawn?

711
00:31:00,410 --> 00:31:03,680
Generally, we were up at
6:00 and had breakfast.

712
00:31:03,680 --> 00:31:07,350
We're on duty at 7:00.

713
00:31:07,350 --> 00:31:10,112
And worked from 7:00 to 7:00.

714
00:31:10,112 --> 00:31:11,820
Then the night nurse
would come from 7:00

715
00:31:11,820 --> 00:31:14,440
and work till seven
the next morning.

716
00:31:14,440 --> 00:31:17,290
But there were many times
that we couldn't possibly

717
00:31:17,290 --> 00:31:19,870
leave at 7:00 at night because

there was too much to be done

718
00:31:19,870 --> 00:31:21,790
or we'd have a load of
new patients come in,

719
00:31:21,790 --> 00:31:25,050
a lot of casualties,
a lot of surgery.

720
00:31:25,050 --> 00:31:27,890
So we just had to stay there.

721
00:31:27,890 --> 00:31:31,670
But the rule was 16 hours
and we were supposed to quit.

722
00:31:31,670 --> 00:31:42,990

723
00:31:42,990 --> 00:31:44,930
Clip four.

724
00:31:44,930 --> 00:31:47,040
OK, now we just have
a minute, and I want

725
00:31:47,040 --> 00:31:50,070
you to tell me what typhus is.

726
00:31:50,070 --> 00:31:54,000
Well, it's a disease
that's caused by a mite.

727
00:31:54,000 --> 00:31:58,840
And it's almost always fatal.

728
00:31:58,840 --> 00:32:01,960
And it affects most
all body systems.

729
00:32:01,960 --> 00:32:04,720

They get terribly high
fever and headache.

730
00:32:04,720 --> 00:32:08,530
I can't tell you much, there's
no specific treatment for it.

731
00:32:08,530 --> 00:32:10,360
Then, it was just
supportive treatment.

732
00:32:10,360 --> 00:32:16,340
But it's little mite that bites
them, and they get the disease.

733
00:32:16,340 --> 00:32:20,730
And that's about
all I know about it.

734
00:32:20,730 --> 00:32:23,382
I think there's probably some
more specific treatment now,

735
00:32:23,382 --> 00:32:24,840
but at that time,
there wasn't much

736
00:32:24,840 --> 00:32:30,170
that we could do for them,
just supportive treatment.

737
00:32:30,170 --> 00:32:34,925
This high fever, severe
headache, and sometimes rash.

738
00:32:34,925 --> 00:32:36,300
And of course,
they couldn't eat.

739
00:32:36,300 --> 00:32:38,910
They'd started them anyway.

740
00:32:38,910 --> 00:32:42,450

But when we got there, it was
terribly hard for them to eat.

741
00:32:42,450 --> 00:32:43,890
And many of them died.

742
00:32:43,890 --> 00:32:46,440
That was the main cause of
death in the camps, that

743
00:32:46,440 --> 00:32:48,710
and tuberculosis.

744
00:32:48,710 --> 00:32:50,930
Because these mites got
started and got in there,

745
00:32:50,930 --> 00:32:53,090
and they were just all over.

746
00:32:53,090 --> 00:32:59,730
They slept on old, like,
burlap bags stuffed with straw.

747
00:32:59,730 --> 00:33:03,910
So you can imagine that
was just full of the bugs.

748
00:33:03,910 --> 00:33:06,730
And there just
wasn't much chance.

749
00:33:06,730 --> 00:33:09,830
The children died of it.

750
00:33:09,830 --> 00:33:10,970
Did you see children?

751
00:33:10,970 --> 00:33:12,260
I saw a few.

752
00:33:12,260 --> 00:33:12,827

Not as many.

753
00:33:12,827 --> 00:33:13,910
People have asked me that.

754
00:33:13,910 --> 00:33:17,270
I didn't see too many children.

755
00:33:17,270 --> 00:33:21,050
I saw them at Rhine because
they were doing the test there

756
00:33:21,050 --> 00:33:25,788
for a diagnostic
test for typhus,

757
00:33:25,788 --> 00:33:27,330
and there were
children around there.

758
00:33:27,330 --> 00:33:28,705
And I remember
one of our doctors

759
00:33:28,705 --> 00:33:30,957
was playing with the children.

760
00:33:30,957 --> 00:33:33,290
Went up to this little girl
and say, pat her on the head

761
00:33:33,290 --> 00:33:34,820
and say, have you
had test today?

762
00:33:34,820 --> 00:33:38,540
And they were using the
bump test to diagnose it.

763
00:33:38,540 --> 00:33:41,840
And I saw quite a
few children there.

764

00:33:41,840 --> 00:33:43,370

And I don't know
if they had come in

765

00:33:43,370 --> 00:33:45,200

or they brought them
in from someplace

766

00:33:45,200 --> 00:33:49,530

or if they were hospitalized
there in another building,

767

00:33:49,530 --> 00:33:51,530

but they were around.