

1  
00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:24,330

2  
00:00:24,330 --> 00:00:27,530  
Do you want to talk first  
about the complexity of--

3  
00:00:27,530 --> 00:00:30,560

4  
00:00:30,560 --> 00:00:37,450  
The problem that inserted  
itself into the very earliest

5  
00:00:37,450 --> 00:00:46,160  
consideration of how to take  
care of the Jewish survivors

6  
00:00:46,160 --> 00:00:50,510  
was one of, who are the Jews?

7  
00:00:50,510 --> 00:00:58,370  
Now, that's a question that has  
perplexed writers and authors

8  
00:00:58,370 --> 00:01:00,380  
for a long time.

9  
00:01:00,380 --> 00:01:08,260  
Are they a religion, a  
people, a race, a nation?

10  
00:01:08,260 --> 00:01:11,330  
Well, that question  
came to the fore

11  
00:01:11,330 --> 00:01:13,700  
soon after the Jews  
had been liberated

12  
00:01:13,700 --> 00:01:18,630

from the concentration  
camps and methods

13  
00:01:18,630 --> 00:01:26,520  
were adopted that were aimed  
at relieving their plight.

14  
00:01:26,520 --> 00:01:30,950  
Now, the plans, as  
I mentioned earlier,

15  
00:01:30,950 --> 00:01:35,180  
drawn up by American  
military experts

16  
00:01:35,180 --> 00:01:39,160  
and civilian government  
were that people

17  
00:01:39,160 --> 00:01:42,580  
of different nations were to be  
sent back to their native lands

18  
00:01:42,580 --> 00:01:46,570  
within 90 days after the  
liberation of the concentration

19  
00:01:46,570 --> 00:01:48,660  
camps.

20  
00:01:48,660 --> 00:01:51,810  
The Jews, however,  
as I said earlier,

21  
00:01:51,810 --> 00:01:53,020  
didn't want to go back.

22  
00:01:53,020 --> 00:01:53,980  
They couldn't go back.

23  
00:01:53,980 --> 00:01:57,410  
They wouldn't go back.

24

00:01:57,410 --> 00:02:02,120

Now, when President Eisenhower--

25

00:02:02,120 --> 00:02:02,660

excuse me.

26

00:02:02,660 --> 00:02:09,130

When General

Eisenhower was asked

27

00:02:09,130 --> 00:02:16,030

to appoint a liaison

officer who would coordinate

28

00:02:16,030 --> 00:02:21,290

the work of helping

the Jewish survivors,

29

00:02:21,290 --> 00:02:26,600

he was asked to do this by

the American rabbi Stephen S

30

00:02:26,600 --> 00:02:33,610

Wise, who was in London

the first days of August

31

00:02:33,610 --> 00:02:37,360

for a Zionist

conference, the first

32

00:02:37,360 --> 00:02:42,900

to take place since

before World War II.

33

00:02:42,900 --> 00:02:47,820

And Zionist leaders came

from various free countries

34

00:02:47,820 --> 00:02:49,980

for the conference.

35

00:02:49,980 --> 00:02:53,100

Some of us, American  
military chaplains,

36  
00:02:53,100 --> 00:02:58,420  
got permission to go to London  
to attend the conference.

37  
00:02:58,420 --> 00:03:01,510  
We spoke with Rabbi  
Stephen S Wise,

38  
00:03:01,510 --> 00:03:06,610  
one of the most prominent  
American Rabbis of the 1920s,

39  
00:03:06,610 --> 00:03:13,970  
the 1930s, the 1940s, as well  
as with other American and other

40  
00:03:13,970 --> 00:03:22,050  
Jewish leaders about what we had  
seen of the Jewish survivors.

41  
00:03:22,050 --> 00:03:24,750  
Rabbi Stephen S  
Wise sent a cable

42  
00:03:24,750 --> 00:03:27,820  
through the American  
embassy in London

43  
00:03:27,820 --> 00:03:31,750  
to army headquarters  
in Frankfurt,

44  
00:03:31,750 --> 00:03:35,050  
asking General Eisenhower  
to appoint a liaison officer

45  
00:03:35,050 --> 00:03:39,640  
to coordinate the various  
efforts at helping

46

00:03:39,640 --> 00:03:43,230  
the Jewish survivors.

47  
00:03:43,230 --> 00:03:47,430  
That came to army  
headquarters in Frankfurt

48  
00:03:47,430 --> 00:03:52,090  
on the seventh day  
of August 1945.

49  
00:03:52,090 --> 00:03:55,180  
General Eisenhower  
replied on August 9,

50  
00:03:55,180 --> 00:04:00,070  
two days later, saying he could  
not appoint a Jewish liaison

51  
00:04:00,070 --> 00:04:02,030  
officer.

52  
00:04:02,030 --> 00:04:06,500  
There were liaison officers  
at Eisenhower's headquarters,

53  
00:04:06,500 --> 00:04:11,240  
but they represented, each  
one, a different nation.

54  
00:04:11,240 --> 00:04:14,550  
There was a French  
liaison officer.

55  
00:04:14,550 --> 00:04:17,720  
There was a British liaison  
officer, a Polish liaison

56  
00:04:17,720 --> 00:04:21,230  
officer, a Czech  
liaison officer,

57  
00:04:21,230 --> 00:04:24,590

but the Jews are not a nation.

58

00:04:24,590 --> 00:04:29,460

So he rejected Rabbi  
Wise's request.

59

00:04:29,460 --> 00:04:32,940

The very next day,  
on August the 10th,

60

00:04:32,940 --> 00:04:34,620

he got the cable  
from the Secretary

61

00:04:34,620 --> 00:04:37,880

of War Stimpson  
asking him what he

62

00:04:37,880 --> 00:04:47,230

was going to do about the  
report from Dean Earl Harrison.

63

00:04:47,230 --> 00:04:54,810

And it's critical-- report  
the critical remarks

64

00:04:54,810 --> 00:05:00,340

about the American Army's  
care of the Jewish survivors.

65

00:05:00,340 --> 00:05:03,400

So General Eisenhower  
replied that he

66

00:05:03,400 --> 00:05:08,020

was going to appoint an  
advisor on Jewish affairs,

67

00:05:08,020 --> 00:05:11,810

not a liaison  
officer, an advisor.

68

00:05:11,810 --> 00:05:16,180

And on August 22,  
he issued an order

69  
00:05:16,180 --> 00:05:22,810  
that, despite the fact that Jews  
had come to concentration camps

70  
00:05:22,810 --> 00:05:26,200  
with the nationality  
of their native lands,

71  
00:05:26,200 --> 00:05:29,170  
Polish nationality,  
Lithuanian nationality,

72  
00:05:29,170 --> 00:05:35,880  
whatever, that they were not to  
be regarded as stateless people

73  
00:05:35,880 --> 00:05:40,080  
and therefore were to be  
put in concentration camps

74  
00:05:40,080 --> 00:05:47,020  
by themselves with no other  
people with them, no non-Jews.

75  
00:05:47,020 --> 00:05:49,530

76  
00:05:49,530 --> 00:05:55,050  
So Eisenhower was able  
to bridge this gap,

77  
00:05:55,050 --> 00:06:01,670  
to answer this problem  
by appointing an advisor

78  
00:06:01,670 --> 00:06:06,430  
and to regard the Jews  
as stateless persons.

79  
00:06:06,430 --> 00:06:10,050

Now, General  
Montgomery, when he was

80  
00:06:10,050 --> 00:06:13,920  
asked by the leaders of  
the London Jewish community

81  
00:06:13,920 --> 00:06:16,980  
to appoint an advisor  
on Jewish affairs

82  
00:06:16,980 --> 00:06:19,590  
replied that he  
couldn't because then he

83  
00:06:19,590 --> 00:06:22,050  
would have to appoint  
a Catholic advisor,

84  
00:06:22,050 --> 00:06:25,350  
and a Protestant advisor,  
and therefore he didn't

85  
00:06:25,350 --> 00:06:27,960  
appoint a Jewish advisor.

86  
00:06:27,960 --> 00:06:31,530  
And so the problem of  
"who were the Jews"

87  
00:06:31,530 --> 00:06:35,420  
reared its head  
throughout the discussions

88  
00:06:35,420 --> 00:06:40,180  
of what to do with  
the Jewish survivors.

89  
00:06:40,180 --> 00:06:43,840  
OK, we have a couple  
of minutes left,

90  
00:06:43,840 --> 00:06:48,295



maybe enough time  
to talk about how

91  
00:06:48,295 --> 00:06:52,255  
General Eisenhower  
personally viewed Jews,

92  
00:06:52,255 --> 00:06:57,210  
maybe in comparison  
to General Patton.

93  
00:06:57,210 --> 00:07:03,150  
General Eisenhower,  
when he was made

94  
00:07:03,150 --> 00:07:11,230  
to understand what the problem  
was as a result of the Harrison

95  
00:07:11,230 --> 00:07:16,220  
Report and as a  
result of his own

96  
00:07:16,220 --> 00:07:20,830  
visiting the camps afterwards--

97  
00:07:20,830 --> 00:07:25,420  
and you'll forgive me if I  
say, as a result of the reports

98  
00:07:25,420 --> 00:07:32,040  
that I submitted to him of  
my visits to the DP camps,

99  
00:07:32,040 --> 00:07:40,350  
at once acted speedily  
to remedy the problem.

100  
00:07:40,350 --> 00:07:45,180  
I can say frankly and  
honestly that there was not

101  
00:07:45,180 --> 00:07:49,410

a recommendation that I  
made to him to improve

102  
00:07:49,410 --> 00:07:54,500  
the lot of the Jewish  
survivors in the DP camps

103  
00:07:54,500 --> 00:07:59,470  
that he did not  
address affirmatively

104  
00:07:59,470 --> 00:08:07,850  
at once by issuing an order  
to rectify the situation.

105  
00:08:07,850 --> 00:08:12,850  
I call your attention  
particularly to the fact

106  
00:08:12,850 --> 00:08:18,090  
that hundreds,  
thousands of Jews were

107  
00:08:18,090 --> 00:08:21,550  
coming into the  
American zone of Germany

108  
00:08:21,550 --> 00:08:28,050  
from Poland in particular  
and from other Eastern lands.

109  
00:08:28,050 --> 00:08:31,560  
These were Jews in many  
cases, in most cases

110  
00:08:31,560 --> 00:08:36,950  
who, when Russia  
entered the war,

111  
00:08:36,950 --> 00:08:40,640  
had been uprooted from  
their homes and their cities

112

00:08:40,640 --> 00:08:46,640  
and towns and trucked  
back of the Russian lines

113  
00:08:46,640 --> 00:08:54,680  
all the way to Asiatic Russia  
in order to keep them out

114  
00:08:54,680 --> 00:08:57,170  
of the battle zones.

115  
00:08:57,170 --> 00:09:00,050  
Now they were brought  
back by the Russians

116  
00:09:00,050 --> 00:09:05,960  
to their former homes only  
to find that their homes had

117  
00:09:05,960 --> 00:09:11,080  
been taken by their neighbors  
as well as their businesses.

118  
00:09:11,080 --> 00:09:15,600  
They didn't want to live  
anyhow and those countries

119  
00:09:15,600 --> 00:09:18,550  
where their families  
had been destroyed,

120  
00:09:18,550 --> 00:09:23,410  
so they began moving,  
at first on their own,

121  
00:09:23,410 --> 00:09:28,020  
across the still-fluid  
borders from Poland

122  
00:09:28,020 --> 00:09:34,180  
into Czechoslovakia, from  
Czechoslovakia into Austria,

123

00:09:34,180 --> 00:09:38,760  
from Austria into the  
American zone of Germany.

124  
00:09:38,760 --> 00:09:42,120  
The question was  
what to do with them.

125  
00:09:42,120 --> 00:09:49,830  
Technically speaking, they  
were not defined as DPs.

126  
00:09:49,830 --> 00:09:52,290  
DPs, according to  
Army regulations,

127  
00:09:52,290 --> 00:09:59,820  
Army orders, rather, were  
Jewish survivors found

128  
00:09:59,820 --> 00:10:05,870  
in concentration camps on  
German soil or an Austrian soil

129  
00:10:05,870 --> 00:10:10,970  
and who were then placed in DP  
camps in Germany and Austria.

130  
00:10:10,970 --> 00:10:15,320  
So these Jews arriving from  
Poland and Baltic countries

131  
00:10:15,320 --> 00:10:18,380  
were technically not DPs.

132  
00:10:18,380 --> 00:10:20,260  
What to do with them?

133  
00:10:20,260 --> 00:10:23,410  
They were coming  
across the borders,

134  
00:10:23,410 --> 00:10:27,460

and soon questions  
started coming

135  
00:10:27,460 --> 00:10:31,430  
into Eisenhower's offices.

136  
00:10:31,430 --> 00:10:33,850  
We discussed the matter.

137  
00:10:33,850 --> 00:10:41,810  
I recommended that they be  
admitted to our DP camps, which

138  
00:10:41,810 --> 00:10:44,660  
eventually would be  
emptied, and they

139  
00:10:44,660 --> 00:10:47,010  
would go to other countries.

140  
00:10:47,010 --> 00:10:49,200  
And Eisenhower issued  
an order saying

141  
00:10:49,200 --> 00:10:52,330  
that they were to be admitted.

142  
00:10:52,330 --> 00:10:57,320  
And I don't know  
exactly how many

143  
00:10:57,320 --> 00:11:00,230  
were saved in this  
fashion, but I

144  
00:11:00,230 --> 00:11:04,620  
think it must have  
been about 80,000 Jews.

145  
00:11:04,620 --> 00:11:09,690  
On the other hand, Montgomery  
turned back such Jews

146

00:11:09,690 --> 00:11:13,700  
as they tried to enter the  
British zone of Germany

147

00:11:13,700 --> 00:11:19,090  
and issued orders that they  
were to be turned back by force.

148

00:11:19,090 --> 00:11:23,245  
So you see the contrast between  
Eisenhower and Montgomery.

149

00:11:23,245 --> 00:11:30,847  
A slate, a slate, clap stick,  
but it has timecode on it.

150

00:11:30,847 --> 00:11:31,847  
It's amazing what they--

151

00:11:31,847 --> 00:11:38,060

152

00:11:38,060 --> 00:11:41,970  
Patton and Eisenhower--

153

00:11:41,970 --> 00:11:48,080  
General Patton commanded  
the Third Army,

154

00:11:48,080 --> 00:11:53,395  
which had the supervision  
of most of the DP camps.

155

00:11:53,395 --> 00:11:56,770

156

00:11:56,770 --> 00:12:02,420  
The Third Army was in  
charge of all of Bavaria,

157

00:12:02,420 --> 00:12:06,480  
and one of the first

complaints given to me

158  
00:12:06,480 --> 00:12:11,450  
by the Jews in the  
DP camps in Bavaria,

159  
00:12:11,450 --> 00:12:15,410  
particularly in Feldafing  
but also elsewhere,

160  
00:12:15,410 --> 00:12:17,810  
was that they were  
not allowed to leave

161  
00:12:17,810 --> 00:12:22,380  
the camp as they would like.

162  
00:12:22,380 --> 00:12:24,270  
But only a small  
percentage would

163  
00:12:24,270 --> 00:12:27,865  
be permitted to leave each  
day with a pass system.

164  
00:12:27,865 --> 00:12:32,150

165  
00:12:32,150 --> 00:12:35,000  
And they objected to that  
because, despite the fact

166  
00:12:35,000 --> 00:12:41,600  
that they now were liberated,  
they still didn't enjoy freedom

167  
00:12:41,600 --> 00:12:42,560  
to come and go.

168  
00:12:42,560 --> 00:12:45,130

169

00:12:45,130 --> 00:12:51,560  
They could look  
outside of the DP camp

170  
00:12:51,560 --> 00:12:57,560  
and see the Germans, the former  
enemies of the Americans,

171  
00:12:57,560 --> 00:13:02,870  
walking freely, but they,  
the victims of the Germans

172  
00:13:02,870 --> 00:13:05,480  
whom the Americans  
had liberated,

173  
00:13:05,480 --> 00:13:09,120  
were not free to come  
and go as they pleased.

174  
00:13:09,120 --> 00:13:12,090  
And of course, they  
objected vehemently

175  
00:13:12,090 --> 00:13:16,610  
to the barbed wire  
around the DP camp.

176  
00:13:16,610 --> 00:13:19,820  
It reminded them  
of the barbed wire

177  
00:13:19,820 --> 00:13:24,940  
around the German  
concentration camps.

178  
00:13:24,940 --> 00:13:27,100  
And one of their  
first requests to me

179  
00:13:27,100 --> 00:13:32,890  
was to try to do something to  
have the barbed wire removed



180

00:13:32,890 --> 00:13:37,430  
and the pass system abolished.

181

00:13:37,430 --> 00:13:44,840  
That was incorporated in my  
report to General Eisenhower

182

00:13:44,840 --> 00:13:49,860  
through General  
Smith, and orders

183

00:13:49,860 --> 00:13:54,990  
were issued to have the  
pass system abolished

184

00:13:54,990 --> 00:13:58,780  
and the barbed wire removed.

185

00:13:58,780 --> 00:14:02,950  
For next, I went from  
Frankfurt to Bavaria

186

00:14:02,950 --> 00:14:08,960  
to visit the DP camps,  
Feldafing in particular,

187

00:14:08,960 --> 00:14:12,540  
as well as Landsberg  
and the other camps.

188

00:14:12,540 --> 00:14:17,070  
The barbed wire was still  
there, and the pass system

189

00:14:17,070 --> 00:14:18,530  
was still in existence.

190

00:14:18,530 --> 00:14:21,510

191

00:14:21,510 --> 00:14:30,240  
I came back to Frankfurt,

and I reported in due course

192

00:14:30,240 --> 00:14:35,380  
to General Walter Bedell Smith,  
General Eisenhower's chief

193

00:14:35,380 --> 00:14:37,640  
of staff.

194

00:14:37,640 --> 00:14:40,880  
I visited him, I  
reported to him most

195

00:14:40,880 --> 00:14:45,650  
of the time because General  
Eisenhower was often

196

00:14:45,650 --> 00:14:52,390  
on field visits to the  
troops, and general Smith

197

00:14:52,390 --> 00:14:54,505  
would then report to  
Eisenhower when he returned.

198

00:14:54,505 --> 00:14:58,050

199

00:14:58,050 --> 00:15:01,260  
I was told afterwards  
by General Smith

200

00:15:01,260 --> 00:15:07,100  
that orders were issued  
to General Patton

201

00:15:07,100 --> 00:15:13,100  
to come and report the  
very next morning at 8:00

202

00:15:13,100 --> 00:15:18,190  
to General Eisenhower at his  
headquarters in Frankfurt.

203  
00:15:18,190 --> 00:15:21,010  
That meant an overnight  
trip, virtually,

204  
00:15:21,010 --> 00:15:25,610  
driving from Munich  
to Frankfurt.

205  
00:15:25,610 --> 00:15:28,280  
And the next morning, at 8:00--

206  
00:15:28,280 --> 00:15:31,490  
and I didn't know of  
this at the time--

207  
00:15:31,490 --> 00:15:35,740  
I walked into the anteroom  
that led into General

208  
00:15:35,740 --> 00:15:42,180  
Eisenhower's office, and there I  
saw General Patton sitting with

209  
00:15:42,180 --> 00:15:46,050  
his shiny helmet on, his  
ivory-handled pistols,

210  
00:15:46,050 --> 00:15:54,260  
one on each side, and  
his highly-polished belt

211  
00:15:54,260 --> 00:15:56,910  
and strap's.

212  
00:15:56,910 --> 00:16:01,470  
And I quickly beat a retreat.

213  
00:16:01,470 --> 00:16:07,530  
He glared at me, and I knew  
what was healthy for me.

214

00:16:07,530 --> 00:16:10,470  
I got out of there.

215  
00:16:10,470 --> 00:16:12,750  
Afterwards, General  
Smith told me

216  
00:16:12,750 --> 00:16:17,730  
that General Eisenhower  
asked General Patton--

217  
00:16:17,730 --> 00:16:23,230  
George, why aren't you doing  
something for those Jews?

218  
00:16:23,230 --> 00:16:27,640  
And Patton, thinking that he was  
talking to his old West Point

219  
00:16:27,640 --> 00:16:38,000  
buddy said in a half-laughter,  
why the hell should I?

220  
00:16:38,000 --> 00:16:43,770  
And Eisenhower replied  
with anger, well,

221  
00:16:43,770 --> 00:16:47,920  
God damn it, if for  
no other reason then

222  
00:16:47,920 --> 00:16:53,161  
because I have ordered  
you to help those Jews.

223  
00:16:53,161 --> 00:16:56,050

224  
00:16:56,050 --> 00:16:59,220  
Not long afterwards,  
General Patton

225  
00:16:59,220 --> 00:17:04,819

was removed from command  
of the Third Army,

226  
00:17:04,819 --> 00:17:11,290  
and he was ordered to  
command the 15th Army which

227  
00:17:11,290 --> 00:17:17,619  
consisted only of a  
headquarters without troops.

228  
00:17:17,619 --> 00:17:21,630  
The headquarters was at  
Bad Nauheim in Germany.

229  
00:17:21,630 --> 00:17:26,740  
I know that books about Patton  
and the movie about Patton

230  
00:17:26,740 --> 00:17:30,970  
showed that he was ordered  
out of the Third Army

231  
00:17:30,970 --> 00:17:35,540  
because, supposedly,  
he slapped a soldier

232  
00:17:35,540 --> 00:17:43,810  
in a military hospital in  
Sicily for malingering.

233  
00:17:43,810 --> 00:17:48,080  
But to my mind, there's  
always been a question.

234  
00:17:48,080 --> 00:17:53,750  
Why was Patton punished a couple  
of years later for something

235  
00:17:53,750 --> 00:17:55,835  
he had done in Sicily?

236  
00:17:55,835 --> 00:17:58,750

237

00:17:58,750 --> 00:18:01,060  
My own thought is  
that he was punished

238

00:18:01,060 --> 00:18:05,800  
because he had transgressed,  
he had violated a direct order

239

00:18:05,800 --> 00:18:09,790  
from a superior officer,  
which is something

240

00:18:09,790 --> 00:18:16,040  
that an American army  
soldier knows he must not do.

241

00:18:16,040 --> 00:18:23,320

242

00:18:23,320 --> 00:18:24,910  
This is a little question.

243

00:18:24,910 --> 00:18:26,860  
We have just a couple  
of minutes left.

244

00:18:26,860 --> 00:18:29,500

245

00:18:29,500 --> 00:18:34,891  
Did you conduct any religious  
services in DP camps

246

00:18:34,891 --> 00:18:37,813  
that are particularly  
memorable to you?

247

00:18:37,813 --> 00:18:41,720  
I mean in 1945, no-- no.

248

00:18:41,720 --> 00:18:45,240  
And what about marriages  
or anything like that?

249  
00:18:45,240 --> 00:18:47,760  
No.

250  
00:18:47,760 --> 00:18:51,150  
See, I no longer was  
acting as a chaplain

251  
00:18:51,150 --> 00:18:56,930  
once I was assigned to the  
post of advisor to Eisenhower,

252  
00:18:56,930 --> 00:19:00,680  
and there were American  
army chaplains assigned

253  
00:19:00,680 --> 00:19:04,370  
to divisions, and  
units, and headquarters

254  
00:19:04,370 --> 00:19:05,630  
in different parts of Germany.

255  
00:19:05,630 --> 00:19:09,030

256  
00:19:09,030 --> 00:19:10,860  
The marriages I  
officiated at in Europe

257  
00:19:10,860 --> 00:19:12,195  
were in England and in France.

258  
00:19:12,195 --> 00:19:14,830

259  
00:19:14,830 --> 00:19:19,570  
In the time that you were  
there, just in that window,

260

00:19:19,570 --> 00:19:25,350

in 1945, did you  
begin to see order

261

00:19:25,350 --> 00:19:28,980

coming out of the chaos  
that had been there?

262

00:19:28,980 --> 00:19:30,150

Yes, I did.

263

00:19:30,150 --> 00:19:31,590

I did. .

264

00:19:31,590 --> 00:19:35,250

By the time I left  
Germany, which

265

00:19:35,250 --> 00:19:42,490

was toward the end of November,  
the third week of November

266

00:19:42,490 --> 00:19:49,930

1945, the conditions were  
much better in the DP camps.

267

00:19:49,930 --> 00:19:53,990

The orders of General Eisenhower  
had taken a long time,

268

00:19:53,990 --> 00:19:59,760

but eventually, they filter  
down to all the lower levels.

269

00:19:59,760 --> 00:20:03,030

And they were being carried out.

270

00:20:03,030 --> 00:20:06,630

The Jewish DPs were  
in separate camps now.

271

00:20:06,630 --> 00:20:11,050



They were getting more food,  
better housing, clothing,

272  
00:20:11,050 --> 00:20:12,780  
shoes.

273  
00:20:12,780 --> 00:20:16,770  
They even got soccer balls,  
and musical instruments,

274  
00:20:16,770 --> 00:20:20,430  
and even Yiddish newspapers  
from the United States,

275  
00:20:20,430 --> 00:20:24,990  
and books in Yiddish, and  
in German, and in French

276  
00:20:24,990 --> 00:20:28,580  
that they could  
read and understand.

277  
00:20:28,580 --> 00:20:32,150  
In addition, they had  
organized themselves,

278  
00:20:32,150 --> 00:20:34,220  
the Jewish survivors.

279  
00:20:34,220 --> 00:20:38,790  
They were, many of them,  
very capable people.

280  
00:20:38,790 --> 00:20:43,080  
They had been leaders of  
communities in their hometowns

281  
00:20:43,080 --> 00:20:45,390  
before the war had started.

282  
00:20:45,390 --> 00:20:49,740  
There was this excellent  
organization, the Central

283  
00:20:49,740 --> 00:20:54,270  
Committee of Liberated Jews,  
in Munich, and in every camp

284  
00:20:54,270 --> 00:20:59,190  
there was a committee  
of Jewish DP leaders.

285  
00:20:59,190 --> 00:21:03,700  
And by the time I went  
home, the situation

286  
00:21:03,700 --> 00:21:08,710  
was far improved over what had  
seen just two and a half months

287  
00:21:08,710 --> 00:21:10,850  
earlier.

288  
00:21:10,850 --> 00:21:15,570  
So the efforts of the  
army had good results.

289  
00:21:15,570 --> 00:21:19,220

290  
00:21:19,220 --> 00:21:19,720  
OK.

291  
00:21:19,720 --> 00:21:20,680  
Thank you.

292  
00:21:20,680 --> 00:21:21,880  
I think we should cut.

293  
00:21:21,880 --> 00:21:25,690  
I --while we record  
the sound of the room,

294  
00:21:25,690 --> 00:21:27,190  
and you have to be

especially quiet

295

00:21:27,190 --> 00:21:30,240

because the mic is above you.

296

00:21:30,240 --> 00:21:44,000