

1
00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:29,745

2
00:00:29,745 --> 00:00:30,245
Marker.

3
00:00:30,245 --> 00:00:32,360
Marker 20, or camera
roll 20, marker one.

4
00:00:32,360 --> 00:00:35,410

5
00:00:35,410 --> 00:00:43,240
So in the first few
months of the ghetto,

6
00:00:43,240 --> 00:00:45,290
describe how you
felt. Were you afraid?

7
00:00:45,290 --> 00:00:48,240

8
00:00:48,240 --> 00:00:51,810
You know, my reaction
was always in watching

9
00:00:51,810 --> 00:00:54,060
my parents and my surroundings.

10
00:00:54,060 --> 00:00:58,000
Because much was hidden from me.

11
00:00:58,000 --> 00:01:02,640
I was, at the time, about
10 and 11 years old.

12
00:01:02,640 --> 00:01:08,640
And I could see, of course,
by the way my parents were,

13
00:01:08,640 --> 00:01:11,070
that they were in a
constant state of fear,

14
00:01:11,070 --> 00:01:16,200
and that, really, a
catastrophe had befallen us.

15
00:01:16,200 --> 00:01:23,700
And so I was, of course,
frequently not allowed out

16
00:01:23,700 --> 00:01:26,460
on my own or at all.

17
00:01:26,460 --> 00:01:33,070

18
00:01:33,070 --> 00:01:35,260
There was obviously
a shortage of food.

19
00:01:35,260 --> 00:01:38,650
Although we were
not starving yet.

20
00:01:38,650 --> 00:01:40,810
It was not at a point where--

21
00:01:40,810 --> 00:01:44,710
and I know that my mother
always finagled something.

22
00:01:44,710 --> 00:01:47,990
And the food ended up
on the table somehow.

23
00:01:47,990 --> 00:01:49,300
But the food--

24
00:01:49,300 --> 00:01:52,120

I mean, there was no meat.

25

00:01:52,120 --> 00:01:55,030

There was always,
I remember, like,

26

00:01:55,030 --> 00:01:58,400

fake, chopped liver made out
of peas and things like that.

27

00:01:58,400 --> 00:01:59,680

Today, that's considered good.

28

00:01:59,680 --> 00:02:05,650

29

00:02:05,650 --> 00:02:08,020

But as a child, I also
remember, occasionally,

30

00:02:08,020 --> 00:02:11,110

when things calmed down in the
ghetto, I would be allowed out.

31

00:02:11,110 --> 00:02:13,240

And I would have friends,
and we would go play,

32

00:02:13,240 --> 00:02:14,350

we would play soccer.

33

00:02:14,350 --> 00:02:19,000

And as a child, we
tried to maintain

34

00:02:19,000 --> 00:02:21,640

things in as normal a fashion.

35

00:02:21,640 --> 00:02:25,630

And my parents sort
of helped me in that.

36

00:02:25,630 --> 00:02:30,730

At some point
during this period,

37

00:02:30,730 --> 00:02:38,010

I ended up in this
workshop, where

38

00:02:38,010 --> 00:02:41,820

to the best of my knowledge
was a continuation

39

00:02:41,820 --> 00:02:47,130

of the old schools which had
existed in Russia and Lithuania

40

00:02:47,130 --> 00:02:52,500

before the war, which were
basically vocational schools.

41

00:02:52,500 --> 00:03:00,140

And I was trained to become like
a locksmith and a machinist.

42

00:03:00,140 --> 00:03:04,290

And in some instances--

43

00:03:04,290 --> 00:03:06,230

I mean, I remember having to--

44

00:03:06,230 --> 00:03:08,760

we were being given a
large block of steel,

45

00:03:08,760 --> 00:03:13,020

and having to file the thing
till it's perfectly square

46

00:03:13,020 --> 00:03:14,520

on all the corners.

47

00:03:14,520 --> 00:03:16,680

You begin with a big block,

and you finally end up

48
00:03:16,680 --> 00:03:18,480
with something rather small.

49
00:03:18,480 --> 00:03:21,490

50
00:03:21,490 --> 00:03:24,580
I remember having to
hand-fashion a lock

51
00:03:24,580 --> 00:03:28,570
and make it out of metal.

52
00:03:28,570 --> 00:03:30,870
And then, we did
some routine work.

53
00:03:30,870 --> 00:03:36,720
I would guess some
production for the Germans.

54
00:03:36,720 --> 00:03:39,030
Now, from what I
understand, in retrospect,

55
00:03:39,030 --> 00:03:41,610
is that, because I
was in this workshop,

56
00:03:41,610 --> 00:03:45,170
doing some of the
selections and so on,

57
00:03:45,170 --> 00:03:47,930
while these were occurring, I
was in the workshop and worked.

58
00:03:47,930 --> 00:03:50,290
And therefore, was not--

59

00:03:50,290 --> 00:03:53,170
so this was something
that eventually helped me,

60
00:03:53,170 --> 00:03:54,040
saved my life.

61
00:03:54,040 --> 00:03:59,790

62
00:03:59,790 --> 00:04:03,240
And yet, as kids, we
did nonsense, too.

63
00:04:03,240 --> 00:04:04,690
Right in this ghetto.

64
00:04:04,690 --> 00:04:08,220
I mean, they had
welding equipment.

65
00:04:08,220 --> 00:04:11,130
And there was some material
called carbide, which is not

66
00:04:11,130 --> 00:04:13,140
the same as carbide here.

67
00:04:13,140 --> 00:04:16,680
We mixed it to snow in the
winter and threw matches in it,

68
00:04:16,680 --> 00:04:18,810
and the darn thing
would explode, you know.

69
00:04:18,810 --> 00:04:22,498
And I mean, I think we
made believe we were

70
00:04:22,498 --> 00:04:23,790
fighting the Germans with that.

71

00:04:23,790 --> 00:04:25,770

But that was of course silly.

72

00:04:25,770 --> 00:04:31,340

73

00:04:31,340 --> 00:04:33,847

Of course, at the beginning--

74

00:04:33,847 --> 00:04:36,480

75

00:04:36,480 --> 00:04:41,760

I remember, as things went on, frequently being hidden.

76

00:04:41,760 --> 00:04:45,690

We had a hidden chamber in the house, which was behind

77

00:04:45,690 --> 00:04:50,580

like a big chest with a very narrow passage between two

78

00:04:50,580 --> 00:04:52,770

walls.

79

00:04:52,770 --> 00:04:59,900

And in the house that we lived in, there were, I don't know,

80

00:04:59,900 --> 00:05:04,373

at least four or five other families cramped in.

81

00:05:04,373 --> 00:05:10,600

And during some of the selections, I was down there.

82

00:05:10,600 --> 00:05:14,590

83

00:05:14,590 --> 00:05:19,150

And there were, I mean,
maybe I was 12 at this point.

84

00:05:19,150 --> 00:05:22,300

And we were told to
be absolutely quiet.

85

00:05:22,300 --> 00:05:25,030

Yet there was a woman there with
a baby, and the baby would cry,

86

00:05:25,030 --> 00:05:26,770

and you know.

87

00:05:26,770 --> 00:05:30,250

And this is where this guy, Karl
Notkin came into the picture.

88

00:05:30,250 --> 00:05:32,860

During the selections,
apparently, one person

89

00:05:32,860 --> 00:05:38,110

was always allowed to stay in
the house, sort of to watch it

90

00:05:38,110 --> 00:05:38,760

or something.

91

00:05:38,760 --> 00:05:42,820

And when the Germans came
by, he spoke perfect German,

92

00:05:42,820 --> 00:05:46,490

and he bribed them with
alcohol and whatever else.

93

00:05:46,490 --> 00:05:51,170

And the Germans would just
come in and very quickly leave

94

00:05:51,170 --> 00:05:51,670
the house.

95
00:05:51,670 --> 00:05:53,980
So in a way, this
guy protected us.

96
00:05:53,980 --> 00:05:57,670
And probably, I owe my life,
amongst many other people,

97
00:05:57,670 --> 00:05:58,480
to him also.

98
00:05:58,480 --> 00:06:04,000

99
00:06:04,000 --> 00:06:08,160
The worst thing that I
remember was a hanging

100
00:06:08,160 --> 00:06:09,960
where everybody had to show up.

101
00:06:09,960 --> 00:06:12,450
And I don't remember the cause.

102
00:06:12,450 --> 00:06:19,800
But I mean, this was the
first time I really saw.

103
00:06:19,800 --> 00:06:22,050
I must have been 12
or so at that time.

104
00:06:22,050 --> 00:06:25,690

105
00:06:25,690 --> 00:06:27,730
People just being hung.

106
00:06:27,730 --> 00:06:29,890

And you had to--

107
00:06:29,890 --> 00:06:32,420
the whole ghetto was
in this open field

108
00:06:32,420 --> 00:06:34,240
and had to watch that.

109
00:06:34,240 --> 00:06:36,400
And I think at that
point, things really

110
00:06:36,400 --> 00:06:41,080
dawned on me that things were
not just bad, but horrible.

111
00:06:41,080 --> 00:06:44,780

112
00:06:44,780 --> 00:06:46,580
What about the Ninth Fort?

113
00:06:46,580 --> 00:06:49,840
Did you know the
Ninth Fort was there?

114
00:06:49,840 --> 00:06:52,480
I did not know that
of the Ninth Fort, no.

115
00:06:52,480 --> 00:06:59,450
I mean, that probably was
just kept away from me.

116
00:06:59,450 --> 00:07:02,020

117
00:07:02,020 --> 00:07:10,990
And tell me a little bit
more about the trading

118

00:07:10,990 --> 00:07:13,030
and the organizing for food.

119
00:07:13,030 --> 00:07:15,640
Were you ever able
to do anything?

120
00:07:15,640 --> 00:07:17,830
No, I think my
parents and this--

121
00:07:17,830 --> 00:07:21,250
mainly, we depended very
much on this guy Notkin, who

122
00:07:21,250 --> 00:07:23,500
was a bit of a wheeler dealer.

123
00:07:23,500 --> 00:07:29,260
And he brought in
the food and arranged

124
00:07:29,260 --> 00:07:32,560
that both my uncle
and my father were

125
00:07:32,560 --> 00:07:35,350
on work details, which were--

126
00:07:35,350 --> 00:07:37,150
I don't know if they
were better or worse,

127
00:07:37,150 --> 00:07:41,380
but they certainly
were involved in them.

128
00:07:41,380 --> 00:07:48,130
So I do not remember
that personally.

129
00:07:48,130 --> 00:07:52,230
And what about books and school?

130
00:07:52,230 --> 00:07:53,320
That's interesting.

131
00:07:53,320 --> 00:07:55,780
My mother was
educated in Germany.

132
00:07:55,780 --> 00:07:59,830
And she bought into the
ghetto a lot of books.

133
00:07:59,830 --> 00:08:02,680
And she made me read
Goethe and Schiller.

134
00:08:02,680 --> 00:08:07,750
And so I as a child knew--

135
00:08:07,750 --> 00:08:10,420
here, the Germans
were persecuting us.

136
00:08:10,420 --> 00:08:13,090
At the same time, she taught--

137
00:08:13,090 --> 00:08:14,500
those were the books she had.

138
00:08:14,500 --> 00:08:17,920
So that's what she made me read.

139
00:08:17,920 --> 00:08:21,700
Even the Nibelungen, you know,
the whole story of Ziegfried

140
00:08:21,700 --> 00:08:24,640
and then all the Wagnerian
operas were there from.

141
00:08:24,640 --> 00:08:29,020
I mean, it's what my mother

sort of taught me at that time.

142
00:08:29,020 --> 00:08:34,210
And I mean, looking back
upon that, it's ridiculous.

143
00:08:34,210 --> 00:08:38,431

144
00:08:38,431 --> 00:08:41,870
My family was not a
particularly religious family.

145
00:08:41,870 --> 00:08:44,200
My father was what you
would call a Yom Kippur Jew.

146
00:08:44,200 --> 00:08:47,230
I mean, went once a
year to synagogue.

147
00:08:47,230 --> 00:08:50,170
But I was approaching
my 13th birthday.

148
00:08:50,170 --> 00:08:54,580
And I remember being
sent to a rabbi

149
00:08:54,580 --> 00:09:00,060
and being taught, be
prepared for my bar mitzvah.

150
00:09:00,060 --> 00:09:02,960
And then I remembered
that the Germans did not

151
00:09:02,960 --> 00:09:04,580
allow any synagogues.

152
00:09:04,580 --> 00:09:07,490
But there was some sort
of an apartment complex.

153
00:09:07,490 --> 00:09:10,250
And in it was a--

154
00:09:10,250 --> 00:09:11,970
they had a hidden synagogue.

155
00:09:11,970 --> 00:09:18,830
And I was bar mitzvahed in
front of the whole ghetto

156
00:09:18,830 --> 00:09:20,780
amongst this whole
horror going on.

157
00:09:20,780 --> 00:09:23,420

158
00:09:23,420 --> 00:09:28,220
And then my mother
continued teaching me

159
00:09:28,220 --> 00:09:31,050
mathematics and
whatever she could.

160
00:09:31,050 --> 00:09:35,490
And of course, I was in
this workshop, where--

161
00:09:35,490 --> 00:09:37,710
the machine shop trade, sort of.

162
00:09:37,710 --> 00:09:40,910
And so my education--

163
00:09:40,910 --> 00:09:44,800
I mean, it was not education in
the classic, traditional sense.

164
00:09:44,800 --> 00:09:48,460
But it sort of continued.

165
00:09:48,460 --> 00:09:53,560
At least until about just
until the bar mitzvah.

166
00:09:53,560 --> 00:09:55,875
After that, things started
to really deteriorate

167
00:09:55,875 --> 00:09:56,780
in the ghetto.

168
00:09:56,780 --> 00:09:58,570
I mean, there were
frequent selections.

169
00:09:58,570 --> 00:10:01,520
And I started to become more
cognizant of what was going on.

170
00:10:01,520 --> 00:10:08,610

171
00:10:08,610 --> 00:10:09,840
And when was that?

172
00:10:09,840 --> 00:10:11,700
When was the bar mitzvah?

173
00:10:11,700 --> 00:10:17,250
Well, that would have
been in August of 1947--

174
00:10:17,250 --> 00:10:19,610
1943.

175
00:10:19,610 --> 00:10:20,210
OK.

176
00:10:20,210 --> 00:10:22,880
I mean, my birthday's in August.

177

00:10:22,880 --> 00:10:27,110
And 13th birthday would
have been August, 1943.

178

00:10:27,110 --> 00:10:29,840
And tell me more
about the changes

179

00:10:29,840 --> 00:10:32,090
that you noticed
then in the ghetto.

180

00:10:32,090 --> 00:10:36,900

181

00:10:36,900 --> 00:10:43,570
Well, there was you
know, here, I came--

182

00:10:43,570 --> 00:10:45,640
I was a kid who
came from a family

183

00:10:45,640 --> 00:10:47,170
where I had custom-made clothes.

184

00:10:47,170 --> 00:10:51,820
And the clothing started
to be ragged and dirty.

185

00:10:51,820 --> 00:10:59,380
And my parents looked and
wore ragged and dirty clothes.

186

00:10:59,380 --> 00:11:03,670
I mean, that certainly was
something that I noticed.

187

00:11:03,670 --> 00:11:05,260
There was less food.

188

00:11:05,260 --> 00:11:11,290

I mean, when there
was food served,

189
00:11:11,290 --> 00:11:14,000
I remember that my plate was
always fuller than everybody

190
00:11:14,000 --> 00:11:14,500
else's.

191
00:11:14,500 --> 00:11:17,720

192
00:11:17,720 --> 00:11:21,700
There were just the bare,
bare minimums of food

193
00:11:21,700 --> 00:11:22,800
that were available.

194
00:11:22,800 --> 00:11:32,330
And I mean, as a child, I just
felt this constant fear of--

195
00:11:32,330 --> 00:11:42,809

196
00:11:42,809 --> 00:11:43,320
Mark?

197
00:11:43,320 --> 00:11:45,620
Three marker.

198
00:11:45,620 --> 00:11:46,120
Set.

199
00:11:46,120 --> 00:11:48,820

200
00:11:48,820 --> 00:11:54,620
Take me back to a couple
of those times when

201
00:11:54,620 --> 00:11:55,290
you got hidden.

202
00:11:55,290 --> 00:11:59,000
Was it like a sudden frenzy
and everyone scurried?

203
00:11:59,000 --> 00:12:02,210
Or did you know what was--
just describe it to me.

204
00:12:02,210 --> 00:12:03,892
Or described a couple of them.

205
00:12:03,892 --> 00:12:07,750

206
00:12:07,750 --> 00:12:17,980
Well, I think that because we
had this guy Notkin enough who

207
00:12:17,980 --> 00:12:21,610
knew sort of what was
going on, it was not

208
00:12:21,610 --> 00:12:23,200
a sudden frenzy usually.

209
00:12:23,200 --> 00:12:26,620
It was-- we knew that we
had to go down and hide.

210
00:12:26,620 --> 00:12:30,700

211
00:12:30,700 --> 00:12:35,980
But from just watching
everybody around me,

212
00:12:35,980 --> 00:12:38,860
I mean, I could see

this incredible fear

213
00:12:38,860 --> 00:12:44,980
of everybody of being
discovered in that hiding place.

214
00:12:44,980 --> 00:12:48,910
And I distinctly remember
this woman with this baby.

215
00:12:48,910 --> 00:12:54,400
Because I mean, she
almost smothered the child

216
00:12:54,400 --> 00:12:59,800
because if anybody would
have heard that baby,

217
00:12:59,800 --> 00:13:02,888
that would have been the
end of maybe 15 or 20 people

218
00:13:02,888 --> 00:13:04,180
that were hidden in that place.

219
00:13:04,180 --> 00:13:08,000

220
00:13:08,000 --> 00:13:11,120
I remember being in there.

221
00:13:11,120 --> 00:13:13,460
I mean, I couldn't tell
you how many hours,

222
00:13:13,460 --> 00:13:17,390
but it certainly felt like
sometimes more than a day,

223
00:13:17,390 --> 00:13:18,320
I think.

224

00:13:18,320 --> 00:13:21,290

I mean, but ending up
there in the morning,

225

00:13:21,290 --> 00:13:24,750

and then probably staying
there a day or two.

226

00:13:24,750 --> 00:13:29,060

And I also remember
that some food

227

00:13:29,060 --> 00:13:32,930

was kept in reserve down there
just for that eventuality.

228

00:13:32,930 --> 00:13:35,270

So that when one had
to go down, there

229

00:13:35,270 --> 00:13:38,642

was something to keep
everybody nourished.

230

00:13:38,642 --> 00:13:43,570

231

00:13:43,570 --> 00:13:46,240

I mean, it was like
you were huddled.

232

00:13:46,240 --> 00:13:48,380

And you had to be quiet.

233

00:13:48,380 --> 00:13:50,950

And you there was no
place to sit or to sleep.

234

00:13:50,950 --> 00:13:52,900

I mean, we slept on--

235

00:13:52,900 --> 00:13:54,280

it was just plain ground.

236
00:13:54,280 --> 00:13:58,800

237
00:13:58,800 --> 00:14:02,820
Describe the place that
you hid most often.

238
00:14:02,820 --> 00:14:05,750

239
00:14:05,750 --> 00:14:10,110
Well, I remember
the house being just

240
00:14:10,110 --> 00:14:12,520
like a little Russian
peasant house, almost.

241
00:14:12,520 --> 00:14:20,580
And there was, from what I
remember, like a big cabinet

242
00:14:20,580 --> 00:14:22,810
against a wall.

243
00:14:22,810 --> 00:14:29,020
And I think they had constructed
the wall, widened the wall,

244
00:14:29,020 --> 00:14:31,720
taking space away
from both sides.

245
00:14:31,720 --> 00:14:33,700
Inside the wall
was a stairway that

246
00:14:33,700 --> 00:14:37,390
went into this basement
or whatever that was,

247

00:14:37,390 --> 00:14:39,740
into this dugout.

248
00:14:39,740 --> 00:14:43,500
And everybody would
go down there.

249
00:14:43,500 --> 00:14:46,790

250
00:14:46,790 --> 00:14:50,510
And then this armoire
would be put back again.

251
00:14:50,510 --> 00:14:56,280
And the man that stayed up
there was this guy, Karl Notkin,

252
00:14:56,280 --> 00:15:00,450
who then placated the Nazis
as best as he could from more

253
00:15:00,450 --> 00:15:04,080
and kept them from really
searching the place too much.

254
00:15:04,080 --> 00:15:06,600
And how big was
the actual dugout,

255
00:15:06,600 --> 00:15:09,420
and how many people
would be in there?

256
00:15:09,420 --> 00:15:16,960
I would guess about 15
to 20 people how big

257
00:15:16,960 --> 00:15:20,690
maybe 10 or 10 by 15 feet.

258
00:15:20,690 --> 00:15:24,630
It was very, very small.

259
00:15:24,630 --> 00:15:28,270
I mean, you were just
body to body in there.

260
00:15:28,270 --> 00:15:30,040
It was not that--

261
00:15:30,040 --> 00:15:35,680
it was almost no room
to walk or anything.

262
00:15:35,680 --> 00:15:37,950
Could you stand up?

263
00:15:37,950 --> 00:15:38,640
Well, I could.

264
00:15:38,640 --> 00:15:39,435
I was very short.

265
00:15:39,435 --> 00:15:42,680

266
00:15:42,680 --> 00:15:47,390
You know, I did all my
growing after the war.

267
00:15:47,390 --> 00:15:51,500
And the Jewish police,
what did you think of them?

268
00:15:51,500 --> 00:15:55,600

269
00:15:55,600 --> 00:15:57,170
I don't know much about them.

270
00:15:57,170 --> 00:16:00,320

271

00:16:00,320 --> 00:16:02,840
I mean, as kids,
there were people

272
00:16:02,840 --> 00:16:06,050
that we are told to stay
out of their way, you know.

273
00:16:06,050 --> 00:16:07,850
Jewish police, from
what I remember.

274
00:16:07,850 --> 00:16:10,280
And you just didn't.

275
00:16:10,280 --> 00:16:14,280
But I didn't really have any
contact or feeling about it.

276
00:16:14,280 --> 00:16:15,620
So I wouldn't know.

277
00:16:15,620 --> 00:16:19,800
And tell me a little
more about incidents

278
00:16:19,800 --> 00:16:23,630
you remember that were fun,
like pranks that you pulled

279
00:16:23,630 --> 00:16:25,253
or games that you played.

280
00:16:25,253 --> 00:16:28,640

281
00:16:28,640 --> 00:16:32,730
Well, that must have been
still in the early part, time

282
00:16:32,730 --> 00:16:36,170
of the ghetto, like
probably '41, '42.

283
00:16:36,170 --> 00:16:38,790

284
00:16:38,790 --> 00:16:44,370
Somehow, in the workshop, we
located long, metal tubes.

285
00:16:44,370 --> 00:16:48,240
And we were able to get
hold of peas, dried peas.

286
00:16:48,240 --> 00:16:49,860
And we would use
as a pea shooter.

287
00:16:49,860 --> 00:16:52,170
And there was an old
lady in the house.

288
00:16:52,170 --> 00:16:54,060
And we would shoot it
against her window.

289
00:16:54,060 --> 00:16:55,680
I mean, I remember
that distinctly.

290
00:16:55,680 --> 00:16:59,700
I mean, the stupid stuff
like this, you remember.

291
00:16:59,700 --> 00:17:03,930
And then she would come out,
and we would hide in some ditch

292
00:17:03,930 --> 00:17:06,030
nearby or run away.

293
00:17:06,030 --> 00:17:08,099
And I mean, this was--

294

00:17:08,099 --> 00:17:10,980
and I remember playing
soccer with others.

295
00:17:10,980 --> 00:17:16,000

296
00:17:16,000 --> 00:17:18,723
You know, as a child,
you are a child.

297
00:17:18,723 --> 00:17:20,140
You know, and you
behave like one,

298
00:17:20,140 --> 00:17:21,910
even when things are
horrendous, I guess.

299
00:17:21,910 --> 00:17:26,609
Unless you are starving, as
happened much later to me.

300
00:17:26,609 --> 00:17:31,570
And then the playing
is gone and over with.

301
00:17:31,570 --> 00:17:37,040
And so now, let's go to when
things got very bad at the end

302
00:17:37,040 --> 00:17:41,100
and what happened to you
toward when the ghetto was--

303
00:17:41,100 --> 00:17:46,050
Well, I just remember
that everybody

304
00:17:46,050 --> 00:17:48,300
was more and more despondent.

305
00:17:48,300 --> 00:17:55,080

And really, sort of
was like a hopelessness

306
00:17:55,080 --> 00:17:57,120
in the whole family.

307
00:17:57,120 --> 00:17:59,520
Additionally, at that
point, one of my aunts

308
00:17:59,520 --> 00:18:01,740
died of cancer in the ghetto.

309
00:18:01,740 --> 00:18:05,760
And whatever
resources the family

310
00:18:05,760 --> 00:18:09,720
had, like there was still
some jewelry that was not

311
00:18:09,720 --> 00:18:15,680
given to the Nazis was sold to
try to save her with whatever.

312
00:18:15,680 --> 00:18:17,910
There were some decent
doctors, but they obviously

313
00:18:17,910 --> 00:18:21,340
had not much medication.

314
00:18:21,340 --> 00:18:25,200
And she was a very
beloved aunt of mine.

315
00:18:25,200 --> 00:18:29,550
And so that was part
of the hopelessness,

316
00:18:29,550 --> 00:18:31,140
that she couldn't
be helped at all.

317
00:18:31,140 --> 00:18:35,160

318
00:18:35,160 --> 00:18:40,110
And it was just that everybody--

319
00:18:40,110 --> 00:18:45,360
I mean, by now, I realized
that the chances of surviving

320
00:18:45,360 --> 00:18:47,790
were rather slim, I would think.

321
00:18:47,790 --> 00:18:50,820

322
00:18:50,820 --> 00:18:53,280
I don't clearly
remember every day

323
00:18:53,280 --> 00:18:56,010
of the last few
months of the ghetto,

324
00:18:56,010 --> 00:18:59,802
except that you
saw fewer people.

325
00:18:59,802 --> 00:19:01,510
I mean, when I first
got into the ghetto,

326
00:19:01,510 --> 00:19:03,760
the streets were full.

327
00:19:03,760 --> 00:19:08,900
At the end, you hardly saw any
people in there walking around.

328
00:19:08,900 --> 00:19:13,570
I wasn't allowed out

virtually at all,

329
00:19:13,570 --> 00:19:15,055
except when I was
at the workshop.

330
00:19:15,055 --> 00:19:18,050

331
00:19:18,050 --> 00:19:25,590
So it was just not good.

332
00:19:25,590 --> 00:19:29,180
And then how did you
leave the ghetto?

333
00:19:29,180 --> 00:19:31,910
Well, that I remember
rather clearly.

334
00:19:31,910 --> 00:19:37,500
Because I remember the
whole family being put

335
00:19:37,500 --> 00:19:40,095
into one of these cattle cars.

336
00:19:40,095 --> 00:19:43,630

337
00:19:43,630 --> 00:19:46,030
And that was everybody.

338
00:19:46,030 --> 00:19:49,840
It was my one aunt at
this point, and my uncle,

339
00:19:49,840 --> 00:19:51,835
and my father, my
mother, and myself.

340
00:19:51,835 --> 00:19:54,450

341
00:19:54,450 --> 00:20:00,760
And at this point, I mean,
even my parents still

342
00:20:00,760 --> 00:20:03,010
tried to say you've got
to hope for the best,

343
00:20:03,010 --> 00:20:05,412
and you'll survive,
you'll be all right,

344
00:20:05,412 --> 00:20:06,370
and that kind of stuff.

345
00:20:06,370 --> 00:20:09,765
I mean, you could see
amongst the people

346
00:20:09,765 --> 00:20:11,890
that you were there-- that
you had nothing but talk

347
00:20:11,890 --> 00:20:14,320
of being sent to the
concentration camps

348
00:20:14,320 --> 00:20:16,000
and of being exterminated.

349
00:20:16,000 --> 00:20:19,200

350
00:20:19,200 --> 00:20:21,650
How did you get to
the cattle cars?

351
00:20:21,650 --> 00:20:22,650
Do you remember that?

352

00:20:22,650 --> 00:20:24,390
I think we walked.

353
00:20:24,390 --> 00:20:28,980
And do you remember
being ordered to go?

354
00:20:28,980 --> 00:20:31,950
Or you just remember that one
day you ended up walking there?

355
00:20:31,950 --> 00:20:35,490
I remember just one day
going there and walking there

356
00:20:35,490 --> 00:20:36,825
and being on the trains.

357
00:20:36,825 --> 00:20:39,750

358
00:20:39,750 --> 00:20:47,210
The real things, when
I really realized

359
00:20:47,210 --> 00:20:50,540
that things were horrendous
was when we finally ended up

360
00:20:50,540 --> 00:20:52,970
in Stutthof after a few days.

361
00:20:52,970 --> 00:20:57,080
I don't know if it was a
day or two or whatever.

362
00:20:57,080 --> 00:21:01,600
And at that point, my aunt
and my mother were taken away.

363
00:21:01,600 --> 00:21:04,900
And I mean, this is where--

364

00:21:04,900 --> 00:21:08,050

I mean, I spent virtually all
my time crying from that moment

365

00:21:08,050 --> 00:21:10,010

on.

366

00:21:10,010 --> 00:21:15,765

And the train then
continued to Dachau,

367

00:21:15,765 --> 00:21:20,450

where I ended up with my father,
and the uncle, and this Notkin.

368

00:21:20,450 --> 00:21:24,690

And within probably
a week, there

369

00:21:24,690 --> 00:21:29,700

was a selection of about 120
kids or so at that point.

370

00:21:29,700 --> 00:21:34,020

And they were in Landsberg,
my father and uncle.

371

00:21:34,020 --> 00:21:35,985

And we were sent
to Dachau proper.

372

00:21:35,985 --> 00:21:38,580

373

00:21:38,580 --> 00:21:43,680

And oddly enough, that was
a very neat camp, somehow.

374

00:21:43,680 --> 00:21:46,810

We had beds and stuff like that.

375

00:21:46,810 --> 00:21:51,330

So it was-- but I mean,
all I remember is crying.

376
00:21:51,330 --> 00:21:57,660
I mean, I was at that point
13 or 13 and 1/2 or so.

377
00:21:57,660 --> 00:21:59,340
Almost 14.

378
00:21:59,340 --> 00:22:03,750
And I think I was in
Dachau maybe a week

379
00:22:03,750 --> 00:22:08,730
and then was put on another
transport to Auschwitz.

380
00:22:08,730 --> 00:22:11,310
And I do remember going
through the selection.

381
00:22:11,310 --> 00:22:13,505
Did not know what
was right or left.

382
00:22:13,505 --> 00:22:16,080

383
00:22:16,080 --> 00:22:20,700
And ended up in one of
the camps in Auschwitz,

384
00:22:20,700 --> 00:22:25,610
where they put the number on me.

385
00:22:25,610 --> 00:22:31,520
And then I had some
luck, because I was put

386
00:22:31,520 --> 00:22:34,830
to work on a farm in Birkenau.

387

00:22:34,830 --> 00:22:36,290

And I was given
the responsibility

388

00:22:36,290 --> 00:22:37,950

to take care of a
horse, of all things.

389

00:22:37,950 --> 00:22:42,540

So I ate the turnips
that the horse was given.

390

00:22:42,540 --> 00:22:47,150

And that sort of kept me alive.

391

00:22:47,150 --> 00:24:50,000