

1
00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:31,380

2
00:00:31,380 --> 00:00:32,580
Mark three, marker.

3
00:00:32,580 --> 00:00:35,720

4
00:00:35,720 --> 00:00:39,420
Tell me a little more
about that commander.

5
00:00:39,420 --> 00:00:42,390
Did he like you?

6
00:00:42,390 --> 00:00:48,390
He probably did because
one day he came-- and he

7
00:00:48,390 --> 00:00:50,640
went into the ghetto,
and whatever he liked,

8
00:00:50,640 --> 00:00:52,590
whatever he saw, he took.

9
00:00:52,590 --> 00:00:53,430
One day, he comes.

10
00:00:53,430 --> 00:00:58,380
He says, you know, today I
brought a present for Miriam.

11
00:00:58,380 --> 00:01:00,390
And what did he bring me?

12
00:01:00,390 --> 00:01:05,180
A yellow star, what
we had to wear,

13

00:01:05,180 --> 00:01:09,050
but it was done by an artist.

14

00:01:09,050 --> 00:01:13,520
It was really beautifully
done on the wire ring

15

00:01:13,520 --> 00:01:15,140
and with yellow--

16

00:01:15,140 --> 00:01:18,410
actually, it was gold in
the middle of the star,

17

00:01:18,410 --> 00:01:20,410
and it was really very pretty.

18

00:01:20,410 --> 00:01:25,190
He brought it to me
with a pin to put on.

19

00:01:25,190 --> 00:01:31,760
Also, his valet was
very good to me.

20

00:01:31,760 --> 00:01:35,510
First of all, I had
to eat myself there,

21

00:01:35,510 --> 00:01:39,710
and he always sat and
ate with me together.

22

00:01:39,710 --> 00:01:44,300
And in the evening, he made sure
that I always brought something

23

00:01:44,300 --> 00:01:47,060
home for the family to eat.

24

00:01:47,060 --> 00:01:53,420
And at the time, that was a big,

big thing, and I can tell you

25

00:01:53,420 --> 00:01:56,810

we should really have so
many good years still,

26

00:01:56,810 --> 00:02:02,840

how my mother divided the
food among some friends

27

00:02:02,840 --> 00:02:08,060

or some neighbors and my
aunt and my cousin for sure,

28

00:02:08,060 --> 00:02:09,800

but there were a few neighbors.

29

00:02:09,800 --> 00:02:16,320

And my dad, at that time,
worked on the airport,

30

00:02:16,320 --> 00:02:20,450

and my mother always made sure
that he has an extra sandwich,

31

00:02:20,450 --> 00:02:23,180

if he worked with
somebody, that he shouldn't

32

00:02:23,180 --> 00:02:27,350

see that he is eating
well and the other one

33

00:02:27,350 --> 00:02:32,420

not because, first of all, there
were no refrigeration where

34

00:02:32,420 --> 00:02:33,920

you can keep it.

35

00:02:33,920 --> 00:02:38,180

And second, we always knew
that tomorrow I'll bring,

36
00:02:38,180 --> 00:02:40,490
again, something.

37
00:02:40,490 --> 00:02:45,680
So that was a big help for us.

38
00:02:45,680 --> 00:02:49,150
And did he one time
tell you that he

39
00:02:49,150 --> 00:02:50,150
would like to shoot you?

40
00:02:50,150 --> 00:02:51,680
And what did he mean?

41
00:02:51,680 --> 00:02:54,080
No, that was his valet.

42
00:02:54,080 --> 00:02:57,380
He said to me one day--
he said, you know, Miriam,

43
00:02:57,380 --> 00:02:59,210
I would like to shoot you.

44
00:02:59,210 --> 00:03:00,170
And I said, why?

45
00:03:00,170 --> 00:03:02,330
What did I do to you?

46
00:03:02,330 --> 00:03:08,060
And I see that we are quite
friendly among ourselves.

47
00:03:08,060 --> 00:03:11,000
He said, well, I don't
want you to suffer.

48

00:03:11,000 --> 00:03:12,485
I'll hit you right in the heart.

49
00:03:12,485 --> 00:03:17,350

50
00:03:17,350 --> 00:03:22,570
Tell me-- can we cut
for just a second?

51
00:03:22,570 --> 00:03:23,445
Marker, four marker.

52
00:03:23,445 --> 00:03:27,110

53
00:03:27,110 --> 00:03:32,120
Miriam, can you tell me what the
workshops were in the ghetto?

54
00:03:32,120 --> 00:03:33,458
I don't know about a ghetto.

55
00:03:33,458 --> 00:03:35,480
I didn't know about
the workshops.

56
00:03:35,480 --> 00:03:38,540
Oh, sure.

57
00:03:38,540 --> 00:03:42,980
And that was a very good
thing because a big hunk

58
00:03:42,980 --> 00:03:46,190
of the population were
occupied with that.

59
00:03:46,190 --> 00:03:48,690
They had all
different departments.

60

00:03:48,690 --> 00:03:51,080

There was a shoe
department, what

61

00:03:51,080 --> 00:03:54,170

made the boots for the Germans.

62

00:03:54,170 --> 00:04:02,645

There was a laundry, where
they brought their clothes.

63

00:04:02,645 --> 00:04:06,420

They even made toys for--

64

00:04:06,420 --> 00:04:09,750

what they probably
sent back to Germany.

65

00:04:09,750 --> 00:04:12,360

And a lot of people
were occupied,

66

00:04:12,360 --> 00:04:15,480

and it was good for
the people to work

67

00:04:15,480 --> 00:04:19,610

because if you didn't work
and they had the selection,

68

00:04:19,610 --> 00:04:23,670

the first ones who
always were selected

69

00:04:23,670 --> 00:04:26,400

were the ones who
didn't have a job.

70

00:04:26,400 --> 00:04:32,220

And not everybody could go out
of the ghetto to work places.

71

00:04:32,220 --> 00:04:37,180

There were not so many demands.

72

00:04:37,180 --> 00:04:42,330

So in fact, later on,
when I got married and--

73

00:04:42,330 --> 00:04:47,010

74

00:04:47,010 --> 00:04:49,320

the commanders--
they all changed.

75

00:04:49,320 --> 00:04:51,300

They didn't stay too long.

76

00:04:51,300 --> 00:04:54,810

A different group took over.

77

00:04:54,810 --> 00:04:57,930

I also worked in
the WerkstÄtten.

78

00:04:57,930 --> 00:05:00,060

I worked in the toy department.

79

00:05:00,060 --> 00:05:09,210

We made toys from wood and
stuffed dolls, like rag dolls.

80

00:05:09,210 --> 00:05:15,630

81

00:05:15,630 --> 00:05:18,210

Can you just tell me
what day-to-day life

82

00:05:18,210 --> 00:05:23,760

was like in the ghetto after
the great action, in that period

83

00:05:23,760 --> 00:05:27,150

when the ghetto just sort
of operated as a ghetto?

84
00:05:27,150 --> 00:05:29,940
Well, daily life
was, like I said

85
00:05:29,940 --> 00:05:33,540
before, you got up in the
morning, you went to work,

86
00:05:33,540 --> 00:05:34,710
and you came back.

87
00:05:34,710 --> 00:05:36,840
And you were glad to come back.

88
00:05:36,840 --> 00:05:39,930

89
00:05:39,930 --> 00:05:43,300
More or less, the Jews
were very inventive.

90
00:05:43,300 --> 00:05:49,110
They took the fences, and they
had some wood for the winter.

91
00:05:49,110 --> 00:05:53,760
And we also had our own
clothes at that time,

92
00:05:53,760 --> 00:05:56,460
and they took
those clothes along

93
00:05:56,460 --> 00:05:59,160
to the workplaces
out of the ghetto.

94
00:05:59,160 --> 00:06:00,620
And they exchanged it.

95

00:06:00,620 --> 00:06:02,490

The Lithuanian
people used to come

96

00:06:02,490 --> 00:06:08,350

with butter, and
margarine, and potatoes,

97

00:06:08,350 --> 00:06:14,430

sometimes even some meat,
and they exchanged it, flour.

98

00:06:14,430 --> 00:06:16,410

And then they brought it back.

99

00:06:16,410 --> 00:06:21,900

So we had a little
more to eat than later

100

00:06:21,900 --> 00:06:26,190

on when we went to the
concentration camps.

101

00:06:26,190 --> 00:06:29,830

But otherwise, we even had--

102

00:06:29,830 --> 00:06:34,200

the Germans organized
all the musicians,

103

00:06:34,200 --> 00:06:39,990

and we had, from time
to time, a concert.

104

00:06:39,990 --> 00:06:41,970

And we Jews alone--

105

00:06:41,970 --> 00:06:45,540

we organized the school
for the little children,

106

00:06:45,540 --> 00:06:49,350

that they were occupied, that
they shouldn't hang around

107
00:06:49,350 --> 00:06:52,710
until they had the
Children's Action

108
00:06:52,710 --> 00:06:55,380
and they took away
all the children.

109
00:06:55,380 --> 00:06:58,210
But up until then, they--

110
00:06:58,210 --> 00:07:01,860
and once you are
alive, and you always

111
00:07:01,860 --> 00:07:05,220
hope that it might be
tomorrow, or the next day,

112
00:07:05,220 --> 00:07:08,170
or the next day it'll be over.

113
00:07:08,170 --> 00:07:11,880
And as I said before, we
were still with our families.

114
00:07:11,880 --> 00:07:14,730
I even got married
in the ghetto,

115
00:07:14,730 --> 00:07:21,000
so there was romance and
everything, more or less like--

116
00:07:21,000 --> 00:07:26,490
I wouldn't say a perfect, normal
life because you always said,

117
00:07:26,490 --> 00:07:31,830
tomorrow they have an action,

and you will be the next one.

118
00:07:31,830 --> 00:07:36,980
But when the morning started
and you were still alive and--

119
00:07:36,980 --> 00:07:39,060
so another day was gone.

120
00:07:39,060 --> 00:07:43,180

121
00:07:43,180 --> 00:07:45,150
Tell me again about
the workshops.

122
00:07:45,150 --> 00:07:48,490
I'm sorry, but there was a
big plane when you told me.

123
00:07:48,490 --> 00:07:53,050
The workshops were-- and they
were very good for the ghetto

124
00:07:53,050 --> 00:07:57,790
because people were occupied,
and they had where to go

125
00:07:57,790 --> 00:08:01,360
because if you
didn't have any job--

126
00:08:01,360 --> 00:08:04,540
not everybody could
go out of the ghetto

127
00:08:04,540 --> 00:08:08,650
to the working places because
there wasn't so much demand,

128
00:08:08,650 --> 00:08:10,510
so we made there--

129

00:08:10,510 --> 00:08:13,330

there was a laundry
to wash the--

130

00:08:13,330 --> 00:08:16,840

soldiers, whoever
brought the laundry.

131

00:08:16,840 --> 00:08:22,440

There was also a repair shop
for the uniforms to repair it.

132

00:08:22,440 --> 00:08:25,300

133

00:08:25,300 --> 00:08:26,660

Shoemakers with there.

134

00:08:26,660 --> 00:08:31,480

They made the boots
for the soldiers.

135

00:08:31,480 --> 00:08:38,350

We even made toys as they had
different kinds of departments.

136

00:08:38,350 --> 00:08:40,960

But basically to
serve the Germans?

137

00:08:40,960 --> 00:08:42,280

Oh, yeah, sure.

138

00:08:42,280 --> 00:08:48,040

We could not bring our laundry
there or our shoes, no.

139

00:08:48,040 --> 00:08:52,660

It was only because it was
supervised, and they came--

140

00:08:52,660 --> 00:08:56,080

we rarely even knew when
an inspection will come.

141
00:08:56,080 --> 00:09:01,230

142
00:09:01,230 --> 00:09:05,710
Tell me about the Jewish
police, the ghetto police.

143
00:09:05,710 --> 00:09:11,920
The ghetto police-- they had it
very tough because on one side,

144
00:09:11,920 --> 00:09:15,720
they were commanded to
work with the Germans.

145
00:09:15,720 --> 00:09:20,100
On the other side, they
wanted to help the Jews.

146
00:09:20,100 --> 00:09:24,000
So in general, they
were all very nice.

147
00:09:24,000 --> 00:09:28,260
There were a few, what
you find all over,

148
00:09:28,260 --> 00:09:31,590
who wanted to be
holier than the pope,

149
00:09:31,590 --> 00:09:34,080
but in general, they were nice.

150
00:09:34,080 --> 00:09:40,530
And they warned the
people, and it was--

151
00:09:40,530 --> 00:09:44,220
really, they looked

out for each other

152
00:09:44,220 --> 00:09:46,710
because we were all
in the same boat.

153
00:09:46,710 --> 00:09:51,120
And we knew that if
we'll be destroyed,

154
00:09:51,120 --> 00:09:53,790
we'll be destroyed all of us.

155
00:09:53,790 --> 00:09:56,850
If you were a policeman or
if you were not a policeman,

156
00:09:56,850 --> 00:09:59,160
you will have the same faith.

157
00:09:59,160 --> 00:10:04,410
And it so happens that sometimes
the policeman went first.

158
00:10:04,410 --> 00:10:07,350
Like?

159
00:10:07,350 --> 00:10:11,085
Well, because it might be
they knew a little bit more,

160
00:10:11,085 --> 00:10:13,950
or they were involved
in something.

161
00:10:13,950 --> 00:10:16,840
So they were shot
before the others.

162
00:10:16,840 --> 00:10:19,490

163

00:10:19,490 --> 00:10:25,590
And spiritual life, religion?

164
00:10:25,590 --> 00:10:30,230
Religion was-- if you were
religious, you were religious.

165
00:10:30,230 --> 00:10:32,510
For instance, my mother--

166
00:10:32,510 --> 00:10:37,580
up to her last day, she
didn't touch any meat.

167
00:10:37,580 --> 00:10:43,350
For us she cooked because she
felt that we need the strength,

168
00:10:43,350 --> 00:10:44,580
but she didn't.

169
00:10:44,580 --> 00:10:49,290
And our meat consisted of dead
horse meat, and sometimes,

170
00:10:49,290 --> 00:10:52,320
if you were lucky,
when you bought from--

171
00:10:52,320 --> 00:10:59,760
out of the ghetto you bought
some lard or some ham,

172
00:10:59,760 --> 00:11:03,070
what the Jewish
religion does not allow.

173
00:11:03,070 --> 00:11:09,750
So she didn't touch not even
the morsel of that, but for us

174
00:11:09,750 --> 00:11:12,090
children and for

my father, she felt

175

00:11:12,090 --> 00:11:15,180

that we go to-- because
she did not go to work.

176

00:11:15,180 --> 00:11:17,070

She stayed home.

177

00:11:17,070 --> 00:11:22,410

So she felt that we needed it
more, and she cooked for us,

178

00:11:22,410 --> 00:11:25,680

and we ate at.

179

00:11:25,680 --> 00:11:29,580

I think we're about [INAUDIBLE].

180

00:11:29,580 --> 00:11:31,970

And later my mother-in-law--

181

00:11:31,970 --> 00:11:48,640

182

00:11:48,640 --> 00:11:54,920

Tell me a little bit
about the ghetto council.

183

00:11:54,920 --> 00:12:02,420

The ghetto counsel consisted
of six, I think, or seven men.

184

00:12:02,420 --> 00:12:05,780

They were all
lawyers or doctors.

185

00:12:05,780 --> 00:12:08,780

In fact, the Dr. Elkes--

186

00:12:08,780 --> 00:12:12,560

he was from the same

town like my mother,

187

00:12:12,560 --> 00:12:14,990
and whenever there
was some problems

188

00:12:14,990 --> 00:12:20,210
or my mother had something,
the first thing was Dr. Elkes.

189

00:12:20,210 --> 00:12:22,460
And they were also--

190

00:12:22,460 --> 00:12:28,490
they were under big pressure,
but they still were helping us.

191

00:12:28,490 --> 00:12:32,780
And they looked out
more for the Jews,

192

00:12:32,780 --> 00:12:36,140
and the few times they
had really, I think,

193

00:12:36,140 --> 00:12:41,840
big arguments with the Germans,
that they did not comply

194

00:12:41,840 --> 00:12:44,660
to their orders or to their--

195

00:12:44,660 --> 00:12:50,510
because as I said, we were
all under the same rule,

196

00:12:50,510 --> 00:12:54,260
and they really didn't
look out to save themselves

197

00:12:54,260 --> 00:13:01,460
and to give the other
people not a chance.

198
00:13:01,460 --> 00:13:05,420
So in general, it was OK.

199
00:13:05,420 --> 00:13:11,300
It was hard for those sent
to work because not all

200
00:13:11,300 --> 00:13:15,930
the workplaces were good ones.

201
00:13:15,930 --> 00:13:20,030
So how do you-- if
somebody got a better--

202
00:13:20,030 --> 00:13:22,760
where he could
exchange these things

203
00:13:22,760 --> 00:13:27,180
for better things, and
some were [? not-- ?]

204
00:13:27,180 --> 00:13:31,670
when none of the Lithuanian
people came to exchange.

205
00:13:31,670 --> 00:13:35,130
But in general, it
worked out very well,

206
00:13:35,130 --> 00:13:38,930
and I think there
was not too many what

207
00:13:38,930 --> 00:13:43,380
were against Judenrat.

208
00:13:43,380 --> 00:13:46,440
Did they have terribly
difficult choices?

209

00:13:46,440 --> 00:13:50,210
Did they have to prepare lists
[? when ?] [? ordered ?]??

210
00:13:50,210 --> 00:13:56,640
They had to prepare lists,
but they also didn't always.

211
00:13:56,640 --> 00:14:01,560
And in fact, in 1943,
they were supposed

212
00:14:01,560 --> 00:14:04,440
to give a certain amount--

213
00:14:04,440 --> 00:14:08,550
I forgot how many were
supposed to be delivered,

214
00:14:08,550 --> 00:14:11,940
and they didn't
give out so many.

215
00:14:11,940 --> 00:14:16,050
So in the Germans went,
and whoever they grabbed

216
00:14:16,050 --> 00:14:18,230
they grabbed.

217
00:14:18,230 --> 00:14:22,800
In fact, that's when my mother
went away and my husband's

218
00:14:22,800 --> 00:14:27,487
whole family, his mother,
his two married sisters

219
00:14:27,487 --> 00:14:28,320
with their children.

220
00:14:28,320 --> 00:14:32,820

221
00:14:32,820 --> 00:14:36,470
So they had to choose
people for selections,

222
00:14:36,470 --> 00:14:40,280
and they didn't necessarily
know what was going to happen?

223
00:14:40,280 --> 00:14:43,100
No, they didn't because
they were always told

224
00:14:43,100 --> 00:14:45,240
that they are going to work.

225
00:14:45,240 --> 00:14:48,540

226
00:14:48,540 --> 00:14:55,300
So it was up to more or
less-- sometimes they probably

227
00:14:55,300 --> 00:14:57,280
choose single people.

228
00:14:57,280 --> 00:15:02,890
Sometimes they
choose young people.

229
00:15:02,890 --> 00:15:07,510
But in general, mostly, also,
they ask also for volunteers,

230
00:15:07,510 --> 00:15:10,150
and a lot even volunteered
because they thought

231
00:15:10,150 --> 00:15:13,840
that maybe there it will be
better because you really

232

00:15:13,840 --> 00:15:15,100
didn't know.

233
00:15:15,100 --> 00:15:17,920
And a lot of times it
really worked out that you

234
00:15:17,920 --> 00:15:19,435
were sent to labor camps.

235
00:15:19,435 --> 00:15:22,030

236
00:15:22,030 --> 00:15:25,260
There was a [PLACE NAME].

237
00:15:25,260 --> 00:15:29,595
There was a big
group, and there was

238
00:15:29,595 --> 00:15:31,380
in [? Paneriu ?] a big group.

239
00:15:31,380 --> 00:15:35,040
And they worked there
like from the ghetto,

240
00:15:35,040 --> 00:15:37,880
and later, they were
also brought to Stutthof

241
00:15:37,880 --> 00:15:40,500
or to the concentration camps.

242
00:15:40,500 --> 00:15:44,850
So you really were never
sure if that is a selection

243
00:15:44,850 --> 00:15:47,400
for death or for work.

244
00:15:47,400 --> 00:15:51,010

245

00:15:51,010 --> 00:15:55,090

Tell me about the Kinder Aktion.

246

00:15:55,090 --> 00:16:01,330

The Kinder Aktion-- that
was when the people had

247

00:16:01,330 --> 00:16:05,020

gone to work in the morning.

248

00:16:05,020 --> 00:16:09,400

All of a sudden, there
came into the ghetto a lot

249

00:16:09,400 --> 00:16:16,900

of buses with their windows
painted black, and the Germans,

250

00:16:16,900 --> 00:16:20,680

with their Lithuanian
helpers because they

251

00:16:20,680 --> 00:16:22,840

didn't go anyplace
without them because they

252

00:16:22,840 --> 00:16:25,170

did the dirty work.

253

00:16:25,170 --> 00:16:29,320

A lot of times, the
Germans did it, too,

254

00:16:29,320 --> 00:16:32,380

but they always had the helpers.

255

00:16:32,380 --> 00:16:34,810

And they went from
house to house,

256

00:16:34,810 --> 00:16:38,710
and wherever they found
children they took them.

257
00:16:38,710 --> 00:16:41,320
There was one man--

258
00:16:41,320 --> 00:16:43,600
he didn't want to
give his daughter,

259
00:16:43,600 --> 00:16:46,300
so they took him, too.

260
00:16:46,300 --> 00:16:48,490
And there was another lady--

261
00:16:48,490 --> 00:16:52,480
she was even a Gentile, and
she was married to a Jew.

262
00:16:52,480 --> 00:16:56,680
And she opted to go into
the ghetto with her husband

263
00:16:56,680 --> 00:16:58,700
and the two children.

264
00:16:58,700 --> 00:17:03,430
And when they came, at that
time she even said-- she said,

265
00:17:03,430 --> 00:17:07,480
my brothers are on the
front fighting for you,

266
00:17:07,480 --> 00:17:09,849
and you want to take
me and my children.

267
00:17:09,849 --> 00:17:11,470
But that didn't mean anything.

268

00:17:11,470 --> 00:17:14,154

She was, unfortunately, taken away with her two children.

269

00:17:14,154 --> 00:17:17,040

270

00:17:17,040 --> 00:17:19,890

What did you see of that?

271

00:17:19,890 --> 00:17:21,640

You were at work, right?

272

00:17:21,640 --> 00:17:27,150

No, I was, at that time, in the ghetto, and I was there.

273

00:17:27,150 --> 00:17:29,610

And we saw that the people were running

274

00:17:29,610 --> 00:17:33,990

on the street, and in fact, my cousin with the two children--

275

00:17:33,990 --> 00:17:39,220

we hid them, and lucky had it--

276

00:17:39,220 --> 00:17:43,880

they didn't find them, and they were saved.

277

00:17:43,880 --> 00:17:47,510

The little girl was about eight or nine,

278

00:17:47,510 --> 00:17:49,655

and the little boy was maybe five.

279

00:17:49,655 --> 00:17:53,170

280
00:17:53,170 --> 00:17:57,060
Tell me about the
grief, the sadness.

281
00:17:57,060 --> 00:18:02,400
Well, when the people
came back from work

282
00:18:02,400 --> 00:18:05,530
and they didn't
find their children,

283
00:18:05,530 --> 00:18:10,240
I don't have to tell
you what that means.

284
00:18:10,240 --> 00:18:12,360
It's bad enough,
sometimes, that you

285
00:18:12,360 --> 00:18:17,460
lose a child, but to work
so hard, and come back,

286
00:18:17,460 --> 00:18:20,670
and then don't find them--

287
00:18:20,670 --> 00:18:25,110
so you could only hear
crying, and crying,

288
00:18:25,110 --> 00:18:29,670
and not even crying,
shouting from grief,

289
00:18:29,670 --> 00:18:34,380
and hitting their
heads on walls.

290
00:18:34,380 --> 00:18:36,610
And that went on for
quite a few days.

291
00:18:36,610 --> 00:18:40,790

292
00:18:40,790 --> 00:18:46,370
Tell me about how your
niece and nephew were--

293
00:18:46,370 --> 00:18:49,680
where they were hiding.

294
00:18:49,680 --> 00:18:55,670
We had built a little-- not we,
the whole house where we lived

295
00:18:55,670 --> 00:19:00,230
had built in the
yard to go downstairs

296
00:19:00,230 --> 00:19:04,640
and then in the ground
there, and that was supposed

297
00:19:04,640 --> 00:19:07,020
to be for the whole house.

298
00:19:07,020 --> 00:19:09,830
So we took them down
there, and it so

299
00:19:09,830 --> 00:19:12,980
happens they didn't find them.

300
00:19:12,980 --> 00:19:17,690
A few children were somewhere,
in an attic somewhere,

301
00:19:17,690 --> 00:19:21,830
a double wall, so a few
children were saved.

302
00:19:21,830 --> 00:19:26,840

But it was like not even
a fraction of the people

303
00:19:26,840 --> 00:19:30,650
what they-- of the
children what they took.

304
00:19:30,650 --> 00:19:33,440
But at that time, we were lucky.

305
00:19:33,440 --> 00:19:36,710
We had the children.

306
00:19:36,710 --> 00:19:44,070
And tell me about other hiding
places besides that one,

307
00:19:44,070 --> 00:19:46,560
sort of in general.

308
00:19:46,560 --> 00:19:53,580
Well, people dug out from
underneath their houses,

309
00:19:53,580 --> 00:19:54,510
cellar.

310
00:19:54,510 --> 00:20:03,820
Some dug under the fence to go
to the Gentile side, whoever

311
00:20:03,820 --> 00:20:05,320
had the means.

312
00:20:05,320 --> 00:20:08,680
Also, we really didn't know
because those things were not

313
00:20:08,680 --> 00:20:09,360
publicized.

314
00:20:09,360 --> 00:20:13,460

315

00:20:13,460 --> 00:20:18,370

And was the ghetto very
different towards the end

316

00:20:18,370 --> 00:20:20,920

than it had been earlier?

317

00:20:20,920 --> 00:20:24,320

Absolutely because once
the children were away--

318

00:20:24,320 --> 00:20:27,940

first of all, you didn't
have the school anymore.

319

00:20:27,940 --> 00:20:30,880

You didn't, also,
hear some children.

320

00:20:30,880 --> 00:20:32,380

Children are children.

321

00:20:32,380 --> 00:20:35,170

When it was calm,
they ran around.

322

00:20:35,170 --> 00:20:35,980

They talked.

323

00:20:35,980 --> 00:20:43,160

They sang, and the mood from all
the people were very, very low.

324

00:20:43,160 --> 00:20:49,150

We also knew a little bit what
was going on with the war,

325

00:20:49,150 --> 00:20:56,620

and we also always felt
that we won't see it,

326

00:20:56,620 --> 00:20:59,845

that before the war
will finish we'll be--

327

00:20:59,845 --> 00:21:02,520

328

00:21:02,520 --> 00:21:06,690

so the mood after
each selection,

329

00:21:06,690 --> 00:21:11,430

and after each month,
and after each thing

330

00:21:11,430 --> 00:21:16,560

what was probably when we heard
that the Germans were defeated

331

00:21:16,560 --> 00:21:17,580

in Russia--

332

00:21:17,580 --> 00:21:20,880

for us, it was not like a joy.

333

00:21:20,880 --> 00:21:23,010

For us, it was
always, well, soon

334

00:21:23,010 --> 00:21:26,825

our time will come to
be destroyed and killed.

335

00:21:26,825 --> 00:21:34,040

336

00:21:34,040 --> 00:21:35,960

Was the ghetto getting smaller?

337

00:21:35,960 --> 00:21:40,730

Yeah, because some
people went into hiding.

338
00:21:40,730 --> 00:21:44,990
Some people went
to the partisans,

339
00:21:44,990 --> 00:21:47,420
and with the selections
it was always

340
00:21:47,420 --> 00:21:51,170
getting smaller and smaller.

341
00:21:51,170 --> 00:21:53,980
So by the end, about how
many people were there?

342
00:21:53,980 --> 00:21:55,390
Do you know?

343
00:21:55,390 --> 00:21:56,913
This I really don't know.

344
00:21:56,913 --> 00:22:03,070

345
00:22:03,070 --> 00:22:04,703
I think we're about
to run out, and I

346
00:22:04,703 --> 00:22:05,870
don't have a short question.

347
00:22:05,870 --> 00:22:09,360

348
00:22:09,360 --> 00:22:12,720
Tell me about the
trading for butter.

349
00:22:12,720 --> 00:22:18,870
Well, when you went and you
got-- and you were so happy

350

00:22:18,870 --> 00:22:22,410

you got a piece of
butter, and what will that

351

00:22:22,410 --> 00:22:25,260

mean when you come
back to the ghetto

352

00:22:25,260 --> 00:22:27,940

and present that to your family?

353

00:22:27,940 --> 00:22:31,470

And then when you opened it,
there was mashed potatoes in

354

00:22:31,470 --> 00:22:36,540

and it was only a coating
of butter or margarine.

355

00:22:36,540 --> 00:22:40,980

So that was a big disappointment
because you gave away

356

00:22:40,980 --> 00:22:44,340

a lot of things and
a lot of good things

357

00:22:44,340 --> 00:22:47,750

because, when the
Russians came--

358

00:22:47,750 --> 00:25:01,000