

1
00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:32,640

2
00:00:32,640 --> 00:00:34,800
And this is mark number 26.

3
00:00:34,800 --> 00:00:38,500

4
00:00:38,500 --> 00:00:40,056
Slavs and slaves.

5
00:00:40,056 --> 00:00:47,200

6
00:00:47,200 --> 00:00:52,030
Day to day life in the
ghetto, aside from your art--

7
00:00:52,030 --> 00:00:56,500
when it was at a peaceful
time, what was it like?

8
00:00:56,500 --> 00:01:00,580
When it was peaceful,
then I went out drawing.

9
00:01:00,580 --> 00:01:05,500
Look, I had my sister
with a little child,

10
00:01:05,500 --> 00:01:11,440
and then sometimes my sister
wanted to go out to town.

11
00:01:11,440 --> 00:01:14,390
And somebody had to
stay with the child.

12
00:01:14,390 --> 00:01:17,620
We had our hands full, yes.

13
00:01:17,620 --> 00:01:20,260
And then they asked
me for all sorts

14
00:01:20,260 --> 00:01:23,710
of teaching people
and showing people.

15
00:01:23,710 --> 00:01:27,460
And when I worked
for the Germans,

16
00:01:27,460 --> 00:01:32,140
I worked the whole
day in the studio.

17
00:01:32,140 --> 00:01:38,020
When you went out to work,
you came back at 7:00

18
00:01:38,020 --> 00:01:40,060
at night, yes.

19
00:01:40,060 --> 00:01:43,840
I was in the working
brigades like anybody else.

20
00:01:43,840 --> 00:01:45,760
I was working at the airport.

21
00:01:45,760 --> 00:01:49,600
I was working at
the agriculture.

22
00:01:49,600 --> 00:01:50,380
I was working--

23
00:01:50,380 --> 00:01:53,500
But then, went when somebody--

24
00:01:53,500 --> 00:01:57,190

for instance, women
who are working

25
00:01:57,190 --> 00:02:04,060
at agriculture in a big farm
where they grow tobacco.

26
00:02:04,060 --> 00:02:09,340
In Lithuania, it was
still experimental, yes.

27
00:02:09,340 --> 00:02:13,540
And there was a professor
who saw me drawing,

28
00:02:13,540 --> 00:02:18,860
so he asked me to paint
a few plants for him.

29
00:02:18,860 --> 00:02:21,880
And then the manager
of the farm saw

30
00:02:21,880 --> 00:02:25,870
me painting, so
he asked if I can

31
00:02:25,870 --> 00:02:28,180
paint the portrait of his wife.

32
00:02:28,180 --> 00:02:33,440
And then I was sitting there
and painting portraits.

33
00:02:33,440 --> 00:02:35,710
It was warm, and
they gave me to eat.

34
00:02:35,710 --> 00:02:43,115
And then the neighbor wanted
a portrait until in one winter

35
00:02:43,115 --> 00:02:47,080

the women who were working
there were stealing something.

36
00:02:47,080 --> 00:02:48,670
Of course they were stealing.

37
00:02:48,670 --> 00:02:50,650
They were hungry.

38
00:02:50,650 --> 00:02:55,120
So he sent them back
before their time,

39
00:02:55,120 --> 00:02:58,840
and I was at their flat.

40
00:02:58,840 --> 00:03:00,560
I didn't know about it.

41
00:03:00,560 --> 00:03:03,230
So somebody came and said--

42
00:03:03,230 --> 00:03:06,850
the mother of that lady
came and said, well,

43
00:03:06,850 --> 00:03:09,700
your brigade is out.

44
00:03:09,700 --> 00:03:12,380
Hurry to catch them.

45
00:03:12,380 --> 00:03:19,480
So I hurried, and I fell in the
snow, and I had a broken leg.

46
00:03:19,480 --> 00:03:25,330
It took me months to heal, and
then it was an open wound, yes.

47
00:03:25,330 --> 00:03:32,320
And they took me on a wagon

with a horse to the hospital.

48
00:03:32,320 --> 00:03:38,260
It was quite a tragedy,
and my sister came crying.

49
00:03:38,260 --> 00:03:43,391
But I did many drawings
at the hospital later.

50
00:03:43,391 --> 00:03:46,910
Let's cut for a second.

51
00:03:46,910 --> 00:03:47,410
27.

52
00:03:47,410 --> 00:03:47,910
27.

53
00:03:47,910 --> 00:03:52,580

54
00:03:52,580 --> 00:03:59,000
The Jewish police-- were
they a good police force?

55
00:03:59,000 --> 00:04:01,220
They were a good
police force, yes,

56
00:04:01,220 --> 00:04:09,740
and they were really the
elite of youth in Kovno.

57
00:04:09,740 --> 00:04:13,730
They had very difficult jobs.

58
00:04:13,730 --> 00:04:16,440
There were many
Zionists between them.

59
00:04:16,440 --> 00:04:20,450

There were many intelligent
people among them.

60
00:04:20,450 --> 00:04:27,890
But you know that on the
day of the Children's Action

61
00:04:27,890 --> 00:04:33,080
they arrested the whole
Jewish police so it could not

62
00:04:33,080 --> 00:04:40,370
collaborate with the
people in the ghetto

63
00:04:40,370 --> 00:04:42,330
in saving the children.

64
00:04:42,330 --> 00:04:46,190
And by the way, they came
to take the children when

65
00:04:46,190 --> 00:04:49,400
the people were out
to work, so the people

66
00:04:49,400 --> 00:04:50,780
came back in the evening.

67
00:04:50,780 --> 00:04:52,770
They didn't find the children.

68
00:04:52,770 --> 00:04:56,810
You can imagine what
crying and shouting

69
00:04:56,810 --> 00:05:03,590
and what noise rose
up in the ghetto

70
00:05:03,590 --> 00:05:07,430
when people didn't find
the children at home.

71
00:05:07,430 --> 00:05:12,140
And the Jewish police-- they
took them to the Ninth Fort,

72
00:05:12,140 --> 00:05:18,230
and they demanded of them
to disclose where they were

73
00:05:18,230 --> 00:05:20,780
hiding places for children.

74
00:05:20,780 --> 00:05:24,620
And those who went with
them-- there were a few--

75
00:05:24,620 --> 00:05:31,710
stayed alive, and the others
were shot, the bloom of youth.

76
00:05:31,710 --> 00:05:32,870
I knew many of them.

77
00:05:32,870 --> 00:05:38,100

78
00:05:38,100 --> 00:05:42,421
The underground-- did you know
any people in the underground?

79
00:05:42,421 --> 00:05:46,500
I knew not many, but I
was not from the place.

80
00:05:46,500 --> 00:05:49,320
But I knew that there
was an underground,

81
00:05:49,320 --> 00:05:56,490
and I knew that they
were organizing youth.

82

00:05:56,490 --> 00:06:03,600
And look, among the youth
there was the movement, anyway,

83
00:06:03,600 --> 00:06:07,200
we will not survive,
so at least we

84
00:06:07,200 --> 00:06:13,550
want to die as fighting
people not like sheep.

85
00:06:13,550 --> 00:06:19,700
Many times when I
lectured in kibbutzim or--

86
00:06:19,700 --> 00:06:22,970
I have here a traveling
exhibition, and I have films.

87
00:06:22,970 --> 00:06:27,230
And I was invited twice
a year on Yom HaShoah.

88
00:06:27,230 --> 00:06:29,150
This is Holocaust Day.

89
00:06:29,150 --> 00:06:35,000
And the 10th of Tevet
is a memorable day

90
00:06:35,000 --> 00:06:46,700
of the dead whose burying place
is not known, so they have it

91
00:06:46,700 --> 00:06:50,840
as another Holocaust Day.

92
00:06:50,840 --> 00:06:54,410
I was invited in kibbutzim,
in organizations,

93
00:06:54,410 --> 00:06:58,790

in museums to have an
exhibition of my etchings

94
00:06:58,790 --> 00:07:05,000
and to come and lecture, and I
have even films made of that--

95
00:07:05,000 --> 00:07:07,280
videos made of that.

96
00:07:07,280 --> 00:07:09,890
I showed one of
my films, and then

97
00:07:09,890 --> 00:07:14,540
there were questions
and answers, yes.

98
00:07:14,540 --> 00:07:16,580
And what was the question?

99
00:07:16,580 --> 00:07:17,190
I forgot.

100
00:07:17,190 --> 00:07:19,520
In the ghetto-- this is
to go back-- did you ever

101
00:07:19,520 --> 00:07:21,320
teach children drawing?

102
00:07:21,320 --> 00:07:25,210
No, because if I--

103
00:07:25,210 --> 00:07:29,390
and they were very disappointed
that I didn't help them with it

104
00:07:29,390 --> 00:07:33,620
because if I had done it,
I couldn't have found time

105

00:07:33,620 --> 00:07:37,490
for my collection, for my work.

106
00:07:37,490 --> 00:07:42,140
And when you were
deported toward the end--

107
00:07:42,140 --> 00:07:44,210
and you were deported--

108
00:07:44,210 --> 00:07:46,670
describe to me
those last few days,

109
00:07:46,670 --> 00:07:51,590
and describe to me how it was
going there to be deported?

110
00:07:51,590 --> 00:07:55,560
Well, we knew that
everything was--

111
00:07:55,560 --> 00:07:58,130
that the Russian
army was approaching.

112
00:07:58,130 --> 00:08:01,160
By the way, I was then
working for the commandant

113
00:08:01,160 --> 00:08:05,540
of the ghetto, and we
were copying for him

114
00:08:05,540 --> 00:08:06,950
landscapes and so.

115
00:08:06,950 --> 00:08:09,590
And he loved very
much the landscape,

116
00:08:09,590 --> 00:08:15,140
and he said to me that he wanted

to send me to a Lithuanian farm

117

00:08:15,140 --> 00:08:21,260

to paint a few pictures
from him from the Lithuanian

118

00:08:21,260 --> 00:08:22,190

countryside.

119

00:08:22,190 --> 00:08:23,900

He didn't want the ghetto.

120

00:08:23,900 --> 00:08:25,400

He wanted to send me.

121

00:08:25,400 --> 00:08:27,530

Maybe he wanted
to save me or so.

122

00:08:27,530 --> 00:08:31,810

I already made plans that
I will take on a little boy

123

00:08:31,810 --> 00:08:35,900

and I will save this
one and save that.

124

00:08:35,900 --> 00:08:38,840

And then I brought
him his last picture

125

00:08:38,840 --> 00:08:42,679

and I said, well, Herr
Obersturmbannfuhrer, you

126

00:08:42,679 --> 00:08:47,750

said you wanted to
send me to a farm

127

00:08:47,750 --> 00:08:50,550

in Lithuania to paint
for you, so I said,

128

00:08:50,550 --> 00:08:55,340

oh, please, wait a few days
until things calm down.

129

00:08:55,340 --> 00:08:58,475

And a few days later, we had
to march out of the ghetto.

130

00:08:58,475 --> 00:09:01,850

131

00:09:01,850 --> 00:09:05,870

That was the end of my career
with the obersturmbannfuhrer,

132

00:09:05,870 --> 00:09:15,800

yes, but we were marched
off at the DemokratÅ³ Square.

133

00:09:15,800 --> 00:09:22,550

And we were waiting to be
led to the railway station,

134

00:09:22,550 --> 00:09:26,870

and it came out there were no--

135

00:09:26,870 --> 00:09:29,420

there was no railway for us.

136

00:09:29,420 --> 00:09:32,400

There were no-- how
do they call it?

137

00:09:32,400 --> 00:09:32,900

Cars.

138

00:09:32,900 --> 00:09:35,480

There were no cars.

139

00:09:35,480 --> 00:09:41,690

And we stayed for two or
three days under the sky.

140
00:09:41,690 --> 00:09:43,020
We slept outside.

141
00:09:43,020 --> 00:09:45,650
They didn't let us
go back to our homes,

142
00:09:45,650 --> 00:09:49,310
yes, until there
were cars, until we

143
00:09:49,310 --> 00:09:52,160
were led to the station.

144
00:09:52,160 --> 00:09:55,190
And we were optimistic.

145
00:09:55,190 --> 00:09:57,440
Maybe the Russians
were already--

146
00:09:57,440 --> 00:09:59,570
a week later, the Russians came.

147
00:09:59,570 --> 00:10:03,650
They liberated Kovno very
soon after we left, yes.

148
00:10:03,650 --> 00:10:05,330
Was it burning?

149
00:10:05,330 --> 00:10:08,300
They burned the
whole ghetto, yes.

150
00:10:08,300 --> 00:10:11,000
Was it started while
you were still there?

151
00:10:11,000 --> 00:10:11,780
Yes, yes.

152
00:10:11,780 --> 00:10:18,200
They started-- [? Gadiel's ?]
little boy and his

153
00:10:18,200 --> 00:10:19,740
sister's little girl--

154
00:10:19,740 --> 00:10:23,330
they were together with
[? Bension ?] Schmidt

155
00:10:23,330 --> 00:10:29,570
in a hiding place in our studio.

156
00:10:29,570 --> 00:10:34,200
And [? Gadiel ?] with
his family went out,

157
00:10:34,200 --> 00:10:35,900
and [? Bension ?] Schmidt--

158
00:10:35,900 --> 00:10:37,130
he didn't come out.

159
00:10:37,130 --> 00:10:41,220
He was burned inside, yes.

160
00:10:41,220 --> 00:10:47,570
And I met Mrs. [? Gadiel ?]
later in Stutthof,

161
00:10:47,570 --> 00:10:53,180
and she said that they had taken
the children away from them.

162
00:10:53,180 --> 00:10:56,060
And [? Gadiel ?] was
in Dachau or something.

163
00:10:56,060 --> 00:10:57,410
They both survived.

164
00:10:57,410 --> 00:10:59,000
I heard from them.

165
00:10:59,000 --> 00:11:01,140
I wrote them a letter.

166
00:11:01,140 --> 00:11:03,800
When it was burning,
did you see the burning?

167
00:11:03,800 --> 00:11:07,760
From afar we saw here
and there flames.

168
00:11:07,760 --> 00:11:10,808
They were looking
for hiding places

169
00:11:10,808 --> 00:11:11,975
where they hid the children.

170
00:11:11,975 --> 00:11:16,370
There were hiding places
under the houses, yes,

171
00:11:16,370 --> 00:11:21,740
and many people survived
in those hiding places.

172
00:11:21,740 --> 00:11:26,060
With many people, they took
them out of their hiding places

173
00:11:26,060 --> 00:11:30,790
and brought them to the assembly
point where we assembled.

174
00:11:30,790 --> 00:21:40,246