

1

00:00:00,000 --> 00:01:06,290

2

00:01:06,290 --> 00:01:08,953

Do the question first
or I just start going?

3

00:01:08,953 --> 00:01:11,120

No, I'm going to make the
announcement about where--

4

00:01:11,120 --> 00:01:17,750

We can start any time.

5

00:01:17,750 --> 00:01:20,570

This interview is
taking place on June 25,

6

00:01:20,570 --> 00:01:26,310

1992 at Congregation Beth Shalom
in San Francisco, California.

7

00:01:26,310 --> 00:01:29,360

The interviewers are Ron
Greene and Paul Van der Carr.

8

00:01:29,360 --> 00:01:31,920

And today, we're
interviewing Mr. Sam Weiss.

9

00:01:31,920 --> 00:01:34,940

I understand that you
were born in the Ukraine.

10

00:01:34,940 --> 00:01:37,830

Can you tell us something
about those early years?

11

00:01:37,830 --> 00:01:38,330

Yeah.

12

00:01:38,330 --> 00:01:45,560

I was born in, as I
recall, it was Ukraine.

13

00:01:45,560 --> 00:01:53,570

But since World War
I, as I remember,

14

00:01:53,570 --> 00:01:57,470

it was given to Czechoslovakia.

15

00:01:57,470 --> 00:02:03,210

So I lived all that time
under Czechoslovakia,

16

00:02:03,210 --> 00:02:05,270

it was called at that time.

17

00:02:05,270 --> 00:02:06,770

What was the name of the city?

18

00:02:06,770 --> 00:02:09,509

The name was the city Ricka.

19

00:02:09,509 --> 00:02:12,850

It was actually a
small little town.

20

00:02:12,850 --> 00:02:14,900

It wasn't a city.

21

00:02:14,900 --> 00:02:19,340

It was a kind of
a little village.

22

00:02:19,340 --> 00:02:24,000

And should I spell the "Ricka"?

23

00:02:24,000 --> 00:02:24,500

If you like.

24

00:02:24,500 --> 00:02:33,500

It's R-I-C-- it was on
top kind of a mark--

25
00:02:33,500 --> 00:02:35,600
what do you call it--

26
00:02:35,600 --> 00:02:37,940
a K-A, Ricka.

27
00:02:37,940 --> 00:02:42,200
And then it was the
district of Volova.

28
00:02:42,200 --> 00:02:48,560
And it was between--

29
00:02:48,560 --> 00:02:53,660
the largest city was
between Munkács and Khust.

30
00:02:53,660 --> 00:02:58,760
And it was all the way
there in the hills.

31
00:02:58,760 --> 00:03:07,535
And it was kind of, now you look
at it, a picturesque place--

32
00:03:07,535 --> 00:03:11,300

33
00:03:11,300 --> 00:03:17,030
no running water, no
sanitation type of thing.

34
00:03:17,030 --> 00:03:29,480
And I'm kind of stumbling
here what to say first.

35
00:03:29,480 --> 00:03:35,250
Well, anyhow, we had a farm.

36

00:03:35,250 --> 00:03:38,930
We had also a general store.

37
00:03:38,930 --> 00:03:43,280
And my dad used to deal
in different things,

38
00:03:43,280 --> 00:03:48,080
like livestock and so forth.

39
00:03:48,080 --> 00:03:52,860
We were fairly
well-off, compared

40
00:03:52,860 --> 00:03:56,270
in that time in that area.

41
00:03:56,270 --> 00:04:02,990
We had also a flour
mill with a river

42
00:04:02,990 --> 00:04:07,900
running through the town,
a little river and also

43
00:04:07,900 --> 00:04:10,490
a little small river--

44
00:04:10,490 --> 00:04:12,160
what you call them now?

45
00:04:12,160 --> 00:04:12,740
Streams.

46
00:04:12,740 --> 00:04:16,130
Stream-- little streams
through the town.

47
00:04:16,130 --> 00:04:22,730
And not far away,
we had our well

48

00:04:22,730 --> 00:04:31,100
that kind of came out mineral
water in different places.

49
00:04:31,100 --> 00:04:36,020
And it came out mineral
waters in that area, which

50
00:04:36,020 --> 00:04:40,580
in holidays and Saturdays,
young people used

51
00:04:40,580 --> 00:04:45,830
to go and spend time
around, especially

52
00:04:45,830 --> 00:04:49,280
Jewish kids who used to--

53
00:04:49,280 --> 00:04:52,780
it was an outing around here.

54
00:04:52,780 --> 00:04:55,130
And as I recall--

55
00:04:55,130 --> 00:04:58,220
I don't remember it too good
because I was too young--

56
00:04:58,220 --> 00:05:02,750
that was a resort
in that vicinity

57
00:05:02,750 --> 00:05:07,250
also that I think it
was hot water came out.

58
00:05:07,250 --> 00:05:09,470
And it was a vacation area.

59
00:05:09,470 --> 00:05:12,120

60

00:05:12,120 --> 00:05:18,260

But anyhow, even though
we were fairly well-off,

61

00:05:18,260 --> 00:05:20,900

life wasn't easy over there.

62

00:05:20,900 --> 00:05:24,440

It was hard-- no modern
facility or health

63

00:05:24,440 --> 00:05:27,410

care and things like that.

64

00:05:27,410 --> 00:05:29,690

It was sort of--

65

00:05:29,690 --> 00:05:36,920

as I remember, my mother
had a problem with her legs.

66

00:05:36,920 --> 00:05:40,340

They were swelling up.

67

00:05:40,340 --> 00:05:42,830

They had a man.

68

00:05:42,830 --> 00:05:46,280

He said sort of a--

69

00:05:46,280 --> 00:05:48,200

I don't know if it was
a prayer or whatever.

70

00:05:48,200 --> 00:05:52,100

He just left cotton on it
and put on the leg a rag.

71

00:05:52,100 --> 00:05:53,650

So what do you call that?

72

00:05:53,650 --> 00:06:00,920

Would you call that a
voodoo medicine or--

73

00:06:00,920 --> 00:06:03,505

Voodoo medicine?

74

00:06:03,505 --> 00:06:04,130

Something else.

75

00:06:04,130 --> 00:06:04,810

I can't think of--

76

00:06:04,810 --> 00:06:05,393

Folk medicine.

77

00:06:05,393 --> 00:06:06,950

Folk medicine.

78

00:06:06,950 --> 00:06:12,650

That's what-- even I
think my grandmother,

79

00:06:12,650 --> 00:06:14,810

she lived a few towns away.

80

00:06:14,810 --> 00:06:20,040

I think she practiced some
kind of a folk medicine also.

81

00:06:20,040 --> 00:06:23,900

She seemed to know
anything about everything.

82

00:06:23,900 --> 00:06:29,185

She was sort of an
advisor to everybody.

83

00:06:29,185 --> 00:06:31,310

Can you tell us what years
we're talking about now?

84

00:06:31,310 --> 00:06:33,320
You were born in 1928.

85
00:06:33,320 --> 00:06:34,500
Tell us a little more--

86
00:06:34,500 --> 00:06:35,000
Right.

87
00:06:35,000 --> 00:06:36,410
In 1928--

88
00:06:36,410 --> 00:06:41,240
Those years we're talking about
right now, 1928 and beyond.

89
00:06:41,240 --> 00:06:42,080
So yeah.

90
00:06:42,080 --> 00:06:47,230
I was home between '28 and '44.

91
00:06:47,230 --> 00:06:48,680
I'm talking about those years.

92
00:06:48,680 --> 00:06:49,820
Yeah.

93
00:06:49,820 --> 00:06:55,456
And let's see what can--

94
00:06:55,456 --> 00:06:57,170
What was your home life?

95
00:06:57,170 --> 00:06:58,390
Size of it and--

96
00:06:58,390 --> 00:07:07,430
The size of it for that
area was pretty good.

97

00:07:07,430 --> 00:07:10,700

We had actually
kind of a modern--

98

00:07:10,700 --> 00:07:13,450

it was made out of wood.

99

00:07:13,450 --> 00:07:23,450

But it had a metal roof
and already a stove,

100

00:07:23,450 --> 00:07:26,600

which a lot of people over
there didn't have a stove.

101

00:07:26,600 --> 00:07:32,480

They just had kind of
made-out-of-mud ovens inside

102

00:07:32,480 --> 00:07:33,980

the houses.

103

00:07:33,980 --> 00:07:36,965

And most of the houses
had straw roofs.

104

00:07:36,965 --> 00:07:40,460

105

00:07:40,460 --> 00:07:48,550

And stop it.

106

00:07:48,550 --> 00:07:49,060

Let me--

107

00:07:49,060 --> 00:07:53,750

Not a common-- we had
three rooms, as I recall,

108

00:07:53,750 --> 00:07:56,560

pretty good-sized rooms--

109

00:07:56,560 --> 00:07:58,560
let's see-- four, actually.

110
00:07:58,560 --> 00:08:06,700
The oven and the kitchen
mostly were in one room.

111
00:08:06,700 --> 00:08:10,780
My grandmother lived with us.

112
00:08:10,780 --> 00:08:16,870
And she took usually one room.

113
00:08:16,870 --> 00:08:21,130
For some reason, she changed
during the summer one room.

114
00:08:21,130 --> 00:08:27,982
And then they changed to
another room during the winter.

115
00:08:27,982 --> 00:08:29,440
I don't know what
reason there was.

116
00:08:29,440 --> 00:08:30,820
But anyhow, that's
what she does.

117
00:08:30,820 --> 00:08:32,679
She was kind of the
ruler of the house.

118
00:08:32,679 --> 00:08:39,760
Of course, I think it
was her house before.

119
00:08:39,760 --> 00:08:43,070
And my dad was the elder son.

120
00:08:43,070 --> 00:08:45,220
So she lived with us.

121

00:08:45,220 --> 00:08:47,200

How many people altogether
lived in the house?

122

00:08:47,200 --> 00:08:50,530

123

00:08:50,530 --> 00:08:51,280

Yeah.

124

00:08:51,280 --> 00:08:54,880

I should say about the
size of the family.

125

00:08:54,880 --> 00:09:04,300

I was the third one of actually
10 children, two which died

126

00:09:04,300 --> 00:09:08,400

at home, one at birth, I think.

127

00:09:08,400 --> 00:09:14,740

And one died of cancer.

128

00:09:14,740 --> 00:09:23,640

As I recall, he had started
with a little knot in his hand.

129

00:09:23,640 --> 00:09:30,900

And then the local doctor,
which was a few towns away,

130

00:09:30,900 --> 00:09:33,040

he cut that out.

131

00:09:33,040 --> 00:09:34,420

And that didn't work.

132

00:09:34,420 --> 00:09:39,250

And he was my--

133

00:09:39,250 --> 00:09:41,020
I was after him.

134
00:09:41,020 --> 00:09:44,290
He was my older
brother-- just after him.

135
00:09:44,290 --> 00:09:46,330
And then they cut his hand off.

136
00:09:46,330 --> 00:09:47,170
That didn't work.

137
00:09:47,170 --> 00:09:49,840
And then they cut his arms off.

138
00:09:49,840 --> 00:09:52,960
And he didn't survive.

139
00:09:52,960 --> 00:09:56,200
He died when he
was about 14 years.

140
00:09:56,200 --> 00:09:59,150
He suffered a long time.

141
00:09:59,150 --> 00:10:02,560
I don't think they knew what it
was at that time, that that's

142
00:10:02,560 --> 00:10:05,620
the way they practice medicine.

143
00:10:05,620 --> 00:10:11,680
And we had a farm, as I said.

144
00:10:11,680 --> 00:10:15,470
And when I was a
youngster, I liked to work.

145
00:10:15,470 --> 00:10:18,090
And I worked around the house.

146
00:10:18,090 --> 00:10:20,950
And especially
around the animals,

147
00:10:20,950 --> 00:10:22,210
I used to like to work.

148
00:10:22,210 --> 00:10:27,550
It's better than school.

149
00:10:27,550 --> 00:10:31,260
And yeah.

150
00:10:31,260 --> 00:10:35,380
And the weather was very severe.

151
00:10:35,380 --> 00:10:37,150
I used to like--

152
00:10:37,150 --> 00:10:39,670
later on, we didn't
have a horse.

153
00:10:39,670 --> 00:10:43,720
But we got the horse I think
maybe when I was eight.

154
00:10:43,720 --> 00:10:50,770
And I used to like to work
with the horse hauling manure

155
00:10:50,770 --> 00:10:55,360
to the fields, which over there,
they were not all in one place.

156
00:10:55,360 --> 00:11:01,810
We had different plots
around to raise our crops,

157
00:11:01,810 --> 00:11:06,910
which mostly consisted

of potatoes and feed

158
00:11:06,910 --> 00:11:09,850
for the animals.

159
00:11:09,850 --> 00:11:13,570
And yeah.

160
00:11:13,570 --> 00:11:19,780
And I should say
about my schooling.

161
00:11:19,780 --> 00:11:25,340
We went to school, I don't
know, since about five or six.

162
00:11:25,340 --> 00:11:28,540
The public school was local.

163
00:11:28,540 --> 00:11:30,770
One was a local school for--

164
00:11:30,770 --> 00:11:33,820
I think they taught Ukraine.

165
00:11:33,820 --> 00:11:37,090
And most of the Jewish kids--

166
00:11:37,090 --> 00:11:44,230
all of them, I
think-- went to was

167
00:11:44,230 --> 00:11:50,110
a Czechoslovakian school, which
we learned in Czech language

168
00:11:50,110 --> 00:11:51,520
and so forth.

169
00:11:51,520 --> 00:11:54,340
How many Jewish families are we
talking about in this village?

170
00:11:54,340 --> 00:11:55,220
In this village?

171
00:11:55,220 --> 00:11:58,320

172
00:11:58,320 --> 00:12:07,020
Just a hard guess, but
maybe 100 families.

173
00:12:07,020 --> 00:12:08,110
That's quite a few.

174
00:12:08,110 --> 00:12:08,610
Yeah.

175
00:12:08,610 --> 00:12:13,643
Surprising for a village like
that, was quite a few of them.

176
00:12:13,643 --> 00:12:15,220
You've got a
synagogue and a rabbi?

177
00:12:15,220 --> 00:12:15,720
Yeah.

178
00:12:15,720 --> 00:12:18,810

179
00:12:18,810 --> 00:12:23,790
My schooling, I used to
get up early in the morning

180
00:12:23,790 --> 00:12:30,150
and go to temple before public
school and do our prayers.

181
00:12:30,150 --> 00:12:35,730
And then after school,
we used to go to--

182

00:12:35,730 --> 00:12:39,090
which the schooling, the Jewish
schooling, was in the temple.

183

00:12:39,090 --> 00:12:47,640
We used to go in for the
Jewish education, which

184

00:12:47,640 --> 00:12:52,960
could have been to 7:00, 8:00,
9 o'clock in the evening.

185

00:12:52,960 --> 00:12:57,993
And what did you ask me?

186

00:12:57,993 --> 00:12:59,410
I've lost my own
train of thought.

187

00:12:59,410 --> 00:13:01,608
Do you remember what
my last question was?

188

00:13:01,608 --> 00:13:02,900
About how many Jewish families.

189

00:13:02,900 --> 00:13:05,036
Oh, yes, about the Jewish
families in the community.

190

00:13:05,036 --> 00:13:06,661
I'm interested in
the Jewish community,

191

00:13:06,661 --> 00:13:08,900
how much interaction there was.

192

00:13:08,900 --> 00:13:10,410
Can you say much
about Jewish life?

193

00:13:10,410 --> 00:13:12,870

And I also want to go
back to the family life.

194

00:13:12,870 --> 00:13:16,840

The Jewish life was
there, consisted just

195

00:13:16,840 --> 00:13:21,600

around the temple.

196

00:13:21,600 --> 00:13:25,260

They used to have
prayers every morning--

197

00:13:25,260 --> 00:13:27,000

in the evenings, I think, too.

198

00:13:27,000 --> 00:13:34,410

And also, of course,
Saturday always is--

199

00:13:34,410 --> 00:13:40,410

Saturdays, everybody-- not
like here in the United States.

200

00:13:40,410 --> 00:13:44,230

Almost everybody showed
up in the temple, which

201

00:13:44,230 --> 00:13:46,470

was kind of a small temple.

202

00:13:46,470 --> 00:13:52,620

And the woman and
man sat separately.

203

00:13:52,620 --> 00:13:55,620

And the women were in kind
of another room upstairs

204

00:13:55,620 --> 00:13:58,330

type of a thing.

205
00:13:58,330 --> 00:14:02,700
And that's what the Jewish
life mostly consists of.

206
00:14:02,700 --> 00:14:07,500
And most of the Jews,
they had farms, too.

207
00:14:07,500 --> 00:14:10,940
But some of them were
shoemakers, tailors,

208
00:14:10,940 --> 00:14:12,750
and things like that.

209
00:14:12,750 --> 00:14:15,640

210
00:14:15,640 --> 00:14:21,020
And let's see here.

211
00:14:21,020 --> 00:14:26,330
What else I can think of--

212
00:14:26,330 --> 00:14:29,560
if you want to jump
in and kind of ask me.

213
00:14:29,560 --> 00:14:32,547
I seem to lose my
train of thought.

214
00:14:32,547 --> 00:14:34,380
Tell me again how many
brothers and sisters.

215
00:14:34,380 --> 00:14:36,510
Did you have sisters?

216
00:14:36,510 --> 00:14:37,520
I missed--

217
00:14:37,520 --> 00:14:38,960
Yeah.

218
00:14:38,960 --> 00:14:44,570
I had-- I was really actually--

219
00:14:44,570 --> 00:14:53,430
I had five sisters
and four brothers.

220
00:14:53,430 --> 00:14:56,120
I'm not sure exactly.

221
00:14:56,120 --> 00:14:59,030
They were all pretty small.

222
00:14:59,030 --> 00:15:04,520
And as far as my
mother having children,

223
00:15:04,520 --> 00:15:07,670
luckily, she had a
fairly easy time of it.

224
00:15:07,670 --> 00:15:08,660
But mostly, it was--

225
00:15:08,660 --> 00:15:12,230

226
00:15:12,230 --> 00:15:14,210
I don't know if
she had a midwife.

227
00:15:14,210 --> 00:15:18,600

228
00:15:18,600 --> 00:15:26,000
I don't know how they
did it in a primitive,

229

00:15:26,000 --> 00:15:31,700
compared how everybody seems
to be worried about here,

230

00:15:31,700 --> 00:15:38,550
taking care of before and
after of pregnancy and so on.

231

00:15:38,550 --> 00:15:39,050
Yeah.

232

00:15:39,050 --> 00:15:43,430
I don't know how they
did it over there.

233

00:15:43,430 --> 00:15:45,560
And yeah.

234

00:15:45,560 --> 00:15:49,220

235

00:15:49,220 --> 00:15:50,353
You had a large family.

236

00:15:50,353 --> 00:15:51,770
And did you eat
most of your meals

237

00:15:51,770 --> 00:15:53,240
together in the traditional--

238

00:15:53,240 --> 00:15:54,770
No.

239

00:15:54,770 --> 00:16:08,210
The meals consisted of mostly
dairy and potatoes and cereal

240

00:16:08,210 --> 00:16:09,470
over there.

241

00:16:09,470 --> 00:16:12,680
The meat was just once a week.

242
00:16:12,680 --> 00:16:17,030

243
00:16:17,030 --> 00:16:22,790
Like I said, my
father, a shochet,

244
00:16:22,790 --> 00:16:25,550
they called him, who
slaughtered the animals.

245
00:16:25,550 --> 00:16:31,250
And we used to slaughter a
calf or a lamb or so forth

246
00:16:31,250 --> 00:16:38,690
and give ourselves, the
other people around, for just

247
00:16:38,690 --> 00:16:46,790
have a once-a-week meat meal.

248
00:16:46,790 --> 00:16:49,650
And it was elaborate
for that area.

249
00:16:49,650 --> 00:16:50,150
Yeah.

250
00:16:50,150 --> 00:16:53,460

251
00:16:53,460 --> 00:16:54,710
They used to bake--

252
00:16:54,710 --> 00:16:56,210
we used to bake our own bread.

253
00:16:56,210 --> 00:16:59,900

And it used to be
quite a project.

254
00:16:59,900 --> 00:17:04,760
My mother used to
stay up nights.

255
00:17:04,760 --> 00:17:12,770
And you had to kind of mix it
and kind of push it down and up

256
00:17:12,770 --> 00:17:14,150
and let it rise.

257
00:17:14,150 --> 00:17:19,790
And it was a whole
project Thursday evening.

258
00:17:19,790 --> 00:17:24,829
And then Friday morning, you
baked these loaves of bread

259
00:17:24,829 --> 00:17:30,350
and bagels, rye bread, and
the challah for Saturday.

260
00:17:30,350 --> 00:17:33,660

261
00:17:33,660 --> 00:17:38,480
So I guess people
didn't know any better.

262
00:17:38,480 --> 00:17:41,930
But it was quite a work.

263
00:17:41,930 --> 00:17:45,260
Of course, to me, it was
easy working or whatever,

264
00:17:45,260 --> 00:17:47,300
because I was young.

265

00:17:47,300 --> 00:17:52,130

And I was able to take,
no matter what came along.

266

00:17:52,130 --> 00:17:54,770

And also, my grandmother
used to like me

267

00:17:54,770 --> 00:18:00,980

because I used to help her
around whenever she wanted.

268

00:18:00,980 --> 00:18:05,450

And I used to also milk her
cow and things like that.

269

00:18:05,450 --> 00:18:09,170

She had a cow by herself.

270

00:18:09,170 --> 00:18:10,100

Private cow.

271

00:18:10,100 --> 00:18:12,140

A private cow.

272

00:18:12,140 --> 00:18:17,690

And what else can I say?

273

00:18:17,690 --> 00:18:20,830

You said there were about
100 Jewish families.

274

00:18:20,830 --> 00:18:22,910

How many families
altogether in your village?

275

00:18:22,910 --> 00:18:25,265

How many Gentile
families, do you imagine?

276

00:18:25,265 --> 00:18:28,250

I'm trying to get a sense of

what proportion of the village

277

00:18:28,250 --> 00:18:29,450
was Jewish.

278

00:18:29,450 --> 00:18:31,730
The village wasn't kind of a--

279

00:18:31,730 --> 00:18:34,040
actually, it was a
village and it wasn't.

280

00:18:34,040 --> 00:18:39,430
It was sort of scattered
around, all around,

281

00:18:39,430 --> 00:18:40,877
as far as people living.

282

00:18:40,877 --> 00:18:42,710
Hard to put a border
around it, sounds like.

283

00:18:42,710 --> 00:18:45,740
Yeah, there wasn't
actually a border.

284

00:18:45,740 --> 00:18:48,560
The houses were
all over the place.

285

00:18:48,560 --> 00:18:59,990
And the non-Jews-- well, I
would say was mostly non-Jews.

286

00:18:59,990 --> 00:19:03,980
They had not from our--

287

00:19:03,980 --> 00:19:07,160
from us, it was the church.

288

00:19:07,160 --> 00:19:15,350

I would say about at least
500 families, if not more.

289
00:19:15,350 --> 00:19:18,670
But there were towns
all over the place,

290
00:19:18,670 --> 00:19:22,770
kind of settlements,
little places.

291
00:19:22,770 --> 00:19:26,250
But then were the Jews
living amongst the Gentiles?

292
00:19:26,250 --> 00:19:27,600
Or was there a Jewish community?

293
00:19:27,600 --> 00:19:29,340
Yeah.

294
00:19:29,340 --> 00:19:34,140
The Jews were kind of
living amongst, too.

295
00:19:34,140 --> 00:19:39,420
But mostly, they
were kind of more

296
00:19:39,420 --> 00:19:45,595
along the main drag of the
town and kind of gathered.

297
00:19:45,595 --> 00:19:46,095
Yeah.

298
00:19:46,095 --> 00:19:48,345
As you grew up, did you have
a sense of being separate

299
00:19:48,345 --> 00:19:50,550
from the other people in
the community, that is,

300
00:19:50,550 --> 00:19:51,543
the Gentile people?

301
00:19:51,543 --> 00:19:52,960
Or did you have a
sense as a child

302
00:19:52,960 --> 00:19:54,835
that you were part of
this greater community?

303
00:19:54,835 --> 00:19:56,990
Do you have some
memories about this?

304
00:19:56,990 --> 00:19:58,320
Yeah.

305
00:19:58,320 --> 00:19:59,430
Not really.

306
00:19:59,430 --> 00:20:03,420
It was always sort of a--

307
00:20:03,420 --> 00:20:05,220
between the Gentiles
and the Jews,

308
00:20:05,220 --> 00:20:10,710
there was sort of a
tension all the time.

309
00:20:10,710 --> 00:20:15,300
Antisemitism, it was, but I
didn't really comprehend it,

310
00:20:15,300 --> 00:20:20,610
as I later found out.

311
00:20:20,610 --> 00:20:21,210
You get older.

312

00:20:21,210 --> 00:20:23,530

You kind of know more about it.

313

00:20:23,530 --> 00:20:27,400

But there was always that
tension between Jews.

314

00:20:27,400 --> 00:20:33,630

Of course, a lot of
the Jews did well, too.

315

00:20:33,630 --> 00:20:38,190

For some reason, they
seemed to do better

316

00:20:38,190 --> 00:20:44,595

than the average
Gentile over there.

317

00:20:44,595 --> 00:20:50,280

So maybe that maybe
could have contributed

318

00:20:50,280 --> 00:20:52,890

to the resentment and so on.

319

00:20:52,890 --> 00:20:59,490

And of course, the teaching
through history about the Jews

320

00:20:59,490 --> 00:21:01,080

and the Gentiles--

321

00:21:01,080 --> 00:21:05,940

so there was always
a tension there,

322

00:21:05,940 --> 00:21:12,930

especially we kind of
felt that some of them

323

00:21:12,930 --> 00:21:18,420
were more antisemitic than
others, like it's here.

324
00:21:18,420 --> 00:21:24,570
But there was a lot of nice
ones, nice people, too.

325
00:21:24,570 --> 00:21:26,580
Did you have friends
of all religions?

326
00:21:26,580 --> 00:21:28,830
Or did you tend to have
only Jewish friends?

327
00:21:28,830 --> 00:21:40,140
Mostly, I didn't have friends
of mostly Jewish kids.

328
00:21:40,140 --> 00:21:42,010
We were friends.

329
00:21:42,010 --> 00:21:46,250
I used to play with my
neighbors, Gentiles, but not

330
00:21:46,250 --> 00:21:46,750
much.

331
00:21:46,750 --> 00:21:50,820
Of course, back
there, Jewish kids

332
00:21:50,820 --> 00:21:55,260
were looked down to
play non-Jewish games.

333
00:21:55,260 --> 00:22:00,720
You couldn't play with
a stick or something.

334
00:22:00,720 --> 00:22:04,150

Because they were so
religious over there,

335
00:22:04,150 --> 00:22:09,840
that was kind of looked down
on to play that kind of a game.

336
00:22:09,840 --> 00:22:11,130
So you were restricted by--

337
00:22:11,130 --> 00:22:12,030
you personally--

338
00:22:12,030 --> 00:22:13,020
By the beliefs--

339
00:22:13,020 --> 00:22:13,830
By the beliefs--

340
00:22:13,830 --> 00:22:14,550
By the beliefs.

341
00:22:14,550 --> 00:22:16,080
Yeah.

342
00:22:16,080 --> 00:22:21,030
And it wasn't pounded
in me all the time.

343
00:22:21,030 --> 00:22:27,330
But it was there for some
reason, for a reason I don't--

344
00:22:27,330 --> 00:22:28,080
yeah.

345
00:22:28,080 --> 00:22:34,530
The Jewish community was
quite religious over there

346
00:22:34,530 --> 00:22:37,660
compared to what it is here.

347
00:22:37,660 --> 00:22:40,560
Did they come as a group
from some other lands

348
00:22:40,560 --> 00:22:42,060
that you can recall?

349
00:22:42,060 --> 00:22:44,670
How did they get to
this particular place

350
00:22:44,670 --> 00:22:47,790
at this particular time?

351
00:22:47,790 --> 00:22:52,050
I don't know where we came
from, how we came about.

352
00:22:52,050 --> 00:22:56,380
But for some reason, I
heard somebody remark

353
00:22:56,380 --> 00:23:00,330
a name kind of funny,
that we came someplace

354
00:23:00,330 --> 00:23:03,310
from Russia or something.

355
00:23:03,310 --> 00:23:06,460
But I'm not sure that where.

356
00:23:06,460 --> 00:23:09,540
I don't really know
that much history,

357
00:23:09,540 --> 00:23:11,430
because it was discussed.

358
00:23:11,430 --> 00:23:14,220
And it wasn't taught any place.

359

00:23:14,220 --> 00:23:19,542

And it was just
sort of not spoken.

360

00:23:19,542 --> 00:23:21,000

Of course, I was
too young, really,

361

00:23:21,000 --> 00:23:22,908

to know anything
about those things.

362

00:23:22,908 --> 00:23:24,450

I'm wondering if
most of the families

363

00:23:24,450 --> 00:23:28,050

had a sense of permanence,
that this place where they were

364

00:23:28,050 --> 00:23:30,810

was where they've
been for a long time

365

00:23:30,810 --> 00:23:31,740

and they felt settled.

366

00:23:31,740 --> 00:23:35,070

367

00:23:35,070 --> 00:23:41,670

The way I understood it, yeah,
there was sort of a permanence.

368

00:23:41,670 --> 00:23:43,590

I felt the permanence.

369

00:23:43,590 --> 00:23:51,000

But the antisemitism was felt.
I felt it when I was young.

370

00:23:51,000 --> 00:23:55,230

It was kind of that they
didn't particularly like us.

371

00:23:55,230 --> 00:23:57,240

Do you have any personal
run-ins, anything

372

00:23:57,240 --> 00:24:01,410

you can recall where
someone actually physically

373

00:24:01,410 --> 00:24:03,480

showed you antisemitism?

374

00:24:03,480 --> 00:24:04,440

No.

375

00:24:04,440 --> 00:24:10,800

But I think they towards the
end, right at the end, they

376

00:24:10,800 --> 00:24:12,000

kind of--

377

00:24:12,000 --> 00:24:15,210

I heard a few times,
Hitler is going

378

00:24:15,210 --> 00:24:18,940

to come and make you
walk on glass and stuff

379

00:24:18,940 --> 00:24:22,870

like that, kind of
antisemitic remarks--

380

00:24:22,870 --> 00:24:25,110

Hitler is coming to get
you and stuff like that

381

00:24:25,110 --> 00:24:28,090

from a fairly young neighbor.

382
00:24:28,090 --> 00:24:29,920
But it was about the same age.

383
00:24:29,920 --> 00:24:34,120
So it must have been in
their homes, discussed things

384
00:24:34,120 --> 00:24:35,860
like that.

385
00:24:35,860 --> 00:24:39,160
And let's see what--

386
00:24:39,160 --> 00:24:40,810
I had something to say also.

387
00:24:40,810 --> 00:24:45,520
But I don't seem to recall
what I was going to say.

388
00:24:45,520 --> 00:24:48,400

389
00:24:48,400 --> 00:24:49,840
Hmm.

390
00:24:49,840 --> 00:24:50,560
Before--

391
00:24:50,560 --> 00:24:51,965
About antisemitism?

392
00:24:51,965 --> 00:24:52,465
No.

393
00:24:52,465 --> 00:24:52,965
Beyond that.

394
00:24:52,965 --> 00:24:53,770
Something else.

395
00:24:53,770 --> 00:24:55,660
But just discussing--

396
00:24:55,660 --> 00:24:57,550
Where the families came from?

397
00:24:57,550 --> 00:25:01,800
No, I was just going to
say something generally.

398
00:25:01,800 --> 00:25:02,935
Darn it.

399
00:25:02,935 --> 00:25:04,810
Before I came here, it
seemed like everything

400
00:25:04,810 --> 00:25:05,530
came to my mind.

401
00:25:05,530 --> 00:25:10,660
But I'm here stumbling now.

402
00:25:10,660 --> 00:25:12,430
Paul, do you want
to ask a question?

403
00:25:12,430 --> 00:25:12,930
Yeah.

404
00:25:12,930 --> 00:25:15,580
I'm just curious
about how important

405
00:25:15,580 --> 00:25:17,920
Judaism was to you personally.

406
00:25:17,920 --> 00:25:19,600
It sounds like a
fairly large role.

407

00:25:19,600 --> 00:25:21,830

Was it important in your--

408

00:25:21,830 --> 00:25:22,330

Oh.

409

00:25:22,330 --> 00:25:25,240

410

00:25:25,240 --> 00:25:29,140

It wasn't to me.

411

00:25:29,140 --> 00:25:34,660

I don't think it was
important to me, Judaism,

412

00:25:34,660 --> 00:25:40,640

because I don't think I
had that emotional feeling.

413

00:25:40,640 --> 00:25:43,030

Even I was young, I would pray.

414

00:25:43,030 --> 00:25:45,190

The only thing I
enjoyed in the temple

415

00:25:45,190 --> 00:25:49,390

is when they said Shema Yisrael.

416

00:25:49,390 --> 00:25:55,650

That's when I sort
of enjoyed it.

417

00:25:55,650 --> 00:26:00,940

It was sort of you went
along with the program.

418

00:26:00,940 --> 00:26:03,490

You felt comfortable in it.

419

00:26:03,490 --> 00:26:07,210
You are sort of with your own
people, as they would say.

420
00:26:07,210 --> 00:26:10,070
That's the only
thing I really know.

421
00:26:10,070 --> 00:26:13,150
I really didn't have
that much deep thought

422
00:26:13,150 --> 00:26:15,280
when I was younger.

423
00:26:15,280 --> 00:26:19,060
And yeah, I don't--

424
00:26:19,060 --> 00:26:24,190
there was a degree
of feeling religious.

425
00:26:24,190 --> 00:26:27,000

426
00:26:27,000 --> 00:26:34,090
I don't think I am the type that
I have deep religious burning

427
00:26:34,090 --> 00:26:36,020
desire.

428
00:26:36,020 --> 00:26:39,490
I remarked before I think
I just came on that idea

429
00:26:39,490 --> 00:26:41,680
just recently, that
I think I'm more

430
00:26:41,680 --> 00:26:48,590
of a political Jew than really
that religious fervor in me.

431
00:26:48,590 --> 00:26:51,340

432
00:26:51,340 --> 00:26:52,000
Let's see.

433
00:26:52,000 --> 00:26:54,030
Let's go back to--

434
00:26:54,030 --> 00:26:57,252
or if you want to ask me
another question, go ahead.

435
00:26:57,252 --> 00:26:59,460
Do you find that was true
when you were a child also,

436
00:26:59,460 --> 00:27:01,630
that maybe it was more
of a traditional thing

437
00:27:01,630 --> 00:27:03,750
as opposed to a personal
connection to Judaism?

438
00:27:03,750 --> 00:27:09,100

439
00:27:09,100 --> 00:27:13,840
How was the question, if
it was personal or what?

440
00:27:13,840 --> 00:27:18,541
You say that now you're
politically Jewish, not

441
00:27:18,541 --> 00:27:20,380
so much religious.

442
00:27:20,380 --> 00:27:22,780
Was that true also when you

were a child, that it was--

443

00:27:22,780 --> 00:27:23,800

No.

444

00:27:23,800 --> 00:27:26,040

When a child, you

just sort of just--

445

00:27:26,040 --> 00:27:28,720

446

00:27:28,720 --> 00:27:30,370

Go along with the program.

447

00:27:30,370 --> 00:27:31,780

Go along with the program.

448

00:27:31,780 --> 00:27:33,072

Didn't think too much about it.

449

00:27:33,072 --> 00:27:35,680

I don't think I thought much.

450

00:27:35,680 --> 00:27:39,340

I think, too, it was

kind of a little burden

451

00:27:39,340 --> 00:27:43,450

to go to the religious

school, because I

452

00:27:43,450 --> 00:27:45,650

wasn't that good at it.

453

00:27:45,650 --> 00:27:49,060

So it was kind of a

little burden on me.

454

00:27:49,060 --> 00:27:52,660

That's maybe one of

the reasons it wasn't.

455
00:27:52,660 --> 00:27:55,300
And I didn't comprehend
it that well.

456
00:27:55,300 --> 00:27:58,600
Of course, the way
they taught over there,

457
00:27:58,600 --> 00:28:01,630
I don't know if it was
done any better or not.

458
00:28:01,630 --> 00:28:07,220
They sort of didn't give
you to understand it.

459
00:28:07,220 --> 00:28:13,840
They just-- of course, I was not
old enough to learn that part.

460
00:28:13,840 --> 00:28:16,000
I think I was just
going to start

461
00:28:16,000 --> 00:28:21,730
to learn that part, the meanings
and the laws and so forth.

462
00:28:21,730 --> 00:28:24,760
When you're young, they
just teach you how to pray

463
00:28:24,760 --> 00:28:26,050
and stuff like that.

464
00:28:26,050 --> 00:28:26,800
That's about it.

465
00:28:26,800 --> 00:28:29,170
And I really didn't
understand what I was saying

466

00:28:29,170 --> 00:28:30,640
or what I prayed.

467

00:28:30,640 --> 00:28:35,050
So I understand it better
here because it's in English.

468

00:28:35,050 --> 00:28:38,770
I know what I'm saying.

469

00:28:38,770 --> 00:28:45,690
So anyhow, let's see.

470

00:28:45,690 --> 00:28:50,860

471

00:28:50,860 --> 00:28:54,880
Well, as far as back
home, I was pretty--

472

00:28:54,880 --> 00:29:02,590
for a youngster like me,
it was a pretty happy life.

473

00:29:02,590 --> 00:29:09,710
For one thing, I wasn't fussy of
food because I was very active,

474

00:29:09,710 --> 00:29:10,600
I guess.

475

00:29:10,600 --> 00:29:13,730
And my sisters and
brothers were fussy.

476

00:29:13,730 --> 00:29:16,750

477

00:29:16,750 --> 00:29:19,780
I would eat the leftovers
and things like that.

478

00:29:19,780 --> 00:29:22,030

It didn't bother me.

479

00:29:22,030 --> 00:29:25,570

I ate whenever I was hungry
or whatever was around.

480

00:29:25,570 --> 00:29:32,030

So I didn't have that problem,
because I was, as I say,

481

00:29:32,030 --> 00:29:32,530

active.

482

00:29:32,530 --> 00:29:36,550

Matter of fact, they always
had somebody to pick on.

483

00:29:36,550 --> 00:29:38,680

And they picked
me a lot of times

484

00:29:38,680 --> 00:29:44,640

to run and chase down somebody,
things like that, in school.

485

00:29:44,640 --> 00:29:45,370

And let's see.

486

00:29:45,370 --> 00:29:47,383

What else I could--

487

00:29:47,383 --> 00:29:50,050

How did you get along in general
with your brothers and sisters?

488

00:29:50,050 --> 00:29:54,150

489

00:29:54,150 --> 00:29:56,770

Pretty good.

490

00:29:56,770 --> 00:29:59,200

I don't think there was--

491

00:29:59,200 --> 00:30:02,960

I don't remember to be any
problem between brother

492

00:30:02,960 --> 00:30:03,460

and sister.

493

00:30:03,460 --> 00:30:08,350

Of course, they were all
younger and didn't see--

494

00:30:08,350 --> 00:30:11,020

the way I understand
it, there was not

495

00:30:11,020 --> 00:30:14,980

as much problem over there
between kids, I don't think,

496

00:30:14,980 --> 00:30:16,660

it is here.

497

00:30:16,660 --> 00:30:26,350

Of course, the adults had all
kinds of problems like here.

498

00:30:26,350 --> 00:30:29,860

Of course, they didn't
have lawyers back there.

499

00:30:29,860 --> 00:30:34,750

But there were always some kind
of different problems people

500

00:30:34,750 --> 00:30:36,340

had.

501

00:30:36,340 --> 00:30:39,460

So I guess it was

just like here.

502
00:30:39,460 --> 00:30:41,200
But the people were not that--

503
00:30:41,200 --> 00:30:42,243
it was primitive.

504
00:30:42,243 --> 00:30:44,035
So the people were not
that close together.

505
00:30:44,035 --> 00:30:47,975

506
00:30:47,975 --> 00:30:48,475
Yeah.

507
00:30:48,475 --> 00:30:53,860

508
00:30:53,860 --> 00:30:57,070
Yeah, we had summers--

509
00:30:57,070 --> 00:31:01,300
starts when I got a little
older, I think about 11, 12--

510
00:31:01,300 --> 00:31:03,970
my dad used to buy sheep.

511
00:31:03,970 --> 00:31:04,780
And we used to--

512
00:31:04,780 --> 00:31:09,010

513
00:31:09,010 --> 00:31:13,720
during the summer, we used
to gather all the community

514

00:31:13,720 --> 00:31:17,200
and send all the
sheep in the hills.

515
00:31:17,200 --> 00:31:21,610
And we used to
make cheese, which

516
00:31:21,610 --> 00:31:24,730
they call it Roquefort here.

517
00:31:24,730 --> 00:31:28,810
The way the Roquefort
cheese, I think, was made,

518
00:31:28,810 --> 00:31:31,030
it's kind of fancy over here.

519
00:31:31,030 --> 00:31:35,070
But over there,
they used to milk--

520
00:31:35,070 --> 00:31:40,060
have the calf feed, young calf.

521
00:31:40,060 --> 00:31:49,640
And when they slaughter it,
they take that gut and mix it

522
00:31:49,640 --> 00:31:50,140
in cheese.

523
00:31:50,140 --> 00:31:53,800
That's what makes it so sharp.

524
00:31:53,800 --> 00:32:00,280
And also, before you
put it in the cheese

525
00:32:00,280 --> 00:32:06,410
and if you drop just a little
bit for somebody in the food,

526

00:32:06,410 --> 00:32:10,540

it was a very
effective laxative.

527

00:32:10,540 --> 00:32:12,780

Matter of fact,
you can't get up.

528

00:32:12,780 --> 00:32:15,850

It makes a laxative.

529

00:32:15,850 --> 00:32:17,080

So I had fun.

530

00:32:17,080 --> 00:32:18,718

And I was kind of--

531

00:32:18,718 --> 00:32:24,730

when youngster--
scared the wolves

532

00:32:24,730 --> 00:32:27,250

used to come around
after the sheep.

533

00:32:27,250 --> 00:32:30,550

But it was just an imagination,
because we had dogs.

534

00:32:30,550 --> 00:32:35,680

So I don't think we had too much
worry the wolves getting away

535

00:32:35,680 --> 00:32:36,940

with the sheep.

536

00:32:36,940 --> 00:32:40,240

Also, I used to--

537

00:32:40,240 --> 00:32:45,430

when I was getting a little
older, I had to attend cows.

538
00:32:45,430 --> 00:32:53,200
I used to run them
away a little from us

539
00:32:53,200 --> 00:32:56,650
from the farm to
graze for the day.

540
00:32:56,650 --> 00:33:00,850
I used to be scared all
the time about that,

541
00:33:00,850 --> 00:33:05,690
because a bee or something
would come and buzz.

542
00:33:05,690 --> 00:33:09,460
And instantly, the
cows would know

543
00:33:09,460 --> 00:33:12,940
that some bee will bite them.

544
00:33:12,940 --> 00:33:14,230
So they would take off.

545
00:33:14,230 --> 00:33:19,690
And I was scared terribly
about that all the time.

546
00:33:19,690 --> 00:33:23,560
That was one of my
fears over there.

547
00:33:23,560 --> 00:33:32,830
And also, another fear was
there was a so-called robber.

548
00:33:32,830 --> 00:33:38,080
He would supposed-- like what
do they call that robber who

549

00:33:38,080 --> 00:33:39,250
gave to the poor?

550

00:33:39,250 --> 00:33:40,000
Robin Hood.

551

00:33:40,000 --> 00:33:41,980
Robin Hood kind of.

552

00:33:41,980 --> 00:33:44,180
I didn't understand that.

553

00:33:44,180 --> 00:33:47,800
But he was supposedly
on the loose.

554

00:33:47,800 --> 00:33:50,710
And the police were
looking for him.

555

00:33:50,710 --> 00:33:56,680
And everybody used to protect
us, since we were well-off.

556

00:33:56,680 --> 00:34:00,130
I think my dad was scared.

557

00:34:00,130 --> 00:34:06,970
So we used to have double
doors and kind of wooden things

558

00:34:06,970 --> 00:34:10,420
where we lock the
windows and everything.

559

00:34:10,420 --> 00:34:14,260
We used to secure the
house all the time.

560

00:34:14,260 --> 00:34:24,070
Also, my dad used to have a gun,
too, which I found out later.

561
00:34:24,070 --> 00:34:25,110
I didn't know about it.

562
00:34:25,110 --> 00:34:27,790

563
00:34:27,790 --> 00:34:33,580
The weddings-- I guess they
used to have fights like here,

564
00:34:33,580 --> 00:34:37,210
even the Jews in the
weddings over there.

565
00:34:37,210 --> 00:34:43,150
And I think my dad used
to wear the gun to--

566
00:34:43,150 --> 00:34:43,780
To weddings?

567
00:34:43,780 --> 00:34:44,909
To weddings.

568
00:34:44,909 --> 00:34:53,050
And especially the non-Jews'
weddings, they used to drink.

569
00:34:53,050 --> 00:34:57,850
Even they wouldn't drink,
but they acted drunk.

570
00:34:57,850 --> 00:35:04,450
And their weddings always
what would be a fight.

571
00:35:04,450 --> 00:35:09,280
Most every wedding, it wound
up in a fight with knives

572
00:35:09,280 --> 00:35:10,060

and so on.

573

00:35:10,060 --> 00:35:15,010

Also, over there, the
non-Jews-- the Jews

574

00:35:15,010 --> 00:35:18,010

didn't have a practice to drink.

575

00:35:18,010 --> 00:35:20,560

They would have a schnapps
or something like that,

576

00:35:20,560 --> 00:35:24,580

but not to sit around and drink.

577

00:35:24,580 --> 00:35:27,400

So there was
especially one guy who

578

00:35:27,400 --> 00:35:30,340

used to always pick a fight.

579

00:35:30,340 --> 00:35:35,990

And they were all with
knives and things like that.

580

00:35:35,990 --> 00:35:36,550

So the--

581

00:35:36,550 --> 00:35:39,460

Now, the Jews and the non-Jews
went to each other's weddings?

582

00:35:39,460 --> 00:35:40,900

Is that what you're saying?

583

00:35:40,900 --> 00:35:43,615

No, not that I recall.

584

00:35:43,615 --> 00:35:46,140

585
00:35:46,140 --> 00:35:49,240
They didn't mix the weddings.

586
00:35:49,240 --> 00:35:52,150
When it was Jews, I
think it was all Jews.

587
00:35:52,150 --> 00:35:57,340
And the Gentiles, there
were all Gentile weddings.

588
00:35:57,340 --> 00:35:58,950
But even at an
all-Jewish wedding,

589
00:35:58,950 --> 00:36:01,396
there would be fights, even
though they weren't drinking.

590
00:36:01,396 --> 00:36:02,880
Why would--

591
00:36:02,880 --> 00:36:04,890
I don't remember Jewish fights.

592
00:36:04,890 --> 00:36:09,690

593
00:36:09,690 --> 00:36:14,730
They used to have fights in
the temple for some reason.

594
00:36:14,730 --> 00:36:16,530
Somebody would be
mad at somebody.

595
00:36:16,530 --> 00:36:21,870
And for some reason, they
took it out on each other.

596
00:36:21,870 --> 00:36:27,700

Or to call to the Torah over
there was quite an honor.

597
00:36:27,700 --> 00:36:32,360

598
00:36:32,360 --> 00:36:34,290
If you were called
to the Torah, it

599
00:36:34,290 --> 00:36:37,500
was appreciated over
there, not over here.

600
00:36:37,500 --> 00:36:42,490
They don't appreciate it
like they did over there.

601
00:36:42,490 --> 00:36:46,800
Kind of shocked-- a
compulsion to carry a weapon

602
00:36:46,800 --> 00:36:48,070
to Jewish weddings.

603
00:36:48,070 --> 00:36:50,440
And I'm still unclear
about the reasons for that.

604
00:36:50,440 --> 00:36:51,870
Well, I don't know if he did.

605
00:36:51,870 --> 00:36:55,830
But I think I saw a wedding.

606
00:36:55,830 --> 00:36:59,550
Maybe he was the
target of some people.

607
00:36:59,550 --> 00:37:02,920
He was involved in
different business.

608

00:37:02,920 --> 00:37:05,310

And then he was--

609

00:37:05,310 --> 00:37:14,340

my dad also defended
people like the underdog.

610

00:37:14,340 --> 00:37:17,760

He was always for the underdog.

611

00:37:17,760 --> 00:37:19,470

I remember that.

612

00:37:19,470 --> 00:37:20,970

He was well-known
then, your father.

613

00:37:20,970 --> 00:37:24,670

Yeah, he was very
well-known and liked.

614

00:37:24,670 --> 00:37:26,700

He seemed to be well-liked.

615

00:37:26,700 --> 00:37:32,700

And people used to
come to him for advice.

616

00:37:32,700 --> 00:37:39,990

And so anyhow, yeah,
my dad, he used

617

00:37:39,990 --> 00:37:47,280

to go away with
the wagon to Khust

618

00:37:47,280 --> 00:37:52,470

and shop for different
materials and bring it

619

00:37:52,470 --> 00:37:55,440

back home to the store.

620
00:37:55,440 --> 00:38:00,800
And so that's the
way they did that.

621
00:38:00,800 --> 00:38:03,450
And of course, they do
it about the same thing.

622
00:38:03,450 --> 00:38:11,410
But it was a more organized
way here than over there.

623
00:38:11,410 --> 00:38:14,370
And let's see what else.

624
00:38:14,370 --> 00:38:16,410
Tell me what language
you spoke at home.

625
00:38:16,410 --> 00:38:17,190
Oh.

626
00:38:17,190 --> 00:38:21,900
Yeah, we spoke Yiddish.

627
00:38:21,900 --> 00:38:26,300
We spoke Yiddish in
Ukraine and Czechoslovakia.

628
00:38:26,300 --> 00:38:30,210
Also, I was able to speak
the Ukrainian language,

629
00:38:30,210 --> 00:38:33,300
the local language, and Yiddish.

630
00:38:33,300 --> 00:38:34,995
But mostly, we spoke Yiddish.

631
00:38:34,995 --> 00:38:36,130
The common was Yiddish.

632
00:38:36,130 --> 00:38:37,560
Yeah.

633
00:38:37,560 --> 00:38:40,170
Tell me when you
first began to hear

634
00:38:40,170 --> 00:38:42,210
more of these
antisemitic remarks

635
00:38:42,210 --> 00:38:43,560
and you became aware of Hitler.

636
00:38:43,560 --> 00:38:45,960
And can you begin
to describe when

637
00:38:45,960 --> 00:38:50,520
you began to realize that
something seriously wrong was

638
00:38:50,520 --> 00:38:52,050
happening and that
you might have

639
00:38:52,050 --> 00:38:53,620
to leave your home someday?

640
00:38:53,620 --> 00:38:56,850
Can you describe those
years, that slow learning?

641
00:38:56,850 --> 00:38:58,800
I imagine it came
over a period of time.

642
00:38:58,800 --> 00:39:02,790

643
00:39:02,790 --> 00:39:12,210

Well, as I say, the
antisemitism was there

644
00:39:12,210 --> 00:39:15,180
as long as I can remember.

645
00:39:15,180 --> 00:39:16,535
Sort of it was--

646
00:39:16,535 --> 00:39:17,800
From the beginning.

647
00:39:17,800 --> 00:39:20,670
From the beginning,
as I remember.

648
00:39:20,670 --> 00:39:26,190
But I think in
'38, I would say it

649
00:39:26,190 --> 00:39:30,090
was kind of starting
to really be felt.

650
00:39:30,090 --> 00:39:32,460
Of course, I was older.

651
00:39:32,460 --> 00:39:33,720
I was about 10.

652
00:39:33,720 --> 00:39:38,070
I started to realize and
probably realizing it more.

653
00:39:38,070 --> 00:39:39,790
And it was expressed more.

654
00:39:39,790 --> 00:39:45,780
And I guess they knew more about
it there maybe in the paper.

655
00:39:45,780 --> 00:39:50,250

There hardly were any papers
over there, I think, to read.

656
00:39:50,250 --> 00:39:51,810
The way we got the
news over there

657
00:39:51,810 --> 00:39:54,870
is a guy used to
go around the town

658
00:39:54,870 --> 00:39:59,880
and drum it and announce
what's the news.

659
00:39:59,880 --> 00:40:02,610
What kind of news, I don't
even remember-- probably

660
00:40:02,610 --> 00:40:04,800
official news and so forth.

661
00:40:04,800 --> 00:40:09,710
And also, I think it was in '39.

662
00:40:09,710 --> 00:40:13,350
The Czechoslovakians
left, I think.

663
00:40:13,350 --> 00:40:19,740
First, for a brief time,
the Ukrainians took over.

664
00:40:19,740 --> 00:40:24,220
I think they declared
Ukraine or something.

665
00:40:24,220 --> 00:40:26,590
And it was very brief.

666
00:40:26,590 --> 00:40:28,290
And then the Hungarians came in.

667

00:40:28,290 --> 00:40:38,430

And they were very [INAUDIBLE],,
especially the police.

668

00:40:38,430 --> 00:40:41,550

First of all, they wear
their dress and their hats.

669

00:40:41,550 --> 00:40:44,340

And they had feathers
type of a thing.

670

00:40:44,340 --> 00:40:49,590

And they very looked
menacing over there.

671

00:40:49,590 --> 00:40:51,870

And a lot of times,
they meant it.

672

00:40:51,870 --> 00:40:55,630

And of course, over
there, you kind of--

673

00:40:55,630 --> 00:40:59,470

over here, they know about
it, not to do that to kids.

674

00:40:59,470 --> 00:41:02,920

If you want a kid to
behave, you would tell them,

675

00:41:02,920 --> 00:41:04,810

the police are going
to come and get you

676

00:41:04,810 --> 00:41:12,040

or the gypsies, things like
that, to scare the kids.

677

00:41:12,040 --> 00:41:14,470

So that kind of stays
with you, things

678
00:41:14,470 --> 00:41:16,750
like that, which
it's still being

679
00:41:16,750 --> 00:41:24,280
said here, but not as much
as over there at that time.

680
00:41:24,280 --> 00:41:24,850
Yeah.

681
00:41:24,850 --> 00:41:30,880
When the Hungarians
came in, they

682
00:41:30,880 --> 00:41:33,400
were taking away-- the
Hungarians started taking away

683
00:41:33,400 --> 00:41:36,010
the Jews to sort
of a labor camp,

684
00:41:36,010 --> 00:41:46,450
the young people that were able
to work and things like that.

685
00:41:46,450 --> 00:41:50,260
Give us some dates
now when this began.

686
00:41:50,260 --> 00:42:05,110
I think it was right after they
came in, but around maybe '39

687
00:42:05,110 --> 00:42:07,230
or so.

688
00:42:07,230 --> 00:42:11,560
I know then in the '40s--

689

00:42:11,560 --> 00:42:16,840
yeah, in 1941, they took
us away from that area.

690
00:42:16,840 --> 00:42:19,090
Let's not go too fast, too far.

691
00:42:19,090 --> 00:42:21,430
I still want to get as
much as you can give us

692
00:42:21,430 --> 00:42:24,200
about how this built up and
how you first became aware,

693
00:42:24,200 --> 00:42:27,040
for example, that Jews were
beginning to be picked up.

694
00:42:27,040 --> 00:42:29,200
If there were any
other things going on

695
00:42:29,200 --> 00:42:34,340
before they were actually
beginning to be arrested,

696
00:42:34,340 --> 00:42:38,650
you may have some memories
if you take a moment.

697
00:42:38,650 --> 00:42:43,585
Not in this particular
area where I was.

698
00:42:43,585 --> 00:42:47,410

699
00:42:47,410 --> 00:42:51,790
The only thing that
I know of, I think

700
00:42:51,790 --> 00:42:56,770

I felt that they were starting
to give a hard time to Jews.

701
00:42:56,770 --> 00:43:01,390
I just can't put
my finger on it.

702
00:43:01,390 --> 00:43:05,320
As I say, I wasn't aware
because I was too young.

703
00:43:05,320 --> 00:43:10,760
And in a remote
area where I lived,

704
00:43:10,760 --> 00:43:14,110
it wasn't as much probably
in the bigger towns.

705
00:43:14,110 --> 00:43:23,920
In 1939 or '40, my
dad sent me to--

706
00:43:23,920 --> 00:43:27,310

707
00:43:27,310 --> 00:43:32,560
I think they took my dad
away maybe around '39.

708
00:43:32,560 --> 00:43:39,340
But anyhow, he sent me to my
uncle to Munkács to train me

709
00:43:39,340 --> 00:43:40,070
in business.

710
00:43:40,070 --> 00:43:42,490
He had a general
store over there.

711
00:43:42,490 --> 00:43:46,580
And I felt it over there.

712
00:43:46,580 --> 00:43:51,500
Jews were wearing
the star already.

713
00:43:51,500 --> 00:43:54,230
So you left your hometown
when you were about how old?

714
00:43:54,230 --> 00:43:55,250
About I would say--

715
00:43:55,250 --> 00:43:59,684

716
00:43:59,684 --> 00:44:02,440
hmm.

717
00:44:02,440 --> 00:44:03,920
Was I in '39?

718
00:44:03,920 --> 00:44:08,590
Or maybe it was in '43.

719
00:44:08,590 --> 00:44:13,177
Or maybe it might have been
in '43 for a brief time.

720
00:44:13,177 --> 00:44:15,385
I don't know if it was even
a year, maybe for months.

721
00:44:15,385 --> 00:44:18,480
And that would have
made you about how old?

722
00:44:18,480 --> 00:44:26,520
Oh, I would say about
13, I would say.

723
00:44:26,520 --> 00:44:27,660
I was 13.

724

00:44:27,660 --> 00:44:30,480

To study, to learn
some business.

725

00:44:30,480 --> 00:44:36,930

I don't know if it was working
or business or just helping

726

00:44:36,930 --> 00:44:39,840

over there, because
as I remember,

727

00:44:39,840 --> 00:44:44,580

I guess in the '40s, one of
my uncles, they took away.

728

00:44:44,580 --> 00:44:52,740

Sort of they called the
able-bodied to work them.

729

00:44:52,740 --> 00:44:53,610

I don't know what--

730

00:44:53,610 --> 00:44:57,030

they were doing different
things to work them.

731

00:44:57,030 --> 00:45:00,030

They took my dad away, too.

732

00:45:00,030 --> 00:45:02,370

They being?

733

00:45:02,370 --> 00:45:08,020

I guess the Hungarians,
because the Hungarians

734

00:45:08,020 --> 00:45:12,420

ruled that area
between I would say '39

735

00:45:12,420 --> 00:45:15,910
till the end of the war.

736
00:45:15,910 --> 00:45:19,350
And then of course, the
Nazis came in that area, too.

737
00:45:19,350 --> 00:45:22,920
But the administrative, I
guess it was the Hungarians.

738
00:45:22,920 --> 00:45:24,570
It was Hungary.

739
00:45:24,570 --> 00:45:27,600
And then for some reason,
my dad came back home.

740
00:45:27,600 --> 00:45:31,080

741
00:45:31,080 --> 00:45:32,850
But from the camp,
a lot of people

742
00:45:32,850 --> 00:45:35,376
didn't come from the camp home.

743
00:45:35,376 --> 00:45:37,710
So Hungarians rounded
up many, many Jews,

744
00:45:37,710 --> 00:45:38,910
took them to work camps.

745
00:45:38,910 --> 00:45:40,830
Some of those Jews
came back home.

746
00:45:40,830 --> 00:45:42,100
Some of them, yeah, came home.

747

00:45:42,100 --> 00:45:43,180
Like your father.

748
00:45:43,180 --> 00:45:44,850
Yeah.

749
00:45:44,850 --> 00:45:48,510
And to get back to
beginning, some other things

750
00:45:48,510 --> 00:45:50,760
to describe over
there, I would like to.

751
00:45:50,760 --> 00:45:55,250
But if you can help me to do--

752
00:45:55,250 --> 00:45:58,760

753
00:45:58,760 --> 00:46:03,100
if you have any question,
some other details

754
00:46:03,100 --> 00:46:04,620
you think you
might want to know.

755
00:46:04,620 --> 00:46:06,330
Well, Paul probably
has some questions

756
00:46:06,330 --> 00:46:07,860
that he'd like to
share with you.

757
00:46:07,860 --> 00:46:09,570
Just a couple
clarifying questions--

758
00:46:09,570 --> 00:46:12,090
you said when did your father
return from the labor camp?

759
00:46:12,090 --> 00:46:12,790
Do you remember?

760
00:46:12,790 --> 00:46:16,170

761
00:46:16,170 --> 00:46:20,960
I really don't know exactly.

762
00:46:20,960 --> 00:46:26,050
I think he was there
maybe about a year.

763
00:46:26,050 --> 00:46:26,550
Yeah.

764
00:46:26,550 --> 00:46:33,420
And we had a hard time to take
care of home when he was gone.

765
00:46:33,420 --> 00:46:36,270
I don't know how he got out.

766
00:46:36,270 --> 00:46:41,940
And things back home were
kind of deteriorating,

767
00:46:41,940 --> 00:46:45,420
as far as running the
business and the farm

768
00:46:45,420 --> 00:46:47,370
and things like that.

769
00:46:47,370 --> 00:46:50,280
It was kind of-- of
course, I didn't realize it

770
00:46:50,280 --> 00:46:53,940
because I was kind
of too young between.

771
00:46:53,940 --> 00:46:56,200
Well, in '41, I remember that.

772
00:46:56,200 --> 00:47:01,230
In '41, they started to round
up the Jews over there in '41.

773
00:47:01,230 --> 00:47:03,180
In your hometown?

774
00:47:03,180 --> 00:47:06,180
In that area.

775
00:47:06,180 --> 00:47:14,640
So they took us to another town.

776
00:47:14,640 --> 00:47:15,390
Without warning?

777
00:47:15,390 --> 00:47:16,530
Or did you have some?

778
00:47:16,530 --> 00:47:21,060
I don't think warning, no.

779
00:47:21,060 --> 00:47:23,730
First--

780
00:47:23,730 --> 00:47:26,940
You described-- just back off
and slow down and describe

781
00:47:26,940 --> 00:47:27,480
how--

782
00:47:27,480 --> 00:47:33,900
Yeah, I better back off
because first, what they did

783
00:47:33,900 --> 00:47:39,840

is required papers.

784

00:47:39,840 --> 00:47:44,940

They ask people-- they drove
people crazy with that.

785

00:47:44,940 --> 00:47:48,870

You had to go back
and forth with papers.

786

00:47:48,870 --> 00:47:51,420

787

00:47:51,420 --> 00:47:53,850

They didn't like this and
they didn't like that.

788

00:47:53,850 --> 00:47:57,870

And people had a heck of a
time to get together papers,

789

00:47:57,870 --> 00:48:04,290

I guess to weed out any Jew
was in any intermarriage

790

00:48:04,290 --> 00:48:08,700

or something so they can weed
out anybody who might be Jews.

791

00:48:08,700 --> 00:48:10,290

I guess that's the
reason they did.

792

00:48:10,290 --> 00:48:11,710

So they required papers.

793

00:48:11,710 --> 00:48:14,970

And I know we had to
go to the district town

794

00:48:14,970 --> 00:48:20,760

and get papers, whatever we
can, to satisfy the authorities

795
00:48:20,760 --> 00:48:23,110
about the papers.

796
00:48:23,110 --> 00:48:26,460
And in the end, it
didn't do any good.

797
00:48:26,460 --> 00:48:32,760
In '41, they started
rounding up the people.

798
00:48:32,760 --> 00:48:35,550
And they took us to the town.

799
00:48:35,550 --> 00:48:39,210
We were over there for a
day or two, three days.

800
00:48:39,210 --> 00:48:43,000
It was kind of miserable--
kids and so on.

801
00:48:43,000 --> 00:48:47,700
But all of a sudden, they
told us to go back home.

802
00:48:47,700 --> 00:48:51,670
But some people,
they took, anyhow,

803
00:48:51,670 --> 00:49:01,957
I guess before the order
came to let us go back home.

804
00:49:01,957 --> 00:49:03,540
Do you remember what
the reasoning was

805
00:49:03,540 --> 00:49:07,020
or what the reasons were
for rounding people up?

806

00:49:07,020 --> 00:49:09,780

No, there was no
reason that I know of.

807

00:49:09,780 --> 00:49:13,920

As I say, again,
I was really too

808

00:49:13,920 --> 00:49:18,270

young to know to know
what was going on.

809

00:49:18,270 --> 00:49:22,380

I don't think they gave
them any reason, because one

810

00:49:22,380 --> 00:49:23,700

of the reasons--

811

00:49:23,700 --> 00:49:26,520

I understand now a
lot of people ask me,

812

00:49:26,520 --> 00:49:27,880

why didn't you do something?

813

00:49:27,880 --> 00:49:29,580

Why didn't the
people do something

814

00:49:29,580 --> 00:49:32,130

to stand up and fight?

815

00:49:32,130 --> 00:49:32,850

Or run away--

816

00:49:32,850 --> 00:49:34,350

Or run away or something.

817

00:49:34,350 --> 00:49:34,900

That's why I'm asking you.

818

00:49:34,900 --> 00:49:35,400

Yes.

819

00:49:35,400 --> 00:49:38,130

820

00:49:38,130 --> 00:49:40,740

Why did the Jews do that?

821

00:49:40,740 --> 00:49:44,610

The reason I think
was, for one thing,

822

00:49:44,610 --> 00:49:49,970

we were living in a
hostile environment.

823

00:49:49,970 --> 00:49:55,210

That's one thing-- from
the non-Jewish community.

824

00:49:55,210 --> 00:49:59,430

And they were glad
they took us away.

825

00:49:59,430 --> 00:50:09,340

And then the way they--

826

00:50:09,340 --> 00:50:12,210

and also, the people
over there, authority--

827

00:50:12,210 --> 00:50:13,740

you didn't question authority.

828

00:50:13,740 --> 00:50:16,860

829

00:50:16,860 --> 00:50:21,900

So whatever the authority
told you, you did it.

830

00:50:21,900 --> 00:50:30,180

And another reason was the
whole thing was planned.

831

00:50:30,180 --> 00:50:36,060

In other words, the plan--
they came in with orders

832

00:50:36,060 --> 00:50:37,200

and the plan of what to do.

833

00:50:37,200 --> 00:50:40,140

And you didn't
have time to think.

834

00:50:40,140 --> 00:50:51,930

And to masses to
rebel or to fight,

835

00:50:51,930 --> 00:50:56,220

it takes a long time to
organize the community

836

00:50:56,220 --> 00:51:01,330

to resist things like that.

837

00:51:01,330 --> 00:51:08,400

I always wanted to put this
in some kind of record,

838

00:51:08,400 --> 00:51:11,550

because people always
have in their mind

839

00:51:11,550 --> 00:51:16,440

to question that why we
didn't get up and fight.

840

00:51:16,440 --> 00:51:20,760

And besides, like I was
telling the story before,

841

00:51:20,760 --> 00:51:25,860
the able-bodied, they
took away immediately.

842
00:51:25,860 --> 00:51:26,430
First.

843
00:51:26,430 --> 00:51:27,450
First.

844
00:51:27,450 --> 00:51:30,660
So they were kind of under
control, for one thing.

845
00:51:30,660 --> 00:51:35,400
And then all there was
left is old and feeble

846
00:51:35,400 --> 00:51:36,580
and the young people.

847
00:51:36,580 --> 00:51:40,110
So that's another
reason why there

848
00:51:40,110 --> 00:51:44,250
was very little resistance.

849
00:51:44,250 --> 00:51:46,560
And I'm glad I was able
to put this on the record,

850
00:51:46,560 --> 00:51:51,720
because a lot of people have
this question why we went

851
00:51:51,720 --> 00:51:57,295
so like sheep to the slaughter.

852
00:51:57,295 --> 00:51:58,260
Meekly.

853

00:51:58,260 --> 00:51:58,980
Meekly.

854
00:51:58,980 --> 00:52:00,270
Yeah, that's the word.

855
00:52:00,270 --> 00:52:04,430

856
00:52:04,430 --> 00:52:09,480
I hope this kind of
explains it to you.

857
00:52:09,480 --> 00:52:12,000
It's helpful.

858
00:52:12,000 --> 00:52:16,020
Somebody maybe will put it
in writing for that reason.

859
00:52:16,020 --> 00:52:20,100
Maybe people are
aware of it now.

860
00:52:20,100 --> 00:52:26,880
Well, anyhow, what else
can I say from there?

861
00:52:26,880 --> 00:52:30,690
Tell us about when you left,
when you were picked up,

862
00:52:30,690 --> 00:52:32,310
and what happened.

863
00:52:32,310 --> 00:52:33,900
Was your family separated?

864
00:52:33,900 --> 00:52:36,270
Did you all go together?

865
00:52:36,270 --> 00:52:41,580

When we first were
picked up in '41,

866
00:52:41,580 --> 00:52:45,750
no, the family went
all together at first.

867
00:52:45,750 --> 00:52:47,220
I better not go--

868
00:52:47,220 --> 00:52:50,280
so we went back home.

869
00:52:50,280 --> 00:52:57,780
And there were
hardships and the fears.

870
00:52:57,780 --> 00:53:02,860
The fears were already there,
more fears than before.

871
00:53:02,860 --> 00:53:07,440
It kind of was very unsettling.

872
00:53:07,440 --> 00:53:11,610
Kind of the fears emanated
in the Jewish community.

873
00:53:11,610 --> 00:53:13,770
Even I wasn't-- I
didn't understand.

874
00:53:13,770 --> 00:53:17,850
But the life went on, but not--

875
00:53:17,850 --> 00:53:22,320
it was kind of very
subdued and so on.

876
00:53:22,320 --> 00:53:27,900
And of course, the authorities
were hassling the Jews.

877

00:53:27,900 --> 00:53:32,080

And the local people
were kind of hassling.

878

00:53:32,080 --> 00:53:32,580

Let's see.

879

00:53:32,580 --> 00:53:34,740

Where can we go in
another direction?

880

00:53:34,740 --> 00:53:37,230

Well, let me just ask, when
you did go back the first time,

881

00:53:37,230 --> 00:53:38,897

were you allowed to
go back to your home

882

00:53:38,897 --> 00:53:41,850

and resume-- your father was
allowed to resume his business?

883

00:53:41,850 --> 00:53:45,460

Yeah, very well.

884

00:53:45,460 --> 00:53:48,540

We had a fairly normal life.

885

00:53:48,540 --> 00:53:51,690

But as I said, the
business was going down.

886

00:53:51,690 --> 00:53:55,180

It was kind of subdued.

887

00:53:55,180 --> 00:53:55,680

And then--

888

00:53:55,680 --> 00:53:59,100

889

00:53:59,100 --> 00:54:00,780

I just want to ask
another question.

890

00:54:00,780 --> 00:54:03,300

I assume now that after
you've left and come back,

891

00:54:03,300 --> 00:54:05,722

that your relationship with
the non-Jewish community

892

00:54:05,722 --> 00:54:07,680

must have been terribly
strained at that point.

893

00:54:07,680 --> 00:54:09,540

Yeah, it was strained.

894

00:54:09,540 --> 00:54:15,270

Of course, we couldn't
do anything about it.

895

00:54:15,270 --> 00:54:20,610

The only thing we did is sort
of went around our business

896

00:54:20,610 --> 00:54:24,420

in a subdued way and
with fear constantly.

897

00:54:24,420 --> 00:54:26,880

It was a fear constantly.

898

00:54:26,880 --> 00:54:28,680

So you were living
in constant fear.

899

00:54:28,680 --> 00:54:31,530

And you knew something
was terribly wrong.

900

00:54:31,530 --> 00:54:32,370
Yeah.

901
00:54:32,370 --> 00:54:34,530
When I was in
Munkacs, in that town,

902
00:54:34,530 --> 00:54:36,570
I was walking one evening.

903
00:54:36,570 --> 00:54:40,260
And a Jew walked by.

904
00:54:40,260 --> 00:54:42,550
Of course, you could
tell right away.

905
00:54:42,550 --> 00:54:44,520
He was in a beard and
so forth like that.

906
00:54:44,520 --> 00:54:48,540
A couple soldiers--
it was at night.

907
00:54:48,540 --> 00:54:51,210
And a couple soldiers walked by.

908
00:54:51,210 --> 00:54:56,400
And just for no reason, they
start kicking him and so forth.

909
00:54:56,400 --> 00:54:57,930
And he kind of ran away.

910
00:54:57,930 --> 00:55:02,520
And I kind of started walking
and not paying attention to it.

911
00:55:02,520 --> 00:55:04,740
I know they didn't bother me.

912

00:55:04,740 --> 00:55:12,090

But that kind of
stuff was around.

913

00:55:12,090 --> 00:55:15,120

At that point, you knew
something was terribly wrong.

914

00:55:15,120 --> 00:55:16,020

Yeah.

915

00:55:16,020 --> 00:55:18,030

Did any of the people
in your community

916

00:55:18,030 --> 00:55:24,690

begin to think about escape,
of coming to a safer place?

917

00:55:24,690 --> 00:55:26,160

Not that I know of.

918

00:55:26,160 --> 00:55:29,910

919

00:55:29,910 --> 00:55:31,290

They probably thought about it.

920

00:55:31,290 --> 00:55:32,820

But some of them--

921

00:55:32,820 --> 00:55:36,210

922

00:55:36,210 --> 00:55:38,280

when they took us
away, one person--

923

00:55:38,280 --> 00:55:42,420

a Jewish-- I don't
think he had a family.

924

00:55:42,420 --> 00:55:44,070
What I mean are kids.

925
00:55:44,070 --> 00:55:45,450
I think he was single.

926
00:55:45,450 --> 00:55:51,870
And he had in the community--
and I understand after the war,

927
00:55:51,870 --> 00:55:54,840
talking with people,
that they killed him.

928
00:55:54,840 --> 00:55:56,430
The local people killed him.

929
00:55:56,430 --> 00:55:57,358
They found out.

930
00:55:57,358 --> 00:55:57,900
I don't know.

931
00:55:57,900 --> 00:56:03,510
The people maybe hit
him and they killed him.

932
00:56:03,510 --> 00:56:11,850
So also, we tried, my younger
brothers, to go run and hide.

933
00:56:11,850 --> 00:56:14,250
And then I don't
know if he got scared

934
00:56:14,250 --> 00:56:18,900
or we changed our mind when
they were taking us away in '44.

935
00:56:18,900 --> 00:56:24,820
And he didn't hide.

936

00:56:24,820 --> 00:56:29,400

He was kind of a youngster,
but I don't know--

937

00:56:29,400 --> 00:56:33,780

seven, eight years old or
so to hide in the mill.

938

00:56:33,780 --> 00:56:35,350

I don't know if I said before.

939

00:56:35,350 --> 00:56:38,880

We had a flour mill there, too.

940

00:56:38,880 --> 00:56:41,760

941

00:56:41,760 --> 00:56:44,415

Were there any people in the
community that helped you?

942

00:56:44,415 --> 00:56:45,540

There must have been a few.

943

00:56:45,540 --> 00:56:47,520

I think you mentioned that--

944

00:56:47,520 --> 00:56:48,750

Very, very few.

945

00:56:48,750 --> 00:56:54,480

The only thing--
some people, I think.

946

00:56:54,480 --> 00:56:57,840

The only one I think
that my dad was

947

00:56:57,840 --> 00:57:04,920

able to trust that we had
left some valuables with,

948

00:57:04,920 --> 00:57:09,900
which he helped us
during the dark of night

949
00:57:09,900 --> 00:57:14,850
to take it over to
his place to hide it,

950
00:57:14,850 --> 00:57:17,310
because I guess my
parents knew that we

951
00:57:17,310 --> 00:57:20,890
were going to be taken away.

952
00:57:20,890 --> 00:57:24,970
So when I came home, I did
find that, I think, intact.

953
00:57:24,970 --> 00:57:28,958
I don't know what it was,
but I found it intact.

954
00:57:28,958 --> 00:57:30,000
I didn't take it, mostly.

955
00:57:30,000 --> 00:57:34,080
I think just my little
jewelry there was--

956
00:57:34,080 --> 00:57:38,010
I think my mother's ring and
watch, my dad's golden watch.

957
00:57:38,010 --> 00:57:39,325
But that's what--

958
00:57:39,325 --> 00:57:41,760
Your father must have had
a number of employees.

959
00:57:41,760 --> 00:57:44,310
They were not

particularly helpful?

960

00:57:44,310 --> 00:57:51,510

We didn't have employees as
such on a permanent basis, sort

961

00:57:51,510 --> 00:57:55,380

of a part-time basis
to work the fields.

962

00:57:55,380 --> 00:57:58,880

It wasn't kind of
organized like it was here.

963

00:57:58,880 --> 00:57:59,820

I see.

964

00:57:59,820 --> 00:58:04,200

He did have a partner,
which he was Jewish.

965

00:58:04,200 --> 00:58:05,790

But there was not--

966

00:58:05,790 --> 00:58:12,780

the only employees-- he managed
everything sort of by himself,

967

00:58:12,780 --> 00:58:14,535

but not running the store.

968

00:58:14,535 --> 00:58:17,250

969

00:58:17,250 --> 00:58:24,500

Just my mom would run the
store, just stuff like that.

970

00:58:24,500 --> 00:58:27,860

So you didn't have permanent
non-Jewish employees.

971

00:58:27,860 --> 00:58:29,790

No, there was no--

972

00:58:29,790 --> 00:58:35,610

yeah, he just hired

people to take him around

973

00:58:35,610 --> 00:58:37,870

or something like that

with a horse and buggy.

974

00:58:37,870 --> 00:58:39,120

There were no cars over there.

975

00:58:39,120 --> 00:58:41,310

It was a horse and buggies.

976

00:58:41,310 --> 00:58:43,620

But what happened next

after you came back

977

00:58:43,620 --> 00:58:47,820

and it became difficult for

you and, obviously, things

978

00:58:47,820 --> 00:58:49,760

got worse and, finally,

you were taken away?

979

00:58:49,760 --> 00:58:51,390

Do you want to just

continue now just

980

00:58:51,390 --> 00:58:54,540

to tell us what happened next?

981

00:58:54,540 --> 00:58:55,970

In '41?

982

00:58:55,970 --> 00:58:57,480

Since '41?

983

00:58:57,480 --> 00:59:00,240
Well, after you were taken away
the first time and came back,

984
00:59:00,240 --> 00:59:01,450
things got worse.

985
00:59:01,450 --> 00:59:03,480
And then finally, what happened?

986
00:59:03,480 --> 00:59:15,450
Finally, in 1944, they
came and rounded up--

987
00:59:15,450 --> 00:59:17,250
early '44.

988
00:59:17,250 --> 00:59:22,000
I think it was March or April.

989
00:59:22,000 --> 00:59:28,590
And they rounded everybody
at my grandfather.

990
00:59:28,590 --> 00:59:32,610
I think he died in World War II.

991
00:59:32,610 --> 00:59:34,540
I don't know for what--

992
00:59:34,540 --> 00:59:43,000
how he died, but he died
in World War I. I'm sorry.

993
00:59:43,000 --> 00:59:49,290
And she tried to tell him
that he was in the army

994
00:59:49,290 --> 00:59:50,460
or something, soldier.

995
00:59:50,460 --> 00:59:52,560

That didn't help,
no matter what.

996
00:59:52,560 --> 00:59:54,450
If you had medals or you--

997
00:59:54,450 --> 00:59:59,510

998
00:59:59,510 --> 01:00:03,360
I think before World War I,
it was Hungary there, too.

999
01:00:03,360 --> 01:00:06,690
And some people were in the
army, in Hungarian army.

1000
01:00:06,690 --> 01:00:07,680
Nothing helped.

1001
01:00:07,680 --> 01:00:12,870
They just rounded up everybody
and whatever belongings.

1002
01:00:12,870 --> 01:00:15,350
And they took us away.

1003
01:00:15,350 --> 01:00:18,360
And they took us away.

1004
01:00:18,360 --> 01:00:19,200
quite a ways.

1005
01:00:19,200 --> 01:00:23,340
And it was called Khust in town.

1006
01:00:23,340 --> 01:00:29,820
And they kept us in sort
of a detention camp, which

1007
01:00:29,820 --> 01:00:33,792
it was because this is

just, I guess, the Jews,

1008
01:00:33,792 --> 01:00:34,750
where they were living.

1009
01:00:34,750 --> 01:00:38,390
And we were living in
barns and stuff like that

1010
01:00:38,390 --> 01:00:42,940
and cooked by wood outside to
survive and stuff like that.

1011
01:00:42,940 --> 01:00:44,410
We were not able to get out.

1012
01:00:44,410 --> 01:00:51,790
And then I saw already
German soldiers and so forth.

1013
01:00:51,790 --> 01:00:54,550
That was the first time you
actually saw German soldiers?

1014
01:00:54,550 --> 01:00:57,240
Yeah, Nazis.

1015
01:00:57,240 --> 01:01:01,330
And how many people now do
you imagine were in this camp?

1016
01:01:01,330 --> 01:01:03,970

1017
01:01:03,970 --> 01:01:06,070
How many had they collected,
if you can estimate?

1018
01:01:06,070 --> 01:01:09,040
We're talking about hundreds
or thousands in the vicinity?

1019

01:01:09,040 --> 01:01:11,770

Well, I would say
in the thousands,

1020

01:01:11,770 --> 01:01:15,370

because they constantly--

1021

01:01:15,370 --> 01:01:17,170

in the thousands
because there were

1022

01:01:17,170 --> 01:01:20,500

Jews all over that
area in the thousands.

1023

01:01:20,500 --> 01:01:23,110

1024

01:01:23,110 --> 01:01:24,880

Of course, I didn't
know how many

1025

01:01:24,880 --> 01:01:27,950

there were because we
didn't really get around.

1026

01:01:27,950 --> 01:01:30,020

We kind of just were
living in the barn.

1027

01:01:30,020 --> 01:01:35,110

And we just stuck there pretty
well and really didn't know.

1028

01:01:35,110 --> 01:01:39,160

And they were constantly
taken away from there.

1029

01:01:39,160 --> 01:01:43,870

And a couple, they were
inspecting-- there's

1030

01:01:43,870 --> 01:01:47,140

a couple Nazis came around.

1031

01:01:47,140 --> 01:01:53,170

And Jews had to wear a cap.

1032

01:01:53,170 --> 01:01:55,840

So they came around in the barn.

1033

01:01:55,840 --> 01:01:58,400

And I remember a
couple German soldiers.

1034

01:01:58,400 --> 01:02:04,720

And I had the cap and what
does-- he take off the cap.

1035

01:02:04,720 --> 01:02:11,200

And he slapped me or
something, started slapping me.

1036

01:02:11,200 --> 01:02:13,720

But they didn't do much more.

1037

01:02:13,720 --> 01:02:16,750

What they did when they
were taking us away,

1038

01:02:16,750 --> 01:02:19,360

kind of checking before they
were taken into Auschwitz

1039

01:02:19,360 --> 01:02:22,450

near the railroad
track, apparently,

1040

01:02:22,450 --> 01:02:27,630

my father hid money in my hat.

1041

01:02:27,630 --> 01:02:31,120

And they discovered it.

1042

01:02:31,120 --> 01:02:36,190

And they were kind of--

1043

01:02:36,190 --> 01:02:42,020
they would do, hey, he's got
money in his hat and so forth.

1044

01:02:42,020 --> 01:02:44,890
So they set me aside.

1045

01:02:44,890 --> 01:02:51,700
And one Nazi and
Hungarian soldier came by.

1046

01:02:51,700 --> 01:02:56,320
And the Hungarian,
he asked, what

1047

01:02:56,320 --> 01:02:58,450
is this guy doing over here?

1048

01:02:58,450 --> 01:03:00,790
And he said, well--

1049

01:03:00,790 --> 01:03:02,560
they were happy
to tell him, well,

1050

01:03:02,560 --> 01:03:05,590
they found money in
his hat, hat money.

1051

01:03:05,590 --> 01:03:07,540
Apparently, you're
supposed to leave

1052

01:03:07,540 --> 01:03:10,270
all the valuables or something.

1053

01:03:10,270 --> 01:03:18,650
So the Hungarian was
starting taking out the gun.

1054

01:03:18,650 --> 01:03:21,040

He was going to
shoot me right there.

1055

01:03:21,040 --> 01:03:28,000

But the German SS man
motioned, don't do it.

1056

01:03:28,000 --> 01:03:31,690

I guess the German
SS knew what was

1057

01:03:31,690 --> 01:03:36,740

starting, so probably didn't
want to make a mess over there.

1058

01:03:36,740 --> 01:03:40,390

So anyway, that's one
way I survived one time.

1059

01:03:40,390 --> 01:03:43,080

You were saved by a Nazi.

1060

01:03:43,080 --> 01:03:44,590

I was saved by a Nazi.

1061

01:03:44,590 --> 01:03:45,840

Isn't that--

1062

01:03:45,840 --> 01:03:46,600

Ironic--

1063

01:03:46,600 --> 01:03:49,010

Ironic?

1064

01:03:49,010 --> 01:03:53,320

So anyhow, as I say,
I don't know how long

1065

01:03:53,320 --> 01:03:56,810

we stayed in that camp.

1066

01:03:56,810 --> 01:04:01,070
And we should go a little
more in details, go back.

1067
01:04:01,070 --> 01:04:03,055
Or shall I start to go?

1068
01:04:03,055 --> 01:04:06,402
Well, if you enrich
the picture, please do.

1069
01:04:06,402 --> 01:04:08,110
Give us as much detail
as you would like.

1070
01:04:08,110 --> 01:04:11,450
I really can't think of
anything at the moment.

1071
01:04:11,450 --> 01:04:11,950
Darn it.

1072
01:04:11,950 --> 01:04:17,170
I should have marked
down certain points.

1073
01:04:17,170 --> 01:04:20,010
Now, again, let me ask you
about how old you were.

1074
01:04:20,010 --> 01:04:23,210
Do you think you were
13, 14 at that camp?

1075
01:04:23,210 --> 01:04:25,140
Yeah, about 14.

1076
01:04:25,140 --> 01:04:26,380
Yeah.

1077
01:04:26,380 --> 01:04:28,510
And you were all
crowded together.

1078
01:04:28,510 --> 01:04:29,440
You were still intact.

1079
01:04:29,440 --> 01:04:30,370
Your family--

1080
01:04:30,370 --> 01:04:31,840
Yeah, was intact.

1081
01:04:31,840 --> 01:04:33,640
Yeah.

1082
01:04:33,640 --> 01:04:36,220
I was in Munkacs, in that city.

1083
01:04:36,220 --> 01:04:38,950
I came home from
there because they

1084
01:04:38,950 --> 01:04:40,820
it looked bleak over there.

1085
01:04:40,820 --> 01:04:46,060
So I kind of knew
over there was bad.

1086
01:04:46,060 --> 01:04:46,990
Then I came home.

1087
01:04:46,990 --> 01:04:51,490
And right after,
they took us away.

1088
01:04:51,490 --> 01:04:53,290
This is now second
time you're taken away.

1089
01:04:53,290 --> 01:04:54,400
No, this is the first--

1090

01:04:54,400 --> 01:04:55,858
Still talking about
the first time.

1091
01:04:55,858 --> 01:04:56,440
Yeah.

1092
01:04:56,440 --> 01:05:01,090
Well, before the second time.

1093
01:05:01,090 --> 01:05:01,955
I don't know.

1094
01:05:01,955 --> 01:05:03,580
At the camp where
you were almost shot,

1095
01:05:03,580 --> 01:05:04,915
now, I'm a bit confused.

1096
01:05:04,915 --> 01:05:07,540
Was that the first time you were
taken from home or the second?

1097
01:05:07,540 --> 01:05:08,153
Second time.

1098
01:05:08,153 --> 01:05:09,070
That's what I thought.

1099
01:05:09,070 --> 01:05:10,840
That's the final--

1100
01:05:10,840 --> 01:05:12,610
Final time you left home--

1101
01:05:12,610 --> 01:05:15,010
Time when we left home.

1102
01:05:15,010 --> 01:05:17,980
And let's see.

1103

01:05:17,980 --> 01:05:21,400

1104

01:05:21,400 --> 01:05:26,230

It was not-- of course,
there was no hardship on me

1105

01:05:26,230 --> 01:05:28,360

because, as I say, I was young.

1106

01:05:28,360 --> 01:05:31,322

And I didn't realize.

1107

01:05:31,322 --> 01:05:32,530

So this was '43 or something?

1108

01:05:32,530 --> 01:05:33,030

'44.

1109

01:05:33,030 --> 01:05:35,386

'44.

1110

01:05:35,386 --> 01:05:36,490

'44.

1111

01:05:36,490 --> 01:05:38,350

I don't know.

1112

01:05:38,350 --> 01:05:44,770

From there, I don't know
if I should go back,

1113

01:05:44,770 --> 01:05:49,030

because from here,
Auschwitz was started.

1114

01:05:49,030 --> 01:05:50,860

What would you like to do?

1115

01:05:50,860 --> 01:05:54,730

I would like to tell

more about home.

1116
01:05:54,730 --> 01:05:58,400
But I can-- can you turn off?

1117
01:05:58,400 --> 01:06:00,025
He is not here to
turn off the machine.

1118
01:06:00,025 --> 01:06:00,850
No, I'm not sure.

1119
01:06:00,850 --> 01:06:02,270
I don't know which
button to push.

1120
01:06:02,270 --> 01:06:08,580

1121
01:06:08,580 --> 01:06:09,440
It's going, huh?

1122
01:06:09,440 --> 01:06:10,550
Yeah.

1123
01:06:10,550 --> 01:06:12,590
Usually, they have a
red light comes on.

1124
01:06:12,590 --> 01:06:14,130
This is sort of a little ember.

1125
01:06:14,130 --> 01:06:16,060
It's not too bright.

1126
01:06:16,060 --> 01:06:18,050
So yeah.

1127
01:06:18,050 --> 01:06:21,560
You mentioned the second
time you were taken away

1128

01:06:21,560 --> 01:06:24,710

and you saw a German
soldier for the first time.

1129

01:06:24,710 --> 01:06:29,840

What did you already learn about
the war and about the Nazis?

1130

01:06:29,840 --> 01:06:34,820

Well, I really didn't know much.

1131

01:06:34,820 --> 01:06:42,290

For instance-- yeah, I remember
in '39, actually, I heard--

1132

01:06:42,290 --> 01:06:45,080

I don't know if that was
the start of World War II.

1133

01:06:45,080 --> 01:06:53,030

But they say when Germany
started the war, it was in '39.

1134

01:06:53,030 --> 01:06:54,230

I remember that.

1135

01:06:54,230 --> 01:06:59,390

I was in the river washing
lettuce over there.

1136

01:06:59,390 --> 01:07:03,320

And I heard those guns go off.

1137

01:07:03,320 --> 01:07:04,820

But I didn't know
anything about it.

1138

01:07:04,820 --> 01:07:06,290

It was quite a ways away.

1139

01:07:06,290 --> 01:07:08,030

But I did hear them.

1140
01:07:08,030 --> 01:07:12,800
And so I didn't pay
attention then, too.

1141
01:07:12,800 --> 01:07:17,240
And as far as knowing where we--

1142
01:07:17,240 --> 01:07:19,520
yeah, we were there.

1143
01:07:19,520 --> 01:07:26,660
When they were loading us from
that detention camp on the rail

1144
01:07:26,660 --> 01:07:30,740
cars, we didn't know
where we're going.

1145
01:07:30,740 --> 01:07:33,320
Anyhow, I didn't know
where we were going.

1146
01:07:33,320 --> 01:07:36,300

1147
01:07:36,300 --> 01:07:40,760
I don't know if the adults know.

1148
01:07:40,760 --> 01:07:42,470
They might have known.

1149
01:07:42,470 --> 01:07:45,600
I think if they wouldn't
have known what was coming,

1150
01:07:45,600 --> 01:07:48,620
I think they would
have been more--

1151
01:07:48,620 --> 01:07:50,900
could have been

maybe more resistant.

1152
01:07:50,900 --> 01:07:54,650
But I don't know if
anybody realized.

1153
01:07:54,650 --> 01:07:57,050
It was uneasiness, but
I don't know if anybody

1154
01:07:57,050 --> 01:08:00,600
realized what was coming.

1155
01:08:00,600 --> 01:08:07,160
So they loaded us on cars
over there, freight cars,

1156
01:08:07,160 --> 01:08:09,170
and locked us up.

1157
01:08:09,170 --> 01:08:14,420
And there was not
much food, I think.

1158
01:08:14,420 --> 01:08:20,120
It was crowded and so forth.

1159
01:08:20,120 --> 01:08:22,100
I'm pretty sure people
were uncomfortable.

1160
01:08:22,100 --> 01:08:24,800
As I say again, I was too young.

1161
01:08:24,800 --> 01:08:29,029
To me, it didn't bother
me like maybe some people.

1162
01:08:29,029 --> 01:08:33,620
I think it took just about a day
or two to go on the rail car.

1163

01:08:33,620 --> 01:08:43,370

What I remember, one said
thing I felt and it still

1164

01:08:43,370 --> 01:08:48,979

sticks in my mind, we were
going through with the train

1165

01:08:48,979 --> 01:08:51,620

in the fields.

1166

01:08:51,620 --> 01:08:53,029

And it was nice grass.

1167

01:08:53,029 --> 01:08:55,580

It was beautiful out there.

1168

01:08:55,580 --> 01:08:59,029

And we were sort of
like in a prison.

1169

01:08:59,029 --> 01:09:02,090

That's, I guess, the
way it feels in prison.

1170

01:09:02,090 --> 01:09:04,100

And I still remember that.

1171

01:09:04,100 --> 01:09:06,649

And it's been
sticking in my mind

1172

01:09:06,649 --> 01:09:12,680

that I was looking out at the
wide open spaces and the fields

1173

01:09:12,680 --> 01:09:14,479

and so forth, like that.

1174

01:09:14,479 --> 01:09:20,810

And I felt some unease
about where I was.

1175

01:09:20,810 --> 01:09:23,250

So anyhow, we were driving.

1176

01:09:23,250 --> 01:09:24,319

They would stop.

1177

01:09:24,319 --> 01:09:25,460

And I don't know.

1178

01:09:25,460 --> 01:09:27,750

For some reason,
they just check.

1179

01:09:27,750 --> 01:09:30,859

The Nazis would come to
the doors, open the doors,

1180

01:09:30,859 --> 01:09:33,500

and check things.

1181

01:09:33,500 --> 01:09:42,529

And it was not eventful that
I know of or I was aware of.

1182

01:09:42,529 --> 01:09:43,960

Probably people died.

1183

01:09:43,960 --> 01:09:46,520

It was quite crowded.

1184

01:09:46,520 --> 01:09:55,790

So when we got to Auschwitz,
guys, they opened the doors.

1185

01:09:55,790 --> 01:10:01,520

And burly, kind of pretty
healthy-looking guys came up,

1186

01:10:01,520 --> 01:10:03,320

which I was kind of--

1187

01:10:03,320 --> 01:10:05,420
they looked kind of ominous.

1188
01:10:05,420 --> 01:10:10,580
And they wore prison uniforms.

1189
01:10:10,580 --> 01:10:12,090
And they wouldn't say nothing.

1190
01:10:12,090 --> 01:10:14,100
They just picked things up.

1191
01:10:14,100 --> 01:10:20,180
And they made us get off
the cars and lined us up.

1192
01:10:20,180 --> 01:10:25,010
I remember I think that's
where we were separated,

1193
01:10:25,010 --> 01:10:26,960
right there and then.

1194
01:10:26,960 --> 01:10:30,422
The families were separated.

1195
01:10:30,422 --> 01:10:32,220
You mean fathers and
mothers and children.

1196
01:10:32,220 --> 01:10:33,500
The children, yeah.

1197
01:10:33,500 --> 01:10:36,140

1198
01:10:36,140 --> 01:10:40,640
When we got off there,
I just saw a camp.

1199
01:10:40,640 --> 01:10:42,140
And I didn't realize

what the heck

1200
01:10:42,140 --> 01:10:45,560
it was, coming from
the backwoods country

1201
01:10:45,560 --> 01:10:48,200
like where I came from.

1202
01:10:48,200 --> 01:10:53,900
And they separated us.

1203
01:10:53,900 --> 01:10:57,900
And I still didn't
know what was going on.

1204
01:10:57,900 --> 01:11:03,560
And so I was
separated, went to--

1205
01:11:03,560 --> 01:11:09,470
they put me in a barrack
with youngsters, teenagers.

1206
01:11:09,470 --> 01:11:16,260
And there were these guys,
the prisoners, guards.

1207
01:11:16,260 --> 01:11:18,050
They used to call them "kapos."

1208
01:11:18,050 --> 01:11:20,720
Prison guards used
to just come around

1209
01:11:20,720 --> 01:11:26,210
with sticks or with whips and
always scream and always holler

1210
01:11:26,210 --> 01:11:36,040
and just always
stirring something.

1211

01:11:36,040 --> 01:11:38,510

Yeah, I've got to get back.

1212

01:11:38,510 --> 01:11:41,480

When they were separated, a guy
was just standing, I guess--

1213

01:11:41,480 --> 01:11:44,690

and now, I know it
was probably Mengele--

1214

01:11:44,690 --> 01:11:45,440

just with a stick.

1215

01:11:45,440 --> 01:11:49,448

Just you go this way
and you go that way.

1216

01:11:49,448 --> 01:11:50,810

So anyhow, in that barrack--

1217

01:11:50,810 --> 01:11:51,560

Excuse me.

1218

01:11:51,560 --> 01:11:52,820

This was at the--

1219

01:11:52,820 --> 01:11:53,660

Auschwitz.

1220

01:11:53,660 --> 01:11:55,088

This was at the train terminal.

1221

01:11:55,088 --> 01:11:57,380

There was a man standing
there with a stick directing--

1222

01:11:57,380 --> 01:11:58,855

Yeah, on the train--

1223

01:11:58,855 --> 01:11:59,980

It might have been Mengele?

1224

01:11:59,980 --> 01:12:02,470

It might have been
Mengele, but I don't know.

1225

01:12:02,470 --> 01:12:04,550

It was a Nazi, anyhow.

1226

01:12:04,550 --> 01:12:09,200

He was just with a
stick, just pointing.

1227

01:12:09,200 --> 01:12:12,890

You go there and you go
there, as I remember it.

1228

01:12:12,890 --> 01:12:21,770

And I was-- in that barrack
were mostly teenagers.

1229

01:12:21,770 --> 01:12:25,570

1230

01:12:25,570 --> 01:12:29,290

So then a day or
two, I was there.

1231

01:12:29,290 --> 01:12:35,360

And I found out my dad was
in about a few barracks down.

1232

01:12:35,360 --> 01:12:41,400

So I sneaked away
and went with my dad.

1233

01:12:41,400 --> 01:12:45,570

I was kind of scared and didn't
realize what was happening.

1234

01:12:45,570 --> 01:12:47,390

But I was with him.

1235

01:12:47,390 --> 01:12:49,790

But it's still all
this commotion.

1236

01:12:49,790 --> 01:12:55,280

They muster you out and holler
and beat you and whip you.

1237

01:12:55,280 --> 01:13:01,550

And always, these guards,
even if they were prisoners--

1238

01:13:01,550 --> 01:13:06,770

but they were all--

1239

01:13:06,770 --> 01:13:09,240

what do you call them?

1240

01:13:09,240 --> 01:13:11,083

They screamed and beat you.

1241

01:13:11,083 --> 01:13:12,500

You were saying
they were vicious.

1242

01:13:12,500 --> 01:13:13,520

Vicious, yeah.

1243

01:13:13,520 --> 01:13:15,830

That's probably--
it was vicious.

1244

01:13:15,830 --> 01:13:17,060

They acted vicious.

1245

01:13:17,060 --> 01:13:20,090

And maybe they weren't,
but they acted vicious,

1246

01:13:20,090 --> 01:13:21,965

even if they were not.

1247

01:13:21,965 --> 01:13:24,530

You were allowed to stay with
your father in his barrack?

1248

01:13:24,530 --> 01:13:25,610

Yeah, they didn't know.

1249

01:13:25,610 --> 01:13:27,842

They just counted
you and that's all.

1250

01:13:27,842 --> 01:13:30,050

You certainly seem-- you
must have been a lot younger

1251

01:13:30,050 --> 01:13:30,950

than the older men.

1252

01:13:30,950 --> 01:13:31,490

Yeah.

1253

01:13:31,490 --> 01:13:34,318

But there were still young
people in there, apparently.

1254

01:13:34,318 --> 01:13:35,360

But they didn't question.

1255

01:13:35,360 --> 01:13:37,970

1256

01:13:37,970 --> 01:13:40,940

There was no exact thing.

1257

01:13:40,940 --> 01:13:43,970

You were just nobody, anyhow.

1258

01:13:43,970 --> 01:13:46,580

So they didn't pay attention.

1259

01:13:46,580 --> 01:13:50,000

So anyhow, it was just
maybe a week or so, I think,

1260
01:13:50,000 --> 01:13:51,860
or a few days.

1261
01:13:51,860 --> 01:13:56,565
They mustered us out again--

1262
01:13:56,565 --> 01:13:59,780
and again, a Nazi with a stick.

1263
01:13:59,780 --> 01:14:05,360
There was a whole bunch of
people, able-bodied people.

1264
01:14:05,360 --> 01:14:08,690
We were standing in
the field mustered out.

1265
01:14:08,690 --> 01:14:12,860
And he was just
pointing in line.

1266
01:14:12,860 --> 01:14:16,070
You would step forward
out of the line.

1267
01:14:16,070 --> 01:14:21,090
And he would say, you go
there and this guy goes there.

1268
01:14:21,090 --> 01:14:24,800
And my father came before me.

1269
01:14:24,800 --> 01:14:29,780
And he was going to send him
where it looked like there were

1270
01:14:29,780 --> 01:14:33,810
not as big or strong people.

1271

01:14:33,810 --> 01:14:36,290

And he was going to
send them to the weaker.

1272

01:14:36,290 --> 01:14:39,690

But my father was
fairly heavy and big.

1273

01:14:39,690 --> 01:14:44,930

And my father stopped and
said, I want to go this way.

1274

01:14:44,930 --> 01:14:45,630

I can work.

1275

01:14:45,630 --> 01:14:49,950

And the guys-- the Nazi
said, show me your hands.

1276

01:14:49,950 --> 01:14:51,470

So he says, OK.

1277

01:14:51,470 --> 01:14:53,690

Go the other way
with the stronger.

1278

01:14:53,690 --> 01:14:59,330

Later on, I found out that
he stayed in Auschwitz,

1279

01:14:59,330 --> 01:15:01,700

worked over there.

1280

01:15:01,700 --> 01:15:04,310

And I came off the line.

1281

01:15:04,310 --> 01:15:07,220

And I didn't say anything.

1282

01:15:07,220 --> 01:15:13,590

Even then, I didn't have quick
reaction to say anything.

1283

01:15:13,590 --> 01:15:18,420

So anyhow, I was shipped
to Germany on a train.

1284

01:15:18,420 --> 01:15:21,230

And apparently,
later on, I found out

1285

01:15:21,230 --> 01:15:24,020

that he worked around Auschwitz.

1286

01:15:24,020 --> 01:15:28,790

And with a lot of people
from home that I knew,

1287

01:15:28,790 --> 01:15:30,560

nobody seemed to survive.

1288

01:15:30,560 --> 01:15:33,290

So I guess--

1289

01:15:33,290 --> 01:15:43,073

I don't know if after a
certain time, they got weak

1290

01:15:43,073 --> 01:15:44,990

and they killed them or
with the marches going

1291

01:15:44,990 --> 01:15:47,660

back or something.

1292

01:15:47,660 --> 01:15:49,820

To get back there,
in that barrack,

1293

01:15:49,820 --> 01:15:52,460

I saved up a piece of bread.

1294

01:15:52,460 --> 01:15:56,780

Hunger was all the
time on your mind.

1295
01:15:56,780 --> 01:15:59,870
It was really starting to
get bad, as far as hunger.

1296
01:15:59,870 --> 01:16:02,380

1297
01:16:02,380 --> 01:16:05,810
So I saved up a piece of
bread and gave it to my dad.

1298
01:16:05,810 --> 01:16:09,710
And he said, no,
he didn't want it.

1299
01:16:09,710 --> 01:16:13,350
So I thought he might be hungry.

1300
01:16:13,350 --> 01:16:15,020
I don't know.

1301
01:16:15,020 --> 01:16:18,470
So he refused to have it--

1302
01:16:18,470 --> 01:16:21,290
says, you have it.

1303
01:16:21,290 --> 01:16:23,000
I just thought I'll
put that incident

1304
01:16:23,000 --> 01:16:26,850
in because it stuck in my mind.

1305
01:16:26,850 --> 01:16:34,460
And so he stayed in
Auschwitz, apparently.

1306
01:16:34,460 --> 01:16:38,580
And he didn't survive.

1307

01:16:38,580 --> 01:16:40,040

So I went to Germany.

1308

01:16:40,040 --> 01:16:41,990

They took us in a camp.

1309

01:16:41,990 --> 01:16:45,730

1310

01:16:45,730 --> 01:16:47,970

It's supposed to
be a working camp.

1311

01:16:47,970 --> 01:16:54,300

It was called-- the camp
was called Camp Four.

1312

01:16:54,300 --> 01:16:59,330

And it was near Landsberg,
Germany over there.

1313

01:16:59,330 --> 01:17:02,270

It was around Munich, I
guess, and around Dachau,

1314

01:17:02,270 --> 01:17:03,260

all these camps.

1315

01:17:03,260 --> 01:17:04,850

But I didn't realize it.

1316

01:17:04,850 --> 01:17:07,340

I don't think
anybody else knew it.

1317

01:17:07,340 --> 01:17:08,690

So it was a working camp.

1318

01:17:08,690 --> 01:17:17,420

And we would just live in kind
of a barracks just dugged out

1319

01:17:17,420 --> 01:17:24,920

in the middle and kind
of a roof put like this.

1320

01:17:24,920 --> 01:17:26,990

And you sleep on the ground.

1321

01:17:26,990 --> 01:17:31,580

You just walk in the center,
about this much space.

1322

01:17:31,580 --> 01:17:34,130

And of course, it was dirty.

1323

01:17:34,130 --> 01:17:37,100

They had showers, but
it was still dirt.

1324

01:17:37,100 --> 01:17:38,750

There were no clothes to change.

1325

01:17:38,750 --> 01:17:44,540

And lice and all that
stuff was around.

1326

01:17:44,540 --> 01:17:50,360

And later, I was miserable.

1327

01:17:50,360 --> 01:17:54,510

But they fed us
regularly for breakfast.

1328

01:17:54,510 --> 01:17:57,230

They would wake us
up in the morning

1329

01:17:57,230 --> 01:18:03,140

and I think coffee and a
piece of bread, I believe.

1330

01:18:03,140 --> 01:18:07,790

And then at night, I believe

it was some kind of a soup.

1331
01:18:07,790 --> 01:18:12,830
I think the bread, you
would have with you all day,

1332
01:18:12,830 --> 01:18:16,490
just one piece of
bread, the dark bread.

1333
01:18:16,490 --> 01:18:22,700
And they would get us up
and mustered us out to work.

1334
01:18:22,700 --> 01:18:24,440
They would take us.

1335
01:18:24,440 --> 01:18:25,520
Sometimes, we marched.

1336
01:18:25,520 --> 01:18:30,440
And sometimes, they would
take us with trucks.

1337
01:18:30,440 --> 01:18:37,370
And we'd just dig, kind
of work on the dirt

1338
01:18:37,370 --> 01:18:41,210
to build the railroad things
and just pick and shovel work.

1339
01:18:41,210 --> 01:18:43,760
That's about it.

1340
01:18:43,760 --> 01:18:47,160
And I was with some
people from back home,

1341
01:18:47,160 --> 01:18:51,270
which one about my
own age, he died.

1342

01:18:51,270 --> 01:18:55,130

He was kind of a more
delicate guy than I was.

1343

01:18:55,130 --> 01:18:57,680

And he died.

1344

01:18:57,680 --> 01:19:03,370

And another person died from
back home, a couple of them,

1345

01:19:03,370 --> 01:19:05,600

a few of them.

1346

01:19:05,600 --> 01:19:08,780

If you go to the
sickbay, they just

1347

01:19:08,780 --> 01:19:14,350

give you some kind of ground-up
charcoal for medicine.

1348

01:19:14,350 --> 01:19:16,200

They said they were
doctors from Hungary.

1349

01:19:16,200 --> 01:19:17,880

Apparently, they were doctors.

1350

01:19:17,880 --> 01:19:20,370

And that's all they gave you.

1351

01:19:20,370 --> 01:19:25,260

And I remember I think
we were off weekends.

1352

01:19:25,260 --> 01:19:29,370

I really don't remember
if we were off weekends.

1353

01:19:29,370 --> 01:19:33,520

1354
01:19:33,520 --> 01:19:37,890
As I said, I think, before,
so that camp wasn't bad

1355
01:19:37,890 --> 01:19:40,770
compared with the other
camps were really bad

1356
01:19:40,770 --> 01:19:43,470
around that area.

1357
01:19:43,470 --> 01:19:50,460
And that took us till
in '44 in the snow.

1358
01:19:50,460 --> 01:19:52,350
And it used to be cold.

1359
01:19:52,350 --> 01:19:56,880
And a lot of people
didn't have shoes.

1360
01:19:56,880 --> 01:20:02,190
But back home, we used to put
on shoes and put rags on it

1361
01:20:02,190 --> 01:20:03,860
and build shoes from rubber.

1362
01:20:03,860 --> 01:20:06,510
So I had those wooden shoes.

1363
01:20:06,510 --> 01:20:14,400
And I would do a pretty
good job and protect my feet

1364
01:20:14,400 --> 01:20:16,200
from the cold.

1365
01:20:16,200 --> 01:20:19,810
So I guess that's another

thing that helped me.

1366
01:20:19,810 --> 01:20:25,560
And I was young to withstand
all this miserable and

1367
01:20:25,560 --> 01:20:27,240
malnutrition, of course.

1368
01:20:27,240 --> 01:20:30,510
And the only thing you
always were thinking about

1369
01:20:30,510 --> 01:20:33,850
is food, because they kept
you hungry all the time.

1370
01:20:33,850 --> 01:20:36,090
So you really didn't have--

1371
01:20:36,090 --> 01:20:39,840
right from the beginning, you
couldn't think anything else

1372
01:20:39,840 --> 01:20:43,620
but something to eat.

1373
01:20:43,620 --> 01:20:45,780
Let me ask you about
Auschwitz again.

1374
01:20:45,780 --> 01:20:49,230
You say your father
probably perished there.

1375
01:20:49,230 --> 01:20:51,540
But you didn't mention
your mother and your--

1376
01:20:51,540 --> 01:20:54,940
Yeah, the family probably--

1377

01:20:54,940 --> 01:20:58,270

I still didn't know
what was going on there.

1378

01:20:58,270 --> 01:21:01,898

Even I was there, nobody--

1379

01:21:01,898 --> 01:21:02,440

I don't know.

1380

01:21:02,440 --> 01:21:05,820

I don't recall anything
that anybody talked about it

1381

01:21:05,820 --> 01:21:08,760

or said anything about
it, what was really

1382

01:21:08,760 --> 01:21:10,710

going on in Auschwitz.

1383

01:21:10,710 --> 01:21:12,150

I really didn't know.

1384

01:21:12,150 --> 01:21:14,310

But anyhow, I don't remember.

1385

01:21:14,310 --> 01:21:18,750

So apparently, my family
perished immediately.

1386

01:21:18,750 --> 01:21:21,630

The last time you saw your
mother and brothers and sisters

1387

01:21:21,630 --> 01:21:22,800

was at the rail.

1388

01:21:22,800 --> 01:21:24,892

At the rail and the
train, probably.

1389

01:21:24,892 --> 01:21:25,725
And it was so quick.

1390
01:21:25,725 --> 01:21:29,010

1391
01:21:29,010 --> 01:21:31,860
I think we had to leave
our baggage there.

1392
01:21:31,860 --> 01:21:33,760
We didn't take anything with us.

1393
01:21:33,760 --> 01:21:35,760
And again, can you give
us some idea of how long

1394
01:21:35,760 --> 01:21:37,620
you were actually at Auschwitz?

1395
01:21:37,620 --> 01:21:39,510
I wasn't long in Auschwitz.

1396
01:21:39,510 --> 01:21:45,160
In Auschwitz, I probably-- at
most, I think a couple weeks.

1397
01:21:45,160 --> 01:21:47,270
That's why I don't have
the number over there.

1398
01:21:47,270 --> 01:21:54,960
And in my particular camp,
they didn't have the numbers.

1399
01:21:54,960 --> 01:21:59,730
So anyhow, in the camp,
it was just a routine.

1400
01:21:59,730 --> 01:22:01,360
German camp now--

1401

01:22:01,360 --> 01:22:01,920
In Germany.

1402
01:22:01,920 --> 01:22:04,560
The camp in Germany
was kind of a routine,

1403
01:22:04,560 --> 01:22:12,540
just trying to survive.

1404
01:22:12,540 --> 01:22:15,340
One time, I did sneak
in the garbage can.

1405
01:22:15,340 --> 01:22:18,030
And I don't know how I got it.

1406
01:22:18,030 --> 01:22:21,540
I sneaked in the garbage
can and ate some bones--

1407
01:22:21,540 --> 01:22:27,210
take out some soft bones what
the Nazis ate in their garbage

1408
01:22:27,210 --> 01:22:29,100
can.

1409
01:22:29,100 --> 01:22:31,920
So that helped me.

1410
01:22:31,920 --> 01:22:34,950
Maybe even one meal
would have helped you.

1411
01:22:34,950 --> 01:22:38,235
And so I ate there
whatever I could find.

1412
01:22:38,235 --> 01:22:42,300

1413

01:22:42,300 --> 01:22:50,550
And so then for what
reason, I'm not--

1414
01:22:50,550 --> 01:22:56,550
just one day towards the
end, we got some sugar.

1415
01:22:56,550 --> 01:23:01,860
I remember sugar cubes,
sugar blocks, a couple boxes.

1416
01:23:01,860 --> 01:23:03,930
And I don't know.

1417
01:23:03,930 --> 01:23:07,080
I just wonder
where it came from.

1418
01:23:07,080 --> 01:23:10,830
But anyhow, I ate, I
think, both boxes of sugar.

1419
01:23:10,830 --> 01:23:13,840
And probably a lot of
people got sick of it.

1420
01:23:13,840 --> 01:23:16,260
But I was able to survive it.

1421
01:23:16,260 --> 01:23:19,800

1422
01:23:19,800 --> 01:23:24,940
So I think we started to think
it might be getting better.

1423
01:23:24,940 --> 01:23:33,070
But anyhow, they took the war--

1424
01:23:33,070 --> 01:23:33,940
oh, yeah.

1425

01:23:33,940 --> 01:23:34,750

Yeah.

1426

01:23:34,750 --> 01:23:37,390

And then we were getting hope.

1427

01:23:37,390 --> 01:23:40,940

We would go to work
in the railroad.

1428

01:23:40,940 --> 01:23:44,490

And there would come bombers.

1429

01:23:44,490 --> 01:23:50,790

So I think our spirits maybe
kind of lifted a little bit.

1430

01:23:50,790 --> 01:23:57,870

And they would the
plane fly over us.

1431

01:23:57,870 --> 01:24:03,990

And they would put us on the
field in a ring, the Nazis.

1432

01:24:03,990 --> 01:24:10,830

And they would see
a flight when they

1433

01:24:10,830 --> 01:24:14,730

order us to get away from the
railroad where we were working

1434

01:24:14,730 --> 01:24:19,770

and get us in the field and
put us in a ring laying down.

1435

01:24:19,770 --> 01:24:25,350

And they would run off in the
bushes, hide in the bushes.

1436

01:24:25,350 --> 01:24:30,160

And so that went on for a while.

1437

01:24:30,160 --> 01:24:37,380

So we were kind of, I think,
left with a little hope.

1438

01:24:37,380 --> 01:24:40,770

And then one day, just--

1439

01:24:40,770 --> 01:24:42,450

yeah, one day, they
took us all away

1440

01:24:42,450 --> 01:24:49,020

to work in Munich a
big railroad yard.

1441

01:24:49,020 --> 01:24:49,860

And we worked there.

1442

01:24:49,860 --> 01:24:53,220

And I was looking.

1443

01:24:53,220 --> 01:24:57,390

People would walk by and drive
by and so forth, looking at us.

1444

01:24:57,390 --> 01:24:59,250

They are over the bridge.

1445

01:24:59,250 --> 01:25:03,240

And it was kind of sad.

1446

01:25:03,240 --> 01:25:08,100

Kind of the way I
remember it, here I

1447

01:25:08,100 --> 01:25:11,490

am here locked up for I
don't know for what reason.

1448

01:25:11,490 --> 01:25:13,080

And they are free over there.

1449
01:25:13,080 --> 01:25:14,400
It was kind of--

1450
01:25:14,400 --> 01:25:18,420
that's when I felt
kind of an anger in me.

1451
01:25:18,420 --> 01:25:21,637

1452
01:25:21,637 --> 01:25:23,220
Of course, you
couldn't feel anything,

1453
01:25:23,220 --> 01:25:26,880
because the only thing in your
mind was always on that hunger.

1454
01:25:26,880 --> 01:25:29,130
You always were hungry.

1455
01:25:29,130 --> 01:25:30,840
And of course, I
didn't weigh much.

1456
01:25:30,840 --> 01:25:33,900
I was thin as a rail.

1457
01:25:33,900 --> 01:25:42,975
And so then as time went
on, they marched us.

1458
01:25:42,975 --> 01:25:45,720

1459
01:25:45,720 --> 01:25:50,640
Or I don't remember-- took
us to another camp someplace.

1460
01:25:50,640 --> 01:25:53,910

We stayed a few days over there.

1461

01:25:53,910 --> 01:25:59,610

It seemed like to be it
was a fairly nice camp.

1462

01:25:59,610 --> 01:26:03,230

And they didn't seem
to bother us anymore

1463

01:26:03,230 --> 01:26:07,470

as much about that time
already towards the end

1464

01:26:07,470 --> 01:26:11,670

and not as aggressive.

1465

01:26:11,670 --> 01:26:12,790

What is that word again?

1466

01:26:12,790 --> 01:26:15,330

1467

01:26:15,330 --> 01:26:19,560

Mean-- they didn't act as
mean as they used to as bad.

1468

01:26:19,560 --> 01:26:22,530

1469

01:26:22,530 --> 01:26:26,700

So anyhow, we were there
a few days at that camp.

1470

01:26:26,700 --> 01:26:32,190

And they fed us
fairly reasonable.

1471

01:26:32,190 --> 01:26:40,770

So one night, I sneaked in
in the kitchen over there.

1472

01:26:40,770 --> 01:26:44,490
The window, I think, was open.

1473
01:26:44,490 --> 01:26:50,350
And I sneaked in sometime
at midnight or so.

1474
01:26:50,350 --> 01:26:52,920
And I got some food.

1475
01:26:52,920 --> 01:26:55,500

1476
01:26:55,500 --> 01:26:58,590
And I think it was-- yeah,
it was in the morning,

1477
01:26:58,590 --> 01:27:01,020
actually, about 4:00 or
5 o'clock in the morning.

1478
01:27:01,020 --> 01:27:03,690
And here comes somebody.

1479
01:27:03,690 --> 01:27:08,910
And there was one
of the guards or one

1480
01:27:08,910 --> 01:27:11,280
of the Nazis and other people.

1481
01:27:11,280 --> 01:27:13,710
They were not in uniform.

1482
01:27:13,710 --> 01:27:20,750
And so I hid under the
big kettle and laid low.

1483
01:27:20,750 --> 01:27:22,160
And they went in another room.

1484
01:27:22,160 --> 01:27:26,900

And so I sneaked out.

1485
01:27:26,900 --> 01:27:30,020
I thought to myself
that time, here I am.

1486
01:27:30,020 --> 01:27:32,080
I got saved again.

1487
01:27:32,080 --> 01:27:36,410
Of course, another time,
maybe I had saved myself

1488
01:27:36,410 --> 01:27:40,970
when I sneaked to my
father in Auschwitz.

1489
01:27:40,970 --> 01:27:45,590
That might have saved me, too.

1490
01:27:45,590 --> 01:27:47,090
So anyhow, I sneaked out.

1491
01:27:47,090 --> 01:27:49,520
And I jumped out the window.

1492
01:27:49,520 --> 01:27:57,210
And outside, the guard
happened to walk by.

1493
01:27:57,210 --> 01:28:00,990
And he saw me, but he
didn't say anything.

1494
01:28:00,990 --> 01:28:03,260
He just kind of glanced.

1495
01:28:03,260 --> 01:28:06,030
Again, he didn't say anything.

1496
01:28:06,030 --> 01:28:09,710
So then also, I felt things

must be getting better

1497
01:28:09,710 --> 01:28:13,760
that he doesn't even bother a
fraction, because usually they

1498
01:28:13,760 --> 01:28:21,290
would shoot you on the spot
or something for doing that.

1499
01:28:21,290 --> 01:28:24,080
So we stayed a few days there.

1500
01:28:24,080 --> 01:28:27,770
And of course, we
didn't get news.

1501
01:28:27,770 --> 01:28:29,270
So we didn't know
what was going on.

1502
01:28:29,270 --> 01:28:32,462

1503
01:28:32,462 --> 01:28:33,170
And I don't know.

1504
01:28:33,170 --> 01:28:38,750
Maybe other people, they
know what's going on, anyhow.

1505
01:28:38,750 --> 01:28:41,990
So anyhow, finally,
they took us--

1506
01:28:41,990 --> 01:28:45,020
it seemed like it was in
a nice place, a nice camp.

1507
01:28:45,020 --> 01:28:49,280
It could have been maybe
a former military camp

1508

01:28:49,280 --> 01:28:50,930
or something.

1509

01:28:50,930 --> 01:28:53,330
So anyhow, they round us up.

1510

01:28:53,330 --> 01:28:55,820
And here we go again.

1511

01:28:55,820 --> 01:28:58,970
They started marching
us someplace.

1512

01:28:58,970 --> 01:29:00,695
So we marched and marched.

1513

01:29:00,695 --> 01:29:03,670

1514

01:29:03,670 --> 01:29:05,780
And I don't know if
they fed us or not.

1515

01:29:05,780 --> 01:29:15,240
But they gave us rest
on a garbage dump.

1516

01:29:15,240 --> 01:29:19,220
So we found some
food and snails.

1517

01:29:19,220 --> 01:29:22,340
And I don't know where they
got a pot or something.

1518

01:29:22,340 --> 01:29:25,160
And they cooked and made a soup.

1519

01:29:25,160 --> 01:29:26,600
It was pretty good.

1520

01:29:26,600 --> 01:29:29,780

As I remember, there
was nice fat on it.

1521

01:29:29,780 --> 01:29:33,260

And back home, if you
had fat on the soup,

1522

01:29:33,260 --> 01:29:36,290

that meant it was
a healthy soup.

1523

01:29:36,290 --> 01:29:42,950

So we stayed, I think,
overnight over there.

1524

01:29:42,950 --> 01:29:44,660

And we ate.

1525

01:29:44,660 --> 01:29:48,020

And I remember one guy,
he was, I think, older.

1526

01:29:48,020 --> 01:29:49,760

But he was fairly smart.

1527

01:29:49,760 --> 01:29:54,860

It was turned over, kind of
those railroad things where

1528

01:29:54,860 --> 01:29:58,070

they load stuff, gravel.

1529

01:29:58,070 --> 01:30:00,530

And they push them
over a small railroad.

1530

01:30:00,530 --> 01:30:02,090

And he crawled underneath there.

1531

01:30:02,090 --> 01:30:06,210

And I just looked, and I
didn't know what to do.

1532
01:30:06,210 --> 01:30:08,390
And he just sneaked in there.

1533
01:30:08,390 --> 01:30:10,340
And I think he stayed.

1534
01:30:10,340 --> 01:30:14,390
I hope he survived
there in that garbage

1535
01:30:14,390 --> 01:30:17,180
if somebody didn't
come and kill him.

1536
01:30:17,180 --> 01:30:19,310
But I was afraid.

1537
01:30:19,310 --> 01:30:22,910
Just stay with the crowd.

1538
01:30:22,910 --> 01:30:24,845
So they marched us to camp.

1539
01:30:24,845 --> 01:30:29,400

1540
01:30:29,400 --> 01:30:30,630
Finally, we got to a camp.

1541
01:30:30,630 --> 01:30:33,990
It was a miserable camp.

1542
01:30:33,990 --> 01:30:39,460
Later on, I found out it
was one of those bad camps.

1543
01:30:39,460 --> 01:30:42,750
I think it was called
Landsberg camp.

1544

01:30:42,750 --> 01:30:45,810
It was a big one
and people dying

1545
01:30:45,810 --> 01:30:48,720
all over the place,
where there's hardly

1546
01:30:48,720 --> 01:30:51,450
any food they were giving us.

1547
01:30:51,450 --> 01:30:55,470
And then we kind of knew--

1548
01:30:55,470 --> 01:30:57,210
I didn't even realize.

1549
01:30:57,210 --> 01:31:00,900
I was so in a daze,
I guess, to realize

1550
01:31:00,900 --> 01:31:03,100
that this must be the end.

1551
01:31:03,100 --> 01:31:08,790
We heard already
shooting back and forth.

1552
01:31:08,790 --> 01:31:11,310
And I kind of found
a garbage can.

1553
01:31:11,310 --> 01:31:14,880
And I found some potato peels.

1554
01:31:14,880 --> 01:31:17,580
And I don't know where I
got the pot or something.

1555
01:31:17,580 --> 01:31:19,260
I cooked it.

1556

01:31:19,260 --> 01:31:21,160
I think I cooked it or ate it.

1557
01:31:21,160 --> 01:31:25,350
I was behind a barrack and
cooked it and ate that.

1558
01:31:25,350 --> 01:31:26,680
In the meantime, I look up.

1559
01:31:26,680 --> 01:31:31,200
And there is a Nazi
kind of a soldier

1560
01:31:31,200 --> 01:31:33,420
running across the field.

1561
01:31:33,420 --> 01:31:36,780
In the meantime, guns
were going back and forth.

1562
01:31:36,780 --> 01:31:39,380

1563
01:31:39,380 --> 01:31:41,550
It was early in the evening.

1564
01:31:41,550 --> 01:31:46,790
So anyhow, there was going
back and forth shooting for,

1565
01:31:46,790 --> 01:31:49,630
I think, a few days, a couple
days, two or three days.

1566
01:31:49,630 --> 01:31:53,240
And then we got liberated.

1567
01:31:53,240 --> 01:31:59,080
In the meantime, I found
cousins from my hometown.

1568

01:31:59,080 --> 01:32:01,960

Can you say something about the specifics of the liberation?

1569

01:32:01,960 --> 01:32:04,140

Did you see a group of American soldiers

1570

01:32:04,140 --> 01:32:06,870

or Russian soldiers moving toward you?

1571

01:32:06,870 --> 01:32:09,900

Well, I really didn't see anything.

1572

01:32:09,900 --> 01:32:17,460

Just I think everybody was just in a daze.

1573

01:32:17,460 --> 01:32:20,070

Everybody just walked all over the place.

1574

01:32:20,070 --> 01:32:21,060

Wandering around.

1575

01:32:21,060 --> 01:32:22,140

Just wondering around.

1576

01:32:22,140 --> 01:32:24,450

I don't think people knew where they were

1577

01:32:24,450 --> 01:32:26,160

or what they-- where they were.

1578

01:32:26,160 --> 01:32:31,590

But anyhow, I wasn't aware because of my age.

1579

01:32:31,590 --> 01:32:34,950

And that's all you could

think, as I say over and over,

1580
01:32:34,950 --> 01:32:37,560
that hunger, that
stench of hunger,

1581
01:32:37,560 --> 01:32:43,260
which you couldn't think of
anything else but something

1582
01:32:43,260 --> 01:32:46,062
of that hunger about
you all the time.

1583
01:32:46,062 --> 01:32:47,520
So overwhelmed by
hunger-- so there

1584
01:32:47,520 --> 01:32:50,550
wasn't any decisive moment
where you felt, I'm alive.

1585
01:32:50,550 --> 01:32:51,330
I'm now free.

1586
01:32:51,330 --> 01:32:52,080
No.

1587
01:32:52,080 --> 01:32:55,200
Yeah, I didn't
have that feeling.

1588
01:32:55,200 --> 01:32:59,190
I just think the
most, I wanted to see

1589
01:32:59,190 --> 01:33:04,470
if I can find something to eat.

1590
01:33:04,470 --> 01:33:07,920
So anyhow, I didn't see
the soldiers coming in

1591

01:33:07,920 --> 01:33:09,360
or anything--

1592

01:33:09,360 --> 01:33:11,770
probably was in one
of the other ends

1593

01:33:11,770 --> 01:33:13,880
and I didn't pay attention.

1594

01:33:13,880 --> 01:33:16,290
I probably was in a daze.

1595

01:33:16,290 --> 01:33:21,380
And so I just kind of wandered
off and just walked around

1596

01:33:21,380 --> 01:33:25,190
in the town and walked around.

1597

01:33:25,190 --> 01:33:27,450
And I think people gave me food.

1598

01:33:27,450 --> 01:33:30,650
And I ran across
American soldiers.

1599

01:33:30,650 --> 01:33:32,150
And I draw food.

1600

01:33:32,150 --> 01:33:40,020
I put it in the pocket as just
any kind of food I could find.

1601

01:33:40,020 --> 01:33:43,650
And that helped me.

1602

01:33:43,650 --> 01:33:45,290
And I just kept walking around.

1603

01:33:45,290 --> 01:33:48,890

And finally, I ran into
these American soldiers.

1604
01:33:48,890 --> 01:33:52,400
And they fed me, as I
remember, French fries now.

1605
01:33:52,400 --> 01:33:55,100
And they were good.

1606
01:33:55,100 --> 01:33:56,510
They were fixing French fries.

1607
01:33:56,510 --> 01:33:59,420
And they were sympathetic.

1608
01:33:59,420 --> 01:34:01,640
And of course, we
couldn't communicate.

1609
01:34:01,640 --> 01:34:08,930
And I saw I think it was
American soldiers laying around

1610
01:34:08,930 --> 01:34:12,800
as I'm walking by, as I
was just walking around.

1611
01:34:12,800 --> 01:34:19,220
And finally, I don't know how
many days I was just wondering.

1612
01:34:19,220 --> 01:34:25,310
And then I met up with
other of those prisoners.

1613
01:34:25,310 --> 01:34:30,130
And we found a butcher shop.

1614
01:34:30,130 --> 01:34:32,660
The German guy had
a butcher shop.

1615

01:34:32,660 --> 01:34:36,170

And I don't know if we
walked in or we broke in.

1616

01:34:36,170 --> 01:34:38,000

And we took some
stuff with that.

1617

01:34:38,000 --> 01:34:42,590

I think we just ate
it raw or something.

1618

01:34:42,590 --> 01:34:46,700

And he got kind of
mad or something.

1619

01:34:46,700 --> 01:34:52,400

And he called the American
soldiers to stop us.

1620

01:34:52,400 --> 01:34:55,880

1621

01:34:55,880 --> 01:34:57,180

And they did stop us.

1622

01:34:57,180 --> 01:35:01,400

And to this day, I'm kind
of mad at that soldier

1623

01:35:01,400 --> 01:35:02,660

that he would stop us.

1624

01:35:02,660 --> 01:35:06,530

Even it was his property
or something, still

1625

01:35:06,530 --> 01:35:10,160

he should have let us have
it, what we went through.

1626

01:35:10,160 --> 01:35:12,830

As far as I can tell
from what you're saying,

1627
01:35:12,830 --> 01:35:15,020
you don't remember
any organized attempt

1628
01:35:15,020 --> 01:35:17,660
to round up all the
kids and all the inmates

1629
01:35:17,660 --> 01:35:19,620
and help them in an
organized fashion.

1630
01:35:19,620 --> 01:35:21,260
No.

1631
01:35:21,260 --> 01:35:25,610
Let me-- I'm coming to that.

1632
01:35:25,610 --> 01:35:29,340
I think everybody
just scattered.

1633
01:35:29,340 --> 01:35:32,870
Just everybody or
most people, they just

1634
01:35:32,870 --> 01:35:36,160
didn't know where
to go or to do.

1635
01:35:36,160 --> 01:35:42,450
They were too weak
to do anything.

1636
01:35:42,450 --> 01:35:44,750
So anyhow, I wandered around.

1637
01:35:44,750 --> 01:35:49,940
So finally, somebody
was going around a truck

1638
01:35:49,940 --> 01:35:52,040
and picked me up--

1639
01:35:52,040 --> 01:35:53,120
After a few days--

1640
01:35:53,120 --> 01:35:55,970
After a few days
and picked me up

1641
01:35:55,970 --> 01:35:58,400
and took me back to the camp.

1642
01:35:58,400 --> 01:36:02,580
They asked me where I was
from and so forth and so on.

1643
01:36:02,580 --> 01:36:03,570
So I got to the camp.

1644
01:36:03,570 --> 01:36:11,270
I think they kind of
mustered me out or something

1645
01:36:11,270 --> 01:36:13,110
and just find out where I come.

1646
01:36:13,110 --> 01:36:18,455
And then they put me, I think,
on a train to Czechoslovakia.

1647
01:36:18,455 --> 01:36:20,370
Before we go on, they
had someone there

1648
01:36:20,370 --> 01:36:23,910
who spoke Yiddish or Ukrainian
or-- how did you communicate?

1649
01:36:23,910 --> 01:36:25,430
I do not remember.

1650
01:36:25,430 --> 01:36:26,930
I don't remember
how I communicated.

1651
01:36:26,930 --> 01:36:28,760
I guess German--

1652
01:36:28,760 --> 01:36:31,760
I think it was probably German.

1653
01:36:31,760 --> 01:36:33,120
These were US soldiers?

1654
01:36:33,120 --> 01:36:34,580
I don't remember who they were.

1655
01:36:34,580 --> 01:36:36,614
I think they were US soldiers.

1656
01:36:36,614 --> 01:36:37,114
Yeah.

1657
01:36:37,114 --> 01:36:42,680

1658
01:36:42,680 --> 01:36:43,580
They ran us.

1659
01:36:43,580 --> 01:36:47,040
Then they kind of asked people,
I think, where were you from.

1660
01:36:47,040 --> 01:36:52,460
And so I think they
took us with a truck.

1661
01:36:52,460 --> 01:36:55,820
I don't remember it
was a truck or a train.

1662

01:36:55,820 --> 01:36:59,840
And they put us on to go
where we were supposed to go.

1663
01:36:59,840 --> 01:37:04,490
So I wound up in
Czechoslovakia, Prague.

1664
01:37:04,490 --> 01:37:12,740
And I had something on my skin.

1665
01:37:12,740 --> 01:37:18,390
And they put me in a hos--

1666
01:37:18,390 --> 01:37:18,890
no.

1667
01:37:18,890 --> 01:37:21,170
First, I was running.

1668
01:37:21,170 --> 01:37:23,840
And they put me in a hospital.

1669
01:37:23,840 --> 01:37:29,690
And they, I guess, cured
whatever problem I had.

1670
01:37:29,690 --> 01:37:34,175
And so anyhow, I don't remember
how long I was in Prague.

1671
01:37:34,175 --> 01:37:37,390

1672
01:37:37,390 --> 01:37:43,020
And they fed us in
Prague one time.

1673
01:37:43,020 --> 01:37:46,660
They fed us in a non-commit.

1674
01:37:46,660 --> 01:37:49,060

I remember that.

1675
01:37:49,060 --> 01:37:53,980
Outside, they gave
us soup one time.

1676
01:37:53,980 --> 01:37:55,390
I remember that.

1677
01:37:55,390 --> 01:37:58,673
Then I was wandering around
the streets in Prague.

1678
01:37:58,673 --> 01:38:00,340
I don't know where
the hell I got money.

1679
01:38:00,340 --> 01:38:03,070

1680
01:38:03,070 --> 01:38:09,460
And I wandered into a restaurant
or some nice restaurant.

1681
01:38:09,460 --> 01:38:15,670
And they were playing music and
serve a lot of people in there.

1682
01:38:15,670 --> 01:38:20,135
And I wander in probably in my
prison clothes or something.

1683
01:38:20,135 --> 01:38:22,900
They were probably dirty.

1684
01:38:22,900 --> 01:38:28,390
And they escorted me
out, needless to say.

1685
01:38:28,390 --> 01:38:31,900
But anyhow, I walked.

1686

01:38:31,900 --> 01:38:34,900
They said, you can't be here.

1687
01:38:34,900 --> 01:38:36,760
I walked by a bakery.

1688
01:38:36,760 --> 01:38:37,720
And I was looking in.

1689
01:38:37,720 --> 01:38:39,730
I don't know if I
had money to buy.

1690
01:38:39,730 --> 01:38:43,960
But anyhow, young kids came
by and gave me some bread.

1691
01:38:43,960 --> 01:38:45,250
I know that.

1692
01:38:45,250 --> 01:38:47,650
I remember that.

1693
01:38:47,650 --> 01:38:50,060
So--

1694
01:38:50,060 --> 01:38:50,560
Excuse me.

1695
01:38:50,560 --> 01:38:53,740
It sounds like you're saying
that you were taken to Prague

1696
01:38:53,740 --> 01:38:55,810
and just let go.

1697
01:38:55,810 --> 01:38:58,690
I don't know pretty well.

1698
01:38:58,690 --> 01:39:02,830
I think there was a
central area where we--

1699
01:39:02,830 --> 01:39:06,430
An agency or someone who
was taking care of you.

1700
01:39:06,430 --> 01:39:07,180
There was.

1701
01:39:07,180 --> 01:39:10,220
I think we were in a central
building, I think, over there.

1702
01:39:10,220 --> 01:39:13,570
I don't remember too well that.

1703
01:39:13,570 --> 01:39:16,180
The only thing I do
remember that there

1704
01:39:16,180 --> 01:39:18,580
was a cook in the camp.

1705
01:39:18,580 --> 01:39:20,240
He was pretty fat.

1706
01:39:20,240 --> 01:39:25,570
And one time, he had a good--

1707
01:39:25,570 --> 01:39:27,580
if you were a cook,
that's the best job

1708
01:39:27,580 --> 01:39:29,990
you could have had over there.

1709
01:39:29,990 --> 01:39:32,680
And I got out of
line in the camp.

1710
01:39:32,680 --> 01:39:35,680
And he kicked me.

1711

01:39:35,680 --> 01:39:38,480

I didn't take any revenge
on him or anything,

1712

01:39:38,480 --> 01:39:40,180

but I was still mad.

1713

01:39:40,180 --> 01:39:44,290

I still remember his
face to this day.

1714

01:39:44,290 --> 01:39:45,850

But he kind of--

1715

01:39:45,850 --> 01:39:46,960

I was talking to him.

1716

01:39:46,960 --> 01:39:49,270

And he was kind
of standing there

1717

01:39:49,270 --> 01:39:53,000

kind of scared if somebody
might take advantage of him.

1718

01:39:53,000 --> 01:39:54,850

So anyhow, we were in Prague.

1719

01:39:54,850 --> 01:39:57,400

I got cured of that.

1720

01:39:57,400 --> 01:39:59,530

And I don't know how I got--

1721

01:39:59,530 --> 01:40:04,210

if I got on the train
by myself or just

1722

01:40:04,210 --> 01:40:12,580

going if I was with other
people towards back home.

1723

01:40:12,580 --> 01:40:21,790

And one of the towns, there were
some more Jewish people there,

1724

01:40:21,790 --> 01:40:24,100

Bratislava or something.

1725

01:40:24,100 --> 01:40:28,090

And I stayed there for a while.

1726

01:40:28,090 --> 01:40:32,450

And I don't know how we
got a hold of liquor.

1727

01:40:32,450 --> 01:40:36,160

And I drank.

1728

01:40:36,160 --> 01:40:37,120

I got drunk.

1729

01:40:37,120 --> 01:40:40,360

That's the first
time I got drunk.

1730

01:40:40,360 --> 01:40:43,000

And I was sick after it.

1731

01:40:43,000 --> 01:40:45,080

So finally, I was there.

1732

01:40:45,080 --> 01:40:48,580

I don't remember how
long I was there.

1733

01:40:48,580 --> 01:40:51,190

And I don't know how the
heck I got towards home,

1734

01:40:51,190 --> 01:40:56,200

because I didn't know
anywhere where I was.

1735

01:40:56,200 --> 01:41:06,853

Or I had no idea of
maps or anything--

1736

01:41:06,853 --> 01:41:07,520

Transportation--

1737

01:41:07,520 --> 01:41:10,280

Transportation work.

1738

01:41:10,280 --> 01:41:11,940

So I must have
been with somebody.

1739

01:41:11,940 --> 01:41:12,970

We got in a train.

1740

01:41:12,970 --> 01:41:14,530

And we went towards back home.

1741

01:41:14,530 --> 01:41:20,180

And little by little, it was--

1742

01:41:20,180 --> 01:41:22,250

I don't think it was eventful.

1743

01:41:22,250 --> 01:41:31,490

And I got by train and
by wagon and so on.

1744

01:41:31,490 --> 01:41:33,830

And I got home.

1745

01:41:33,830 --> 01:41:37,460

And there was a
couple people home.

1746

01:41:37,460 --> 01:41:43,370

And we lived all in one house.

1747

01:41:43,370 --> 01:41:47,470

And my sister got
home in the meantime.

1748
01:41:47,470 --> 01:41:49,610
I don't remember if
she was home already

1749
01:41:49,610 --> 01:41:54,580
or she got home after me.

1750
01:41:54,580 --> 01:41:56,400
Your sister who had
been in Auschwitz.

1751
01:41:56,400 --> 01:41:56,900
Yeah.

1752
01:41:56,900 --> 01:42:00,360
My sister survived.

1753
01:42:00,360 --> 01:42:00,860
She was--

1754
01:42:00,860 --> 01:42:01,610
You did find her.

1755
01:42:01,610 --> 01:42:02,930
Yeah.

1756
01:42:02,930 --> 01:42:04,340
I did find one sister.

1757
01:42:04,340 --> 01:42:05,670
She survived.

1758
01:42:05,670 --> 01:42:08,960
I remember we never
talked about it,

1759
01:42:08,960 --> 01:42:11,450
what camp she was and not me.

1760

01:42:11,450 --> 01:42:13,920

We never discussed that.

1761

01:42:13,920 --> 01:42:17,198

But anyhow, she survived.

1762

01:42:17,198 --> 01:42:19,610

You found your way
back to the village.

1763

01:42:19,610 --> 01:42:22,070

Found my way back
to the village--

1764

01:42:22,070 --> 01:42:26,730

there was a whole group of
people of us, a group of people

1765

01:42:26,730 --> 01:42:27,230

maybe--

1766

01:42:27,230 --> 01:42:31,920

I don't know-- about 10
or 20 people at the most.

1767

01:42:31,920 --> 01:42:35,420

One was an older guy.

1768

01:42:35,420 --> 01:42:38,480

And he was not in camp.

1769

01:42:38,480 --> 01:42:42,470

He happened to be in one of
those working camps back home.

1770

01:42:42,470 --> 01:42:46,890

And he got liberated that way.

1771

01:42:46,890 --> 01:42:48,440

So we were there a while.

1772

01:42:48,440 --> 01:42:50,490
And I looked around.

1773
01:42:50,490 --> 01:42:52,140
Nothing was in the house.

1774
01:42:52,140 --> 01:42:55,670
I don't remember if I
even walked in the house.

1775
01:42:55,670 --> 01:42:57,830
But I went to the neighbors.

1776
01:42:57,830 --> 01:43:01,130
They had our animals,
some of them.

1777
01:43:01,130 --> 01:43:04,230

1778
01:43:04,230 --> 01:43:13,820
And the local priest had one
of our cows and the horse.

1779
01:43:13,820 --> 01:43:15,440
I saw that.

1780
01:43:15,440 --> 01:43:17,870
I always was interested
in the animals,

1781
01:43:17,870 --> 01:43:21,680
so I kind of looked for that.

1782
01:43:21,680 --> 01:43:24,500
And he had one of our cows.

1783
01:43:24,500 --> 01:43:27,650
He had the cow with the
intention of keeping it?

1784
01:43:27,650 --> 01:43:30,250

Or was he intending to
give it back to you?

1785
01:43:30,250 --> 01:43:37,580
I don't think he intended that
or, if he would have given back

1786
01:43:37,580 --> 01:43:38,370
to me or not.

1787
01:43:38,370 --> 01:43:41,750
I kind of doubt it.

1788
01:43:41,750 --> 01:43:42,920
But we were still--

1789
01:43:42,920 --> 01:43:44,210
I went to the neighbors.

1790
01:43:44,210 --> 01:43:47,810
And so it was agreed.

1791
01:43:47,810 --> 01:43:50,300
And they did offer
me, I think, milk.

1792
01:43:50,300 --> 01:43:54,470
They gave me some food.

1793
01:43:54,470 --> 01:43:55,670
So we stayed there.

1794
01:43:55,670 --> 01:44:00,800
And all of a sudden, we
were discussing, I think,

1795
01:44:00,800 --> 01:44:06,140
some of the people we know
that they went back to jail.

1796
01:44:06,140 --> 01:44:08,600
And they were living in

Sudetenland and stuff

1797

01:44:08,600 --> 01:44:09,780
like that.

1798

01:44:09,780 --> 01:44:12,650
Yeah, I found some stuff--

1799

01:44:12,650 --> 01:44:16,010
for instance, the clothing
material was and some

1800

01:44:16,010 --> 01:44:18,930
of the jewelry and
stuff like that.

1801

01:44:18,930 --> 01:44:22,870
So I had a little
possession there.

1802

01:44:22,870 --> 01:44:23,840
Let me interrupt you.

1803

01:44:23,840 --> 01:44:26,240
I just would have assumed
that you would have come back

1804

01:44:26,240 --> 01:44:28,250
to the village with the
intention of coming back

1805

01:44:28,250 --> 01:44:29,790
to your house and
living in the house.

1806

01:44:29,790 --> 01:44:31,220
But it doesn't
sound like you were

1807

01:44:31,220 --> 01:44:34,170
terribly interested in
coming back to your old home.

1808
01:44:34,170 --> 01:44:34,670
No.

1809
01:44:34,670 --> 01:44:38,690

1810
01:44:38,690 --> 01:44:40,850
I just wanted to get home.

1811
01:44:40,850 --> 01:44:42,140
Yeah.

1812
01:44:42,140 --> 01:44:47,780
But I think deep
down, to come home,

1813
01:44:47,780 --> 01:44:49,730
you would be happy to come home.

1814
01:44:49,730 --> 01:44:52,970
But you didn't come
home with happiness.

1815
01:44:52,970 --> 01:44:57,917
And I don't think I even
then realized what happened.

1816
01:44:57,917 --> 01:44:59,500
Matter of fact, I'm
sure I didn't know

1817
01:44:59,500 --> 01:45:04,760
what happened to the family.

1818
01:45:04,760 --> 01:45:09,530
And it was still
sort of a fear in me.

1819
01:45:09,530 --> 01:45:13,190
And I didn't comprehend
really what it was.

1820

01:45:13,190 --> 01:45:14,940

But it was kind of a fear.

1821

01:45:14,940 --> 01:45:18,470

I was too young to realize
it, but there was a fear.

1822

01:45:18,470 --> 01:45:21,250

So you came back to the
village, but you were still

1823

01:45:21,250 --> 01:45:22,950

fearful and uncomfortable
being there.

1824

01:45:22,950 --> 01:45:24,470

Uncomfortable being there.

1825

01:45:24,470 --> 01:45:27,480

Yeah, uncomfortable being there.

1826

01:45:27,480 --> 01:45:31,670

And so anyway, I was
a few days there.

1827

01:45:31,670 --> 01:45:37,700

And all of a sudden,
the remnants,

1828

01:45:37,700 --> 01:45:40,070

there were Ukrainians
and Latvians

1829

01:45:40,070 --> 01:45:44,480

and stuff like that who were
fighting with the Germans.

1830

01:45:44,480 --> 01:45:46,460

And they were
renegades or something.

1831

01:45:46,460 --> 01:45:49,715

And they were going
around in units.

1832
01:45:49,715 --> 01:45:55,130

1833
01:45:55,130 --> 01:45:57,440
They were armed.

1834
01:45:57,440 --> 01:45:59,810
And one day, we were
just sitting in there

1835
01:45:59,810 --> 01:46:01,400
in the evening.

1836
01:46:01,400 --> 01:46:06,945
And we heard sort of a fire.

1837
01:46:06,945 --> 01:46:09,770

1838
01:46:09,770 --> 01:46:15,260
And apparently, the Russian
soldiers must have been around.

1839
01:46:15,260 --> 01:46:17,020
And they scared them off.

1840
01:46:17,020 --> 01:46:20,840
Then there's again a few days
later, the same thing happened.

1841
01:46:20,840 --> 01:46:23,900
They came around at night.

1842
01:46:23,900 --> 01:46:26,870
And they were going to their
houses for food, I guess,

1843
01:46:26,870 --> 01:46:29,090
and everything and

kidnapped people

1844

01:46:29,090 --> 01:46:32,840
to guide them to where to go.

1845

01:46:32,840 --> 01:46:35,480
And that night, a
couple came in--

1846

01:46:35,480 --> 01:46:39,560
one or two came in to where
we were in this house.

1847

01:46:39,560 --> 01:46:45,950
And he was really looking
fierce, a fierce face

1848

01:46:45,950 --> 01:46:54,390
and bullets all across his
chest and a weapon and so forth.

1849

01:46:54,390 --> 01:46:57,650
So again, the Russians happened
to be in the area looking

1850

01:46:57,650 --> 01:46:59,450
for these guys.

1851

01:46:59,450 --> 01:47:02,030
And they scared him off.

1852

01:47:02,030 --> 01:47:03,350
We could have lost our lives.

1853

01:47:03,350 --> 01:47:07,660
And that put a little
more fear in us.

1854

01:47:07,660 --> 01:47:10,370
And you were with
friends or acquaintances

1855

01:47:10,370 --> 01:47:12,650
that you had traveled with.

1856
01:47:12,650 --> 01:47:16,550
No, we traveled and home--

1857
01:47:16,550 --> 01:47:19,580
people from the
town, from hometown.

1858
01:47:19,580 --> 01:47:22,860
People you had known as
a child who took you in.

1859
01:47:22,860 --> 01:47:24,380
Yeah.

1860
01:47:24,380 --> 01:47:28,160
Yeah, it was our neighbor.

1861
01:47:28,160 --> 01:47:31,310
So anyhow, we kind
of already discussed.

1862
01:47:31,310 --> 01:47:34,910
But people were going to
Sudetenland and settling.

1863
01:47:34,910 --> 01:47:36,920
They said they have
nice houses over there.

1864
01:47:36,920 --> 01:47:39,150
And they accepted.

1865
01:47:39,150 --> 01:47:44,400
So some of my cousins
were there already.

1866
01:47:44,400 --> 01:47:46,420
So we wanted to
connect with them.

1867

01:47:46,420 --> 01:47:52,490

1868

01:47:52,490 --> 01:47:56,390

So after that incident,
fear came out.

1869

01:47:56,390 --> 01:48:00,360

So we thought we better
pack up and leave here.

1870

01:48:00,360 --> 01:48:01,740

So we took off.

1871

01:48:01,740 --> 01:48:09,440

We went close to
Czechoslovakian border

1872

01:48:09,440 --> 01:48:11,570

to sneak across, which is--

1873

01:48:11,570 --> 01:48:13,430

On foot or--

1874

01:48:13,430 --> 01:48:16,720

On foot-- on foot.

1875

01:48:16,720 --> 01:48:21,170

So we went there and
connected with the guides.

1876

01:48:21,170 --> 01:48:28,340

You pay them something,
and they sneak you across.

1877

01:48:28,340 --> 01:48:31,040

So we tried once.

1878

01:48:31,040 --> 01:48:33,380

And we didn't have any luck.

1879

01:48:33,380 --> 01:48:39,300
We went during the day, and we
were connected with animals.

1880
01:48:39,300 --> 01:48:41,660
They were grazing animals.

1881
01:48:41,660 --> 01:48:44,210
And apparently, the
Russians saw us.

1882
01:48:44,210 --> 01:48:47,330
We got there in the evening.

1883
01:48:47,330 --> 01:48:52,010
And we were scared, anyhow,
in the dark in the forest.

1884
01:48:52,010 --> 01:48:55,470
And all of a sudden,
they jump up and halt--

1885
01:48:55,470 --> 01:48:56,580
scared the hell out of us.

1886
01:48:56,580 --> 01:48:58,940
So they rounded us up
and took us back to town.

1887
01:48:58,940 --> 01:49:01,860

1888
01:49:01,860 --> 01:49:07,710
And then one more time,
we did it again and got--

1889
01:49:07,710 --> 01:49:10,080
we had that material I had.

1890
01:49:10,080 --> 01:49:12,870
So we gave them that,
which is valuable.

1891

01:49:12,870 --> 01:49:16,680

And we hired them again to
take us during the night.

1892

01:49:16,680 --> 01:49:19,950

And didn't help us--
they rounded us up.

1893

01:49:19,950 --> 01:49:25,770

And we were in prison for a
few days, a week, I think.

1894

01:49:25,770 --> 01:49:27,180

Talking about Russian soldiers?

1895

01:49:27,180 --> 01:49:29,460

Russian soldiers
that were in a house.

1896

01:49:29,460 --> 01:49:32,190

They kept us in the
basement or something.

1897

01:49:32,190 --> 01:49:34,260

And they seemed
to be fairly nice.

1898

01:49:34,260 --> 01:49:37,110

We told them we have
family over there.

1899

01:49:37,110 --> 01:49:40,830

And we wanted to go over there.

1900

01:49:40,830 --> 01:49:44,910

And my sister, we had those
rings and the jewelry.

1901

01:49:44,910 --> 01:49:48,000

And she would start
keeping anything

1902

01:49:48,000 --> 01:49:49,290
valuable in the pocket.

1903
01:49:49,290 --> 01:49:55,440
She hid it in their hair so they
won't take away, because they

1904
01:49:55,440 --> 01:49:57,750
would take anything away.

1905
01:49:57,750 --> 01:50:07,800
And so anyhow, we were
there for a while.

1906
01:50:07,800 --> 01:50:13,020
And finally, we tried
again on our own.

1907
01:50:13,020 --> 01:50:15,955
We sort of found an open space.

1908
01:50:15,955 --> 01:50:21,120
And early in the morning,
we just kind of just

1909
01:50:21,120 --> 01:50:23,430
kept walking towards
Czechoslovakia.

1910
01:50:23,430 --> 01:50:27,060
We finally just kept walking
and walking and walking,

1911
01:50:27,060 --> 01:50:32,280
me and my sister,
and got someplace.

1912
01:50:32,280 --> 01:50:34,980
I don't know how we
got to the train.

1913
01:50:34,980 --> 01:50:36,460
We got to the train.

1914
01:50:36,460 --> 01:50:42,930
And we reached the Sudetenland.

1915
01:50:42,930 --> 01:50:46,560
I don't know how
we kept ourselves.

1916
01:50:46,560 --> 01:50:48,980
It reaches the Sudetenland.

1917
01:50:48,980 --> 01:50:54,150
And that was in
'45, I should say.

1918
01:50:54,150 --> 01:51:00,390
I should have dated
this whole thing.

1919
01:51:00,390 --> 01:51:05,310
And we reached Sudetenland.

1920
01:51:05,310 --> 01:51:09,660
And we got ourselves
a house, a nice house.

1921
01:51:09,660 --> 01:51:18,720
And as we stayed there, I
worked in a nylon factory.

1922
01:51:18,720 --> 01:51:21,340
And my sister, too--

1923
01:51:21,340 --> 01:51:29,610
or somebody wanted her, I
think, to work in a maid house.

1924
01:51:29,610 --> 01:51:35,640
And I kind of resented my
sister to working as a maid

1925
01:51:35,640 --> 01:51:37,710

because we were well-off.

1926

01:51:37,710 --> 01:51:38,760

We had our own maid.

1927

01:51:38,760 --> 01:51:42,780

So kind of I resented that.

1928

01:51:42,780 --> 01:51:43,770

I remember that.

1929

01:51:43,770 --> 01:51:50,670

But I kind of took
it kind of harsh.

1930

01:51:50,670 --> 01:51:52,590

So we stayed there for a while.

1931

01:51:52,590 --> 01:51:56,190

And all of a sudden, we
thought we were settled.

1932

01:51:56,190 --> 01:52:00,160

But I think we were still
uneasy about it, to be there.

1933

01:52:00,160 --> 01:52:05,610

I think we wanted to
reach Israel or something

1934

01:52:05,610 --> 01:52:08,620

they were talking about.

1935

01:52:08,620 --> 01:52:09,630

So we stayed there.

1936

01:52:09,630 --> 01:52:16,110

And all of a sudden,
one day, we had

1937

01:52:16,110 --> 01:52:23,640

to ship back or round us up and

ship us back home or something.

1938

01:52:23,640 --> 01:52:25,630

So they took us away.

1939

01:52:25,630 --> 01:52:31,110

And we got to Prague, I think.

1940

01:52:31,110 --> 01:52:34,330

And then to try

to get to Germany,

1941

01:52:34,330 --> 01:52:38,827

I don't know how we wound

up near the Austrian border.

1942

01:52:38,827 --> 01:52:39,785

And we went to Vienna--

1943

01:52:39,785 --> 01:52:44,625

1944

01:52:44,625 --> 01:52:45,125

Vienna.

1945

01:52:45,125 --> 01:52:48,170

1946

01:52:48,170 --> 01:52:50,072

Or first, we--

1947

01:52:50,072 --> 01:52:53,070

1948

01:52:53,070 --> 01:52:53,570

Vienna.

1949

01:52:53,570 --> 01:52:57,530

Yeah, we were there for a while.

1950

01:52:57,530 --> 01:53:01,340

And we lived in sort of a--

1951

01:53:01,340 --> 01:53:03,650

everybody lived in one place.

1952

01:53:03,650 --> 01:53:06,980

Kind of different

liberated people

1953

01:53:06,980 --> 01:53:10,040

were sort of-- everybody

sort of was wondering.

1954

01:53:10,040 --> 01:53:12,410

You sort of would get

kept with those people.

1955

01:53:12,410 --> 01:53:15,950

1956

01:53:15,950 --> 01:53:22,800

And one day, they bring

provisions to the railroad.

1957

01:53:22,800 --> 01:53:32,520

And the people sneaked

off some food one day.

1958

01:53:32,520 --> 01:53:35,000

And they were

running away with it.

1959

01:53:35,000 --> 01:53:39,450

And one guy from the

window shot a young person.

1960

01:53:39,450 --> 01:53:42,230

I don't think he killed him.

1961

01:53:42,230 --> 01:53:43,610

But he shot him.

1962

01:53:43,610 --> 01:53:46,070
So I was taken back out of that.

1963
01:53:46,070 --> 01:53:47,720
I kind of resented
that they would

1964
01:53:47,720 --> 01:53:50,270
shoot at us after all that.

1965
01:53:50,270 --> 01:53:53,480

1966
01:53:53,480 --> 01:53:57,110
So anyway, we were in
Vienna for a while.

1967
01:53:57,110 --> 01:54:01,610
And I was kind of wandering
around over there.

1968
01:54:01,610 --> 01:54:04,550
And kind of it was
fascinating how

1969
01:54:04,550 --> 01:54:07,610
the Americans play
ball, actually,

1970
01:54:07,610 --> 01:54:10,220
just pitching back and forth.

1971
01:54:10,220 --> 01:54:12,210
And they were able to
catch it so easily.

1972
01:54:12,210 --> 01:54:14,510
So it's very easy.

1973
01:54:14,510 --> 01:54:16,760
And that kind of fascinated me.

1974

01:54:16,760 --> 01:54:20,310
Of course, the Americans
were fascinating.

1975
01:54:20,310 --> 01:54:25,100
They were from Mars
or something for us

1976
01:54:25,100 --> 01:54:29,180
and having all those cars and
things like that, especially

1977
01:54:29,180 --> 01:54:31,850
when I was young like that.

1978
01:54:31,850 --> 01:54:37,580
I didn't experience that coming
from the backwoods country

1979
01:54:37,580 --> 01:54:39,715
like I was.

1980
01:54:39,715 --> 01:54:41,090
And so we were
there for a while.

1981
01:54:41,090 --> 01:54:43,730
And then we wandered towards--

1982
01:54:43,730 --> 01:54:47,270
I don't know how
we got to Salzburg.

1983
01:54:47,270 --> 01:54:49,520
I didn't know it was
Salzburg at that time.

1984
01:54:49,520 --> 01:54:54,070
But later on, I found
out it was Salzburg--

1985
01:54:54,070 --> 01:54:56,960
was a nice picturesque town.

1986
01:54:56,960 --> 01:55:02,030
But I was too young or
in a daze to really enjoy

1987
01:55:02,030 --> 01:55:06,050
what was offered there.

1988
01:55:06,050 --> 01:55:10,370
And so we were
there for a while.

1989
01:55:10,370 --> 01:55:19,550
And then we found ourselves
and relatives or people

1990
01:55:19,550 --> 01:55:27,590
we know in what they called "DP
camp," where all these people--

1991
01:55:27,590 --> 01:55:33,230
where it was sort of a
barracks we lived in DP camps.

1992
01:55:33,230 --> 01:55:37,130
And we stayed there for a while.

1993
01:55:37,130 --> 01:55:42,830
And then we found out
some not far away.

1994
01:55:42,830 --> 01:55:44,090
Those were barracks.

1995
01:55:44,090 --> 01:55:46,130
They were nice to stay.

1996
01:55:46,130 --> 01:55:48,590
And they fed us.

1997
01:55:48,590 --> 01:55:56,238
I guess the Americans, they

gave us food and on and on.

1998

01:55:56,238 --> 01:55:58,280

I don't know if we had
much bedding or something.

1999

01:55:58,280 --> 01:56:01,430

We had some kind of
a bed to sleep on--

2000

01:56:01,430 --> 01:56:03,260

cots, I think it was.

2001

01:56:03,260 --> 01:56:03,980

And that's it.

2002

01:56:03,980 --> 01:56:08,370

I don't think we had any
closets or anything like that.

2003

01:56:08,370 --> 01:56:15,020

And so we stayed in that camp.

2004

01:56:15,020 --> 01:56:20,570

And then we found
out relatives were

2005

01:56:20,570 --> 01:56:23,180

living in a nicer small town.

2006

01:56:23,180 --> 01:56:26,930

It wasn't as much those
people, same of us.

2007

01:56:26,930 --> 01:56:28,430

And they had hotels.

2008

01:56:28,430 --> 01:56:34,220

I guess American
government or the army

2009

01:56:34,220 --> 01:56:36,800

confiscated some of the hotels.

2010

01:56:36,800 --> 01:56:39,740

We would stay in
hotels in better places

2011

01:56:39,740 --> 01:56:42,830

for those displaced people.

2012

01:56:42,830 --> 01:56:44,780

So we stayed there for a while.

2013

01:56:44,780 --> 01:56:49,010

And they had signed
with a school

2014

01:56:49,010 --> 01:56:51,260

some kind of instructions.

2015

01:56:51,260 --> 01:56:55,340

And I went to be an electrician.

2016

01:56:55,340 --> 01:56:58,700

But I didn't have the
background education really

2017

01:56:58,700 --> 01:57:00,020

to benefit anything.

2018

01:57:00,020 --> 01:57:03,570

And I was too young to
benefit anything from it.

2019

01:57:03,570 --> 01:57:05,870

So anyhow, we
lingered around there

2020

01:57:05,870 --> 01:57:09,110

for a while, which
it was a nice town.

2021

01:57:09,110 --> 01:57:13,520

And we smuggled a little bit.

2022

01:57:13,520 --> 01:57:16,580

Food was smuggled
all over Germany--

2023

01:57:16,580 --> 01:57:22,760

it was kind of
valuable at that time--

2024

01:57:22,760 --> 01:57:24,140

from city to city.

2025

01:57:24,140 --> 01:57:26,690

2026

01:57:26,690 --> 01:57:31,370

And we made money out of this.

2027

01:57:31,370 --> 01:57:38,210

And some people had business,
some people different kind

2028

01:57:38,210 --> 01:57:39,770

of a business.

2029

01:57:39,770 --> 01:57:42,450

And that's the only
thing I could do.

2030

01:57:42,450 --> 01:57:43,640

So we had a little money.

2031

01:57:43,640 --> 01:57:46,010

And then we were
given, I think--

2032

01:57:46,010 --> 01:57:51,923

I don't remember the
details how we survived.

2033

01:57:51,923 --> 01:57:55,270

Can you remember if at this time
that any of the Jewish agencies

2034
01:57:55,270 --> 01:57:56,990
had gotten involved
in your care?

2035
01:57:56,990 --> 01:58:00,430
Or you're still being
supervised or looked

2036
01:58:00,430 --> 01:58:03,400
after by the US military?

2037
01:58:03,400 --> 01:58:05,020
No, I don't think
the Jewish agency.

2038
01:58:05,020 --> 01:58:07,890
I think the military was.

2039
01:58:07,890 --> 01:58:13,570
And then I think we were
working to go someplace,

2040
01:58:13,570 --> 01:58:17,620
some other countries
or someplace,

2041
01:58:17,620 --> 01:58:23,560
and to emigrate
to Israel, mostly.

2042
01:58:23,560 --> 01:58:31,270
Or there was a possibility
to Australia and America,

2043
01:58:31,270 --> 01:58:33,010
of course.

2044
01:58:33,010 --> 01:58:35,260
You say the US government
was helping you manage--

2045
01:58:35,260 --> 01:58:38,270
I think the US government.

2046
01:58:38,270 --> 01:58:39,190
I don't know.

2047
01:58:39,190 --> 01:58:43,520
I think that particular--

2048
01:58:43,520 --> 01:58:49,840
there were people from
people who were displaced

2049
01:58:49,840 --> 01:58:53,220
were sort of put in charge
to take things care of.

2050
01:58:53,220 --> 01:58:57,400
So it never got any further
than the people who--

2051
01:58:57,400 --> 01:59:01,750
So the organization was manned
by the survivors themselves.

2052
01:59:01,750 --> 01:59:03,880
Yeah, it was organized.

2053
01:59:03,880 --> 01:59:07,810
The survivors organized
by themselves.

2054
01:59:07,810 --> 01:59:09,220
So we were in that town.

2055
01:59:09,220 --> 01:59:15,880
And again, it was
kind of a fun place.

2056
01:59:15,880 --> 01:59:18,560
But it wasn't fun for me.

2057

01:59:18,560 --> 01:59:22,840

The American soldiers would,
again, play baseball pitcher

2058

01:59:22,840 --> 01:59:24,460

all the time.

2059

01:59:24,460 --> 01:59:26,800

And they would have dances.

2060

01:59:26,800 --> 01:59:30,400

And of course, they had
all the girls in town.

2061

01:59:30,400 --> 01:59:35,350

And we were doing pretty
good, but not like they.

2062

01:59:35,350 --> 01:59:39,460

And we were envying them.

2063

01:59:39,460 --> 01:59:42,550

And of course, the
Jeep-- we liked the Jeep.

2064

01:59:42,550 --> 01:59:44,770

And there was a square in town.

2065

01:59:44,770 --> 01:59:50,200

They would run it by itself,
the Jeep light, and things

2066

01:59:50,200 --> 01:59:50,937

like that.

2067

01:59:50,937 --> 01:59:52,270

They were young people, I guess.

2068

01:59:52,270 --> 01:59:54,280

And they had a lot of fun.

2069

01:59:54,280 --> 01:59:55,180

But we didn't.

2070

01:59:55,180 --> 01:59:56,860

We were not able.

2071

01:59:56,860 --> 02:00:05,730

So anyhow, then I got
serious to go someplace to--

2072

02:00:05,730 --> 02:00:07,660

in the meantime, I
found some person

2073

02:00:07,660 --> 02:00:12,510

that knew that I had
an uncle in America.

2074

02:00:12,510 --> 02:00:15,240

So I was thinking
to go to America.

2075

02:00:15,240 --> 02:00:20,400

So we had to go to Munich
to make papers and things

2076

02:00:20,400 --> 02:00:21,250

like that.

2077

02:00:21,250 --> 02:00:23,850

So I lived around Munich,
someplace over there,

2078

02:00:23,850 --> 02:00:30,450

for a while and tried
to get papers together

2079

02:00:30,450 --> 02:00:34,550

to immigrate to America.

2080

02:00:34,550 --> 02:00:42,050

Then in the meantime, my sister

in this town met her husband.

2081
02:00:42,050 --> 02:00:43,130
And they got married.

2082
02:00:43,130 --> 02:00:45,420
And they left for Israel.

2083
02:00:45,420 --> 02:00:47,990
So I was left on my own.

2084
02:00:47,990 --> 02:00:50,240
How old was she?

2085
02:00:50,240 --> 02:00:56,010
She was about a couple of
years older at that time.

2086
02:00:56,010 --> 02:00:57,140
Still a teenager.

2087
02:00:57,140 --> 02:00:58,550
Yeah.

2088
02:00:58,550 --> 02:01:04,400
Yeah, she was not more-- but
maybe 18 by that time or so.

2089
02:01:04,400 --> 02:01:06,080
She met another survivor.

2090
02:01:06,080 --> 02:01:08,510
Yeah.

2091
02:01:08,510 --> 02:01:12,020
And so she got married.

2092
02:01:12,020 --> 02:01:15,920
And of course, we didn't know.

2093
02:01:15,920 --> 02:01:17,100

The wedding was simple.

2094

02:01:17,100 --> 02:01:20,900

We didn't have
anything really to--

2095

02:01:20,900 --> 02:01:21,480

no address.

2096

02:01:21,480 --> 02:01:26,480

2097

02:01:26,480 --> 02:01:28,550

I don't remember exactly
what the details were,

2098

02:01:28,550 --> 02:01:30,830

but it wasn't much.

2099

02:01:30,830 --> 02:01:33,920

I don't have even
a picture of it.

2100

02:01:33,920 --> 02:01:36,530

So anyhow, I went to Munich.

2101

02:01:36,530 --> 02:01:38,570

And I kind of
worked on my papers.

2102

02:01:38,570 --> 02:01:41,420

And it was not easy
to go to America.

2103

02:01:41,420 --> 02:01:44,490

So I also registered
if I can go to America.

2104

02:01:44,490 --> 02:01:46,790

I'm going to go to Australia.

2105

02:01:46,790 --> 02:01:48,390

For some reason,
whatever reason,

2106
02:01:48,390 --> 02:01:51,170
I was thinking to
go there because--

2107
02:01:51,170 --> 02:01:55,130
well, I think the rumor was they
had nice big farms you can have

2108
02:01:55,130 --> 02:01:57,720
over there and stuff like that.

2109
02:01:57,720 --> 02:01:59,610
So I registered with them.

2110
02:01:59,610 --> 02:02:02,210
I was almost going
to go to Australia.

2111
02:02:02,210 --> 02:02:05,790
But in the meantime, I was
working to go to America.

2112
02:02:05,790 --> 02:02:10,490
And then I ran out already
into a Jewish agency.

2113
02:02:10,490 --> 02:02:14,330
But they were not
very much helpful.

2114
02:02:14,330 --> 02:02:23,970
They were kind of actually
feeling kind of not sure

2115
02:02:23,970 --> 02:02:30,540
of themselves to really go
out and help us, I think.

2116
02:02:30,540 --> 02:02:33,480
I had that feeling.

2117
02:02:33,480 --> 02:02:36,870
They wouldn't go to talk to
the consulate or anything,

2118
02:02:36,870 --> 02:02:40,760
to the American consulate, which
they would converse with them

2119
02:02:40,760 --> 02:02:42,580
and tell them.

2120
02:02:42,580 --> 02:02:44,880
Well, anyhow, the
consulate seemed

2121
02:02:44,880 --> 02:02:50,010
to give us a hard
time to immigrate,

2122
02:02:50,010 --> 02:02:53,970
which I think it wasn't so
much the consulate, just

2123
02:02:53,970 --> 02:02:57,100
the low-level bureaucrats.

2124
02:02:57,100 --> 02:03:05,100
Of course, maybe they were
instructed to do that.

2125
02:03:05,100 --> 02:03:10,320
So anyhow, it was a non-Jew
Hungarian over there

2126
02:03:10,320 --> 02:03:12,900
in the front where you
entered the hallway

2127
02:03:12,900 --> 02:03:16,650
to go to the consulate to
find out about your paper.

2128
02:03:16,650 --> 02:03:20,970
And he would constantly
reject people.

2129
02:03:20,970 --> 02:03:21,810
We don't have this.

2130
02:03:21,810 --> 02:03:22,710
We don't have that.

2131
02:03:22,710 --> 02:03:26,610

2132
02:03:26,610 --> 02:03:36,090
So one person especially
from back home--

2133
02:03:36,090 --> 02:03:40,970
I didn't know him back
home, but I knew about him.

2134
02:03:40,970 --> 02:03:43,190
He was a Communist.

2135
02:03:43,190 --> 02:03:45,630
And they really gave
him a hard time.

2136
02:03:45,630 --> 02:03:48,230
And I think he wasn't
able to get papers to go.

2137
02:03:48,230 --> 02:03:50,870
And later on, I found
out what Communism

2138
02:03:50,870 --> 02:03:55,190
was in this country was a
paranoia about Communism.

2139
02:03:55,190 --> 02:03:59,000
But he was near close

to be a Communist.

2140

02:03:59,000 --> 02:04:05,060

Well, anyhow, that
guy in the front desk,

2141

02:04:05,060 --> 02:04:06,860

I was waiting around there.

2142

02:04:06,860 --> 02:04:14,380

And he happened to go someplace,
to the bathroom or something.

2143

02:04:14,380 --> 02:04:15,000