

1  
00:00:00,000 --> 00:01:11,570

2  
00:01:11,570 --> 00:01:13,410  
And I'll give you a cue.

3  
00:01:13,410 --> 00:01:19,380

4  
00:01:19,380 --> 00:01:21,990  
Anytime.

5  
00:01:21,990 --> 00:01:22,860  
You were saying.

6  
00:01:22,860 --> 00:01:32,850  
Yeah, the woman who was  
very religious, she wouldn't

7  
00:01:32,850 --> 00:01:35,280  
eat anything of what  
they were giving her

8  
00:01:35,280 --> 00:01:39,510  
unless it was green stuff,  
you know, that she thought

9  
00:01:39,510 --> 00:01:41,340  
was kosher enough.

10  
00:01:41,340 --> 00:01:48,750  
But generally, the people  
were not religious, no.

11  
00:01:48,750 --> 00:01:51,300  
Many of them were from  
Germany or from Austria,

12  
00:01:51,300 --> 00:01:54,780  
and they were all assimilated.

13

00:01:54,780 --> 00:02:01,410  
The orthodox Jews mostly that  
ended up in Germany and Austria

14

00:02:01,410 --> 00:02:04,260  
came from the Polish Pale.

15

00:02:04,260 --> 00:02:05,280  
They were religious.

16

00:02:05,280 --> 00:02:06,930  
They were very orthodox.

17

00:02:06,930 --> 00:02:09,180  
My grandparents,  
my mother's parents

18

00:02:09,180 --> 00:02:10,710  
came from there originally.

19

00:02:10,710 --> 00:02:11,835  
They were orthodox.

20

00:02:11,835 --> 00:02:15,090  
When we went to the temple, for  
instance, the orthodox temple.

21

00:02:15,090 --> 00:02:20,310  
The women sit up on the balcony,  
and the men are down there.

22

00:02:20,310 --> 00:02:23,610  
And I was bored stiff every  
time I had to go to the temple

23

00:02:23,610 --> 00:02:25,890  
because what did  
you do up there?

24

00:02:25,890 --> 00:02:28,590  
You couldn't even look down  
to see what was going on.

25  
00:02:28,590 --> 00:02:32,110

26  
00:02:32,110 --> 00:02:34,830  
So the people in the camp  
they weren't holding services

27  
00:02:34,830 --> 00:02:35,850  
on the weekends?

28  
00:02:35,850 --> 00:02:40,505  
They were only taken  
because they were Jewish.

29  
00:02:40,505 --> 00:02:42,630  
Were there any Italian Jews?

30  
00:02:42,630 --> 00:02:44,760  
In the camp, no.

31  
00:02:44,760 --> 00:02:52,860  
They had some of these women  
who were a kind of prostitute.

32  
00:02:52,860 --> 00:02:59,040

33  
00:02:59,040 --> 00:03:00,720  
I don't know.

34  
00:03:00,720 --> 00:03:07,740  
Then there was the Yugoslav  
people and other Jewish people

35  
00:03:07,740 --> 00:03:10,420  
that they just picked up.

36  
00:03:10,420 --> 00:03:13,440  
Did you have any religious  
or spiritual point

37

00:03:13,440 --> 00:03:15,160  
of view yourself?

38

00:03:15,160 --> 00:03:16,110  
Whether I did?

39

00:03:16,110 --> 00:03:16,710  
Yes.

40

00:03:16,710 --> 00:03:18,130  
I really didn't.

41

00:03:18,130 --> 00:03:22,320  
I felt very strongly  
about Judaism.

42

00:03:22,320 --> 00:03:25,980  
But I never was very  
religious because I

43

00:03:25,980 --> 00:03:28,410  
didn't get it from my home.

44

00:03:28,410 --> 00:03:30,480  
What I got, I got  
from my grandparents,

45

00:03:30,480 --> 00:03:35,070  
but that was, kind  
of, secondhand.

46

00:03:35,070 --> 00:03:37,920  
What aspect did you feel  
strongly about then?

47

00:03:37,920 --> 00:03:42,430  
What aspect of Judaism did  
you feel strongly about?

48

00:03:42,430 --> 00:03:44,670  
Gee, that's a difficult  
question to answer.

49  
00:03:44,670 --> 00:03:46,560  
I don't really know  
how to answer that.

50  
00:03:46,560 --> 00:03:51,410

51  
00:03:51,410 --> 00:03:53,600  
I feel strongly  
about it now too,

52  
00:03:53,600 --> 00:03:55,100  
and I'm not very religious.

53  
00:03:55,100 --> 00:03:57,860

54  
00:03:57,860 --> 00:04:02,930  
I cannot understand orthodoxy.

55  
00:04:02,930 --> 00:04:06,260  
It's very difficult  
for me to understand

56  
00:04:06,260 --> 00:04:12,920  
because it seems to me that  
it is like the Pope, who still

57  
00:04:12,920 --> 00:04:15,380  
clings to what happened  
2,000 years ago,

58  
00:04:15,380 --> 00:04:20,089  
and the orthodox Jews  
do the same thing.

59  
00:04:20,089 --> 00:04:22,610  
When people lived in  
a Pale, it made sense

60  
00:04:22,610 --> 00:04:27,470

that they wouldn't drive because  
they went to the temple, maybe

61  
00:04:27,470 --> 00:04:29,240  
it took two minutes  
to get there.

62  
00:04:29,240 --> 00:04:32,240

63  
00:04:32,240 --> 00:04:35,390  
In those days,  
putting on candles

64  
00:04:35,390 --> 00:04:38,330  
maybe was considered an effort.

65  
00:04:38,330 --> 00:04:41,930  
But today, to turn on the  
switch of the electric light,

66  
00:04:41,930 --> 00:04:45,740  
you know, the civilization has--

67  
00:04:45,740 --> 00:04:51,290  
progress has become so advanced  
that these orthodox ideas to me

68  
00:04:51,290 --> 00:04:55,800  
seem to be very old-fashioned.

69  
00:04:55,800 --> 00:04:59,090  
I can't understand them.

70  
00:04:59,090 --> 00:05:02,690  
I wouldn't fight  
anybody who is orthodox.

71  
00:05:02,690 --> 00:05:06,650  
I respect their right to  
believe what they believe.

72

00:05:06,650 --> 00:05:10,653

But I personally  
cannot see that way.

73

00:05:10,653 --> 00:05:12,320

Did you have any  
religious point of view

74

00:05:12,320 --> 00:05:14,559

yourself other than orthodoxy?

75

00:05:14,559 --> 00:05:20,310

76

00:05:20,310 --> 00:05:21,310

I don't know.

77

00:05:21,310 --> 00:05:24,300

You know, when I was  
teaching in Napa one time,

78

00:05:24,300 --> 00:05:29,010

a girl asked me, Ms. Cassel,  
do you believe in God?

79

00:05:29,010 --> 00:05:32,790

And I said, I don't  
really know because when

80

00:05:32,790 --> 00:05:36,390

I think of what happened  
in the concentration camps

81

00:05:36,390 --> 00:05:41,370

when they took innocent babies  
and threw them against the wall

82

00:05:41,370 --> 00:05:45,940

to have their brains  
fall all over the place,

83

00:05:45,940 --> 00:05:53,350

I wonder how God, a God, a

merciful God would permit this?

84

00:05:53,350 --> 00:05:55,750

You know what she said?

85

00:05:55,750 --> 00:05:58,360

Ms. Cassel, but

don't you understand?

86

00:05:58,360 --> 00:06:00,940

God wanted those

innocent souls with him.

87

00:06:00,940 --> 00:06:05,020

88

00:06:05,020 --> 00:06:11,010

And I think this expresses

my view more than anything.

89

00:06:11,010 --> 00:06:17,220

You know, I just wonder if there

is a God, what kind of a God

90

00:06:17,220 --> 00:06:20,010

is he?

91

00:06:20,010 --> 00:06:23,610

That's what I ask myself many

times because my whole family

92

00:06:23,610 --> 00:06:24,780

has been destroyed.

93

00:06:24,780 --> 00:06:25,500

For what reason?

94

00:06:25,500 --> 00:06:28,380

They were decent people.

95

00:06:28,380 --> 00:06:31,270

Millions of people



were destroyed.

96

00:06:31,270 --> 00:06:33,690

They were decent.

97

00:06:33,690 --> 00:06:36,840

What for?

98

00:06:36,840 --> 00:06:40,930

Many people tried to  
explain it by saying,

99

00:06:40,930 --> 00:06:42,120

well, it's not God's work.

100

00:06:42,120 --> 00:06:43,920

It's the people's work.

101

00:06:43,920 --> 00:06:47,910

God put the people in the  
world, and from there on,

102

00:06:47,910 --> 00:06:50,580

the people have to make  
up their own mind what

103

00:06:50,580 --> 00:06:53,460

they're going to do.

104

00:06:53,460 --> 00:07:00,870

Well, you know, you have to  
look at it from different points

105

00:07:00,870 --> 00:07:01,680

of view, I suppose.

106

00:07:01,680 --> 00:07:07,050

107

00:07:07,050 --> 00:07:11,030

What were your spirits like  
when you were in the camp?

108  
00:07:11,030 --> 00:07:13,850  
How did you keep going  
from one day to the next?

109  
00:07:13,850 --> 00:07:14,570  
God knows.

110  
00:07:14,570 --> 00:07:17,510  
I was very young, and  
when you are very young,

111  
00:07:17,510 --> 00:07:19,130  
you have a lot of resistance.

112  
00:07:19,130 --> 00:07:21,770

113  
00:07:21,770 --> 00:07:24,890  
I was always very  
rebellious all my life.

114  
00:07:24,890 --> 00:07:27,140  
I always have been.

115  
00:07:27,140 --> 00:07:30,740  
And I suppose I didn't  
always have an easy time.

116  
00:07:30,740 --> 00:07:33,470  
A couple of times, for instance,  
when those two girls that

117  
00:07:33,470 --> 00:07:35,780  
escaped that I  
was talking about,

118  
00:07:35,780 --> 00:07:38,000  
they thought that  
I had helped them,

119  
00:07:38,000 --> 00:07:43,550

and they were interrogating  
me for a long time.

120  
00:07:43,550 --> 00:07:47,110  
They couldn't prove anything.

121  
00:07:47,110 --> 00:07:54,990  
And I very often  
felt that I would

122  
00:07:54,990 --> 00:08:01,760  
have liked to hit somebody,  
but you couldn't do that.

123  
00:08:01,760 --> 00:08:09,030

124  
00:08:09,030 --> 00:08:10,920  
And then when I came  
out of there, you know,

125  
00:08:10,920 --> 00:08:15,330  
it wasn't much  
better because maybe

126  
00:08:15,330 --> 00:08:17,950  
worse because the German  
occupation in Rome,

127  
00:08:17,950 --> 00:08:19,950  
I think was worse than  
the concentration camp.

128  
00:08:19,950 --> 00:08:22,770

129  
00:08:22,770 --> 00:08:24,810  
And even after the  
liberation, life

130  
00:08:24,810 --> 00:08:30,480  
was not easy because Italy  
was destroyed so badly.

131  
00:08:30,480 --> 00:08:35,850  
Rome was not so badly  
damaged because they

132  
00:08:35,850 --> 00:08:39,090  
say that the Pope saved Rome.

133  
00:08:39,090 --> 00:08:41,159  
Well, they declared  
Rome open city,

134  
00:08:41,159 --> 00:08:44,020  
but it was open city  
to a certain extent.

135  
00:08:44,020 --> 00:08:49,320  
While the Nazis  
were there, they did

136  
00:08:49,320 --> 00:08:55,140  
everything that would have made  
the fact that it was open city

137  
00:08:55,140 --> 00:08:57,780  
a lie.

138  
00:08:57,780 --> 00:09:01,980  
I don't know whether you  
ever saw the film Open City.

139  
00:09:01,980 --> 00:09:03,450  
It's very well done.

140  
00:09:03,450 --> 00:09:05,850  
If they ever do  
it, try to see it.

141  
00:09:05,850 --> 00:09:09,531  
I don't know whether  
it's still in existence.

142

00:09:09,531 --> 00:09:14,070

There is another movie  
on a book, The Secret

143

00:09:14,070 --> 00:09:17,595

of Santa Vittoria by Crichton.

144

00:09:17,595 --> 00:09:20,970

145

00:09:20,970 --> 00:09:23,710

Santa Vittoria is  
a little village,

146

00:09:23,710 --> 00:09:26,580

which lives on wine production.

147

00:09:26,580 --> 00:09:28,650

And the Germans come.

148

00:09:28,650 --> 00:09:30,540

They know the  
Germans are coming.

149

00:09:30,540 --> 00:09:32,640

So what are they going to  
do if the Germans come?

150

00:09:32,640 --> 00:09:36,480

They'll take all their wine,  
and that's their livelihood.

151

00:09:36,480 --> 00:09:41,700

So they hide the wine  
in underground cellars,

152

00:09:41,700 --> 00:09:43,030

and it's in the movie.

153

00:09:43,030 --> 00:09:43,810

It's very funny.

154

00:09:43,810 --> 00:09:46,290

You see these people standing  
in line and pushing--

155

00:09:46,290 --> 00:09:48,840

putting on the wine from  
one end to the other

156

00:09:48,840 --> 00:09:50,430

until it gets in there.

157

00:09:50,430 --> 00:09:53,940

And the mayor of the  
city has quite a run-in

158

00:09:53,940 --> 00:09:57,300

with the German commander.

159

00:09:57,300 --> 00:09:59,070

It's very well done too.

160

00:09:59,070 --> 00:10:00,180

It's worthwhile seeing.

161

00:10:00,180 --> 00:10:03,780

Anthony Quinn is the  
mayor of the city,

162

00:10:03,780 --> 00:10:05,505

and Anna Magnani is his wife.

163

00:10:05,505 --> 00:10:12,050

164

00:10:12,050 --> 00:10:17,960

When you were interrogated, were  
you asked questions harshly,

165

00:10:17,960 --> 00:10:20,360

or were you beaten?

166

00:10:20,360 --> 00:10:21,770

No, I wasn't beaten.

167

00:10:21,770 --> 00:10:24,410

They were asking me questions  
and questions and questions.

168

00:10:24,410 --> 00:10:26,450

And of course, it's been  
such a long time ago,

169

00:10:26,450 --> 00:10:28,430

I can't remember details.

170

00:10:28,430 --> 00:10:31,850

I only do remember  
that I, at one time,

171

00:10:31,850 --> 00:10:38,765

I was suspected of having  
helped those girls to escape.

172

00:10:38,765 --> 00:10:41,600

173

00:10:41,600 --> 00:10:46,730

They might have said  
something to make

174

00:10:46,730 --> 00:10:49,340

themselves less guilty also.

175

00:10:49,340 --> 00:10:51,620

I don't know.

176

00:10:51,620 --> 00:10:53,430

Did your rebelliousness  
ever take

177

00:10:53,430 --> 00:10:59,210

that route to try to either  
escape or sabotage anything?

178

00:10:59,210 --> 00:11:00,800  
Well, where could you escape?

179  
00:11:00,800 --> 00:11:05,660  
This place was way  
up on a hill on top.

180  
00:11:05,660 --> 00:11:07,610  
The train station was way down.

181  
00:11:07,610 --> 00:11:10,040  
And besides that, I  
don't think there were

182  
00:11:10,040 --> 00:11:12,027  
any trains running anymore.

183  
00:11:12,027 --> 00:11:14,690

184  
00:11:14,690 --> 00:11:17,180  
The fact that these two  
girls tried to escape,

185  
00:11:17,180 --> 00:11:21,920  
and they were caught right  
away, was very, very obvious

186  
00:11:21,920 --> 00:11:26,510  
that escaping was pretty futile.

187  
00:11:26,510 --> 00:11:28,610  
You know, unless you  
had a complete plan,

188  
00:11:28,610 --> 00:11:32,060  
and you had people outside  
who were helping you,

189  
00:11:32,060 --> 00:11:34,340  
it would have been  
impossible to do anything.



190

00:11:34,340 --> 00:11:35,210

Where would you go?

191

00:11:35,210 --> 00:11:36,040

What would you do?

192

00:11:36,040 --> 00:11:37,040

Who would hide you?

193

00:11:37,040 --> 00:11:37,910

Who would help you?

194

00:11:37,910 --> 00:11:42,460

195

00:11:42,460 --> 00:11:43,860

Did you ever have  
any connections

196

00:11:43,860 --> 00:11:46,470

with the underground?

197

00:11:46,470 --> 00:11:47,850

Only in Rome.

198

00:11:47,850 --> 00:11:53,910

When I was in Rome after I  
left the camp in Rome, well,

199

00:11:53,910 --> 00:11:56,160

there was a lot of movement  
in the underground.

200

00:11:56,160 --> 00:12:00,280

201

00:12:00,280 --> 00:12:01,780

But not in the camp?

202

00:12:01,780 --> 00:12:06,580

The manager, the

director of the DELASEM,

203

00:12:06,580 --> 00:12:09,910  
the Delegation for the  
Assistance of Emigrants,

204

00:12:09,910 --> 00:12:12,400  
his name was Sorani.

205

00:12:12,400 --> 00:12:21,970  
And he was managing a lot of  
these movements and things.

206

00:12:21,970 --> 00:12:23,230  
But there wasn't much.

207

00:12:23,230 --> 00:12:25,690  
You know, every time that  
somebody did something

208

00:12:25,690 --> 00:12:31,450  
against the Nazis, for one  
soldier or one Nazi that you

209

00:12:31,450 --> 00:12:34,780  
killed, they were taking  
10 or more Italians.

210

00:12:34,780 --> 00:12:38,050  
So eventually, it  
kind of tapered out.

211

00:12:38,050 --> 00:12:41,380  
There were lots of  
partisans in the hills

212

00:12:41,380 --> 00:12:43,600  
who were trying to do something.

213

00:12:43,600 --> 00:12:46,600  
But they were not very  
effective because they

214

00:12:46,600 --> 00:12:48,550  
didn't have enough weapons.

215

00:12:48,550 --> 00:12:52,000  
They didn't have enough food.

216

00:12:52,000 --> 00:12:53,800  
In the winter, it  
was getting cold

217

00:12:53,800 --> 00:12:58,270  
because the Germans had  
taken Rome in October.

218

00:12:58,270 --> 00:13:01,910  
And in the winter, it can  
get pretty cold there too.

219

00:13:01,910 --> 00:13:08,920  
And Rome wasn't liberated until  
the June of the following year.

220

00:13:08,920 --> 00:13:14,500  
You referred to this woman  
who was the main jailer.

221

00:13:14,500 --> 00:13:20,590  
Were there other people who were  
in charge of you in the camp?

222

00:13:20,590 --> 00:13:23,110  
No, she was the woman in  
charge, and then there

223

00:13:23,110 --> 00:13:26,830  
was the man, the commissar.

224

00:13:26,830 --> 00:13:31,570  
I don't know what he would  
be the equivalent in America,

225

00:13:31,570 --> 00:13:36,790

a police inspector or  
something like that.

226  
00:13:36,790 --> 00:13:38,727  
He was there only  
during the day,

227  
00:13:38,727 --> 00:13:40,060  
but he was there during the day.

228  
00:13:40,060 --> 00:13:41,740  
And during the day,  
there were also

229  
00:13:41,740 --> 00:13:44,830  
policemen who were  
watching the door

230  
00:13:44,830 --> 00:13:48,820  
and who were watching us  
when we were going outside.

231  
00:13:48,820 --> 00:13:51,050  
They were there all the  
time during the day.

232  
00:13:51,050 --> 00:13:54,160  
But at night, the place  
was closed and medically.

233  
00:13:54,160 --> 00:13:57,760  
And the woman had her servant.

234  
00:13:57,760 --> 00:14:00,040  
She had a servant.

235  
00:14:00,040 --> 00:14:01,990  
They were there.

236  
00:14:01,990 --> 00:14:05,230  
About how many prisoners  
do you think there were?

237  
00:14:05,230 --> 00:14:05,890  
Prisoners?

238  
00:14:05,890 --> 00:14:06,730  
Mhm.

239  
00:14:06,730 --> 00:14:07,410  
In the camp?

240  
00:14:07,410 --> 00:14:08,470  
Yes.

241  
00:14:08,470 --> 00:14:11,960  
There were about 60 or 65,  
something like that, all women.

242  
00:14:11,960 --> 00:14:14,650

243  
00:14:14,650 --> 00:14:20,200  
Did you ever do anything  
for fun besides knitting?

244  
00:14:20,200 --> 00:14:23,820

245  
00:14:23,820 --> 00:14:24,530  
I don't know.

246  
00:14:24,530 --> 00:14:28,910

247  
00:14:28,910 --> 00:14:31,790  
There wasn't much  
to be doing for fun.

248  
00:14:31,790 --> 00:14:34,700  
There was one of the Gypsies.

249  
00:14:34,700 --> 00:14:37,490  
She thought she was

an opera singer,

250

00:14:37,490 --> 00:14:39,650

and she had opera scores.

251

00:14:39,650 --> 00:14:42,170

She was walking around  
singing all the time,

252

00:14:42,170 --> 00:14:44,810

and then she loved to smoke.

253

00:14:44,810 --> 00:14:46,790

And I don't know how  
she got the cigars,

254

00:14:46,790 --> 00:14:49,100

but she always had  
cigars to smoke.

255

00:14:49,100 --> 00:14:52,070

She must have had some  
connection with somebody.

256

00:14:52,070 --> 00:14:52,660

I don't know.

257

00:14:52,660 --> 00:15:02,810

258

00:15:02,810 --> 00:15:06,920

Do you have a memory of  
the trip to the camp?

259

00:15:06,920 --> 00:15:09,350

Was that difficult?

260

00:15:09,350 --> 00:15:10,040

I don't know.

261

00:15:10,040 --> 00:15:15,230

I think I was, kind

of, dulled, you know.

262

00:15:15,230 --> 00:15:18,860

I was sitting on this train, and  
next to me was this policeman.

263

00:15:18,860 --> 00:15:21,470

And the train that  
I took, I don't

264

00:15:21,470 --> 00:15:23,630

know how long, maybe  
eight hours or something

265

00:15:23,630 --> 00:15:26,540

like that, 10 hours.

266

00:15:26,540 --> 00:15:32,210

You mentioned that all of the  
foreign-born Jews in Italy

267

00:15:32,210 --> 00:15:34,670

were told to leave  
by the end of March.

268

00:15:34,670 --> 00:15:35,780

Yes.

269

00:15:35,780 --> 00:15:37,790

When were they told that?

270

00:15:37,790 --> 00:15:42,560

At the end of October  
when the Axis was formed.

271

00:15:42,560 --> 00:15:47,190

You see, when Hitler came to  
visit Mussolini several times,

272

00:15:47,190 --> 00:15:53,000

and it seems to me, it was in  
'38 that they formed the Axis,

273

00:15:53,000 --> 00:15:56,390

and then it was said  
that foreign Jews had

274

00:15:56,390 --> 00:15:59,420

to leave by March '39.

275

00:15:59,420 --> 00:16:01,370

And of course, it  
was very difficult

276

00:16:01,370 --> 00:16:04,100

because the Germans  
had no more passport.

277

00:16:04,100 --> 00:16:06,650

When I came to  
the United States,

278

00:16:06,650 --> 00:16:10,460

I had a Swiss  
stateless passport that

279

00:16:10,460 --> 00:16:15,870

was issued to me through  
the Swiss consulate, all

280

00:16:15,870 --> 00:16:18,600

with the help of the American  
Joint Distribution Committee.

281

00:16:18,600 --> 00:16:23,490

Because, on my own, I would  
have never been able to make it.

282

00:16:23,490 --> 00:16:25,590

Was the Italian Jewish  
community of any help

283

00:16:25,590 --> 00:16:29,220

to these foreign Jews?

284



00:16:29,220 --> 00:16:35,530  
Well, Sorani was an Italian  
Jew, and he was very helpful.

285  
00:16:35,530 --> 00:16:40,920  
The other guy from the men  
from the Jewish community

286  
00:16:40,920 --> 00:16:42,900  
was a certain Renzo Levi.

287  
00:16:42,900 --> 00:16:45,870  
Levi, we would call him here.

288  
00:16:45,870 --> 00:16:48,090  
He was a very unpleasant man.

289  
00:16:48,090 --> 00:16:53,490  
Personally, I didn't like  
him, but he evidently, also

290  
00:16:53,490 --> 00:16:54,120  
did a lot.

291  
00:16:54,120 --> 00:16:58,530  
But the strange thing  
was that this Levi

292  
00:16:58,530 --> 00:17:02,070  
and some other people, who  
were in the Jewish community,

293  
00:17:02,070 --> 00:17:04,530  
they could not believe  
that the Nazis would

294  
00:17:04,530 --> 00:17:06,609  
do what they were going to do.

295  
00:17:06,609 --> 00:17:08,970  
And they had been  
warned several times

296

00:17:08,970 --> 00:17:12,450

by some of the people who  
had seen what was happening.

297

00:17:12,450 --> 00:17:16,740

They had been told, well, get  
away, tell people to go away,

298

00:17:16,740 --> 00:17:19,589

and they wouldn't believe it.

299

00:17:19,589 --> 00:17:23,079

That was a tragic thing because  
that way also, the Nazis

300

00:17:23,079 --> 00:17:26,460

were able to get everything,  
all the artifacts,

301

00:17:26,460 --> 00:17:30,480

and the manuscripts, and  
the books, and everything

302

00:17:30,480 --> 00:17:33,090

that they had in the Jewish  
community in the temple.

303

00:17:33,090 --> 00:17:35,100

It was all taken.

304

00:17:35,100 --> 00:17:35,980

Nothing was left.

305

00:17:35,980 --> 00:17:38,400

Now, if they had believed  
what they were told,

306

00:17:38,400 --> 00:17:40,000

they could have hidden it.

307

00:17:40,000 --> 00:17:42,780

And they would have saved

millions of dollars that way

308

00:17:42,780 --> 00:17:46,900

because some of those  
things were very precious.

309

00:17:46,900 --> 00:17:52,500

I was wondering, whether you  
between, say, '34 and '40,

310

00:17:52,500 --> 00:17:55,860

were meeting any  
new refugees, who

311

00:17:55,860 --> 00:18:00,930

were coming from Middle  
or Eastern Europe

312

00:18:00,930 --> 00:18:03,670

and talking about what  
was happening there?

313

00:18:03,670 --> 00:18:07,170

I met one woman from Yugoslavia.

314

00:18:07,170 --> 00:18:09,030

As a matter of  
fact, for some time,

315

00:18:09,030 --> 00:18:14,490

we shared a room because it was  
very difficult to get a place

316

00:18:14,490 --> 00:18:15,930

to stay.

317

00:18:15,930 --> 00:18:19,950

And she was a very  
difficult person.

318

00:18:19,950 --> 00:18:24,310

It was not the easiest  
thing to stay with her.

319  
00:18:24,310 --> 00:18:26,640  
She was one of those  
people who always

320  
00:18:26,640 --> 00:18:30,000  
finds fault.  
Everybody else is bad,

321  
00:18:30,000 --> 00:18:34,260  
and I'm the only one  
who is good and normal.

322  
00:18:34,260 --> 00:18:36,240  
So that was very difficult.

323  
00:18:36,240 --> 00:18:38,250  
She wanted to come  
to the United States,

324  
00:18:38,250 --> 00:18:40,590  
and I helped her to come here.

325  
00:18:40,590 --> 00:18:42,840  
But when she came, it  
was just impossible.

326  
00:18:42,840 --> 00:18:48,400  
I had to give up on her  
because she always found fault

327  
00:18:48,400 --> 00:18:52,810  
with everything that was being  
done for her, whether in Italy

328  
00:18:52,810 --> 00:18:55,360  
or in the United  
States or wherever.

329  
00:18:55,360 --> 00:18:59,530  
But did she talk to you about  
where she had come from?

330

00:18:59,530 --> 00:19:03,100

She came from near Zagreb.

331

00:19:03,100 --> 00:19:06,370

What do they call it now?

332

00:19:06,370 --> 00:19:09,640

Zagreb, does it have  
a different name?

333

00:19:09,640 --> 00:19:10,330

I don't know.

334

00:19:10,330 --> 00:19:11,302

I know of Zagreb.

335

00:19:11,302 --> 00:19:12,010

I've heard of it.

336

00:19:12,010 --> 00:19:15,590

Yeah, she came from that area.

337

00:19:15,590 --> 00:19:21,710

And she had to flee also  
because she was Jewish,

338

00:19:21,710 --> 00:19:23,680

so she had come to Italy.

339

00:19:23,680 --> 00:19:26,320

And there were lots  
of other people

340

00:19:26,320 --> 00:19:29,920

there that I found  
out afterwards,

341

00:19:29,920 --> 00:19:34,990

during the German  
occupation, by force,

342

00:19:34,990 --> 00:19:37,990  
you got together  
with these people.

343  
00:19:37,990 --> 00:19:41,110  
In the camp, you describe  
that there were rooms with one

344  
00:19:41,110 --> 00:19:42,858  
or two people or 60 people.

345  
00:19:42,858 --> 00:19:44,900  
Even with 60 people, were  
the rooms large enough?

346  
00:19:44,900 --> 00:19:47,680  
Or did you feel  
terribly overcrowded?

347  
00:19:47,680 --> 00:19:50,380

348  
00:19:50,380 --> 00:19:51,650  
In the camp, you mean?

349  
00:19:51,650 --> 00:19:52,490  
Mhm.

350  
00:19:52,490 --> 00:19:53,390  
How did I feel?

351  
00:19:53,390 --> 00:19:55,820  
Did you feel overcrowded?

352  
00:19:55,820 --> 00:19:57,560  
Well, it was  
overcrowded when you

353  
00:19:57,560 --> 00:20:04,770  
have 25 people in one room,  
one bed next to the other,

354

00:20:04,770 --> 00:20:06,800  
it's naturally overcrowded.

355  
00:20:06,800 --> 00:20:09,080  
And you had to be very  
careful because you

356  
00:20:09,080 --> 00:20:11,000  
had so little to eat.

357  
00:20:11,000 --> 00:20:13,640  
People would steal a little  
piece of bread that you had.

358  
00:20:13,640 --> 00:20:16,160  
You had to be careful that  
somebody didn't get hold of it

359  
00:20:16,160 --> 00:20:18,900  
because that sometimes  
was the only thing

360  
00:20:18,900 --> 00:20:21,260  
you had to eat for hours.

361  
00:20:21,260 --> 00:20:24,770  
How did you manage  
to keep it hidden?

362  
00:20:24,770 --> 00:20:28,460  
Well, sometimes you  
carried it with you

363  
00:20:28,460 --> 00:20:31,160  
if you went somewhere else.

364  
00:20:31,160 --> 00:20:36,530  
Did you decide any punishments  
for those who stole?

365  
00:20:36,530 --> 00:20:39,100  
I don't think so.

366

00:20:39,100 --> 00:20:43,340

Nothing was ever  
done to anybody.

367

00:20:43,340 --> 00:20:45,660

Some people just  
didn't get along.

368

00:20:45,660 --> 00:20:49,910

They kept away from each  
other as much as possible.

369

00:20:49,910 --> 00:20:52,340

There was one big room,  
which was the dining

370

00:20:52,340 --> 00:20:54,350

room, which was a big room.

371

00:20:54,350 --> 00:20:56,030

We had this long,  
long table there,

372

00:20:56,030 --> 00:21:00,110

and that's where we were  
eating our water soup.

373

00:21:00,110 --> 00:21:03,710

Did you find that there  
were people or instances

374

00:21:03,710 --> 00:21:08,315

of people being especially  
kind or helpful?

375

00:21:08,315 --> 00:21:15,420

376

00:21:15,420 --> 00:21:20,460

This pianist from Vienna,  
she was a very nice person,

377



00:21:20,460 --> 00:21:21,540  
very kind.

378  
00:21:21,540 --> 00:21:24,900  
For a while, for a short  
while, I shared a room with her

379  
00:21:24,900 --> 00:21:28,320  
where there were only two beds,  
and that was the best time.

380  
00:21:28,320 --> 00:21:32,970  
But the unfortunate thing was  
that there were lots of mice,

381  
00:21:32,970 --> 00:21:34,590  
and they ate up everything.

382  
00:21:34,590 --> 00:21:36,010  
She had a lot of music.

383  
00:21:36,010 --> 00:21:39,150  
The music was all  
eaten up by the mice.

384  
00:21:39,150 --> 00:21:42,300  
I had one dress, wool dress,  
which was a warm dress,

385  
00:21:42,300 --> 00:21:46,650  
and the mice had eaten  
a big hole into it.

386  
00:21:46,650 --> 00:21:49,110  
I can remember myself  
one time, standing

387  
00:21:49,110 --> 00:21:51,270  
on the bed with  
something, I don't

388  
00:21:51,270 --> 00:21:56,220  
know what it was, trying

to chase the mice away

389

00:21:56,220 --> 00:21:58,110  
because they were just all over.

390

00:21:58,110 --> 00:22:03,900  
And since this was in Italy, you  
have that very often on hills

391

00:22:03,900 --> 00:22:07,800  
that the villages are kind  
of-- the houses are built

392

00:22:07,800 --> 00:22:12,210  
on the downward toward the--

393

00:22:12,210 --> 00:22:16,020  
when you looked out of the  
window on the roofs below,

394

00:22:16,020 --> 00:22:17,700  
you could see big rats.

395

00:22:17,700 --> 00:22:22,500  
Rats like as big as  
cats running around.

396

00:22:22,500 --> 00:22:26,340  
It was very, very frightening  
because those really

397

00:22:26,340 --> 00:22:28,630  
attacked people.

398

00:22:28,630 --> 00:22:33,090  
But this woman was  
particularly kind or helpful?

399

00:22:33,090 --> 00:22:37,140  
She was a very nice person, yes.

400

00:22:37,140 --> 00:22:41,520

One time, we found a nest  
of mice in the kitchen.

401  
00:22:41,520 --> 00:22:43,570  
You know, they had  
the things where

402  
00:22:43,570 --> 00:22:47,160  
you used to cook with  
fire, not the fireplace,

403  
00:22:47,160 --> 00:22:53,160  
but on like a range, and one of  
them the mice had made a nest,

404  
00:22:53,160 --> 00:22:56,460  
and there were these dozen  
little tiny little things.

405  
00:22:56,460 --> 00:22:59,480

406  
00:22:59,480 --> 00:23:02,910  
Were you able to wash your  
clothing and your bedding

407  
00:23:02,910 --> 00:23:03,550  
yourself?

408  
00:23:03,550 --> 00:23:06,800  
Were you able to wash your  
own clothing and bedding

409  
00:23:06,800 --> 00:23:07,880  
to keep clean?

410  
00:23:07,880 --> 00:23:09,260  
We didn't wash the bedding.

411  
00:23:09,260 --> 00:23:10,280  
No.

412

00:23:10,280 --> 00:23:12,770

We had to take care  
of our own things.

413

00:23:12,770 --> 00:23:13,733

You could wash, though?

414

00:23:13,733 --> 00:23:14,900

You could wash your clothes?

415

00:23:14,900 --> 00:23:18,050

Well, you did the  
best you could.

416

00:23:18,050 --> 00:23:19,850

There wasn't that much water.

417

00:23:19,850 --> 00:23:22,910

You had to find a way to do it.

418

00:23:22,910 --> 00:23:24,710

Usually, we had those  
little containers

419

00:23:24,710 --> 00:23:27,380

where we washed ourself in.

420

00:23:27,380 --> 00:23:29,060

We got some water  
in there, and we

421

00:23:29,060 --> 00:23:30,440

washed as best that we could.

422

00:23:30,440 --> 00:23:33,092

And we hung it up  
the best we could.

423

00:23:33,092 --> 00:23:38,150

You said that the  
doctor was rather dirty.

424

00:23:38,150 --> 00:23:40,700  
But what kind of  
medical care did you

425  
00:23:40,700 --> 00:23:42,320  
have for something so serious?

426  
00:23:42,320 --> 00:23:44,010  
Oh, he came in once  
in a while to look,

427  
00:23:44,010 --> 00:23:46,100  
but he never did anything.

428  
00:23:46,100 --> 00:23:47,300  
He never helped anything.

429  
00:23:47,300 --> 00:23:50,240  
He never gave any medication  
or anything at all.

430  
00:23:50,240 --> 00:23:52,970  
Were there any cases that  
needed serious attention

431  
00:23:52,970 --> 00:23:55,140  
that you know of?

432  
00:23:55,140 --> 00:23:58,940  
Well, I don't remember.

433  
00:23:58,940 --> 00:24:01,230  
Mostly, people had  
emotional problems.

434  
00:24:01,230 --> 00:24:01,730  
Mhm.

435  
00:24:01,730 --> 00:24:04,550

436  
00:24:04,550 --> 00:24:06,380

There was one woman,  
she was always

437  
00:24:06,380 --> 00:24:12,050  
embracing the fireplace,  
which there was no fire in it,

438  
00:24:12,050 --> 00:24:16,550  
because she wanted a man.

439  
00:24:16,550 --> 00:24:18,350  
She was completely hysterical.

440  
00:24:18,350 --> 00:24:21,700

441  
00:24:21,700 --> 00:24:25,030  
Was anybody ever suicidal?

442  
00:24:25,030 --> 00:24:27,880  
The only one that I know  
that committed suicide

443  
00:24:27,880 --> 00:24:30,370  
was that woman who was evicted.

444  
00:24:30,370 --> 00:24:34,690  
She was sent somewhere  
else, and we found out

445  
00:24:34,690 --> 00:24:37,060  
that she had committed suicide.

446  
00:24:37,060 --> 00:24:39,700  
What happened to the  
woman with the baby nobody

447  
00:24:39,700 --> 00:24:44,150  
knows because she disappeared.

448  
00:24:44,150 --> 00:24:46,700  
Nobody knows what

happened to her.

449

00:24:46,700 --> 00:24:49,330

Was she the only one who  
gave birth that you know of?

450

00:24:49,330 --> 00:24:51,820

Yeah, she's the only  
one that I know.

451

00:24:51,820 --> 00:24:54,600

452

00:24:54,600 --> 00:24:59,490

OK, I'd like to stop now.

453

00:24:59,490 --> 00:25:03,690

It feels like a convenient  
time, and maybe next time,

454

00:25:03,690 --> 00:25:06,270

begin with the  
time of liberation.

455

00:25:06,270 --> 00:25:09,410

Unless you have anything further  
that you can think of right now

456

00:25:09,410 --> 00:25:10,577

that you want to talk about?

457

00:25:10,577 --> 00:25:13,290

Well, we could even  
next time, before we

458

00:25:13,290 --> 00:25:15,900

get into the  
liberation situation,

459

00:25:15,900 --> 00:25:18,450

I could maybe  
mention a few things

460

00:25:18,450 --> 00:25:22,350

that I omitted this time  
from the German occupation.

461

00:25:22,350 --> 00:25:23,290

Oh, fine.

462

00:25:23,290 --> 00:25:25,980

Or if you want to, even now.

463

00:25:25,980 --> 00:25:29,640

Whatever, you know, I think you  
are anxious to go, aren't you?

464

00:25:29,640 --> 00:25:30,730

It's 4 o'clock now.

465

00:25:30,730 --> 00:25:33,900

Let's take the time now  
whilst it's in your mind.

466

00:25:33,900 --> 00:25:35,710

Well, can I put on my glasses?

467

00:25:35,710 --> 00:25:36,210

Sure.

468

00:25:36,210 --> 00:25:44,740

469

00:25:44,740 --> 00:25:46,360

The liberation we  
will do next time.

470

00:25:46,360 --> 00:25:46,860

Yes.

471

00:25:46,860 --> 00:25:48,870

So I won't mention  
anything about that.

472



00:25:48,870 --> 00:25:53,770

473

00:25:53,770 --> 00:25:59,830

One thing that I didn't say  
was that the Germans in Rome

474

00:25:59,830 --> 00:26:04,390

had their torture chamber  
in Rome, in Via Tasso.

475

00:26:04,390 --> 00:26:08,470

And whenever they picked up  
somebody who was suspect,

476

00:26:08,470 --> 00:26:09,790

they would take them there.

477

00:26:09,790 --> 00:26:11,695

And the people were  
tortured terribly.

478

00:26:11,695 --> 00:26:14,350

479

00:26:14,350 --> 00:26:19,045

This young man, my friend's  
cousin, he had been there too.

480

00:26:19,045 --> 00:26:22,390

He'd been taken before he  
was sent to the prison,

481

00:26:22,390 --> 00:26:27,190

and people were hearing  
screams in that street.

482

00:26:27,190 --> 00:26:33,610

It was a place that remains  
in the memory of everybody

483

00:26:33,610 --> 00:26:36,070

thinking of that time.

484  
00:26:36,070 --> 00:26:39,160  
Did you ever talk personally  
with someone who had come back

485  
00:26:39,160 --> 00:26:40,570  
about their experiences?

486  
00:26:40,570 --> 00:26:42,400  
I have not.

487  
00:26:42,400 --> 00:26:46,480  
But I have talked  
to people who have,

488  
00:26:46,480 --> 00:26:49,360  
and they were saying  
how terrible it was.

489  
00:26:49,360 --> 00:26:52,780  
They took people in  
there, and they tried

490  
00:26:52,780 --> 00:26:57,570  
to find out names of others.

491  
00:26:57,570 --> 00:27:00,840  
Many times, they ended  
up dying right there.

492  
00:27:00,840 --> 00:27:03,910

493  
00:27:03,910 --> 00:27:07,710  
Can you talk more about that,  
of what kinds of tortures

494  
00:27:07,710 --> 00:27:09,930  
went on that you know of?

495  
00:27:09,930 --> 00:27:10,860  
Well, I don't know.

496  
00:27:10,860 --> 00:27:14,520  
I was told that they  
were pulling out

497  
00:27:14,520 --> 00:27:17,160  
the nails of the  
fingers and the toes

498  
00:27:17,160 --> 00:27:24,330  
and physically assaulting the  
people to try to get them.

499  
00:27:24,330 --> 00:27:30,000  
They put them on tables and  
burnt parts of their body

500  
00:27:30,000 --> 00:27:32,940  
to have them confess things  
that maybe they didn't even

501  
00:27:32,940 --> 00:27:34,020  
know anything about.

502  
00:27:34,020 --> 00:27:37,840

503  
00:27:37,840 --> 00:27:43,430  
And also, at one time, when  
I was hiding with a friend,

504  
00:27:43,430 --> 00:27:46,180  
she was living on the fifth  
floor of one of those apartment

505  
00:27:46,180 --> 00:27:48,280  
houses, and of course,  
the elevators didn't go.

506  
00:27:48,280 --> 00:27:51,190  
There was no  
electricity, and there

507

00:27:51,190 --> 00:27:52,600  
was no water in the house.

508

00:27:52,600 --> 00:27:55,930  
We had to go down to  
the street, five flights

509

00:27:55,930 --> 00:27:59,050  
to pick up the water from  
the fountains in the street,

510

00:27:59,050 --> 00:28:03,040  
and then carry them five  
flights up to the house.

511

00:28:03,040 --> 00:28:06,550  
And of course, you know,  
every time you wanted to wash,

512

00:28:06,550 --> 00:28:09,670  
you had to be even careful  
not to use too much water.

513

00:28:09,670 --> 00:28:11,470  
It was too difficult to get it.

514

00:28:11,470 --> 00:28:13,660  
Sometimes these  
fountains in the street,

515

00:28:13,660 --> 00:28:16,960  
there was a line  
of people waiting.

516

00:28:16,960 --> 00:28:19,750  
Also, when you went to  
buy anything at stores,

517

00:28:19,750 --> 00:28:23,650  
you had to stand in  
line for hours sometimes

518

00:28:23,650 --> 00:28:30,430  
before you could get that  
little 100 gram of bread

519  
00:28:30,430 --> 00:28:32,710  
or a pound of  
spaghetti or whatever

520  
00:28:32,710 --> 00:28:34,300  
it was that you wanted to buy.

521  
00:28:34,300 --> 00:28:46,430

522  
00:28:46,430 --> 00:28:51,110  
Yeah, I mentioned the  
Pope's attitude in Rome.

523  
00:28:51,110 --> 00:28:58,310  
And that maybe also belongs  
to later because afterwards,

524  
00:28:58,310 --> 00:29:05,030  
after the war, when I went  
back, in the meantime, Pope John

525  
00:29:05,030 --> 00:29:07,430  
23rd, became Pope.

526  
00:29:07,430 --> 00:29:11,060  
And he was the most beloved  
Pope that ever existed.

527  
00:29:11,060 --> 00:29:12,740  
I, myself, adored the man.

528  
00:29:12,740 --> 00:29:14,060  
He was just wonderful.

529  
00:29:14,060 --> 00:29:20,670

530

00:29:20,670 --> 00:29:24,000

One thing that was  
so very frustrating

531

00:29:24,000 --> 00:29:27,210

during the German  
occupation was the fact

532

00:29:27,210 --> 00:29:32,280

that the Allies took such a  
long time to arrive in Rome.

533

00:29:32,280 --> 00:29:35,010

They were in Anzio,  
for instance, already.

534

00:29:35,010 --> 00:29:38,830

They had landed in Anzio,  
which is not far from Rome.

535

00:29:38,830 --> 00:29:40,920

It's maybe like Napa  
and San Francisco.

536

00:29:40,920 --> 00:29:42,420

I don't know.

537

00:29:42,420 --> 00:29:45,000

And it took them forever  
because the Germans

538

00:29:45,000 --> 00:29:50,320

had such a resistance that  
it was just incredible.

539

00:29:50,320 --> 00:29:51,340

It took them forever.

540

00:29:51,340 --> 00:29:53,370

And we've always  
thought we have already

541

00:29:53,370 --> 00:29:58,650

heard the weapons, the  
bombs, and everything,

542  
00:29:58,650 --> 00:30:00,870  
and still, they're  
not coming yet.

543  
00:30:00,870 --> 00:30:03,890

544  
00:30:03,890 --> 00:30:09,620  
At one time, Via Nazionale in  
Rome, it's a very large street,

545  
00:30:09,620 --> 00:30:15,020  
and they closed it  
off in two parts.

546  
00:30:15,020 --> 00:30:19,430  
And they arrested 2,000  
Italians and carried them away,

547  
00:30:19,430 --> 00:30:21,280  
and nobody knows what  
happened to them.

548  
00:30:21,280 --> 00:30:24,540

549  
00:30:24,540 --> 00:30:28,170  
This was part of that random  
roundup that they were doing?

550  
00:30:28,170 --> 00:30:32,340  
Well, you see, Rome is not like  
most of the American cities

551  
00:30:32,340 --> 00:30:33,870  
have straight streets.

552  
00:30:33,870 --> 00:30:35,400  
There are all these  
little streets,

553

00:30:35,400 --> 00:30:38,610

and it's very easy to lock  
them off on each side.

554

00:30:38,610 --> 00:30:41,820

And the people, who  
are in the street,

555

00:30:41,820 --> 00:30:45,900

they come in with big  
camions and put them in,

556

00:30:45,900 --> 00:30:47,390

and then they drive them away.

557

00:30:47,390 --> 00:30:55,780

558

00:30:55,780 --> 00:30:58,190

I was talking before  
about the radio

559

00:30:58,190 --> 00:31:00,040

we were listening from London.

560

00:31:00,040 --> 00:31:03,190

It was called Radio Free Europe.

561

00:31:03,190 --> 00:31:05,170

Now, I wrote it down.

562

00:31:05,170 --> 00:31:06,700

I couldn't remember it.

563

00:31:06,700 --> 00:31:10,180

And, of course, we were not  
permitted to listen to it.

564

00:31:10,180 --> 00:31:14,380

We were always worried when I  
was with friends or somebody,



565

00:31:14,380 --> 00:31:19,150  
where they had a radio, we were  
always sitting right near to it

566

00:31:19,150 --> 00:31:21,410  
so that nobody would hear it.

567

00:31:21,410 --> 00:31:24,310  
What would happen  
if you got caught?

568

00:31:24,310 --> 00:31:28,450  
Well, the Germans would have  
probably sent you to Germany

569

00:31:28,450 --> 00:31:31,720  
to a concentration camp or maybe  
shot you right on the place.

570

00:31:31,720 --> 00:31:35,350  
That's what many times they  
did when they caught somebody

571

00:31:35,350 --> 00:31:37,720  
that had done something.

572

00:31:37,720 --> 00:31:40,360  
Sometimes they just shot  
them right then and there.

573

00:31:40,360 --> 00:31:56,010

574

00:31:56,010 --> 00:31:58,310  
Yeah, I don't know whether  
that's of interest.

575

00:31:58,310 --> 00:32:07,800  
But at that time, in Italy,  
there were 45,000 Jews,

576

00:32:07,800 --> 00:32:10,410  
and 60% of them lived in Rome.

577  
00:32:10,410 --> 00:32:13,080

578  
00:32:13,080 --> 00:32:16,290  
So Rome, Italy, really  
didn't have that much

579  
00:32:16,290 --> 00:32:18,610  
of a Jewish population.

580  
00:32:18,610 --> 00:32:21,780  
So many of the Jews that  
were arrested and taken

581  
00:32:21,780 --> 00:32:24,050  
were refugees from  
other countries.

582  
00:32:24,050 --> 00:32:37,360

583  
00:32:37,360 --> 00:32:44,250  
One thing also before  
the Hitler situation,

584  
00:32:44,250 --> 00:32:47,580  
I wanted still to  
go to Palestine.

585  
00:32:47,580 --> 00:32:52,080  
And one of my friends  
who was very wealthy

586  
00:32:52,080 --> 00:32:54,600  
deposited some money  
for me with a man

587  
00:32:54,600 --> 00:32:57,120  
who was going to get me there.

588

00:32:57,120 --> 00:33:02,520

I had been accepted at the  
art school in Jerusalem.

589

00:33:02,520 --> 00:33:06,150

I had sent them in some  
samples of what I was doing,

590

00:33:06,150 --> 00:33:07,710

and they had accepted me.

591

00:33:07,710 --> 00:33:10,080

But the man disappeared  
with the money.

592

00:33:10,080 --> 00:33:13,320

And then Italy entered the  
war, and the whole thing

593

00:33:13,320 --> 00:33:14,640

went haywire again.

594

00:33:14,640 --> 00:33:19,080

595

00:33:19,080 --> 00:33:22,770

Yeah, I think the rest  
will be more related

596

00:33:22,770 --> 00:33:27,780

to what happens when  
the Allies arrived.

597

00:33:27,780 --> 00:33:29,730

OK.

598

00:33:29,730 --> 00:33:31,600

Do you have anything  
more on this section

599

00:33:31,600 --> 00:33:32,725

that you'd like to mention?

600  
00:33:32,725 --> 00:33:34,320  
I don't know if I  
covered everything

601  
00:33:34,320 --> 00:33:35,610  
that I was supposed to cover.

602  
00:33:35,610 --> 00:33:39,600  
Maybe something will  
come back to me yet.

603  
00:33:39,600 --> 00:33:42,070  
I only have one question.

604  
00:33:42,070 --> 00:33:46,830  
You said that in 1939,  
foreign Jews in Italy

605  
00:33:46,830 --> 00:33:52,550  
were sent to jail, but  
you weren't sent then.

606  
00:33:52,550 --> 00:33:54,890  
They started collecting them.

607  
00:33:54,890 --> 00:33:57,950  
You know, it wasn't all that  
well organized at the beginning

608  
00:33:57,950 --> 00:34:02,360  
because in Italy, there wasn't  
that much anti-Semitism.

609  
00:34:02,360 --> 00:34:03,980  
Hitler introduced it.

610  
00:34:03,980 --> 00:34:08,540  
Hitler brought it in,  
and they had to organize.

611  
00:34:08,540 --> 00:34:10,940

And they started picking  
up some Jews, that

612  
00:34:10,940 --> 00:34:16,820  
maybe for one reason or  
another, were in their eye,

613  
00:34:16,820 --> 00:34:21,380  
and they were put in jail.

614  
00:34:21,380 --> 00:34:26,330  
I was going to ask why you  
didn't get taken in that round?

615  
00:34:26,330 --> 00:34:27,290  
I don't know why.

616  
00:34:27,290 --> 00:34:29,540  
I was just very lucky.

617  
00:34:29,540 --> 00:34:32,360  
Maybe they didn't  
know right away.

618  
00:34:32,360 --> 00:34:35,210  
You know, there  
were so many there.

619  
00:34:35,210 --> 00:34:37,159  
They probably had  
lists and lists,

620  
00:34:37,159 --> 00:34:40,429  
and maybe I was at the  
end of one of the lists.

621  
00:34:40,429 --> 00:34:40,940  
Who knows?

622  
00:34:40,940 --> 00:34:42,179  
I don't know.

623

00:34:42,179 --> 00:34:46,699

I never found out why I  
was so fortunate to not

624

00:34:46,699 --> 00:34:49,630

to be taken sooner.

625

00:34:49,630 --> 00:34:53,050

OK, OK, let's stop.

626

00:34:53,050 --> 00:36:53,355