```
00:00:00,000 --> 00:01:03,488
2
00:01:03,488 --> 00:01:04,209
--place to start.
00:01:04,209 --> 00:01:05,510
Who everybody is.
4
00:01:05,510 --> 00:01:07,700
And we need about
10 seconds here.
00:01:07,700 --> 00:01:09,040
Today's-- what's the date?
00:01:09,040 --> 00:01:09,540
The 6th.
00:01:09,540 --> 00:01:11,980
I think it's the
6th of January, '94.
00:01:11,980 --> 00:01:13,376
Did I take this?
00:01:13,376 --> 00:01:14,322
I don't think.
10
00:01:14,322 --> 00:01:19,530
11
00:01:19,530 --> 00:01:21,270
No, I don't think I took that.
12
00:01:21,270 --> 00:01:24,370
13
00:01:24,370 \longrightarrow 00:01:28,240
Today is January 6, 1994 with
```

## the Holocaust Oral History

14 00:01:28,240 --> 00:01:29,680 Project--

15 00:01:29,680 --> 00:01:31,900 doing a second interview with Max Erlichman.

16 00:01:31,900 --> 00:01:33,880 My name is Tami Benau.

17 00:01:33,880 --> 00:01:36,580 And John Grant is videotaping.

18 00:01:36,580 --> 00:01:39,730 Max, you were just starting to say something happened

19 00:01:39,730 --> 00:01:41,950 after our last interview.

20 00:01:41,950 --> 00:01:45,406 Our last interview was, I think--

21 00:01:45,406 --> 00:01:46,560 December 10.

22 00:01:46,560 --> 00:01:49,270 Yeah, the 10th-middle of December.

23 00:01:49,270 --> 00:01:57,370 And I think it was on a Thursday or a Friday.

24 00:01:57,370 --> 00:02:00,990 No, it was on a Friday.

25 00:02:00,990 --> 00:02:03,470 It was Friday. 26 00:02:03,470 --> 00:02:04,430 That's right.

27 00:02:04,430 --> 00:02:14,130 And in all these years, as I had indicated earlier,

28 00:02:14,130 --> 00:02:16,257 we knew what had happened to my mother.

29 00:02:16,257 --> 00:02:17,840 We knew the date she was picked up by.

30 00:02:17,840 --> 00:02:19,580 In fact, I don't remember.

31 00:02:19,580 --> 00:02:23,360 And subsequently, after the war, through the Red Cross,

32 00:02:23,360 --> 00:02:25,650 very quickly I think at the end of '45--

33 00:02:25,650 --> 00:02:29,330 if not the end of '45, early '46--

34 00:02:29,330 --> 00:02:31,940

35 00:02:31,940 --> 00:02:36,500 my dad was advised that his wife, my mother,

36 00:02:36,500 --> 00:02:39,200 had died on the 21st.

37 00:02:39,200 --> 00:02:41,270 However, there was no information

38 00:02:41,270 --> 00:02:48,190 on my older brother, who was 16 at that time in 1942.

39 00:02:48,190 --> 00:02:55,850 I also indicated that when we arrived in Westerbork--

40 00:02:55,850 --> 00:03:00,560 and I also stated I did not know or remember

41 00:03:00,560 --> 00:03:03,440 the date we got to Westerbork.

42 00:03:03,440 --> 00:03:06,440 I knew it was in November.

43 00:03:06,440 --> 00:03:10,494 I knew it was after my birthday, and I guessed mid-November.

44 00:03:10,494 --> 00:03:13,700

45 00:03:13,700 --> 00:03:16,700 And when my father went looking the day we arrived what

46 00:03:16,700 --> 00:03:18,680 happened to his wife and his son,

47 00:03:18,680 --> 00:03:21,320 he determined that my mother had already

48 00:03:21,320 --> 00:03:27,170 been deported to Auschwitz, but no information 49 00:03:27,170 --> 00:03:29,030 of my older brother, but for the fact

50 00:03:29,030 --> 00:03:33,380 that he had been deported one day earlier.

51 00:03:33,380 --> 00:03:36,860 And that is where my dad, that if--

52 00:03:36,860 --> 00:03:38,060 that big letter "if"--

53 00:03:38,060 --> 00:03:41,120 we would have come a day earlier,

54 00:03:41,120 --> 00:03:43,070 he undoubtedly would have been alive.

55 00:03:43,070 --> 00:03:46,355

56 00:03:46,355 --> 00:03:47,480 But I didn't know the date.

57 00:03:47,480 --> 00:03:50,150

58 00:03:50,150 --> 00:03:56,120 In February last year, February '93, I

59 00:03:56,120 --> 00:03:59,150 wrote a letter to the Dutch Red Cross

60 00:03:59,150 --> 00:04:06,960 asking them whether they had any information in their files X

61 00:04:06,960 --> 00:04:11,490 years after the war regarding my older brother.

62 00:04:11,490 --> 00:04:19,589 So when I left the interview on Friday, December 10th,

63 00:04:19,589 --> 00:04:22,410 let's say, I said the very next day,

64 00:04:22,410 --> 00:04:24,060 I had a letter from the Red Cross

65 00:04:24,060 --> 00:04:26,880 in which they apologized for the delay regarding

66 00:04:26,880 --> 00:04:29,820 my request in February of '93.

67 00:04:29,820 --> 00:04:37,320 And they could determine from the information in their files

68 00:04:37,320 --> 00:04:42,570 that my older brother, which they did not

69 00:04:42,570 --> 00:04:49,110 know the day he was picked up by the Germans, that he was

70 00:04:49,110 --> 00:04:53,100 deported from Westerbork November 20--

71 00:04:53,100 --> 00:04:55,260 which, of course, now I know what day

72 00:04:55,260 --> 00:04:57,960 we got into Westerbork--

73 00:04:57,960 --> 00:05:04,350 November 20 and that he died in Auschwitz on February 28, 1943.

74 00:05:04,350 --> 00:05:13,500 So that was-- at least so now I know.

75 00:05:13,500 --> 00:05:14,960 That's such an odd coincidence.

76 00:05:14,960 --> 00:05:19,082 Yeah, it was, also because they apologized from November,

77 00:05:19,082 --> 00:05:21,040 because they could have gone through the files.

78 00:05:21,040 --> 00:05:24,300 You could look under E and you find his name.

79 00:05:24,300 --> 00:05:24,900 And that's it.

80 00:05:24,900 --> 00:05:30,750 But bureaucracies as they are, this is what happened.

81 00:05:30,750 --> 00:05:33,570 But at least I knew.

82 00:05:33,570 --> 00:05:35,580 At least I know.  $00:05:35,580 \longrightarrow 00:05:37,800$ And--

84

 $00:05:37,800 \longrightarrow 00:05:40,360$ You had never written to them requesting some--

85

 $00:05:40,360 \longrightarrow 00:05:41,970$ 

No.

86

 $00:05:41,970 \longrightarrow 00:05:53,420$ Oddly enough, I have tried to analyze, in fact, why because,

87

00:05:53,420 --> 00:05:56,690 broadly speaking, if I wanted to,

88

00:05:56,690 --> 00:05:59,240 I would have known about it within two days.

89

00:05:59,240 --> 00:06:02,000 Maybe three days, I would have known

90

 $00:06:02,000 \longrightarrow 00:06:03,170$ what happened to my brother.

91

 $00:06:03,170 \longrightarrow 00:06:07,320$ And for one reason or another, I didn't.

92

 $00:06:07,320 \longrightarrow 00:06:09,710$ It's not that I consciously decide I'm not interested

93

00:06:09,710 --> 00:06:12,440 or I don't want to know.

94

00:06:12,440 --> 00:06:20,960 But I don't want to go into any self-analysis.

95 00:06:20,960 --> 00:06:25,490

96 00:06:25,490 --> 00:06:29,900 I think it has something to do with the open gap that

97 00:06:29,900 --> 00:06:36,110 exists in mother/son relationship,

98 00:06:36,110 --> 00:06:39,420 because this is something that doesn't close.

99 00:06:39,420 --> 00:06:40,170 It's an open book.

100 00:06:40,170 --> 00:06:42,260 It remains open because you never could

101 00:06:42,260 --> 00:06:45,200 say bye bye, mom or whatever.

102 00:06:45,200 --> 00:06:52,082 So most probably, had I not had the time, inclination,

103 00:06:52,082 --> 00:06:54,800 and opportunity to cope with my mother,

104 00:06:54,800 --> 00:06:58,040 I might not have wanted to know anything about my brother,

105 00:06:58,040 --> 00:07:00,980 because that would have been--

106 00:07:00,980 --> 00:07:03,020 I don't know.

107 00:07:03,020 --> 00:07:05,090 I don't want to say too much.

108 00:07:05,090 --> 00:07:06,630

One thing at a time--

00:07:06,630 --> 00:07:11,090 so I never tried to.

110 00:07:11,090 --> 00:07:13,790 And apparently, I think last year, I decided,

111 00:07:13,790 --> 00:07:14,540 oh, wait a minute.

112 00:07:14,540 --> 00:07:18,970 I'm not 28 anymore, though I say I'm 39.

113 00:07:18,970 --> 00:07:19,970 People don't believe it.

114 00:07:19,970 --> 00:07:27,140 But I decided it's about time that, OK, let's find out.

115 00:07:27,140 --> 00:07:32,180 And I don't remember the state of mind

116 00:07:32,180 --> 00:07:34,490 I was in when I did write a letter.

117 00:07:34,490 --> 00:07:35,030 I did.

118 00:07:35,030 --> 00:07:41,920 119 00:07:41,920 --> 00:07:43,495 And then you get into--

120 00:07:43,495 --> 00:07:48,370 you start thinking, a 16-year-old and on his own.

121 00:07:48,370 --> 00:07:52,050 And then of course, then who took care of him?

122 00:07:52,050 --> 00:07:55,030 Who-- I am a father of seven children.

123 00:07:55,030 --> 00:08:00,534 And I'm a really Yiddish mama.

124 00:08:00,534 --> 00:08:01,780 There are very few like me.

125 00:08:01,780 --> 00:08:06,940 And my kids complain I'm overprotective, which I'm not.

126 00:08:06,940 --> 00:08:11,630 But it's a perception they have.

127 00:08:11,630 --> 00:08:14,140 So I think of my older brother at the age of 16 on his own,

128 00:08:14,140 --> 00:08:18,280 nobody to tell him, nobody to watch, nobody to guide,

129 00:08:18,280 --> 00:08:21,080 no support.

130 00:08:21,080 --> 00:08:22,570 It must have been terrible. 131 00:08:22,570 --> 00:08:26,920 So I hope that some adult at that time

132 00:08:26,920 --> 00:08:33,340 probably hopefully watched over him.

133 00:08:33,340 --> 00:08:35,740 And then the same thing applies to my mother.

134 00:08:35,740 --> 00:08:38,530 But then, of course, that was only five days.

135 00:08:38,530 --> 00:08:43,840 But he was there from end of November, December, January,

136 00:08:43,840 --> 00:08:46,450 February-- three and a half months, something like this,

137 00:08:46,450 --> 00:08:48,790 or a little less.

138 00:08:48,790 --> 00:08:51,730 But it's funny.

139 00:08:51,730 --> 00:08:53,770 Then-- funny.

140 00:08:53,770 --> 00:09:00,250

141 00:09:00,250 --> 00:09:04,540 No, I think I know that I indicated that when we were

142 00:09:04,540 --> 00:09:10,240 picked up the 21st or the--

143

00:09:10,240 --> 00:09:11,150 no, it was midnight.

144

00:09:11,150 --> 00:09:15,640 So we were picked up the 21st of November.

145

00:09:15,640 --> 00:09:19,660 And the city theater in Amsterdam

146

00:09:19,660 --> 00:09:23,740 was used as a collecting point.

147

00:09:23,740 --> 00:09:29,160 And then from there, the people that they were "collected"

148

00:09:29,160 --> 00:09:30,910 then were taken to--

149

00:09:30,910 --> 00:09:34,540 during that night or day, they were taken

150

00:09:34,540 --> 00:09:39,430 to the city hall's Harbor.

151

00:09:39,430 --> 00:09:44,558 And 6:00 AM-- and I think last time, I said by truck.

152

00:09:44,558 --> 00:09:45,850 It was, of course, not a truck.

153

00:09:45,850 --> 00:09:47,440 It was a streetcar.

154

00:09:47,440 --> 00:09:49,720 At 6:00 AM, a

This is a verbatim transcript of spoken word generated with 3Play Media. It is not the primary source, and it may contain errors in spelling or accuracy.

streetcar-- because there

155 00:09:49,720 --> 00:09:51,880 still was a curfew.

156 00:09:51,880 --> 00:09:55,460 And they took us to the railroad station.

157 00:09:55,460 --> 00:09:59,350 From there on, everybody went to Westerbork

158 00:09:59,350 --> 00:10:01,540 unless they went to one of the other camps.

159 00:10:01,540 --> 00:10:05,500

160 00:10:05,500 --> 00:10:12,310 Subsequently, after the war, they never

161 00:10:12,310 --> 00:10:15,650 reopened or rebuilt the theater.

162 00:10:15,650 --> 00:10:18,010 It stood there.

163 00:10:18,010 --> 00:10:21,190 And in fact, we lived a block away from it.

164 00:10:21,190 --> 00:10:25,540 So we passed it daily.

165 00:10:25,540 --> 00:10:31,010 And apparently, I don't know, five or six--

166 00:10:31,010 --> 00:10:35,410 three years ago, they decided to make--

167

00:10:35,410 --> 00:10:37,120 how should I say--

168

00:10:37,120 --> 00:10:38,500 not a memorial.

169

00:10:38,500 --> 00:10:40,210 They decided to dedicate that building

170

00:10:40,210 --> 00:10:46,610 to the purpose it was used for, probably

171

00:10:46,610 --> 00:10:48,260 the city and the Jewish community.

172

00:10:48,260 --> 00:10:49,840 I don't know.

173

00:10:49,840 --> 00:10:54,410 I wasn't in Holland, so I never did go to see it.

174

00:10:54,410 --> 00:11:01,400 And then while I was in Holland now, on--

175

00:11:01,400 --> 00:11:06,470 when was it-- last Thursday, I read a paper.

176

00:11:06,470 --> 00:11:09,350 And then there is an article in which they describe

177

00:11:09,350 --> 00:11:12,740 that now after a modification and blah, blah, blah,

178 00:11:12,740 --> 00:11:18,980 it has reopened and visiting hours from blah, blah, blah,

179

00:11:18,980 --> 00:11:20,010 the phone number.

180

00:11:20,010 --> 00:11:24,620 And so I called.

181

00:11:24,620 --> 00:11:26,720 And I said, let's take a look what it is.

182

00:11:26,720 --> 00:11:29,570

183

00:11:29,570 --> 00:11:34,020 And my daughter, Shelby, and I, we

184

00:11:34,020 --> 00:11:36,890 went there on the 1st of January.

185

00:11:36,890 --> 00:11:40,350 We flew back on the second.

186

00:11:40,350 --> 00:11:47,520 And yes, I don't know what it looked prior to the final work

187

00:11:47,520 --> 00:11:48,330 they put into it.

188

00:11:48,330 --> 00:11:51,450 But you have the inner courtyard that I

189

00:11:51,450 --> 00:11:53,860 referred to and the atrium.

00:11:53,860 --> 00:11:55,740 It's still there.

191

00:11:55,740 --> 00:11:57,060

There's a pillar--

192

00:11:57,060 --> 00:11:58,920 I don't want to say an

obelisk, but there's

193

00:11:58,920 --> 00:12:03,720

a pillar dedicated,

too, and the open yard.

194

00:12:03,720 --> 00:12:12,060

And as you come in, they have a Vietnam Memorial-like--

a Vietnam Memorial-like--

195

00:12:12,060 --> 00:12:13,970

after the Vietnam Memorial, there

196

00:12:13,970 --> 00:12:18,300

are copies like

this, I think, 50.

197

00:12:18,300 --> 00:12:20,110

I think today, everybody

makes it the same.

198

00:12:20,110 --> 00:12:23,340

199

00:12:23,340 --> 00:12:26,760

As you come in, on the

left side is a wall

200

00:12:26,760 --> 00:12:32,100

with all the names,

family names,

201

00:12:32,100 --> 00:12:36,870 of people that went through there and never did return.

202

00:12:36,870 --> 00:12:40,860 So by family names, I mean that if there were in Holland,

203

00:12:40,860 --> 00:12:45,180 say, 48 or 88 families by the name of Thompson,

204

00:12:45,180 --> 00:12:49,650 the name "Thompson" only appears once.

205

00:12:49,650 --> 00:12:51,900 Otherwise, probably the wall wasn't big enough.

206

00:12:51,900 --> 00:12:54,750 Or the letters would have been that small.

207

00:12:54,750 --> 00:13:00,420 And so our family name was on there.

208

00:13:00,420 --> 00:13:04,590 And I, of course, phoned earlier and said what was it.

209

00:13:04,590 --> 00:13:07,660 And they explained to me what it was prior to visiting it.

210

00:13:07,660 --> 00:13:11,220 And they have a record room, where

211

00:13:11,220 --> 00:13:15,210 you can go and find or get a copy of the records.

00:13:15,210 --> 00:13:20,280 And I said it was January 1--

213

00:13:20,280 --> 00:13:28,020 no, December 31, December 31.

214

00:13:28,020 --> 00:13:29,520 There was, of course, no time frame.

215

00:13:29,520 --> 00:13:30,540 He offered to make it.

216

00:13:30,540 --> 00:13:33,210 I said fine, and he made a photocopy

217

00:13:33,210 --> 00:13:35,430 of that particular page.

218

00:13:35,430 --> 00:13:40,380 And he mailed it to my daughter, and she faxed it to me

219

00:13:40,380 --> 00:13:41,610 yesterday.

220

00:13:41,610 --> 00:13:45,990 And so they have a record where you can go.

221

00:13:45,990 --> 00:13:50,100 And then you'll find basically the same information.

222

00:13:50,100 --> 00:13:51,060 Is that your--

223

00:13:51,060 --> 00:13:52,490 Of my mother and my older brother.

00:13:52,490 --> 00:13:53,820 Yeah.

225

00:13:53,820 --> 00:13:55,414 Did you find your name?

226

00:13:55,414 --> 00:13:57,690 No, only those that did not return--

227

00:13:57,690 --> 00:14:00,740

228

00:14:00,740 --> 00:14:03,690 only those that did not return.

229

00:14:03,690 --> 00:14:10,417 So Janowitz, the family that my dad got to go with us,

230

00:14:10,417 --> 00:14:12,500 their name doesn't appear because the whole family

231

00:14:12,500 --> 00:14:14,270 came back.

232

00:14:14,270 --> 00:14:17,780 The rabbi, Rabinovitch, it's on there because he and his son

233

00:14:17,780 --> 00:14:19,860 came back.

234

00:14:19,860 --> 00:14:21,020 His wife died.

235

00:14:21,020 --> 00:14:25,250 So if a member of a family--

236

00:14:25,250 --> 00:14:27,500

and Erlichmans-- we are basically the only Erlichmans,

237

00:14:27,500 --> 00:14:29,240 anyway.

238

00:14:29,240 --> 00:14:32,940 But if they were Rabinovitch, there might have been eight.

239

00:14:32,940 --> 00:14:35,750 And the name of it only appears once.

240

00:14:35,750 --> 00:14:43,363 Then you go into particulars, first name and date of birth,

241

00:14:43,363 --> 00:14:44,780 which was incorrect for my mother.

242

00:14:44,780 --> 00:14:50,810 But I'll send them a fax today or tomorrow,

243

00:14:50,810 --> 00:14:56,900 seeing whether or not, even though it's

244

00:14:56,900 --> 00:14:59,900 very difficult for people.

245

00:14:59,900 --> 00:15:04,850 If it is on paper, it's like in marble.

246

00:15:04,850 --> 00:15:07,100 Even if I come and say my birthday of my mother

247

00:15:07,100 --> 00:15:11,075 was not May--

248 00:15:11,075 --> 00:15:12,450 wait a minute-what does it say?

249

00:15:12,450 --> 00:15:16,500

250

00:15:16,500 --> 00:15:25,070 19-- no, the 15th of May, 1904, it's

251

00:15:25,070 --> 00:15:32,270 wrong because my mother was born April 19, because my father's

252

00:15:32,270 --> 00:15:34,940 birthday was April 15.

253

00:15:34,940 --> 00:15:39,650 Hers was April 19, and that was their wedding day.

254

00:15:39,650 --> 00:15:42,440 So then she wasn't born in Moscow.

255

00:15:42,440 --> 00:15:44,240 She was born in Kyiv.

256

00:15:44,240 --> 00:15:46,880 That's a mistake.

257

00:15:46,880 --> 00:15:51,140 And also, I don't think she was born in 1904.

258

00:15:51,140 --> 00:15:53,840 I think she was born in 1905.

259

00:15:53,840 --> 00:15:55,340 She was 26 when I was born.

00:15:55,340 --> 00:15:59,600 So I have to mathematically go back and see.

261

00:15:59,600 --> 00:16:02,420 If she was 26 when I was born in '31, take it back.

262

00:16:02,420 --> 00:16:06,260 So it must have been 1905.

263

00:16:06,260 --> 00:16:08,270 Do you know where they got these dates?

264

00:16:08,270 --> 00:16:08,780 No.

265

00:16:08,780 --> 00:16:10,040 No, no, no.

266

00:16:10,040 --> 00:16:18,920 But people are-they like status quo.

267

00:16:18,920 --> 00:16:20,210 It's there.

268

00:16:20,210 --> 00:16:22,460 So I come and I said, look, that's wrong.

269

00:16:22,460 --> 00:16:23,240 I'm sorry.

270

00:16:23,240 --> 00:16:24,230 That's the way it is.

271

00:16:24,230 --> 00:16:26,330 Look, it's a mistake.

00:16:26,330 --> 00:16:29,300 I don't care, we don't care, blah, blah, blah.

273

00:16:29,300 --> 00:16:31,220 Where did you get your information?

274

00:16:31,220 --> 00:16:32,990 Oh, it's from a proper source.

275

00:16:32,990 --> 00:16:35,120 Yeah, but it's wrong.

276

00:16:35,120 --> 00:16:39,410 You need two sticks of dynamite in order

277

00:16:39,410 --> 00:16:45,230 to get people to accept the fact that what's there written

278

00:16:45,230 --> 00:16:46,790 or what their opinion, it's wrong.

279

00:16:46,790 --> 00:16:52,460 So I will basically give them the information,

280

00:16:52,460 --> 00:16:54,950 tell them that I doubt whether the bureaucratic system will

281

00:16:54,950 --> 00:17:00,680 allow them to correct something that somebody put there.

282

00:17:00,680 --> 00:17:04,040 It's not a world-shocking event if they leave it as it is.

00:17:04,040 --> 00:17:06,480 But if you do it, you might as well do it properly.

284

00:17:06,480 --> 00:17:09,690 So please correct it.

285

00:17:09,690 --> 00:17:13,700 I'm not-- I don't care, because I wonder where

286

00:17:13,700 --> 00:17:15,060 they got that information.

287

00:17:15,060 --> 00:17:16,609 I don't know.

288

00:17:16,609 --> 00:17:19,482 I don't know.

289

00:17:19,482 --> 00:17:21,440 Finding out this information about your brother

290

00:17:21,440 --> 00:17:24,500 and seeing this sort of memorial,

291

00:17:24,500 --> 00:17:27,060 does that give you some sense of completion?

292

00:17:27,060 --> 00:17:27,560 No.

293

00:17:27,560 --> 00:17:28,490 No, no, no.

294

00:17:28,490 --> 00:17:29,520 The memorial-- no.

295

00:17:29,520 --> 00:17:33,570

No memorial-- a number of names.

296

00:17:33,570 --> 00:17:34,070

No.

297

00:17:34,070 --> 00:17:37,430

298

00:17:37,430 --> 00:17:44,000 My older brother, it's a period like the period

299

00:17:44,000 --> 00:17:46,627 at the end of the

sentence, most likely.

300

00:17:46,627 --> 00:17:47,960 It means that he didn't survive.

301

00:17:47,960 --> 00:17:48,460

We know.

302

00:17:48,460 --> 00:17:51,150

303

00:17:51,150 --> 00:17:57,025

But when and if I do want to burn a candle,

304

00:17:57,025 --> 00:17:57,900

at least have a date.

305

00:17:57,900 --> 00:18:01,560

306

00:18:01,560 --> 00:18:05,840

So it's basically

David that does that.

307

00:18:05,840 --> 00:18:11,930

No, but it was a coincidence,

the day after I was here.

308 00:18:11,930 --> 00:18:12,520 That was it.

309

00:18:12,520 --> 00:18:20,220

310

00:18:20,220 --> 00:18:20,720 That was it.

311

00:18:20,720 --> 00:18:25,060

312

00:18:25,060 --> 00:18:28,030 Shall we go back to where we left off last week?

313

00:18:28,030 --> 00:18:31,540 You had just finished describing the wonderful feeling

314

00:18:31,540 --> 00:18:34,840 you and your brother had as you jumped into a feather bed

315

00:18:34,840 --> 00:18:36,730 at one of the homes that you--

316

00:18:36,730 --> 00:18:37,900 Yeah, the white sheets.

317

00:18:37,900 --> 00:18:40,730 Yeah, the white sheets.

318

00:18:40,730 --> 00:18:44,230 What happened after you stayed in those homes?

319

00:18:44,230 --> 00:18:47,050

I think we stayed there for about a week.

00:18:47,050 --> 00:18:53,800 And then the US army overall--

321

00:18:53,800 --> 00:18:55,960 not just there, but overall-- started

322

00:18:55,960 --> 00:19:00,460 repatriating the prisoners.

323

00:19:00,460 --> 00:19:11,640 So we're put on a truck and driven to Wurzburg.

324

00:19:11,640 --> 00:19:14,900

325

00:19:14,900 --> 00:19:16,850 And I remember that ride.

326

00:19:16,850 --> 00:19:21,080

327

00:19:21,080 --> 00:19:22,970 I know we took some mountain roads.

328

00:19:22,970 --> 00:19:25,125 The freeway-- the highways or Autobahn,

329

00:19:25,125 --> 00:19:26,250 they were basically bombed.

330

00:19:26,250 --> 00:19:28,170 So there was not a lot of traffic.

331

00:19:28,170 --> 00:19:33,530 So you had to go on byways and highways and roads.

00:19:33,530 --> 00:19:39,680 And we took corners on two wheels and driving

333

00:19:39,680 --> 00:19:41,510 with one hand and a cigarette.

334

00:19:41,510 --> 00:19:42,260 It was funny.

335

00:19:42,260 --> 00:19:45,825 And we enjoyed that, because we could look.

336

00:19:45,825 --> 00:19:46,700 It was an open truck.

337

00:19:46,700 --> 00:19:47,900 So you could look.

338

00:19:47,900 --> 00:19:50,688 You could see the elbow out of the window and a cigarette.

339

00:19:50,688 --> 00:19:51,980 So he's holding that cigarette.

340

00:19:51,980 --> 00:19:55,520 Hopefully, it's the other hand on the steering wheel.

341

00:19:55,520 --> 00:19:59,060 So we got to Wurzburg.

342

00:19:59,060 --> 00:20:05,600 And that is a general collecting area for Dutch, Belgian,

343

00:20:05,600 --> 00:20:08,790 and French prisoners.

344

00:20:08,790 --> 00:20:14,180 And in the collecting area were German army barracks

345 00:20:14,180 --> 00:20:14,990 on top of a hill.

346 00:20:14,990 --> 00:20:16,880 I remember, that was not bombed.

347 00:20:16,880 --> 00:20:21,710

348 00:20:21,710 --> 00:20:23,300 They probably decided not to bomb it.

349 00:20:23,300 --> 00:20:25,160 They could use it once they came in.

350 00:20:25,160 --> 00:20:27,793

351 00:20:27,793 --> 00:20:29,210 And then we met some of the people

352 00:20:29,210 --> 00:20:33,920 that were taken earlier from our camp on the march back

353 00:20:33,920 --> 00:20:37,650 and that were subsequently liberated.

354 00:20:37,650 --> 00:20:39,150 So we went met the other ones again.

355 00:20:39,150 --> 00:20:42,450 We met some other people. 356 00:20:42,450 --> 00:20:48,820 And I think we stayed also about a week.

357 00:20:48,820 --> 00:20:51,900 Then we were put on a train.

358 00:20:51,900 --> 00:20:54,400 Now, you were being given the food you need?

359 00:20:54,400 --> 00:20:54,900 Oh, yeah.

360 00:20:54,900 --> 00:20:55,608 Yeah, yeah, yeah.

361 00:20:55,608 --> 00:20:57,725 That was under not British--

362 00:20:57,725 --> 00:20:58,350 was it British?

363 00:20:58,350 --> 00:20:58,892 I don't know.

364 00:20:58,892 --> 00:21:01,660 I think it was American.

365 00:21:01,660 --> 00:21:05,700 No, I know we're still in the American-occupied territory.

366 00:21:05,700 --> 00:21:07,180 Yeah.

367 00:21:07,180 --> 00:21:10,330 Yeah, the British were further up north.

368 00:21:10,330 --> 00:21:12,100 And the French had a section in the south.

369

00:21:12,100 --> 00:21:15,280

370

00:21:15,280 --> 00:21:21,570 Yeah, we were fed and then the paperwork and names and dates

371

00:21:21,570 --> 00:21:23,600 and piece of paper.

372

00:21:23,600 --> 00:21:26,925

373

00:21:26,925 --> 00:21:28,675 Do you remember any specific conversations

374

00:21:28,675 --> 00:21:32,090 with any of the soldiers or how they treated you?

375

00:21:32,090 --> 00:21:34,090 No.

INU.

376

00:21:34,090 --> 00:21:38,740 Oh, after we were liberated in Weissenberg-- yes, Wurzburg.

377

00:21:38,740 --> 00:21:40,660 Yes.

378

00:21:40,660 --> 00:21:45,040 I mentioned that they set up anti-aircraft battery

379

00:21:45,040 --> 00:21:45,910 outside of camp.

380

00:21:45,910 --> 00:21:53,470

And there were on the crew, I don't know, six.

381

00:21:53,470 --> 00:21:57,540 And there was one I used to sit practically all day daily,

382

00:21:57,540 --> 00:22:00,360 as long as we still were in Wurzburg.

383

00:22:00,360 --> 00:22:01,740 And we chatted.

384

00:22:01,740 --> 00:22:04,140 I know he came from Chicago.

385

00:22:04,140 --> 00:22:05,700 In fact, I knew the name.

386

00:22:05,700 --> 00:22:06,780 I asked him for the name.

387

00:22:06,780 --> 00:22:10,260 And we chatted-- talked and talked and talked.

388

00:22:10,260 --> 00:22:11,370 And I had a name.

389

00:22:11,370 --> 00:22:14,250 He was from Chicago.

390

00:22:14,250 --> 00:22:18,040 And yes, there was nothing else to do.

391

00:22:18,040 --> 00:22:20,560 So there was not a lot of coming and going.

392

00:22:20,560 --> 00:22:23,190

You were basically sitting there.

393

00:22:23,190 --> 00:22:26,328 And we were basically waiting to see what happened to us.

394

00:22:26,328 --> 00:22:27,370 Do you remember his name?

395

00:22:27,370 --> 00:22:28,110 No, no, no.

396

00:22:28,110 --> 00:22:29,760 It's a pity.

397

00:22:29,760 --> 00:22:33,780 And when we got back to Chicago, I

398

00:22:33,780 --> 00:22:39,450 said, god, then going through channels

399

00:22:39,450 --> 00:22:43,450 to find out what anti-aircraft battery was stationed there

400

00:22:43,450 --> 00:22:46,308 at that point in time and what, blah, blah, blah.

401

00:22:46,308 --> 00:22:51,080

402

00:22:51,080 --> 00:22:52,380 I just got married.

403

00:22:52,380 --> 00:22:54,590

So there were other

priorities that that was not

404

00:22:54,590 --> 00:23:04,560 that uppermost in my mind, like the feel of when

405 00:23:04,560 --> 00:23:08,580 the journals were found.

406 00:23:08,580 --> 00:23:16,350 That was also an army person for a record.

407 00:23:16,350 --> 00:23:18,240 So that should also be in the archives.

408 00:23:18,240 --> 00:23:21,510 So it's basically a matter of taking the time and the effort

409 00:23:21,510 --> 00:23:25,270 and and then what?

410 00:23:25,270 --> 00:23:26,020 It doesn't change.

411 00:23:26,020 --> 00:23:28,700 So I would have looked him up if I

412 00:23:28,700 --> 00:23:30,330 had remembered the name throughout,

413 00:23:30,330 --> 00:23:33,260 because by the time, it was in the '50s.

414 00:23:33,260 --> 00:23:36,650 And probably, there was a small piece of paper

415 00:23:36,650 --> 00:23:37,670 that I kept in a wallet. 416 00:23:37,670 --> 00:23:42,660 And by the time you open up, you can't read it anymore.

417 00:23:42,660 --> 00:23:46,210 And I was 13, anyway.

418 00:23:46,210 --> 00:23:54,630 So no, we chatted for, I don't know, three days, all day,

419 00:23:54,630 --> 00:23:59,730 also because it allowed me to improve our mingling.

420 00:23:59,730 --> 00:24:00,870 And he was nice.

421 00:24:00,870 --> 00:24:02,430 I remember that.

422 00:24:02,430 --> 00:24:11,100 So no, in Wurzburg, it was basically hectic.

423 00:24:11,100 --> 00:24:14,880 I remember the hectic movement and coming and going

424 00:24:14,880 --> 00:24:18,630 and trucks and people being brought in and being assigned

425 00:24:18,630 --> 00:24:23,100 and trucks leaving to the train station.

426 00:24:23,100 --> 00:24:28,770 And they were taken back to France and Holland and Belgium. 00:24:28,770 --> 00:24:32,640 And I think we were also one week.

428 00:24:32,640 --> 00:24:36,480 And then they put us on a train back

429 00:24:36,480 --> 00:24:42,255 to Holland and also freight cars.

430 00:24:42,255 --> 00:24:44,800

431 00:24:44,800 --> 00:24:47,260 And that's also when my dad cooked.

432 00:24:47,260 --> 00:24:49,835 When we stopped, they said, OK.

433 00:24:49,835 --> 00:24:51,210 Everybody in their assigned seat.

434 00:24:51,210 --> 00:24:52,790 We'll be here for two hours.

435 00:24:52,790 --> 00:25:00,780 And my dad, I remember making lunch, a warm meal.

436 00:25:00,780 --> 00:25:06,460 And the bridges were bombed.

437 00:25:06,460 --> 00:25:10,600 So we went over Bailey bridges and British--

438 00:25:10,600 --> 00:25:12,250 I mean Bailey bridge. 439

00:25:12,250 --> 00:25:16,250 So it was just the width of the rail, the track.

440

00:25:16,250 --> 00:25:19,630 So if you looked over, you didn't see anything but water.

441

00:25:19,630 --> 00:25:22,375 So I always hoped that it'd still

442

00:25:22,375 --> 00:25:24,250 be there, the next piece will still be there,

443

00:25:24,250 --> 00:25:26,990 because you couldn't tell.

444

00:25:26,990 --> 00:25:34,700 And I don't remember how Amsterdam was liberated or not.

445

00:25:34,700 --> 00:25:38,650 I know that they took us to a city in Holland, Tilburg,

446

00:25:38,650 --> 00:25:43,600 southern Holland, because they couldn't take us

447

00:25:43,600 --> 00:25:45,700 to Amsterdam yet.

448

00:25:45,700 --> 00:25:48,130 I don't know why.

449

00:25:48,130 --> 00:25:50,230 Whether organization-wise, they were not ready,

450

00:25:50,230 --> 00:25:54,580

whether the Germans were still there, I don't know.

451 00:25:54,580 --> 00:25:58,510 I know that we stayed for a while.

452 00:25:58,510 --> 00:26:02,230 I think maybe two weeks--

453 00:26:02,230 --> 00:26:05,240 two weeks, we stayed there.

454 00:26:05,240 --> 00:26:13,070 And then by then--

455 00:26:13,070 --> 00:26:15,410 oh, yeah.

456 00:26:15,410 --> 00:26:19,970 Everybody report there that you're leaving tomorrow.

457 00:26:19,970 --> 00:26:21,710 It's too late-day after tomorrow.

458 00:26:21,710 --> 00:26:25,790 I think three times, we were advised that we

459 00:26:25,790 --> 00:26:30,480 would be taken to Amsterdam.

460 00:26:30,480 --> 00:26:38,580 And then finally, by the river, by river traffic,

461 00:26:38,580 --> 00:26:42,090 they had a big barge, a freight barge.

462

00:26:42,090 --> 00:26:51,650 And they took us to Amsterdam and to find the rail station,

463 00:26:51,650 --> 00:26:54,965 because the River Rhine and the mass--

464 00:26:54,965 --> 00:26:58,040

465 00:26:58,040 --> 00:27:04,154 so you can go by river to Amsterdam or on.

466 00:27:04,154 --> 00:27:10,570 And there was-- there, they had buses the names.

467 00:27:10,570 --> 00:27:14,020 And the bus would then drop off.

468 00:27:14,020 --> 00:27:15,720 People had given addresses.

469 00:27:15,720 --> 00:27:19,450 Whether it was their address or a relative's address.

470 00:27:19,450 --> 00:27:20,465 I don't know.

471 00:27:20,465 --> 00:27:21,340 We were the last one.

472 00:27:21,340 --> 00:27:27,430 They took us to what used to be a Jewish hospital,

473 00:27:27,430 --> 00:27:33,880 the Portuguese Israeli Athletic Hospital, 474 00:27:33,880 --> 00:27:36,820 because, as I told you, Holland had

475 00:27:36,820 --> 00:27:41,595 a large percentage of Portuguese or what

476 00:27:41,595 --> 00:27:46,500 I think the Dutch would call Portuguese Jews, Sephardim.

477 00:27:46,500 --> 00:27:50,220 And that was empty.

478 00:27:50,220 --> 00:27:53,790 So there, we were dropped off.

479 00:27:53,790 --> 00:27:58,170

480 00:27:58,170 --> 00:28:04,950 And then it was basically a matter of finding an apartment.

481 00:28:04,950 --> 00:28:07,980 Now, was there an organization there that was--

482 00:28:07,980 --> 00:28:11,370 In that building, there was a cook.

483 00:28:11,370 --> 00:28:15,270 There were about-it wasn't full.

484 00:28:15,270 --> 00:28:22,830 There might have been 25 people, 30, something like this.

485 00:28:22,830 --> 00:28:26,410 486 00:28:26,410 --> 00:28:31,660 So we're two to a room, a kid my own age.

487

00:28:31,660 --> 00:28:36,790 So we turned out to be friends for quite a number of years.

488

00:28:36,790 --> 00:28:42,650 And no, then we had breakfast and lunch and dinner.

489

00:28:42,650 --> 00:28:45,220 And that was it.

490

00:28:45,220 --> 00:28:46,720 And then, of course, it was a matter

491

00:28:46,720 --> 00:28:48,490 of finding a place to live.

492

00:28:48,490 --> 00:28:49,760 Did they help you with that?

493

00:28:49,760 --> 00:28:51,140 I think they did.

494

00:28:51,140 --> 00:28:51,640 Yes.

495

00:28:51,640 --> 00:28:55,300 But what do they say?

496

00:28:55,300 --> 00:28:58,900 If you don't have fingers, you can't make a fist.

497

00:28:58,900 --> 00:29:01,860

There was nothing.

498 00:29:01,860 --> 00:29:03,310 Was there a name--

499 00:29:03,310 --> 00:29:05,920 was there a specific organization there that--

500 00:29:05,920 --> 00:29:09,940 No, I think it was basically the city.

501 00:29:09,940 --> 00:29:11,215 I don't know.

502 00:29:11,215 --> 00:29:13,750 My dad handled it.

503 00:29:13,750 --> 00:29:15,510 I don't know.

504 00:29:15,510 --> 00:29:21,930 But of course, there were not any partners.

505 00:29:21,930 --> 00:29:26,820 In the latter part of the war, end of '45,

506 00:29:26,820 --> 00:29:31,960 I told you as Holland suffered very much.

507 00:29:31,960 --> 00:29:37,190 And at the end, they were eating tulip bulbs and birch trees,

508 00:29:37,190 --> 00:29:42,260 the bark, to where, I don't know,

509 00:29:42,260 --> 00:29:47,270 April or March or April, the Americans

510

00:29:47,270 --> 00:29:54,350 requested a two-day armistice so they could drop food with DC-3s

511

00:29:54,350 --> 00:29:57,980 to the west of Amsterdam.

512

00:29:57,980 --> 00:30:03,800 And the German general, of course, they know they lost.

513

00:30:03,800 --> 00:30:06,050 So he agreed to that.

514

00:30:06,050 --> 00:30:07,190 And they dropped food.

515

00:30:07,190 --> 00:30:09,910

516

00:30:09,910 --> 00:30:12,000 So it was very bad.

517

00:30:12,000 --> 00:30:14,260 Then the winter-- the last winters were very cold.

518

00:30:14,260 --> 00:30:16,170 Of course, there was no coal, no wood.

519

00:30:16,170 --> 00:30:19,110 So what they did is they stripped

520

00:30:19,110 --> 00:30:25,700 the empty houses that Jewish people had lived in

00:30:25,700 --> 00:30:28,280 and the door, door frames, window frames,

522 00:30:28 280

00:30:28,280 --> 00:30:30,570 any piece of wood.

523

00:30:30,570 --> 00:30:32,360 So the whole house subsequently collapsed

524

00:30:32,360 --> 00:30:36,470 when the planks were gone and the door frames, windows.

525

00:30:36,470 --> 00:30:39,690

526

00:30:39,690 --> 00:30:42,330 The railroad-- the streetcar, I remember the tracks.

527

00:30:42,330 --> 00:30:48,560

528

00:30:48,560 --> 00:30:51,950 It was paved or asphalt until the rails.

529

00:30:51,950 --> 00:30:53,450 And then between the rails, they had

530

00:30:53,450 --> 00:31:01,990 wooden bitumen-coated wooden blocks,

531

00:31:01,990 --> 00:31:05,410 two inches by two inches by three inches,

532

00:31:05,410 --> 00:31:09,250 between the two tracks I think

## basically because the fact

533

00:31:09,250 --> 00:31:13,060 that it would allow

for maintenance easier

534

00:31:13,060 --> 00:31:19,150

or for expansion and dilation of the metal track.

535

00:31:19,150 --> 00:31:20,650

Those were all gone.

536

 $00:31:20,650 \longrightarrow 00:31:22,720$ 

Those were all gone.

537

00:31:22,720 --> 00:31:28,130

That's the way they

tried to heat themselves.

538

 $00:31:28,130 \longrightarrow 00:31:32,210$ 

So apartment-- it

took quite a while.

539

00:31:32,210 --> 00:31:38,530

In fact, Holland even

today, suppose you marry.

540

00:31:38,530 --> 00:31:40,360

You may have to wait

three years until you

541

00:31:40,360 --> 00:31:45,690

get an apartment-- two and

a half, two and a half.

542

 $00:31:45,690 \longrightarrow 00:31:52,020$ 

And right after the war,

Holland promoted immigration.

543

00:31:52,020 --> 00:31:52,800

Go to Canada.

544

00:31:52,800 --> 00:31:54,960 Go to South Africa and Australia.

545

00:31:54,960 --> 00:31:57,020 We'll pay you 10,000 francs.

546

00:31:57,020 --> 00:31:57,520 Get out.

547

00:31:57,520 --> 00:31:59,980 Just get out-- overcrowded.

548

00:31:59,980 --> 00:32:08,070 And that is why they did not support any or assist or allow

549

00:32:08,070 --> 00:32:10,575 any building of housing.

550

00:32:10,575 --> 00:32:12,330 And people were married for four years

551

00:32:12,330 --> 00:32:14,610 and living with their in-laws.

552

00:32:14,610 --> 00:32:18,120 And then out of misery, they would emigrate--

553

00:32:18,120 --> 00:32:23,010 Canada and Australian.

554

00:32:23,010 --> 00:32:25,410 And the Australian and the Canadian government,

555

00:32:25,410 --> 00:32:28,050 well, they're underpopulated, anyway.

556 00:32:28,050 --> 00:32:30,690 And they would contribute with no taxes.

557 00:32:30,690 --> 00:32:33,010 And a lot of farmers went.

558 00:32:33,010 --> 00:32:37,170 A lot of people went, basically, because it

559 00:32:37,170 --> 00:32:41,490 was a Dutch policy, government policy, not

560 00:32:41,490 --> 00:32:44,250 to make it easier for people--

561 00:32:44,250 --> 00:32:47,520 to make it easy for people to emigrate.

562 00:32:47,520 --> 00:32:49,470 And that goes until today.

563 00:32:49,470 --> 00:32:51,670 You cross the border into Belgium,

564 00:32:51,670 --> 00:32:55,590 you have the same problem in another format.

565 00:32:55,590 --> 00:33:00,280 In Belgium, there are no government restrictions.

566 00:33:00,280 --> 00:33:03,540 So the problem there is you look at six apartments.

567 00:33:03,540 --> 00:33:05,910 You don't know which one to take.

568

00:33:05,910 --> 00:33:10,380 You can rent three, if you want to pay.

569

00:33:10,380 --> 00:33:14,250 And one mile across, one kilometer across,

570

00:33:14,250 --> 00:33:17,040 you wait three years.

571

00:33:17,040 --> 00:33:18,250 Even today, you cannot.

572

00:33:18,250 --> 00:33:19,890 Even today, you can't.

573

00:33:19,890 --> 00:33:20,850 You have to register.

574

00:33:20,850 --> 00:33:21,810 And they look at you.

575

00:33:21,810 --> 00:33:24,960 And they say, OK, one person.

576

00:33:24,960 --> 00:33:27,940 We'll let you know.

577

00:33:27,940 --> 00:33:32,440 And no, it's still I think the only country in the world

578

00:33:32,440 --> 00:33:35,730 where they still have this.

579

00:33:35,730 --> 00:33:37,620

So how long did you stay at this?

580 00:33:37,620 --> 00:33:41,050

581 00:33:41,050 --> 00:33:42,030 I don't know.

582 00:33:42,030 --> 00:33:46,440

583 00:33:46,440 --> 00:33:47,420 I don't know.

584 00:33:47,420 --> 00:33:53,330

585 00:33:53,330 --> 00:33:55,340 I'd say about six months-six, seven months.

586 00:33:55,340 --> 00:33:58,760

587 00:33:58,760 --> 00:34:04,700 And then we still didn't have an apartment.

588 00:34:04,700 --> 00:34:08,449 But in the meantime, my dad became friendly

589 00:34:08,449 --> 00:34:13,040 with a family, a Russian family, a couple,

590 00:34:13,040 --> 00:34:18,980 and very good friends.

591 00:34:18,980 --> 00:34:22,370 And then, of course, he wanted to return to the United States 592 00:34:22,370 --> 00:34:26,840 to see what happened to his parents.

593 00:34:26,840 --> 00:34:30,560 He couldn't take Joe and me along.

594 00:34:30,560 --> 00:34:34,179 Did he have any communication with them, letters or--

595 00:34:34,179 --> 00:34:35,710 No.

596 00:34:35,710 --> 00:34:36,710 He may have had letters.

597 00:34:36,710 --> 00:34:39,980 But then, of course, it didn't mean anything

598 00:34:39,980 --> 00:34:42,380 because my grandpa--

599 00:34:42,380 --> 00:34:48,110 father-- had already died in '44.

600 00:34:48,110 --> 00:34:56,808 And my grandmother was still alive, but had--

601 00:34:56,808 --> 00:34:58,100 I don't know what it would be--

602 00:34:58,100 --> 00:34:59,805 Alzheimer's.

603 00:34:59,805 --> 00:35:02,180 When he finally got there, she didn't even recognize him. 604 00:35:02,180 --> 00:35:03,950 She did not recognize him.

605 00:35:03,950 --> 00:35:06,700 She didn't know who he was.

606 00:35:06,700 --> 00:35:10,970 And given the fact that they only had three kids, anyway--

607 00:35:10,970 --> 00:35:14,420 my uncle-- a brother and a sister--

608 00:35:14,420 --> 00:35:16,650 she didn't recognize him.

609 00:35:16,650 --> 00:35:17,765 And I think she died--

610 00:35:17,765 --> 00:35:22,800

611 00:35:22,800 --> 00:35:27,790 she died in '47, also in her 90s.

612 00:35:27,790 --> 00:35:33,360 And so he may have written.

613 00:35:33,360 --> 00:35:37,290 But then where do they live?

614 00:35:37,290 --> 00:35:41,910 Do they still live where they lived in 1940?

615 00:35:41,910 --> 00:35:47,168 So writing is one thing my dad-- no, no, no. 616 00:35:47,168 --> 00:35:48,960 I do it personally, and then I get it done.

617 00:35:48,960 --> 00:35:52,200

618 00:35:52,200 --> 00:35:56,710 The only thing was, of course, getting to the US.

619 00:35:56,710 --> 00:36:00,860 All the ships were used to take back the GIs home.

620 00:36:00,860 --> 00:36:04,330 So there was no United Airlines, no Air France,

621 00:36:04,330 --> 00:36:07,900 no Pan Am that you booked.

622 00:36:07,900 --> 00:36:10,630 There was no passenger air transportation, period.

623 00:36:10,630 --> 00:36:12,190 It was by ship.

624 00:36:12,190 --> 00:36:15,150 And they used every available ship--

625 00:36:15,150 --> 00:36:17,710 the Queen Elizabeth and the New--

626 00:36:17,710 --> 00:36:21,160 all the shipping was used for bringing back.

627 00:36:21,160 --> 00:36:26,030 628 00:36:26,030 --> 00:36:31,190 But my father being my father, he got a cabin on a freighter.

629 00:36:31,190 --> 00:36:34,280 And that's why he did make it back.

630 00:36:34,280 --> 00:36:36,590 And who did he leave, you and your brother?

631 00:36:36,590 --> 00:36:40,220 And that couple, they said, OK.

632 00:36:40,220 --> 00:36:41,370 Have them move in with us.

633 00:36:41,370 --> 00:36:45,743 So we lived with them for about two years.

634 00:36:45,743 --> 00:36:46,910 Do you remember their names?

635 00:36:46,910 --> 00:36:48,580 Oh, yeah.

636 00:36:48,580 --> 00:36:49,488 Hochinov.

637 00:36:49,488 --> 00:36:50,030 What is that?

638 00:36:50,030 --> 00:36:54,300 Hochinov, the Russian couple.

639 00:36:54,300 --> 00:36:54,960 He died. 640 00:36:54,960 --> 00:36:59,860

641 00:36:59,860 --> 00:37:01,710 Did you get back into school or--

642 00:37:01,710 --> 00:37:02,210 Yeah.

643 00:37:02,210 --> 00:37:04,360 Then I got back into school.

644 00:37:04,360 --> 00:37:10,210 And that had, of course, its angles.

645 00:37:10,210 --> 00:37:17,657 You see, whatever you heard about Germany is true.

646 00:37:17,657 --> 00:37:20,560

647 00:37:20,560 --> 00:37:23,030 They are precise.

648 00:37:23,030 --> 00:37:25,130 And they go by the book.

649 00:37:25,130 --> 00:37:26,025 That's it.

650 00:37:26,025 --> 00:37:27,650 Somebody told you, and that's the book.

651 00:37:27,650 --> 00:37:28,150 That's it.

652 00:37:28,150 --> 00:37:31,560 653 00:37:31,560 --> 00:37:36,810 The rules were made by people for people and through people.

654 00:37:36,810 --> 00:37:39,690 This plays any role whatsoever.

655 00:37:39,690 --> 00:37:43,340 It's written, and that's it.

656 00:37:43,340 --> 00:37:44,930 The Dutch have the same root.

657 00:37:44,930 --> 00:37:47,820

658 00:37:47,820 --> 00:37:53,950 They're also Germanic, which is strange.

659 00:37:53,950 --> 00:37:59,430 There are also the Danes and the Swedes, but they are different.

660 00:37:59,430 --> 00:38:08,170 So what happened when we got back,

661 00:38:08,170 --> 00:38:14,010 my dad had a friend whose son went to--

662 00:38:14,010 --> 00:38:17,630

663 00:38:17,630 --> 00:38:21,680 let us say-- let's take the reputation of Stanford

664 00:38:21,680 --> 00:38:27,230 University, not countrywide, but in this area,

665

00:38:27,230 --> 00:38:29,738 it's I think Berkeley.

666

00:38:29,738 --> 00:38:31,280 I'm not going to argue, but let's say

667

00:38:31,280 --> 00:38:38,210 it's the most prestigious university in this area.

668

00:38:38,210 --> 00:38:45,030 And there was a gymnasium, a high school,

669

00:38:45,030 --> 00:38:49,130 which was called the Amsterdam Lyceum.

670

00:38:49,130 --> 00:38:55,520 And it had the same reputation, which means

671

00:38:55,520 --> 00:38:57,560 the mayor's son went there.

672

00:38:57,560 --> 00:39:02,030 And the Minister of the Interior's kids went there.

673

00:39:02,030 --> 00:39:03,890 Assuming the American ambassador's kids,

674

00:39:03,890 --> 00:39:04,970 then they would go there.

675

00:39:04,970 --> 00:39:08,050

It was for the

creme de la creme.

676 00:39:08,050 --> 00:39:10,890 So a plain little old--

677 00:39:10,890 --> 00:39:12,710 no way would he or she be admitted.

678 00:39:12,710 --> 00:39:16,280

679 00:39:16,280 --> 00:39:21,920 But what happened is due to the friendship and acquaintances,

680 00:39:21,920 --> 00:39:29,360 my dad wanted to have somebody determine at what level had

681 00:39:29,360 --> 00:39:31,810 I progressed in the last camp.

682 00:39:31,810 --> 00:39:35,960 And I remember a friend approached two teachers

683 00:39:35,960 --> 00:39:39,680 at that school where his son went.

684 00:39:39,680 --> 00:39:44,990 And they tested me on two days, something like this.

685 00:39:44,990 --> 00:39:50,410 And they said that I had reached--

686 00:39:50,410 --> 00:39:50,910 OK.

687 00:39:50,910 --> 00:39:59,140 The schooling class is different at six years elementary,

688

00:39:59,140 --> 00:40:06,300 and five years middle school--

689

00:40:06,300 --> 00:40:09,860 high school, not four, but five.

690

00:40:09,860 --> 00:40:15,680 Or if you went into vocational, then you went to a three-year.

691

00:40:15,680 --> 00:40:18,110 But to go to a university or college,

692

00:40:18,110 --> 00:40:21,500 you had to finish a five-year.

693

00:40:21,500 --> 00:40:30,220 And my level was third and with the exception, of course,

694

00:40:30,220 --> 00:40:33,555 of Dutch and national history.

695

00:40:33,555 --> 00:40:36,280

696

00:40:36,280 --> 00:40:38,390 And Dutch is language and style.

697

00:40:38,390 --> 00:40:39,700 They have grammar and style.

698

00:40:39,700 --> 00:40:42,280 It's not one language class.

699

00:40:42,280 --> 00:40:43,920 It's got two language classes.

700 00:40:43,920 --> 00:40:46,348

701 00:40:46,348 --> 00:40:47,640 That, of course, I didn't know.

702 00:40:47,640 --> 00:40:49,710 I was way behind.

703 00:40:49,710 --> 00:40:53,490 But everything else, I was way ahead.

704 00:40:53,490 --> 00:40:54,970 I don't know.

705 00:40:54,970 --> 00:40:56,490 But one day, I'm told, OK.

706 00:40:56,490 --> 00:40:58,140 Start tomorrow, you go to school.

707 00:40:58,140 --> 00:41:00,760

708 00:41:00,760 --> 00:41:02,530 And I'm fine, great.

709 00:41:02,530 --> 00:41:06,250

710 00:41:06,250 --> 00:41:09,900 There was no public transportation, none.

711 00:41:09,900 --> 00:41:12,590 You had to walk.

712 00:41:12,590 --> 00:41:17,150 And lunch was from 12:00 or from 2:00 to 4:00, 4:15.

713 00:41:17,150 --> 00:41:21,950 8:45 to 12:00, 1:45 to 4:15.

714 00:41:21,950 --> 00:41:24,100 So people-- everybody went home for lunch.

715 00:41:24,100 --> 00:41:27,840

716 00:41:27,840 --> 00:41:29,640 But I had to walk something like--

717 00:41:29,640 --> 00:41:30,330 I don't know.

718 00:41:30,330 --> 00:41:31,230 I wanted to do it.

719 00:41:31,230 --> 00:41:35,560 I've been kidding with my sons.

720 00:41:35,560 --> 00:41:38,970 They have a bike and they want to be dropped off in the car.

721 00:41:38,970 --> 00:41:42,840 And when I say, when I was your age, they say, yeah.

722 00:41:42,840 --> 00:41:47,880 Yeah, you walked in the snow uphill both ways.

723 00:41:47,880 --> 00:41:50,880 And I wanted to determine what was

724 00:41:50,880 --> 00:41:52,710 the mileage, how many miles a kilometer

725 00:41:52,710 --> 00:41:59,805 it was from that building and the temporary residence

726 00:41:59,805 --> 00:42:01,680 to school, because I had to do it four times.

727 00:42:01,680 --> 00:42:04,220

728 00:42:04,220 --> 00:42:09,950 And then homework-- homework not only the normal courses,

729 00:42:09,950 --> 00:42:13,820 but I had especially to concentrate

730 00:42:13,820 --> 00:42:14,960 the makeup, catch-up.

731 00:42:14,960 --> 00:42:17,820

732 00:42:17,820 --> 00:42:24,880 My father being one of those old-time dictators,

733 00:42:24,880 --> 00:42:26,280 I had to be-- how old was I?

734 00:42:26,280 --> 00:42:30,000 14-- had to be in bed by 7:30.

735 00:42:30,000 --> 00:42:32,820 If you consider that I come out of school-- school is out 4:15. 00:42:32,820 --> 00:42:36,150 By the time I'm back, it is 5:00.

737 00:42:36,150 --> 00:42:42,370 You have 20 minutes to fool around, then dinner.

738 00:42:42,370 --> 00:42:44,440 I had 15 minutes to do my homework and go to bed.

739 00:42:44,440 --> 00:42:48,982 And after a little, I said, look, that's not going to work.

740 00:42:48,982 --> 00:42:49,690 What do you mean?

741 00:42:49,690 --> 00:42:51,750 I said, look, I'm not--

742 00:42:51,750 --> 00:42:54,000 so very magnanimously, he said, OK.

743 00:42:54,000 --> 00:42:55,050 Fine.

744 00:42:55,050 --> 00:42:55,997 You go to bed at 8:00.

745 00:42:55,997 --> 00:42:57,330 He gave me another half an hour.

746 00:42:57,330 --> 00:43:03,980

747 00:43:03,980 --> 00:43:07,440 So it took me about five months.

748 00:43:07,440 --> 00:43:08,360 And then I caught up.

749 00:43:08,360 --> 00:43:11,800

750 00:43:11,800 --> 00:43:13,680 It took a lot of work.

751 00:43:13,680 --> 00:43:19,060 It was the same thing like in a camp.

752 00:43:19,060 --> 00:43:22,360 My dad paid for it with food for me to learn.

753 00:43:22,360 --> 00:43:27,400

754 00:43:27,400 --> 00:43:32,350 And I'm not going to deny 20/20 hindsight

755 00:43:32,350 --> 00:43:40,910 that he might have done this also to create the future--

756 00:43:40,910 --> 00:43:41,890 so nothing but death.

757 00:43:41,890 --> 00:43:43,630 And learn.

758 00:43:43,630 --> 00:43:46,000 You've got to learn because later--

759 00:43:46,000 --> 00:43:49,460 so that he may have done this for psychological reasons,

760 00:43:49,460 --> 00:43:49,960 as well.

761 00:43:49,960 --> 00:43:53,120 But it doesn't make any difference.

762 00:43:53,120 --> 00:43:55,400 He paid for it in bread.

763 00:43:55,400 --> 00:43:56,920 So I had to study.

764 00:43:56,920 --> 00:43:59,590 Did your younger brother go back to school, too?

765 00:43:59,590 --> 00:44:00,430 Yes.

766 00:44:00,430 --> 00:44:02,580 He went to elementary school.

767 00:44:02,580 --> 00:44:03,480 Yeah.

768 00:44:03,480 --> 00:44:05,480 Did your father have any work that he was doing?

769 00:44:05,480 --> 00:44:06,280 No.

770 00:44:06,280 --> 00:44:07,150 No.

771 00:44:07,150 --> 00:44:09,220 Yes, my dad had a factory.

772 00:44:09,220 --> 00:44:12,950 So what could he do?

773

00:44:12,950 --> 00:44:16,910 He could get a job.

774

00:44:16,910 --> 00:44:20,200 His Dutch was not any better than it was.

775

00:44:20,200 --> 00:44:23,500

776

00:44:23,500 --> 00:44:25,930 So how did you have money for clothes and food?

777

00:44:25,930 --> 00:44:26,980 OK.

778

00:44:26,980 --> 00:44:30,780 First of all, there was a reparation.

779

00:44:30,780 --> 00:44:35,650 First, he had insurance, pre-war insurance on the factory--

780

00:44:35,650 --> 00:44:38,050 fire, theft, blah, blah, blah.

781

00:44:38,050 --> 00:44:41,290 And that, they had to pay.

782

00:44:41,290 --> 00:44:43,030 I remember.

783

00:44:43,030 --> 00:44:47,440 And I think he had it insured for then in 1944

784

00:44:47,440 --> 00:44:51,833 10,000 guilders or \$10,000.

785

00:44:51,833 --> 00:44:53,750

I don't know what today's equivalent would be.

786 00:44:53,750 --> 00:45:00,280

787 00:45:00,280 --> 00:45:02,700 Then subsequently, he established

788 00:45:02,700 --> 00:45:12,490 a factory, shirts basically for the major stores,

789 00:45:12,490 --> 00:45:14,980 made to order--

790 00:45:14,980 --> 00:45:20,630 so not off the rack, but made to order,

791 00:45:20,630 --> 00:45:22,280 just until I finished school so that we

792 00:45:22,280 --> 00:45:24,790 could return to the States.

793 00:45:24,790 --> 00:45:26,770 So it was basically temporary.

794 00:45:26,770 --> 00:45:30,070 And this was before he went back to the States on his own?

795 00:45:30,070 --> 00:45:31,390 No, after he came back.

796 00:45:31,390 --> 00:45:34,630 No, the first thing, he went back.

797

00:45:34,630 --> 00:45:38,200 And he was gone for how long?

798

00:45:38,200 --> 00:45:39,520 Quite a while.

799

00:45:39,520 --> 00:45:40,425 Quite a while, yes.

800

00:45:40,425 --> 00:45:41,740 Was it two years?

801

00:45:41,740 --> 00:45:43,330 No, he wasn't gone for two years.

802

00:45:43,330 --> 00:45:45,460 But he must have--

803

00:45:45,460 --> 00:45:46,930 we lived with them for two years.

804

00:45:46,930 --> 00:45:47,430 Yeah.

805

00:45:47,430 --> 00:46:00,130 But no, he was gone for, let's say, six months.

806

00:46:00,130 --> 00:46:04,090 There was some property in Chicago.

807

00:46:04,090 --> 00:46:07,360 And he was about six months.

808

00:46:07,360 --> 00:46:10,360 I may be off a

month here or there.

809

00:46:10,360 --> 00:46:12,160

No, that is when he came back.

810

00:46:12,160 --> 00:46:14,470

And I was at school.

811

00:46:14,470 --> 00:46:19,900 And he wanted me to finish school, rather than switch.

812

00:46:19,900 --> 00:46:22,210 Finish that, and then we'll take it from there.

813

00:46:22,210 --> 00:46:27,170 As I was already two years ahead, anyway, for my age,

814

00:46:27,170 --> 00:46:27,710 he said, OK.

815

00:46:27,710 --> 00:46:29,650 Then when we get back, you'll have

816

00:46:29,650 --> 00:46:32,960 to adjust and fiddle around with English.

817

00:46:32,960 --> 00:46:35,710 And then you'll be in your same age

818

00:46:35,710 --> 00:46:39,830 group or even a year younger.

819

00:46:39,830 --> 00:46:44,860 What was the response of the people at home

820

00:46:44,860 --> 00:46:47,610 after you were liberated?

821

00:46:47,610 --> 00:46:51,380 Did they-- was there any antisemitism still there

822 00:46:51,380 --> 00:46:54,340 or did they make comments about you?

823 00:46:54,340 --> 00:47:04,580 The fact is, of course, that even the people that had

824 00:47:04,580 --> 00:47:11,690 antisemitic tendencies after the war would be very careful,

825 00:47:11,690 --> 00:47:14,300 because just like the Germans created the National

826 00:47:14,300 --> 00:47:21,830 Socialistic Movement, the NSB, during the war,

827 00:47:21,830 --> 00:47:25,370 the Underground immediately afterwards turned into what

828 00:47:25,370 --> 00:47:32,870 they called the [NON-ENGLISH],, Interior Forces.

829 00:47:32,870 --> 00:47:34,390 They had blue uniforms.

830 00:47:34,390 --> 00:47:38,390 I remember blue coveralls, overalls--

831 00:47:38,390 --> 00:47:43,610 blue overalls and blue pre-war Dutch army helmet. 00:47:43,610 --> 00:47:45,950 And they went after the collaborators and stuff

833 00:47:45,950 --> 00:47:47,610 like this.

834 00:47:47,610 --> 00:47:58,430 And so even though I was older then by the number of years

835 00:47:58,430 --> 00:48:03,770 when I'd been away, I might have been maybe

836 00:48:03,770 --> 00:48:07,250 more sensitive to antisemitism afterwards than before the war.

837 00:48:07,250 --> 00:48:09,910

838 00:48:09,910 --> 00:48:10,870 And I don't--

839 00:48:10,870 --> 00:48:14,570

840 00:48:14,570 --> 00:48:15,300 I don't remember.

841 00:48:15,300 --> 00:48:19,280 I never forget the years in the war

842 00:48:19,280 --> 00:48:20,530 or forget what happened to me.

843 00:48:20,530 --> 00:48:22,970 I personally up until today--

844 00:48:22,970 --> 00:48:26,390 845 00:48:26,390 --> 00:48:28,940 I don't-- either they ran away or they avoided it.

846

00:48:28,940 --> 00:48:32,340 Or they were afraid or whatever.

847

00:48:32,340 --> 00:48:39,620 I never had any, not behind my back or a friend was, he--

848

00:48:39,620 --> 00:48:41,670 or even openly.

849

00:48:41,670 --> 00:48:44,570 Maybe once-- maybe once.

850

00:48:44,570 --> 00:48:46,498 I had friends who would come up.

851

00:48:46,498 --> 00:48:47,540 And I said, I don't know.

852

00:48:47,540 --> 00:48:48,870 I don't know.

853

00:48:48,870 --> 00:48:55,550 I never had the unfortunate experience

854

00:48:55,550 --> 00:49:00,650 of being involved in any of these clashes.

855

00:49:00,650 --> 00:49:07,810 I don't know, not in my professional career,

856

00:49:07,810 --> 00:49:11,260 not working in Germany

in the high levels.

857 00:49:11,260 --> 00:49:21,200 And even if I worked with an older assessor who

858 00:49:21,200 --> 00:49:22,550 knew I was Jewish--

859 00:49:22,550 --> 00:49:26,000 they all knew I was Jewish, of course.

860 00:49:26,000 --> 00:49:29,130 And then from a certain age, if they had a certain age,

861 00:49:29,130 --> 00:49:31,280 I kept the arm's distance.

862 00:49:31,280 --> 00:49:36,080 I had friends my age or younger in Germany,

863 00:49:36,080 --> 00:49:40,340 very good friends, very dear friends, as dear as anybody.

864 00:49:40,340 --> 00:49:42,740 But from a certain age and up, no.

865 00:49:42,740 --> 00:49:44,030 Because--

866 00:49:44,030 --> 00:49:45,210 I don't know what they did.

867 00:49:45,210 --> 00:49:47,043 I don't want to have anything to do with it.

00:49:47,043 --> 00:49:49,730 And when they got too smart as I worked

869 00:49:49,730 --> 00:49:54,140 there and I was contacted by the board--

870 00:49:54,140 --> 00:49:57,110 by the board, not by personnel, by the board--

871 00:49:57,110 --> 00:49:59,150 because I was not German and I was Jewish.

872 00:49:59,150 --> 00:50:03,880 And it was the board of directors's decision.

873 00:50:03,880 --> 00:50:07,250 And out of nine, two were against it.

874 00:50:07,250 --> 00:50:08,570 I don't think they were much--

875 00:50:08,570 --> 00:50:12,530 I found afterward I don't think not so much because of the fact

876 00:50:12,530 --> 00:50:15,840 that I was Jewish.

877 00:50:15,840 --> 00:50:17,780 It's because the fact that I would

878 00:50:17,780 --> 00:50:21,380 be the only foreigner in an engineering department of 33

879 00:50:21,380 --> 00:50:25,940 other people and the only foreigner

880

00:50:25,940 --> 00:50:30,230 and in addition to which I am Jewish.

881

00:50:30,230 --> 00:50:35,000 And they were afraid that staff or personnel would

882

00:50:35,000 --> 00:50:38,000 get into conflict with me.

883

00:50:38,000 --> 00:50:40,760 So they voted in seven to two.

884

00:50:40,760 --> 00:50:42,680 And then I got offered.

885

00:50:42,680 --> 00:50:45,030 And I went to work.

886

00:50:45,030 --> 00:50:47,570 So if I dealt with somebody of that age, then

887

00:50:47,570 --> 00:50:50,480 I say you might have been on the Russian front.

888

00:50:50,480 --> 00:50:54,530 You might even have been in Mauthausen or Sobibor

889

 $00:50:54,530 \longrightarrow 00:50:55,740$  and the other camps.

890

00:50:55,740 --> 00:50:56,710 I don't know.

891

00:50:56,710 --> 00:50:58,940

Since I don't know, I don't want to have anything

892

00:50:58,940 --> 00:51:00,680 to do with you.

893

00:51:00,680 --> 00:51:04,670 And as my contact was saying way, way, way upstairs, which

894

00:51:04,670 --> 00:51:10,190 everybody knew, if anybody got smart-alecky,

895

00:51:10,190 --> 00:51:13,570 you've never seen a bulldozer run over somebody.

896

00:51:13,570 --> 00:51:17,960 I would run-- with this staff, I don't know.

897

00:51:17,960 --> 00:51:20,780 I cut them like this to little pieces.

898

00:51:20,780 --> 00:51:23,370 And they couldn't do anything.

899

00:51:23,370 --> 00:51:27,993 So not because of anything-- professionally.

900

00:51:27,993 --> 00:51:30,410 If they did something wrong and I said, please correct it,

901

00:51:30,410 --> 00:51:31,280 they say no, no, it's fine.

902

00:51:31,280 --> 00:51:31,580 I say, no.

suy, no.

903

00:51:31,580 --> 00:51:32,872 No, I'm telling you it's wrong.

904

00:51:32,872 --> 00:51:33,950 I want you to correct it.

905

00:51:33,950 --> 00:51:35,930 In my opinion, I said, look, nobody cares about you.

906

00:51:35,930 --> 00:51:36,540 Get it done.

907

00:51:36,540 --> 00:51:39,530 And if you don't get it done by tomorrow, you'll see.

908

00:51:39,530 --> 00:51:41,530 And then it was done by the next day.

909

00:51:41,530 --> 00:51:44,360 And that happened once or twice.

910

00:51:44,360 --> 00:51:53,240 In general, no, I cannot say that I had any encounters.

911

00:51:53,240 --> 00:52:03,480

912

00:52:03,480 --> 00:52:05,750 No, I worked in 12 countries.

913

00:52:05,750 --> 00:52:09,770 I lived there for two years, four years, six years.

914

00:52:09,770 --> 00:52:13,140

I don't-- no, never.

00:52:13,140 --> 00:52:16,620 I climbed the career ladder irrespective,

916

00:52:16,620 --> 00:52:20,610 faster than anybody else, with non-Jewish companies.

917

00:52:20,610 --> 00:52:23,550 Now, with Jewish companies, I might not have made it.

918

00:52:23,550 --> 00:52:24,990 That, I accept.

919

00:52:24,990 --> 00:52:26,070 Yeah.

920

00:52:26,070 --> 00:52:30,320 I am too blunt.

921

00:52:30,320 --> 00:52:32,480 But I'm proud that I inherited it

922

00:52:32,480 --> 00:52:37,520 from my dad and some other things.

923

00:52:37,520 --> 00:52:38,610 No.

924

00:52:38,610 --> 00:52:40,460 No, I don't.

925

00:52:40,460 --> 00:52:47,360 The problem that I had is when we came back

926

00:52:47,360 --> 00:52:53,040 and I went to them the same, I had just caught up.

927 00:52:53,040 --> 00:52:57,690 And I'm telling you It was tough, the language.

928 00:52:57,690 --> 00:52:59,870

I spoke better Russian

and better French

929  $00:52:59,870 \longrightarrow 00:53:05,410$ and better German and English than I spoke Dutch.

930 00:53:05,410 --> 00:53:10,760 And then I have to catch up school Dutch and tests

931 00:53:10,760 --> 00:53:12,320 and essays.

932 00:53:12,320 --> 00:53:15,490 God, I didn't even know the language.

933 00:53:15,490 --> 00:53:17,980 And national history-- that we had

934 00:53:17,980 --> 00:53:25,325 an admiral in the 17th century who beat Trump and the router

935  $00:53:25,325 \longrightarrow 00:53:27,700$ and stuff like this and the 80-Year War and Hundred Years

936 00:53:27,700 --> 00:53:28,990 War.

937 00:53:28.990 --> 00:53:34.270 And who wanted history in Europe at that time?

00:53:34,270 --> 00:53:36,910 All you did were years and wars-- the 80-Year War,

939 00:53:36,910 --> 00:53:38,860 the War Between the

Roses, World War I.

940

00:53:38,860 --> 00:53:40,960 I didn't want to learn about prior wars.

941

00:53:40,960 --> 00:53:42,970 I had enough with the last one.

942 00:53:42,970 --> 00:53:46,570 So all you did, you had to remember

943 00:53:46,570 --> 00:53:50,470 the dates and a piece of there and a piece of this

944 00:53:50,470 --> 00:53:53,680 and the war of this and the war from then to then.

945 00:53:53,680 --> 00:53:59,650 So I wasn't too crazy about national history, anyway.

946 00:53:59,650 --> 00:54:00,430 But I had to.

947 00:54:00,430 --> 00:54:05,680

948 00:54:05,680 --> 00:54:11,110 Oh, yeah botany-- plants.

949 00:54:11,110 --> 00:54:13,540 All that, I didn't do. 950 00:54:13,540 --> 00:54:16,520 I didn't do Hebrew in grade school.

951 00:54:16,520 --> 00:54:18,970 I didn't do botany in high school.

952 00:54:18,970 --> 00:54:21,550 I simply didn't participate, and that's it.

953 00:54:21,550 --> 00:54:25,010 Plants-- who does that-- plants.

954 00:54:25,010 --> 00:54:27,880 The name of a flower, it was not going to do any good.

955 00:54:27,880 --> 00:54:29,380 And I don't know much about flowers.

956 00:54:29,380 --> 00:54:32,260 I know a rose when I see the tulip.

957 00:54:32,260 --> 00:54:35,620 I know a chestnut tree because it has six leaves, long leaves.

958 00:54:35,620 --> 00:54:37,270 That's about it and the oak--

959 00:54:37,270 --> 00:54:39,190 no, I wouldn't recognize an oak-- a birch.

960 00:54:39,190 --> 00:54:41,890 Yes.

961 00:54:41,890 --> 00:54:49,510 So when I finally caught up, then I said, oh, I made it.

962

00:54:49,510 --> 00:54:52,685 Now, I'm on the par.

Now, I iii on iii

963

00:54:52,685 --> 00:54:54,310

You have to consider I was by two years

964

00:54:54,310 --> 00:55:00,450 the youngest in the class and the smallest by height,

965

00:55:00,450 --> 00:55:04,130 one of the smallest.

one of the smalle

966

00:55:04,130 --> 00:55:09,800 And the other factor that doomed it was the school

967

00:55:09,800 --> 00:55:11,960 was situated at both sides of the street

968

00:55:11,960 --> 00:55:16,630 with an overhead passageway.

969

00:55:16,630 --> 00:55:19,390 So basically, the teacher went from class to class,

970

00:55:19,390 --> 00:55:21,790 with the exception of physics.

971

00:55:21,790 --> 00:55:30,290 They went to physics class and the lab, any lab work.

972

00:55:30,290 --> 00:55:34,160

And there, I meet-- or he meets me-- the dean.

```
973
00:55:34,160 --> 00:55:36,720
```

974 00:55:36,720 --> 00:55:38,880 And he sees that little--

975 00:55:38,880 --> 00:55:42,470 my class, 3B.

976 00:55:42,470 --> 00:55:43,380 And here, I am.

977 00:55:43,380 --> 00:55:47,850 And he says, who are you?

978 00:55:47,850 --> 00:55:49,990 I said, I am me.

979 00:55:49,990 --> 00:55:51,218 No, I mean-- oh, my name?

980 00:55:51,218 --> 00:55:52,260 My name is Max Erlichman.

981 00:55:52,260 --> 00:55:53,190 Oh.

982 00:55:53,190 --> 00:55:53,850 What class?

983 00:55:53,850 --> 00:55:54,360 3B.

984 00:55:54,360 --> 00:55:54,750 OK.

985 00:55:54,750 --> 00:55:54,870 Fine.

986 00:55:54,870 --> 00:55:55,370 Thank you.

987

00:55:55,370 --> 00:55:56,700 Go.

988

00:55:56,700 --> 00:55:59,490

The next day, my dad gets called--

989

00:55:59,490 --> 00:56:00,180

his friend.

990

00:56:00,180 --> 00:56:02,900

991

00:56:02,900 --> 00:56:03,830

We get called.

992

00:56:03,830 --> 00:56:07,160

And I had to wait in the anteroom.

993

00:56:07,160 --> 00:56:15,140

And I was told to grab my bags and get out.

my bags and get t

994

00:56:15,140 --> 00:56:16,820

Why?

995

 $00:56:16,820 \longrightarrow 00:56:21,710$ 

His explanation was that

I had entered school

996

00:56:21,710 --> 00:56:23,546

without his knowledge.

997

00:56:23,546 --> 00:56:27,920

998

00:56:27,920 --> 00:56:30,810

And that really burned me up.

999

00:56:30,810 --> 00:56:37,860 That burned me up, because in addition to which--

1000

00:56:37,860 --> 00:56:38,760 I don't know.

1001

00:56:38,760 --> 00:56:40,000 We lived in Chicago.

1002

00:56:40,000 --> 00:56:44,040 We moved to San Francisco.

1003

00:56:44,040 --> 00:56:46,560 Then we moved to Sunnyvale.

1004

00:56:46,560 --> 00:56:50,050 And my girls, I would take them to school.

1005

00:56:50,050 --> 00:56:53,242 When it was April and September or January,

1006

00:56:53,242 --> 00:56:54,700 I took them the next day to school.

1007

00:56:54,700 --> 00:56:56,160 And that was it.

1008

00:56:56,160 --> 00:56:58,440 In Holland at that period, you couldn't.

1009

00:56:58,440 --> 00:57:01,350 You had to wait till September.

1010

00:57:01,350 --> 00:57:05,220 So if anybody would have moved to Holland with children, 1011 00:57:05,220 --> 00:57:11,260 let's say, in the month of October,

1012 00:57:11,260 --> 00:57:13,700 you can't put your kids to school.

1013 00:57:13,700 --> 00:57:15,850 You had to wait until next year September

1014 00:57:15,850 --> 00:57:18,520 for them to enter school, because that is the school

1015 00:57:18,520 --> 00:57:22,420 year, September 1 until July 30 or something

1016 00:57:22,420 --> 00:57:23,920 like this, six weeks' worth.

1017 00:57:23,920 --> 00:57:26,770 Somehow, they were six weeks.

1018 00:57:26,770 --> 00:57:33,740 So people avoided moving except during vacation,

1019 00:57:33,740 --> 00:57:35,930 because the kids would be running on the street.

1020 00:57:35,930 --> 00:57:40,510

1021 00:57:40,510 --> 00:57:42,980 And then they didn't have a truancy police,

1022 00:57:42,980 --> 00:57:45,491 but they would be caught.

1023

00:57:45,491 --> 00:57:47,240 A, you couldn't walk to--

1024

00:57:47,240 --> 00:57:47,960 there was school.

1025

00:57:47,960 --> 00:57:49,520 And you're supposed to be in school

1026

00:57:49,520 --> 00:57:51,832 below the age of whatever, 16.

1027

00:57:51,832 --> 00:57:53,540 But in Holland, you couldn't go to school

1028

00:57:53,540 --> 00:57:56,100 because it wasn't September.

1029

00:57:56,100 --> 00:57:58,260 So this was going back and forth.

1030

00:57:58,260 --> 00:58:00,513 This is typically Dutch.

1031

00:58:00,513 --> 00:58:02,680 Left hand doesn't know what the right hand is doing.

1032

00:58:02,680 --> 00:58:05,965 Oh, later on, they improve.

1033

00:58:05,965 --> 00:58:06,590 So there I was.

1034

 $00:58:06,590 \longrightarrow 00:58:11,730$ 

1035

00:58:11,730 --> 00:58:13,360 When did I get to school?

1036

00:58:13,360 --> 00:58:17,460 That must have been six months.

1037

00:58:17,460 --> 00:58:21,795 So we came back in May.

1038

00:58:21,795 --> 00:58:24,530

1039

00:58:24,530 --> 00:58:32,770 September, October, December-so in February, out.

1040

00:58:32,770 --> 00:58:34,510 I wasn't going to take it in February.

1041

00:58:34,510 --> 00:58:37,242 You have to wait till September.

1042

00:58:37,242 --> 00:58:39,450 So here I was.

1043

00:58:39,450 --> 00:58:40,890 My dad tried to get me to school.

1044

00:58:40,890 --> 00:58:43,700 He went to the Department of Education.

1045

00:58:43,700 --> 00:58:48,140 They said, I'm sorry, but I'm sorry.

1046

00:58:48,140 --> 00:58:48,820

That's it.

00:58:48,820 --> 00:58:52,505 He said, so is he supposed to run the streets?

1048 00:58:52,505 --> 00:58:53,400 Yeah, I'm sorry.

1049 00:58:53,400 --> 00:58:55,950 September-- but he has to enter in September.

1050 00:58:55,950 --> 00:59:00,310 School year's September to July.

1051 00:59:00,310 --> 00:59:03,730 And then I got angry.

1052 00:59:03,730 --> 00:59:05,710 I am not aware of it then.

1053 00:59:05,710 --> 00:59:07,810 I am aware of it now.

1054 00:59:07,810 --> 00:59:10,030 You mean through all of that--

1055 00:59:10,030 --> 00:59:11,440 I always said something.

1056 00:59:11,440 --> 00:59:20,900 Through all of that past--

1057 00:59:20,900 --> 00:59:23,550 these past experiences in history,

1058 00:59:23,550 --> 00:59:26,540 to run into something like this, that was a little bit too much.

1059 00:59:26,540 --> 00:59:31,250 1060 00:59:31,250 --> 00:59:35,400 There are rules that are chiseled the marble.

1061

00:59:35,400 --> 00:59:39,690

And that's what makes me a rebel.

1062

00:59:39,690 --> 00:59:41,850

I don't take that,

not for my kids.

1063

00:59:41,850 --> 00:59:44,520

And I have never taken it.

1064

00:59:44,520 --> 00:59:45,030

there I was.

1065

00:59:45,030 --> 00:59:45,750

And then I got angry.

1066

00:59:45,750 --> 00:59:46,250

I said, OK.

1067

00:59:46,250 --> 00:59:50,080

And heck with it.

1068

00:59:50,080 --> 00:59:50,580

Whatever.

1069

00:59:50,580 --> 00:59:53,920

1070

00:59:53,920 --> 00:59:58,490

And then I didn't do anything.

1071

00:59:58,490 --> 01:00:00,000

I didn't do anything

for a while.

1073 01:00:05,140 --> 01:00:10,030 And then they established a Jewish high school.

1074 01:00:10,030 --> 01:00:13,370 So then I went to a Jewish high school.

1075 01:00:13,370 --> 01:00:18,190 I decided to go to the Jewish high school.

1076 01:00:18,190 --> 01:00:22,250 And I was admitted.

1077 01:00:22,250 --> 01:00:27,130

1078 01:00:27,130 --> 01:00:30,850 And that did not last very long, because then they merged.

1079 01:00:30,850 --> 01:00:35,210 And then the Dutch government established--

1080 01:00:35,210 --> 01:00:46,910 finally, they established what they called the Community

1081 01:00:46,910 --> 01:00:58,040 Course for Hidden Children and Camp Children.

1082 01:00:58,040 --> 01:01:00,430 And they were high school.

1083 01:01:00,430 --> 01:01:02,180 The only thing is you did the whole school 1084 01:01:02,180 --> 01:01:04,160 year in six months.

1085 01:01:04,160 --> 01:01:09,080 So in one year, you did two school years,

1086 01:01:09,080 --> 01:01:14,600 which again really stoked the fire and get going.

1087 01:01:14,600 --> 01:01:17,510

1088 01:01:17,510 --> 01:01:19,550 And I left the Jewish high school

1089 01:01:19,550 --> 01:01:23,210 because I got into trouble with the teachers.

1090 01:01:23,210 --> 01:01:28,220 I got in trouble with the teachers to the extent

1091 01:01:28,220 --> 01:01:31,460 that I think of the whole high school,

1092 01:01:31,460 --> 01:01:34,970 I was sent to the principal more than everybody else together.

1093 01:01:34,970 --> 01:01:38,240 It got to the point where I knocked again.

1094 01:01:38,240 --> 01:01:43,220 And Dr. Jacobsen, he had half-glasses, reading glasses. 1095

01:01:43,220 --> 01:01:44,620 And then knock, knock, knock.

1096

01:01:44,620 --> 01:01:45,920 And I told him to come in.

1097

01:01:45,920 --> 01:01:48,290 And he says, no, not you again.

1098

01:01:48,290 --> 01:01:48,810 What is it?

1099

01:01:48,810 --> 01:01:49,310 Come on.

1100

01:01:49,310 --> 01:01:50,300 What is it this time?

1101

01:01:50,300 --> 01:01:51,650 That's the way it was.

1102

01:01:51,650 --> 01:01:53,920 I had run into conflict with the teachers.

1103

01:01:53,920 --> 01:01:58,190

1104

01:01:58,190 --> 01:02:02,370 Laws, rules-- don't come with me with rules.

1105

01:02:02,370 --> 01:02:02,870 No.

1106

01:02:02,870 --> 01:02:04,470 No, not after what

I went through.

1107

01:02:04,470 --> 01:02:07,160

I don't want your stupid rules.

1108 01:02:07,160 --> 01:02:10,040 And I'm not talking about rules.

1109 01:02:10,040 --> 01:02:11,360 We have to abide by rules.

1110 01:02:11,360 --> 01:02:13,220 I set rules for my kids.

1111 01:02:13,220 --> 01:02:17,540 But if they're moronic, then I don't accept it.

1112 01:02:17,540 --> 01:02:19,970 I don't accept-in that school, I

1113 01:02:19,970 --> 01:02:26,100 don't accept stupidity, not from staff, not from teachers.

1114 01:02:26,100 --> 01:02:28,820 That's what I got made the conflict.

1115 01:02:28,820 --> 01:02:31,910 And that's why I was repeatedly sent.

1116 01:02:31,910 --> 01:02:35,510 I was never punished, never penalized.

1117 01:02:35,510 --> 01:02:39,254

1118 01:02:39,254 --> 01:02:43,850 Fortunately, my dad was never called to school.

1119 01:02:43,850 --> 01:02:45,390 I could kiss him for that.

1120 01:02:45,390 --> 01:02:47,130 Came at my dad-would you please come?

1121 01:02:47,130 --> 01:02:49,310 We will discuss your son, Max.

1122 01:02:49,310 --> 01:02:52,100 He never did that because I was right.

1123 01:02:52,100 --> 01:02:54,830

1124 01:02:54,830 --> 01:02:55,740 He was old enough.

1125 01:02:55,740 --> 01:02:57,898 He was in his 50s.

1126 01:02:57,898 --> 01:02:59,690 He was old enough to know that I was right.

1127 01:02:59,690 --> 01:03:01,315 And I knew that I was right, and I knew

1128 01:03:01,315 --> 01:03:03,980 that he knew that I was right.

1129 01:03:03,980 --> 01:03:04,970 So he never argued.

1130 01:03:04,970 --> 01:03:05,810 He said, OK, fine.

1131 01:03:05,810 --> 01:03:08,210 Yes, but you have to understand, she's older. 1132 01:03:08,210 --> 01:03:11,330 And you don't do it in class.

1133 01:03:11,330 --> 01:03:13,820 I said, when do you want me to do it if not in class?

1134 01:03:13,820 --> 01:03:15,110 After class?

1135 01:03:15,110 --> 01:03:16,610 It was something, for example, for--

1136 01:03:16,610 --> 01:03:19,960

1137 01:03:19,960 --> 01:03:25,080 I'll give you one example, social studies.

1138 01:03:25,080 --> 01:03:27,420 The British after the war, war debt

1139 01:03:27,420 --> 01:03:32,610 was 15,812,000,000 pounds sterling.

1140 01:03:32,610 --> 01:03:34,860 That's what she teaches.

1141 01:03:34,860 --> 01:03:41,720 I know-- I read quite a bit.

1142 01:03:41,720 --> 01:03:43,130 And I know what goes on.

1143 01:03:43,130 --> 01:03:46,630 So I know that according to the British white paper, 1144 01:03:46,630 --> 01:03:52,390 the after-war war debt was 24 billion, something like this.

1145 01:03:52,390 --> 01:03:53,350 She says 15.

1146 01:03:53,350 --> 01:03:56,350

1147 01:03:56,350 --> 01:04:00,190 And when she says 15, I know it's incorrect,

1148 01:04:00,190 --> 01:04:02,650 because I had read three days earlier the white paper.

1149 01:04:02,650 --> 01:04:05,300

1150 01:04:05,300 --> 01:04:09,160 So I said-- let's not use her name.

1151 01:04:09,160 --> 01:04:15,470 I said, I don't know, but it may be correct.

1152 01:04:15,470 --> 01:04:19,550 But I think that the war debt really is 23 billion,

1153 01:04:19,550 --> 01:04:22,090 28 billion.

1154 01:04:22,090 --> 01:04:25,880 And she says, what do you mean?

1155 01:04:25,880 --> 01:04:28,570 I said, no, just exactly what I say.

1156 01:04:28,570 --> 01:04:30,530 How would you know?

1157 01:04:30,530 --> 01:04:31,930 I don't know.

1158 01:04:31,930 --> 01:04:34,000 I read it.

1159 01:04:34,000 --> 01:04:36,160 So what did you say?

1160 01:04:36,160 --> 01:04:42,210 So you read it and that's-then you know, like this,

1161 01:04:42,210 --> 01:04:45,740 insulting and condescending.

1162 01:04:45,740 --> 01:04:47,930 And then I got angry.

1163 01:04:47,930 --> 01:04:51,530 And then I said, now, wait a minute, with your age,

1164 01:04:51,530 --> 01:04:54,020 you ought to be a lot more intelligent than you

1165 01:04:54,020 --> 01:04:57,980 are, because nothing that you know today you didn't get out

1166 01:04:57,980 --> 01:05:01,920 of books, which you read which was written by other people.

1167 01:05:01,920 --> 01:05:04,790 So why would what you read be correct

1168 01:05:04,790 --> 01:05:06,395 and what I read be incorrect?

1169 01:05:06,395 --> 01:05:08,270 So you stand in front of the class of 28 kids

1170 01:05:08,270 --> 01:05:09,740 and you teach them wrong.

1171 01:05:09,740 --> 01:05:10,770 So say you are mistaken.

1172 01:05:10,770 --> 01:05:11,720 Maybe I'm right.

1173 01:05:11,720 --> 01:05:15,890 So don't talk to me like this as if I read the wrong-- then she,

1174 01:05:15,890 --> 01:05:16,530 out.

1175 01:05:16,530 --> 01:05:17,030 OK.

1176 01:05:17,030 --> 01:05:17,530 Fine.

1177 01:05:17,530 --> 01:05:18,620 Out.

1178 01:05:18,620 --> 01:05:19,970 Then I went to upstairs.

1179 01:05:19,970 --> 01:05:21,920 And again, I said what, blah, blah, blah.

01:05:21,920 --> 01:05:25,460 I said, what was she going to do with me?

1181 01:05:25,460 --> 01:05:28,210 I'm right.

1182 01:05:28,210 --> 01:05:29,290 I remember he said, yeah.

1183 01:05:29,290 --> 01:05:30,520 But you should have done--

1184 01:05:30,520 --> 01:05:32,843 waited after class, after class.

1185 01:05:32,843 --> 01:05:34,510 Then I had to take the whole class apart

1186 01:05:34,510 --> 01:05:35,320 and say, wait a minute.

1187 01:05:35,320 --> 01:05:36,040 This is wrong.

1188 01:05:36,040 --> 01:05:37,210 It really is.

1189 01:05:37,210 --> 01:05:40,630 No, if she doesn't know, then she should become a dishwasher.

1190 01:05:40,630 --> 01:05:41,890 I don't care.

1191 01:05:41,890 --> 01:05:42,550 Let her go.

1192 01:05:42,550 --> 01:05:47,197 But let her not teach something that is incorrect. 1193 01:05:47,197 --> 01:05:48,280 And I'm not going to wait.

1194 01:05:48,280 --> 01:05:49,150 I'll tell her there.

1195 01:05:49,150 --> 01:05:51,220 And if she doesn't like it, it's her problem, not mine.

1196 01:05:51,220 --> 01:05:51,720 OK.

1197 01:05:51,720 --> 01:05:52,900 Fine.

1198 01:05:52,900 --> 01:05:56,020 Wait outside till class is over and then go back,

1199 01:05:56,020 --> 01:05:56,930 stuff like this.

1200 01:05:56,930 --> 01:06:01,160 That will get me up the stairs back and forth, back and forth.

1201 01:06:01,160 --> 01:06:04,450 So did you finish the program then?

1202 01:06:04,450 --> 01:06:08,230 Then they established GICOL, G-I-C-O-L,

1203 01:06:08,230 --> 01:06:11,200 the community college for--

1204 01:06:11,200 --> 01:06:14,110 community school for where I went through a whole school 1205 01:06:14,110 --> 01:06:15,590 year in six months.

1206

01:06:15,590 --> 01:06:18,460 And then I switched from there.

1207

01:06:18,460 --> 01:06:22,460 I had established a chess team at school and a soccer team.

1208

01:06:22,460 --> 01:06:24,600 I was asked to do that.

1209

01:06:24,600 --> 01:06:27,490 That was the time that I was told

1210

01:06:27,490 --> 01:06:28,900 to come and see Dr. Jacobsen.

1211

01:06:28,900 --> 01:06:30,040 And I said, god, wait.

1212

01:06:30,040 --> 01:06:31,280 Wait a minute.

1213

01:06:31,280 --> 01:06:33,458 What did I-- I didn't do anything.

1214

01:06:33,458 --> 01:06:34,750 If I did something, I won't go.

1215

01:06:34,750 --> 01:06:37,460 But I didn't do anything.

1216

01:06:37,460 --> 01:06:41,185 So I really very slowly up the stairs.

01:06:41,185 --> 01:06:42,310 Why does he want to see me?

1218

01:06:42,310 --> 01:06:43,090

I don't know.

1219

01:06:43,090 --> 01:06:44,530

I didn't do anything.

1220

01:06:44,530 --> 01:06:46,300

The last thing was

with the PE teacher.

1221

01:06:46,300 --> 01:06:52,090 And I told him he was an idiot

and a stupid son of a gun.

1222

01:06:52,090 --> 01:06:53,020

But that was settled.

1223

01:06:53,020 --> 01:06:56,600

1224

01:06:56,600 --> 01:06:57,200

And I waited.

1225

01:06:57,200 --> 01:06:59,770

And he-- I knocked on the door.

1226

01:06:59,770 --> 01:07:00,770

He said, would you wait?

1227

 $01:07:00,770 \longrightarrow 01:07:01,270$ 

OK.

1228

01:07:01,270 --> 01:07:02,355

I'll wait.

1229

01:07:02,355 --> 01:07:03,230

And then he asked me.

01:07:03,230 --> 01:07:07,540 I'm going to--because I know I'm

## 1231

01:07:07,540 --> 01:07:12,640 going to get in a row with him because I didn't do anything.

## 1232

01:07:12,640 --> 01:07:17,450 And he was too nice a fellow to get into an argument.

# 1233

01:07:17,450 --> 01:07:19,130 I don't want to get in an argument.

## 1234

01:07:19,130 --> 01:07:21,910 He was a wonderful individual.

## 1235

01:07:21,910 --> 01:07:31,210 He says, our school, the Jewish high school, we decided--

#### 1236

01:07:31,210 --> 01:07:34,450 know the teachers and him-- we decided, faculty,

### 1237

01:07:34,450 --> 01:07:37,420 that we would need and we would like

# 1238

01:07:37,420 --> 01:07:39,380 to have a soccer team and a chess team.

## 1239

01:07:39,380 --> 01:07:41,820 Would you like to take care of it?

## 1240

01:07:41,820 --> 01:07:44,440

And I said, sure.

#### 1241

01:07:44,440 --> 01:07:47,810

And that's what we did.

1242

01:07:47,810 --> 01:07:49,080 Then they established GICOL.

1243

01:07:49,080 --> 01:07:51,070 And then I went to GICOL.

1244

01:07:51,070 --> 01:07:53,500 But GICOL only lasted--

1245

01:07:53,500 --> 01:07:56,390

1246

01:07:56,390 --> 01:07:58,130 in fact, GICOL already existed.

1247

01:07:58,130 --> 01:08:01,100 Only I didn't know about it.

1248

01:08:01,100 --> 01:08:05,860 So I never did finish high school.

1249

01:08:05,860 --> 01:08:08,770 Did you ever talk about your war experiences

1250

01:08:08,770 --> 01:08:11,537 with your classmates there who obviously--

1251

01:08:11,537 --> 01:08:15,650

1252

01:08:15,650 --> 01:08:19,060 did you ever talk about it with them?

1253

01:08:19,060 --> 01:08:20,979

I've been asked this in the past, 1254 01:08:20,979 --> 01:08:22,500 but it was never a subject.

1255 01:08:22,500 --> 01:08:27,479

1256 01:08:27,479 --> 01:08:29,569 We had other things to discuss--

1257 01:08:29,569 --> 01:08:31,040 girlfriends, girls.

1258 01:08:31,040 --> 01:08:34,200 All of a sudden, you start noticing girls.

1259 01:08:34,200 --> 01:08:36,040 So we talked about war?

1260 01:08:36,040 --> 01:08:36,740 She's pretty.

1261 01:08:36,740 --> 01:08:37,460 Do you like her?

1262 01:08:37,460 --> 01:08:38,420 I like her, too.

1263 01:08:38,420 --> 01:08:39,580 Why don't you ask her?

1264 01:08:39,580 --> 01:08:40,986 This was important.

1265 01:08:40,986 --> 01:08:46,710

1266 01:08:46,710 --> 01:08:49,109 There was a whole school. 1267 01:08:49,109 --> 01:08:52,710 A lot of them were hidden during the war.

1268 01:08:52,710 --> 01:08:54,149 A lot of them were in camps.

1269 01:08:54,149 --> 01:08:56,220 So there was nothing to discuss.

1270 01:08:56,220 --> 01:08:58,750

1271 01:08:58,750 --> 01:09:00,442 It's not that I was the only one.

1272 01:09:00,442 --> 01:09:01,359 They'll say, were you?

1273 01:09:01,359 --> 01:09:02,450 Oh, go.

1274 01:09:02,450 --> 01:09:07,600 What was it like, like you take a three-day excursion

1275 01:09:07,600 --> 01:09:08,562 to Hawaii.

1276 01:09:08,562 --> 01:09:10,270 They pick you up and they take you there.

1277 01:09:10,270 --> 01:09:13,660 And they feed you and they bring you back.

1278 01:09:13,660 --> 01:09:18,160 Everybody had gone through the war one way or another. 1279

01:09:18,160 --> 01:09:28,689 Even the GICOL, the course or the school set up to speed up--

1280

01:09:28,689 --> 01:09:30,670 also, these were from Indonesia.

1281

01:09:30,670 --> 01:09:34,090 They were imprisoned by the Japanese.

1282

01:09:34,090 --> 01:09:39,340 There were a lot from Indonesia, which was called the Dutch East

1283

01:09:39,340 --> 01:09:42,020 Indies at that time.

1284

01:09:42,020 --> 01:09:44,830 So we all had something to tell us all.

1285

01:09:44,830 --> 01:09:47,229 Oh, I don't want to know your story?

1286

01:09:47,229 --> 01:09:48,580 What do you help?

1287

01:09:48,580 --> 01:09:53,350 It was not -- it was not a subject.

1288

01:09:53,350 --> 01:09:56,020 We were talking about the intercollegiate chess

1289

01:09:56,020 --> 01:09:57,968 tournament once a year.

1290

01:09:57,968 --> 01:09:59,260 And then we get the tournament.

This is a verbatim transcript of spoken word generated with 3Play Media. It is not the primary source, and it may contain errors in spelling or accuracy.

1291 01:09:59,260 --> 01:10:01,090 It was board one, two, three, because there

1292

01:10:01,090 --> 01:10:05,980 were 10 boards and the soccer and the school

1293

01:10:05,980 --> 01:10:08,440 and the girls and the friends.

1294

01:10:08,440 --> 01:10:14,770 No, it-- I do not recall that it was ever

1295

01:10:14,770 --> 01:10:19,060 any subject, which doesn't mean that I might not have

1296

01:10:19,060 --> 01:10:22,420 been asked, where were you?

1297

01:10:22,420 --> 01:10:24,670 I'd say, several.

1298

01:10:24,670 --> 01:10:25,390 Which one?

1299

01:10:25,390 --> 01:10:25,890 OK.

1300

01:10:25,890 --> 01:10:26,585 Fine.

1301

01:10:26,585 --> 01:10:27,460 I will name you some.

1302

01:10:27,460 --> 01:10:29,680 You won't even know.

01:10:29,680 --> 01:10:30,660 And they will say this.

1304

01:10:30,660 --> 01:10:31,390 Oh, OK.

1305

01:10:31,390 --> 01:10:33,100 Fine.

1306

01:10:33,100 --> 01:10:34,660 But that would be as far as it goes.

1307

01:10:34,660 --> 01:10:37,970

1308

01:10:37,970 --> 01:10:42,260 If you form part of a group who would have gone through

1309

01:10:42,260 --> 01:10:44,450 the same identical-- almost--

1310

01:10:44,450 --> 01:10:47,480 experience, what good would it do for us

1311

01:10:47,480 --> 01:10:49,860 to exchange experiences?

1312

01:10:49,860 --> 01:10:51,860 That you were there three years and eight months

1313

01:10:51,860 --> 01:10:55,100 and I three years and four months?

1314

01:10:55,100 --> 01:10:56,780 Or that you were in Sobibor?

1315

01:10:56,780 --> 01:10:58,330

I know what Sobibor was like.

1316

01:10:58,330 --> 01:11:00,440 Why would I have to ask you?

1317

01:11:00,440 --> 01:11:07,140 So what kids did, I don't think it was on purpose.

1318

01:11:07,140 --> 01:11:10,148 And I think basically, it was enough.

1319

01:11:10,148 --> 01:11:10,940 The war was enough.

1320

01:11:10,940 --> 01:11:12,470 And it was history and past.

1321

01:11:12,470 --> 01:11:15,080 And now, let's go ahead.

1322

01:11:15,080 --> 01:11:19,460 And this is why my dad had me learn and go

1323

01:11:19,460 --> 01:11:22,500 take classes in the camp, this.

1324

01:11:22,500 --> 01:11:23,720 And he would say so.

1325

01:11:23,720 --> 01:11:25,488 He would verbalize it.

1326

01:11:25,488 --> 01:11:26,030 I don't care.

1327

01:11:26,030 --> 01:11:28,300 And when I say, no, no.

01:11:28,300 --> 01:11:28,800 Just sit.

1329

01:11:28,800 --> 01:11:29,610 Fine.

1330

01:11:29,610 --> 01:11:31,550 But there's a tomorrow.

1331

01:11:31,550 --> 01:11:32,550 So go on.

1332

01:11:32,550 --> 01:11:33,050 OK.

1333

01:11:33,050 --> 01:11:33,770 Fine, fine, fine.

1334

01:11:33,770 --> 01:11:33,980 OK.

1335

01:11:33,980 --> 01:11:34,480 I'll do it.

1336

01:11:34,480 --> 01:11:35,780 There's a tomorrow.

1337

01:11:35,780 --> 01:11:43,520 So I don't-- a lot of people get stuck.

1338

01:11:43,520 --> 01:11:46,860 And today, they're still there.

1339

01:11:46,860 --> 01:11:49,280 I've met them.

1340

01:11:49,280 --> 01:11:52,440 I've met them six eight weeks ago,

01:11:52,440 --> 01:11:58,470 the first time I attended a group of what

1342

01:11:58,470 --> 01:11:59,980 they call "hidden children."

1343

01:11:59,980 --> 01:12:02,310 Even though I was not hidden, my wife--

1344

01:12:02,310 --> 01:12:05,160 my first wife-- was.

1345

01:12:05,160 --> 01:12:10,710 And as I never made an issue and never made--

1346

01:12:10,710 --> 01:12:14,278 belonged to any group or team--

1347

01:12:14,278 --> 01:12:16,320 soccer team, yes, soccer team, yes. boxing, yes--

1348

01:12:16,320 --> 01:12:16,990 I did jujitsu.

1349

01:12:16,990 --> 01:12:17,490 Yes.

1350

01:12:17,490 --> 01:12:19,020 Chess, yes.

1351

01:12:19,020 --> 01:12:21,480 I coached chess here.

1352

01:12:21,480 --> 01:12:23,895 But none of-- no political, no.

1353

01:12:23,895 --> 01:12:26,640

1354

01:12:26,640 --> 01:12:28,890 So I was asked, would you like to come?

1355

01:12:28,890 --> 01:12:31,590 I said, why not?

1356

01:12:31,590 --> 01:12:35,370 At least I could see some other people

1357

01:12:35,370 --> 01:12:38,610 who'd gone through this at this stage of my life,

1358

01:12:38,610 --> 01:12:41,565 not when I was 14 or 15, and see--

1359

01:12:41,565 --> 01:12:45,100

1360

01:12:45,100 --> 01:12:47,650 a matter of-- no, not a matter of curiosity.

1361

01:12:47,650 --> 01:12:48,910 I like people, period.

1362

01:12:48,910 --> 01:12:49,610 I study people.

1363

01:12:49,610 --> 01:12:50,110 Yes.

1364

01:12:50,110 --> 01:12:52,840

1365

01:12:52,840 --> 01:12:53,900

Yes, I will go.

1366

01:12:53,900 --> 01:12:56,680 And I went there.

1367

01:12:56,680 --> 01:12:58,870 And I encountered that in 1993.

1368

01:12:58,870 --> 01:13:05,330 Yes, there are people that have one leg still there.

1369

01:13:05,330 --> 01:13:08,230 And she started crying because of some--

1370

01:13:08,230 --> 01:13:12,847 and what can you do?

1371

01:13:12,847 --> 01:13:13,930 How do you rationalize it?

1372

01:13:13,930 --> 01:13:15,638 You cannot take her and say, OK, come on.

1373

01:13:15,638 --> 01:13:19,180 Come on, like I would take one of my children when they fell.

1374

01:13:19,180 --> 01:13:19,750 Come on.

1375

01:13:19,750 --> 01:13:20,290 It's OK.

1376

01:13:20,290 --> 01:13:20,790 Now, get up.

1377

01:13:20,790 --> 01:13:22,630 Let's go.

1378

01:13:22,630 --> 01:13:25,930

And so, no.

1379

01:13:25,930 --> 01:13:27,040

No, I did not.

1380

01:13:27,040 --> 01:13:29,920

1381

01:13:29,920 --> 01:13:33,070 This is why the last time, when you ask questions,

1382

01:13:33,070 --> 01:13:34,145

I really have to delve.

1383

01:13:34,145 --> 01:13:37,680

1384

01:13:37,680 --> 01:13:40,165 Other people can in their

dreams and their sleep,

1385

01:13:40,165 --> 01:13:41,290 you can ask them questions.

1386

01:13:41,290 --> 01:13:45,640

And they will answer every single little bit.

1387

01:13:45,640 --> 01:13:48,610

No, I really have

to go with a shovel

1388

01:13:48,610 --> 01:13:50,700

and go back deep

what happened there.

1389

01:13:50,700 --> 01:13:57,070

And then I remember

things that I

1390

01:13:57,070 --> 01:14:02,140

didn't think about, I don't know, 40 or whatever,

1391

01:14:02,140 --> 01:14:04,990 since the cave in Westerbork.

1392

01:14:04,990 --> 01:14:07,480 It was one of the most important things in my life

1393

01:14:07,480 --> 01:14:09,530 during that period.

1394

01:14:09,530 --> 01:14:10,030 It was it.

1395

01:14:10,030 --> 01:14:14,440 This one is something tremendous.

1396

01:14:14,440 --> 01:14:17,140 And I forgot about it.

1397

01:14:17,140 --> 01:14:20,130 So, no.

1398

01:14:20,130 --> 01:14:22,930 No, we didn't talk about it as kids.

1399

01:14:22,930 --> 01:14:25,970 And I think basically, it's not because we sat down and said,

1400

01:14:25,970 --> 01:14:26,470 OK.

1401

01:14:26,470 --> 01:14:30,457 Now, let's not

talk about it, OK?

1402

01:14:30,457 --> 01:14:31,790

I don't want to hear your story.

1403

01:14:31,790 --> 01:14:33,280 I'm not going to tell you mine.

1404

01:14:33,280 --> 01:14:37,240 Basically, it was not a subject, period.

1405

01:14:37,240 --> 01:14:39,070 It was not.

1406

01:14:39,070 --> 01:14:40,870 When did you begin talking about it?

1407

01:14:40,870 --> 01:14:41,470 Or did you?

1408

01:14:41,470 --> 01:14:45,010 I never did, because it was never--

1409

01:14:45,010 --> 01:14:47,960 how do you talk about it?

1410

01:14:47,960 --> 01:14:48,970 How would it come up?

1411

01:14:48,970 --> 01:14:51,980

1412

01:14:51,980 --> 01:14:52,550 Let's see.

1413

01:14:52,550 --> 01:14:54,620 I know.

1414

01:14:54,620 --> 01:14:59,750 At work, I have six managers--

01:14:59,750 --> 01:15:04,848 engineering, construction, drafting, accounting,

1416

01:15:04,848 --> 01:15:05,390 your friends.

1417

01:15:05,390 --> 01:15:08,810

1418

01:15:08,810 --> 01:15:11,060 I don't think there's any occasion where you say, hey,

1419

01:15:11,060 --> 01:15:11,643 wait a minute.

1420

01:15:11,643 --> 01:15:13,270 Do you know I was--

1421

01:15:13,270 --> 01:15:17,990 first of all, what for?

1422

01:15:17,990 --> 01:15:18,490 What for?

1423

01:15:18,490 --> 01:15:22,357 A, who wants to hear?

1424

01:15:22,357 --> 01:15:24,190 If somebody wants to hear, he would not even

1425

01:15:24,190 --> 01:15:25,540 know that I had been in a camp.

1426

01:15:25,540 --> 01:15:32,260 So it is not that I hid it or made a secret of it.

1427

01:15:32,260 --> 01:15:36,820 I never made an issue out of it or a subject of discussion.

1428

01:15:36,820 --> 01:15:37,990 What about with your family?

1429

01:15:37,990 --> 01:15:38,740 Why did you--

1430

01:15:38,740 --> 01:15:40,670 Oh, yes.

1431

01:15:40,670 --> 01:15:41,420 They want to know.

1432

01:15:41,420 --> 01:15:41,810 Oh, yes.

1433

01:15:41,810 --> 01:15:42,230 They want to know.

1434

01:15:42,230 --> 01:15:42,730 Oh, yeah.

1435

01:15:42,730 --> 01:15:45,130 Then yes, of course.

1436

01:15:45,130 --> 01:15:46,930 Oh, yeah.

1437

01:15:46,930 --> 01:15:48,250 No, they would ask.

1438

01:15:48,250 --> 01:15:54,120 And like now, they would say I am this.

1439

01:15:54,120 --> 01:15:57,760 And I would tell my story and how was it there

1440

01:15:57,760 --> 01:15:58,510

and was like this.

1441

01:15:58,510 --> 01:15:59,010 Oh, no.

1442

01:15:59,010 --> 01:16:01,858 Then I-- no, they all know.

1443

01:16:01,858 --> 01:16:03,280 They all know.

1444

01:16:03,280 --> 01:16:05,710 The only thing they hated was that it

1445

01:16:05,710 --> 01:16:07,730 would come up piecemeal.

1446

01:16:07,730 --> 01:16:10,930 And they wanted-piecemeal, that is

1447

01:16:10,930 --> 01:16:14,230 what they disliked, because by listening to one little piece,

1448

01:16:14,230 --> 01:16:16,600 they would forget.

1449

01:16:16,600 --> 01:16:17,320 Oh, yes.

1450

01:16:17,320 --> 01:16:21,240

1451

01:16:21,240 --> 01:16:24,000 But honestly, no.

1452

01:16:24,000 --> 01:16:24,740 It's mine.

11 5 111111

1454

01:16:27,600 --> 01:16:28,440 It's not yours.

1455

01:16:28,440 --> 01:16:29,760 It's not anybody.

1456

01:16:29,760 --> 01:16:31,410 It's mine.

1457

01:16:31,410 --> 01:16:32,970 It's mine.

1458

01:16:32,970 --> 01:16:36,360 I paid for it, so it belongs to me.

1459

01:16:36,360 --> 01:16:36,990 You want it?

1460

01:16:36,990 --> 01:16:38,138 Make your own experiences.

1461

01:16:38,138 --> 01:16:38,680 I don't know.

1462

01:16:38,680 --> 01:16:43,800 I never made an issue with--

1463

01:16:43,800 --> 01:16:45,780 and can I say, I did not hide it.

1464

01:16:45,780 --> 01:16:50,450

1465

01:16:50,450 --> 01:16:52,640

Nobody would know.

01:16:52,640 --> 01:16:55,140 So there was no reason for them to ask.

1467 01:16:55,140 --> 01:16:59,890 And if I wouldn't bring it up, even less reason.

1468 01:16:59,890 --> 01:17:06,540

1469 01:17:06,540 --> 01:17:09,860 And how do you think these experiences affected your life

1470 01:17:09,860 --> 01:17:10,880 afterwards?

1471 01:17:10,880 --> 01:17:11,570 Changed it or--

1472 01:17:11,570 --> 01:17:14,850

1473 01:17:14,850 --> 01:17:17,630 I think I thought about it last night or night before last.

1474 01:17:17,630 --> 01:17:27,890

1475 01:17:27,890 --> 01:17:28,580 I don't know.

1476 01:17:28,580 --> 01:17:36,740 I can only explain it in the following manner.

1477 01:17:36,740 --> 01:17:42,265 My kids would have their ups and downs in school.

01:17:42,265 --> 01:17:43,390 They would fall and get up.

1479

01:17:43,390 --> 01:17:46,200

1480

01:17:46,200 --> 01:17:47,160 And they would be sad.

1481

01:17:47,160 --> 01:17:49,740

1482

01:17:49,740 --> 01:17:52,200 They flunk the class or something like this.

1483

01:17:52,200 --> 01:17:54,270 Or they did something, and they lost out.

1484

01:17:54,270 --> 01:17:58,620 And then I would ask them every--

1485

01:17:58,620 --> 01:18:04,240 from the age that they were old enough to understand--

1486

01:18:04,240 --> 01:18:08,713 not at the age of two, but when they were older,

1487

01:18:08,713 --> 01:18:10,380 I would ask them, how do you make steel?

1488

 $01:18:10,380 \longrightarrow 01:18:17,400$ 

1489

01:18:17,400 --> 01:18:19,860

There was years ago--

01:18:19,860 --> 01:18:21,180 I go to Japan quite often.

1491

01:18:21,180 --> 01:18:23,730 In fact, I'll be going there next week.

1492

01:18:23,730 --> 01:18:28,110 And I made a movie way back, how to make a samurai

1493

01:18:28,110 --> 01:18:30,120 sword, a katana sword.

1494

01:18:30,120 --> 01:18:31,710 You know how they make that?

1495

01:18:31,710 --> 01:18:34,290 They take a piece of metal.

1496

01:18:34,290 --> 01:18:36,820 They hit it to white.

1497

01:18:36,820 --> 01:18:38,760 And then they fold it.

1498

01:18:38,760 --> 01:18:39,780 They beat it out.

1499

01:18:39,780 --> 01:18:40,410 They fold it.

1500

01:18:40,410 --> 01:18:43,740 And they do it 80 times.

1501

01:18:43,740 --> 01:18:48,810 So what happens is the linear molecules are shaped

1502

01:18:48,810 --> 01:18:52,320 in such a way you can cut a piece of iron

1503

01:18:52,320 --> 01:18:54,300 with a samurai sword.

1504

01:18:54,300 --> 01:18:57,920 It goes through iron like butter.

1505

01:18:57,920 --> 01:18:59,735 But it's heated.

1506

01:18:59,735 --> 01:19:01,610 So I always say, you know how you make steel?

1507

01:19:01,610 --> 01:19:02,193 I'll show you.

1508

01:19:02,193 --> 01:19:04,855 And then I would put it.

1509

01:19:04,855 --> 01:19:06,230 It was an eight-millimeter movie.

1510

01:19:06,230 --> 01:19:08,780 And I would-- yes, eight.

1511

01:19:08,780 --> 01:19:10,414 It was an eight.

1512

01:19:10,414 --> 01:19:11,240 Yes.

1513

01:19:11,240 --> 01:19:12,540 Then I converted to 16.

1514

01:19:12,540 --> 01:19:15,350

Then I had a

16-millimeter movie.

01:19:15,350 --> 01:19:16,800 And that's the way you make steel.

1516

01:19:16,800 --> 01:19:17,900 You get beaten, beaten.

1517

01:19:17,900 --> 01:19:18,920 You beat, beat.

1518

01:19:18,920 --> 01:19:19,620 You get beaten.

1519

01:19:19,620 --> 01:19:20,870 That's the way you make steel.

1520

01:19:20,870 --> 01:19:22,760 So what you go through, that's what

1521

01:19:22,760 --> 01:19:24,540 is needed to make steel out of you.

1522

01:19:24,540 --> 01:19:28,090 That's the way you make steel, by beating.

1523

01:19:28,090 --> 01:19:31,840 And that's what they, all of them,

1524

01:19:31,840 --> 01:19:35,050 have been told from the day--

1525

01:19:35,050 --> 01:19:38,860

1526

01:19:38,860 --> 01:19:41,620 this, you can only draw pictures,

01:19:41,620 --> 01:19:43,630 you see, and visually, when you can bring it

1528

01:19:43,630 --> 01:19:51,640 to the child in a visual manner or equivalent.

1529

01:19:51,640 --> 01:19:55,600 I said, general law of relativity.

1530

01:19:55,600 --> 01:19:56,930 Dad, what is this?

1531

01:19:56,930 --> 01:20:02,530 How can you explain to a six-year-old or eight-year-old

1532

01:20:02,530 --> 01:20:06,490 law of relativity?

1533

01:20:06,490 --> 01:20:10,390 If you can-- with an adult, I can tell, OK.

1534

01:20:10,390 --> 01:20:11,950 You're in a capsule in space.

1535

01:20:11,950 --> 01:20:15,070 And there's no point of light around you.

1536

01:20:15,070 --> 01:20:15,970 It's all glass.

1537

01:20:15,970 --> 01:20:17,620 You see nothing.

1538

01:20:17,620 --> 01:20:19,990 Are you moving or are you standing still? 1539

01:20:19,990 --> 01:20:22,270 Or are you not moving?

1540

01:20:22,270 --> 01:20:24,460 And then you see

the eight-year-old,

1541

01:20:24,460 --> 01:20:29,080 he says or she says she doesn't know.

1542

01:20:29,080 --> 01:20:33,020 So I don't do that with a child.

1543

01:20:33,020 --> 01:20:41,235

Depending on the age, I would say, OK.

1544

01:20:41,235 --> 01:20:42,250 Mark-- I remember Mark--

1545

01:20:42,250 --> 01:20:46,140 Frank, David.

1546

01:20:46,140 --> 01:20:51,390 Now, imagine that you sit on a stove, a burning hot stove,

1547

01:20:51,390 --> 01:20:53,480

for five minutes.

1548

01:20:53,480 --> 01:20:57,480 You see, this would seem to you like an hour.

1549

01:20:57,480 --> 01:21:01,350 But you sit with Diane in the park for an hour,

1550

 $01:21:01,350 \longrightarrow 01:21:03,205$ 

it seems to you

like five minutes.

1551 01:21:03,205 --> 01:21:05,330 Now, do you understand what I'm trying to tell you?

1552 01:21:05,330 --> 01:21:08,270

1553 01:21:08,270 --> 01:21:08,770 Yeah.

1554 01:21:08,770 --> 01:21:09,210 OK.

1555 01:21:09,210 --> 01:21:09,710 Fine.

1556 01:21:09,710 --> 01:21:12,820 That's out there.

1557 01:21:12,820 --> 01:21:14,120 So same thing with steel--

1558 01:21:14,120 --> 01:21:17,020 what camp did to me, that's probably what it did to them.

1559 01:21:17,020 --> 01:21:22,040

1560 01:21:22,040 --> 01:21:22,700 I don't know.

1561 01:21:22,700 --> 01:21:24,980 I don't know.

1562 01:21:24,980 --> 01:21:29,870 I went into the year, into the camps, already with something.

1563 01:21:29,870 --> 01:21:32,660 I don't know what.

1564 01:21:32,660 --> 01:21:35,840 And it only developed during the years.

1565 01:21:35,840 --> 01:21:39,620

1566 01:21:39,620 --> 01:21:42,720 I don't know hate or revenge.

1567 01:21:42,720 --> 01:21:47,330 And I teach my kid hate will only eat yourself.

1568 01:21:47,330 --> 01:21:49,160 So don't hate.

1569 01:21:49,160 --> 01:21:49,660 Revenge?

1570 01:21:49,660 --> 01:21:50,160 What?

1571 01:21:50,160 --> 01:21:57,050

1572 01:21:57,050 --> 01:21:59,000 Basically, what a camp did, it allowed

1573 01:21:59,000 --> 01:22:03,300 me to know human behavior.

1574 01:22:03,300 --> 01:22:05,990 I'm a very good psychologist, very good psychologist,

1575 01:22:05,990 --> 01:22:07,220 even if I say so myself. 1576 01:22:07,220 --> 01:22:17,090

1577

01:22:17,090 --> 01:22:26,778 Human interaction-- I know when I'm right 100.1%, not 99.9%.

1578

01:22:26,778 --> 01:22:28,920 When I'm 101%, that's it.

1579

01:22:28,920 --> 01:22:32,560 I don't care who you are.

1580

01:22:32,560 --> 01:22:35,740 That's another thing what I do with my kids also,

1581

01:22:35,740 --> 01:22:37,630 power of your conviction.

1582

01:22:37,630 --> 01:22:40,120 Dad, I want to play football.

1583

01:22:40,120 --> 01:22:43,035 Mark is 5' 5" and he weighs 120 pounds.

1584

01:22:43,035 --> 01:22:43,660 Youth football?

1585

01:22:43,660 --> 01:22:45,620 You're out of your mind.

1586

01:22:45,620 --> 01:22:46,120

He wants to.

1587

01:22:46,120 --> 01:22:48,430 And he won't quit.

1588

01:22:48,430 --> 01:22:50,230

He won't give up.

1589 01:22:50,230 --> 01:22:52,790 For five, six months three times a week, dad,

1590 01:22:52,790 --> 01:22:53,790 I want to play football.

1591 01:22:53,790 --> 01:22:56,860 Look, would it be worth it to have

1592 01:22:56,860 --> 01:23:02,950 a broken collarbone or an arm and then wind up

1593 01:23:02,950 --> 01:23:05,710 losing school for a year?

1594 01:23:05,710 --> 01:23:08,410 It's not worth it.

1595 01:23:08,410 --> 01:23:11,012 And he kept at it, kept at it.

1596 01:23:11,012 --> 01:23:12,220 And then one day, I said, OK.

1597 01:23:12,220 --> 01:23:13,750 Come here.

1598 01:23:13,750 --> 01:23:15,220 Why?

1599 01:23:15,220 --> 01:23:15,820 What is this?

1600 01:23:15,820 --> 01:23:16,540 I have told you no.

1601 01:23:16,540 --> 01:23:18,832 When I tell you once or when I tell you twice, it's no.

1602 01:23:18,832 --> 01:23:21,010 Why do you-- you see, this is it.

1603 01:23:21,010 --> 01:23:24,760 If I told him twice no, it's no.

1604 01:23:24,760 --> 01:23:27,530 And he kept at it.

1605 01:23:27,530 --> 01:23:28,030 OK.

1606 01:23:28,030 --> 01:23:30,820 Now, convince me that I should let you go.

1607 01:23:30,820 --> 01:23:33,880 And he managed to convince me, which he finally did.

1608 01:23:33,880 --> 01:23:34,380 I said, OK.

1609 01:23:34,380 --> 01:23:35,050 Go.

1610 01:23:35,050 --> 01:23:38,210 But in the meantime, I dragged it out for about eight,

1611 01:23:38,210 --> 01:23:40,180 nine months at the age of 14.

1612 01:23:40,180 --> 01:23:43,270 And that is where the boys get--

1613 01:23:43,270 --> 01:23:45,100 David was like this. 1614 01:23:45,100 --> 01:23:47,810 And at the age of 14, he went on this.

1615 01:23:47,810 --> 01:23:51,280 And the second spurt is 17.

1616 01:23:51,280 --> 01:23:56,670 So David from a little tiny, like this, he now

1617 01:23:56,670 --> 01:23:58,990 is 5' 8 and a half or 5' 9".

1618 01:23:58,990 --> 01:24:00,970 He weighs 100 and God knows what.

1619 01:24:00,970 --> 01:24:04,160 So I dragged it out.

1620 01:24:04,160 --> 01:24:06,910 So the power of conviction, this is what David--

1621 01:24:06,910 --> 01:24:08,140 and that's what they do.

1622 01:24:08,140 --> 01:24:10,305 And they know how to do it.

1623 01:24:10,305 --> 01:24:11,680 And I think I mentioned last time

1624 01:24:11,680 --> 01:24:15,070 the only one that doesn't know exactly the line was David.

1625 01:24:15,070 --> 01:24:17,740 He will be 99% sure. 1626 01:24:17,740 --> 01:24:20,020 He'll be wrong 1%, and then he'll act as it.

1627 01:24:20,020 --> 01:24:22,510 So that is why.

1628 01:24:22,510 --> 01:24:23,500 I don't want a war.

01:24:23,500 --> 01:24:25,240 It was a school.

1629

1630 01:24:25,240 --> 01:24:27,150 And I don't know whether the school

1631 01:24:27,150 --> 01:24:29,590 was geared towards one subject.

1632 01:24:29,590 --> 01:24:31,870 It was an overall--

1633 01:24:31,870 --> 01:24:36,620 how people behave, what people are.

1634 01:24:36,620 --> 01:24:42,300 And if you study them, it's fun.

1635 01:24:42,300 --> 01:24:44,550 How did it affect your religious beliefs?

1636 01:24:44,550 --> 01:24:48,391

1637 01:24:48,391 --> 01:24:50,750 Ah.

01:24:50,750 --> 01:24:51,710 That one came up.

1639

01:24:51,710 --> 01:24:54,528

When was that?

1640

01:24:54,528 --> 01:24:55,070

That came up.

1641

01:24:55,070 --> 01:24:55,630

I know.

1642

01:24:55,630 --> 01:24:58,960

1643

01:24:58,960 --> 01:25:01,570

That came up not too long ago.

1644

01:25:01,570 --> 01:25:06,160

My religious belief--

oh, no, I mentioned it.

1645

01:25:06,160 --> 01:25:11,875

I think I mentioned it when

I took David to the rabbi

1646

01:25:11,875 --> 01:25:14,380

in Peninsula.

1647

01:25:14,380 --> 01:25:16,930

My relationship,

mine, I have none.

1648

01:25:16,930 --> 01:25:19,000

I have none.

1649

01:25:19.000 --> 01:25:24.070

Whatever I have is between

me and whoever is up there.

1650

01:25:24,070 --> 01:25:31,060

Now, as I don't believe there's

## somebody up there sitting

1651 01:25:31,060 --> 01:25:33,260 on a chair looking down.

1652 01:25:33,260 --> 01:25:35,250 So now, will Max--

1653 01:25:35,250 --> 01:25:38,560 no, I don't believe that, I don't think.

1654 01:25:38,560 --> 01:25:43,200 But if there is something within me

1655 01:25:43,200 --> 01:25:46,740 or within every individual single human being who

1656 01:25:46,740 --> 01:25:49,230 he or she means or expects or thinks

1657 01:25:49,230 --> 01:25:53,490 to be some higher power, the more power.

1658 01:25:53,490 --> 01:25:56,790 It's something within myself.

1659 01:25:56,790 --> 01:25:57,750 Yeah.

1660 01:25:57,750 --> 01:25:58,790 That's it.

1661 01:25:58,790 --> 01:26:02,370 I have no further explanation.

1662 01:26:02,370 --> 01:26:03,270 No. 1663 01:26:03,270 --> 01:26:04,740 I think what people--

1664 01:26:04,740 --> 01:26:09,801 when people go to shul and they down,

1665 01:26:09,801 --> 01:26:12,000 they don't do it to somebody out there.

1666 01:26:12,000 --> 01:26:15,060 They do it to themselves, because I

1667 01:26:15,060 --> 01:26:20,490 think that synagogue exists within every single individual.

1668 01:26:20,490 --> 01:26:24,420 In fact, I think by law, you don't need a synagogue.

1669 01:26:24,420 --> 01:26:26,580 We don't have churches--

1670 01:26:26,580 --> 01:26:28,040 every home, wherever you are.

1671 01:26:28,040 --> 01:26:31,650

1672 01:26:31,650 --> 01:26:36,210 And two subjects I avoid are Communism and religion

1673 01:26:36,210 --> 01:26:42,650 as a subject, period, because very ,

1674 01:26:42,650 --> 01:26:47,780 plainly people have a conscience.

1675 01:26:47,780 --> 01:26:50,340

1676 01:26:50,340 --> 01:26:53,940 And when it is something wrong, they go to church or synagogue

1677 01:26:53,940 --> 01:26:56,250 or to the mosque.

1678 01:26:56,250 --> 01:27:00,475 And they pray to the Almighty to forgive them.

1679 01:27:00,475 --> 01:27:02,100 Or I don't know who they're talking to.

1680 01:27:02,100 --> 01:27:04,170 I think they're talking to themselves,

1681 01:27:04,170 --> 01:27:05,790 to their own conscience.

1682 01:27:05,790 --> 01:27:09,090 And if it benefits them, wonderful.

1683 01:27:09,090 --> 01:27:12,660 I don't think you have to spend \$8 million in a building

1684 01:27:12,660 --> 01:27:15,810 and ask me for contributions.

1685 01:27:15,810 --> 01:27:17,860 This is none of your business.

01:27:17,860 --> 01:27:20,657 So you're saying that you don't think your experiences

1687 01:27:20,657 --> 01:27:22,615 during the war affected your religious beliefs?

1688 01:27:22,615 --> 01:27:24,743 No.

1689 01:27:24,743 --> 01:27:26,910 And let's keep it at that, because if, then it would

1690 01:27:26,910 --> 01:27:28,450 be more negative than positive.

1691 01:27:28,450 --> 01:27:31,260 So let's keep it at that.

1692 01:27:31,260 --> 01:27:33,610 Let's keep it at that.

1693 01:27:33,610 --> 01:27:35,153 Let's keep it at that.

1694 01:27:35,153 --> 01:27:37,570 At one point, you said that the camps made you a comedian.

1695 01:27:37,570 --> 01:27:41,170

1696 01:27:41,170 --> 01:27:41,740 OK.

1697 01:27:41,740 --> 01:27:46,000 What I mean is I must have been a comedian already

1698 01:27:46,000 --> 01:27:47,770 before the war to some extent.

1699 01:27:47,770 --> 01:27:52,240 Some of the things I did were comical.

1700 01:27:52,240 --> 01:27:56,740 And I did them from that point of view.

1701 01:27:56,740 --> 01:28:00,900 The camps-- oh.

1702 01:28:00,900 --> 01:28:03,420 You see, it's perception--

1703 01:28:03,420 --> 01:28:04,230 perception.

1704 01:28:04,230 --> 01:28:06,930

1705 01:28:06,930 --> 01:28:10,980 Two people can look at the same thing

1706 01:28:10,980 --> 01:28:15,160 and see two completely different things.

1707 01:28:15,160 --> 01:28:19,660 My daughter-- last week with my daughter,

1708 01:28:19,660 --> 01:28:23,262 she was down or something like this with my grandson

1709 01:28:23,262 --> 01:28:24,220 or something like this.

1710 01:28:24,220 --> 01:28:28,220 And I said, why do you look at the shadow side?

1711

01:28:28,220 --> 01:28:28,803 There are two.

1712

01:28:28,803 --> 01:28:30,428 There's a sunny side and a shadow side.

1713

01:28:30,428 --> 01:28:31,660 Why do you have to walk this?

1714

01:28:31,660 --> 01:28:33,940 Why can't you move over?

1715

01:28:33,940 --> 01:28:34,720 You can.

1716

01:28:34,720 --> 01:28:35,950 And I said, wait a minute.

1717

01:28:35,950 --> 01:28:40,570 Why would I be able to tell you what?

1718

01:28:40,570 --> 01:28:41,750 It's about a perception.

1719

01:28:41,750 --> 01:28:45,810 You can look at things any way you want to--

1720

01:28:45,810 --> 01:28:48,360

1721

01:28:48,360 --> 01:28:49,440 any way you want to.

1722

01:28:49,440 --> 01:28:54,130

1723 01:28:54,130 --> 01:28:56,230 You can see the misery.

1724 01:28:56,230 --> 01:28:59,380 You can see the drama.

1725 01:28:59,380 --> 01:29:03,610 You can see anything you want to and go to bed

1726 01:29:03,610 --> 01:29:04,900 and not sleep and wake up--

1727 01:29:04,900 --> 01:29:07,690

1728 01:29:07,690 --> 01:29:09,610 nightmares.

1729 01:29:09,610 --> 01:29:11,950 That's one way you can look at it.

1730 01:29:11,950 --> 01:29:15,208 But the same event or the same thing that is happening,

1731 01:29:15,208 --> 01:29:16,000 you can look at it.

1732 01:29:16,000 --> 01:29:20,540 And you will find if you see it, if you want to see it--

1733 01:29:20,540 --> 01:29:22,330 a lot of people don't want to see it.

1734 01:29:22,330 --> 01:29:23,680 They're too happy--

01:29:23,680 --> 01:29:25,347 I don't want to say they're masochistic.

1736 01:29:25,347 --> 01:29:29,517 But they're happy when they can see the negative.

1737 01:29:29,517 --> 01:29:31,600 It doesn't cost any more to look for the positive.

1738 01:29:31,600 --> 01:29:33,670 There's something in there that's funny.

1739 01:29:33,670 --> 01:29:36,070 And it's overall.

1740 01:29:36,070 --> 01:29:38,890 In the overall-- what is it, those idiotic words?

1741 01:29:38,890 --> 01:29:40,810 The overall scope of things?

1742 01:29:40,810 --> 01:29:42,640 I don't know how you call.

1743 01:29:42,640 --> 01:29:43,240 They're funny.

1744 01:29:43,240 --> 01:29:44,350 Yes, they are funny.

1745 01:29:44,350 --> 01:29:48,880 You see, I don't know, a German sergeant

1746 01:29:48,880 --> 01:29:53,440 who ran with in Germany a little cart with a garbage 1747

01:29:53,440 --> 01:29:54,580 can and swept the streets.

1748

01:29:54,580 --> 01:29:56,290 And now, he's an over sergeant.

1749

01:29:56,290 --> 01:29:58,392 And he now-- but then, of course,

1750

01:29:58,392 --> 01:30:00,100 you don't have to be anywhere because you

1751

01:30:00,100 --> 01:30:01,090 can see it anywhere.

1752

01:30:01,090 --> 01:30:05,710 In the minute somebody puts on a uniform here or in Holland

1753

01:30:05,710 --> 01:30:08,380 or in Belgium, I make an appointment

1754

01:30:08,380 --> 01:30:10,750 with the director of the post--

1755

01:30:10,750 --> 01:30:14,950 PDT in Holland, the post and telegraph and the telephone

1756

01:30:14,950 --> 01:30:18,290 company or the director from here.

1757

01:30:18,290 --> 01:30:19,900 I'm going to make an appointment.

1758

01:30:19,900 --> 01:30:20,817

I need to talk to him.

1759 01:30:20,817 --> 01:30:22,360 I come in the gate.

1760 01:30:22,360 --> 01:30:24,100 The porter, I said--

1761 01:30:24,100 --> 01:30:26,393 he has to open the door.

1762 01:30:26,393 --> 01:30:27,310 What can I do for you?

1763 01:30:27,310 --> 01:30:29,073 I want to see Mr. Whatever his name.

1764 01:30:29,073 --> 01:30:33,510

1765 01:30:33,510 --> 01:30:34,690 What is it about?

1766 01:30:34,690 --> 01:30:35,340 I look at him.

1767 01:30:35,340 --> 01:30:38,310 I said, what do you mean what is it about?

1768 01:30:38,310 --> 01:30:41,350 First of all, it's none of your business.

1769 01:30:41,350 --> 01:30:44,990 And if that Mr. Peterson thinks you need to know,

1770 01:30:44,990 --> 01:30:47,260 then let him tell you.

01:30:47,260 --> 01:30:48,390 He has a uniform.

1772

01:30:48,390 --> 01:30:51,400 And he's asking me why the subject

1773

01:30:51,400 --> 01:30:54,850 I want to discuss with the gentleman,

1774

01:30:54,850 --> 01:30:58,410 the director of the post.

1775

01:30:58,410 --> 01:31:01,040 So it's funny.

1776

01:31:01,040 --> 01:31:02,050 It's a joke.

1777

01:31:02,050 --> 01:31:07,820 It really is funny how a blue piece of material

1778

01:31:07,820 --> 01:31:11,270 and some gold braid or silver braid all of a sudden

1779

01:31:11,270 --> 01:31:13,400 makes you to something.

1780

01:31:13,400 --> 01:31:15,470 He gets home and he gets beaten by his wife.

1781

01:31:15,470 --> 01:31:17,210 And he doesn't dare to open his mouth.

1782

01:31:17,210 --> 01:31:20,230

And outside, go to the German Autobahn.

1783 01:31:20,230 --> 01:31:23,290

1784 01:31:23,290 --> 01:31:25,930 Have you been in Germany?

1785 01:31:25,930 --> 01:31:30,130 Then I sent my kids, Frank, Mark, and David,

1786 01:31:30,130 --> 01:31:34,040 when we went on vacation a couple years ago.

1787 01:31:34,040 --> 01:31:35,567 And we went through Germany.

1788 01:31:35,567 --> 01:31:37,900 And we got out of Belgium into Germany and the Autobahn.

1789 01:31:37,900 --> 01:31:42,460 And there's no speed limit in Germany, you see?

1790 01:31:42,460 --> 01:31:46,240 And so you have those BMWs and the Mercedes.

1791 01:31:46,240 --> 01:31:50,720 And they do 120 miles an hour, 130 miles an hour.

1792 01:31:50,720 --> 01:31:53,050 And I had a Ford Torino.

1793 01:31:53,050 --> 01:31:56,530 That's still 3,300 pounds.

1794 01:31:56,530 --> 01:31:58,690 And they go by you like whoo. 1795

01:31:58,690 --> 01:32:01,080 And then my car goes like this.

1796

01:32:01,080 --> 01:32:03,820 So here, it was '83.

1797

01:32:03,820 --> 01:32:05,140 That was funny, you see?

1798

01:32:05,140 --> 01:32:06,890 This is funny.

1799

01:32:06,890 --> 01:32:10,830 So the first time when we got out of Belgium on the Autobahn,

1800

01:32:10,830 --> 01:32:11,830 that's where it started.

1801

01:32:11,830 --> 01:32:13,990 And whoo.

1802

01:32:13,990 --> 01:32:18,910 The three kids, they're six or seven, seven and 13 and 15,

1803

01:32:18,910 --> 01:32:20,630 something like this.

1804

01:32:20,630 --> 01:32:21,730 And they don't believe it.

1805

01:32:21,730 --> 01:32:22,390 What's this?

1806

01:32:22,390 --> 01:32:26,410 So from then on in, all the way from the border

1807

01:32:26,410 --> 01:32:28,730

to Switzerland--

we went to Zurich--

1808 01:32:28,730 --> 01:32:32,260 they sat and they watched the car come.

1809 01:32:32,260 --> 01:32:35,410 And I said, when I-- they timed it, the three of them.

1810 01:32:35,410 --> 01:32:38,990 As it went by us, they would yell, "Geronimo!"

1811 01:32:38,990 --> 01:32:42,290

1812 01:32:42,290 --> 01:32:43,250 When we came back--

1813 01:32:43,250 --> 01:32:47,510

1814 01:32:47,510 --> 01:32:50,670 yeah, Mark was-- no, we went to Japan.

1815 01:32:50,670 --> 01:32:54,030 No, Mark was in fourth grade, something like this.

1816 01:32:54,030 --> 01:32:56,940 And he had to tell in front of the class

1817 01:32:56,940 --> 01:32:59,732 five minutes or 10 minutes where they were

1818 01:32:59,732 --> 01:33:01,440 and what they had done, blah, blah, blah, 1819

01:33:01,440 --> 01:33:03,440 and what was the most--

1820 01:33:03,440 --> 01:33:06,340 what left the greatest impression.

1821

01:33:06,340 --> 01:33:08,420 And he talked about the German Autobahn.

1822

01:33:08,420 --> 01:33:13,920 We went to Belgium, Holland, Germany.

1823

01:33:13,920 --> 01:33:17,900 And we had so many experiences in those four weeks.

1824

01:33:17,900 --> 01:33:21,170 All they knew to remember was the German Autobahn.

1825

01:33:21,170 --> 01:33:27,110 And I can go into a discussion why,

1826

01:33:27,110 --> 01:33:29,660 why, because it has nothing to do

1827

01:33:29,660 --> 01:33:31,130 with the way the Frenchman drives

1828

01:33:31,130 --> 01:33:34,730 or the Italian or this Ferrari sport.

1829

01:33:34,730 --> 01:33:40,170 That took in completely different reasons.

1830 01:33:40,170 --> 01:33:42,890 And if you're studying-you think it through

1831 01:33:42,890 --> 01:33:45,320 and you really study it and you know the German mentality,

1832 01:33:45,320 --> 01:33:47,390 then you know why.

1833 01:33:47,390 --> 01:33:49,370 And it's funny.

1834 01:33:49,370 --> 01:33:53,040 It is really a joke.

1835 01:33:53,040 --> 01:33:59,490 So yes, this is what the camps basically taught you

1836 01:33:59,490 --> 01:34:00,460 if you wanted to learn.

1837 01:34:00,460 --> 01:34:03,060 If you didn't want to learn, of course, you came out as dumb

1838 01:34:03,060 --> 01:34:06,000 as you were when you went in.

1839 01:34:06,000 --> 01:34:09,690 And as I say, I read a lot, which

1840 01:34:09,690 --> 01:34:12,720 is a matter of curiosity--

1841 01:34:12,720 --> 01:34:13,590 curiosity.

01:34:13,590 --> 01:34:14,527 So it's still curious.

1843

01:34:14,527 --> 01:34:15,360 I am still learning.

1844

01:34:15,360 --> 01:34:22,380

1845

01:34:22,380 --> 01:34:22,880 No.

INO.

1846

01:34:22,880 --> 01:34:33,980

1847

01:34:33,980 --> 01:34:35,810 No.

1848

01:34:35,810 --> 01:34:41,000 Did you ever go back to try to find your home that you

1849

01:34:41,000 --> 01:34:42,730 lived in before the war?

1850

01:34:42,730 --> 01:34:44,990 Immediately after the war, I think

1851

01:34:44,990 --> 01:34:46,280 the day after we got back.

1852

01:34:46,280 --> 01:34:54,500

1853

01:34:54,500 --> 01:34:57,740 Did I go alone or did I take my brother?

1854

01:34:57,740 --> 01:35:00,230

No, the day after we got back, yes.

1855 01:35:00,230 --> 01:35:02,510 Of course, there was no public transportation.

1856 01:35:02,510 --> 01:35:03,650 So we walked there.

1857 01:35:03,650 --> 01:35:05,780 And of course, somebody else was living there

1858 01:35:05,780 --> 01:35:07,433 when we rang the bell.

1859 01:35:07,433 --> 01:35:08,600 We lived on the first floor.

1860 01:35:08,600 --> 01:35:10,320 And I said to him, we used to live here before the war.

1861 01:35:10,320 --> 01:35:11,560 Would you mind if we-- no.

1862 01:35:11,560 --> 01:35:13,270 No, come on up.

1863 01:35:13,270 --> 01:35:17,180 So I think Joe was with me.

1864 01:35:17,180 --> 01:35:18,350 I remember I--

1865 01:35:18,350 --> 01:35:19,420 Was your father with you?

1866 01:35:19,420 --> 01:35:20,510 No.

1867 01:35:20,510 --> 01:35:22,190 He probably did it on his own.

1868

01:35:22,190 --> 01:35:23,300 I don't know.

1869

01:35:23,300 --> 01:35:25,670 But as I say, my dad has--

1870

01:35:25,670 --> 01:35:27,080 we just got back.

1871

01:35:27,080 --> 01:35:29,690 He had a lot of things to do that he did.

1872

01:35:29,690 --> 01:35:32,840 We divided the responsibility.

1873

01:35:32,840 --> 01:35:36,240 He took care of us, and I took care of myself.

1874

01:35:36,240 --> 01:35:38,570 So I don't know what he did.

1875

01:35:38,570 --> 01:35:40,820 I know that I went.

1876

01:35:40,820 --> 01:35:43,880 And I went through the park.

1877

01:35:43,880 --> 01:35:45,380 And I remember.

1878

01:35:45,380 --> 01:35:47,280 And then you remember.

1879

01:35:47,280 --> 01:35:49,010

It was a nostalgic trip.

1880

01:35:49,010 --> 01:35:51,800

This is why we went through Germany and Europe

1881

01:35:51,800 --> 01:35:56,600 in '83 is to show David, look, you were born in this hospital.

1882

01:35:56,600 --> 01:35:58,400 And that's where we lived.

1883

01:35:58,400 --> 01:35:59,990 And I took Frank to Antwerp.

1884

01:35:59,990 --> 01:36:01,850 And that is where-- in the maternity clinic,

1885

01:36:01,850 --> 01:36:04,130 that's where you were born.

1886

01:36:04,130 --> 01:36:07,460 And that's when we all lived in a penthouse.

1887

01:36:07,460 --> 01:36:09,740 We had the penthouse when he was born.

1888

01:36:09,740 --> 01:36:13,790 And then when our kids were old enough,

1889

01:36:13,790 --> 01:36:17,090 then we only had a house with a yard.

1890

01:36:17,090 --> 01:36:19,040 And then we had that house.

1891

01:36:19,040 --> 01:36:24,060 And David, where he was born in Spain-- 1892 01:36:24,060 --> 01:36:26,820

1893 01:36:26,820 --> 01:36:29,760 and that's where he went to school, kindergarten,

1894 01:36:29,760 --> 01:36:30,850 in the school in Spain.

1895 01:36:30,850 --> 01:36:33,660 Yes, I did that.

1896 01:36:33,660 --> 01:36:37,050 And I allowed my kids to do that.

1897 01:36:37,050 --> 01:36:40,800 I took them there, as well.

1898 01:36:40,800 --> 01:36:50,400 And I went to see the high school I was at, GICOL,

1899 01:36:50,400 --> 01:36:56,470 that course, but limitedly.

1900 01:36:56,470 --> 01:37:01,910 I didn't really go and follow all the steps.

1901 01:37:01,910 --> 01:37:03,910 No.

1902 01:37:03,910 --> 01:37:06,550 When you went into your home, did you

1903 01:37:06,550 --> 01:37:09,920 see anything that was familiar?

01:37:09,920 --> 01:37:11,520 No.

1905

01:37:11,520 --> 01:37:16,020 That became German property or whatever.

1906

01:37:16,020 --> 01:37:17,730 I don't care.

1907

01:37:17,730 --> 01:37:19,970 The only thing that would care would be, let's say,

1908

01:37:19,970 --> 01:37:26,670 the photographs and some of our set.

1909

01:37:26,670 --> 01:37:28,290 But otherwise, there were not--

1910

01:37:28,290 --> 01:37:33,180 materials, chairs, furniture, material things.

1911

01:37:33,180 --> 01:37:34,370 Well, what is it?

1912

01:37:34,370 --> 01:37:36,970

1913

01:37:36,970 --> 01:37:37,710 It means nothing.

1914

01:37:37,710 --> 01:37:40,960

1915

01:37:40,960 --> 01:37:42,780 You have your father

and your brother.

1916

01:37:42,780 --> 01:37:47,010

And if you had your mother, then who cares?

1917 01:37:47,010 --> 01:37:56,075 The physical items or assets or paint on the wall,

1918 01:37:56,075 --> 01:37:59,080 no, I didn't go look for it.

1919 01:37:59,080 --> 01:38:01,705 And even I had seen it, I wouldn't have wanted it,

1920 01:38:01,705 --> 01:38:02,830 unless there was something.

1921 01:38:02,830 --> 01:38:06,660 Hey, could I have this?

1922 01:38:06,660 --> 01:38:07,160 No.

1923 01:38:07,160 --> 01:38:12,200

1924 01:38:12,200 --> 01:38:13,250 Do I need it to remember?

1925 01:38:13,250 --> 01:38:16,130 No, I don't need that.

1926 01:38:16,130 --> 01:38:17,354 I don't need that.

1927 01:38:17,354 --> 01:38:22,200

1928 01:38:22,200 --> 01:38:22,760 That was it.

1930

01:38:27,680 --> 01:38:29,990 When did you and your father and your brother

1931

01:38:29,990 --> 01:38:32,075 finally come to America?

1932

01:38:32,075 --> 01:38:34,820

1933

01:38:34,820 --> 01:38:37,940 He came-- my father and my brother

1934

01:38:37,940 --> 01:38:42,420 came first, because I got married in the meantime.

1935

01:38:42,420 --> 01:38:52,590 And so they came in 1950-- '49, '50, something like that.

1936

01:38:52,590 --> 01:38:57,950 And I married Ruth.

1937

01:38:57,950 --> 01:39:02,060 And her mother and sister and brother-in-law, they

1938

01:39:02,060 --> 01:39:02,720 live in Israel.

1939

01:39:02,720 --> 01:39:05,630

1940

01:39:05,630 --> 01:39:09,470 And as my dad and brother had left for the States,

01:39:09,470 --> 01:39:11,480 I said, OK.

1942

01:39:11,480 --> 01:39:13,560 We go.

1943

01:39:13,560 --> 01:39:16,590 Then she says, no, I want us-- because I had not

1944

01:39:16,590 --> 01:39:18,330 met the family.

1945

01:39:18,330 --> 01:39:21,140 I didn't know how lucky I was then.

1946

01:39:21,140 --> 01:39:25,430

1947

01:39:25,430 --> 01:39:27,690 Like they say, friendship, you choose.

1948

01:39:27,690 --> 01:39:31,490 [HEBREW], you take it.

1949

01:39:31,490 --> 01:39:35,030 So I said, well, not now.

1950

01:39:35,030 --> 01:39:35,960 We just got married.

1951

01:39:35,960 --> 01:39:42,077 How many-- I had studied electrical, not engineering

1952

01:39:42,077 --> 01:39:44,660 because there were, of course, no funds or finances or budget.

1953

01:39:44,660 --> 01:39:45,890

There were no scholarships.

1954

01:39:45,890 --> 01:39:48,080 They didn't exist in Holland.

1955

01:39:48,080 --> 01:39:51,140 They needed labor.

1956

01:39:51,140 --> 01:39:54,850 So I went in as an apprentice.

1957

01:39:54,850 --> 01:40:00,310 In the summer at school, I went a smith and a furniture maker.

1958

01:40:00,310 --> 01:40:02,060 That's mainly because my dad forced me to.

1959

01:40:02,060 --> 01:40:06,110 In the summer vacation, you spent six weeks here

1960

01:40:06,110 --> 01:40:08,360 with a furniture maker, six weeks with a smith.

1961

01:40:08,360 --> 01:40:11,240 I liked that very much at Stiegman's.

1962

01:40:11,240 --> 01:40:14,155 And six weeks with an electrical contractor--

1963

01:40:14,155 --> 01:40:15,530 he says, you learn, learn, learn.

1964

01:40:15,530 --> 01:40:16,030

OK.

01:40:16,030 --> 01:40:16,778 Fine.

1966

01:40:16,778 --> 01:40:17,570 He said, you learn.

1967

01:40:17,570 --> 01:40:19,730 So you spend.

1968

01:40:19,730 --> 01:40:22,070 So I know very little about vacations.

1969

01:40:22,070 --> 01:40:26,930 I have had some, but very few.

1970

01:40:26,930 --> 01:40:29,227 And I don't miss it, either.

1971

01:40:29,227 --> 01:40:30,060 I never did miss it.

1972

01:40:30,060 --> 01:40:36,150

1973

01:40:36,150 --> 01:40:38,430 So by that time, I was working.

1974

01:40:38,430 --> 01:40:41,220 I knew enough that I could work as an electrician,

1975

01:40:41,220 --> 01:40:43,230 as a journeyman.

1976

01:40:43,230 --> 01:40:46,860 And so we wanted to come to Chicago.

1977

01:40:46,860 --> 01:40:51,490 She said, no, I want to see--

1978

01:40:51,490 --> 01:40:53,100 let's go and see my family.

1979

01:40:53,100 --> 01:40:54,010 I said, the family?

1980

01:40:54,010 --> 01:40:55,890 Why now?

1981

01:40:55,890 --> 01:41:00,660 With the money we have, let's go first and get settled.

1982

01:41:00,660 --> 01:41:03,537 And then two years from now, then we'll

1983

01:41:03,537 --> 01:41:04,620 go and visit your parents.

1984

01:41:04,620 --> 01:41:06,390 No. no.

1985

01:41:06,390 --> 01:41:07,920 I said, I'm not going.

1986

01:41:07,920 --> 01:41:13,890 But then you know who wears the pants, because she

1987

01:41:13,890 --> 01:41:16,680 was very, very clever.

1988

01:41:16,680 --> 01:41:19,350

1989

01:41:19,350 --> 01:41:24,015 She knew me well enough if I say, no, it's no.

1990

01:41:24,015 --> 01:41:25,640

So what she would do is she said, fine.

1991 01:41:25,640 --> 01:41:26,210 I go alone.

1992 01:41:26,210 --> 01:41:28,790

1993 01:41:28,790 --> 01:41:32,420 That's the way Ruth managed to--

1994 01:41:32,420 --> 01:41:34,670 knowing that I would, of course, not let her go alone.

1995 01:41:34,670 --> 01:41:38,280 And she would have gone alone.

1996 01:41:38,280 --> 01:41:41,270 I said, look, the trip and the--

1997 01:41:41,270 --> 01:41:44,970 and then, of course, I expect you to bring a whole grocery

1998 01:41:44,970 --> 01:41:46,740 store, because at that time, people were

1999 01:41:46,740 --> 01:41:49,380 starving to death in Israel.

2000 01:41:49,380 --> 01:41:52,650 There was nothing, nothing, absolutely nothing.

2001 01:41:52,650 --> 01:41:56,772 The people survived from what people would send them.

2002 01:41:56,772 --> 01:41:58,480 So I said, by the time we go out and back

2003

01:41:58,480 --> 01:42:01,450 and we supply them a year and a half of food, we're broke.

2004

01:42:01,450 --> 01:42:04,448

2005

01:42:04,448 --> 01:42:04,990 No, she-- OK.

2006

01:42:04,990 --> 01:42:05,490 Fine.

2007

01:42:05,490 --> 01:42:06,860 But for how long?

2008

01:42:06,860 --> 01:42:07,360 OK.

2009

01:42:07,360 --> 01:42:11,620 One month, and that's it, because by the time,

2010

01:42:11,620 --> 01:42:16,750 she was already pregnant.

2011

01:42:16,750 --> 01:42:22,702 So when we got to Israel and I met the in-laws,

2012

01:42:22,702 --> 01:42:23,410 I said, let's go.

2013

01:42:23,410 --> 01:42:26,170 We don't have to stay here a month.

2014

01:42:26,170 --> 01:42:28,880

Two weeks is enough.

2015 01:42:28,880 --> 01:42:33,760 And no, we stay there a month.

2016 01:42:33,760 --> 01:42:37,125 And then they talked her into staying.

2017 01:42:37,125 --> 01:42:40,866

2018 01:42:40,866 --> 01:42:42,398 I said, why would you want to stay?

2019 01:42:42,398 --> 01:42:42,940 I don't know.

2020 01:42:42,940 --> 01:42:46,850

2021 01:42:46,850 --> 01:42:50,430 I have to admit that she was a Zionist--

2022 01:42:50,430 --> 01:42:54,910

2023 01:42:54,910 --> 01:42:59,080 not 100%, but let's say 60%, 65%.

2024 01:42:59,080 --> 01:43:06,430 She was telling me because she was hidden, she had not

2025 01:43:06,430 --> 01:43:10,960 lived with the experiences in the camps as I had,

2026 01:43:10,960 --> 01:43:15,250 where I learned to know people, humanity,

2027

01:43:15,250 --> 01:43:19,690 let's say, the human being and various human beings

2028

 $01:43:19,690 \longrightarrow 01:43:22,810$ from various groups.

2029

01:43:22.810 --> 01:43:24.450 Everybody has his own traits.

2030

01:43:24,450 --> 01:43:27,940 So she was so Zionistic.

2031

01:43:27,940 --> 01:43:36,120 And so the whole family worked on her to stay.

2032

01:43:36,120 --> 01:43:38,540 I just want to get out of there now--

2033

01:43:38,540 --> 01:43:39,040 now.

2034

 $01:43:39,040 \longrightarrow 01:43:44,270$ 

2035

01:43:44,270 --> 01:43:46,242 So I run up against a brick wall.

2036

01:43:46,242 --> 01:43:48,200 Well, let's wait at least till the baby's born.

2037

 $01:43:48,200 \longrightarrow 01:43:48,742$ I said, fine.

2038

 $01:43:48,742 \longrightarrow 01:43:51,060$ 

The baby can be born

in Chicago, as well.

2039

 $01:43:51,060 \longrightarrow 01:43:51,560$ No.

2040

01:43:51,560 --> 01:43:52,640

No, here.

2041

01:43:52,640 --> 01:43:53,960

You can take away my daughter?

2042

01:43:53,960 --> 01:43:55,640

I said, first, she's

not your daughter.

2043

01:43:55,640 --> 01:43:56,990

She's my wife.

2044

01:43:56,990 --> 01:44:00,170

And she was your

daughter-- no longer.

2045

01:44:00,170 --> 01:44:03,530

So Ruth got between the

devil and the deep blue sea.

2046

01:44:03,530 --> 01:44:06,420

Whatever she would

do, it was wrong.

2047

01:44:06,420 --> 01:44:11,390

In these cases, people

tend to do nothing,

2048

01:44:11,390 --> 01:44:15,060

to make the decision

not to do anything.

2049

01:44:15,060 --> 01:44:16,670

And as I saw this, I said, fine.

2050

01:44:16,670 --> 01:44:17,840

2051 01:44:17,840 --> 01:44:20,570 We'll stay.

2052

01:44:20,570 --> 01:44:24,710 But the minute you find out that this is enough, you tell me.

2053

01:44:24,710 --> 01:44:27,320 And we'll be gone two days later.

2054

01:44:27,320 --> 01:44:28,460 OK?

2055

01:44:28,460 --> 01:44:32,150 So I had to go back to Europe and then get the whole

2056

01:44:32,150 --> 01:44:34,280 shebang-- furniture--

2057

01:44:34,280 --> 01:44:38,490 because we went there as a tourist with a suitcase.

2058

01:44:38,490 --> 01:44:40,170 So we stayed there.

2059

01:44:40,170 --> 01:44:45,120 And after six months, Bella was already born.

2060

01:44:45,120 --> 01:44:48,370 She says, I have enough.

2061

01:44:48,370 --> 01:44:49,300 I am getting sick.

2062

01:44:49,300 --> 01:44:51,690

Let's get out of here--

2063 01:44:51,690 --> 01:44:55,130 the Mapi and Mapam and the Hesan Jews

2064

01:44:55,130 --> 01:44:59,320 and the Jews from Egypt and the backstabbing

2065

01:44:59,320 --> 01:45:08,390 and a continuation from the camp,

2066

01:45:08,390 --> 01:45:16,620 which you did not see in other countries,

2067

01:45:16,620 --> 01:45:19,290 like in Holland, Denmark, Sweden, Belgium, United

2068

01:45:19,290 --> 01:45:20,930 States, France, Italy.

2069

01:45:20,930 --> 01:45:22,460 I don't care where.

2070

01:45:22,460 --> 01:45:25,940 But you saw that in Israel.

2071

01:45:25,940 --> 01:45:28,340 What do you mean a continuation of the camps?

2072

01:45:28,340 --> 01:45:31,340 The interaction between people.

2073

01:45:31,340 --> 01:45:33,410 In the camps, people would steal a piece of bread

2074

01:45:33,410 --> 01:45:34,970

from somebody else's pillow.

2075 01:45:34,970 --> 01:45:38,210 And it was hid, because he was hungry.

2076 01:45:38,210 --> 01:45:40,460 There were some people that would go and say,

2077 01:45:40,460 --> 01:45:43,415 psh if they would get the ration.

2078 01:45:43,415 --> 01:45:47,760

2079 01:45:47,760 --> 01:45:50,540 What is integrity in a camp?

2080 01:45:50,540 --> 01:45:52,800 Oh, there were very few people that

2081 01:45:52,800 --> 01:45:54,180 had backbone and integrity.

2082 01:45:54,180 --> 01:45:59,580 My dad-- I couldn't be bought.

2083 01:45:59,580 --> 01:46:01,440 No, I'm not talking about myself and my dad.

2084 01:46:01,440 --> 01:46:09,150 But the interaction between human beings

2085 01:46:09,150 --> 01:46:11,430 under the worst of circumstances sometimes

01:46:11,430 --> 01:46:15,750 brings out the worst in a human being, as well as the best.

2087

01:46:15,750 --> 01:46:18,480 And I've seen them.

2088

01:46:18,480 --> 01:46:21,000 Unfortunately, the majority--

2089

01:46:21,000 --> 01:46:25,580 90% or 85%-- it is always the worst.

2090

01:46:25,580 --> 01:46:30,660 And then like a diamond, you see a human gesture

2091

01:46:30,660 --> 01:46:33,690 that makes up for all of the misery

2092

01:46:33,690 --> 01:46:38,340 that you witnessed the past two weeks, that one little gesture.

2093

01:46:38,340 --> 01:46:42,090 And I would keep this with me.

2094

01:46:42,090 --> 01:46:43,920 And I would not forget these things.

2095

01:46:43,920 --> 01:46:48,090 And I would say, see, there are still people that can do that.

2096

01:46:48,090 --> 01:46:54,260 And that attitude, that battle and fight for survival--

2097

01:46:54,260 --> 01:46:56,850

2098

01:46:56,850 --> 01:47:02,060 they would climb over bodies in the camps, which is--

2099

01:47:02,060 --> 01:47:02,580 ves

2100

01:47:02,580 --> 01:47:06,500 And also Westerbork, Yes.

2101

01:47:06,500 --> 01:47:08,552 In the last camp, no, because it didn't work.

2102

01:47:08,552 --> 01:47:09,260 That didn't work.

2103

01:47:09,260 --> 01:47:12,349

2104

01:47:12,349 --> 01:47:13,766 And when you came to this one, you

2105

01:47:13,766 --> 01:47:15,099 saw the same thing, only worse--

2106

01:47:15,099 --> 01:47:17,300

2107

01:47:17,300 --> 01:47:19,960 worse.

2108

01:47:19,960 --> 01:47:21,790 You didn't see that here.

2109

01:47:21,790 --> 01:47:24,287

Let's say that you

came out of the camps

01:47:24,287 --> 01:47:25,870 and came straight to the United States

## 2111

01:47:25,870 --> 01:47:30,070 or straight like we, Holland and Belgium and France, Denmark.

2112

01:47:30,070 --> 01:47:31,640 There were not that many.

2113

01:47:31,640 --> 01:47:34,200 The Danish Jews went over to Sweden in one night, anyway.

2114

01:47:34,200 --> 01:47:38,900

2115

01:47:38,900 --> 01:47:40,580 No, you didn't see that attitude.

2116

01:47:40,580 --> 01:47:43,060

You saw it in Israel.

## 2117

01:47:43,060 --> 01:47:49,270 And when people would ask me why and Ruth asked me why, I said,

2118

01:47:49,270 --> 01:47:52,600 very simple.

2119

01:47:52,600 --> 01:47:55,900 And a lot of people don't like it.

2120

01:47:55,900 --> 01:47:58,052 But then sometimes, truth is painful.

2121

01:47:58,052 --> 01:47:59,260 People don't want to hear it.

2122 01:47:59,260 --> 01:48:02,230

2123

01:48:02,230 --> 01:48:07,120 In Holland, the Jewish survivor or in Belgium

2124

01:48:07,120 --> 01:48:10,660 behaved more or less acceptable because, as I say,

2125

01:48:10,660 --> 01:48:14,320 he or she formed part of a community.

2126

01:48:14,320 --> 01:48:17,070 It was not a little island.

2127

01:48:17,070 --> 01:48:18,920 Everybody saw it.

2128

01:48:18,920 --> 01:48:21,400 So he behaved.

2129

01:48:21,400 --> 01:48:23,448 Israel, there were no goyim.

2130

01:48:23,448 --> 01:48:24,490 There were no Christians.

2131

01:48:24,490 --> 01:48:25,390 They were just Jews.

2132

01:48:25,390 --> 01:48:27,460 So who had to be ashamed?

2133

01:48:27,460 --> 01:48:30,060 There was nothing to be ashamed of because they were all Jews.

2134

01:48:30,060 --> 01:48:33,070

That is what Israel lacked in these years.

2135 01:48:33,070 --> 01:48:35,770 A 40% Christian population, and they would have

2136 01:48:35,770 --> 01:48:37,750 behaved like human beings.

2137 01:48:37,750 --> 01:48:39,930 But she saw as a Zionist.

2138 01:48:39,930 --> 01:48:41,510 I knew it ahead of time.

2139 01:48:41,510 --> 01:48:42,400 I know.

2140 01:48:42,400 --> 01:48:45,670 I said, a week, out.

2141 01:48:45,670 --> 01:48:48,790 And it took her maybe three months

2142 01:48:48,790 --> 01:48:52,480 to see it, because you can close your eyes

2143 01:48:52,480 --> 01:48:55,267 and not see it and then take the guts

2144 01:48:55,267 --> 01:48:57,350 and now to see it and tell me, Max, that's enough.

2145 01:48:57,350 --> 01:48:58,900 Let's go.

2146 01:48:58,900 --> 01:49:00,940 So it took six months.

2147 01:49:00,940 --> 01:49:06,230 And then it took us six months to get out.

2148 01:49:06,230 --> 01:49:09,050

2149 01:49:09,050 --> 01:49:10,090 I needed an exit visa.

2150 01:49:10,090 --> 01:49:11,780 They wouldn't give me an exit visa.

2151 01:49:11,780 --> 01:49:15,422

2152 01:49:15,422 --> 01:49:16,880 They wouldn't give me an exit visa.

2153 01:49:16,880 --> 01:49:19,060 No.

2154 01:49:19,060 --> 01:49:23,938 I went to the army headquarters in Jerusalem.

2155 01:49:23,938 --> 01:49:25,480 I went to see the commanding general.

2156 01:49:25,480 --> 01:49:27,460 And I broke two windows.

2157 01:49:27,460 --> 01:49:30,250 I drove my motorcycle into the hall.

2158 01:49:30,250 --> 01:49:32,560 I said, I'm not going-- now.

2159 01:49:32,560 --> 01:49:34,900 And I really raised my voice.

2160 01:49:34,900 --> 01:49:35,600 I don't.

2161 01:49:35,600 --> 01:49:37,240 They drafted me for the army.

2162 01:49:37,240 --> 01:49:39,040 In the army?

2163 01:49:39,040 --> 01:49:40,430 What are you talking about?

2164 01:49:40,430 --> 01:49:43,690 I didn't come here to enter the army.

2165 01:49:43,690 --> 01:49:45,130 Yeah.

2166 01:49:45,130 --> 01:49:48,310 And then, of course, as an electrician, young,

2167 01:49:48,310 --> 01:49:52,510 they had dentists and doctors and lawyers and ganuvim.

2168 01:49:52,510 --> 01:49:53,950 I don't know.

2169 01:49:53,950 --> 01:49:56,785 But technical people, there weren't any.

2170 01:49:56,785 --> 01:49:58,640 A Jewish engineer?

01:49:58,640 --> 01:50:00,550 There were no Jewish engineers.

2172

01:50:00,550 --> 01:50:03,810 Jewish electricians?

2173

01:50:03,810 --> 01:50:05,538 That was one of the things they--

2174

01:50:05,538 --> 01:50:06,330 one of the reasons.

2175

01:50:06,330 --> 01:50:08,310 Anyway, they did.

2176

01:50:08,310 --> 01:50:10,130 They managed six months to stop me.

2177

01:50:10,130 --> 01:50:12,120 Everybody else would have caved in

2178

01:50:12,120 --> 01:50:14,910 and no way, until finally then draft.

2179

01:50:14,910 --> 01:50:17,460 That was the last thing what they did is they drafted.

2180

01:50:17,460 --> 01:50:21,360 I had to report to Jeff again, like two pairs of pants,

2181

01:50:21,360 --> 01:50:23,302 two pairs of slacks, two pairs of underwear.

2182

01:50:23,302 --> 01:50:24,760

I said, what are

you talking about?

2183

01:50:24,760 --> 01:50:27,720 I might as well have said, what?

2184

01:50:27,720 --> 01:50:28,600

You must.

2185

01:50:28,600 --> 01:50:29,100

I must?

2186

01:50:29,100 --> 01:50:31,080

No, I must not.

2187

01:50:31,080 --> 01:50:32,970

And then I went to the--

2188

01:50:32,970 --> 01:50:35,910 and there was a Venezuelan

embassy, a consulate in Israel.

2189

01:50:35,910 --> 01:50:38,430

And this one was in Rome.

2190

01:50:38,430 --> 01:50:41,790

So I went to Jerusalem

to the army headquarters

2191

01:50:41,790 --> 01:50:43,788

with that little piece of paper.

2192

01:50:43,788 --> 01:50:45,580

And I wanted to see

the commanding general.

2193

01:50:45,580 --> 01:50:46,455

They said, you can't.

2194

01:50:46,455 --> 01:50:47,460

I said, I can.

2195

01:50:47,460 --> 01:50:48,860 If I can't, then who can?

2196

01:50:48,860 --> 01:50:50,473 And what is he here for?

2197

01:50:50,473 --> 01:50:51,390 I want to see him now.

2198

01:50:51,390 --> 01:50:53,310 And I really raised hell.

2199

01:50:53,310 --> 01:50:53,940 I did.

2200

01:50:53,940 --> 01:50:58,380 I raised hell, H-E-L-L. And I don't want--

2201

01:50:58,380 --> 01:51:03,660 and I didn't know the ranks until I got in a big office.

2202

01:51:03,660 --> 01:51:05,790 And I think I did recall it was a big office.

2203

01:51:05,790 --> 01:51:08,370 And the furniture, yes--

2204

01:51:08,370 --> 01:51:11,490 yes, it's like the prime minister in Britain.

2205

01:51:11,490 --> 01:51:12,990 So that must be--

2206

01:51:12,990 --> 01:51:15,450 I'm told I'm not going.

2207

01:51:15,450 --> 01:51:16,920 I'm not an Israeli citizen.

01:51:16,920 --> 01:51:17,730 I came on vacation.

2209

01:51:17,730 --> 01:51:18,750 I live here.

2210

01:51:18,750 --> 01:51:19,690 I'm out.

2211

01:51:19,690 --> 01:51:23,400 Already four months, you're preventing me from leaving.

2212

01:51:23,400 --> 01:51:24,750 Now, you come with this here?

2213

01:51:24,750 --> 01:51:25,900 No way.

2214

01:51:25,900 --> 01:51:26,430 Forget it.

2215

01:51:26,430 --> 01:51:28,770 First of all, I'm not an Israeli.

2216

01:51:28,770 --> 01:51:34,080 Secondly, I signed a document that there's an Israeli law

2217

01:51:34,080 --> 01:51:40,080 that anybody, any Jew, among entering automatically

2218

01:51:40,080 --> 01:51:42,690 becomes Israeli.

2219

01:51:42,690 --> 01:51:46,350 That law-- nobody knew that that law existed, you see?

01:51:46,350 --> 01:51:48,360 They didn't publicize that.

2221

01:51:48,360 --> 01:51:49,980

2222

01:51:49,980 --> 01:51:51,150 I knew.

2223

01:51:51,150 --> 01:51:51,990 Nobody else knew.

2224

01:51:51,990 --> 01:51:53,310 In Holland, nobody knew.

2225

01:51:53,310 --> 01:51:54,893 When I mentioned it, what do you mean?

2226

01:51:54,893 --> 01:51:55,710 Yes.

2227

01:51:55,710 --> 01:51:58,780 So before we went there, Ruth and I,

2228

01:51:58,780 --> 01:52:00,220 we went to the Israeli consulate.

2229

01:52:00,220 --> 01:52:02,910 And they said, you may have form number 44.

2230

01:52:02,910 --> 01:52:03,870

What?

2231

01:52:03,870 --> 01:52:07,680 Form number X and Y set 12.

2232

01:52:07,680 --> 01:52:09,390

There's no such form.

2233

01:52:09,390 --> 01:52:13,050 I said, please, don't

play games with me.

2234

01:52:13,050 --> 01:52:14,780

No.

2235

01:52:14,780 --> 01:52:16,910

Now, I want a form now.

2236

01:52:16,910 --> 01:52:18,380

And I want it in triplicate.

2237

01:52:18,380 --> 01:52:20,610

I want three copies, three.

2238

01:52:20,610 --> 01:52:22,490

And if you don't do it

now, I make a scandal.

2239

01:52:22,490 --> 01:52:23,865

And I'll break

down the building.

2240

01:52:23,865 --> 01:52:24,590

I want it now.

2241

01:52:24,590 --> 01:52:26,540

Then they found it.

2242

01:52:26,540 --> 01:52:31,130

And that form says

that I hereby--

2243

01:52:31,130 --> 01:52:33,200

Ruth and I, we both signed.

2244

01:52:33,200 --> 01:52:37,430

I hereby declare

that upon entering

01:52:37,430 --> 01:52:39,950

Israel on whatever

basis, I will maintain

2246

01:52:39,950 --> 01:52:41,577

my present nationality.

2247

01:52:41,577 --> 01:52:44,320

2248

01:52:44,320 --> 01:52:45,880

And we made three.

2249

01:52:45,880 --> 01:52:48,235

I gave them one, and I kept two.

2250

01:52:48,235 --> 01:52:49,000

No, you want two.

2251

01:52:49,000 --> 01:52:50,235

I said, no, make a photocopy.

2252

01:52:50,235 --> 01:52:50,860

There's no way.

2253

01:52:50,860 --> 01:52:52,030

I keep two.

2254

01:52:52,030 --> 01:52:54,340

One goes in a safe here.

2255

01:52:54,340 --> 01:52:56,950

And one, I take with me.

2256

01:52:56,950 --> 01:53:01,960

And nobody knew that that law existed, that particular law.

2257

01:53:01,960 --> 01:53:04,250

So we kept it with us.

2258 01:53:04,250 --> 01:53:06,820 Then we paid for the trip as a tourist.

2259

01:53:06,820 --> 01:53:10,300 So when you wanted to get out, first, you had to prove--

2260

01:53:10,300 --> 01:53:12,460 I had to prove that they didn't pay for my trip.

2261

01:53:12,460 --> 01:53:13,263 I said, no.

2262

01:53:13,263 --> 01:53:13,930 I don't have to.

2263

01:53:13,930 --> 01:53:15,580 You prove that you paid for my trip.

2264

01:53:15,580 --> 01:53:16,622 I don't have to prove it.

2265

01:53:16,622 --> 01:53:17,420 No way.

2266

01:53:17,420 --> 01:53:17,920 You can.

2267

01:53:17,920 --> 01:53:18,420 I can't?

2268

01:53:18,420 --> 01:53:20,770 Oh, yes, I can.

2269

01:53:20,770 --> 01:53:23,110 And then little things like this, 2270 01:53:23,110 --> 01:53:28,468 everything-- so by that time, I was as mad

2271

01:53:28,468 --> 01:53:29,760 as I have ever been in my life.

2272

01:53:29,760 --> 01:53:33,350 I was so angry here.

2273

01:53:33,350 --> 01:53:36,560 I don't want to go into that, but my anger

2274

01:53:36,560 --> 01:53:37,700 could have moved mountains.

2275

01:53:37,700 --> 01:53:40,370 And I'm telling you, mountains.

2276

01:53:40,370 --> 01:53:42,470 And every step forward--

2277

01:53:42,470 --> 01:53:44,960 two steps ahead and three steps backwards.

2278

01:53:44,960 --> 01:53:49,190 They did everything to prevent you from leaving.

2279

01:53:49,190 --> 01:53:53,450 And the more they put obstacles, the angrier I got.

2280

01:53:53,450 --> 01:53:54,890 So at the end.

2281

01:53:54,890 --> 01:54:00,530 I know very well my fuse was like my dad's, like this,

01:54:00,530 --> 01:54:02,210 only a quarter-of-an-inch fuse.

2283

01:54:02,210 --> 01:54:03,200 No, I know it.

2284

01:54:03,200 --> 01:54:05,600 And I am aware of it, and I tried to hold it back.

2285

01:54:05,600 --> 01:54:07,103 So I count to 10.

2286

01:54:07,103 --> 01:54:09,020 And I said, why the hell should I count to 10?

2287

01:54:09,020 --> 01:54:11,312 I've counted to 10 long enough.

2288

01:54:11,312 --> 01:54:12,770 And then there, I made a spectacle.

2289

01:54:12,770 --> 01:54:16,430 They said, yeah, you have to go.

2290

01:54:16,430 --> 01:54:17,360 I said, I have to go?

2291

01:54:17,360 --> 01:54:17,943 Who tells you?

2292

01:54:17,943 --> 01:54:20,390 Who the hell are you to tell me I have to go in the army?

2293

01:54:20,390 --> 01:54:22,640 I'm not going in the army.

2294

01:54:22,640 --> 01:54:23,900

I'm leaving.

2295

01:54:23,900 --> 01:54:25,430

And if I have to swim, I'm leaving.

2296

01:54:25,430 --> 01:54:27,920

You can keep it, you, not me.

2297

 $01:54:27,920 \longrightarrow 01:54:30,870$ 

2298

 $01:54:30,870 \longrightarrow 01:54:34,550$ 

Yeah, you remember--I said, besides which,

2299

01:54:34,550 --> 01:54:37,430

if I join Israeli army, I lose--

2300

01:54:37,430 --> 01:54:38,900

like in the US law.

2301

01:54:38,900 --> 01:54:39,860

You have your passport.

2302

01:54:39,860 --> 01:54:43,640

If you join a foreign army or swear allegiance, you lose.

2303

01:54:43,640 --> 01:54:46,340

So I said the same,

which I get in the army,

2304

 $01:54:46,340 \longrightarrow 01:54:47,760$ 

I lose my Venezuelan

citizenship.

2305

01:54:47,760 --> 01:54:49,792

And you see here.

2306

01:54:49,792 --> 01:54:50,750

He said, may I have it?

2307 01:54:50,750 --> 01:54:53,750 Yes, you may have it, because I still have a copy.

2308 01:54:53,750 --> 01:54:54,770

You may read it.

2309 01:54:54,770 --> 01:54:55,820 And then he sees it.

2310 01:54:55,820 --> 01:54:59,072 And he, of course, knows that that law exists.

2311 01:54:59,072 --> 01:55:00,530 So now, he doesn't know what to do.

2312 01:55:00,530 --> 01:55:03,580 So he has somebody, an aide, come help.

2313 01:55:03,580 --> 01:55:10,430 So the aide goes away and comes back in five minutes.

2314 01:55:10,430 --> 01:55:13,840 And then the general or whoever, he

2315 01:55:13,840 --> 01:55:20,890 tells me, no, the Israeli law only

2316 01:55:20,890 --> 01:55:23,770 tells that if I volunteer--

2317 01:55:23,770 --> 01:55:26,920 volunteer-- for service in a foreign army,

2318

01:55:26,920 --> 01:55:30,010 then I do lose my nationality, which is true.

2319

01:55:30,010 --> 01:55:31,690 That is the law.

2320

01:55:31,690 --> 01:55:33,140 He's right.

2321

01:55:33,140 --> 01:55:36,010 And I said, what?

2322

01:55:36,010 --> 01:55:38,260 Where did you get this idea from?

2323

01:55:38,260 --> 01:55:40,640 Look, I as a Venezuelan, you're going

2324

01:55:40,640 --> 01:55:43,240 to teach me Venezuelan law.

2325

01:55:43,240 --> 01:55:46,690 I don't know where you got that fantasy, but forget it.

2326

01:55:46,690 --> 01:55:47,590 I'm losing it.

2327

01:55:47,590 --> 01:55:48,310 And I don't know.

2328

01:55:48,310 --> 01:55:49,310 Don't teach me the law.

2329

01:55:49,310 --> 01:55:49,810 That's it.

2330

01:55:49,810 --> 01:55:50,380

I want out.

2331 01:55:50,380 --> 01:55:52,390 And this-- what you do is in contradiction

2332

01:55:52,390 --> 01:55:53,890 with the document signed.

2333

01:55:53,890 --> 01:55:55,090 I stand by this.

2334

01:55:55,090 --> 01:55:57,400 I want out.

2335

01:55:57,400 --> 01:56:01,090 And I think something like next week, Monday or Tuesday,

2336

01:56:01,090 --> 01:56:04,270 I had to report in Jaffa.

2337

01:56:04,270 --> 01:56:07,420 And I said, I want you to know the following.

2338

01:56:07,420 --> 01:56:10,442 You-- there were something like six people in that office.

2339

01:56:10,442 --> 01:56:12,400 I said, you all understand English well enough.

2340

01:56:12,400 --> 01:56:16,240

2341

01:56:16,240 --> 01:56:20,410 I am supposed to report to Jaffa military--

2342

01:56:20,410 --> 01:56:21,430

I don't know--

01:56:21,430 --> 01:56:22,000

11 o'clock.

2344

01:56:22,000 --> 01:56:23,230

I won't be there.

2345

01:56:23,230 --> 01:56:23,842

I'll be home.

2346

01:56:23,842 --> 01:56:24,800

I'm not going anywhere.

2347

01:56:24,800 --> 01:56:27,220

I'll be home.

2348

01:56:27,220 --> 01:56:30,850

So you can rest assured that

I will not change my mind.

2349

01:56:30,850 --> 01:56:33,640

So you can already now

instruct and give orders

2350

01:56:33,640 --> 01:56:37,425

to a Jeep with four MPs

come and pick me up.

2351

01:56:37,425 --> 01:56:38,800

And you drag me

out of the house.

2352

01:56:38,800 --> 01:56:40,467

The minute you drag

me out of the house,

2353

01:56:40,467 --> 01:56:43,480

there goes a telegram to the

Venezuelan embassy in Rome

2354

01:56:43,480 --> 01:56:46,720

that they are holding against

his will a Venezuelan citizen

2355

01:56:46,720 --> 01:56:47,650 here in Israel.

2356

01:56:47,650 --> 01:56:49,420 Let's make a diplomatic scandal out of it.

2357

01:56:49,420 --> 01:56:51,980 Go ahead.

2358

01:56:51,980 --> 01:56:58,080 By that time, it was already December, already December.

2359

01:56:58,080 --> 01:57:00,080 And I left.

2360

01:57:00,080 --> 01:57:00,950 And I went home.

2361

01:57:00,950 --> 01:57:03,740 And I stayed home that day.

2362

01:57:03,740 --> 01:57:07,730 No, nobody came, no MPs, no Jeep.

2363

01:57:07,730 --> 01:57:11,630 And then December 29, I get a letter.

2364

01:57:11,630 --> 01:57:19,110 I have 10 days to leave the country, 10 days.

2365

01:57:19,110 --> 01:57:20,580 A, they don't want to let you go.

2366

01:57:20,580 --> 01:57:23,090

Now, they give you a deadline, 10 days.

2367

01:57:23,090 --> 01:57:24,090 We had to go in 10 days.

2368

01:57:24,090 --> 01:57:26,490 Fortunately, the Nakba, one of the ships--

2369

01:57:26,490 --> 01:57:27,360 so we got out.

2370

01:57:27,360 --> 01:57:27,930 We got out.

2371

01:57:27,930 --> 01:57:32,800

2372

01:57:32,800 --> 01:57:36,850 And Ruth was-- we got out again, and we started breathing.

2373

01:57:36,850 --> 01:57:40,323 And it took me about--

2374

01:57:40,323 --> 01:57:41,990 I think it took me about two months to--

2375

01:57:41,990 --> 01:57:45,980

2376

01:57:45,980 --> 01:57:47,843 the camps, no, I didn't carry anything over.

2377

01:57:47,843 --> 01:57:49,260 When I was liberated, I forgot it.

2378

01:57:49,260 --> 01:57:51,770

And the beds were wonderful and the feeding

2379

01:57:51,770 --> 01:57:53,825 and the driver with his--

2380

01:57:53,825 --> 01:57:56,520 the Black driver with his one arm out the window, cigarette.

2381

01:57:56,520 --> 01:57:59,260 And I say, buddy, come on and like this.

2382

01:57:59,260 --> 01:57:59,930 That was fun.

2383

01:57:59,930 --> 01:58:00,860 I enjoyed it.

2384

01:58:00,860 --> 01:58:05,540 I did not carry anything over that I had to.

2385

01:58:05,540 --> 01:58:08,400 I don't know this charge.

2386

01:58:08,400 --> 01:58:10,400 But getting out of Israel, it took me two months

2387

01:58:10,400 --> 01:58:16,560 to get rid of that and left a very poor taste in my mouth--

2388

01:58:16,560 --> 01:58:17,470 very poor taste.

2389

01:58:17,470 --> 01:58:19,610 I've been back there since.

2390

 $01:58:19,610 \longrightarrow 01:58:21,350$ 

Oh, yes.

2391

01:58:21,350 --> 01:58:26,660 I've done purchasing in Israel, yes, for millions of dollars.

2392

01:58:26,660 --> 01:58:35,550 But religion-- you asked-- you were talking about religion?

2393

01:58:35,550 --> 01:58:36,210 Don't.

2394

01:58:36,210 --> 01:58:41,820 Don't ask me or my dad about religion

2395

01:58:41,820 --> 01:58:43,500 or religious influences.

2396

01:58:43,500 --> 01:58:49,670

2397

01:58:49,670 --> 01:58:51,530 I contribute-- I've always done it--

2398

01:58:51,530 --> 01:58:53,300 to CARE and the Salvation Army.

2399

01:58:53,300 --> 01:58:55,970 Those are the two, the Salvation Army

2400

01:58:55,970 --> 01:58:59,010 because they are about the only organization.

2401

01:58:59,010 --> 01:59:06,050 that when I donate \$1, \$0.94 is used.

2402

01:59:06,050 --> 01:59:08,840 Only \$0.04 is used in the administrative.

2403

01:59:08,840 --> 01:59:11,180 That's the only organization.

2404

01:59:11,180 --> 01:59:13,550 The others say it was 40%, 65%.

2405

01:59:13,550 --> 01:59:15,320 They paid themselves salaries.

2406

01:59:15,320 --> 01:59:20,360 United Way, what is it? \$188,000 a year plus private plane.

2407

01:59:20,360 --> 01:59:22,610 The Salvation Army, it's because they give.

2408

01:59:22,610 --> 01:59:25,220 They don't ask who you are, what you are, where you're from.

2409

01:59:25,220 --> 01:59:26,570 You need it, they give you.

2410

01:59:26,570 --> 01:59:32,360 And they only use 4% or 6% for--

2411

01:59:32,360 --> 01:59:33,050 and CARE.

2412

01:59:33,050 --> 01:59:37,550

2413

01:59:37,550 --> 01:59:41,520 In 19-- that's a pity.

2414

01:59:41,520 --> 01:59:43,760

You should have known my father.

2415 01:59:43,760 --> 01:59:48,470 In 1940-- I think in '45, not too long after we get back

2416 01:59:48,470 --> 01:59:52,550 to Holland, let's say May, June, July--

2417 01:59:52,550 --> 01:59:57,050 let's say July or August, we get a postcard.

2418 01:59:57,050 --> 01:59:59,950 I remember that postcard.

2419 01:59:59,950 --> 02:00:04,010 And you are hereby requested to come such and such a day

2420 02:00:04,010 --> 02:00:08,300 to such and such a day to pick up

2421 02:00:08,300 --> 02:00:11,990 your CARE package and Jewish community, blah, blah, blah,

2422 02:00:11,990 --> 02:00:13,480 blah.

2423 02:00:13,480 --> 02:00:14,960 So my father throws it away.

2424 02:00:14,960 --> 02:00:18,570 I said, well, I don't have anything to do with it.

2425 02:00:18,570 --> 02:00:19,620 Come on, let's go.

2426 02:00:19,620 --> 02:00:22,360 No.

2427

02:00:22,360 --> 02:00:24,580

At least you give them the honor.

2428

02:00:24,580 --> 02:00:26,530

Give the honor to yourself.

2429

 $02:00:26,530 \longrightarrow 02:00:28,750$ 

I'll go.

2430

02:00:28,750 --> 02:00:29,980

So we went.

2431

02:00:29,980 --> 02:00:31,810

We both, he and

I, we went there.

2432

02:00:31,810 --> 02:00:36,190

And I'll never forget

this in my life.

2433

02:00:36,190 --> 02:00:38,980

It's impossible to forget.

2434

02:00:38,980 --> 02:00:41,500

When we walked into the office,

whatever, up the stairs,

2435

02:00:41,500 --> 02:00:45,790

and there's a large room.

2436

02:00:45,790 --> 02:00:50,230

Probably they removed two walls

and made a large area, shelves

2437

 $02:00:50,230 \longrightarrow 02:00:51,640$ 

and racks in the back.

2438

02:00:51,640 --> 02:00:56,230

And they're all

packages, CARE packages,

## 2439

02:00:56,230 --> 02:01:02,760 half a package per person, which means we get one and a half.

# 2440

02:01:02,760 --> 02:01:12,480 So I go there with trepidation, knowing my dad thinks he--

# 2441

02:01:12,480 --> 02:01:15,000 and also, I had not even been to Israel yet.

#### 2442

02:01:15,000 --> 02:01:17,830

### 2443

02:01:17,830 --> 02:01:23,040 So we stand there, I, my dad.

# 2444

02:01:23,040 --> 02:01:29,570 And about five-- no, four feet to his left

#### 2445

02:01:29,570 --> 02:01:33,400 is one of the religious Jews.

# 2446

02:01:33,400 --> 02:01:40,790

# 2447

02:01:40,790 --> 02:01:45,800 So there are two ladies and a gentleman behind the counter.

## 2448

02:01:45,800 --> 02:01:47,360 And they get a card.

# 2449

02:01:47,360 --> 02:01:50,940 So they take a package and half a package.

#### 2450

02:01:50,940 --> 02:01:54,860

And this gentleman has half a pack in front of him.

2451 02:01:54,860 --> 02:01:58,670 But I didn't know that CARE packages did not

2452

02:01:58,670 --> 02:02:01,850 come in one format.

2453

02:02:01,850 --> 02:02:06,170 There were different kinds of CARE packages.

2454

02:02:06,170 --> 02:02:08,325 So my dad stands there.

2455

02:02:08,325 --> 02:02:09,200 And it's unavoidable.

2456

02:02:09,200 --> 02:02:11,850 So he looks over.

2457

02:02:11,850 --> 02:02:18,510 And he sees sugar and this and butter and the whole shebang.

2458

02:02:18,510 --> 02:02:21,405 And we have milk powder and green beans.

2459

02:02:21,405 --> 02:02:28,190

2460

02:02:28,190 --> 02:02:31,340 So my father says, excuse me.

2461

02:02:31,340 --> 02:02:32,782

Is there a difference?

2462

02:02:32,782 --> 02:02:37,610

2463 02:02:37,610 --> 02:02:38,820 So they say, yes.

2464

02:02:38,820 --> 02:02:40,030 Yes, there's a difference.

2465  $02:02:40,030 \longrightarrow 02:02:43,210$ I say, may I know what is different?

2466 02:02:43,210 --> 02:02:45,430 I don't know what is the difference.

2467  $02:02:45,430 \longrightarrow 02:02:47,270$ He's Russian.

2468  $02:02:47,270 \longrightarrow 02:02:47,770$ Yes.

2469 02:02:47,770 --> 02:02:54,280 And this-- he's Orthodox.

2470 02:02:54,280 --> 02:02:56,730 And he didn't eat meat during the war.

2471 02:02:56,730 --> 02:03:00,830

2472  $02:03:00,830 \longrightarrow 02:03:03,710$ He didn't eat meat during the war.

2473 02:03:03,710 --> 02:03:05,460 We had rutabagas for a year and a half.

2474 02:03:05,460 --> 02:03:07,820 So he takes the package.

2475 02:03:07,820 --> 02:03:11,330 And he throws it and hits that shelf.

2476 02:03:11,330 --> 02:03:13,100 And it kicks off something like 50 cans

2477 02:03:13,100 --> 02:03:14,810 and takes the other half one.

2478 02:03:14,810 --> 02:03:17,300 And he said, shove it down your throat.

2479 02:03:17,300 --> 02:03:20,030 You mean my kids ate meat during the war?

2480 02:03:20,030 --> 02:03:24,100 So I'm supposed to grow?

2481 02:03:24,100 --> 02:03:26,920 And we walked out.

2482 02:03:26,920 --> 02:03:32,740 So my own experience plus the input from outside from my dad,

2483 02:03:32,740 --> 02:03:36,940 his experiences, undoubtedly left its mark.

2484 02:03:36,940 --> 02:03:41,810

2485 02:03:41,810 --> 02:03:44,000 I am sure you have to understand.

2486 02:03:44,000 --> 02:03:46,070 He actually didn't eat meat during the war.

2487 02:03:46,070 --> 02:03:48,413

2488 02:03:48,413 --> 02:03:49,830 He didn't eat meat during the war.

2489 02:03:49,830 --> 02:03:53,270

2490 02:03:53,270 --> 02:03:54,992 And that was even in Holland.

2491 02:03:54,992 --> 02:03:55,950 That was not in Israel.

2492 02:03:55,950 --> 02:04:00,340

2493 02:04:00,340 --> 02:04:03,620 And then I built a cement plant while I was in Israel.

2494 02:04:03,620 --> 02:04:04,246