

1
00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:36,820

2
00:00:36,820 --> 00:00:43,900
Today is February 12, 19--

3
00:00:43,900 --> 00:00:46,810
now it's 2001.

4
00:00:46,810 --> 00:00:48,520
2001.

5
00:00:48,520 --> 00:00:53,650
And this is the San Francisco
Bay Area Holocaust Oral History

6
00:00:53,650 --> 00:00:54,910
Project.

7
00:00:54,910 --> 00:00:59,740
And today we're interviewing
Mrs. Ilse Steirman.

8
00:00:59,740 --> 00:01:01,030
Steirman.

9
00:01:01,030 --> 00:01:02,170
Steirman.

10
00:01:02,170 --> 00:01:03,730
OK.

11
00:01:03,730 --> 00:01:09,070
And Mrs. Steirman, what
was your birth name?

12
00:01:09,070 --> 00:01:13,780
Ilse Katz, K-A-T-Z.

13
00:01:13,780 --> 00:01:15,590

And you were born when?

14
00:01:15,590 --> 00:01:19,510

15
00:01:19,510 --> 00:01:25,090
February 29, 1928.

16
00:01:25,090 --> 00:01:28,780
And the city you were
born in and the country?

17
00:01:28,780 --> 00:01:31,584
Berlin, Germany.

18
00:01:31,584 --> 00:01:32,560
OK.

19
00:01:32,560 --> 00:01:34,840
And your father's name was?

20
00:01:34,840 --> 00:01:41,840
Julius, J-U-L-I-U-S Katz.

21
00:01:41,840 --> 00:01:44,420
And your mother's name?

22
00:01:44,420 --> 00:01:51,780
Frieda, F-R-I-E-D-A Simonsohn.

23
00:01:51,780 --> 00:01:52,280
All right.

24
00:01:52,280 --> 00:01:55,520
And sisters and brothers?

25
00:01:55,520 --> 00:01:56,270
How many siblings?

26
00:01:56,270 --> 00:02:00,890
I had three brothers.

27

00:02:00,890 --> 00:02:05,720

The oldest one
was Hans, H-A-N-S.

28

00:02:05,720 --> 00:02:10,940

The second one was
Horst, H-O-R-S-T.

29

00:02:10,940 --> 00:02:18,230

He changed his name to Horace
in the States, H-O-R-A-C-E.

30

00:02:18,230 --> 00:02:27,140

And my younger brother
name was Harry, H-A-R-R-Y.

31

00:02:27,140 --> 00:02:32,060

And how did your family
support themselves?

32

00:02:32,060 --> 00:02:38,510

My dad was a traveling salesman
for coffee, tea, chocolate.

33

00:02:38,510 --> 00:02:42,890

34

00:02:42,890 --> 00:02:53,090

And how did your parents manage
in the inflation preceding,

35

00:02:53,090 --> 00:02:57,110

in the years preceding
the Hitler system?

36

00:02:57,110 --> 00:03:04,100

Well, my mother always told
us that when she got married,

37

00:03:04,100 --> 00:03:09,980

her dowry got lost on the train.

38

00:03:09,980 --> 00:03:16,760

But actually, it all happened,
so to say, minimized.

39

00:03:16,760 --> 00:03:20,420

40

00:03:20,420 --> 00:03:25,160

What schools did you
attend when you were--

41

00:03:25,160 --> 00:03:25,660

In Germany?

42

00:03:25,660 --> 00:03:26,990

--were you still
living in Berlin?

43

00:03:26,990 --> 00:03:27,490

Yes.

44

00:03:27,490 --> 00:03:37,730

I went to 116 Volksschule,
which is a public school,

45

00:03:37,730 --> 00:03:44,450

until the day
after Kristallnacht

46

00:03:44,450 --> 00:03:47,340

where I went to
school and the teacher

47

00:03:47,340 --> 00:03:54,670

said I think you better go
home and study page so and so.

48

00:03:54,670 --> 00:03:58,970

And that's what I did.

49

00:03:58,970 --> 00:04:01,170

Now that was a public school.

50
00:04:01,170 --> 00:04:02,360
That was a public school.

51
00:04:02,360 --> 00:04:05,960
Were there are many
other Jewish students?

52
00:04:05,960 --> 00:04:09,080
I really don't remember.

53
00:04:09,080 --> 00:04:15,920
I don't remember any friends
because one of the reasons

54
00:04:15,920 --> 00:04:24,810
might be that in the afternoon,
my older brother Horace and I,

55
00:04:24,810 --> 00:04:29,660
we went to like a
children's camp where

56
00:04:29,660 --> 00:04:36,770
we studied Hebrew,
religious items,

57
00:04:36,770 --> 00:04:40,580
and also did our
homework and played.

58
00:04:40,580 --> 00:04:50,670
So we had friends
which I don't remember

59
00:04:50,670 --> 00:04:53,700
because it's over 60 years ago.

60
00:04:53,700 --> 00:04:56,640
But I just remember
that we went there.

61

00:04:56,640 --> 00:05:03,900
And we used to get money for
the streetcar, 15 pfennige.

62
00:05:03,900 --> 00:05:08,520
And very often we used to
walk and spend a nickel

63
00:05:08,520 --> 00:05:15,510
on KuchenkrÃ¼mel, which
each back at that time,

64
00:05:15,510 --> 00:05:19,320
the bakeries were all manual.

65
00:05:19,320 --> 00:05:23,970
So they used to cut off the
ends and put it in a bag.

66
00:05:23,970 --> 00:05:27,780
And for 5 pfennige,
you used to get a bag

67
00:05:27,780 --> 00:05:31,650
and sometimes they were
really nice pieces of.

68
00:05:31,650 --> 00:05:36,600
And now when I was invited,
I said I'm looking forward

69
00:05:36,600 --> 00:05:38,730
to the KuchenkrÃ¼mel.

70
00:05:38,730 --> 00:05:41,880
So they said won't bag, sorry.

71
00:05:41,880 --> 00:05:43,410
Now that everything is--

72
00:05:43,410 --> 00:05:47,680

73

00:05:47,680 --> 00:05:49,210

Automated?

74

00:05:49,210 --> 00:05:53,320

Automated, they don't have
that anymore, so I was--

75

00:05:53,320 --> 00:05:55,890

And you can't get anything
for \$0.05 anymore?

76

00:05:55,890 --> 00:05:57,250

Anymore anyway, right.

77

00:05:57,250 --> 00:06:01,130

78

00:06:01,130 --> 00:06:05,050

And for the rest of the
money, we used to save it.

79

00:06:05,050 --> 00:06:08,470

And for Hanukkah, we
used to make gifts

80

00:06:08,470 --> 00:06:14,530

for our parents
and our brothers.

81

00:06:14,530 --> 00:06:18,640

And I remember
specifically, my dad

82

00:06:18,640 --> 00:06:26,680

used to wear these stiff
collars were for the necktie.

83

00:06:26,680 --> 00:06:28,480

You know, you put that on.

84

00:06:28,480 --> 00:06:34,960

And I made him a bag where

he could put the collars in.

85

00:06:34,960 --> 00:06:40,950

86

00:06:40,950 --> 00:06:43,020

The neighborhood where
you lived, was that

87

00:06:43,020 --> 00:06:46,390

a Jewish neighborhood,
mixed, or--

88

00:06:46,390 --> 00:06:46,890

Mixed.

89

00:06:46,890 --> 00:06:48,500

It was a mixed neighborhood.

90

00:06:48,500 --> 00:06:57,960

In fact, the apartment
that we lived in,

91

00:06:57,960 --> 00:07:01,770

it had a courtyard
in the middle.

92

00:07:01,770 --> 00:07:07,020

And we lived in the back.

93

00:07:07,020 --> 00:07:18,420

And in the front, they had
their headquarters, an SS group.

94

00:07:18,420 --> 00:07:24,990

And my dad used to play cards
with them and with the police

95

00:07:24,990 --> 00:07:26,740

station.

96

00:07:26,740 --> 00:07:35,380

So the first 10 years of my
life where we lived, beautiful,

97
00:07:35,380 --> 00:07:37,980
like any child.

98
00:07:37,980 --> 00:07:45,300
We were not rich in money,
but we were rich in family

99
00:07:45,300 --> 00:07:49,900
because my mother was the
only sister that was married.

100
00:07:49,900 --> 00:07:52,770
So Sundays, it
seems like we always

101
00:07:52,770 --> 00:07:58,830
had a what you would
call now a party.

102
00:07:58,830 --> 00:08:03,270
Two of my mother's
sisters lived in Berlin.

103
00:08:03,270 --> 00:08:07,320
They were my favorite aunts,
because I was the only girl.

104
00:08:07,320 --> 00:08:12,750
So some days, either one aunt
took me or the other aunt

105
00:08:12,750 --> 00:08:17,950
took me to outings
which was nice.

106
00:08:17,950 --> 00:08:26,280
And I remember Friday
nights, my mother

107
00:08:26,280 --> 00:08:29,400

used to make chicken
soup, and we used

108
00:08:29,400 --> 00:08:33,720
to sit around and sing songs.

109
00:08:33,720 --> 00:08:39,240
Now the grownups knew
already what was going on.

110
00:08:39,240 --> 00:08:45,180
But we sang English songs,
because my older brother Horace

111
00:08:45,180 --> 00:08:49,140
went to take English lessons.

112
00:08:49,140 --> 00:08:54,210
And we sang German
songs and Hebrew songs.

113
00:08:54,210 --> 00:09:01,320
So it was just a nice
family gathering which

114
00:09:01,320 --> 00:09:06,630
really left a wonderful memory.

115
00:09:06,630 --> 00:09:10,920
So that's why I say
the first 10 years is

116
00:09:10,920 --> 00:09:13,890
a wonderful memory in Germany.

117
00:09:13,890 --> 00:09:17,280
What were the customs
of the Jewish community

118
00:09:17,280 --> 00:09:20,970
in Germany in those days?

119

00:09:20,970 --> 00:09:28,680

Well basically, we went to services on the High Holidays.

120

00:09:28,680 --> 00:09:34,890

And we observed the holidays like Passover

121

00:09:34,890 --> 00:09:38,380

and Hanukkah and Purim.

122

00:09:38,380 --> 00:09:45,390

And as I say, we, the two of us, because my older brother

123

00:09:45,390 --> 00:09:48,660

was just two years older, the younger one

124

00:09:48,660 --> 00:09:50,880

was five years younger.

125

00:09:50,880 --> 00:09:55,120

And my oldest brother was five years older than I am.

126

00:09:55,120 --> 00:10:00,900

So the two middle ones, we were kind of very close together.

127

00:10:00,900 --> 00:10:04,340

There were many synagogues in Berlin.

128

00:10:04,340 --> 00:10:08,670

Were you a conservative, reform, Orthodox?

129

00:10:08,670 --> 00:10:11,970

I would say we were conservative.

130

00:10:11,970 --> 00:10:18,810

And my dad never
went to services.

131
00:10:18,810 --> 00:10:23,910
I don't know, and this
is one of my regrets,

132
00:10:23,910 --> 00:10:30,060
that I never really got
a chance to sit down

133
00:10:30,060 --> 00:10:35,910
as a grown-up with my dad
and ask him questions.

134
00:10:35,910 --> 00:10:41,640
Because something must
have happened to him

135
00:10:41,640 --> 00:10:44,550
that he didn't go to services.

136
00:10:44,550 --> 00:10:47,640
But my mother and
the children went,

137
00:10:47,640 --> 00:10:52,410
and he would always stand
in front when we came out

138
00:10:52,410 --> 00:10:58,620
with flowers for my mother.

139
00:10:58,620 --> 00:11:02,640
So these are all
wonderful memories.

140
00:11:02,640 --> 00:11:05,400

141
00:11:05,400 --> 00:11:09,420
How did you and your family
interact with Gentile friends

142
00:11:09,420 --> 00:11:14,010
outside of the, as you told
us, about playing cards?

143
00:11:14,010 --> 00:11:15,540
You had Gentile friends?

144
00:11:15,540 --> 00:11:17,700
My friends, yeah.

145
00:11:17,700 --> 00:11:25,080
I remember when I was
little in the courtyard--

146
00:11:25,080 --> 00:11:28,920
I must have been two
or three years old--

147
00:11:28,920 --> 00:11:36,540
my dad used to hold me in his
arm and I used to sing songs.

148
00:11:36,540 --> 00:11:39,280
And the people
throw down pennies.

149
00:11:39,280 --> 00:11:42,380
[LAUGHTER] And that was all--

150
00:11:42,380 --> 00:11:48,260
the people in the apartment
complex were not just Jews.

151
00:11:48,260 --> 00:11:51,470
We never thought anything of it.

152
00:11:51,470 --> 00:11:55,910
Especially, my dad
figured they would never

153
00:11:55,910 --> 00:12:01,760

do anything to him because he
served in the First World War.

154
00:12:01,760 --> 00:12:05,670
He was much older than my
mother when they got married.

155
00:12:05,670 --> 00:12:09,020
So he served in the
First World War.

156
00:12:09,020 --> 00:12:13,170
And he figured nothing
would happen to him.

157
00:12:13,170 --> 00:12:17,750
And I think Kristallnacht
woke him up.

158
00:12:17,750 --> 00:12:22,430
And that's when we
tried to get out.

159
00:12:22,430 --> 00:12:28,040
Because the day
after Kristallnacht,

160
00:12:28,040 --> 00:12:34,550
we heard the SS come
up, knock on the door,

161
00:12:34,550 --> 00:12:39,890
and said they're not
allowed to live with Jews,

162
00:12:39,890 --> 00:12:44,300
that we have to leave
within one hour.

163
00:12:44,300 --> 00:12:49,550
And they said to my mother
go look for your husband.

164

00:12:49,550 --> 00:12:52,670

Don't let him come
back, otherwise, we

165

00:12:52,670 --> 00:12:55,910

have to pick him up.

166

00:12:55,910 --> 00:13:00,740

And so my mother went
and looked for my dad.

167

00:13:00,740 --> 00:13:03,800

So you guys were really
friendly in that respect.

168

00:13:03,800 --> 00:13:09,680

In that respect, because my
dad was so friendly with them,

169

00:13:09,680 --> 00:13:17,990

they really treated us
as nice as they could

170

00:13:17,990 --> 00:13:21,380

considering the circumstances.

171

00:13:21,380 --> 00:13:27,620

They padlocked our apartment
so that nobody could go in

172

00:13:27,620 --> 00:13:29,930

and looted.

173

00:13:29,930 --> 00:13:33,230

And when we had
found an apartment,

174

00:13:33,230 --> 00:13:37,280

we could go in and take
everything out and move it

175

00:13:37,280 --> 00:13:41,260

to the other apartment.

176
00:13:41,260 --> 00:13:45,825
So these were the same
SS man that knew you

177
00:13:45,825 --> 00:13:47,450
and that your father
played cards with.

178
00:13:47,450 --> 00:13:47,950
Yeah.

179
00:13:47,950 --> 00:13:52,450
And also on the corner
was a police department,

180
00:13:52,450 --> 00:13:56,380
and he also played
cards with them.

181
00:13:56,380 --> 00:13:59,980
And from what I
understand, they had

182
00:13:59,980 --> 00:14:06,250
him registered as
being half Jewish,

183
00:14:06,250 --> 00:14:10,010
even though he
wasn't, so that they

184
00:14:10,010 --> 00:14:14,390
could protect him a little bit.

185
00:14:14,390 --> 00:14:20,690
So we personally except
then, my brother--

186
00:14:20,690 --> 00:14:26,990
were treated OK at
the time in '38.

187

00:14:26,990 --> 00:14:30,840

And before that, when he
would play cards and be

188

00:14:30,840 --> 00:14:34,900

friendly with them, did
anything ever come up

189

00:14:34,900 --> 00:14:39,160

about being Jewish and what--

190

00:14:39,160 --> 00:14:46,000

Not to us children, I'm
sure the grown-ups knew.

191

00:14:46,000 --> 00:14:49,180

I was 10 years old.

192

00:14:49,180 --> 00:14:54,050

So we didn't think
anything of it.

193

00:14:54,050 --> 00:14:57,440

And we had no idea about it.

194

00:14:57,440 --> 00:15:01,040

Being 10 years old, did you
have any ideas of what you might

195

00:15:01,040 --> 00:15:04,200

want to do when you grew up?

196

00:15:04,200 --> 00:15:07,410

Did you have any
aspirations yet?

197

00:15:07,410 --> 00:15:09,750

Not in Germany.

198

00:15:09,750 --> 00:15:20,160

In Shanghai, I wanted to
become a kindergarten teacher.

199
00:15:20,160 --> 00:15:27,420
But there were
limited schooling.

200
00:15:27,420 --> 00:15:32,340
We had ORT in Shanghai.

201
00:15:32,340 --> 00:15:37,290
But the main things
that they could provide

202
00:15:37,290 --> 00:15:44,025
is an apprenticeship for
dressmaking and for--

203
00:15:44,025 --> 00:15:46,680

204
00:15:46,680 --> 00:15:47,250
Hair?

205
00:15:47,250 --> 00:15:49,710
--beauty shop.

206
00:15:49,710 --> 00:15:57,250
So my folks thought that because
I took care of a little girl,

207
00:15:57,250 --> 00:16:02,040
and my folks thought that was
not a good enough profession,

208
00:16:02,040 --> 00:16:05,730
so they kind of talked me
into becoming a beautician.

209
00:16:05,730 --> 00:16:10,835

210
00:16:10,835 --> 00:16:14,160
So in earlier days

and back to that,

211

00:16:14,160 --> 00:16:18,700

as a student and
a young person--

212

00:16:18,700 --> 00:16:22,410

I did not feel anything.

213

00:16:22,410 --> 00:16:24,850

You didn't have an inkling
about what was going on.

214

00:16:24,850 --> 00:16:25,350

No.

215

00:16:25,350 --> 00:16:25,850

No.

216

00:16:25,850 --> 00:16:29,470

And never had any antisemitic
experiences in school?

217

00:16:29,470 --> 00:16:29,970

No.

218

00:16:29,970 --> 00:16:32,340

Did people treat you
differently in any way?

219

00:16:32,340 --> 00:16:33,606

Not that I can remember.

220

00:16:33,606 --> 00:16:34,890

No.

221

00:16:34,890 --> 00:16:39,030

When did you first hear
about Adolf Hitler?

222

00:16:39,030 --> 00:16:42,090

Oh, we heard about him.

223
00:16:42,090 --> 00:16:50,710
In 1933, because my younger
brother was born in 1933.

224
00:16:50,710 --> 00:16:55,890
So when my mother used to
go with the buggy, they,

225
00:16:55,890 --> 00:16:59,400
a lot of young
Jews who passed by

226
00:16:59,400 --> 00:17:03,210
used to say what a wonderful
year he was born in.

227
00:17:03,210 --> 00:17:07,140

228
00:17:07,140 --> 00:17:14,250
And actually, my mother
just listened and walked by.

229
00:17:14,250 --> 00:17:19,770
And then, what would you
say from your perspective?

230
00:17:19,770 --> 00:17:29,320
When did you get to realize
more and more of Hitlerism?

231
00:17:29,320 --> 00:17:35,940
I would say I personally
after Kristallnacht.

232
00:17:35,940 --> 00:17:43,140
Because when we had to leave
the apartment, as I said,

233
00:17:43,140 --> 00:17:46,470
my mother went out
to find my dad.

234

00:17:46,470 --> 00:17:55,170
And Horace, my older brother
and I, we broke our piggy bank.

235

00:17:55,170 --> 00:18:01,560
And we took money and went
downstairs to call the JÃ¼dische

236

00:18:01,560 --> 00:18:05,280
Gemeinde and say that
we need an apartment.

237

00:18:05,280 --> 00:18:08,060
Jewish congregation,
yeah, right.

238

00:18:08,060 --> 00:18:13,040
And whether we did
any good or not,

239

00:18:13,040 --> 00:18:19,870
but we felt we wanted
to do something.

240

00:18:19,870 --> 00:18:20,370
Right.

241

00:18:20,370 --> 00:18:28,340

242

00:18:28,340 --> 00:18:33,110
When did you first see
the SA, the Brownshirts?

243

00:18:33,110 --> 00:18:36,500
Did you see you must have
seen them before '38?

244

00:18:36,500 --> 00:18:39,680
Yeah, we saw them before.

245

00:18:39,680 --> 00:18:50,120
But they didn't really
seem like a threat to us.

246
00:18:50,120 --> 00:19:00,920
It was just Brownshirts, they
were SS or SR. And that was it.

247
00:19:00,920 --> 00:19:01,640
You saw them.

248
00:19:01,640 --> 00:19:06,690
Did you see them
parading, marching along?

249
00:19:06,690 --> 00:19:08,000
Yeah.

250
00:19:08,000 --> 00:19:11,230
Did you recognize
anybody that you knew--

251
00:19:11,230 --> 00:19:11,730
No.

252
00:19:11,730 --> 00:19:12,230
No.

253
00:19:12,230 --> 00:19:12,730
No.

254
00:19:12,730 --> 00:19:13,730
--in that crowd?

255
00:19:13,730 --> 00:19:20,100

256
00:19:20,100 --> 00:19:24,620
What happened to the
Jewish businesses

257
00:19:24,620 --> 00:19:28,070

before Kristallnacht and after?

258

00:19:28,070 --> 00:19:39,220

Before Kristallnacht,
well, I didn't remember.

259

00:19:39,220 --> 00:19:45,680

But when we were in Berlin now
in September, we went back.

260

00:19:45,680 --> 00:19:50,180

My husband was not
born in Berlin.

261

00:19:50,180 --> 00:19:54,370

He was born in a
small town, Lindheim.

262

00:19:54,370 --> 00:19:59,890

And there they seem to
have started in 1933

263

00:19:59,890 --> 00:20:05,110

right away to harass the Jews.

264

00:20:05,110 --> 00:20:12,370

And he told me that they made
his dad clean the sidewalks.

265

00:20:12,370 --> 00:20:20,990

So they decided to
move to Berlin in 1933.

266

00:20:20,990 --> 00:20:25,150

And they had a grocery store.

267

00:20:25,150 --> 00:20:28,480

268

00:20:28,480 --> 00:20:34,570

And we went there now to see
whether it was still there.

269

00:20:34,570 --> 00:20:37,690

Well, the streets
where my husband

270

00:20:37,690 --> 00:20:41,740

lived for two years,
that was still there,

271

00:20:41,740 --> 00:20:44,260

but not the grocery store.

272

00:20:44,260 --> 00:20:49,870

And as we were there, we
saw signs that they kept.

273

00:20:49,870 --> 00:20:54,850

Jewish doctors were not
allowed to practice.

274

00:20:54,850 --> 00:21:03,220

Or-- oh, I should have bought
one of the pictures that said,

275

00:21:03,220 --> 00:21:08,080

because I don't remember
100% whether non-Jews

276

00:21:08,080 --> 00:21:16,540

were allowed to go to
Jewish doctors in 1937.

277

00:21:16,540 --> 00:21:18,380

So that was before.

278

00:21:18,380 --> 00:21:21,460

That's why I say the
grown-ups, I'm sure,

279

00:21:21,460 --> 00:21:26,240

knew much more than we
children were aware of.

280

00:21:26,240 --> 00:21:33,370

Or I'm sure to tell you
the truth, as children, we,

281

00:21:33,370 --> 00:21:39,520

not we didn't care, but we
were not really involved.

282

00:21:39,520 --> 00:21:45,070

So the only thing
that most probably

283

00:21:45,070 --> 00:21:48,250

seemed maybe a
little strange, as I

284

00:21:48,250 --> 00:21:52,990

said, when we were Friday night
singing songs, that we would

285

00:21:52,990 --> 00:21:58,900

sing English songs and
Hebrew was songs and German,

286

00:21:58,900 --> 00:22:04,870

like there was one particular
song that I remember in German.

287

00:22:04,870 --> 00:22:10,270

And I brought it,
and I translated it

288

00:22:10,270 --> 00:22:15,820

as best I could which
because we in Chicago,

289

00:22:15,820 --> 00:22:22,060

we had family get togethers
when we were older.

290

00:22:22,060 --> 00:22:30,700

And I translated that song,
because Walter's nephews

291

00:22:30,700 --> 00:22:33,190
didn't know German.

292

00:22:33,190 --> 00:22:37,930
But in essence, it
said that you have

293

00:22:37,930 --> 00:22:41,150
to learn English
because without it, you

294

00:22:41,150 --> 00:22:42,910
were like without a hand.

295

00:22:42,910 --> 00:22:46,300
And someone went across.

296

00:22:46,300 --> 00:22:48,550
And the first
thing he will don't

297

00:22:48,550 --> 00:22:52,330
worry about going
anywhere, because you'll

298

00:22:52,330 --> 00:22:57,730
find a little Jew, a little
kosher restaurant where

299

00:22:57,730 --> 00:23:06,430
the waiter is from Vienna,
the maitre d' is from Berlin,

300

00:23:06,430 --> 00:23:09,790
and the cook is
from Neutillmitsch.

301

00:23:09,790 --> 00:23:14,650
And you will meet people.

302

00:23:14,650 --> 00:23:18,670
And after you talk with

them during the meal,

303

00:23:18,670 --> 00:23:24,520

you will find out at dessert
that they're actually related.

304

00:23:24,520 --> 00:23:26,920

So don't worry about
going anywhere.

305

00:23:26,920 --> 00:23:30,910

You'll find a little
Jewish restaurant.

306

00:23:30,910 --> 00:23:33,230

And I remember that song.

307

00:23:33,230 --> 00:23:35,920

308

00:23:35,920 --> 00:23:40,240

Had you ever heard
of the Gestapo?

309

00:23:40,240 --> 00:23:43,270

Or when did you first
hear about the Gestapo?

310

00:23:43,270 --> 00:23:49,090

Well, again, I'm sure we
heard about the Gestapo.

311

00:23:49,090 --> 00:24:00,410

But as children, the
first main recognition

312

00:24:00,410 --> 00:24:03,490

of what was going
on the Gestapo,

313

00:24:03,490 --> 00:24:09,230

the SS, SR, was
after Kristallnacht

314
00:24:09,230 --> 00:24:14,150
when we were thrown out of
the apartment within an hour.

315
00:24:14,150 --> 00:24:20,280
So then what happened when
you moved to the next place?

316
00:24:20,280 --> 00:24:24,200
Well, first we separated.

317
00:24:24,200 --> 00:24:26,450
Some of us stayed
with my cousin.

318
00:24:26,450 --> 00:24:30,200
Some of our stayed with
a friend of my cousins

319
00:24:30,200 --> 00:24:31,775
whom we called aunt.

320
00:24:31,775 --> 00:24:34,310

321
00:24:34,310 --> 00:24:39,800
And then after, I don't,
two or three weeks,

322
00:24:39,800 --> 00:24:42,590
we found an apartment.

323
00:24:42,590 --> 00:24:48,470
Then we moved our belongings
and we lived there

324
00:24:48,470 --> 00:24:55,770
until we left in
1939, April of 1939.

325
00:24:55,770 --> 00:24:59,150

And was your father
able to live with you?

326
00:24:59,150 --> 00:25:00,380
Yeah.

327
00:25:00,380 --> 00:25:03,350
Because my father
didn't come back.

328
00:25:03,350 --> 00:25:04,618
They didn't--

329
00:25:04,618 --> 00:25:05,660
Didn't go looking for him

330
00:25:05,660 --> 00:25:07,040
--didn't go looking for him.

331
00:25:07,040 --> 00:25:10,368
And that was a
warning to my mother.

332
00:25:10,368 --> 00:25:10,910
And luckily--

333
00:25:10,910 --> 00:25:13,910
So they warned her just
don't want to come back

334
00:25:13,910 --> 00:25:15,170
the house otherwise--

335
00:25:15,170 --> 00:25:16,940
Either we have to pick him up.

336
00:25:16,940 --> 00:25:18,470
Yeah.

337
00:25:18,470 --> 00:25:20,120
So he never home.

338

00:25:20,120 --> 00:25:20,930

Right.

339

00:25:20,930 --> 00:25:24,860

Was he able to continue to work?

340

00:25:24,860 --> 00:25:27,450

I'm sure that he was able to.

341

00:25:27,450 --> 00:25:34,580

342

00:25:34,580 --> 00:25:37,850

He did not work from home.

343

00:25:37,850 --> 00:25:40,370

He was a traveling salesman.

344

00:25:40,370 --> 00:25:43,715

So I'm sure he still
did his business.

345

00:25:43,715 --> 00:25:46,860

346

00:25:46,860 --> 00:25:51,540

And were you restricted as
to where you could then live?

347

00:25:51,540 --> 00:25:54,660

Did it have to be in a
certain neighborhood or--

348

00:25:54,660 --> 00:25:57,960

I don't think so,
just as long as we

349

00:25:57,960 --> 00:26:07,920

didn't live where the
SS or SA were stationed

350

00:26:07,920 --> 00:26:15,210
or had their headquarters, like
we did in in the Jungstrasse.

351
00:26:15,210 --> 00:26:19,500
So then what happened
in terms of leaving?

352
00:26:19,500 --> 00:26:25,290
Well, as I say,
then my dad realized

353
00:26:25,290 --> 00:26:30,300
that even though he
felt German because he

354
00:26:30,300 --> 00:26:37,020
was in the German World War I,
he realized that didn't matter.

355
00:26:37,020 --> 00:26:41,610
So we tried to go
wherever we could.

356
00:26:41,610 --> 00:26:47,580
But everything was
closed except Shanghai.

357
00:26:47,580 --> 00:26:49,305
How did you find
out about Shanghai?

358
00:26:49,305 --> 00:26:52,350

359
00:26:52,350 --> 00:26:57,840
I'm sure my parents
found out somehow.

360
00:26:57,840 --> 00:27:04,820
And my oldest brother
was supposed to go--

361

00:27:04,820 --> 00:27:13,160
he did go to Cologne, to Koelln
with a children's transport

362
00:27:13,160 --> 00:27:19,820
where they were going to be
prepared to go to Palestine.

363
00:27:19,820 --> 00:27:27,530
And the next oldest
brother was supposed

364
00:27:27,530 --> 00:27:33,180
to go to England on
a German transport.

365
00:27:33,180 --> 00:27:38,420
And my oldest brother was all
gung ho to go to Palestine,

366
00:27:38,420 --> 00:27:40,610
so he went to Cologne.

367
00:27:40,610 --> 00:27:46,445
But the other brother was
very determined and very--

368
00:27:46,445 --> 00:27:50,690

369
00:27:50,690 --> 00:27:53,870
well, he went to
the wherever you

370
00:27:53,870 --> 00:27:59,330
had to go, the Jewish
community, and tried

371
00:27:59,330 --> 00:28:04,880
to get his papers in
order to go and follow us

372
00:28:04,880 --> 00:28:11,570

to Shanghai, which he
succeeded doing about a month

373
00:28:11,570 --> 00:28:13,580
after we got to Shanghai.

374
00:28:13,580 --> 00:28:16,300

375
00:28:16,300 --> 00:28:18,850
Now did you say
you stopped going

376
00:28:18,850 --> 00:28:22,240
to school from
Kristallnacht on or did

377
00:28:22,240 --> 00:28:23,990
you ever go back to school?

378
00:28:23,990 --> 00:28:24,490
No.

379
00:28:24,490 --> 00:28:28,060
The only school we
most probably went

380
00:28:28,060 --> 00:28:31,960
was the religious school,
the Jewish school.

381
00:28:31,960 --> 00:28:38,440
And one thing I remember,
we also went to day camps.

382
00:28:38,440 --> 00:28:42,440
That was like in a park.

383
00:28:42,440 --> 00:28:46,355
And my dad was a big--

384
00:28:46,355 --> 00:28:50,220

385
00:28:50,220 --> 00:28:56,245
not really husky, but
he looked like a--

386
00:28:56,245 --> 00:28:59,400
not SS, but like an authority.

387
00:28:59,400 --> 00:29:03,280
And he came to visit
us and like wildfire,

388
00:29:03,280 --> 00:29:06,940
it went through the camp
someone is checking up,

389
00:29:06,940 --> 00:29:10,740
get away from the fences,
and behave yourself.

390
00:29:10,740 --> 00:29:14,590
And then it turned out it was
my dad just coming to visit.

391
00:29:14,590 --> 00:29:18,540

392
00:29:18,540 --> 00:29:22,170
How did this work?

393
00:29:22,170 --> 00:29:27,120
What did you have to have order
to be able to go to Shanghai?

394
00:29:27,120 --> 00:29:28,570
Did you have to have a visa?

395
00:29:28,570 --> 00:29:34,380

396
00:29:34,380 --> 00:29:37,510

I would assume.

397

00:29:37,510 --> 00:29:40,170

I don't really
know whether we had

398

00:29:40,170 --> 00:29:46,980

to have anything except
passage to go to Shanghai,

399

00:29:46,980 --> 00:29:54,210

because a lot of people really
did not want to go to Shanghai.

400

00:29:54,210 --> 00:29:57,510

That was so far off.

401

00:29:57,510 --> 00:30:00,960

Nobody ever heard
of Shanghai before.

402

00:30:00,960 --> 00:30:08,820

And I remember my brother
who got everything together,

403

00:30:08,820 --> 00:30:13,380

at first he didn't really want
to go because he heard all

404

00:30:13,380 --> 00:30:17,700

that there was rice, and
he didn't care for rice.

405

00:30:17,700 --> 00:30:21,990

But then he did follow us.

406

00:30:21,990 --> 00:30:25,680

And you really, if
you could afford it,

407

00:30:25,680 --> 00:30:31,140

could get anything in Shanghai,
because Shanghai basically

408
00:30:31,140 --> 00:30:34,650
was an international--

409
00:30:34,650 --> 00:30:37,230
they had international
settlements,

410
00:30:37,230 --> 00:30:42,360
French and English and
Russian, mainly white Russians

411
00:30:42,360 --> 00:30:47,550
who had been there quite
a few years before us

412
00:30:47,550 --> 00:30:53,450
because they had
programs in Russia.

413
00:30:53,450 --> 00:30:56,570
That's why my mother's folks--

414
00:30:56,570 --> 00:30:59,180
my mother was born in Russia.

415
00:30:59,180 --> 00:31:00,980
But when she was
three years old,

416
00:31:00,980 --> 00:31:04,730
her folks moved to Germany.

417
00:31:04,730 --> 00:31:09,380
And they lived in Lubeck.

418
00:31:09,380 --> 00:31:14,120
And when my mother
was 16 or something,

419
00:31:14,120 --> 00:31:20,540
she went to Berlin

to go to a school

420

00:31:20,540 --> 00:31:27,080

where you would learn
housekeeping and maybe

421

00:31:27,080 --> 00:31:29,930

being a housekeeper
in somebody's house.

422

00:31:29,930 --> 00:31:34,840

423

00:31:34,840 --> 00:31:40,430

So can you take us on just
what you went through?

424

00:31:40,430 --> 00:31:46,870

From Berlin, you went to where
in order to get to Shanghai?

425

00:31:46,870 --> 00:31:52,300

We, my dad, my
younger brother and I,

426

00:31:52,300 --> 00:31:58,870

got passage on an Italian ship.

427

00:31:58,870 --> 00:32:03,130

But there was no room
anymore for my mother.

428

00:32:03,130 --> 00:32:08,860

My mother went on a German
ship, the Scharnhorst,

429

00:32:08,860 --> 00:32:12,010

by herself, just two days.

430

00:32:12,010 --> 00:32:17,800

We all went together, the
four of us, by train to Genoa.

431

00:32:17,800 --> 00:32:20,800

432

00:32:20,800 --> 00:32:27,250

And there my mother
boarded a boat, and my dad

433

00:32:27,250 --> 00:32:30,340

and I stayed for
two or three days

434

00:32:30,340 --> 00:32:35,380

and then boarded the
Conte Biancamano.

435

00:32:35,380 --> 00:32:43,870

And I remember that
naturally, we made some stops.

436

00:32:43,870 --> 00:32:48,880

And one time people were
saying, oh, the Scharnhorst

437

00:32:48,880 --> 00:32:52,180

is at the same stop that
we're going to go through.

438

00:32:52,180 --> 00:32:56,950

But by the time we got
there, she had left.

439

00:32:56,950 --> 00:33:02,380

So until we got to
Shanghai, we were not

440

00:33:02,380 --> 00:33:06,070

in contact with my mother.

441

00:33:06,070 --> 00:33:09,040

And then what happened?

442

00:33:09,040 --> 00:33:14,590

When you go back to
Shanghai, who was there to--

443
00:33:14,590 --> 00:33:17,620
Well, one thing I
want to mention,

444
00:33:17,620 --> 00:33:21,640
my dad sent a
telegram to my mother.

445
00:33:21,640 --> 00:33:26,620
Because the grown-ups,
I'm sure, heard

446
00:33:26,620 --> 00:33:29,920
what was going on that
when you came there,

447
00:33:29,920 --> 00:33:37,380
you went into one of these
camps until you found

448
00:33:37,380 --> 00:33:39,970
a room for yourself.

449
00:33:39,970 --> 00:33:45,880
And my dad sent a telegram
to my mother to find a room.

450
00:33:45,880 --> 00:33:51,370
But the telegram didn't get
there until two months later.

451
00:33:51,370 --> 00:33:57,580
So when we got to Shanghai,
we were put on trucks

452
00:33:57,580 --> 00:34:04,600
and we went to a
camp, King Chow heim.

453
00:34:04,600 --> 00:34:10,540

And it just so happened my aunt
and uncle who came from Lubeck,

454
00:34:10,540 --> 00:34:16,060
they had gone there and
been there maybe six months

455
00:34:16,060 --> 00:34:17,440
before us.

456
00:34:17,440 --> 00:34:25,750
So my uncle was the heimleiter,
was in charge of the camp.

457
00:34:25,750 --> 00:34:32,530
When we first got there, we were
with about at least 30 people

458
00:34:32,530 --> 00:34:37,340
in one big room with bunk beds.

459
00:34:37,340 --> 00:34:43,090
So my brother and I were on
the top and my mom and dad

460
00:34:43,090 --> 00:34:44,719
on the bottom.

461
00:34:44,719 --> 00:34:47,620
So my dad asked my
uncle whether he

462
00:34:47,620 --> 00:34:52,630
could get some bed
sheets so we could just

463
00:34:52,630 --> 00:34:54,909
have a little privacy.

464
00:34:54,909 --> 00:34:57,280
And at first the
other people said

465

00:34:57,280 --> 00:35:00,010

oh, even though we
were in the corner,

466

00:35:00,010 --> 00:35:03,670

you're taking some
of the air away.

467

00:35:03,670 --> 00:35:09,580

But then they saw that
you had a little privacy,

468

00:35:09,580 --> 00:35:12,580

so everybody asked
for bed sheets,

469

00:35:12,580 --> 00:35:18,230

and everybody made their
own little privacy.

470

00:35:18,230 --> 00:35:26,100

And after, I don't know how long
we were there, maybe two weeks,

471

00:35:26,100 --> 00:35:38,240

three weeks, we found one room
in Ward Road, 343, Ward Road.

472

00:35:38,240 --> 00:35:49,100

Which in Shanghai, there
is a street number.

473

00:35:49,100 --> 00:35:55,250

And that's a lane, and
you have different--

474

00:35:55,250 --> 00:36:00,140

let's say, row 1, A, B,
C, D, E or something,

475

00:36:00,140 --> 00:36:02,510

so we found a room there.

476

00:36:02,510 --> 00:36:06,290

477

00:36:06,290 --> 00:36:09,455

Now I want to go
back to Germany.

478

00:36:09,455 --> 00:36:13,160

479

00:36:13,160 --> 00:36:18,590

We were allowed to take
some things with us,

480

00:36:18,590 --> 00:36:25,490

but no gold or silver or--

481

00:36:25,490 --> 00:36:28,070

which we didn't have
too much, but still.

482

00:36:28,070 --> 00:36:31,370

It happened to me, my
younger brother's birthday

483

00:36:31,370 --> 00:36:38,100

when the SS came to inspect our
crates, we had, I don't know,

484

00:36:38,100 --> 00:36:41,240

three or four crates.

485

00:36:41,240 --> 00:36:45,080

So you packed up some crates
to be shipped to Shanghai

486

00:36:45,080 --> 00:36:47,450

but everything was
inspected by the SS.

487

00:36:47,450 --> 00:36:50,180

Everything was inspected.

488
00:36:50,180 --> 00:37:00,825
So mainly what we took was
clothes and some kitchen

489
00:37:00,825 --> 00:37:01,325
things.

490
00:37:01,325 --> 00:37:03,960

491
00:37:03,960 --> 00:37:04,460
Bedding?

492
00:37:04,460 --> 00:37:06,240
Bedding and things like that.

493
00:37:06,240 --> 00:37:10,730
So nothing valuable.

494
00:37:10,730 --> 00:37:15,920
Do you remember having
to leave things behind?

495
00:37:15,920 --> 00:37:18,550
Well, no.

496
00:37:18,550 --> 00:37:25,910
But what I do remember is
my one aunt got engaged

497
00:37:25,910 --> 00:37:30,860
and I got a taffeta,
a pink taffeta dress,

498
00:37:30,860 --> 00:37:32,570
which I took with me.

499
00:37:32,570 --> 00:37:37,520
And my other aunt got married
and I got a green taffeta

500

00:37:37,520 --> 00:37:40,910

dress, which we took with us.

501

00:37:40,910 --> 00:37:43,910

Now these two aunts

did not get out.

502

00:37:43,910 --> 00:37:47,210

503

00:37:47,210 --> 00:37:54,350

And in Shanghai after awhile,

when we first got there,

504

00:37:54,350 --> 00:37:59,900

my mom and dad opened

a grocery store

505

00:37:59,900 --> 00:38:08,630

with a partner who my

dad met on the ship.

506

00:38:08,630 --> 00:38:11,150

But a month later

when my brother

507

00:38:11,150 --> 00:38:18,650

came, after about a week,

he contracted polio.

508

00:38:18,650 --> 00:38:23,240

And he was in the

hospital for two years.

509

00:38:23,240 --> 00:38:29,690

And the hospital was in, I

think, the American sector.

510

00:38:29,690 --> 00:38:32,750

511

00:38:32,750 --> 00:38:35,270

Because we didn't have the--

512
00:38:35,270 --> 00:38:46,670
we had a hospital created
by the people that came,

513
00:38:46,670 --> 00:38:49,400
but they were definitely not--

514
00:38:49,400 --> 00:38:55,500

515
00:38:55,500 --> 00:38:56,957
they did not have the--

516
00:38:56,957 --> 00:39:00,746

517
00:39:00,746 --> 00:39:01,246
Facility?

518
00:39:01,246 --> 00:39:02,450
The pardon?

519
00:39:02,450 --> 00:39:03,240
Facility?

520
00:39:03,240 --> 00:39:05,270
Facilities, thank you.

521
00:39:05,270 --> 00:39:08,060
It's a senior moment.

522
00:39:08,060 --> 00:39:16,550
So my brother went to outside
of what then became the ghetto.

523
00:39:16,550 --> 00:39:22,730
And so my mom and dad
didn't have much time

524

00:39:22,730 --> 00:39:28,040
to devote to the grocery store
because they went to visit

525
00:39:28,040 --> 00:39:30,290
my brother all the time.

526
00:39:30,290 --> 00:39:45,810
And sorry to say the
partner was not very good

527
00:39:45,810 --> 00:39:51,930
because more went in his
pocket instead of our pocket,

528
00:39:51,930 --> 00:39:56,110
because my folks weren't
there to receive it.

529
00:39:56,110 --> 00:39:59,740
So they gave up the store.

530
00:39:59,740 --> 00:40:04,560
And then they did a few
things like they opened up

531
00:40:04,560 --> 00:40:12,870
a little coffee shop where my
mother baked cookies and sold

532
00:40:12,870 --> 00:40:17,100
them, and that went
well for a while.

533
00:40:17,100 --> 00:40:20,080
And then my dad got sick.

534
00:40:20,080 --> 00:40:26,700
And so they gave that up.

535
00:40:26,700 --> 00:40:30,450
And they had a coffee--

536

00:40:30,450 --> 00:40:36,360
a coffee stand, where they sold
coffee and cookies again in one

537

00:40:36,360 --> 00:40:39,900
of the camps, at
[NON-ENGLISH SPEECH] heim,

538

00:40:39,900 --> 00:40:42,660
which went OK.

539

00:40:42,660 --> 00:40:46,380
So they did quite
a few odds and ends

540

00:40:46,380 --> 00:40:50,820
so that they could support us.

541

00:40:50,820 --> 00:40:53,230
But it was all not enough.

542

00:40:53,230 --> 00:40:58,440
So a lot of things that had some
value, like my mother's wedding

543

00:40:58,440 --> 00:41:01,050
ring, we had to pawn.

544

00:41:01,050 --> 00:41:05,620
And my two dresses,
we had to pawn.

545

00:41:05,620 --> 00:41:10,560
And I went with my mother to
say goodbye to them or whatever.

546

00:41:10,560 --> 00:41:13,980
I was 11 years old.

547

00:41:13,980 --> 00:41:18,090
That was, naturally,
a little traumatic.

548
00:41:18,090 --> 00:41:20,805
So you had to pawn those,
your taffeta dresses.

549
00:41:20,805 --> 00:41:25,560
Yeah, and you kind of
knew that you would never

550
00:41:25,560 --> 00:41:29,920
be able to redeem it again.

551
00:41:29,920 --> 00:41:32,320
And that was really to
get the money to buy food.

552
00:41:32,320 --> 00:41:36,710

553
00:41:36,710 --> 00:41:40,378
Were your parents able to
take any money out of Germany?

554
00:41:40,378 --> 00:41:41,670
There was a limitation on that.

555
00:41:41,670 --> 00:41:43,410
There was a limitation.

556
00:41:43,410 --> 00:41:51,720
And as I said before, we
weren't really very rich.

557
00:41:51,720 --> 00:41:59,490
Some people, most
probably, put some money,

558
00:41:59,490 --> 00:42:04,950
like we're talking about
now, in Swiss banks.

559
00:42:04,950 --> 00:42:11,580

But we just were able to
support ourselves very nicely,

560
00:42:11,580 --> 00:42:16,350
that I say we kids
never felt that we

561
00:42:16,350 --> 00:42:18,570
were deprived of anything.

562
00:42:18,570 --> 00:42:23,880
We had a wonderful family
life with a lot of love

563
00:42:23,880 --> 00:42:27,030
from the aunts and the cousins.

564
00:42:27,030 --> 00:42:31,070
And so we didn't miss anything.

565
00:42:31,070 --> 00:42:35,910
Did things change when
the Japanese came in?

566
00:42:35,910 --> 00:42:42,300
What changed was that we all had
to live in a restricted area.

567
00:42:42,300 --> 00:42:50,520
Because some people were
living outside the area.

568
00:42:50,520 --> 00:42:53,800
As I say, some people
had a little more money

569
00:42:53,800 --> 00:42:56,670
so they lived outside the area.

570
00:42:56,670 --> 00:43:01,505
They had stores outside
the area or whatever.

571

00:43:01,505 --> 00:43:04,200

572

00:43:04,200 --> 00:43:08,670

They knew how, but
they had to move in.

573

00:43:08,670 --> 00:43:20,040

They had houses which houses
there were not as elaborate

574

00:43:20,040 --> 00:43:21,990

as we would have houses here.

575

00:43:21,990 --> 00:43:24,210

But they had houses.

576

00:43:24,210 --> 00:43:32,170

And they had trade with Chinese
people who lived in the area.

577

00:43:32,170 --> 00:43:37,350

And they naturally, the
Chinese got a better deal,

578

00:43:37,350 --> 00:43:43,570

but they had to live in
the area, all the refugees.

579

00:43:43,570 --> 00:43:49,530

So when you were living in camp,
however, food, the daily food

580

00:43:49,530 --> 00:43:51,780

was provided?

581

00:43:51,780 --> 00:43:53,475

You didn't have
to worry about it?

582

00:43:53,475 --> 00:43:58,500

The food, even

when we didn't live

583

00:43:58,500 --> 00:44:03,690

in camp, when we
had our own room,

584

00:44:03,690 --> 00:44:13,170

I don't know who all contributed
to it, the Joint, the HIAS,

585

00:44:13,170 --> 00:44:14,250

probably.

586

00:44:14,250 --> 00:44:21,420

But there was a kitchen
where every day you went

587

00:44:21,420 --> 00:44:25,950

and they told you ahead
of time how many courses.

588

00:44:25,950 --> 00:44:27,900

So we took parts.

589

00:44:27,900 --> 00:44:35,010

And for the holidays,
we really had a nice--

590

00:44:35,010 --> 00:44:38,100

591

00:44:38,100 --> 00:44:42,570

well, we had soup,
we had vegetables,

592

00:44:42,570 --> 00:44:47,550

we had meat, and
four or five courses.

593

00:44:47,550 --> 00:44:50,520

594

00:44:50,520 --> 00:44:53,040
But I also remember--

595
00:44:53,040 --> 00:44:56,670
now whether that was only
for one day for the holiday,

596
00:44:56,670 --> 00:45:00,990
because I remember
and it was always

597
00:45:00,990 --> 00:45:05,910
fascinating and
unbelievable to me

598
00:45:05,910 --> 00:45:11,640
how my mother could
prepare holiday

599
00:45:11,640 --> 00:45:15,780
meals on a Chinese
stove which you

600
00:45:15,780 --> 00:45:19,590
had to go outside and light.

601
00:45:19,590 --> 00:45:23,250
Because they were
like the briquettes

602
00:45:23,250 --> 00:45:28,230
that you use now for barbecuing.

603
00:45:28,230 --> 00:45:31,530
But at that time,
that was the only--

604
00:45:31,530 --> 00:45:34,350
it was a square thing.

605
00:45:34,350 --> 00:45:40,470
You put first paper and
a little wooden shavings

606
00:45:40,470 --> 00:45:43,650
too so that the
coals would light.

607
00:45:43,650 --> 00:45:47,790
And once they were lit, then
you could bring it inside

608
00:45:47,790 --> 00:45:51,810
because then you didn't
have any smoke anymore.

609
00:45:51,810 --> 00:45:58,200
And there was also what they
called a Japanese stove which

610
00:45:58,200 --> 00:46:03,660
had like charcoal, and
that lit much faster,

611
00:46:03,660 --> 00:46:06,600
but it also went
out much faster.

612
00:46:06,600 --> 00:46:12,180
But with these two stoves,
my mother made a whole meal.

613
00:46:12,180 --> 00:46:15,450
I remember she made
potatoes, put them

614
00:46:15,450 --> 00:46:17,880
in the bed to keep them warm.

615
00:46:17,880 --> 00:46:23,070
And my aunt and
uncle came, and we

616
00:46:23,070 --> 00:46:25,860
had, especially at
Wayside Camp, we

617
00:46:25,860 --> 00:46:35,010
lived in the camp, where
we had two bunk beds.

618
00:46:35,010 --> 00:46:36,240
And there was a little--

619
00:46:36,240 --> 00:46:39,090
there was one bed
here and one bed here.

620
00:46:39,090 --> 00:46:42,330
My mom slept here,
and I slept on top.

621
00:46:42,330 --> 00:46:47,280
My dad slept here, and my
younger brother slept on top.

622
00:46:47,280 --> 00:46:50,280
And by that time,
my older brother

623
00:46:50,280 --> 00:46:53,620
had come out of the hospital.

624
00:46:53,620 --> 00:46:57,730
And there was like
an enclosed balcony.

625
00:46:57,730 --> 00:47:01,120
And that's where my
older brother slept.

626
00:47:01,120 --> 00:47:05,890
But in front of my
dad's bed was a table,

627
00:47:05,890 --> 00:47:12,220
and my aunt and uncle
came and the five of us,

628

00:47:12,220 --> 00:47:14,860

and we had a very nice--

629

00:47:14,860 --> 00:47:18,820

whether it was Passover
or Rosh Hashanah.

630

00:47:18,820 --> 00:47:24,310

And to this day, I am amazed how
my mother could have fixed it

631

00:47:24,310 --> 00:47:25,630

with these two--

632

00:47:25,630 --> 00:47:26,700

With those little stoves.

633

00:47:26,700 --> 00:47:28,330

And no oven?

634

00:47:28,330 --> 00:47:31,612

No, no.

635

00:47:31,612 --> 00:47:34,170

Now that was in a camp or
in your little apartment?

636

00:47:34,170 --> 00:47:36,870

That was a camp.

637

00:47:36,870 --> 00:47:51,300

At the little room, I don't
really remember too much about

638

00:47:51,300 --> 00:47:57,000

whether we got the meals
every day from the kitchen,

639

00:47:57,000 --> 00:48:03,270

from the community kitchen.

640

00:48:03,270 --> 00:48:13,530

But first we lived in
Ward Road in one room.

641

00:48:13,530 --> 00:48:17,640

Then we moved to
also one room but

642

00:48:17,640 --> 00:48:21,805

in King Chow Road, which
had a little courtyard that

643

00:48:21,805 --> 00:48:24,120

was all around.

644

00:48:24,120 --> 00:48:30,010

And it had a little courtyard
where we would sit with other--

645

00:48:30,010 --> 00:48:34,410

there, naturally,
only Jews lived.

646

00:48:34,410 --> 00:48:37,950

And we would sit and schmooze.

647

00:48:37,950 --> 00:48:43,950

And from there we
went into Wayside Camp

648

00:48:43,950 --> 00:48:46,780

because we couldn't afford.

649

00:48:46,780 --> 00:48:52,570

But after the war we
moved out of Wayside Camp

650

00:48:52,570 --> 00:48:57,800

and moved into the same
courtyard building.

651

00:48:57,800 --> 00:49:11,370

And in fact, my younger son in

'86, he graduated from Harvard.

652

00:49:11,370 --> 00:49:18,150

And he figured before he
gets into the real world,

653

00:49:18,150 --> 00:49:19,580

he wanted to take a trip.

654

00:49:19,580 --> 00:49:23,930

He went to Australia because my
aunt and uncle from Shanghai,

655

00:49:23,930 --> 00:49:28,400

my uncle had Polish
quota and that was--

656

00:49:28,400 --> 00:49:33,800

you couldn't get into
the States at all.

657

00:49:33,800 --> 00:49:37,310

So they went to Australia.

658

00:49:37,310 --> 00:49:41,840

So my younger son went to
Australia to visit her.

659

00:49:41,840 --> 00:49:47,240

And we thought we were
going to pick him up,

660

00:49:47,240 --> 00:49:50,270

and he said he met some
friends and they're

661

00:49:50,270 --> 00:49:53,810

going to go trekking in Nepal.

662

00:49:53,810 --> 00:49:56,930

And then he was going
to go to Shanghai.

663

00:49:56,930 --> 00:50:01,970

But I could only tell them
over the phone approximately

664

00:50:01,970 --> 00:50:03,500

where we lived.

665

00:50:03,500 --> 00:50:06,980

But he found the
Wayside Camp which

666

00:50:06,980 --> 00:50:12,710

he was fascinated because
they had torn it down,

667

00:50:12,710 --> 00:50:21,140

and it was just in the
stage of being built

668

00:50:21,140 --> 00:50:23,750

as a school for the Chinese.

669

00:50:23,750 --> 00:50:25,850

And the scaffolding--

670

00:50:25,850 --> 00:50:27,890

I don't know whether
I pronounce it right--

671

00:50:27,890 --> 00:50:30,110

was out of bamboo.

672

00:50:30,110 --> 00:50:36,920

And that fascinated him that
bamboo was so strong that they

673

00:50:36,920 --> 00:50:41,720

used it there as scaffolding.

674

00:50:41,720 --> 00:50:44,190

You also got polio--

675

00:50:44,190 --> 00:50:44,690

Yes.

676

00:50:44,690 --> 00:50:45,830

--while you were in Shanghai.

677

00:50:45,830 --> 00:50:46,330

Right.

678

00:50:46,330 --> 00:50:46,880

Right.

679

00:50:46,880 --> 00:50:49,160

Was that about the same
time as your brother?

680

00:50:49,160 --> 00:50:49,730

Or was that a different time?

681

00:50:49,730 --> 00:50:50,230

No.

682

00:50:50,230 --> 00:50:56,240

That was in later in 1941.

683

00:50:56,240 --> 00:51:00,110

I had a slighter case.

684

00:51:00,110 --> 00:51:06,440

I was in our hospital.

685

00:51:06,440 --> 00:51:10,985

And at that time, 1941,
not that they were--

686

00:51:10,985 --> 00:51:15,110

687

00:51:15,110 --> 00:51:16,190

what's the word again?

688

00:51:16,190 --> 00:51:18,770

689

00:51:18,770 --> 00:51:25,370

That they had all the facilities
that the other hospital had,

690

00:51:25,370 --> 00:51:30,080

but they were more
prepared already.

691

00:51:30,080 --> 00:51:33,500

This was the relocation
camp hospital?

692

00:51:33,500 --> 00:51:37,760

It was in one of the
camps, in Ward Road Camp.

693

00:51:37,760 --> 00:51:44,750

But at that time, we still lived
private, what we used to say,

694

00:51:44,750 --> 00:51:46,250

in one room.

695

00:51:46,250 --> 00:51:54,080

But I was in the hospital
on Pearl Harbor Day.

696

00:51:54,080 --> 00:51:56,840

697

00:51:56,840 --> 00:52:01,730

And we noticed that
something was wrong

698

00:52:01,730 --> 00:52:07,100

because the nurses didn't
come at the usual time.

699

00:52:07,100 --> 00:52:12,660

And the hospital was right
across the police station.

700
00:52:12,660 --> 00:52:17,000
So we could look out, and
we saw that the Japanese

701
00:52:17,000 --> 00:52:18,860
had taken over.

702
00:52:18,860 --> 00:52:25,760
That's when the Japanese
occupied Shanghai again.

703
00:52:25,760 --> 00:52:36,560
And otherwise, nothing
really changed for us.

704
00:52:36,560 --> 00:52:39,710
Did you have any inkling
that this might happen

705
00:52:39,710 --> 00:52:42,150
before the Japanese appeared?

706
00:52:42,150 --> 00:52:42,650
No.

707
00:52:42,650 --> 00:52:44,110
Nobody knew.

708
00:52:44,110 --> 00:52:48,650
Now what did they do
for you, for polio?

709
00:52:48,650 --> 00:52:55,370
Actually for me, the
only thing they did,

710
00:52:55,370 --> 00:53:01,460
I had to wear a metal
corset to support.

711

00:53:01,460 --> 00:53:13,460

First how it showed was I
lost muscle on the left side

712

00:53:13,460 --> 00:53:17,180

and then my spine
started curling.

713

00:53:17,180 --> 00:53:22,880

In fact, word from
the doctor that I

714

00:53:22,880 --> 00:53:29,480

had muskelwunde,
muscle deterioration.

715

00:53:29,480 --> 00:53:34,310

And that was in July of '41.

716

00:53:34,310 --> 00:53:37,970

And then in September,
he examined me again,

717

00:53:37,970 --> 00:53:39,900

and it got worse.

718

00:53:39,900 --> 00:53:46,910

And then I did go
to the hospital

719

00:53:46,910 --> 00:53:56,730

where my brother was for an
examination in October of '41.

720

00:53:56,730 --> 00:54:00,630

721

00:54:00,630 --> 00:54:06,240

And he said that due
to infantile paralysis,

722

00:54:06,240 --> 00:54:12,770

I have curvature of the spine, and I need a corset.

723
00:54:12,770 --> 00:54:18,210
But then in December I went to the hospital,

724
00:54:18,210 --> 00:54:22,950
because they thought maybe they could do something

725
00:54:22,950 --> 00:54:26,310
with exercise or something.

726
00:54:26,310 --> 00:54:33,540
But nothing could be done except the metal

727
00:54:33,540 --> 00:54:36,480
corset which gave me support.

728
00:54:36,480 --> 00:54:44,130
And I continued with going to school and then--

729
00:54:44,130 --> 00:54:48,190

730
00:54:48,190 --> 00:54:53,670
when you're younger, you make mistakes.

731
00:54:53,670 --> 00:54:59,640
And one mistake I made, because I'm a perfectionist,

732
00:54:59,640 --> 00:55:04,050
I needed to have all high grades.

733
00:55:04,050 --> 00:55:10,740
And in my last year, which was equivalent to completing

734
00:55:10,740 --> 00:55:15,750
high school, to
make some money, I

735
00:55:15,750 --> 00:55:23,460
tutored some younger children
in math, I was very good.

736
00:55:23,460 --> 00:55:26,910
And I felt that I did
not have enough time

737
00:55:26,910 --> 00:55:33,610
to study enough for school,
so my grades were not as good.

738
00:55:33,610 --> 00:55:39,060
And I dropped out
instead of finishing,

739
00:55:39,060 --> 00:55:41,850
even though the grades
were not the best.

740
00:55:41,850 --> 00:55:45,820
But I dropped out, so I did
not have a high school diploma.

741
00:55:45,820 --> 00:55:52,090

742
00:55:52,090 --> 00:55:58,465
And your brother had a much more
difficult time with the polio?

743
00:55:58,465 --> 00:55:58,965
Yes.

744
00:55:58,965 --> 00:56:01,770

745

00:56:01,770 --> 00:56:07,230
They had him in traction
in the hospital.

746
00:56:07,230 --> 00:56:13,680
And they tried to
give him therapy.

747
00:56:13,680 --> 00:56:17,850
And that's why he was
there for two years.

748
00:56:17,850 --> 00:56:26,940
And when he came out, he was
at least capable, strong enough

749
00:56:26,940 --> 00:56:29,070
to work.

750
00:56:29,070 --> 00:56:31,680

751
00:56:31,680 --> 00:56:43,940
My cousin's husband, one of
the cousins that were in Berlin

752
00:56:43,940 --> 00:56:46,270
and we were close,
well, she got out.

753
00:56:46,270 --> 00:56:48,430
She got married,
and she got out.

754
00:56:48,430 --> 00:56:52,570
Her brother did not get out.

755
00:56:52,570 --> 00:56:56,200
Her husband was a pharmacist.

756
00:56:56,200 --> 00:57:03,370
So my brother helped
him deliver medications,

757
00:57:03,370 --> 00:57:07,340
and that was outside
of the ghetto.

758
00:57:07,340 --> 00:57:13,480
So when the ghetto was, he
had to go and get a pass.

759
00:57:13,480 --> 00:57:16,130
And there was a Japanese--

760
00:57:16,130 --> 00:57:20,350

761
00:57:20,350 --> 00:57:27,160
I don't know whether he was
a soldier or a official.

762
00:57:27,160 --> 00:57:32,170
And he was a little Japanese,
a small, and his name was Goya.

763
00:57:32,170 --> 00:57:38,200
And depending on his mood,
people got either passes

764
00:57:38,200 --> 00:57:39,440
or they didn't.

765
00:57:39,440 --> 00:57:42,970
And sometimes when
a tall person came,

766
00:57:42,970 --> 00:57:49,980
he would stand on the table so
he was taller than this guy.

767
00:57:49,980 --> 00:57:55,930
But most of the people
did get passes to go out.

768

00:57:55,930 --> 00:57:59,670

You had to stand
in line for hours

769

00:57:59,670 --> 00:58:02,790

before you would get the pass.

770

00:58:02,790 --> 00:58:10,680

And yeah, I'm jumping
back and forth.

771

00:58:10,680 --> 00:58:11,760

That's all right.

772

00:58:11,760 --> 00:58:14,660

What about the medical care
from what you remember,

773

00:58:14,660 --> 00:58:18,480

could you get the medical
care that you needed?

774

00:58:18,480 --> 00:58:18,980

Yeah.

775

00:58:18,980 --> 00:58:31,660

We had, as I say, there were
about 17,000 or 20,000 refugees

776

00:58:31,660 --> 00:58:38,500

from Austria, from Germany,
I think from Poland.

777

00:58:38,500 --> 00:58:42,520

So you had a lot of talent.

778

00:58:42,520 --> 00:58:43,840

You had doctors.

779

00:58:43,840 --> 00:58:48,040

You had musicians.

780

00:58:48,040 --> 00:58:58,150
You had actors that we put on
even though the conditions were

781
00:58:58,150 --> 00:58:59,620
terrible.

782
00:58:59,620 --> 00:59:04,210
A lot of people could
not make a living,

783
00:59:04,210 --> 00:59:08,350
and they were really destitute.

784
00:59:08,350 --> 00:59:13,450
But all in all, you
felt a camaraderie

785
00:59:13,450 --> 00:59:16,390
because everybody
was in the same boat.

786
00:59:16,390 --> 00:59:22,360
And we tried to put on plays
and reviews and concerts

787
00:59:22,360 --> 00:59:24,760
to keep our spirits up.

788
00:59:24,760 --> 00:59:30,340
And that felt really
very, very good.

789
00:59:30,340 --> 00:59:37,440
That even though we
felt from the day

790
00:59:37,440 --> 00:59:41,560
we got there that we'd
like to get out of there--

791
00:59:41,560 --> 00:59:48,000
I mean, maybe not everybody,

but the majority of people--

792
00:59:48,000 --> 00:59:50,520
but life went on.

793
00:59:50,520 --> 00:59:55,920
I became, like I said, I went--

794
00:59:55,920 --> 01:00:01,680
started as an apprentice,
as a beautician.

795
01:00:01,680 --> 01:00:06,900
And the art school gave us--

796
01:00:06,900 --> 01:00:10,260
we practiced on one another.

797
01:00:10,260 --> 01:00:14,880
We had to go to the art school
and practice on one another.

798
01:00:14,880 --> 01:00:24,820
And before I could
graduate, the war was over.

799
01:00:24,820 --> 01:00:31,170
And I remember distinctly the
war was over but not officially

800
01:00:31,170 --> 01:00:35,740
were we allowed to
get out of the ghetto.

801
01:00:35,740 --> 01:00:40,260
But my boss was a young man.

802
01:00:40,260 --> 01:00:44,370
We went in a pedicab
with a hair dryer

803
01:00:44,370 --> 01:00:49,110

and went to where the
English were interned.

804
01:00:49,110 --> 01:00:52,470
We went to the English
internment camp.

805
01:00:52,470 --> 01:00:59,130
And women are women, we
had a lot of business

806
01:00:59,130 --> 01:01:02,640
with the women who wanted to
finally get their hair done.

807
01:01:02,640 --> 01:01:10,380
But the first time going
there, I was afraid that--

808
01:01:10,380 --> 01:01:17,160
we were scared that the
Japanese maybe still would come.

809
01:01:17,160 --> 01:01:23,430
In the hospital, do you recall,
did they have any iron lungs?

810
01:01:23,430 --> 01:01:27,060
Not in our.

811
01:01:27,060 --> 01:01:31,650
But in the hospital that
my brother was at, yes.

812
01:01:31,650 --> 01:01:36,520
And I don't know how long
he was in an iron lung--

813
01:01:36,520 --> 01:01:38,070
Oh, he was in an iron lung.

814
01:01:38,070 --> 01:01:39,390
--when he first came.

815

01:01:39,390 --> 01:01:40,530

Oh, so he had pulmonary--

816

01:01:40,530 --> 01:01:49,620

Because he had pulmonary
problems which eventually

817

01:01:49,620 --> 01:02:01,240

in 1972, he passed away
from the pulmonary.

818

01:02:01,240 --> 01:02:06,820

In fact, he got sick going
on a cruise to Hawaii.

819

01:02:06,820 --> 01:02:09,380

820

01:02:09,380 --> 01:02:12,910

And he was in a
hospital in Hawaii.

821

01:02:12,910 --> 01:02:18,350

And first, my younger
brother went right away.

822

01:02:18,350 --> 01:02:21,310

And then my mother
and I went over there

823

01:02:21,310 --> 01:02:26,170

and stayed for two
weeks with him.

824

01:02:26,170 --> 01:02:29,800

And I had to get back
to work, but my mother

825

01:02:29,800 --> 01:02:33,730

stayed another week until
he was strong enough

826

01:02:33,730 --> 01:02:34,880
to come back home.

827

01:02:34,880 --> 01:02:36,940
Yes.

828

01:02:36,940 --> 01:02:44,020
But I don't remember whether he
got the oxygen tank in Hawaii

829

01:02:44,020 --> 01:02:46,960
or whether when he
came back, he got it.

830

01:02:46,960 --> 01:02:49,165
But he had an oxygen tank.

831

01:02:49,165 --> 01:02:55,120

832

01:02:55,120 --> 01:02:58,900
He did not go to
school in Shanghai,

833

01:02:58,900 --> 01:03:03,680
because he was in the hospital.

834

01:03:03,680 --> 01:03:05,590
He was bar mitzvahed
when he was 15.

835

01:03:05,590 --> 01:03:09,020

836

01:03:09,020 --> 01:03:09,520
In Shanghai?

837

01:03:09,520 --> 01:03:11,050
In Shanghai.

838

01:03:11,050 --> 01:03:14,080

Because he got to
Shanghai when he

839
01:03:14,080 --> 01:03:20,410
was 13 and after a week or
two, he went to the hospital.

840
01:03:20,410 --> 01:03:23,380
And then he went to work
for my cousin's husband.

841
01:03:23,380 --> 01:03:28,070

842
01:03:28,070 --> 01:03:33,680
So this attack that he had
sounds like a post-polio

843
01:03:33,680 --> 01:03:34,500
possibly.

844
01:03:34,500 --> 01:03:35,570
Possibly.

845
01:03:35,570 --> 01:03:36,070
Yeah.

846
01:03:36,070 --> 01:03:41,320

847
01:03:41,320 --> 01:03:46,760
Tell us then what happened
after the war was over.

848
01:03:46,760 --> 01:03:49,740

849
01:03:49,740 --> 01:03:57,480
After the war was over,
naturally, the first thing

850
01:03:57,480 --> 01:04:03,000

everybody tried to see
where they could go.

851
01:04:03,000 --> 01:04:06,520
And the German quota--

852
01:04:06,520 --> 01:04:12,210
now I don't remember exactly
how the quotas here worked,

853
01:04:12,210 --> 01:04:17,130
but the German quota
was the best quota.

854
01:04:17,130 --> 01:04:22,020
And my brother, the
older one, was--

855
01:04:22,020 --> 01:04:25,230

856
01:04:25,230 --> 01:04:32,010
let's see he was born in '47.

857
01:04:32,010 --> 01:04:34,480
He was 21.

858
01:04:34,480 --> 01:04:36,960
So he had his own quota.

859
01:04:36,960 --> 01:04:39,305
My dad passed away in Shanghai.

860
01:04:39,305 --> 01:04:43,920

861
01:04:43,920 --> 01:04:47,010
We knew that he was
sick for a year.

862
01:04:47,010 --> 01:04:48,665
He had prostate cancer.

863
01:04:48,665 --> 01:04:51,220

864
01:04:51,220 --> 01:04:53,650
And that is another story.

865
01:04:53,650 --> 01:04:56,900

866
01:04:56,900 --> 01:05:00,080
He, as I say, we knew he was
sick and wouldn't last long.

867
01:05:00,080 --> 01:05:07,430
But he was determined and hoping
to live until his youngest

868
01:05:07,430 --> 01:05:10,610
son was bar mitzvahed.

869
01:05:10,610 --> 01:05:18,875
And sure enough, my
younger brother became bar

870
01:05:18,875 --> 01:05:21,920
mitzvahed in the camp.

871
01:05:21,920 --> 01:05:28,040
They had a-- like
where you gathered,

872
01:05:28,040 --> 01:05:30,470
they had a potbelly stove.

873
01:05:30,470 --> 01:05:35,520
Because we didn't have any
heating in the individual room.

874
01:05:35,520 --> 01:05:41,540
So it was a hall where you
gathered in the evening

875
01:05:41,540 --> 01:05:46,610
and also someone had
coffee, tea, and snacks.

876
01:05:46,610 --> 01:05:50,240
And that's where
my brother, they

877
01:05:50,240 --> 01:05:56,690
converted it into a little shul
and he became bar mitzvahed.

878
01:05:56,690 --> 01:06:01,310
And that evening, my
dad went into a coma

879
01:06:01,310 --> 01:06:04,020
and died the next morning.

880
01:06:04,020 --> 01:06:14,350
So he really-- sometimes,
your will just keep you going.

881
01:06:14,350 --> 01:06:18,350
And then after that,
you just let go.

882
01:06:18,350 --> 01:06:20,150
So he was able to attend?

883
01:06:20,150 --> 01:06:22,045
Attend the bar mitzvah.

884
01:06:22,045 --> 01:06:23,410
Yeah.

885
01:06:23,410 --> 01:06:28,955
And in fact, I went out that
evening with my boyfriend.

886
01:06:28,955 --> 01:06:38,070

When we came back, the door was
locked, and my mother told me.

887
01:06:38,070 --> 01:06:41,300
So I was sitting up
all night with my dad.

888
01:06:41,300 --> 01:06:45,130

889
01:06:45,130 --> 01:06:48,830
Was he able to get
medical care or--

890
01:06:48,830 --> 01:06:56,130
Well there wasn't much they
could do for him at that time.

891
01:06:56,130 --> 01:07:00,880
And now I think if he would
have been in the States,

892
01:07:00,880 --> 01:07:04,060
that maybe he would
have been helped.

893
01:07:04,060 --> 01:07:06,220
But I don't know whether--

894
01:07:06,220 --> 01:07:12,880
that was in '46, so
that's over 50 years ago--

895
01:07:12,880 --> 01:07:15,710
whether even in
the States, they--

896
01:07:15,710 --> 01:07:21,250
now you have a better chance.

897
01:07:21,250 --> 01:07:27,940
But I don't know how it
was in '46 in the States.

898
01:07:27,940 --> 01:07:29,880
But that's what he died of.

899
01:07:29,880 --> 01:07:33,170

900
01:07:33,170 --> 01:07:38,000
So then you came here
on the American quota.

901
01:07:38,000 --> 01:07:43,020
I think we'll get a little
bit more on Shanghai.

902
01:07:43,020 --> 01:07:48,560
That must have been difficult
then for your mother

903
01:07:48,560 --> 01:07:51,675
in terms of
supporting the family.

904
01:07:51,675 --> 01:07:52,175
Yes.

905
01:07:52,175 --> 01:07:54,710

906
01:07:54,710 --> 01:07:58,100
Well, I was 18.

907
01:07:58,100 --> 01:08:02,330

908
01:08:02,330 --> 01:08:04,010
And I worked.

909
01:08:04,010 --> 01:08:06,230
I didn't get much
money, but I worked.

910

01:08:06,230 --> 01:08:07,820

I got some money.

911

01:08:07,820 --> 01:08:12,230

And my older brother
made some money.

912

01:08:12,230 --> 01:08:21,890

And my mother was hired to
take care of a sick woman

913

01:08:21,890 --> 01:08:26,990

and do the housework
and the cooking

914

01:08:26,990 --> 01:08:34,189

where her training
when she went to Berlin

915

01:08:34,189 --> 01:08:40,970

and learned housekeeping and
cooking became very handy.

916

01:08:40,970 --> 01:08:50,660

And that's how she made money
until the woman passed away.

917

01:08:50,660 --> 01:08:58,670

And the husband, and
they had two sons,

918

01:08:58,670 --> 01:09:01,050

they emigrated to the--

919

01:09:01,050 --> 01:09:04,550

920

01:09:04,550 --> 01:09:18,970

And actually, during
the Japanese occupation

921

01:09:18,970 --> 01:09:23,729

when we had to
live in the ghetto,

922
01:09:23,729 --> 01:09:30,240
it's not really that the
Japanese did anything to us

923
01:09:30,240 --> 01:09:34,770
as long as you obeyed the
rules and didn't go out

924
01:09:34,770 --> 01:09:35,430
of the ghetto.

925
01:09:35,430 --> 01:09:38,340

926
01:09:38,340 --> 01:09:43,529
You had to have
an identification.

927
01:09:43,529 --> 01:09:48,390
And the main thing
that we were scared

928
01:09:48,390 --> 01:09:54,240
was sometimes there was a
Japanese troop transport

929
01:09:54,240 --> 01:09:56,130
and you had to stop.

930
01:09:56,130 --> 01:09:58,590
So we didn't know the language.

931
01:09:58,590 --> 01:10:04,380
But we understood when
they came with the bayonets

932
01:10:04,380 --> 01:10:08,370
that we knew to stay.

933

01:10:08,370 --> 01:10:13,950
And I am sure if we all
knew the same language,

934
01:10:13,950 --> 01:10:18,730
they would have just said stop
until the transport is passed.

935
01:10:18,730 --> 01:10:21,630

936
01:10:21,630 --> 01:10:24,640
So that, naturally, was scary.

937
01:10:24,640 --> 01:10:29,260
And another time, I remember
my younger brother and I,

938
01:10:29,260 --> 01:10:31,230
we went to the movies.

939
01:10:31,230 --> 01:10:36,540
And when we came out, that
was our main, as I said,

940
01:10:36,540 --> 01:10:37,470
entertainment.

941
01:10:37,470 --> 01:10:40,080
Sometimes I went to
the movies Fridays

942
01:10:40,080 --> 01:10:43,500
and Saturday and Sunday.

943
01:10:43,500 --> 01:10:51,060
And when we came out, Japanese
soldiers had us lined up.

944
01:10:51,060 --> 01:10:57,270
And they wanted to see
the identification.

945

01:10:57,270 --> 01:11:00,160

Well, we were kind of in back.

946

01:11:00,160 --> 01:11:04,050

But we realized we didn't
take our identification.

947

01:11:04,050 --> 01:11:05,920

We had it at home.

948

01:11:05,920 --> 01:11:08,310

So we were panicky.

949

01:11:08,310 --> 01:11:12,330

And we are lucky enough,
just four or five people

950

01:11:12,330 --> 01:11:16,890

before us, for what
reason, we don't know.

951

01:11:16,890 --> 01:11:19,460

They stopped and walked away.

952

01:11:19,460 --> 01:11:26,010

So from then on, we always
carried our identification

953

01:11:26,010 --> 01:11:28,920

with us.

954

01:11:28,920 --> 01:11:32,370

What would be the
consequence if you didn't

955

01:11:32,370 --> 01:11:34,080

have your identification?

956

01:11:34,080 --> 01:11:36,060

We don't know for sure.

957

01:11:36,060 --> 01:11:44,330
But I know for a fact, because
I worked in the beauty shop

958
01:11:44,330 --> 01:11:47,720
and you get to know the people.

959
01:11:47,720 --> 01:11:52,730
And the nicest thing about
working in the beauty shop,

960
01:11:52,730 --> 01:12:02,990
even though I hated it, was that
you talked to the customers.

961
01:12:02,990 --> 01:12:08,720
And in Shanghai, you had
different hairstyles than now.

962
01:12:08,720 --> 01:12:10,790
Well, you happen
to have long hair.

963
01:12:10,790 --> 01:12:14,000
But there, they
all had long hair.

964
01:12:14,000 --> 01:12:15,620
And you combed.

965
01:12:15,620 --> 01:12:17,930
Some came every day
to have their hair

966
01:12:17,930 --> 01:12:22,580
comb, some every other day
to have their hair combed.

967
01:12:22,580 --> 01:12:26,930
Because you had an inside
roll, you called it, outside.

968
01:12:26,930 --> 01:12:31,850

I should have brought a
picture of one of them.

969
01:12:31,850 --> 01:12:36,860
So you discuss the movies
you saw the day before

970
01:12:36,860 --> 01:12:40,170
and a lot of other things.

971
01:12:40,170 --> 01:12:49,490
So we found out that the
husband of one of the women

972
01:12:49,490 --> 01:12:54,110
talked back to the Japanese.

973
01:12:54,110 --> 01:13:02,500
And he was put on a truck and
we never heard again from.

974
01:13:02,500 --> 01:13:10,910
So there were some
incidents like that.

975
01:13:10,910 --> 01:13:16,420
But in the whole, if you
did what they told you,

976
01:13:16,420 --> 01:13:17,340
they left you alone.

977
01:13:17,340 --> 01:13:20,020

978
01:13:20,020 --> 01:13:23,740
Now was the ghetto enclosed?

979
01:13:23,740 --> 01:13:28,180
It was not really
enclosed with a wall.

980

01:13:28,180 --> 01:13:39,200
But you knew which was the
perimeter that you could--

981
01:13:39,200 --> 01:13:51,580
and they had Japanese police
and also they had Heimpolizei.

982
01:13:51,580 --> 01:13:52,990
From the camps.

983
01:13:52,990 --> 01:13:56,590
They had-- not really police--

984
01:13:56,590 --> 01:14:05,350
but people that were standing
at different checkpoints

985
01:14:05,350 --> 01:14:10,210
and made sure, for your own
protection, that you didn't

986
01:14:10,210 --> 01:14:12,870
forget that you can't go out.

987
01:14:12,870 --> 01:14:14,410
That nobody could go beyond.

988
01:14:14,410 --> 01:14:16,340
Right.

989
01:14:16,340 --> 01:14:20,470
So at that point, there
were only refugees in there.

990
01:14:20,470 --> 01:14:27,210
And the Chinese merchants.

991
01:14:27,210 --> 01:14:28,710
But--

992
01:14:28,710 --> 01:14:31,240

So they still lived
there amongst you?

993
01:14:31,240 --> 01:14:31,740
Yeah.

994
01:14:31,740 --> 01:14:34,320
And they--

995
01:14:34,320 --> 01:14:41,460
Communicated with us
as well as we could.

996
01:14:41,460 --> 01:14:47,130
Because the, I don't know
what the sense of it was.

997
01:14:47,130 --> 01:14:53,580
In school, we had to learn
Chinese and Japanese when

998
01:14:53,580 --> 01:14:55,350
the occupation was.

999
01:14:55,350 --> 01:15:00,670
But the Chinese that we learned
was the Mandarin Chinese

1000
01:15:00,670 --> 01:15:03,450
which was the upper class.

1001
01:15:03,450 --> 01:15:06,990
The lower class did
not know Mandarin,

1002
01:15:06,990 --> 01:15:12,600
so we could not really use
it to talk to the merchants.

1003
01:15:12,600 --> 01:15:17,460
They picked up a
few words of English

1004

01:15:17,460 --> 01:15:23,040

and maybe we picked up
a few words of Chinese.

1005

01:15:23,040 --> 01:15:24,305

Or we just pointed.

1006

01:15:24,305 --> 01:15:27,510

1007

01:15:27,510 --> 01:15:33,870

For instance, we never
made water for coffee

1008

01:15:33,870 --> 01:15:35,730

in the morning.

1009

01:15:35,730 --> 01:15:41,760

Because at the
corners, there were

1010

01:15:41,760 --> 01:15:49,020

stores that boiled water, not
just for us, for the Chinese.

1011

01:15:49,020 --> 01:15:55,230

And we went, took our thermos
bottle, put some coffee in,

1012

01:15:55,230 --> 01:16:01,120

and they poured for
a third of a penny,

1013

01:16:01,120 --> 01:16:08,460

they gave you one
ladle or two ladles.

1014

01:16:08,460 --> 01:16:11,040

And when we had coffee
in there, we always

1015

01:16:11,040 --> 01:16:17,310

used to tell them watch out
that it doesn't spill over,

1016
01:16:17,310 --> 01:16:20,220
because then the coffee
would be diluted.

1017
01:16:20,220 --> 01:16:24,150
And that's how we got our hot
water, because it didn't really

1018
01:16:24,150 --> 01:16:29,400
pay to put the Chinese
stove on just for hot water.

1019
01:16:29,400 --> 01:16:32,370
And then they also had--

1020
01:16:32,370 --> 01:16:36,730
we remember as kids
we went to school,

1021
01:16:36,730 --> 01:16:41,250
they had a barrel where
they had fire in it.

1022
01:16:41,250 --> 01:16:44,670
And they had sweet potatoes.

1023
01:16:44,670 --> 01:16:47,640
And they baked them in there.

1024
01:16:47,640 --> 01:16:49,770
And we bought one.

1025
01:16:49,770 --> 01:16:54,540
And first we put them in our
pockets to warm our hands,

1026
01:16:54,540 --> 01:16:57,750
and then we ate them,
which were delicious.

1027

01:16:57,750 --> 01:17:00,900

1028

01:17:00,900 --> 01:17:02,910

Did it get very cold there?

1029

01:17:02,910 --> 01:17:12,780

Well, it was cold because
nothing was heated.

1030

01:17:12,780 --> 01:17:15,270

The buses weren't heated.

1031

01:17:15,270 --> 01:17:17,910

1032

01:17:17,910 --> 01:17:21,880

Your apartment, your
rooms weren't heated.

1033

01:17:21,880 --> 01:17:26,190

So that's why you, like you
said, you couldn't get warm.

1034

01:17:26,190 --> 01:17:29,820

You couldn't really get warm.

1035

01:17:29,820 --> 01:17:35,620

I'm sure the school was heated
where we went to school.

1036

01:17:35,620 --> 01:17:47,120

And also at school, the
children got a hot meal

1037

01:17:47,120 --> 01:17:54,250

which I don't know whether
it was donated by people who

1038

01:17:54,250 --> 01:18:00,010

had a little bit more money,
like my cousin and her husband,

1039
01:18:00,010 --> 01:18:03,400
because he made a
pretty good living.

1040
01:18:03,400 --> 01:18:08,800
She would be one
of the women who

1041
01:18:08,800 --> 01:18:18,370
would volunteer to serve the
food, so I always got enough.

1042
01:18:18,370 --> 01:18:21,790
I mean, you could
go for seconds.

1043
01:18:21,790 --> 01:18:26,360
But the food was mainly starch.

1044
01:18:26,360 --> 01:18:29,020
So naturally, I blossomed.

1045
01:18:29,020 --> 01:18:31,300
I gained a lot of weight.

1046
01:18:31,300 --> 01:18:33,200
But it's amazing.

1047
01:18:33,200 --> 01:18:36,435
We had maize.

1048
01:18:36,435 --> 01:18:38,990

1049
01:18:38,990 --> 01:18:46,000
I don't know what that is,
whether it is ground corn.

1050
01:18:46,000 --> 01:18:55,000
And either you got it with meat
sauce or you got it with dates.

1051
01:18:55,000 --> 01:19:04,210
And I enjoyed everything,
whereas my older brother, he

1052
01:19:04,210 --> 01:19:10,000
didn't eat.

1053
01:19:10,000 --> 01:19:12,010
He was very finicky.

1054
01:19:12,010 --> 01:19:16,180
He also was, which was another
thing, very, very careful.

1055
01:19:16,180 --> 01:19:18,820

1056
01:19:18,820 --> 01:19:21,940
When you had food,
you had to wash it

1057
01:19:21,940 --> 01:19:26,140
in kali, which is
a disinfectant.

1058
01:19:26,140 --> 01:19:28,930
And I'm not saying that my
younger brother and I were

1059
01:19:28,930 --> 01:19:34,870
smart, but we were more
adventurous or didn't care.

1060
01:19:34,870 --> 01:19:37,930
We used to eat the apples.

1061
01:19:37,930 --> 01:19:41,490
Or you were not allowed
to drink the water.

1062
01:19:41,490 --> 01:19:44,210

We had to boil it first.

1063

01:19:44,210 --> 01:19:53,560

But where I worked, there was
a beauty shop and a barber shop

1064

01:19:53,560 --> 01:19:54,580

at the same time.

1065

01:19:54,580 --> 01:19:55,960

They were partners.

1066

01:19:55,960 --> 01:20:00,490

And the barber shop
person lived upstairs.

1067

01:20:00,490 --> 01:20:05,500

So in between was a basin.

1068

01:20:05,500 --> 01:20:09,250

And when I was thirsty, I
went up and drank the water.

1069

01:20:09,250 --> 01:20:13,270

And my younger brother
and I, we never got sick.

1070

01:20:13,270 --> 01:20:17,770

But my older brother, who was
so careful, he always got sick.

1071

01:20:17,770 --> 01:20:21,130

That's why I say it was
not that we were so smart.

1072

01:20:21,130 --> 01:20:23,740

It was just coincidence.

1073

01:20:23,740 --> 01:20:37,930

And during the war, you were
not allowed to do permanents.

1074

01:20:37,930 --> 01:20:44,080

So my boss took the
permanent machine,

1075

01:20:44,080 --> 01:20:47,150

which is entirely
different than it is now,

1076

01:20:47,150 --> 01:20:51,550

it was a machine where
you clamped it on.

1077

01:20:51,550 --> 01:20:54,560

It was electric.

1078

01:20:54,560 --> 01:20:56,060

And that's why you
were not allowed

1079

01:20:56,060 --> 01:20:57,800

to use it during the war.

1080

01:20:57,800 --> 01:21:05,180

But we put it upstairs in
the barber's where he lived.

1081

01:21:05,180 --> 01:21:09,950

And the women still
got their permanents.

1082

01:21:09,950 --> 01:21:12,590

But sometimes you didn't know--

1083

01:21:12,590 --> 01:21:15,710

and Chinese people came in too.

1084

01:21:15,710 --> 01:21:19,850

It was not only
for the Europeans,

1085

01:21:19,850 --> 01:21:26,570

but the Chinese also came
into the store, and Japanese

1086

01:21:26,570 --> 01:21:29,760
because they lived there.

1087

01:21:29,760 --> 01:21:35,000
So sometimes you were not sure
whether maybe the Japanese

1088

01:21:35,000 --> 01:21:41,390
came and checked up or whether
they really were a customer.

1089

01:21:41,390 --> 01:21:42,320
But we were lucky.

1090

01:21:42,320 --> 01:21:44,480
We were never caught.

1091

01:21:44,480 --> 01:21:51,710
But these are things that you
remember because in one way

1092

01:21:51,710 --> 01:21:55,104
scary and in one way different.

1093

01:21:55,104 --> 01:21:58,070

1094

01:21:58,070 --> 01:22:00,520
What else?

1095

01:22:00,520 --> 01:22:03,590
Another thing that
happened in Shanghai

1096

01:22:03,590 --> 01:22:11,510
towards the end of the war,
the American bombers came.

1097

01:22:11,510 --> 01:22:14,930
So whenever there
was an air raid,

1098

01:22:14,930 --> 01:22:21,620

you looked forward to
it with mixed emotions.

1099

01:22:21,620 --> 01:22:26,660

Because in one way, you
felt the more they came,

1100

01:22:26,660 --> 01:22:29,600

the sooner the
war would be over.

1101

01:22:29,600 --> 01:22:33,920

On the other hand,
especially one time there

1102

01:22:33,920 --> 01:22:42,570

was a mistake made and a bomb
was dropped on the ghetto.

1103

01:22:42,570 --> 01:22:50,150

And we lost about 37
people on July 17.

1104

01:22:50,150 --> 01:22:54,200

But war is war.

1105

01:22:54,200 --> 01:22:56,690

I mean, it was naturally
traumatic at the time.

1106

01:22:56,690 --> 01:22:59,320

1107

01:22:59,320 --> 01:23:04,400

And I for some reason
had to, before I could

1108

01:23:04,400 --> 01:23:08,600

hide under a table
in the shop, I

1109

01:23:08,600 --> 01:23:12,870

had to see the planes first
where the noise came from.

1110

01:23:12,870 --> 01:23:16,440

And then I would hide.

1111

01:23:16,440 --> 01:23:23,955

And my younger brother
studied for his bar

1112

01:23:23,955 --> 01:23:27,330

mitzvah at his tutor's house.

1113

01:23:27,330 --> 01:23:36,060

And the tutor,
his duty was also,

1114

01:23:36,060 --> 01:23:44,550

when the bombs came, to
stand by as a fireman.

1115

01:23:44,550 --> 01:23:50,910

So Harry was not
quite 13, was upstairs

1116

01:23:50,910 --> 01:23:56,400

and the man said, well, just
wait there until I come back.

1117

01:23:56,400 --> 01:24:01,980

Well, as it happened, a
bomb exploded close by.

1118

01:24:01,980 --> 01:24:05,000

And all of a sudden, he
was in the first floor.

1119

01:24:05,000 --> 01:24:06,765

But luckily, nothing happened.

1120

01:24:06,765 --> 01:24:10,590

1121
01:24:10,590 --> 01:24:14,673
Were there any bomb shelters
or just you hid under a table?

1122
01:24:14,673 --> 01:24:15,173
No.

1123
01:24:15,173 --> 01:24:16,020
No, no.

1124
01:24:16,020 --> 01:24:25,020
And they also said you
should go under doorposts.

1125
01:24:25,020 --> 01:24:28,320
But as it turned
out, that was not

1126
01:24:28,320 --> 01:24:35,610
a good idea because
the cement or something

1127
01:24:35,610 --> 01:24:37,740
would kill you easier then.

1128
01:24:37,740 --> 01:24:44,570

1129
01:24:44,570 --> 01:24:49,247
And the conditions when you
were living on your own,

1130
01:24:49,247 --> 01:24:50,580
could you describe a little bit?

1131
01:24:50,580 --> 01:24:52,430
You said it was in one room.

1132
01:24:52,430 --> 01:24:54,740
One room, yeah.

1133
01:24:54,740 --> 01:24:58,555
One room that was a
living room, bedroom,

1134
01:24:58,555 --> 01:25:03,750
dining room, all in one.

1135
01:25:03,750 --> 01:25:10,760
And when we lived
at Ward Road 343,

1136
01:25:10,760 --> 01:25:15,890
that was a lane
where you went in

1137
01:25:15,890 --> 01:25:21,330
and then there were
a lot of houses,

1138
01:25:21,330 --> 01:25:28,970
where the Chinese lived and
the Europeans was all mixed in.

1139
01:25:28,970 --> 01:25:30,490
And the bathroom.

1140
01:25:30,490 --> 01:25:32,480
shower, where was that?

1141
01:25:32,480 --> 01:25:45,110
That was outside of their home
which was like a community.

1142
01:25:45,110 --> 01:25:51,080
More people lived in the houses.

1143
01:25:51,080 --> 01:25:57,125
So we-- I'm trying to think.

1144
01:25:57,125 --> 01:25:59,660

1145
01:25:59,660 --> 01:26:04,100
In the King Chow
Road, where we lived,

1146
01:26:04,100 --> 01:26:07,610
where the little courtyard
was, there, I think,

1147
01:26:07,610 --> 01:26:09,230
was a water closet.

1148
01:26:09,230 --> 01:26:13,320
But it was outside, and
the showers were outside.

1149
01:26:13,320 --> 01:26:16,280
But in the Wayside
Camp, there were

1150
01:26:16,280 --> 01:26:22,310
stalls outside with buckets.

1151
01:26:22,310 --> 01:26:26,450
And every morning you
could hear the Chinese

1152
01:26:26,450 --> 01:26:33,080
come empty out the buckets, and
the smell was not too pleasant.

1153
01:26:33,080 --> 01:26:38,030
But you get used to everything.

1154
01:26:38,030 --> 01:26:45,770
And in the Wayside Camp, because
my brother had been sick,

1155
01:26:45,770 --> 01:26:49,400
the five of us had
that one little room

1156

01:26:49,400 --> 01:26:59,150
that I had described
before where my mother made

1157
01:26:59,150 --> 01:27:02,510
the holiday dinners.

1158
01:27:02,510 --> 01:27:06,350
But the other people,
there were a few maybe

1159
01:27:06,350 --> 01:27:08,210
that had a bigger family.

1160
01:27:08,210 --> 01:27:12,440
Like I remember one other
family had four children,

1161
01:27:12,440 --> 01:27:14,960
and they had one room.

1162
01:27:14,960 --> 01:27:20,570
But otherwise, there were big
rooms where 20 or 30 people

1163
01:27:20,570 --> 01:27:23,150
lived in one room.

1164
01:27:23,150 --> 01:27:33,080
And as I say, we had
get-togethers in the big room

1165
01:27:33,080 --> 01:27:36,620
where the potbelly stove was.

1166
01:27:36,620 --> 01:27:44,630
And we got together and we had
plays and we had entertainment.

1167
01:27:44,630 --> 01:27:47,260
So that part was OK.

1168

01:27:47,260 --> 01:27:49,320
You had quite a community.

1169
01:27:49,320 --> 01:27:49,820
Yeah.

1170
01:27:49,820 --> 01:27:52,700
And most of the things you
talked about, were those--

1171
01:27:52,700 --> 01:27:54,410
even the movies and
things like that--

1172
01:27:54,410 --> 01:27:59,420
was that organized by the
refugee community, or--

1173
01:27:59,420 --> 01:28:08,850
The movie houses
were by the Chinese.

1174
01:28:08,850 --> 01:28:16,925
That's why we got synopsis in
English and also in Chinese.

1175
01:28:16,925 --> 01:28:19,220
Or maybe that was
the custom there.

1176
01:28:19,220 --> 01:28:20,060
I don't know.

1177
01:28:20,060 --> 01:28:26,330
Because after the war,
we went downtown also

1178
01:28:26,330 --> 01:28:32,450
to movies which was--

1179
01:28:32,450 --> 01:28:34,970
Hongkew was a poor section.

1180

01:28:34,970 --> 01:28:39,810

There were the poor
Chinese living there

1181

01:28:39,810 --> 01:28:48,450

which were merchants,
but they were all poor.

1182

01:28:48,450 --> 01:28:53,830

And downtown where
the Bund Nanking were,

1183

01:28:53,830 --> 01:28:59,200

that is more because
Shanghai, as I said,

1184

01:28:59,200 --> 01:29:03,880

is really a cosmopolitan city.

1185

01:29:03,880 --> 01:29:06,390

It was at that time.

1186

01:29:06,390 --> 01:29:11,310

It was not just all little huts.

1187

01:29:11,310 --> 01:29:13,800

But the downtown had big--

1188

01:29:13,800 --> 01:29:20,560

the Cathay hotel and big
hotels and businesses going on.

1189

01:29:20,560 --> 01:29:30,840

1190

01:29:30,840 --> 01:29:34,340

The other thing that was--

1191

01:29:34,340 --> 01:29:39,920

and that was after
the war, the inflation

1192

01:29:39,920 --> 01:29:50,180

was terrific, that
when the Americans

1193

01:29:50,180 --> 01:29:55,700

came after the war and
the English docked.

1194

01:29:55,700 --> 01:30:06,890

My boss went to an American camp
to be a barber there because he

1195

01:30:06,890 --> 01:30:10,166

could make more money.

1196

01:30:10,166 --> 01:30:15,650

And so one of the women,
she was younger than I was,

1197

01:30:15,650 --> 01:30:18,860

but she had already
graduated and her dad

1198

01:30:18,860 --> 01:30:20,210

had a little bit more money.

1199

01:30:20,210 --> 01:30:25,640

So they had a house, and
they took the living room

1200

01:30:25,640 --> 01:30:27,620

because the bedrooms
were upstairs.

1201

01:30:27,620 --> 01:30:30,500

And he made beauty
parlor out of it.

1202

01:30:30,500 --> 01:30:37,500

So I continued my
internship with her.

1203

01:30:37,500 --> 01:30:43,670
And I got my diploma from court,
which I still have somewhere.

1204
01:30:43,670 --> 01:30:51,290
And then when they left,
I worked for a barber

1205
01:30:51,290 --> 01:30:52,910
from Vienna.

1206
01:30:52,910 --> 01:30:58,960
And I was the only beautician.

1207
01:30:58,960 --> 01:31:02,290
And the beautician
made more money

1208
01:31:02,290 --> 01:31:07,180
than he could do with a barber
who was just cutting hair.

1209
01:31:07,180 --> 01:31:10,690
So we split.

1210
01:31:10,690 --> 01:31:14,890
I got half of what came
in, and he got half

1211
01:31:14,890 --> 01:31:16,810
because he was the boss.

1212
01:31:16,810 --> 01:31:20,350
He provided everything.

1213
01:31:20,350 --> 01:31:24,750
But during the inflation,
I got paid every day.

1214
01:31:24,750 --> 01:31:26,890
Every evening, we figured out.

1215

01:31:26,890 --> 01:31:28,150
And I walked home.

1216
01:31:28,150 --> 01:31:31,460
And I used to love shoes.

1217
01:31:31,460 --> 01:31:34,000
And when I passed
by the shoe store

1218
01:31:34,000 --> 01:31:37,070
and I saw something
I liked, I bought it.

1219
01:31:37,070 --> 01:31:40,840
And then the next morning
when I went back to work,

1220
01:31:40,840 --> 01:31:43,690
it was higher.

1221
01:31:43,690 --> 01:31:50,230
And one time even I went
downtown to go to the movies.

1222
01:31:50,230 --> 01:31:54,210
And I was going to buy
a chocolate bar before.

1223
01:31:54,210 --> 01:31:58,300
But I went first and figured,
well, I'll get it on my way

1224
01:31:58,300 --> 01:31:59,140
back.

1225
01:31:59,140 --> 01:32:02,440
Well, on my way back I didn't
have enough money with me

1226
01:32:02,440 --> 01:32:06,940
because the prices had gone up.

1227

01:32:06,940 --> 01:32:10,790

Had gone up in the time
that you were in the movies?

1228

01:32:10,790 --> 01:32:15,880

Was there a Jewish community
in Shanghai at all?

1229

01:32:15,880 --> 01:32:17,350

I know there are--

1230

01:32:17,350 --> 01:32:19,340

You mean besides the--

1231

01:32:19,340 --> 01:32:20,090

Besides the camps?

1232

01:32:20,090 --> 01:32:22,510

--the refugee-- yes.

1233

01:32:22,510 --> 01:32:28,090

There was a
Russian-Jewish community.

1234

01:32:28,090 --> 01:32:40,530

And there was also other
Jewish communities in the--

1235

01:32:40,530 --> 01:32:44,040

Did they reach
out to you at all?

1236

01:32:44,040 --> 01:32:46,650

Yes, more after the war.

1237

01:32:46,650 --> 01:32:49,830

1238

01:32:49,830 --> 01:32:54,960

And maybe I think
before the war.

1239

01:32:54,960 --> 01:32:58,770

Because I remember
one of our teachers

1240

01:32:58,770 --> 01:33:03,790

took some of the pupils,
and I was one of them,

1241

01:33:03,790 --> 01:33:09,330

and we went to
one of the people.

1242

01:33:09,330 --> 01:33:11,130

I don't remember
whether they were

1243

01:33:11,130 --> 01:33:15,640

English or French or Russian.

1244

01:33:15,640 --> 01:33:25,350

And we were treated to a nice
afternoon of cake and a meal.

1245

01:33:25,350 --> 01:33:28,170

And that was a treat for us.

1246

01:33:28,170 --> 01:33:36,330

So they did that quite often
where different children

1247

01:33:36,330 --> 01:33:39,720

went to downtown.

1248

01:33:39,720 --> 01:33:44,770

1249

01:33:44,770 --> 01:33:53,120

And especially, there was
one, he was from Iran,

1250

01:33:53,120 --> 01:34:00,530

I think, but a Jew,

businessman, Kadoorie.

1251
01:34:00,530 --> 01:34:03,950
He was very well-known,
Kadoorie brothers.

1252
01:34:03,950 --> 01:34:07,490
There was also Sassoon.

1253
01:34:07,490 --> 01:34:12,410
But Kadoorie, the
school we went to

1254
01:34:12,410 --> 01:34:21,890
was called SJYA, Shanghai Jewish
Jews Youth Association School.

1255
01:34:21,890 --> 01:34:26,810
And Kadoorie donated
a lot of money So.

1256
01:34:26,810 --> 01:34:30,560
That we called it
then Kadoorie School.

1257
01:34:30,560 --> 01:34:39,770
And at the school, we also
had the children put on plays.

1258
01:34:39,770 --> 01:34:45,050
"Father Knows Best," I was
a maid during that time.

1259
01:34:45,050 --> 01:34:52,430
And in the auditorium, we
had Friday night services.

1260
01:34:52,430 --> 01:34:59,510
And our religious
school teacher,

1261
01:34:59,510 --> 01:35:05,000
for us to go to services,

he would give us a star.

1262
01:35:05,000 --> 01:35:08,180
And I don't know whether it
was when you had 10 stars,

1263
01:35:08,180 --> 01:35:10,670
you got a movie ticket.

1264
01:35:10,670 --> 01:35:16,720
So I really was lucky because
I love to go to services.

1265
01:35:16,720 --> 01:35:21,080
I enjoyed-- I was
singing in the choir,

1266
01:35:21,080 --> 01:35:26,600
and I think I could even perform
the whole service by myself,

1267
01:35:26,600 --> 01:35:28,400
because I enjoyed it that much.

1268
01:35:28,400 --> 01:35:34,100
And on top of it, I got the star
and got to go to the movies.

1269
01:35:34,100 --> 01:35:37,400
So there were a lot of really--

1270
01:35:37,400 --> 01:35:40,430
we helped ourselves a lot.

1271
01:35:40,430 --> 01:35:42,890
And there was a lot--

1272
01:35:42,890 --> 01:35:44,480
yeah.

1273
01:35:44,480 --> 01:35:52,130
There were reviews that

people put on from--

1274

01:35:52,130 --> 01:35:56,810

because, as I say,
they were actors which

1275

01:35:56,810 --> 01:35:59,410

helped to build up them well.

1276

01:35:59,410 --> 01:36:03,780

And it was fun.

1277

01:36:03,780 --> 01:36:07,590

So the refugee community really
created a cultural light.

1278

01:36:07,590 --> 01:36:08,090

Right.

1279

01:36:08,090 --> 01:36:08,590

Right.

1280

01:36:08,590 --> 01:36:15,820

The refugee community really
was a community that, in a way,

1281

01:36:15,820 --> 01:36:22,220

was self-sufficient as far
as culture was concerned.

1282

01:36:22,220 --> 01:36:36,010

1283

01:36:36,010 --> 01:36:38,740

You come, I guess, at
the end of the war and--

1284

01:36:38,740 --> 01:36:39,490

Can we go to that?

1285

01:36:39,490 --> 01:36:40,690

--what happened then, how--

1286
01:36:40,690 --> 01:36:41,650
Yeah.

1287
01:36:41,650 --> 01:36:47,020
Well, I don't know whether I
mentioned before that my older

1288
01:36:47,020 --> 01:36:58,800
brother became 21 and had German
quota, so he left in 1947.

1289
01:36:58,800 --> 01:37:02,750
And my dad had passed away.

1290
01:37:02,750 --> 01:37:05,980
So we were, my
younger brother and I,

1291
01:37:05,980 --> 01:37:11,170
went on my mother's quota which
because she was born in Russia,

1292
01:37:11,170 --> 01:37:13,030
was a Russian quota.

1293
01:37:13,030 --> 01:37:17,170
And that was very, very
low, but there were not

1294
01:37:17,170 --> 01:37:22,070
too many who had Russian quota.

1295
01:37:22,070 --> 01:37:25,060
And I knew that my mother
wanted to come here

1296
01:37:25,060 --> 01:37:27,400
to join my brother.

1297
01:37:27,400 --> 01:37:32,290
And I was an ardent Zionist.

1298
01:37:32,290 --> 01:37:37,990
I belonged to Brith Noar
Zioni, which was one of the--

1299
01:37:37,990 --> 01:37:40,690

1300
01:37:40,690 --> 01:37:48,070
there was also Betar, which
was a little bit more military,

1301
01:37:48,070 --> 01:37:48,580
I guess.

1302
01:37:48,580 --> 01:37:51,360
Hachsharah?

1303
01:37:51,360 --> 01:37:57,850
Hachsharah, that is what
my oldest brother went to.

1304
01:37:57,850 --> 01:38:05,530
That is preparing
you for Palestine.

1305
01:38:05,530 --> 01:38:15,780
Now in 1948 when the state
of Israel was created,

1306
01:38:15,780 --> 01:38:20,730
a lot of people actually, you
could say, fled to Israel.

1307
01:38:20,730 --> 01:38:24,900
Because all you had to do was
go to the Israel consulate.

1308
01:38:24,900 --> 01:38:30,480
And you could go to Israel.

1309
01:38:30,480 --> 01:38:32,970

So people from
Shanghai went as well?

1310
01:38:32,970 --> 01:38:34,950
Yeah.

1311
01:38:34,950 --> 01:38:40,820
And some went to, like my
aunt and uncle, to Australia.

1312
01:38:40,820 --> 01:38:44,630
Some went to South America.

1313
01:38:44,630 --> 01:38:48,800
We still have an aunt
of a friend of mine

1314
01:38:48,800 --> 01:38:55,730
that we still correspond
with in South Africa.

1315
01:38:55,730 --> 01:39:00,890
And so the people left.

1316
01:39:00,890 --> 01:39:05,660
And my mother went
one boat to another

1317
01:39:05,660 --> 01:39:07,970
to say goodbye to friends.

1318
01:39:07,970 --> 01:39:09,710
So she was anxious.

1319
01:39:09,710 --> 01:39:12,950
She said let's go to Israel.

1320
01:39:12,950 --> 01:39:18,690
And I had a fight with myself,
because I was anxious to go.

1321
01:39:18,690 --> 01:39:20,630

But as I say, I
said to my mother

1322
01:39:20,630 --> 01:39:22,190
let's wait a little longer.

1323
01:39:22,190 --> 01:39:24,120
Maybe we'll make it.

1324
01:39:24,120 --> 01:39:29,150
And sure enough,
her quota came up.

1325
01:39:29,150 --> 01:39:31,250
We got our first papers.

1326
01:39:31,250 --> 01:39:37,910
You got your first papers
when a quota was available.

1327
01:39:37,910 --> 01:39:42,230
So my boss who was from
Austria, the Austrian quota

1328
01:39:42,230 --> 01:39:44,690
was also no good.

1329
01:39:44,690 --> 01:39:47,720
He got worried
that I would leave

1330
01:39:47,720 --> 01:39:50,280
and I was his main income.

1331
01:39:50,280 --> 01:39:53,540
So he went back to Austria--

1332
01:39:53,540 --> 01:39:57,650
quite a few people
went back to Austria--

1333
01:39:57,650 --> 01:40:03,170

because he had no chance
to go anywhere else.

1334
01:40:03,170 --> 01:40:07,780
So between our first
papers, so then

1335
01:40:07,780 --> 01:40:14,770
we had to go get a lung x-ray.

1336
01:40:14,770 --> 01:40:23,320
And I don't know if they
saw anything on the--

1337
01:40:23,320 --> 01:40:26,395
we called it a small x-ray.

1338
01:40:26,395 --> 01:40:28,310
But if they saw
anything, then you

1339
01:40:28,310 --> 01:40:31,750
had to come back and
take a big x-ray.

1340
01:40:31,750 --> 01:40:34,360
Well, naturally,
we were petrified.

1341
01:40:34,360 --> 01:40:38,170
Because we were
afraid that maybe

1342
01:40:38,170 --> 01:40:40,930
we had developed
something and then

1343
01:40:40,930 --> 01:40:44,830
we wouldn't be allowed
into the United States.

1344
01:40:44,830 --> 01:40:51,820
So I had to have a big x-ray.

1345
01:40:51,820 --> 01:40:54,580
But luckily, it was OK.

1346
01:40:54,580 --> 01:41:01,480
But between our first and our
second papers, I became 21.

1347
01:41:01,480 --> 01:41:05,710
But I didn't know that I then
had to go on my own quota,

1348
01:41:05,710 --> 01:41:10,000
because we had the first
papers on my mother's quota.

1349
01:41:10,000 --> 01:41:14,140
So make a long story
short, we finally

1350
01:41:14,140 --> 01:41:18,710
had all our papers together, and
there were not too many people

1351
01:41:18,710 --> 01:41:19,210
left.

1352
01:41:19,210 --> 01:41:23,260
In fact, when my
boss left to Vienna,

1353
01:41:23,260 --> 01:41:26,680
I went to the few
customers that I still

1354
01:41:26,680 --> 01:41:30,910
had, went to their houses
and combed their hair.

1355
01:41:30,910 --> 01:41:33,100
And the income
was less and less.

1356

01:41:33,100 --> 01:41:37,810

I had more and more time
but less money to spend.

1357

01:41:37,810 --> 01:41:45,820

But anyway, I painted our
suitcase, and we got ready.

1358

01:41:45,820 --> 01:41:49,030

And then we got
our second papers.

1359

01:41:49,030 --> 01:41:59,740

And my mother found out
that all the ships that

1360

01:41:59,740 --> 01:42:02,320

were in the
neighborhood of Shanghai

1361

01:42:02,320 --> 01:42:07,390

had to stop in Shanghai
because the communists were

1362

01:42:07,390 --> 01:42:12,100

close to take over Shanghai.

1363

01:42:12,100 --> 01:42:20,170

So we were lucky again a luxury
liner, the SS Wilson stopped,

1364

01:42:20,170 --> 01:42:23,680

and we got passage
on the luxury liner.

1365

01:42:23,680 --> 01:42:28,210

They emptied out the music
room and the library,

1366

01:42:28,210 --> 01:42:32,560

and we were 30 women
in one room, which

1367

01:42:32,560 --> 01:42:34,390

we had been used to.

1368

01:42:34,390 --> 01:42:41,910

But the dining room was the same as the first class.

1369

01:42:41,910 --> 01:42:45,610

In fact, the first night we were afraid to go into the dining

1370

01:42:45,610 --> 01:42:46,300

room.

1371

01:42:46,300 --> 01:42:48,040

It was so fancy.

1372

01:42:48,040 --> 01:42:54,110

But you get used to pleasant things very fast.

1373

01:42:54,110 --> 01:42:58,430

My mother and the other people at the table,

1374

01:42:58,430 --> 01:43:02,590

I always kidded them, they ate the menu up and down.

1375

01:43:02,590 --> 01:43:06,010

And my mother gained 20 pounds.

1376

01:43:06,010 --> 01:43:12,160

But I love dessert, so I usually just had soup and dessert.

1377

01:43:12,160 --> 01:43:16,420

And at the time, I walked around because I love ships.

1378

01:43:16,420 --> 01:43:22,180

I walked around the ship,

and I luckily lost 20 pounds.

1379

01:43:22,180 --> 01:43:24,700

Because I remember

I had been heavy

1380

01:43:24,700 --> 01:43:28,510

from all the starch in Shanghai.

1381

01:43:28,510 --> 01:43:31,990

So we were lucky

in that respect.

1382

01:43:31,990 --> 01:43:34,960

We stopped in Yokohama.

1383

01:43:34,960 --> 01:43:42,370

Oh, you were not allowed to have

American money when you left.

1384

01:43:42,370 --> 01:43:48,560

But somehow, I had \$10.

1385

01:43:48,560 --> 01:43:53,800

And we stopped in Yokohama

and to make a sightseeing tour

1386

01:43:53,800 --> 01:43:55,230

cost \$5.

1387

01:43:55,230 --> 01:43:59,890

So I spent \$5 on

the sightseeing tour

1388

01:43:59,890 --> 01:44:03,760

because I figured I'll

never get back there.

1389

01:44:03,760 --> 01:44:08,490

And it was very interesting

where we went to a tea house.

1390

01:44:08,490 --> 01:44:10,960
So I never regretted it.

1391
01:44:10,960 --> 01:44:16,240
Even though when we came
here, oh, I only had \$5.

1392
01:44:16,240 --> 01:44:21,130
But anyway, then we
stopped in Hawaii.

1393
01:44:21,130 --> 01:44:23,455
And in Hawaii, the--

1394
01:44:23,455 --> 01:44:27,707

1395
01:44:27,707 --> 01:44:28,540
what do you call it?

1396
01:44:28,540 --> 01:44:35,440
The ones who check your papers.

1397
01:44:35,440 --> 01:44:36,230
Customs?

1398
01:44:36,230 --> 01:44:37,960
Customs, thank you.

1399
01:44:37,960 --> 01:44:43,100
The customs came on board so
that they could between Hawaii

1400
01:44:43,100 --> 01:44:47,380
and here, could try to process
as many people as possible

1401
01:44:47,380 --> 01:44:50,620
so that it would go faster.

1402
01:44:50,620 --> 01:44:56,320
Well, they looked at my

papers and technically, I

1403

01:44:56,320 --> 01:44:58,090
came on the wrong quota.

1404

01:44:58,090 --> 01:45:02,610
Even though the German quota,
which I was born in Germany,

1405

01:45:02,610 --> 01:45:07,950
was better than the Russian,
but it was a technicality.

1406

01:45:07,950 --> 01:45:12,840
And when I came
here, I was detained

1407

01:45:12,840 --> 01:45:18,960
on the ship, our whole
family, until someone came

1408

01:45:18,960 --> 01:45:23,130
from the HIAS to vouch for me.

1409

01:45:23,130 --> 01:45:30,180
And I had to be on parole
until they straightened it out.

1410

01:45:30,180 --> 01:45:37,030
Because if the communist
would not have been as close--

1411

01:45:37,030 --> 01:45:43,530
in fact, we stayed
in San Francisco

1412

01:45:43,530 --> 01:45:44,925
I think about two weeks--

1413

01:45:44,925 --> 01:45:51,390

1414

01:45:51,390 --> 01:45:52,880
excuse me.

1415
01:45:52,880 --> 01:45:55,470

1416
01:45:55,470 --> 01:45:59,640
My brother, who had come
in '47, settled in--

1417
01:45:59,640 --> 01:46:03,810
they sent him to
Chicago, because Chicago

1418
01:46:03,810 --> 01:46:05,155
had a very good hospital.

1419
01:46:05,155 --> 01:46:08,370

1420
01:46:08,370 --> 01:46:12,240
And they had hoped that they
could do something for him

1421
01:46:12,240 --> 01:46:14,760
at the hospital.

1422
01:46:14,760 --> 01:46:16,410
But they couldn't.

1423
01:46:16,410 --> 01:46:21,510
But that's why we
followed him to Chicago.

1424
01:46:21,510 --> 01:46:26,490
But when we arrived here,
my cousin and her husband

1425
01:46:26,490 --> 01:46:33,300
from mom, they had a little
girl in Shanghai who was maybe

1426

01:46:33,300 --> 01:46:37,800
two years when
they left Shanghai.

1427
01:46:37,800 --> 01:46:39,360
And they came here.

1428
01:46:39,360 --> 01:46:46,545
And after a week, my cousin's
husband had a heart attack.

1429
01:46:46,545 --> 01:46:50,910

1430
01:46:50,910 --> 01:46:57,750
So when we came here, she was
not at the boat to greet us.

1431
01:46:57,750 --> 01:47:02,150
Now that was not a very
nice how do you do.

1432
01:47:02,150 --> 01:47:12,940
But anyway, we went
by train to Chicago.

1433
01:47:12,940 --> 01:47:14,770
And while we were
on the train, we

1434
01:47:14,770 --> 01:47:19,990
heard that the communists
had taken over Shanghai.

1435
01:47:19,990 --> 01:47:23,470
So we really got out in time.

1436
01:47:23,470 --> 01:47:26,620
And that's why all
the ships around there

1437
01:47:26,620 --> 01:47:30,580
had to take people

that were ready.

1438

01:47:30,580 --> 01:47:32,240

What year was that?

1439

01:47:32,240 --> 01:47:35,470

That was in 1949.

1440

01:47:35,470 --> 01:47:39,700

So that after that point,
after the communists took over,

1441

01:47:39,700 --> 01:47:42,070

you wouldn't have
been able to get out.

1442

01:47:42,070 --> 01:47:44,065

Right.

1443

01:47:44,065 --> 01:47:45,520

Were there many--

1444

01:47:45,520 --> 01:47:49,570

There were not that
many people left.

1445

01:47:49,570 --> 01:47:58,330

And some of them did get out
over Harbing or over Russia

1446

01:47:58,330 --> 01:48:01,720

at the time, a long way around.

1447

01:48:01,720 --> 01:48:07,120

1448

01:48:07,120 --> 01:48:19,210

And well, in order to get here,
my brother had to find someone

1449

01:48:19,210 --> 01:48:22,750

to vouch for us

that we would not

1450

01:48:22,750 --> 01:48:25,030
be a burden on the government.

1451

01:48:25,030 --> 01:48:26,290
To guarantee?

1452

01:48:26,290 --> 01:48:28,450
A guarantee, yeah.

1453

01:48:28,450 --> 01:48:36,410
And my brother happened
to meet a family here,

1454

01:48:36,410 --> 01:48:40,390
which was a story in itself.

1455

01:48:40,390 --> 01:48:47,490
He had corresponded with a
friend and had her address.

1456

01:48:47,490 --> 01:48:49,930
So he went to the address.

1457

01:48:49,930 --> 01:48:56,260
And when they opened up,
they said well, sorry,

1458

01:48:56,260 --> 01:48:58,900
she doesn't live here anymore.

1459

01:48:58,900 --> 01:49:01,480
But why don't you come in?

1460

01:49:01,480 --> 01:49:05,530
And it happened to
be his birthday.

1461

01:49:05,530 --> 01:49:07,630
And during the
conversation, he mentioned

1462
01:49:07,630 --> 01:49:10,330
it had been his birthday.

1463
01:49:10,330 --> 01:49:16,570
And that family was just
the most wonderful family

1464
01:49:16,570 --> 01:49:18,730
that you could ever meet.

1465
01:49:18,730 --> 01:49:23,170
I mean, sure, there are
a lot of others, but--

1466
01:49:23,170 --> 01:49:29,470
because there were two
sisters who lived together

1467
01:49:29,470 --> 01:49:30,850
with their husband.

1468
01:49:30,850 --> 01:49:34,600
And one had a little girl.

1469
01:49:34,600 --> 01:49:39,550
And one of the sisters went
out the back way and got a cake

1470
01:49:39,550 --> 01:49:41,510
and brought the cake.

1471
01:49:41,510 --> 01:49:48,110
And since then, naturally, they
had a wonderful relationship.

1472
01:49:48,110 --> 01:49:51,520
He went over there, brought
their laundry over there.

1473
01:49:51,520 --> 01:50:00,310
Because he rented a room with

a family that had two sons.

1474
01:50:00,310 --> 01:50:03,880
They had rented
out a room to him.

1475
01:50:03,880 --> 01:50:08,510
And these people vouched for us.

1476
01:50:08,510 --> 01:50:15,010
They gave us an affidavit
so that we could come.

1477
01:50:15,010 --> 01:50:22,600
Because my brother, even though
he worked and considering

1478
01:50:22,600 --> 01:50:27,670
our standards in Shanghai,
made a very good income,

1479
01:50:27,670 --> 01:50:31,500
but it was not enough to
support or to vouch for us.

1480
01:50:31,500 --> 01:50:34,930
So we had to have someone
else, and they vouched for us.

1481
01:50:34,930 --> 01:50:41,215
And we came over in May of '49.

1482
01:50:41,215 --> 01:50:44,360

1483
01:50:44,360 --> 01:50:55,480
And at first, I went
to the Jewish Family

1484
01:50:55,480 --> 01:50:57,440
and Children's Services.

1485

01:50:57,440 --> 01:51:02,395

At that time, I think it was
called Jewish Family Services.

1486

01:51:02,395 --> 01:51:06,040

1487

01:51:06,040 --> 01:51:10,000

They straightened out my parole.

1488

01:51:10,000 --> 01:51:11,595

I only had to go once.

1489

01:51:11,595 --> 01:51:14,530

And I always kid
my kids, did you

1490

01:51:14,530 --> 01:51:16,330

know that your
mother was a parolee?

1491

01:51:16,330 --> 01:51:20,110

[LAUGHTER] But that
was straightened out.

1492

01:51:20,110 --> 01:51:24,910

And so the Jewish
Family Services,

1493

01:51:24,910 --> 01:51:31,330

they sent me for a job
which was a part-time job.

1494

01:51:31,330 --> 01:51:35,770

Because it was a dress
factory and seasonal,

1495

01:51:35,770 --> 01:51:38,800

they needed when the
salesman came in,

1496

01:51:38,800 --> 01:51:43,520

I had to check down each

dress had a different number.

1497

01:51:43,520 --> 01:51:44,620

And so--

1498

01:51:44,620 --> 01:51:46,780

And this was where?

1499

01:51:46,780 --> 01:51:47,335

In Chicago.

1500

01:51:47,335 --> 01:51:50,650

1501

01:51:50,650 --> 01:51:53,800

So you go there and
you lived in the city.

1502

01:51:53,800 --> 01:51:55,840

In the city, yeah.

1503

01:51:55,840 --> 01:52:04,540

At first, we lived in Hyde Park
area where most of the Jews

1504

01:52:04,540 --> 01:52:08,890

settled in, naturally,
in one area.

1505

01:52:08,890 --> 01:52:16,500

And after a few years, as
they got more assimilated

1506

01:52:16,500 --> 01:52:19,970

with their jobs,
they moved all over.

1507

01:52:19,970 --> 01:52:25,260

1508

01:52:25,260 --> 01:52:27,640

Where was I?

1509
01:52:27,640 --> 01:52:29,830
Oh, I got a job,
a part-time job.

1510
01:52:29,830 --> 01:52:33,640

1511
01:52:33,640 --> 01:52:36,210
And the pay was very good.

1512
01:52:36,210 --> 01:52:39,550
It was \$1 an hour.

1513
01:52:39,550 --> 01:52:48,910
And after my job,
so to say, was over,

1514
01:52:48,910 --> 01:52:51,770
they needed a payroll person.

1515
01:52:51,770 --> 01:52:54,670
And I was very good in figures.

1516
01:52:54,670 --> 01:53:00,070
So they taught me the payroll,
and I did the payroll for years

1517
01:53:00,070 --> 01:53:02,310
there.

1518
01:53:02,310 --> 01:53:05,260
Well, first, I went
to the hospital.

1519
01:53:05,260 --> 01:53:08,020

1520
01:53:08,020 --> 01:53:12,970
They tried to loosen the
muscles which didn't work.

1521

01:53:12,970 --> 01:53:18,340

And then I went to
the hospital and they

1522

01:53:18,340 --> 01:53:22,630

tried to straighten out
the curvature of my spine

1523

01:53:22,630 --> 01:53:24,130

which took--

1524

01:53:24,130 --> 01:53:29,380

it was very interesting
the way they did it.

1525

01:53:29,380 --> 01:53:32,590

They put me in a
cast and then they

1526

01:53:32,590 --> 01:53:38,110

cut the cast and
every day twisted me

1527

01:53:38,110 --> 01:53:41,500

a little bit so
that I was straight,

1528

01:53:41,500 --> 01:53:47,980

but the cast was open here.

1529

01:53:47,980 --> 01:53:51,070

And then they put
a hole in the back

1530

01:53:51,070 --> 01:53:54,790

so that they could
operate through the cast.

1531

01:53:54,790 --> 01:54:01,300

And they took some bone out
of the leg and, so to say,

1532

01:54:01,300 --> 01:54:05,440
sewed it, the spine straight.

1533
01:54:05,440 --> 01:54:09,250
And then they
closed up the back,

1534
01:54:09,250 --> 01:54:16,330
although I was allergic
to tape, so I had a rash

1535
01:54:16,330 --> 01:54:19,330
and I was petrified that
they would close it up

1536
01:54:19,330 --> 01:54:20,380
without healing it.

1537
01:54:20,380 --> 01:54:22,090
But that was OK.

1538
01:54:22,090 --> 01:54:30,590
And after that, I didn't
need the metal brace anymore.

1539
01:54:30,590 --> 01:54:34,780
I was strong enough
to go without a brace.

1540
01:54:34,780 --> 01:54:37,930
Well, as I say, it
took nine months.

1541
01:54:37,930 --> 01:54:41,050
Five months I was in
bed with the cast,

1542
01:54:41,050 --> 01:54:44,860
and then I had a walking cast.

1543
01:54:44,860 --> 01:54:50,860
And then my brother,
the older brother,

1544

01:54:50,860 --> 01:54:57,040
and some friends of ours who
didn't have a high school

1545

01:54:57,040 --> 01:55:02,270
diploma because they were older
than I was so they worked,

1546

01:55:02,270 --> 01:55:06,760
we went to night school to get--

1547

01:55:06,760 --> 01:55:09,940
no, it was before I
went to the hospital.

1548

01:55:09,940 --> 01:55:11,110
I'm sorry.

1549

01:55:11,110 --> 01:55:15,790
We went to night school to
get our high school diploma.

1550

01:55:15,790 --> 01:55:18,280
Well, then I went
to the hospital.

1551

01:55:18,280 --> 01:55:20,380
They continued.

1552

01:55:20,380 --> 01:55:25,210
And then when I came out, they
were done and went to college.

1553

01:55:25,210 --> 01:55:29,050
And I didn't want to
go by myself at night.

1554

01:55:29,050 --> 01:55:32,980
So I didn't get my
high school diploma.

1555

01:55:32,980 --> 01:55:35,620

Did you meet your
husband in Chicago?

1556

01:55:35,620 --> 01:55:44,860

I met my husband in Chicago
through a mutual friend,

1557

01:55:44,860 --> 01:55:49,400

through a friend who--

1558

01:55:49,400 --> 01:55:55,550

well, as I said, we in Chicago
first, we were all together.

1559

01:55:55,550 --> 01:56:01,820

And my mother met two women.

1560

01:56:01,820 --> 01:56:07,340

And one of them came to
visit me all the time.

1561

01:56:07,340 --> 01:56:10,900

I didn't know her, but
she knew my mother.

1562

01:56:10,900 --> 01:56:11,780

So she came.

1563

01:56:11,780 --> 01:56:13,280

She worked downtown.

1564

01:56:13,280 --> 01:56:16,640

And I can still see her with
shopping bags but coming

1565

01:56:16,640 --> 01:56:18,560

to visit.

1566

01:56:18,560 --> 01:56:23,270

And she had two daughters.

1567

01:56:23,270 --> 01:56:25,190
And she passed away very young.

1568
01:56:25,190 --> 01:56:26,990
She had cancer.

1569
01:56:26,990 --> 01:56:33,320
And she lived in the same
building as my husband.

1570
01:56:33,320 --> 01:56:41,450
And I went to visit, to make
condolence calls to the family.

1571
01:56:41,450 --> 01:56:49,320
But I had met my
husband before because--

1572
01:56:49,320 --> 01:56:54,200
these stories are
just so intricate.

1573
01:56:54,200 --> 01:56:57,890
My younger brother
went to high school,

1574
01:56:57,890 --> 01:57:11,630
and his best friend, his
mother was sister and cousin

1575
01:57:11,630 --> 01:57:14,150
of Walter's mother.

1576
01:57:14,150 --> 01:57:18,170
Because let's see.

1577
01:57:18,170 --> 01:57:23,780
Walter's grandfather-- no,
grandmother passed away.

1578
01:57:23,780 --> 01:57:34,500
And her mother passed away,
that aunt, and they got married.

1579
01:57:34,500 --> 01:57:39,440
So they were then
sisters, Walter's mother

1580
01:57:39,440 --> 01:57:44,150
and my brother's
friend's mother,

1581
01:57:44,150 --> 01:57:47,600
but actually, they were cousins.

1582
01:57:47,600 --> 01:57:51,020
So these two became
very good friends.

1583
01:57:51,020 --> 01:57:53,300
And I visited his aunt.

1584
01:57:53,300 --> 01:57:55,670
And they enlisted together.

1585
01:57:55,670 --> 01:57:58,940
And they went to Fort Sheridan.

1586
01:57:58,940 --> 01:58:04,380
And his friend's mother
asked her nephew,

1587
01:58:04,380 --> 01:58:10,400
who had a car, whether he would
take her to Fort Sheridan.

1588
01:58:10,400 --> 01:58:15,560
And she asked my mother
whether we want to come along.

1589
01:58:15,560 --> 01:58:19,260
So we sat in the back, and
I had just washed my hair,

1590
01:58:19,260 --> 01:58:21,410

so I had a hood on.

1591

01:58:21,410 --> 01:58:25,530

And that's the first
time I met him.

1592

01:58:25,530 --> 01:58:27,590

But that was it.

1593

01:58:27,590 --> 01:58:28,550

And then I--

1594

01:58:28,550 --> 01:58:30,470

We're going to
take a break, Ilse.

1595

01:58:30,470 --> 01:58:32,020

OK.

1596

01:58:32,020 --> 01:59:34,000