

1

00:00:00,000 --> 00:01:01,857

2

00:01:01,857 --> 00:01:02,440

We're rolling.

3

00:01:02,440 --> 00:01:03,880

You can go ahead.

4

00:01:03,880 --> 00:01:07,790

Today is October 29, 1991.

5

00:01:07,790 --> 00:01:12,130

I'm Ellen Szakal, an interviewer
with the Holocaust Oral History

6

00:01:12,130 --> 00:01:14,980

Project in San Francisco.

7

00:01:14,980 --> 00:01:18,790

This evening I will be
interviewing Sam Kalmar

8

00:01:18,790 --> 00:01:23,050

and behind the camera
is Laurie Sosna.

9

00:01:23,050 --> 00:01:24,940

Sam, would you please
begin by stating

10

00:01:24,940 --> 00:01:28,570

your name, your date of birth,
and your place of birth.

11

00:01:28,570 --> 00:01:31,240

12

00:01:31,240 --> 00:01:34,660

My name is Stephen
Samuel Kalmar,

13

00:01:34,660 --> 00:01:40,360
and I was born October 6, 1910.

14

00:01:40,360 --> 00:01:43,720
I'm married, and I live
in Berkeley, California.

15

00:01:43,720 --> 00:01:47,500

16

00:01:47,500 --> 00:01:51,340
OK, well, tell us about--

17

00:01:51,340 --> 00:01:53,150
where were you born?

18

00:01:53,150 --> 00:01:58,870
I was born in Slovakia in a
very small village called Sisov

19

00:01:58,870 --> 00:02:04,900
in Slovakian, and in Hungarian,
it's called Siso, S-I-S-O.

20

00:02:04,900 --> 00:02:11,170
At that time, Slovakia was
administered by Hungary.

21

00:02:11,170 --> 00:02:15,900
It was a part of the
Hungarian Austrian monarchy.

22

00:02:15,900 --> 00:02:21,255
In that village, there
lived about 12 to 15 Jews.

23

00:02:21,255 --> 00:02:24,700

24

00:02:24,700 --> 00:02:33,250
My parents moved from there to

Vienna in the middle of 1914

25

00:02:33,250 --> 00:02:38,200
just about a few months before
the First World War started.

26

00:02:38,200 --> 00:02:41,490

27

00:02:41,490 --> 00:02:42,790
Then we lived in Vienna.

28

00:02:42,790 --> 00:02:45,950

29

00:02:45,950 --> 00:02:47,710
I was educated in Vienna.

30

00:02:47,710 --> 00:02:50,570

31

00:02:50,570 --> 00:02:53,360
Did you have any
brothers and sisters?

32

00:02:53,360 --> 00:02:59,430
Yes, family consisted
of six children.

33

00:02:59,430 --> 00:03:02,570
I was the youngest.

34

00:03:02,570 --> 00:03:08,660
The oldest was quite a bit older
than I. The oldest two brothers

35

00:03:08,660 --> 00:03:14,720
and were two sisters then was a
brother just three years older

36

00:03:14,720 --> 00:03:23,420
than I. My father and

my brothers were all

37

00:03:23,420 --> 00:03:28,430
drafted into the army in the
First World War in Vienna,

38

00:03:28,430 --> 00:03:33,860
and my mother stayed behind
with the two girls and the two

39

00:03:33,860 --> 00:03:35,450
younger boys.

40

00:03:35,450 --> 00:03:41,170
Two girls had immediately
to find jobs there.

41

00:03:41,170 --> 00:03:45,130
There were about 14
and 16 years old.

42

00:03:45,130 --> 00:03:49,890

43

00:03:49,890 --> 00:03:57,010
The mother kept the little
store where she sold

44

00:03:57,010 --> 00:04:01,440
eggs and apples and something.

45

00:04:01,440 --> 00:04:03,540
Whatever there was to sell.

46

00:04:03,540 --> 00:04:08,110
It was not much during the
war, but she kept that going.

47

00:04:08,110 --> 00:04:14,040
I was four years old then
when the war started,

48

00:04:14,040 --> 00:04:17,190
and my brother seven.

49
00:04:17,190 --> 00:04:20,640
He went to school already.

50
00:04:20,640 --> 00:04:22,980
I spent most of the
time on the street

51
00:04:22,980 --> 00:04:27,780
and enjoyed it very
much as a little boy,

52
00:04:27,780 --> 00:04:30,630
but it was not as easy.

53
00:04:30,630 --> 00:04:36,750
In the morning around six, I had
to get up and go to the corner

54
00:04:36,750 --> 00:04:43,230
shop to wait in line to get
some ration and whatever it was.

55
00:04:43,230 --> 00:04:44,533
No, that is wrong.

56
00:04:44,533 --> 00:04:45,700
It was the other way around.

57
00:04:45,700 --> 00:04:47,640
My brother went
there at 6 o'clock,

58
00:04:47,640 --> 00:04:52,560
and I went there at
8:00 to relieve him.

59
00:04:52,560 --> 00:04:54,660
He went to school
already, and I waited

60

00:04:54,660 --> 00:04:57,870

until the shop opened
the door until I

61

00:04:57,870 --> 00:05:00,480

was able to get to the
shop and get the things.

62

00:05:00,480 --> 00:05:05,290

63

00:05:05,290 --> 00:05:10,670

My father returned from
the war when he was 52,

64

00:05:10,670 --> 00:05:17,090

and the brothers, one
became a prisoner in Russia

65

00:05:17,090 --> 00:05:22,610

came back after the
revolution in 1917,

66

00:05:22,610 --> 00:05:27,320

was drafted to get into
the army and stayed

67

00:05:27,320 --> 00:05:28,760

till the end of the war.

68

00:05:28,760 --> 00:05:35,270

The other brother was all the
time to the end of the war.

69

00:05:35,270 --> 00:05:38,600

It's a part that
is now Yugoslavia.

70

00:05:38,600 --> 00:05:42,330

That's a coast there.

71

00:05:42,330 --> 00:05:45,930

He was a telephonist
till the last day,

72
00:05:45,930 --> 00:05:52,550
and had a little notebook
that told [INAUDIBLE],,

73
00:05:52,550 --> 00:05:54,480
don't shoot anymore.

74
00:05:54,480 --> 00:05:58,850
We are surrendering,
but it didn't help them

75
00:05:58,850 --> 00:06:02,510
when Hitler came in 1938.

76
00:06:02,510 --> 00:06:06,080
Both of them were
taken to Dachau

77
00:06:06,080 --> 00:06:11,840
and stayed in Dachau until
they were able to obtain

78
00:06:11,840 --> 00:06:15,230
visas for Shanghai.

79
00:06:15,230 --> 00:06:20,900
And then quite
complicated detours.

80
00:06:20,900 --> 00:06:24,880
They reached Shanghai and
survived the war in Shanghai.

81
00:06:24,880 --> 00:06:27,230
Shanghai the ghetto.

82
00:06:27,230 --> 00:06:33,800
The eldest brother, Shandor,
then went to New York.

83

00:06:33,800 --> 00:06:37,280

Edmund, who is two years
younger, went to Australia.

84

00:06:37,280 --> 00:06:40,310

85

00:06:40,310 --> 00:06:46,080

During the Hitler years,
the sister, Margit,

86

00:06:46,080 --> 00:06:49,680

which is a bit younger
than my sister Estie,

87

00:06:49,680 --> 00:06:50,860

she stayed in Vienna.

88

00:06:50,860 --> 00:06:53,100

Her husband was not well.

89

00:06:53,100 --> 00:06:57,890

They had a boy of eight.

90

00:06:57,890 --> 00:07:00,770

The three of them were
taken to the Theresienstadt,

91

00:07:00,770 --> 00:07:04,880

in the concentration
camp in Theresienstadt.

92

00:07:04,880 --> 00:07:09,410

My brother-in-law, the husband
of my sister, died there,

93

00:07:09,410 --> 00:07:14,720

and Margit and her son
were taken to Auschwitz

94

00:07:14,720 --> 00:07:18,220

and died there.

95

00:07:18,220 --> 00:07:23,620

Estie, my other sister,
together with her husband

96

00:07:23,620 --> 00:07:29,920

went illegally over the border
through Germany to Belgium

97

00:07:29,920 --> 00:07:37,160

and stayed there till just
a little bit before the war

98

00:07:37,160 --> 00:07:37,700

started.

99

00:07:37,700 --> 00:07:41,870

They were able to get
to the United States.

100

00:07:41,870 --> 00:07:45,650

George, the brother that
is three years older,

101

00:07:45,650 --> 00:07:52,580

also went without a
passport into France.

102

00:07:52,580 --> 00:07:55,070

He had studied
French at University

103

00:07:55,070 --> 00:07:56,630

to become a professor in French.

104

00:07:56,630 --> 00:07:59,480

105

00:07:59,480 --> 00:08:02,540

His wife should have
followed, but his wife

106

00:08:02,540 --> 00:08:05,450
didn't want to leave
the mother and father,

107
00:08:05,450 --> 00:08:08,840
and they all died in
a concentration camp.

108
00:08:08,840 --> 00:08:14,330
He survived the war
in France by being

109
00:08:14,330 --> 00:08:16,250
hidden by the
underground in the wine

110
00:08:16,250 --> 00:08:20,000
fields in the southern
France and in the hospital

111
00:08:20,000 --> 00:08:24,980
all bandaged so
that the Germans,

112
00:08:24,980 --> 00:08:28,463
when they came, the Gestapo
couldn't recognize--

113
00:08:28,463 --> 00:08:30,380
they couldn't see the
face, and then they also

114
00:08:30,380 --> 00:08:31,760
said he had an operation.

115
00:08:31,760 --> 00:08:34,370
He's a French man
who was operated.

116
00:08:34,370 --> 00:08:36,590
A few times he was
saved in that way.

117

00:08:36,590 --> 00:08:42,169

118

00:08:42,169 --> 00:08:51,610

I myself left Vienna already a few months before Hitler came.

119

00:08:51,610 --> 00:08:55,510

I had been politically very active already as a high school

120

00:08:55,510 --> 00:08:56,080

student.

121

00:08:56,080 --> 00:08:59,950

I had joined the socialist high school student

122

00:08:59,950 --> 00:09:05,200

organization and then the socialist university students

123

00:09:05,200 --> 00:09:07,390

organization.

124

00:09:07,390 --> 00:09:14,320

1934, in Austria, democracy ended

125

00:09:14,320 --> 00:09:19,570

and Italian-type, Mussolini-type fascism

126

00:09:19,570 --> 00:09:25,360

was introduced under the leadership of Dollfuss,

127

00:09:25,360 --> 00:09:28,270

and all parties were outlawed.

128

00:09:28,270 --> 00:09:30,610

The Austrian Social Democratic Party

129
00:09:30,610 --> 00:09:35,440
had in all elections about
43%, 45% of all the votes

130
00:09:35,440 --> 00:09:39,820
but were forbidden
and went underground

131
00:09:39,820 --> 00:09:43,840
and participated still
in the underground.

132
00:09:43,840 --> 00:09:53,530
At 1937, I was arrested.

133
00:09:53,530 --> 00:09:58,840
Spent only about three weeks
in interrogation detention.

134
00:09:58,840 --> 00:10:02,400

135
00:10:02,400 --> 00:10:04,440
Was released then.

136
00:10:04,440 --> 00:10:09,220
I sat in jail with two
quite high-up Nazis.

137
00:10:09,220 --> 00:10:12,840
The jails were crowded,
and under this regime,

138
00:10:12,840 --> 00:10:15,360
the Nazi party was outlawed too.

139
00:10:15,360 --> 00:10:19,995
It was only one party allowed,
the Catholic People's Party.

140
00:10:19,995 --> 00:10:23,370

141
00:10:23,370 --> 00:10:25,530
I was in a cell with two others.

142
00:10:25,530 --> 00:10:28,050
A single cell with two others.

143
00:10:28,050 --> 00:10:31,320
The two others were
Nazis, and they

144
00:10:31,320 --> 00:10:33,450
told me, in a few
months time, they

145
00:10:33,450 --> 00:10:37,570
will control Vienna and Austria.

146
00:10:37,570 --> 00:10:41,670
In the cell, they will not
hurt me, but they know me,

147
00:10:41,670 --> 00:10:47,910
and when then they come to
power, I better be not there.

148
00:10:47,910 --> 00:10:51,360
And I could see how
the time changed.

149
00:10:51,360 --> 00:10:54,810
The former socialist
students suddenly

150
00:10:54,810 --> 00:11:00,870
became anti-Semitic, didn't
greet one anymore when

151
00:11:00,870 --> 00:11:03,930
they saw them on the street.

152

00:11:03,930 --> 00:11:10,940
I married a girl that I
knew already for many years,

153
00:11:10,940 --> 00:11:14,990
and together we buy
food, hitchhiked

154
00:11:14,990 --> 00:11:20,630
through all Europe via
Switzerland, France

155
00:11:20,630 --> 00:11:25,160
until we came to Sweden.

156
00:11:25,160 --> 00:11:28,190
Sweden still allowed people
with Austrian passport

157
00:11:28,190 --> 00:11:33,890
to enter for three
months as a tourist.

158
00:11:33,890 --> 00:11:37,190
And when I arrived
in Sweden, I declared

159
00:11:37,190 --> 00:11:42,560
myself a political refugee,
and Sweden was on the Social

160
00:11:42,560 --> 00:11:44,750
Democratic government.

161
00:11:44,750 --> 00:11:47,900
And they had the special
refugee organizations

162
00:11:47,900 --> 00:11:53,850
that checked one's documents,
papers, and references.

163
00:11:53,850 --> 00:11:58,460

And if one could prove that
one was in danger, not only

164
00:11:58,460 --> 00:12:02,600
as a Jew but mainly
as a Social Democrat

165
00:12:02,600 --> 00:12:07,230
or under Hitler refugees,
they allowed one to stay.

166
00:12:07,230 --> 00:12:12,380
So I was allowed to
stay even to work there.

167
00:12:12,380 --> 00:12:16,290
I expected that the war
would very soon start

168
00:12:16,290 --> 00:12:18,410
and was waiting for
it because I thought

169
00:12:18,410 --> 00:12:26,250
that would be the only way
that Hitler could be terminated

170
00:12:26,250 --> 00:12:32,470
and the new democracy
starting in Europe.

171
00:12:32,470 --> 00:12:35,340
When the war started,
the threat was great

172
00:12:35,340 --> 00:12:41,780
that Sweden or Scandinavia
would be occupied by Hitler.

173
00:12:41,780 --> 00:12:42,900
In the last moment--

174
00:12:42,900 --> 00:12:45,350

I worked in Sweden
as a journalist

175
00:12:45,350 --> 00:12:48,800
and mainly as a maker
of crossword puzzles

176
00:12:48,800 --> 00:12:52,490
and other puzzles had
learned the language quickly.

177
00:12:52,490 --> 00:12:57,020
It's not very
different from German

178
00:12:57,020 --> 00:13:01,070
or from people who speak English
too could learn it quickly,

179
00:13:01,070 --> 00:13:02,600
easily.

180
00:13:02,600 --> 00:13:06,110
I started to make crossword
puzzles which I could sell

181
00:13:06,110 --> 00:13:07,700
and wrote some articles.

182
00:13:07,700 --> 00:13:12,290
I was never receiving any
support, financial support,

183
00:13:12,290 --> 00:13:13,780
from any organization.

184
00:13:13,780 --> 00:13:17,600
Just by that, we were
able to survive modestly,

185
00:13:17,600 --> 00:13:22,170
but it helped me mainly
to get in the last moment

186
00:13:22,170 --> 00:13:27,410
a visa to Mexico
as a correspondent

187
00:13:27,410 --> 00:13:30,500
for a Swedish daily
newspaper, a Social Democratic

188
00:13:30,500 --> 00:13:33,440
daily newspaper.

189
00:13:33,440 --> 00:13:37,230
Not really that they expected
me to work for them there.

190
00:13:37,230 --> 00:13:40,130
There was so much interest
in Sweden for Mexico,

191
00:13:40,130 --> 00:13:43,620
but they really
wanted to help me.

192
00:13:43,620 --> 00:13:46,370
And the Mexican
government accepted it.

193
00:13:46,370 --> 00:13:49,970
It was under the
presidency of Cardenas

194
00:13:49,970 --> 00:13:53,450
who had also allowed many
other Social Democratic

195
00:13:53,450 --> 00:13:54,750
refugees into the country.

196
00:13:54,750 --> 00:13:57,600

197

00:13:57,600 --> 00:14:01,290
I left Sweden early
in 1940 already

198
00:14:01,290 --> 00:14:10,170
after the war had started and
arrived in Mexico sometime

199
00:14:10,170 --> 00:14:14,340
in February after being detained
in Ellis Island for three

200
00:14:14,340 --> 00:14:16,290
weeks.

201
00:14:16,290 --> 00:14:21,255
I needed a transit visa
through the United States.

202
00:14:21,255 --> 00:14:24,760

203
00:14:24,760 --> 00:14:26,550
That was the hardest
thing to get.

204
00:14:26,550 --> 00:14:32,760
The consulate in Stockholm for
an hour I battled with him.

205
00:14:32,760 --> 00:14:35,420
He wouldn't want to
give it to me because he

206
00:14:35,420 --> 00:14:37,550
was afraid I will
never go to Mexico

207
00:14:37,550 --> 00:14:40,310
but would stay in
the United States.

208
00:14:40,310 --> 00:14:42,620

But then he gave it
to me, but apparently,

209
00:14:42,620 --> 00:14:49,370
informed the government in the
United States not to let me in.

210
00:14:49,370 --> 00:14:53,000
So when we arrived in New
York, I was the first one

211
00:14:53,000 --> 00:14:56,780
to be called up, and I thought
that this a special honor

212
00:14:56,780 --> 00:15:01,780
went down from my
cabin to the board

213
00:15:01,780 --> 00:15:05,330
and then was asked to come down.

214
00:15:05,330 --> 00:15:11,720
And then with a taxi, I
was taken to Ellis Island.

215
00:15:11,720 --> 00:15:16,190
Only released when the
boat came for which

216
00:15:16,190 --> 00:15:20,120
we had tickets to go to Mexico,
and we were taken to Mexico

217
00:15:20,120 --> 00:15:24,110
to Veracruz in that boat.

218
00:15:24,110 --> 00:15:27,205
And we had a lot of trouble
in landing Veracruz.

219
00:15:27,205 --> 00:15:30,800
It was not easy.

220

00:15:30,800 --> 00:15:34,716

Afterwards, I heard that
we were the only ones that

221

00:15:34,716 --> 00:15:40,700

land without bribing the
immigration officers there

222

00:15:40,700 --> 00:15:44,570

or having been expected
by relatives or others who

223

00:15:44,570 --> 00:15:48,340

had arranged the release.

224

00:15:48,340 --> 00:15:52,130

We didn't expect that
we had to do that,

225

00:15:52,130 --> 00:15:57,990

and we were the last
of the boat to get out.

226

00:15:57,990 --> 00:16:02,300

When we arrived there,
it was all pitch dark.

227

00:16:02,300 --> 00:16:04,490

It was a strike.

228

00:16:04,490 --> 00:16:08,030

We got to a hotel, and the next
day, we got to Mexico City,

229

00:16:08,030 --> 00:16:11,315

but we had no relatives there
I didn't know the language.

230

00:16:11,315 --> 00:16:15,370

I didn't know anybody.

231

00:16:15,370 --> 00:16:16,855
Stayed eight years in Mexico.

232
00:16:16,855 --> 00:16:20,440

233
00:16:20,440 --> 00:16:22,300
How's your Spanish?

234
00:16:22,300 --> 00:16:23,800
Learned Spanish.

235
00:16:23,800 --> 00:16:30,070
Started again to make
crossword puzzles together

236
00:16:30,070 --> 00:16:34,270
with a lady that had come to
Mexico a few years earlier

237
00:16:34,270 --> 00:16:40,420
and had been a writer in
Germany, Elise [Personal name]

238
00:16:40,420 --> 00:16:42,970
I taught her how to make
the crossword puzzle,

239
00:16:42,970 --> 00:16:47,680
and her Spanish was
already correct.

240
00:16:47,680 --> 00:16:51,940
We succeeded and again
started to earn some money,

241
00:16:51,940 --> 00:16:55,720
and then I was introduced
to a Spanish refugee which

242
00:16:55,720 --> 00:17:00,700
started in Mexico a
weekly film magazine.

243
00:17:00,700 --> 00:17:06,130
And we convinced him to start
a crossword puzzle magazine.

244
00:17:06,130 --> 00:17:10,150
That survived about six months
and did quite well but not well

245
00:17:10,150 --> 00:17:12,270
enough for him.

246
00:17:12,270 --> 00:17:15,369
But we were also selling
to magazines and newspapers

247
00:17:15,369 --> 00:17:17,050
the crossword puzzles.

248
00:17:17,050 --> 00:17:23,190
And I started to export Mexican
handicraft products, which

249
00:17:23,190 --> 00:17:27,390
I bought on the markets
in various villages

250
00:17:27,390 --> 00:17:29,010
in Mexico City and
other villages.

251
00:17:29,010 --> 00:17:32,620

252
00:17:32,620 --> 00:17:39,280
For about \$100 that I had saved
from the crossword puzzles,

253
00:17:39,280 --> 00:17:41,710
sent the merchandise
to a friend of mine

254

00:17:41,710 --> 00:17:46,400
in St. Louis, Missouri who
had studied with me in Vienna,

255

00:17:46,400 --> 00:17:49,300
had more or less the same
family background as I,

256

00:17:49,300 --> 00:17:52,070
lived in the same district.

257

00:17:52,070 --> 00:17:53,740
In fact, he was
the one who taught

258

00:17:53,740 --> 00:17:56,020
me to make crossword puzzles.

259

00:17:56,020 --> 00:18:01,882
Vienna had about 11 crossword
puzzle weekly magazines.

260

00:18:01,882 --> 00:18:06,100
It was the center of it, because
there were so many unemployed

261

00:18:06,100 --> 00:18:08,920
people, and when they were
standing in line for hours

262

00:18:08,920 --> 00:18:13,210
and hours to get their support,
they were solving those

263

00:18:13,210 --> 00:18:18,280
crossword puzzle magazines,
which cost only \$0.10 or \$0.05.

264

00:18:18,280 --> 00:18:21,160
And he became the chief
editor of three or four

265

00:18:21,160 --> 00:18:24,190

and needed more puzzles
than he could make himself,

266
00:18:24,190 --> 00:18:27,280
so he taught me how to do them.

267
00:18:27,280 --> 00:18:30,470
He had started when he was
12, 13 years old doing them

268
00:18:30,470 --> 00:18:32,890
and supported his
family with it.

269
00:18:32,890 --> 00:18:38,420
I started when I was 14
or 15 and supported myself

270
00:18:38,420 --> 00:18:41,260
amongst studying in
Vienna, and it became

271
00:18:41,260 --> 00:18:43,840
important to immigration.

272
00:18:43,840 --> 00:18:48,340
For immigrations, so you have
to be flexible and try whatever

273
00:18:48,340 --> 00:18:51,310
you can where you
may not have too

274
00:18:51,310 --> 00:18:54,340
much competition for others.

275
00:18:54,340 --> 00:18:57,640
He did never use it again,
but for me, it helped.

276
00:18:57,640 --> 00:19:01,750
Anyhow, I sent through
the merchandise to him.

277

00:19:01,750 --> 00:19:05,080

He sold it with some profit.

278

00:19:05,080 --> 00:19:07,870

He sent me back my money
was half of the profit.

279

00:19:07,870 --> 00:19:12,940

I bought more, sent it to him,
and we built it up to quite--

280

00:19:12,940 --> 00:19:16,860

not to a big business, but some.

281

00:19:16,860 --> 00:19:19,360

One could call it
already a business.

282

00:19:19,360 --> 00:19:24,700

Then I found a Czechoslovakian
refugee there who had been

283

00:19:24,700 --> 00:19:30,070

the managing director of
the largest bank in Prague

284

00:19:30,070 --> 00:19:31,630

of the [NON-ENGLISH].

285

00:19:31,630 --> 00:19:34,190

286

00:19:34,190 --> 00:19:37,760

Like the Bank of America
here or even bigger

287

00:19:37,760 --> 00:19:40,055

compared to the country size.

288

00:19:40,055 --> 00:19:43,820

He had manage to escape

just before Hitler

289

00:19:43,820 --> 00:19:48,230

came to Prague by some
deal with the government

290

00:19:48,230 --> 00:19:50,690

that they handed over the
bank to the government

291

00:19:50,690 --> 00:19:54,380

and were allowed to
take some money out.

292

00:19:54,380 --> 00:19:58,310

He became my silent partner
and financed my business

293

00:19:58,310 --> 00:20:03,440

to become bigger, and it
grew, and we had exports

294

00:20:03,440 --> 00:20:05,570

to many other countries.

295

00:20:05,570 --> 00:20:09,500

Mainly still to the United
States, but to other countries

296

00:20:09,500 --> 00:20:11,960

too until the war ended.

297

00:20:11,960 --> 00:20:16,910

298

00:20:16,910 --> 00:20:21,620

So in some sense, I'm not
really a victim of the Holocaust

299

00:20:21,620 --> 00:20:26,750

insofar as personally I was
not in a concentration camp

300

00:20:26,750 --> 00:20:34,260
and didn't suffer bodily,
but many of my family members

301

00:20:34,260 --> 00:20:37,950
perished beside the
immediate family.

302

00:20:37,950 --> 00:20:43,500
Many uncles and aunts
and cousins, friends.

303

00:20:43,500 --> 00:20:48,120
Both Jewish and political
friends that I had.

304

00:20:48,120 --> 00:20:53,400
While you were living in Mexico,
what type of communications

305

00:20:53,400 --> 00:20:55,472
were going on with
you and your family?

306

00:20:55,472 --> 00:20:57,180
And then I'd also like
to hear about what

307

00:20:57,180 --> 00:21:00,360
was going on with your wife.

308

00:21:00,360 --> 00:21:06,420
I had no connections
with anybody

309

00:21:06,420 --> 00:21:10,090
outside that one
sister in New York.

310

00:21:10,090 --> 00:21:13,800
We did not know what
happened to the others.

311

00:21:13,800 --> 00:21:19,310

I thought that they are dead,
that they were killed too

312

00:21:19,310 --> 00:21:21,170

like my sister.

313

00:21:21,170 --> 00:21:27,800

Only when the war ended through
the help of the Red Cross,

314

00:21:27,800 --> 00:21:29,990

they got in touch
with us somehow.

315

00:21:29,990 --> 00:21:34,160

The Red Cross, and we also
contacted the Red Cross and

316

00:21:34,160 --> 00:21:38,000

asked whether they
could find out something

317

00:21:38,000 --> 00:21:39,920

about what happened to them.

318

00:21:39,920 --> 00:21:42,290

And about a year
after the war, we

319

00:21:42,290 --> 00:21:47,180

heard that the two brothers
in Shanghai had survived

320

00:21:47,180 --> 00:21:50,940

and the brother in France.

321

00:21:50,940 --> 00:21:54,980

Then we were informed
by other people that

322

00:21:54,980 --> 00:21:58,610

survived the concentration camps
that my sister, her husband,

323
00:21:58,610 --> 00:22:01,580
and their son were taken to
the camp but did not survive.

324
00:22:01,580 --> 00:22:04,490

325
00:22:04,490 --> 00:22:08,390
Did you know anything about
the camps during the war?

326
00:22:08,390 --> 00:22:13,580
Not during the time of the war.

327
00:22:13,580 --> 00:22:17,660
We started to hear
about it very close

328
00:22:17,660 --> 00:22:21,170
toward the end of
the war in no detail.

329
00:22:21,170 --> 00:22:24,890
Just the rumors,
but we have never

330
00:22:24,890 --> 00:22:31,310
met anybody who had gotten out
of the camp with some facts.

331
00:22:31,310 --> 00:22:33,430
We never had any facts about it.

332
00:22:33,430 --> 00:22:36,460

333
00:22:36,460 --> 00:22:43,060
So did you have any inkling
of the exterminations?

334

00:22:43,060 --> 00:22:46,300

No, I did not.

335

00:22:46,300 --> 00:22:52,390

When I was in Sweden,

I wrote to my sisters

336

00:22:52,390 --> 00:22:57,040

and my relatives in Vienna and

relatives in Czechoslovakia

337

00:22:57,040 --> 00:23:00,910

that the situation's extremely

dangerous, that the war will

338

00:23:00,910 --> 00:23:05,020

start, that they should try

by all means to get out.

339

00:23:05,020 --> 00:23:06,710

And if possible,

the whole family.

340

00:23:06,710 --> 00:23:10,480

But if not, at least some of

the family, but the answer

341

00:23:10,480 --> 00:23:11,780

was always the same.

342

00:23:11,780 --> 00:23:16,930

They had either a shop or a

job that they can't give up

343

00:23:16,930 --> 00:23:21,220

or family or children or

somebody ill in the family,

344

00:23:21,220 --> 00:23:23,140

and they didn't go out.

345

00:23:23,140 --> 00:23:28,420

We learned later that
in Slovakia my parents

346
00:23:28,420 --> 00:23:31,475
had many brothers and sisters,
and they all had many children.

347
00:23:31,475 --> 00:23:34,090

348
00:23:34,090 --> 00:23:38,800
All of them lived in Slovakia
and Hungary, and most of them

349
00:23:38,800 --> 00:23:39,760
perished.

350
00:23:39,760 --> 00:23:45,040
One family close by where
we lived, close by to--

351
00:23:45,040 --> 00:23:47,740
Siso is the larger--

352
00:23:47,740 --> 00:23:50,590
it's a town already,
Tapolca in Hungarian.

353
00:23:50,590 --> 00:23:54,370
[Place name] in
Slovakian called.

354
00:23:54,370 --> 00:23:58,420
One family had eight sons.

355
00:23:58,420 --> 00:24:01,120
Tall, strong men.

356
00:24:01,120 --> 00:24:05,680
They all were killed,
shot in the marketplace.

357

00:24:05,680 --> 00:24:11,170
And another family, they
had also eight children.

358
00:24:11,170 --> 00:24:15,630
[Place name] by the
name of Steiner.

359
00:24:15,630 --> 00:24:17,910
This family's name
was Deutelbaum.

360
00:24:17,910 --> 00:24:19,970
My mother's name was
Deutelbaum, and they

361
00:24:19,970 --> 00:24:22,770
were relatives of hers.

362
00:24:22,770 --> 00:24:25,440
One sister of my
mother married somebody

363
00:24:25,440 --> 00:24:30,540
by the name of Steiner, and
they lived in [Place name]

364
00:24:30,540 --> 00:24:34,290
In Hungarian, it was
called [Place name]

365
00:24:34,290 --> 00:24:36,270
And that is the
translation of the same.

366
00:24:36,270 --> 00:24:39,570

367
00:24:39,570 --> 00:24:44,850
Three of their children survived
and managed to get to Israel,

368
00:24:44,850 --> 00:24:47,400

but the parents and
the others died.

369
00:24:47,400 --> 00:24:52,530
In the last days, they were
underground with the guerrillas

370
00:24:52,530 --> 00:24:53,820
in the mountains there.

371
00:24:53,820 --> 00:24:56,670
And when the Germans
withdrew already,

372
00:24:56,670 --> 00:24:58,950
they thought it's
safe to come down.

373
00:24:58,950 --> 00:25:06,750
The Russians were just at the
border just very close to them,

374
00:25:06,750 --> 00:25:10,950
but the Russians didn't
go in, and the Germans

375
00:25:10,950 --> 00:25:13,560
returned and caught
them and killed them.

376
00:25:13,560 --> 00:25:18,050

377
00:25:18,050 --> 00:25:23,830
Now, one of them, one of the
children, was a cousin of mine,

378
00:25:23,830 --> 00:25:31,180
and two sisters of his still
alive in Israel in Tel Aviv.

379
00:25:31,180 --> 00:25:36,970
He had started out by

making little prayer

380

00:25:36,970 --> 00:25:44,110

books in some unusual,
silver-plated cover in books

381

00:25:44,110 --> 00:25:45,590

and did it himself.

382

00:25:45,590 --> 00:25:48,900

He and his wife, and
it grew more and more.

383

00:25:48,900 --> 00:25:52,210

A few years back when I
visited them in Israel,

384

00:25:52,210 --> 00:25:57,220

it turned out through
the work of his wife

385

00:25:57,220 --> 00:25:59,350

and the daughters
that has grown up,

386

00:25:59,350 --> 00:26:04,570

they became a very large
leather handbag company.

387

00:26:04,570 --> 00:26:08,470

And they're name, Steiner,
is on every bag in every shop

388

00:26:08,470 --> 00:26:09,700

where you go--

389

00:26:09,700 --> 00:26:12,190

you could see that name.

390

00:26:12,190 --> 00:26:13,970

Very orthodox people.

391

00:26:13,970 --> 00:26:17,410
My family was orthodox, too.

392
00:26:17,410 --> 00:26:24,970
But when I was 12, 13 years
old, became an ardent socialist,

393
00:26:24,970 --> 00:26:29,410
I gave up any
religious obedience.

394
00:26:29,410 --> 00:26:35,140
And my parents still
kept the holidays,

395
00:26:35,140 --> 00:26:38,003
but I was not religious anymore.

396
00:26:38,003 --> 00:26:41,870

397
00:26:41,870 --> 00:26:46,180
No, I want to say that
might be interesting.

398
00:26:46,180 --> 00:26:50,770
When leaving Sweden, I
needed \$300 of landing money

399
00:26:50,770 --> 00:26:51,790
in Mexico.

400
00:26:51,790 --> 00:26:53,890
That was a regulation.

401
00:26:53,890 --> 00:26:56,590
Nobody was allowed to
land who didn't have

402
00:26:56,590 --> 00:27:00,610
\$300 money in his possession.

403

00:27:00,610 --> 00:27:06,430
And the committee
that recognized me

404
00:27:06,430 --> 00:27:09,880
as a political refugee was not
willing to give me this money,

405
00:27:09,880 --> 00:27:12,130
but insisted that I
should try to get it

406
00:27:12,130 --> 00:27:16,630
through the Jewish
community, although I never--

407
00:27:16,630 --> 00:27:20,470
I considered myself a
full socialist and not

408
00:27:20,470 --> 00:27:23,260
as a Jewish refugee.

409
00:27:23,260 --> 00:27:25,190
But they were ready to help me.

410
00:27:25,190 --> 00:27:27,670
Gave me the \$300,
and when we arrived

411
00:27:27,670 --> 00:27:31,300
in Mexico City, the
first thing we were told,

412
00:27:31,300 --> 00:27:33,370
there is a Jewish
organization there

413
00:27:33,370 --> 00:27:36,460
of refugees called Menorah.

414
00:27:36,460 --> 00:27:41,885
And their president was a

Jewish refugee from Hamburg,

415

00:27:41,885 --> 00:27:47,440
a doctor Dr. Ernest Frank.

416

00:27:47,440 --> 00:27:50,000
He's a physician, and
my wife was pregnant

417

00:27:50,000 --> 00:27:53,600
already in the six months,
which fortunately nobody had

418

00:27:53,600 --> 00:27:54,710
noticed on the trip.

419

00:27:54,710 --> 00:28:00,860
We would never have gotten the
tickets and passage tickets

420

00:28:00,860 --> 00:28:03,740
on the boat.

421

00:28:03,740 --> 00:28:07,580
He helped her, and when
the first son was born,

422

00:28:07,580 --> 00:28:11,990
the Menorah sent us a large
parcel with all the things

423

00:28:11,990 --> 00:28:16,040
that were needed for a baby.

424

00:28:16,040 --> 00:28:21,080
\$100 of the \$300, it was
really not earned money.

425

00:28:21,080 --> 00:28:26,070
\$100 of the \$300 were left when
I started the export business

426

00:28:26,070 --> 00:28:29,580
with the Mexican handicraft,
which cost only a few cents.

427
00:28:29,580 --> 00:28:33,080
Straw figures and
little, wooden,

428
00:28:33,080 --> 00:28:37,220
carved things, and
small, cheap things.

429
00:28:37,220 --> 00:28:44,240

430
00:28:44,240 --> 00:28:47,470
Can you tell us
a little bit more

431
00:28:47,470 --> 00:28:52,150
about your father's family
and your mother's family

432
00:28:52,150 --> 00:28:57,040
in Slovakia, and how
they came to be there,

433
00:28:57,040 --> 00:29:00,790
and what were their
families like?

434
00:29:00,790 --> 00:29:07,360
From what I know about the past
of my family and of the Jews

435
00:29:07,360 --> 00:29:12,340
in Slovakia, they had
come pretty late there.

436
00:29:12,340 --> 00:29:22,390
I think around 1820 from
Austria and from Germany

437

00:29:22,390 --> 00:29:28,390
to administer the properties
of the aristocracy

438
00:29:28,390 --> 00:29:33,640
and the large land owners there.

439
00:29:33,640 --> 00:29:37,540
And we are welcome there.

440
00:29:37,540 --> 00:29:39,070
They didn't speak Yiddish.

441
00:29:39,070 --> 00:29:44,260
They spoke German
and did quite well.

442
00:29:44,260 --> 00:29:49,030
I think my family also did,
originally, quite well.

443
00:29:49,030 --> 00:29:54,950
My elder sisters told
me that at some stage,

444
00:29:54,950 --> 00:30:00,670
we were quite wealthy there,
but then it all switched around

445
00:30:00,670 --> 00:30:02,480
when they were not
needed anymore.

446
00:30:02,480 --> 00:30:04,810
They were expropriated
by the government

447
00:30:04,810 --> 00:30:13,390
and had just little shops
and rented little farms

448
00:30:13,390 --> 00:30:17,480
to support themselves.

449
00:30:17,480 --> 00:30:20,180
In this village--
and that might have

450
00:30:20,180 --> 00:30:22,880
been the reason why
most families tried

451
00:30:22,880 --> 00:30:27,860
to get to either Budapest,
the capital of Hungary,

452
00:30:27,860 --> 00:30:31,130
or to Vienna, the
capital of Austria.

453
00:30:31,130 --> 00:30:35,330
And during the
First World War, I

454
00:30:35,330 --> 00:30:39,650
went there in
1916, 60 years old,

455
00:30:39,650 --> 00:30:42,440
to get some good food again.

456
00:30:42,440 --> 00:30:45,470
Because in Vienna, we were
all terribly suffering.

457
00:30:45,470 --> 00:30:48,770
But there, the Slovaks
of country, they still

458
00:30:48,770 --> 00:30:51,330
had bread, and meat, and milk.

459
00:30:51,330 --> 00:30:56,660
And at that time, it was very
hard on the Jewish holidays.

460

00:30:56,660 --> 00:31:00,170

They had great trouble
to get 11 people together

461

00:31:00,170 --> 00:31:02,580

for a minyan in the temple.

462

00:31:02,580 --> 00:31:06,590

The temple in Siso, I remember--

463

00:31:06,590 --> 00:31:08,570

I was told that,
too, by my father,

464

00:31:08,570 --> 00:31:11,600

was built through the
help of my grandfather

465

00:31:11,600 --> 00:31:20,930

who, around 1900, had gone
to Moravia to a health spa

466

00:31:20,930 --> 00:31:24,650

where the emperor always
went with a delegation

467

00:31:24,650 --> 00:31:27,080

of a few other Jewish
people from there

468

00:31:27,080 --> 00:31:30,440

and made the petition
to obtain some money

469

00:31:30,440 --> 00:31:32,940

and help from the government
to build the synagogue.

470

00:31:32,940 --> 00:31:35,150

And it was granted.

471

00:31:35,150 --> 00:31:38,880

And that synagogue, I
remember the big building--

472
00:31:38,880 --> 00:31:41,420
it was not a very big building
when I later came back.

473
00:31:41,420 --> 00:31:44,690
It was a two-story building
with a woman section

474
00:31:44,690 --> 00:31:48,230
above and a male section below.

475
00:31:48,230 --> 00:31:53,960
But there was great trouble
from the surrounding villages

476
00:31:53,960 --> 00:31:55,700
to get 11 people together.

477
00:31:55,700 --> 00:31:58,610
They had to walk for
three or four hours

478
00:31:58,610 --> 00:32:03,155
to go there on Saturdays
for the services.

479
00:32:03,155 --> 00:32:07,620

480
00:32:07,620 --> 00:32:10,850
I think by the start
of the war, there

481
00:32:10,850 --> 00:32:13,460
was only one Jewish family left.

482
00:32:13,460 --> 00:32:17,060
Similar was a situation,
many villages in Slovakia

483

00:32:17,060 --> 00:32:22,730

as people moved away
to the capital--

484

00:32:22,730 --> 00:32:26,510

more to Budapest and
Vienna than to Prague.

485

00:32:26,510 --> 00:32:31,010

Prague itself, Moravia, had
an old established Jewish

486

00:32:31,010 --> 00:32:35,440

population, the
oldest synagogues,

487

00:32:35,440 --> 00:32:38,600

I think if I'm not wrong, from
the 11th century or more--

488

00:32:38,600 --> 00:32:41,270

489

00:32:41,270 --> 00:32:43,010

around that time already.

490

00:32:43,010 --> 00:32:45,650

But they were all speaking
German, not Yiddish.

491

00:32:45,650 --> 00:32:49,860

492

00:32:49,860 --> 00:32:54,000

Why did the rest of the
family stay and your mother,

493

00:32:54,000 --> 00:32:57,210

and your father, and
six brothers and sisters

494

00:32:57,210 --> 00:32:58,170

decided to leave?

495

00:32:58,170 --> 00:32:59,850

Why did your father
make that decision?

496

00:32:59,850 --> 00:33:04,665

And what did he do actually,
professionally, in Slovakia?

497

00:33:04,665 --> 00:33:07,170

498

00:33:07,170 --> 00:33:16,150

In Siso, he had a little
inn and a little farm.

499

00:33:16,150 --> 00:33:17,500

That was quite common.

500

00:33:17,500 --> 00:33:21,940

The inn, it was
really not an inn

501

00:33:21,940 --> 00:33:23,290

where you stayed over night.

502

00:33:23,290 --> 00:33:28,550

It was a little shop where
you sold schnapps or vodka,

503

00:33:28,550 --> 00:33:33,890

or slivovitz to the
peasants, and eggs, some

504

00:33:33,890 --> 00:33:35,510

from the little
farm that he had.

505

00:33:35,510 --> 00:33:38,300

They sold eggs and they
made butter from the milk

506

00:33:38,300 --> 00:33:41,300
from the cows.

507

00:33:41,300 --> 00:33:45,050
That was what they did.

508

00:33:45,050 --> 00:33:49,760
He was drafted to the army,
a surprising profession

509

00:33:49,760 --> 00:33:55,140
for a Jewish fellow, he became
a trainer of wild horses

510

00:33:55,140 --> 00:33:58,700
to become military horses.

511

00:33:58,700 --> 00:34:03,560
I have a photograph still where
he's standing next to a horse.

512

00:34:03,560 --> 00:34:10,580
In the First World War, he
was drafted to the cavalry

513

00:34:10,580 --> 00:34:14,299
both at the Polish
or Russian front.

514

00:34:14,299 --> 00:34:18,550

515

00:34:18,550 --> 00:34:25,690
The brothers had become
apprentices in the next larger

516

00:34:25,690 --> 00:34:29,909
village in a notion
shop, selling ribbons

517

00:34:29,909 --> 00:34:31,949
and threads and things like.

518
00:34:31,949 --> 00:34:34,020
And when they came
to Vienna, they

519
00:34:34,020 --> 00:34:39,300
got similar jobs in
this firm, the company,

520
00:34:39,300 --> 00:34:44,940
owned by some far relative,
and the sisters the same.

521
00:34:44,940 --> 00:34:49,889
One brother of my mother had
emigrated earlier to Vienna

522
00:34:49,889 --> 00:34:51,929
and started a tie factory.

523
00:34:51,929 --> 00:34:55,770
And sister Margit,
who died in the camp,

524
00:34:55,770 --> 00:34:58,830
started to work there
when she was 14 years old

525
00:34:58,830 --> 00:35:06,000
and became the manager,
finally, of that tie factory who

526
00:35:06,000 --> 00:35:13,050
provided not only Austria,
but all the states controlled

527
00:35:13,050 --> 00:35:17,460
by Austria, which after the
war became independent states.

528
00:35:17,460 --> 00:35:19,640
That was true with
many of the companies.

529

00:35:19,640 --> 00:35:22,170

They didn't only supply
the small Austria.

530

00:35:22,170 --> 00:35:27,540

Austria-Hungarian monarchy
had about 70 million people

531

00:35:27,540 --> 00:35:30,750

Austria itself, and
the war ended in 1918,

532

00:35:30,750 --> 00:35:34,860

was left with 6 million,
which, of course, created

533

00:35:34,860 --> 00:35:37,920

terrible difficulties--
economic difficulties.

534

00:35:37,920 --> 00:35:41,550

That explained why
so many in Austria

535

00:35:41,550 --> 00:35:44,700

became socialists
and social democrats.

536

00:35:44,700 --> 00:35:46,560

Communists were very few--

537

00:35:46,560 --> 00:35:48,130

just 3% or 4%.

538

00:35:48,130 --> 00:35:51,020

But the social Democrats
were very strong.

539

00:35:51,020 --> 00:35:56,300

540

00:35:56,300 --> 00:36:04,390

The brothers started one
a small shop on his own,

541

00:36:04,390 --> 00:36:06,790

the other a small
manufacturing company--

542

00:36:06,790 --> 00:36:08,860

ladies underwear.

543

00:36:08,860 --> 00:36:14,590

From Shanghai, he moved after
the war ended to Australia.

544

00:36:14,590 --> 00:36:17,440

That was brother Edmond.

545

00:36:17,440 --> 00:36:26,520

His son, Kurt, when he
was 12, around the time

546

00:36:26,520 --> 00:36:30,870

when Hitler came to Vienna,
he was a very strong boy,

547

00:36:30,870 --> 00:36:35,280

crossed the Danube
swimming into Slovakia,

548

00:36:35,280 --> 00:36:39,660

and went to the relatives
there, then went back to Vienna

549

00:36:39,660 --> 00:36:46,230

and visited Jewish organizations
help, but to England.

550

00:36:46,230 --> 00:36:51,540

And on a farm in
England, when he was 16,

551

00:36:51,540 --> 00:36:56,280

he falsified his age, and
volunteered to the army,

552
00:36:56,280 --> 00:37:00,810
and joined the English
army, and was in Italy

553
00:37:00,810 --> 00:37:02,710
until the end of the war.

554
00:37:02,710 --> 00:37:05,700
He had to change his name too
because under his own name

555
00:37:05,700 --> 00:37:07,270
if the Germans would
have caught him,

556
00:37:07,270 --> 00:37:11,610
they would have shot him as a
traitor to the country where

557
00:37:11,610 --> 00:37:13,020
they kill the Jews.

558
00:37:13,020 --> 00:37:17,340
But they would still have said
at that time he's Austrian.

559
00:37:17,340 --> 00:37:20,880
So he took the name of Lenz.

560
00:37:20,880 --> 00:37:28,260
And 1948, I moved from
Mexico to Australia

561
00:37:28,260 --> 00:37:30,570
where my brother
Edmond had already

562
00:37:30,570 --> 00:37:34,380
moved a little bit earlier,
and then his son came there.

563

00:37:34,380 --> 00:37:38,580

And then the brother who
survived in France also

564

00:37:38,580 --> 00:37:41,010

came to Australia.

565

00:37:41,010 --> 00:37:51,060

And I stayed in Australia until
1962 when I came to Berkeley.

566

00:37:51,060 --> 00:37:53,175

And Shandor, where was Shandor?

567

00:37:53,175 --> 00:37:59,400

Shandor also survived in
Shanghai in the ghetto there.

568

00:37:59,400 --> 00:38:04,380

Went to New York and started
in New York with his wife.

569

00:38:04,380 --> 00:38:09,390

They both had this retail
store in Notions in Vienna.

570

00:38:09,390 --> 00:38:14,880

Started a similar store in New
York, very small, in the area

571

00:38:14,880 --> 00:38:18,990

where a lot of Jewish people
lived around the 98th street,

572

00:38:18,990 --> 00:38:22,020

92nd, 98th street.

573

00:38:22,020 --> 00:38:24,960

Now it's all Puerto
Ricans, but at that time,

574

00:38:24,960 --> 00:38:25,980
it was mainly Jewish.

575
00:38:25,980 --> 00:38:32,070

576
00:38:32,070 --> 00:38:37,020
He died about 10 years
ago, and his wife

577
00:38:37,020 --> 00:38:40,510
died about six years ago.

578
00:38:40,510 --> 00:38:45,600
My brother Edmond died
about seven years ago.

579
00:38:45,600 --> 00:38:53,430
My sister, Estie, lives in
Berkeley, is 94 years old now.

580
00:38:53,430 --> 00:38:57,140
And her husband, who was 92
years old, died last week.

581
00:38:57,140 --> 00:39:02,250

582
00:39:02,250 --> 00:39:06,020
My brother George
still is in Australia.

583
00:39:06,020 --> 00:39:11,685
He's in his 85th year.

584
00:39:11,685 --> 00:39:13,983
Do you speak to him frequently?

585
00:39:13,983 --> 00:39:14,650
Beg your pardon.

586
00:39:14,650 --> 00:39:17,060

Do you speak to him frequently?

587

00:39:17,060 --> 00:39:18,110

Occasionally.

588

00:39:18,110 --> 00:39:23,930

I was back a few years ago and I telephoned him and he sometimes

589

00:39:23,930 --> 00:39:26,570

telephones here.

590

00:39:26,570 --> 00:39:27,950

And Kurt?

591

00:39:27,950 --> 00:39:32,780

Kurt is still there,
has an interesting life.

592

00:39:32,780 --> 00:39:35,360

593

00:39:35,360 --> 00:39:40,490

His father started a small
trouser factory there,

594

00:39:40,490 --> 00:39:43,280

just he and his wife and
I think one other helper.

595

00:39:43,280 --> 00:39:46,940

When he came to
Australia, he first

596

00:39:46,940 --> 00:39:49,000

worked as an auto mechanic.

597

00:39:49,000 --> 00:39:53,780

He was a tank driver in the
war and became a mechanic.

598

00:39:53,780 --> 00:39:58,160

And in Australia, he
worked as an auto mechanic

599
00:39:58,160 --> 00:40:00,380
for Jaguar cars.

600
00:40:00,380 --> 00:40:02,510
Then he joined his
father, but instead

601
00:40:02,510 --> 00:40:07,430
of making men's trousers,
he was a great sport--

602
00:40:07,430 --> 00:40:17,510
start to make ski
pants, and more or less

603
00:40:17,510 --> 00:40:19,970
introduced skiing
into Australia.

604
00:40:19,970 --> 00:40:23,030
He was a ski jumper.

605
00:40:23,030 --> 00:40:26,210
He became the president
of the ski association

606
00:40:26,210 --> 00:40:28,050
and did rather well.

607
00:40:28,050 --> 00:40:34,700
And two years back, I guess,
he became a member of an OBE,

608
00:40:34,700 --> 00:40:37,040
of the Order of the
British Empire, which

609
00:40:37,040 --> 00:40:42,230
is quite a distinction for
my father, whose name was

610
00:40:42,230 --> 00:40:45,050
Max Kohn in Siso and Vietnam.

611
00:40:45,050 --> 00:40:47,570

612
00:40:47,570 --> 00:40:49,760
Yes, his factory did quite well.

613
00:40:49,760 --> 00:40:52,310

614
00:40:52,310 --> 00:40:54,890
But manufacturing
became difficult

615
00:40:54,890 --> 00:40:57,830
because of competition
of imported stuff

616
00:40:57,830 --> 00:41:01,100
from Japan and Hong
Kong and switched over

617
00:41:01,100 --> 00:41:04,690
to importing himself.

618
00:41:04,690 --> 00:41:07,600
He's still doing it.

619
00:41:07,600 --> 00:41:11,860
I carried him in my arms in
Vienna, now he's probably 65.

620
00:41:11,860 --> 00:41:15,595

621
00:41:15,595 --> 00:41:20,380
Sam, you were quite
young in Vienna.

622

00:41:20,380 --> 00:41:23,620

I'd like to know what
your life was like.

623

00:41:23,620 --> 00:41:25,300

I know that your
brothers and sisters

624

00:41:25,300 --> 00:41:28,660

were, with the
exception of Julius,

625

00:41:28,660 --> 00:41:31,600

were quite a bit older than you.

626

00:41:31,600 --> 00:41:34,690

I'd like to know what
your father was like.

627

00:41:34,690 --> 00:41:36,490

Was he happy?

628

00:41:36,490 --> 00:41:38,830

Was he serious?

629

00:41:38,830 --> 00:41:40,990

What did he do
professionally there?

630

00:41:40,990 --> 00:41:44,350

631

00:41:44,350 --> 00:41:48,670

Do you remember
songs, or friendships?

632

00:41:48,670 --> 00:41:52,420

I'd like to know what your
early childhood was like.

633

00:41:52,420 --> 00:41:58,260

634
00:41:58,260 --> 00:42:01,580
My earliest childhood
was really spent still

635
00:42:01,580 --> 00:42:04,590
at Siso in Slovakia.

636
00:42:04,590 --> 00:42:06,660
I remember very little of it.

637
00:42:06,660 --> 00:42:11,730
Probably my first
language was Slovakian.

638
00:42:11,730 --> 00:42:14,190
I don't remember
anything like that

639
00:42:14,190 --> 00:42:17,850
of my father, or my
mother, or the others,

640
00:42:17,850 --> 00:42:21,570
or 3 and 1/2 years
when I came to Vienna.

641
00:42:21,570 --> 00:42:27,180
And there in Vienna, my
father after a few months

642
00:42:27,180 --> 00:42:30,550
went to war, although I
have little memory of him

643
00:42:30,550 --> 00:42:32,370
from that time.

644
00:42:32,370 --> 00:42:36,670
I remember him when he came back
and he was already 52 years.

645

00:42:36,670 --> 00:42:46,930
1916, during these two years,
I was brought up really

646
00:42:46,930 --> 00:42:48,350
by nobody.

647
00:42:48,350 --> 00:42:50,440
I was a street urchin.

648
00:42:50,440 --> 00:42:52,960
My mother had no time for me.

649
00:42:52,960 --> 00:42:55,240
I was all the time
on the street.

650
00:42:55,240 --> 00:43:00,250
And Jules-- Jules was my hero.

651
00:43:00,250 --> 00:43:02,740
I tried to copy
him in everything.

652
00:43:02,740 --> 00:43:09,220
He was an excellent soccer
player, and bicycle rider,

653
00:43:09,220 --> 00:43:11,170
and ice skater.

654
00:43:11,170 --> 00:43:14,260
And I couldn't do
anything of that yet.

655
00:43:14,260 --> 00:43:16,840
He was already seven
and eight years old,

656
00:43:16,840 --> 00:43:20,065
and I was three, four, five.

657

00:43:20,065 --> 00:43:23,620

658

00:43:23,620 --> 00:43:28,900

And my sister Estie,
who I remember,

659

00:43:28,900 --> 00:43:31,750

took a little more care
of me than the others--

660

00:43:31,750 --> 00:43:34,330

more home.

661

00:43:34,330 --> 00:43:35,530

Not much, a little.

662

00:43:35,530 --> 00:43:38,530

663

00:43:38,530 --> 00:43:41,500

Jules was in the schools
already, and I was not.

664

00:43:41,500 --> 00:43:46,360

I was almost like a single
child without family or parents.

665

00:43:46,360 --> 00:43:52,630

My father was a very handy man,
very practical with his hands.

666

00:43:52,630 --> 00:43:56,170

I was told by him that in
Slovakia, he went from farm

667

00:43:56,170 --> 00:43:59,290

to farm to drill water wells--

668

00:43:59,290 --> 00:44:01,450

had developed some
method whereby

669

00:44:01,450 --> 00:44:11,530
he could drill into the soil
and find water and other things

670

00:44:11,530 --> 00:44:13,150
that he could do with his hands.

671

00:44:13,150 --> 00:44:18,760
When he came back, he got a job
for one or two years in spite

672

00:44:18,760 --> 00:44:21,460
of, I consider him a
very old man-- he was 52,

673

00:44:21,460 --> 00:44:25,270
but he still got a job
till the end of the war,

674

00:44:25,270 --> 00:44:27,740
but then was not
working anymore.

675

00:44:27,740 --> 00:44:30,280
And the elder
brothers and sisters

676

00:44:30,280 --> 00:44:34,360
supported him, and
my mother, and Jules,

677

00:44:34,360 --> 00:44:40,240
and me enough to just survive
in a small apartment--

678

00:44:40,240 --> 00:44:43,660
very little apartments
that we had.

679

00:44:43,660 --> 00:44:52,900
And from 12-year-old, 12
on, I coached other students

680

00:44:52,900 --> 00:44:58,620

in mathematics and in
writing and in shorthand.

681

00:44:58,620 --> 00:45:00,640

And whatever I
learned, I passed on

682

00:45:00,640 --> 00:45:06,790

to those who were
not good enough.

683

00:45:06,790 --> 00:45:14,200

Jules, we all had
scholarships at university

684

00:45:14,200 --> 00:45:15,680

to go to the university.

685

00:45:15,680 --> 00:45:18,400

686

00:45:18,400 --> 00:45:22,270

We had relatives in Vienna,
quite a large number already,

687

00:45:22,270 --> 00:45:26,140

brothers and sisters
of my mother, mainly--

688

00:45:26,140 --> 00:45:27,610

of my father also.

689

00:45:27,610 --> 00:45:31,970

One was a Schweikart in the
second district in Vienna,

690

00:45:31,970 --> 00:45:35,020

which is where we lived.

691

00:45:35,020 --> 00:45:39,100

Vienna had about

160,000, 180,000 Jews

692

00:45:39,100 --> 00:45:43,150
and about 120,000 or so
lived in the 2nd district.

693

00:45:43,150 --> 00:45:46,600
It was almost a Jewish town.

694

00:45:46,600 --> 00:45:49,720
There were the synagogues,
and the orthodox Jews,

695

00:45:49,720 --> 00:45:50,800
and he was a Schweikart.

696

00:45:50,800 --> 00:45:55,510
His son was already a physician,
a very good physician.

697

00:45:55,510 --> 00:46:00,250
That was the only relative
of my father's side.

698

00:46:00,250 --> 00:46:04,840
My mother's side, her
name was Deutelbaum.

699

00:46:04,840 --> 00:46:10,330
But around 1914,
Hungary requested

700

00:46:10,330 --> 00:46:12,940
that all Jewish people
should change their name

701

00:46:12,940 --> 00:46:14,200
into Hungarian names.

702

00:46:14,200 --> 00:46:15,850
They called it modernizing.

703

00:46:15,850 --> 00:46:18,970

704

00:46:18,970 --> 00:46:23,900

And so our name was originally
Kohn, and that became Kalmar.

705

00:46:23,900 --> 00:46:26,470

706

00:46:26,470 --> 00:46:31,180

And many people with Kohn
had to choose usually names

707

00:46:31,180 --> 00:46:33,790

with first starting letter.

708

00:46:33,790 --> 00:46:37,010

709

00:46:37,010 --> 00:46:41,470

They changed it into
Keisch, and into Kaltesch,

710

00:46:41,470 --> 00:46:48,100

and into Koloman, and all kinds
of names that sounded somehow

711

00:46:48,100 --> 00:46:49,750

Hungarian.

712

00:46:49,750 --> 00:46:52,660

Now, my mother's name was
Deutelbaum and many of them

713

00:46:52,660 --> 00:46:54,730

changed the name into Denes--

714

00:46:54,730 --> 00:47:00,310

D-E-N-E-S-- pronounced
"Danish" in Hungarian.

715

00:47:00,310 --> 00:47:03,370

Now, one brother who
had come to Vienna

716

00:47:03,370 --> 00:47:10,840

earlier started a glass company
and became the largest glass

717

00:47:10,840 --> 00:47:13,600

replace company in Vienna.

718

00:47:13,600 --> 00:47:17,560

And his name was seen
on all the street cars.

719

00:47:17,560 --> 00:47:20,360

He had some contracts
with the city of Vienna

720

00:47:20,360 --> 00:47:22,810

and was very proud of that.

721

00:47:22,810 --> 00:47:25,510

That was a Denes, but he
kept very little contact

722

00:47:25,510 --> 00:47:29,920

with us-- visited us once a
month or so for a few minutes.

723

00:47:29,920 --> 00:47:31,660

I remember him well.

724

00:47:31,660 --> 00:47:35,960

The other was Franz Denes,
who had the largest,

725

00:47:35,960 --> 00:47:40,210

I said before, tie factory
together with another Denes.

726

00:47:40,210 --> 00:47:43,540

They split, and both

were manufacturing ties.

727

00:47:43,540 --> 00:47:46,270

And there was a third

Denes who started

728

00:47:46,270 --> 00:47:51,130

a framing company

in the best street,

729

00:47:51,130 --> 00:47:56,380

or one of the best streets, and

close to the castle, Hochberg,

730

00:47:56,380 --> 00:47:59,230

in the first district in Vienna.

731

00:47:59,230 --> 00:48:00,880

And I remember well.

732

00:48:00,880 --> 00:48:05,920

I went often there, and

he had paintings to frames

733

00:48:05,920 --> 00:48:08,140

there of the high aristocracy.

734

00:48:08,140 --> 00:48:10,930

And everybody who entered

was Baron so-and-so

735

00:48:10,930 --> 00:48:15,580

and Graft, Count, and so on.

736

00:48:15,580 --> 00:48:19,480

They spoke German with

a Viennese accent.

737

00:48:19,480 --> 00:48:22,390

Nobody would have known

that they are Jewish.

738

00:48:22,390 --> 00:48:27,550

The husband didn't live
anymore, only the wife--

739

00:48:27,550 --> 00:48:30,610

his wife, his widow--
and the two children.

740

00:48:30,610 --> 00:48:31,920

And they had this store.

741

00:48:31,920 --> 00:48:34,525

742

00:48:34,525 --> 00:48:38,590

It was a large Jewish community,
and they helped one another.

743

00:48:38,590 --> 00:48:41,410

744

00:48:41,410 --> 00:48:46,900

That Franz Denes was one of the
heads of the Jewish community.

745

00:48:46,900 --> 00:48:49,720

I remember, if it's correct,
[NON-ENGLISH SPEECH]..

746

00:48:49,720 --> 00:48:55,410

747

00:48:55,410 --> 00:48:58,860

He was the only one, I think,
who was religiously active.

748

00:48:58,860 --> 00:49:01,440

749

00:49:01,440 --> 00:49:03,850

Did the Jewish community
stick together?

750

00:49:03,850 --> 00:49:04,350

Yes.

751

00:49:04,350 --> 00:49:06,000

Were you a part of
the Jewish community?

752

00:49:06,000 --> 00:49:06,500

Yes.

753

00:49:06,500 --> 00:49:09,220

754

00:49:09,220 --> 00:49:12,510

There were, of course, very
orthodox synagogues and not so

755

00:49:12,510 --> 00:49:13,260

orthodox.

756

00:49:13,260 --> 00:49:15,660

And I remember one,
the Turkish temple,

757

00:49:15,660 --> 00:49:17,520

where the Sephardic Jews--

758

00:49:17,520 --> 00:49:20,510

and all in the same
district, a few streets away

759

00:49:20,510 --> 00:49:21,250

from the other.

760

00:49:21,250 --> 00:49:24,240

761

00:49:24,240 --> 00:49:29,190

Up to my certainty as I
went over Yom Kippur or Rosh

762

00:49:29,190 --> 00:49:32,280
Hashanah into the temple
to visit my parents,

763
00:49:32,280 --> 00:49:34,841
but stayed not long.

764
00:49:34,841 --> 00:49:38,710
They were always there.

765
00:49:38,710 --> 00:49:41,050
And they celebrated
Friday night.

766
00:49:41,050 --> 00:49:45,130

767
00:49:45,130 --> 00:49:49,810
So they were, they weren't
religious, your mother

768
00:49:49,810 --> 00:49:50,853
or father?

769
00:49:50,853 --> 00:50:00,400
Only the parents were still
keeping Jewish rituals

770
00:50:00,400 --> 00:50:01,810
and holidays.

771
00:50:01,810 --> 00:50:04,470
None of the other
children did anymore.

772
00:50:04,470 --> 00:50:07,350

773
00:50:07,350 --> 00:50:17,130
If the Deutelbaums
were living in Vienna,

774

00:50:17,130 --> 00:50:21,000
why were they subject
to Hungarian authority

775
00:50:21,000 --> 00:50:23,760
that they would have
to change their names?

776
00:50:23,760 --> 00:50:28,290
They changed it still in
Slovakia before they came.

777
00:50:28,290 --> 00:50:32,640
Some changed it earlier,
or some changed it.

778
00:50:32,640 --> 00:50:34,440
I'd never given
that some thought

779
00:50:34,440 --> 00:50:37,500
when they changed the name.

780
00:50:37,500 --> 00:50:39,570
It's an interesting
question-- why

781
00:50:39,570 --> 00:50:42,540
did they change the
name from the Deutelbaum

782
00:50:42,540 --> 00:50:44,190
or where did they change it?

783
00:50:44,190 --> 00:50:51,420
I know there were relatives in
Budapest by the name of Denes.

784
00:50:51,420 --> 00:50:53,610
When your mother married,
what was her maiden name?

785
00:50:53,610 --> 00:50:54,420

Deutelbaum.

786
00:50:54,420 --> 00:50:58,180

787
00:50:58,180 --> 00:51:02,350
And so her brothers
changed that name to Denes

788
00:51:02,350 --> 00:51:05,315
when they moved to
Hungary or to Austria.

789
00:51:05,315 --> 00:51:07,990

790
00:51:07,990 --> 00:51:15,150
Might be that at that time, they
still had Hungarian passports

791
00:51:15,150 --> 00:51:22,500
and had to do because of that
what was required by Hungary--

792
00:51:22,500 --> 00:51:24,375
may have become
Austrian citizens later.

793
00:51:24,375 --> 00:51:27,210

794
00:51:27,210 --> 00:51:34,050
1918, I had a Czechoslovakian
passport still.

795
00:51:34,050 --> 00:51:38,190
When I visited Slovakia, I
traveled on the Czechoslovakian

796
00:51:38,190 --> 00:51:40,140
passport because
Slovakia has then

797

00:51:40,140 --> 00:51:45,580
become a part of Czechoslovakia,
not anymore of Hungary.

798

00:51:45,580 --> 00:51:47,700
So in my life, I had
a lot of passports.

799

00:51:47,700 --> 00:51:53,100
I had Czechoslovakian
passports, Austrian passports.

800

00:51:53,100 --> 00:51:57,240
From Sweden, I left with a
Swedish stateless passport,

801

00:51:57,240 --> 00:52:00,720
but which looked fully
like a Swedish passport

802

00:52:00,720 --> 00:52:02,490
in Swedish language.

803

00:52:02,490 --> 00:52:06,090
And fortunately, in some
countries, they didn't know it

804

00:52:06,090 --> 00:52:07,800
and accepted it,
otherwise they wouldn't

805

00:52:07,800 --> 00:52:10,830
have allowed one to go in.

806

00:52:10,830 --> 00:52:14,910
I had great problems when
I got the visa for Mexico,

807

00:52:14,910 --> 00:52:18,250
I had to provide
a valid passport.

808

00:52:18,250 --> 00:52:23,230

I had only the Austrian
passport that I had,

809

00:52:23,230 --> 00:52:25,830

I had to go to the
German embassy--

810

00:52:25,830 --> 00:52:27,840

Austria was occupied by Germany.

811

00:52:27,840 --> 00:52:32,820

And I had to receive
a German passport.

812

00:52:32,820 --> 00:52:39,075

So my Austrian passport still
showed me as Samuel Kalmar.

813

00:52:39,075 --> 00:52:42,600

814

00:52:42,600 --> 00:52:47,190

And Stefan was
also already in it.

815

00:52:47,190 --> 00:52:48,900

No, it was only Samuel.

816

00:52:48,900 --> 00:52:53,310

I used the name Stefan also
when I made my crossword puzzles

817

00:52:53,310 --> 00:52:57,420

and wrote articles as
a journalist in Vienna.

818

00:52:57,420 --> 00:53:00,420

When I studied at university,
I studied economics

819

00:53:00,420 --> 00:53:01,980

and international trade.

820
00:53:01,980 --> 00:53:05,700
I started to write
popular article

821
00:53:05,700 --> 00:53:07,810
about economics in Vienna.

822
00:53:07,810 --> 00:53:10,830
But under the name of
Samuel, I would have never

823
00:53:10,830 --> 00:53:14,440
been able to get them accepted.

824
00:53:14,440 --> 00:53:18,570
So I called myself
Stefan Kalmar.

825
00:53:18,570 --> 00:53:21,645
But in the passport, I was
still under Samuel Kalmar.

826
00:53:21,645 --> 00:53:24,150
So when I got the German
passport, that was not

827
00:53:24,150 --> 00:53:27,150
enough to identify
me as a Jew, so I

828
00:53:27,150 --> 00:53:35,130
got the big Israel added to
it, and the sign J for Jewish.

829
00:53:35,130 --> 00:53:37,800
When I presented that
to the Mexican consul,

830
00:53:37,800 --> 00:53:41,280
he wouldn't accept it because
he knew I would not return.

831

00:53:41,280 --> 00:53:46,950

And he said, I give you
only a visa for Mexico

832

00:53:46,950 --> 00:53:51,180

if you can prove that you have
a valid visa and can go back.

833

00:53:51,180 --> 00:53:53,370

I can't give you an
immigrant visa to Mexico

834

00:53:53,370 --> 00:53:58,140

only as a correspondent
for a limited time.

835

00:53:58,140 --> 00:54:02,670

Through the socialist
refugee organization,

836

00:54:02,670 --> 00:54:08,010

I got this Swedish
nansenepass, it

837

00:54:08,010 --> 00:54:11,790

was called-- a stateless pass.

838

00:54:11,790 --> 00:54:13,830

But I didn't have
the right to return.

839

00:54:13,830 --> 00:54:16,140

When I presented it
to the Mexican consul,

840

00:54:16,140 --> 00:54:18,030

he wouldn't give
me the passport.

841

00:54:18,030 --> 00:54:22,170

And the last boat leaving,
the war had started already,

842

00:54:22,170 --> 00:54:23,980
was due in two or three days.

843

00:54:23,980 --> 00:54:28,140
And that was a real struggle.

844

00:54:28,140 --> 00:54:34,150
I finally got the right to
return stamped into that visa.

845

00:54:34,150 --> 00:54:43,150
And then that consul
was also anti-Semitic.

846

00:54:43,150 --> 00:54:47,560
He knew that I'm Jewish
from the German passport,

847

00:54:47,560 --> 00:54:49,330
the Mexican consul.

848

00:54:49,330 --> 00:54:52,930
And he said I have to have
a letter from the newspaper

849

00:54:52,930 --> 00:54:56,500
that they will regularly
send me money to Mexico

850

00:54:56,500 --> 00:54:59,320
to pay for my keep there.

851

00:54:59,320 --> 00:55:03,550
And the chief editor
of the newspaper

852

00:55:03,550 --> 00:55:08,290
was also a member of the
parliament in Sweden.

853

00:55:08,290 --> 00:55:14,240
And the Russian-Finnish

war had just started.

854

00:55:14,240 --> 00:55:17,620

And Sweden debated
whether to enter the war,

855

00:55:17,620 --> 00:55:21,790

or to help Finland,
or not to enter.

856

00:55:21,790 --> 00:55:31,990

And this editor in
chief of the daily paper

857

00:55:31,990 --> 00:55:39,130

was the main speaker of the
Social Democratic Party, which

858

00:55:39,130 --> 00:55:41,380

controlled the government.

859

00:55:41,380 --> 00:55:44,860

The only way to get it was for
me to get into the parliament

860

00:55:44,860 --> 00:55:49,840

and to get him out
from there to induce

861

00:55:49,840 --> 00:55:51,485

him to give me this letter.

862

00:55:51,485 --> 00:55:55,610

863

00:55:55,610 --> 00:55:58,880

He was very annoyed
that I called him out,

864

00:55:58,880 --> 00:56:01,160

was so red faced when he came.

865

00:56:01,160 --> 00:56:06,620

But he signed the letter,
took it back to the consul,

866

00:56:06,620 --> 00:56:10,250

and got the visa,
and next day we left.

867

00:56:10,250 --> 00:56:12,250

Otherwise, we would
never have gotten out.

868

00:56:12,250 --> 00:56:14,750

We left for Mexico.

869

00:56:14,750 --> 00:56:23,960

Then in Mexico, my first son
was born, the name of George,

870

00:56:23,960 --> 00:56:26,510

but the Spanish, Jorge, Jorgito.

871

00:56:26,510 --> 00:56:32,630

And due to the fact that I was a
father of a Mexican-born child,

872

00:56:32,630 --> 00:56:36,230

I obtained Mexican citizenship.

873

00:56:36,230 --> 00:56:40,040

So when we went from
Mexico to Australia,

874

00:56:40,040 --> 00:56:43,070

I traveled on the
Mexican passport.

875

00:56:43,070 --> 00:56:52,880

From Australia in 1962
when we came to America,

876

00:56:52,880 --> 00:56:58,130

I still had a valid

Mexican passport

877

00:56:58,130 --> 00:57:01,910
and went to Mexico City again.

878

00:57:01,910 --> 00:57:03,860
I had to wait there
about six months

879

00:57:03,860 --> 00:57:07,790
before I got an immigrant
visa to the United States

880

00:57:07,790 --> 00:57:09,680
and then came to
the United States.

881

00:57:09,680 --> 00:57:14,450
And in the United States, I
remained a Mexican citizen

882

00:57:14,450 --> 00:57:17,960
until Nixon resigned.

883

00:57:17,960 --> 00:57:23,180
And I consider that such a great
show of strength of democracy

884

00:57:23,180 --> 00:57:27,200
that within a month, I applied
for the American citizenship

885

00:57:27,200 --> 00:57:29,450
and became an American citizen.

886

00:57:29,450 --> 00:57:32,870
And my first names in all
these countries changed

887

00:57:32,870 --> 00:57:37,730
because first, it was Samuel,
pronounced "Sham-well"

888

00:57:37,730 --> 00:57:40,910
in Hungary, shortened to Shamu.

889

00:57:40,910 --> 00:57:45,290
At home, I was called Sammy
or Saminko in Slovakian.

890

00:57:45,290 --> 00:57:47,870
In Vienna, I added
Stefan to it--

891

00:57:47,870 --> 00:57:53,720
S-T-E-F-A-N-- and then
the Nazis added Israel.

892

00:57:53,720 --> 00:57:56,090
In Sweden, it became Stefan--

893

00:57:56,090 --> 00:57:58,220
they liked it more.

894

00:57:58,220 --> 00:58:00,080
In Australia, they liked Stefan.

895

00:58:00,080 --> 00:58:02,345
In Mexico, it became Esteban.

896

00:58:02,345 --> 00:58:06,350

897

00:58:06,350 --> 00:58:10,640
Now, I've got accustomed
to use myself, Stephen.

898

00:58:10,640 --> 00:58:14,480
But as time goes
on, those people

899

00:58:14,480 --> 00:58:19,340
who know me better or longer
call me Sam from before,

900

00:58:19,340 --> 00:58:22,220

and most friends by
now call me Sam again.

901

00:58:22,220 --> 00:58:26,510

So the circle seems to be
closed and going back to Sam.

902

00:58:26,510 --> 00:58:31,580

903

00:58:31,580 --> 00:58:35,300

I started about six years
ago to write my memoirs.

904

00:58:35,300 --> 00:58:38,360

I decided to leave
something out of the stories

905

00:58:38,360 --> 00:58:41,990

that I lived through
for my children.

906

00:58:41,990 --> 00:58:45,230

But the publisher here in San
Francisco learned about it,

907

00:58:45,230 --> 00:58:48,980

and contacted me, and asked
me to see the manuscript,

908

00:58:48,980 --> 00:58:54,260

and published it here.

909

00:58:54,260 --> 00:59:00,540

But I had it ready only
up to leaving Mexico.

910

00:59:00,540 --> 00:59:03,600

So it covers only
the first 40 years

911

00:59:03,600 --> 00:59:06,990
of my life in Austria,
Sweden, and Mexico.

912
00:59:06,990 --> 00:59:10,530
Just now, I'm finishing,
I hope tomorrow,

913
00:59:10,530 --> 00:59:16,140
I write the last pages
of the second 40 years

914
00:59:16,140 --> 00:59:21,690
of my life in Australia, back
in Mexico, then in Berkeley.

915
00:59:21,690 --> 00:59:26,970
In Vienna already, besides
studying economics,

916
00:59:26,970 --> 00:59:31,140
international trade, I got also
very interested in psychology

917
00:59:31,140 --> 00:59:32,190
in an early age.

918
00:59:32,190 --> 00:59:34,900
Vienna is the center of
all modern psychology

919
00:59:34,900 --> 00:59:38,070
and psychiatry besides Freud.

920
00:59:38,070 --> 00:59:41,640
At that time, Adler,
who started the school

921
00:59:41,640 --> 00:59:49,080
of individual psychology
became well known too.

922
00:59:49,080 --> 00:59:52,440

And he was a former
disciple of Freud.

923
00:59:52,440 --> 00:59:57,330
And I liked his teachings
more than Freud's and became

924
00:59:57,330 --> 01:00:01,440
quite involved in Adlerian
individual psychology.

925
01:00:01,440 --> 01:00:04,240

926
01:00:04,240 --> 01:00:12,000
In Berkeley, another former
Freudian scholar, disciple,

927
01:00:12,000 --> 01:00:15,360
who had joined the Adlerian
school of psychology,

928
01:00:15,360 --> 01:00:18,870
formed his own, the so-called
third Viennese school

929
01:00:18,870 --> 01:00:21,930
of psychology, Viktor Frankl.

930
01:00:21,930 --> 01:00:25,470
And he called it logotherapy.

931
01:00:25,470 --> 01:00:27,825
I became very involved in it.

932
01:00:27,825 --> 01:00:36,380
I was, for a long time,
the vice president of it.

933
01:00:36,380 --> 01:00:40,160
My first wife-- the marriage
with my first wife--

934

01:00:40,160 --> 01:00:44,360

broke up a year after

I came to Berkeley.

935

01:00:44,360 --> 01:00:50,750

And the year thereafter, I

married my second wife, Vera--

936

01:00:50,750 --> 01:00:53,360

Vera Lieben.

937

01:00:53,360 --> 01:00:59,870

And she was a schoolteacher,

retired a few years ago,

938

01:00:59,870 --> 01:01:03,500

and became also very

active in local therapy

939

01:01:03,500 --> 01:01:08,930

and studied psychology

and education,

940

01:01:08,930 --> 01:01:13,220

then obtained her doctorate

degree in education

941

01:01:13,220 --> 01:01:16,350

here in San Francisco and

became the training director

942

01:01:16,350 --> 01:01:17,930

of the local therapy.

943

01:01:17,930 --> 01:01:22,250

He had survived the war

in Russia, and Siberia,

944

01:01:22,250 --> 01:01:24,530

and the Russian camps.

945

01:01:24,530 --> 01:01:28,910

And her story is probably much
more interesting than mine.

946

01:01:28,910 --> 01:01:33,110

One day, you should
probably interview her.

947

01:01:33,110 --> 01:01:35,900

One day, we'd like to.

948

01:01:35,900 --> 01:01:40,760

Can you show us your book and
tell us a little bit about it?

949

01:01:40,760 --> 01:01:45,650

I called my book
Goodbye, Vienna.

950

01:01:45,650 --> 01:01:50,360

I thought I would
never return to it.

951

01:01:50,360 --> 01:01:55,880

When I left Vienna,
my first wife and I,

952

01:01:55,880 --> 01:02:01,620

we took a streetcar to the
furthest western streetcar

953

01:02:01,620 --> 01:02:07,260

station, which is in HÃ¼tteldorf,
left the train there,

954

01:02:07,260 --> 01:02:10,750

and started hiking
on the street.

955

01:02:10,750 --> 01:02:18,480

And when we got the first
car that took us along,

956

01:02:18,480 --> 01:02:22,290

we turned back and had
still a view of Vienna,

957
01:02:22,290 --> 01:02:28,920
the dome of St.
Stephen, my name.

958
01:02:28,920 --> 01:02:31,200
And I said, goodbye, Vienna--

959
01:02:31,200 --> 01:02:34,230
thought I would never return.

960
01:02:34,230 --> 01:02:41,340
From Australia, I made a
return to Europe in 1953.

961
01:02:41,340 --> 01:02:45,110
I had established myself
as an importer there.

962
01:02:45,110 --> 01:02:47,610
I started an import company.

963
01:02:47,610 --> 01:02:53,730
And eight years after
the war, I didn't

964
01:02:53,730 --> 01:02:57,240
want to see anything in
Austria, but I went to Germany.

965
01:02:57,240 --> 01:03:04,410
But my second wife's family
returned to Vienna in 1945

966
01:03:04,410 --> 01:03:06,760
and lived there since then.

967
01:03:06,760 --> 01:03:11,610
And with Vera, my second wife,
I went back quite a few times

968

01:03:11,610 --> 01:03:12,360
to Vienna.

969

01:03:12,360 --> 01:03:15,900
Now, this book here,
Goodbye, Vienna,

970

01:03:15,900 --> 01:03:21,030
tells in detail what I have
just answered to your questions.

971

01:03:21,030 --> 01:03:26,100
In Mexico, second son
was born to us, Tomas.

972

01:03:26,100 --> 01:03:30,750
And in Australia, a daughter
was born to us, Alice.

973

01:03:30,750 --> 01:03:34,330
So it's an international family.

974

01:03:34,330 --> 01:03:38,010
I was born in Slovakia,
lived in Vienna.

975

01:03:38,010 --> 01:03:41,130
George was conceived in Sweden.

976

01:03:41,130 --> 01:03:47,910
And his name is
George Gunnar Kalmar,

977

01:03:47,910 --> 01:03:53,040
after a close Swedish fellow who
became a close friend of ours.

978

01:03:53,040 --> 01:03:57,705
Tom's name is Tom Mario.

979

01:03:57,705 --> 01:04:03,360
The girl in Australia's name

is Elise, Elise Margit, Margit

980

01:04:03,360 --> 01:04:04,770
after my sister.

981

01:04:04,770 --> 01:04:10,620

982

01:04:10,620 --> 01:04:14,790

In this book, there are
photographs of my family--

983

01:04:14,790 --> 01:04:24,150

a family picture
showing my whole family,

984

01:04:24,150 --> 01:04:30,018

and separately my brothers
and sisters who died.

985

01:04:30,018 --> 01:04:31,770

You want to hold those up?

986

01:04:31,770 --> 01:04:38,390

It showed me when I
was nine years old,

987

01:04:38,390 --> 01:04:39,950

after the First World War.

988

01:04:39,950 --> 01:04:46,340

Through a Jewish children's
help organization,

989

01:04:46,340 --> 01:04:49,790

I was sent to Holland.

990

01:04:49,790 --> 01:04:53,450

Some others went were sent
to Denmark and to Sweden.

991

01:04:53,450 --> 01:04:58,790

And I lived six months
in Holland there

992
01:04:58,790 --> 01:05:02,930
and forgot all my
German, spoke only Dutch.

993
01:05:02,930 --> 01:05:06,460
But then I came back to
Vienna, I quickly learned it.

994
01:05:06,460 --> 01:05:09,830
Sam, hold that up so she
can get it on the camera.

995
01:05:09,830 --> 01:05:20,835

996
01:05:20,835 --> 01:05:21,460
It's wonderful.

997
01:05:21,460 --> 01:05:23,410
Thank you.

998
01:05:23,410 --> 01:05:26,285
There is a picture of my family.

999
01:05:26,285 --> 01:05:29,340

1000
01:05:29,340 --> 01:05:37,220
You can see in the middle,
my mother and my father

1001
01:05:37,220 --> 01:05:39,122
on the side.

1002
01:05:39,122 --> 01:05:41,080
There is your mother
right in the middle, yeah.

1003
01:05:41,080 --> 01:05:52,120

My mother, my father, my oldest
brother, Shandor, the next one,

1004
01:05:52,120 --> 01:05:52,990
Edmond--

1005
01:05:52,990 --> 01:05:55,270
They look alike.

1006
01:05:55,270 --> 01:06:01,360
The oldest sister, Ernestine--
we called her Estie.

1007
01:06:01,360 --> 01:06:08,570
My sister, Margit
then Jules, and me.

1008
01:06:08,570 --> 01:06:12,890
I'm probably holding a big,
rubber ball in my hands

1009
01:06:12,890 --> 01:06:14,120
beside the picture.

1010
01:06:14,120 --> 01:06:17,150
It has a face on it,
and I am holding it

1011
01:06:17,150 --> 01:06:21,930
so that the photographer will
take a picture of that face.

1012
01:06:21,930 --> 01:06:23,900
You recall taking
that photograph?

1013
01:06:23,900 --> 01:06:24,770
Do you recall?

1014
01:06:24,770 --> 01:06:28,080
Yes, I recall it very well.

1015

01:06:28,080 --> 01:06:34,610
And my brother, still in
uniform, was taken 1918.

1016
01:06:34,610 --> 01:06:37,490
This brother, too,
was on furlough.

1017
01:06:37,490 --> 01:06:39,450
1917 it must have been taken.

1018
01:06:39,450 --> 01:06:41,960
The war ended in 1918.

1019
01:06:41,960 --> 01:06:46,220
That's probably right--
I'm seven years old there.

1020
01:06:46,220 --> 01:06:54,560
And here is a picture
of my membership

1021
01:06:54,560 --> 01:06:57,410
card in the socialist
student organization

1022
01:06:57,410 --> 01:07:01,470
when I was 13 years
old, and another one

1023
01:07:01,470 --> 01:07:03,725
in the Social Democratic Party.

1024
01:07:03,725 --> 01:07:09,080

1025
01:07:09,080 --> 01:07:13,940
Can you tell us about
anti-Semitism in Vienna?

1026
01:07:13,940 --> 01:07:14,440
Yes.

1027

01:07:14,440 --> 01:07:21,390

1028

01:07:21,390 --> 01:07:24,090

This is a picture of the
sister, and her husband,

1029

01:07:24,090 --> 01:07:25,890

and the little boy who died in--

1030

01:07:25,890 --> 01:07:30,180

who was sent first
to Theresienstadt.

1031

01:07:30,180 --> 01:07:36,690

And he died there, and
she died in Auschwitz.

1032

01:07:36,690 --> 01:07:40,470

The whole family was
outstanding, handsome.

1033

01:07:40,470 --> 01:07:41,100

Beautiful.

1034

01:07:41,100 --> 01:07:44,300

1035

01:07:44,300 --> 01:07:47,810

Here is a picture of the
crossword puzzle magazines

1036

01:07:47,810 --> 01:07:52,220

that I made in Spanish
in Mexico City.

1037

01:07:52,220 --> 01:08:02,280

1038

01:08:02,280 --> 01:08:05,640

Here, that is a picture
in Mexico City--

1039
01:08:05,640 --> 01:08:11,050
a close friend of
mine were friends.

1040
01:08:11,050 --> 01:08:14,250
Otto and Elise [Personal
name] Otto [Personal name]

1041
01:08:14,250 --> 01:08:18,090
and Elise [Personal
name] Elise was

1042
01:08:18,090 --> 01:08:21,960
of a Jewish family, a large
furniture manufacturing

1043
01:08:21,960 --> 01:08:23,560
company in Prague.

1044
01:08:23,560 --> 01:08:27,180
He was a labor leader, a
member of the Reichstag,

1045
01:08:27,180 --> 01:08:29,430
of the parliament in Germany.

1046
01:08:29,430 --> 01:08:33,240
And they became friends of mine.

1047
01:08:33,240 --> 01:08:34,859
But they were well-known.

1048
01:08:34,859 --> 01:08:40,470
And here you see Diego Rivera,
the famous Mexican painter,

1049
01:08:40,470 --> 01:08:42,569
making a portrait of Otto.

1050
01:08:42,569 --> 01:08:47,005

1051

01:08:47,005 --> 01:08:47,630

That's amazing.

1052

01:08:47,630 --> 01:08:52,420

They were leftist socialist--
not communist, not Trotskyite.

1053

01:08:52,420 --> 01:08:54,439

They were anti-Trotskyites, too.

1054

01:08:54,439 --> 01:08:57,890

They were for, more or less,
what Solidarity's doing now,

1055

01:08:57,890 --> 01:09:00,100

or tried to do in Poland--

1056

01:09:00,100 --> 01:09:04,960

democracy from the ground up--

1057

01:09:04,960 --> 01:09:09,250

small factories, committees,
and true democracies.

1058

01:09:09,250 --> 01:09:12,750

But they recognized
and respected

1059

01:09:12,750 --> 01:09:15,060

Trotsky, met often with him.

1060

01:09:15,060 --> 01:09:20,069

And here's a picture of
Trotsky in Mexico City

1061

01:09:20,069 --> 01:09:23,880

with Elise [Personal last name]
and Otto [Personal last name]

1062

01:09:23,880 --> 01:09:25,410

And did you take

these photographs?

1063

01:09:25,410 --> 01:09:30,060

No, I came to Mexico.

1064

01:09:30,060 --> 01:09:31,950

I never met Trotsky.

1065

01:09:31,950 --> 01:09:35,520

He was killed just
about when I came there.

1066

01:09:35,520 --> 01:09:40,380

I met his wife a few times, but
not without knowing her better,

1067

01:09:40,380 --> 01:09:44,500

just was introduced to her.

1068

01:09:44,500 --> 01:09:47,710

Anti-Semitism in Austria,
Vienna especially,

1069

01:09:47,710 --> 01:09:57,970

was very strong in
every range of society--

1070

01:09:57,970 --> 01:09:58,840

everywhere.

1071

01:09:58,840 --> 01:10:01,490

1072

01:10:01,490 --> 01:10:05,000

You could see at
school already, Jews

1073

01:10:05,000 --> 01:10:11,870

had no chance to advance
in government jobs.

1074

01:10:11,870 --> 01:10:24,600

A few became known as professors
or doctors, physicians,

1075
01:10:24,600 --> 01:10:25,800
this government employed.

1076
01:10:25,800 --> 01:10:28,200
But in normal
government positions,

1077
01:10:28,200 --> 01:10:32,970
it was 100%
non-Jewish occupation.

1078
01:10:32,970 --> 01:10:36,870
A few Jews could
establish themselves

1079
01:10:36,870 --> 01:10:42,180
as professionals in
various small professions--

1080
01:10:42,180 --> 01:10:46,770
carpentry, tailoring,
and electricians.

1081
01:10:46,770 --> 01:10:51,630

1082
01:10:51,630 --> 01:10:56,670
At the university, often,
the Jewish students

1083
01:10:56,670 --> 01:11:00,060
were beaten by
the already strong

1084
01:11:00,060 --> 01:11:04,910
nationalistic, before
Hitler, really,

1085
01:11:04,910 --> 01:11:08,240
anti-Semitic student

organization.

1086

01:11:08,240 --> 01:11:12,920

The police would
not defend them.

1087

01:11:12,920 --> 01:11:14,800

You were often
called [NON-ENGLISH]..

1088

01:11:14,800 --> 01:11:17,625

It means "big Jew"
on the street.

1089

01:11:17,625 --> 01:11:23,840

1090

01:11:23,840 --> 01:11:31,460

It was not so amongst the
Social Democratic Party.

1091

01:11:31,460 --> 01:11:35,720

There might have been some
dormant anti-Semitism in it.

1092

01:11:35,720 --> 01:11:41,720

I did not encounter it until
the last few months before

1093

01:11:41,720 --> 01:11:48,370

the Nazis became very
strong, my friends were,

1094

01:11:48,370 --> 01:11:55,230

to a great extent,
non-Jewish or Viennese--

1095

01:11:55,230 --> 01:11:57,752

all the Jewish ones-- but
mainly, non-Jewish ones.

1096

01:11:57,752 --> 01:12:00,590

1097

01:12:00,590 --> 01:12:04,650
What was happening in Vienna,
like in Germany, the longer

1098

01:12:04,650 --> 01:12:08,720
the Jews stayed there, the
more of them became assimilated

1099

01:12:08,720 --> 01:12:12,230
and became Austrians and
Germans intermarried.

1100

01:12:12,230 --> 01:12:15,890
But in Austria, contrary to
German, especially in Vienna--

1101

01:12:15,890 --> 01:12:18,170
or exclusively
almost in Vienna--

1102

01:12:18,170 --> 01:12:21,620
there was a continuous
influx of Jewish people

1103

01:12:21,620 --> 01:12:25,280
from the other areas of the
Austrian-Hungarian monarchy,

1104

01:12:25,280 --> 01:12:27,320
like we who'd come
from Slovakia,

1105

01:12:27,320 --> 01:12:30,080
and after us many of
us, and from Hungary,

1106

01:12:30,080 --> 01:12:33,380
and from Poland,
Galicia and Romania,

1107

01:12:33,380 --> 01:12:41,820
and Herzegovina, and Yugoslavia.

1108
01:12:41,820 --> 01:12:47,120
So the Jewish population
grew, but it was

1109
01:12:47,120 --> 01:12:51,470
a switch going on all the time.

1110
01:12:51,470 --> 01:12:56,280
The assimilated Jews didn't
find so much anti-Semitism.

1111
01:12:56,280 --> 01:12:58,320
Others didn't
recognize them as Jews,

1112
01:12:58,320 --> 01:13:04,185
but those who were recognized as
Jew were always treated badly.

1113
01:13:04,185 --> 01:13:07,270

1114
01:13:07,270 --> 01:13:09,220
Well, how did some
Jews physically

1115
01:13:09,220 --> 01:13:11,470
stand out as Jewish
and others not?

1116
01:13:11,470 --> 01:13:14,880

1117
01:13:14,880 --> 01:13:18,510
The Jews that came from
the Eastern part of Europe

1118
01:13:18,510 --> 01:13:23,610
were all orthodox Jews.

1119
01:13:23,610 --> 01:13:27,450

They spoke Yiddish, which
already gave them away.

1120
01:13:27,450 --> 01:13:29,850
They wore black hats.

1121
01:13:29,850 --> 01:13:32,890
They had side locks.

1122
01:13:32,890 --> 01:13:34,780
They often went together.

1123
01:13:34,780 --> 01:13:37,360
They used their hands to speak.

1124
01:13:37,360 --> 01:13:40,060
They were loud.

1125
01:13:40,060 --> 01:13:42,890
The assimilated ones
behaved like the others

1126
01:13:42,890 --> 01:13:44,530
that had gone through
the same schools,

1127
01:13:44,530 --> 01:13:46,690
had lost their old ways.

1128
01:13:46,690 --> 01:13:49,780

1129
01:13:49,780 --> 01:13:53,680
They may have still been
religious Jews, obeying Jews,

1130
01:13:53,680 --> 01:13:58,360
but most people wouldn't
recognize them--

1131
01:13:58,360 --> 01:14:00,425
in Germany even more

so than in Austria.

1132

01:14:00,425 --> 01:14:08,110

1133

01:14:08,110 --> 01:14:14,650

Austria was a Catholic country,
and to my own experience,

1134

01:14:14,650 --> 01:14:20,440

wherever there is a
strong Catholic influence

1135

01:14:20,440 --> 01:14:24,190

in primitive countries,
it goes hand-in-hand

1136

01:14:24,190 --> 01:14:26,380

with the strong anti-Semitism.

1137

01:14:26,380 --> 01:14:29,930

That's why Slovakia had
strong anti-Semitism

1138

01:14:29,930 --> 01:14:31,840

as a strong Catholic country.

1139

01:14:31,840 --> 01:14:36,670

Slovakia during the Hitler time
formed an armed state equally

1140

01:14:36,670 --> 01:14:43,080

brutal, equally killing
Jews like the Germans did--

1141

01:14:43,080 --> 01:14:44,910

Austria much more than Germany.

1142

01:14:44,910 --> 01:14:48,770

1143

01:14:48,770 --> 01:14:54,360

National socialism
became strong in Germany.

1144
01:14:54,360 --> 01:14:57,180
The individual German
hardly knew Jews.

1145
01:14:57,180 --> 01:15:02,750
There were only about 500,000,
600,000 Jews in all of Germany.

1146
01:15:02,750 --> 01:15:05,090
In Austria, it was different,
especially in Vienna.

1147
01:15:05,090 --> 01:15:06,560
You had many Jews in Vienna.

1148
01:15:06,560 --> 01:15:10,970
About 10% of the population
of Vienna was Jewish.

1149
01:15:10,970 --> 01:15:14,660
And of them, a good
part was recently

1150
01:15:14,660 --> 01:15:22,890
arrived Jews who
was easily visible.

1151
01:15:22,890 --> 01:15:26,940
But you don't need them
really to see them and know

1152
01:15:26,940 --> 01:15:28,800
them to be anti-Semitic.

1153
01:15:28,800 --> 01:15:31,350
Anti-Semitism finds
sort of his reason

1154
01:15:31,350 --> 01:15:35,220
for anti-Semitism and

for hating the Jews.

1155

01:15:35,220 --> 01:15:38,183

1156

01:15:38,183 --> 01:15:39,600

What do you think
the reasons were

1157

01:15:39,600 --> 01:15:41,810

in Vienna for hating the Jews?

1158

01:15:41,810 --> 01:15:51,480

1159

01:15:51,480 --> 01:15:53,700

If it hadn't been
the Jews, if it

1160

01:15:53,700 --> 01:15:58,410

had been some other ethnic
group that was different,

1161

01:15:58,410 --> 01:16:00,960

they would have hated
those and blamed them

1162

01:16:00,960 --> 01:16:06,900

for their shortcomings,
and troubles, and poverty,

1163

01:16:06,900 --> 01:16:08,940

and whatever went wrong.

1164

01:16:08,940 --> 01:16:12,660

Now, they have no Jews, and
they still are anti-Semitic,

1165

01:16:12,660 --> 01:16:17,100

or they switch over to become
anti-Yugoslavs, or anti-Turks,

1166

01:16:17,100 --> 01:16:20,730
or anti-Greeks in
Germany and in Austria.

1167
01:16:20,730 --> 01:16:23,430
I think in every country,
not only in Austria,

1168
01:16:23,430 --> 01:16:29,400
it's not the
exclusiveness of them.

1169
01:16:29,400 --> 01:16:31,680
In the United States
or in other country,

1170
01:16:31,680 --> 01:16:34,770
any minority will
be hated by or could

1171
01:16:34,770 --> 01:16:38,680
be blamed for the bad things
that happen in a country,

1172
01:16:38,680 --> 01:16:41,610
especially if some
members of that minority

1173
01:16:41,610 --> 01:16:46,860
become very visible, either
in economics or in politics.

1174
01:16:46,860 --> 01:16:50,430
And then even
today, you may find

1175
01:16:50,430 --> 01:16:53,820
people who think that there are,
again, 100,000 Jews in Austria,

1176
01:16:53,820 --> 01:16:56,880
in Germany, or in Poland, and
there are only a few thousand

1177

01:16:56,880 --> 01:16:58,560
there.

1178

01:16:58,560 --> 01:17:02,550
Facts don't count
very much if it's

1179

01:17:02,550 --> 01:17:08,610
an easy outlet for your
own worries and troubles,

1180

01:17:08,610 --> 01:17:11,130
you don't know the
explanations for them,

1181

01:17:11,130 --> 01:17:14,580
you blame people who
have a different color,

1182

01:17:14,580 --> 01:17:24,430
or different belief, or
different ethnic background.

1183

01:17:24,430 --> 01:17:26,330
Then you'll feel
better if you belong

1184

01:17:26,330 --> 01:17:30,675
to the stronger, bigger
majority in your country.

1185

01:17:30,675 --> 01:17:35,840

1186

01:17:35,840 --> 01:17:39,320
This may be a
difficult question,

1187

01:17:39,320 --> 01:17:43,370
but you've lived
in many countries.

1188

01:17:43,370 --> 01:17:50,690
And how did anti-Semitism
compare to the anti-Semitism

1189
01:17:50,690 --> 01:17:53,270
you experienced in Vienna?

1190
01:17:53,270 --> 01:17:57,720
Greater, lesser, non-existent?

1191
01:17:57,720 --> 01:18:01,535
Probably those who were looking
for it could find it everywhere

1192
01:18:01,535 --> 01:18:02,610
.

1193
01:18:02,610 --> 01:18:05,790
But if you were not looking
for it, if you came there

1194
01:18:05,790 --> 01:18:09,470
to these countries, tried
to establish yourself,

1195
01:18:09,470 --> 01:18:13,880
learned the
language, I would say

1196
01:18:13,880 --> 01:18:20,660
I found none personally in
Sweden, or in Australia,

1197
01:18:20,660 --> 01:18:22,100
or in Mexico.

1198
01:18:22,100 --> 01:18:24,470
But I know that there
were, especially

1199
01:18:24,470 --> 01:18:31,650
in the leading
classes of Sweden,

1200
01:18:31,650 --> 01:18:35,040
was a lot of sympathy
for Hitler and the Nazis,

1201
01:18:35,040 --> 01:18:40,380
and probably leading
positions were never

1202
01:18:40,380 --> 01:18:43,500
available for Jewish people,
neither in the government

1203
01:18:43,500 --> 01:18:47,820
nor in industry-- a few,
perhaps, outstanding,

1204
01:18:47,820 --> 01:18:53,730
but they did not have the
equal chance as a reason.

1205
01:18:53,730 --> 01:18:55,790
But I didn't find any.

1206
01:18:55,790 --> 01:19:03,080
Sweden treated us very well,
treated to Jewish immigrants

1207
01:19:03,080 --> 01:19:03,778
there well.

1208
01:19:03,778 --> 01:19:04,820
They were not immigrants.

1209
01:19:04,820 --> 01:19:06,680
They were only allowed
to stay until they

1210
01:19:06,680 --> 01:19:09,710
could go to some other country.

1211
01:19:09,710 --> 01:19:12,500

It's a problem that no
country want the Jews--

1212
01:19:12,500 --> 01:19:15,200
neither the United States.

1213
01:19:15,200 --> 01:19:23,590
If I had applied for a visa
for the United States in 1938

1214
01:19:23,590 --> 01:19:27,090
in Vienna through my brother
for an immigrant visa,

1215
01:19:27,090 --> 01:19:31,120
it would have taken five or six
years before the quota number

1216
01:19:31,120 --> 01:19:34,600
would come up-- it
was a quota system--

1217
01:19:34,600 --> 01:19:35,680
pretty useless.

1218
01:19:35,680 --> 01:19:37,780
Only a small number could come.

1219
01:19:37,780 --> 01:19:41,890
The same other countries
would take Jewish people

1220
01:19:41,890 --> 01:19:43,420
if they were
married to non-Jews.

1221
01:19:43,420 --> 01:19:45,910
Australia took a few.

1222
01:19:45,910 --> 01:19:48,610
Mexico took some
non-married Jews

1223

01:19:48,610 --> 01:19:52,210

if they were willing to
marry Mexican people.

1224

01:19:52,210 --> 01:19:57,610

Australia, Argentina,
and Brazil, the Quaker

1225

01:19:57,610 --> 01:20:00,470

arranged some visas for them.

1226

01:20:00,470 --> 01:20:07,720

And so people in Sweden
only tolerated immigrants.

1227

01:20:07,720 --> 01:20:09,890

And the Jewish people in
Sweden didn't want them.

1228

01:20:09,890 --> 01:20:11,950

They were afraid this
anti-Semitism may

1229

01:20:11,950 --> 01:20:13,995

grow if they would stay there.

1230

01:20:13,995 --> 01:20:15,370

So that's why they
helped people.

1231

01:20:15,370 --> 01:20:18,780

They helped me to
get out of Sweden.

1232

01:20:18,780 --> 01:20:22,180

There were are only a few
thousand Jews in Sweden.

1233

01:20:22,180 --> 01:20:26,200

In Australia, there were
not many, only a few.

1234

01:20:26,200 --> 01:20:31,000
I didn't encounter any, and
there is not much to be seen.

1235
01:20:31,000 --> 01:20:35,140
In Mexico, you are
not known as a Jew.

1236
01:20:35,140 --> 01:20:39,700
Mexico, you are treated
by your nationalities.

1237
01:20:39,700 --> 01:20:44,650
They would not say to him, Mr.
Moskowitz, the Jew Moskowitz.

1238
01:20:44,650 --> 01:20:51,310
They would say El Polaco, or
the Russian, or the Hungarian.

1239
01:20:51,310 --> 01:20:55,540
If somebody does something wrong
and gets into the newspaper,

1240
01:20:55,540 --> 01:21:00,130
you always say,
Alleman, for example--

1241
01:21:00,130 --> 01:21:01,870
the German so and so.

1242
01:21:01,870 --> 01:21:03,910
If he was Jewish,
had the Jewish name,

1243
01:21:03,910 --> 01:21:09,260
but he went by the
nationality that he had.

1244
01:21:09,260 --> 01:21:12,050
And Jewishness was not
considered a nationality,

1245

01:21:12,050 --> 01:21:16,970
contrary to Poland and Russia,
where the Jews formed and were

1246
01:21:16,970 --> 01:21:20,900
considered a nation by
themselves within the bigger

1247
01:21:20,900 --> 01:21:22,010
nation--

1248
01:21:22,010 --> 01:21:23,990
was a nationality.

1249
01:21:23,990 --> 01:21:25,640
They had to say
in their passports

1250
01:21:25,640 --> 01:21:28,920
or whatever when they
were asked this nation,

1251
01:21:28,920 --> 01:21:31,990
they had to say, Jewish,
whereas in Germany, Austria

1252
01:21:31,990 --> 01:21:35,130
you would say German-Austrian.

1253
01:21:35,130 --> 01:21:37,490
And in Mexico,
surprisingly, it's the same.

1254
01:21:37,490 --> 01:21:40,270

1255
01:21:40,270 --> 01:21:42,330
That's what I
could say about it.

1256
01:21:42,330 --> 01:21:46,140

1257

01:21:46,140 --> 01:21:51,030

If they know that somebody is
Jewish, they don't like them,

1258

01:21:51,030 --> 01:21:54,840

they would say, judeo and that
is a swear word in Mexico.

1259

01:21:54,840 --> 01:21:56,340

But they wouldn't
recognize them.

1260

01:21:56,340 --> 01:21:57,715

They are just
foreigners to them.

1261

01:21:57,715 --> 01:22:01,320

1262

01:22:01,320 --> 01:22:04,140

Were you ever beat
up for being a Jew?

1263

01:22:04,140 --> 01:22:07,170

Were you ever beaten
for being a Jew?

1264

01:22:07,170 --> 01:22:08,730

Beaten.

1265

01:22:08,730 --> 01:22:10,260

Were you ever beaten as a child?

1266

01:22:10,260 --> 01:22:11,710

Beaten.

1267

01:22:11,710 --> 01:22:15,690

I was beaten as a student
at the university.

1268

01:22:15,690 --> 01:22:20,320

1269
01:22:20,320 --> 01:22:23,090
I remember one
thing, especially--

1270
01:22:23,090 --> 01:22:25,310
the socialist
student wanted once

1271
01:22:25,310 --> 01:22:28,550
to show them that
we can resist them.

1272
01:22:28,550 --> 01:22:33,200
And we went an early morning
out to the university, about 60

1273
01:22:33,200 --> 01:22:37,790
of us, armed with sticks,
and blocked the door,

1274
01:22:37,790 --> 01:22:40,160
and didn't let the Nazis in.

1275
01:22:40,160 --> 01:22:42,830
But they came in
through a back door--

1276
01:22:42,830 --> 01:22:45,695
the professors or the guards.

1277
01:22:45,695 --> 01:22:48,320

1278
01:22:48,320 --> 01:22:53,390
The concierge opened the
door for them in the back,

1279
01:22:53,390 --> 01:22:55,550
and then they were more than we.

1280
01:22:55,550 --> 01:22:58,980

They opened the door from
inside and went at us.

1281
01:22:58,980 --> 01:23:01,190
And we were beaten by
them, and then the police

1282
01:23:01,190 --> 01:23:03,350
arrested me and
arrested others--

1283
01:23:03,350 --> 01:23:07,490
not them, but arrested us.

1284
01:23:07,490 --> 01:23:10,370
And on the street,
no, I was never.

1285
01:23:10,370 --> 01:23:14,400
But I lived in a district
that was mainly Jewish.

1286
01:23:14,400 --> 01:23:16,010
The children around
were all Jewish.

1287
01:23:16,010 --> 01:23:19,440

1288
01:23:19,440 --> 01:23:25,170
These beatings didn't happen
before Hitler came to power

1289
01:23:25,170 --> 01:23:26,770
in Vienna or Austria.

1290
01:23:26,770 --> 01:23:31,630
I don't remember to
have heard it ever--

1291
01:23:31,630 --> 01:23:35,710
not like in Poland or
in Russia, where you had

1292
01:23:35,710 --> 01:23:38,267
that happening in the pogroms.

1293
01:23:38,267 --> 01:23:39,850
That must have been
one of the reasons

1294
01:23:39,850 --> 01:23:42,310
why they went to
Vienna or to Budapest

1295
01:23:42,310 --> 01:23:43,690
because there it did not happen.

1296
01:23:43,690 --> 01:23:50,540

1297
01:23:50,540 --> 01:23:54,020
What is your earliest
memory of Hitler?

1298
01:23:54,020 --> 01:23:57,190
And how did people
regard him in Vienna?

1299
01:23:57,190 --> 01:24:06,220

1300
01:24:06,220 --> 01:24:09,520
I knew about Hitler probably
much earlier than most other

1301
01:24:09,520 --> 01:24:12,790
Jews, because being
a socialist, I

1302
01:24:12,790 --> 01:24:21,070
knew about Hitler already
1927, '28 when he started

1303
01:24:21,070 --> 01:24:23,650

to become stronger in Germany.

1304

01:24:23,650 --> 01:24:33,210

He had made a coup attempt
to take over Germany 1923

1305

01:24:33,210 --> 01:24:34,560

in Munich.

1306

01:24:34,560 --> 01:24:38,490

But he was beaten there and
was put in jail for a while.

1307

01:24:38,490 --> 01:24:42,950

And that's where he
wrote Mein Kampf.

1308

01:24:42,950 --> 01:24:48,980

I followed keenly the progress
of the Nazi party there.

1309

01:24:48,980 --> 01:24:58,270

And I was shocked when the
German president, Hindenburg,

1310

01:24:58,270 --> 01:25:00,860

made him the
chancellor of Germany.

1311

01:25:00,860 --> 01:25:05,360

And I thought, that will be the
end of democracy in Germany.

1312

01:25:05,360 --> 01:25:11,350

That was 1933.

1313

01:25:11,350 --> 01:25:16,480

By that time, there was a
small Nazi party in Austria.

1314

01:25:16,480 --> 01:25:20,320

We had German nationalists,
quite a large--

1315
01:25:20,320 --> 01:25:24,850
they called them the German
nationalists, [GERMAN]..

1316
01:25:24,850 --> 01:25:29,740
Perhaps 8% of the population or
8% of the members of Parliament

1317
01:25:29,740 --> 01:25:32,360
wanted Austria to be
a part of Germany,

1318
01:25:32,360 --> 01:25:33,940
but they were not Nazis.

1319
01:25:33,940 --> 01:25:37,840
They were just thinking
that East Germany

1320
01:25:37,840 --> 01:25:39,655
should be united with Germany.

1321
01:25:39,655 --> 01:25:42,160

1322
01:25:42,160 --> 01:25:46,600
As Hitler grew and became
stronger, many of those

1323
01:25:46,600 --> 01:25:47,650
became Nazis.

1324
01:25:47,650 --> 01:25:54,110
And when the Austrian
Catholic Party disallowed

1325
01:25:54,110 --> 01:25:57,110
the Austrian Socialist Party.

1326
01:25:57,110 --> 01:25:59,750
And the Austrian

Socialist Party did not

1327

01:25:59,750 --> 01:26:01,440
resist it strongly enough.

1328

01:26:01,440 --> 01:26:05,570
Many Austrian socialists became
disappointed in socialism

1329

01:26:05,570 --> 01:26:08,110
and fell for the
Nazi propaganda.

1330

01:26:08,110 --> 01:26:13,010
It was called National Socialist
Labor Party, the Nazis.

1331

01:26:13,010 --> 01:26:15,560

1332

01:26:15,560 --> 01:26:17,840
Many said the Jewish leaders--

1333

01:26:17,840 --> 01:26:21,050
there were many Jewish leaders
in the socialist party--

1334

01:26:21,050 --> 01:26:23,270
has betrayed you.

1335

01:26:23,270 --> 01:26:27,670
And a good number of
them switched over.

1336

01:26:27,670 --> 01:26:31,790
I would say not more
than, perhaps, 8% or 10%.

1337

01:26:31,790 --> 01:26:35,240
But still they grew there too.

1338

01:26:35,240 --> 01:26:39,520

1339

01:26:39,520 --> 01:26:45,540
Schuschnigg was assassinated
by the Nazi coup in Austria,

1340

01:26:45,540 --> 01:26:47,960
which failed in 1936.

1341

01:26:47,960 --> 01:26:51,950
And then he was
followed by Schuschnigg,

1342

01:26:51,950 --> 01:26:57,620
the same dictatorship,
only one party existing,

1343

01:26:57,620 --> 01:27:04,880
but not such a brutal
dictatorship as the German was.

1344

01:27:04,880 --> 01:27:07,340
They put the people in jail,
but they didn't kill them.

1345

01:27:07,340 --> 01:27:11,570
They also resisted under
the threat of death.

1346

01:27:11,570 --> 01:27:17,840
In 1934 when Dollfuss
introduced his fascism,

1347

01:27:17,840 --> 01:27:19,220
there was a resistance.

1348

01:27:19,220 --> 01:27:24,740
And there were about, I
can't remember the figure,

1349

01:27:24,740 --> 01:27:27,740
but a few hundred
were killed, and I

1350
01:27:27,740 --> 01:27:32,330
think six or seven were
hung by the government

1351
01:27:32,330 --> 01:27:36,500
for resisting that fascist coup.

1352
01:27:36,500 --> 01:27:40,340
But in the years
from 1936 to 1938,

1353
01:27:40,340 --> 01:27:45,080
there was a change
all around where

1354
01:27:45,080 --> 01:27:51,330
people were abandoning
the Catholic party

1355
01:27:51,330 --> 01:27:53,550
and joining the Nazi party.

1356
01:27:53,550 --> 01:27:57,210
Still, in an election, he would
never have gotten the majority,

1357
01:27:57,210 --> 01:27:59,360
even in Austria.

1358
01:27:59,360 --> 01:28:03,680
But by marching in, of
course, and also, everybody

1359
01:28:03,680 --> 01:28:07,130
try to show that they
always have been Nazis,

1360
01:28:07,130 --> 01:28:09,860
and welcomed him, and
even the day before, they

1361

01:28:09,860 --> 01:28:17,135
were still wearing the socialist
party sign on their lapels.

1362
01:28:17,135 --> 01:28:24,190

1363
01:28:24,190 --> 01:28:25,885
Why did they
capitulate so easily?

1364
01:28:25,885 --> 01:28:29,880

1365
01:28:29,880 --> 01:28:32,850
There was no real strength
behind the government.

1366
01:28:32,850 --> 01:28:38,040
Since 1934, Dollfuss
and then Schuschnigg

1367
01:28:38,040 --> 01:28:42,780
were 100% dependent on
Mussolini's support in Italy--

1368
01:28:42,780 --> 01:28:47,640
Mussolini in Italy and fascism
in Italy was very strong.

1369
01:28:47,640 --> 01:28:50,730
And Austria had
not many choices.

1370
01:28:50,730 --> 01:28:56,240
On the one side, it was
endangered by Hitler Germany.

1371
01:28:56,240 --> 01:28:58,970
Alone, the six million
Austrians could hardly

1372
01:28:58,970 --> 01:29:05,210

have resisted against the
80 million Nazi Germany.

1373
01:29:05,210 --> 01:29:09,950
But by Mussolini supporting
the independence of Austria,

1374
01:29:09,950 --> 01:29:16,480
Mussolini was afraid, to some
degree, of Germany, of Hitler.

1375
01:29:16,480 --> 01:29:20,920
This political group
believed that the only way

1376
01:29:20,920 --> 01:29:24,820
how they could keep
Austria independent--

1377
01:29:24,820 --> 01:29:32,440
and had he not disallowed the
Austrian Social Democratic

1378
01:29:32,440 --> 01:29:34,690
Party, then the
Catholic Party, together

1379
01:29:34,690 --> 01:29:39,820
with the Austrian Party,
could have somehow made

1380
01:29:39,820 --> 01:29:46,390
it harder for Hitler to take it
over, perhaps even prevented it

1381
01:29:46,390 --> 01:29:48,790
without the war, because
Hitler didn't want, really,

1382
01:29:48,790 --> 01:29:50,260
to start the war.

1383
01:29:50,260 --> 01:29:54,280

But how it was, and knowing
that there is hardly

1384
01:29:54,280 --> 01:29:57,770
nobody who supports
the government,

1385
01:29:57,770 --> 01:29:59,690
he had it very easy to march in.

1386
01:29:59,690 --> 01:30:05,840
And by that time already,
he had made pacts

1387
01:30:05,840 --> 01:30:12,240
with Mussolini that Italy,
Germany, and Japan--

1388
01:30:12,240 --> 01:30:17,350
a three anti-communist pact
to fight against Russia.

1389
01:30:17,350 --> 01:30:21,780
So Italy became less and
less ready to stand up

1390
01:30:21,780 --> 01:30:23,130
against Germany.

1391
01:30:23,130 --> 01:30:25,860

1392
01:30:25,860 --> 01:30:28,440
The fascist, Mussolini,
was disappointed

1393
01:30:28,440 --> 01:30:31,170
by the Western
countries, Western world

1394
01:30:31,170 --> 01:30:36,150
not allowing him to take over
Abyssinia when he marched

1395
01:30:36,150 --> 01:30:40,580
into Eritrea, Abyssinia,
and boycotted him,

1396
01:30:40,580 --> 01:30:43,230
whereas Germany supported him.

1397
01:30:43,230 --> 01:30:51,330
So by 1938, Schuschnigg tried
to get the support of Mussolini,

1398
01:30:51,330 --> 01:30:55,050
but Mussolini simply told
him, I can't help you.

1399
01:30:55,050 --> 01:30:58,530
Then he tried to
re-establish the right

1400
01:30:58,530 --> 01:31:01,830
of the Austrian Social
Democratic Party to exist.

1401
01:31:01,830 --> 01:31:05,310
And for a week, they chased
the Nazis from everywhere

1402
01:31:05,310 --> 01:31:07,150
from the streets.

1403
01:31:07,150 --> 01:31:09,300
They were against
the old emblems,

1404
01:31:09,300 --> 01:31:12,870
and suddenly everybody was,
again, a social democrat.

1405
01:31:12,870 --> 01:31:18,300
And Schuschnigg
proposed a referendum.

1406

01:31:18,300 --> 01:31:21,210

And that connection
may be interesting--

1407

01:31:21,210 --> 01:31:24,420

that was early-1938.

1408

01:31:24,420 --> 01:31:28,230

I had only the right to
stay in Sweden as a tourist.

1409

01:31:28,230 --> 01:31:30,840

So I left Sweden,
and went to Finland,

1410

01:31:30,840 --> 01:31:33,330

and lived in Finland
for a few months.

1411

01:31:33,330 --> 01:31:36,090

I could make my crossword
puzzle in Finland as well as

1412

01:31:36,090 --> 01:31:40,650

in Sweden, and was still sending
them to Vienna to my friend,

1413

01:31:40,650 --> 01:31:45,960

Fred Weingarten, who was
still the chief editor there

1414

01:31:45,960 --> 01:31:47,730

before Hitler
offed his magazines

1415

01:31:47,730 --> 01:31:50,700

and paid for those puzzles.

1416

01:31:50,700 --> 01:31:52,890

When I heard about
this referendum,

1417

01:31:52,890 --> 01:31:55,530

I was sure that Hitler
will never allow it.

1418

01:31:55,530 --> 01:31:58,770

The referendum was, are
you in favor of Austria

1419

01:31:58,770 --> 01:32:01,680

to remain an
independent country?

1420

01:32:01,680 --> 01:32:06,150

Or are you in favor of Austria
to become a part of Germany?

1421

01:32:06,150 --> 01:32:08,670

And the majority would
have voted against it

1422

01:32:08,670 --> 01:32:11,310

because Schuschnigg
at the same time

1423

01:32:11,310 --> 01:32:14,940

allowed the Social
Democratic Party to exist.

1424

01:32:14,940 --> 01:32:21,060

And they 100% would have voted
against Anschluss to Germany.

1425

01:32:21,060 --> 01:32:25,140

So the next day, we went back to
Sweden because in Finland, they

1426

01:32:25,140 --> 01:32:28,200

had no support by the
political organization,

1427

01:32:28,200 --> 01:32:32,760

went back to Sweden,
and within a few days,

1428

01:32:32,760 --> 01:32:35,940

Hitler threatened to march
immediately into Austria.

1429

01:32:35,940 --> 01:32:40,110

So the referendum was canceled,
and then he marched in anyhow--

1430

01:32:40,110 --> 01:32:42,870

1431

01:32:42,870 --> 01:32:46,171

and Mussolini was
in favor of it.

1432

01:32:46,171 --> 01:32:50,890

1433

01:32:50,890 --> 01:32:53,830

Do you recall the events
that led to your decision

1434

01:32:53,830 --> 01:32:56,372

to leave in 1937?

1435

01:32:56,372 --> 01:33:08,180

1436

01:33:08,180 --> 01:33:16,200

You may not have many people
whom you interviewed who still

1437

01:33:16,200 --> 01:33:19,440

are alive and remember
the political details

1438

01:33:19,440 --> 01:33:25,290

of those years-- the last 10
years, say, from 1927 to 1937.

1439

01:33:25,290 --> 01:33:32,430

But up to 1927, there was

still great hope for socialism

1440

01:33:32,430 --> 01:33:37,260
and social democracy in
Austria or in Germany too.

1441

01:33:37,260 --> 01:33:40,710
The Austrian Social Democratic
Party had the self-defense

1442

01:33:40,710 --> 01:33:44,940
organizations that had more
members of the military--

1443

01:33:44,940 --> 01:33:46,620
government military.

1444

01:33:46,620 --> 01:33:50,340
By the Treaty of
Versailles, Austria

1445

01:33:50,340 --> 01:33:51,900
was only allowed
to have, I think,

1446

01:33:51,900 --> 01:33:58,410
26,000 soldiers
and no armaments.

1447

01:33:58,410 --> 01:34:00,870
But the Social
Democrat Labor Party

1448

01:34:00,870 --> 01:34:04,980
had about 40,000 former
soldiers who were taking part

1449

01:34:04,980 --> 01:34:10,920
in the war who has formed
a self-defense organization

1450

01:34:10,920 --> 01:34:13,260
against an attempt

to re-establish

1451
01:34:13,260 --> 01:34:15,540
the monarchy in Austria.

1452
01:34:15,540 --> 01:34:19,050
And there were fascist
forces already attacking

1453
01:34:19,050 --> 01:34:21,690
the socialist Mussolini
type fascists.

1454
01:34:21,690 --> 01:34:27,960

1455
01:34:27,960 --> 01:34:31,740
And every time some Social
Democrat or liberal man

1456
01:34:31,740 --> 01:34:33,390
in Germany or in Austria--

1457
01:34:33,390 --> 01:34:37,950
many in Germany, too, were
killed by fascist groups.

1458
01:34:37,950 --> 01:34:41,940
A Jewish minister, a
member of government

1459
01:34:41,940 --> 01:34:46,380
in Germany, Rathenau, was
shot by the German Social

1460
01:34:46,380 --> 01:34:50,610
Democrats, like Liebknecht
and Luxemburg were killed,

1461
01:34:50,610 --> 01:34:52,470
and many others.

1462

01:34:52,470 --> 01:34:54,620

They always were
acquitted by the court.

1463

01:34:54,620 --> 01:34:56,820

Nothing happened
to the murderers.

1464

01:34:56,820 --> 01:35:00,150

And in Austria, the
same happened 1927

1465

01:35:00,150 --> 01:35:02,220

on the 15th of July.

1466

01:35:02,220 --> 01:35:06,840

And some of those
Heimwehr fascists

1467

01:35:06,840 --> 01:35:11,280

had killed seven Social
Democrats in a demonstration,

1468

01:35:11,280 --> 01:35:13,770

and they were
acquitted by the court.

1469

01:35:13,770 --> 01:35:19,930

And the workers in
Vienna put on the tools

1470

01:35:19,930 --> 01:35:24,670

and marched into the center of
Vienna to protest against it.

1471

01:35:24,670 --> 01:35:26,290

They came through
the second district.

1472

01:35:26,290 --> 01:35:29,060

I was 17 years old.

1473

01:35:29,060 --> 01:35:31,300

We marched there peacefully.

1474

01:35:31,300 --> 01:35:36,940

And we came close to the palace
of justice, it was called.

1475

01:35:36,940 --> 01:35:42,000

And some people had
gone in their age

1476

01:35:42,000 --> 01:35:46,110

into that palace of
justice and put fire to it,

1477

01:35:46,110 --> 01:35:47,760

to document that it burned.

1478

01:35:47,760 --> 01:35:49,780

And because so many
people were around it,

1479

01:35:49,780 --> 01:35:51,960

the fire brigades
couldn't come to it,

1480

01:35:51,960 --> 01:35:54,420

and it burned quite strongly.

1481

01:35:54,420 --> 01:36:02,320

And the police came on
horses, and on cars, trucks,

1482

01:36:02,320 --> 01:36:05,730

and started shooting.

1483

01:36:05,730 --> 01:36:07,770

97 people were killed.

1484

01:36:07,770 --> 01:36:10,050

They are peacefully
demonstrating people,

1485

01:36:10,050 --> 01:36:14,060
and everybody expect now
will come a general strike,

1486
01:36:14,060 --> 01:36:18,270
and the Social Democrats will
take over the government.

1487
01:36:18,270 --> 01:36:20,940
And the strike broke down.

1488
01:36:20,940 --> 01:36:23,250
Nothing happened.

1489
01:36:23,250 --> 01:36:27,090
About 1,000 people were
arrested and put in jail.

1490
01:36:27,090 --> 01:36:35,250
And on that day, I said, that
seemed to have been, really,

1491
01:36:35,250 --> 01:36:37,130
a fairy tale of our strengths.

1492
01:36:37,130 --> 01:36:39,580
We don't have that
strength at all.

1493
01:36:39,580 --> 01:36:43,170
And then 1934, the fascist
government was introduced,

1494
01:36:43,170 --> 01:36:48,310
and we were outlawed,
really very little happened.

1495
01:36:48,310 --> 01:36:51,840
So I still remained a socialist,
but I'd given up all hope

1496
01:36:51,840 --> 01:36:55,810
for any future in Austria.

1497
01:36:55,810 --> 01:36:58,440

1498
01:36:58,440 --> 01:37:00,540
But I still continued
to work for them.

1499
01:37:00,540 --> 01:37:05,610
Then when I was arrested, and
there were many others of us,

1500
01:37:05,610 --> 01:37:09,900
they still somehow hoped that
Czechoslovakia and Russia may

1501
01:37:09,900 --> 01:37:11,520
change the whole thing around.

1502
01:37:11,520 --> 01:37:14,590
If a war would start,
Hitler would be beaten.

1503
01:37:14,590 --> 01:37:15,780
I couldn't see it.

1504
01:37:15,780 --> 01:37:19,860
And then when I sat in jail
with those Nazis there,

1505
01:37:19,860 --> 01:37:24,720
I decided I have nothing to
hope for anymore in Austria.

1506
01:37:24,720 --> 01:37:26,700
I better leave it.

1507
01:37:26,700 --> 01:37:28,800
And when people
started to call me,

1508
01:37:28,800 --> 01:37:31,110

dirty Jew, again,
and not anymore,

1509
01:37:31,110 --> 01:37:33,390
though I was attacked
on both sides as a Jew

1510
01:37:33,390 --> 01:37:35,820
and as a socialist--

1511
01:37:35,820 --> 01:37:37,200
and I had nothing to lose.

1512
01:37:37,200 --> 01:37:38,580
I had no job.

1513
01:37:38,580 --> 01:37:39,630
I had no shop.

1514
01:37:39,630 --> 01:37:43,500
I had no real or steady income.

1515
01:37:43,500 --> 01:37:47,340
Contrary to other people who
had family and could not easily

1516
01:37:47,340 --> 01:37:50,580
leave, I decided
instead of fighting

1517
01:37:50,580 --> 01:37:55,500
longer in this poor country
without any chances--

1518
01:37:55,500 --> 01:37:59,610
I admired the social
democratic system in Sweden,

1519
01:37:59,610 --> 01:38:02,200
and hoped that I
could stay there.

1520

01:38:02,200 --> 01:38:04,680

But then when the war
started, I was afraid

1521

01:38:04,680 --> 01:38:08,160

that all Scandinavia
will very soon

1522

01:38:08,160 --> 01:38:10,800

be occupied by the Germans.

1523

01:38:10,800 --> 01:38:14,070

So I went from one
embassy to the other.

1524

01:38:14,070 --> 01:38:15,790

That's what I did
most of the time,

1525

01:38:15,790 --> 01:38:20,520

trying to find a place where
I could go with my wife until,

1526

01:38:20,520 --> 01:38:22,620

as I said before,
I managed to go.

1527

01:38:22,620 --> 01:38:24,990

That was my idea.

1528

01:38:24,990 --> 01:38:29,880

But others could have
seen it too and did not.

1529

01:38:29,880 --> 01:38:33,000

Some people say I was
smart and intelligent.

1530

01:38:33,000 --> 01:38:37,890

I feel I was just
luckier than they.

1531

01:38:37,890 --> 01:38:40,230

What about your
mother and father?

1532
01:38:40,230 --> 01:38:42,300
My father, I would
say fortunately,

1533
01:38:42,300 --> 01:38:43,890
died a year before Hitler.

1534
01:38:43,890 --> 01:38:46,560

1535
01:38:46,560 --> 01:38:49,560
Not the year before, he
died about three months

1536
01:38:49,560 --> 01:38:50,490
after I left.

1537
01:38:50,490 --> 01:38:57,050
He was already pretty ill and
died when I was in Sweden.

1538
01:38:57,050 --> 01:38:59,505
My mother died still
when I was in Vienna.

1539
01:38:59,505 --> 01:39:05,860

1540
01:39:05,860 --> 01:39:08,710
But did you talk
to your father--

1541
01:39:08,710 --> 01:39:09,379
Not anymore.

1542
01:39:09,379 --> 01:39:10,046
--about leaving?

1543
01:39:10,046 --> 01:39:10,960

About leaving.

1544
01:39:10,960 --> 01:39:13,060
Yes.

1545
01:39:13,060 --> 01:39:15,820
This is shown here.

1546
01:39:15,820 --> 01:39:18,520
I visited him in
the hospital where

1547
01:39:18,520 --> 01:39:23,230
he was already for a few
weeks with kidney trouble

1548
01:39:23,230 --> 01:39:24,775
and other troubles.

1549
01:39:24,775 --> 01:39:27,550

1550
01:39:27,550 --> 01:39:30,280
I told him I'm going
to marry that girl.

1551
01:39:30,280 --> 01:39:33,930

1552
01:39:33,930 --> 01:39:36,150
She was my friend
already for seven years,

1553
01:39:36,150 --> 01:39:39,840
and she came along with me.

1554
01:39:39,840 --> 01:39:45,330
And he said, that's
the right thing to do.

1555
01:39:45,330 --> 01:39:48,000
Decent Jewish boys

should do that.

1556

01:39:48,000 --> 01:39:50,880

And he gave us his--

1557

01:39:50,880 --> 01:39:58,180

1558

01:39:58,180 --> 01:39:59,350

His blessing?

1559

01:39:59,350 --> 01:40:02,350

Yes, his blessing.

1560

01:40:02,350 --> 01:40:06,070

And said both of
you will do well.

1561

01:40:06,070 --> 01:40:08,980

I said, I will come
back and look after you.

1562

01:40:08,980 --> 01:40:10,540

He said, no you will come back.

1563

01:40:10,540 --> 01:40:12,310

I will not live anymore.

1564

01:40:12,310 --> 01:40:15,850

I said, why do you
talk like that?

1565

01:40:15,850 --> 01:40:21,190

And then three months later, he
died in the home of my sister

1566

01:40:21,190 --> 01:40:23,050

Estie who is still in Berkeley.

1567

01:40:23,050 --> 01:40:25,750

1568

01:40:25,750 --> 01:40:27,780

He was 72 when he died.

1569

01:40:27,780 --> 01:40:29,145

He was also a social democrat.

1570

01:40:29,145 --> 01:40:32,520

1571

01:40:32,520 --> 01:40:36,480

He had no education whatsoever.

1572

01:40:36,480 --> 01:40:41,790

I don't think he
went ever to school.

1573

01:40:41,790 --> 01:40:44,580

All he did was reading himself.

1574

01:40:44,580 --> 01:40:47,550

But he read a lot of books.

1575

01:40:47,550 --> 01:40:51,214

He even started to
read Freud, I remember,

1576

01:40:51,214 --> 01:40:54,870

when he was 70 years old.

1577

01:40:54,870 --> 01:40:57,810

I would see him
sitting in the room

1578

01:40:57,810 --> 01:41:01,380

close to the window fixing
watches, or clocks--

1579

01:41:01,380 --> 01:41:03,840

he fixed everything himself.

1580

01:41:03,840 --> 01:41:08,500

He made the soles on my shoes.

1581

01:41:08,500 --> 01:41:11,070

He made suits for me.

1582

01:41:11,070 --> 01:41:16,980

The first suit that I got

new was when I graduated--

1583

01:41:16,980 --> 01:41:18,270

I bought it myself--

1584

01:41:18,270 --> 01:41:21,930

when I graduated as

a PhD in economics.

1585

01:41:21,930 --> 01:41:26,730

Up to then, I only always wore

suits of my elder brothers

1586

01:41:26,730 --> 01:41:34,240

or uncles who gave it to

us-- shirts my father made.

1587

01:41:34,240 --> 01:41:36,785

I can't remember

anything that we bought.

1588

01:41:36,785 --> 01:41:40,940

1589

01:41:40,940 --> 01:41:42,780

Your father sewed the suit?

1590

01:41:42,780 --> 01:41:43,280

Hmm?

1591

01:41:43,280 --> 01:41:45,260

Did he sew the suit?

1592

01:41:45,260 --> 01:41:47,930

He made the suit for you?

1593
01:41:47,930 --> 01:41:49,970
I think that was a
bit tough for him.

1594
01:41:49,970 --> 01:41:54,190
But he tried to buy a piece
of leathers and to do it.

1595
01:41:54,190 --> 01:41:55,670
I think he made
some for himself.

1596
01:41:55,670 --> 01:41:59,570

1597
01:41:59,570 --> 01:42:00,820
He made the icebox.

1598
01:42:00,820 --> 01:42:04,120

1599
01:42:04,120 --> 01:42:07,930
At that time in Vienna, I knew
nobody who had a refrigerator,

1600
01:42:07,930 --> 01:42:10,630
I knew nobody who
had a telephone.

1601
01:42:10,630 --> 01:42:13,300
I knew nobody who had a car.

1602
01:42:13,300 --> 01:42:19,670
I remember when the first
radio came up, the husband

1603
01:42:19,670 --> 01:42:21,530
of my sister, Estie--

1604
01:42:21,530 --> 01:42:23,520
they married pretty

early-- they were married,

1605
01:42:23,520 --> 01:42:26,120
but he died last week
here in Berkeley.

1606
01:42:26,120 --> 01:42:28,310
They were married 68 years.

1607
01:42:28,310 --> 01:42:31,370
But when they married,
they were young, 23 or 24--

1608
01:42:31,370 --> 01:42:36,230
and he built the first
radio with a little spool

1609
01:42:36,230 --> 01:42:41,780
and a yellow mineral
which was called--

1610
01:42:41,780 --> 01:42:45,020

1611
01:42:45,020 --> 01:42:46,340
I've forgotten the name.

1612
01:42:46,340 --> 01:42:49,530

1613
01:42:49,530 --> 01:42:53,060
Yellow crystal with a little
pin when you carefully

1614
01:42:53,060 --> 01:42:55,640
try to reach that
touch it, you could

1615
01:42:55,640 --> 01:42:58,410
hear some voices and noises.

1616
01:42:58,410 --> 01:43:04,520

I knew nobody who
had had the radio.

1617
01:43:04,520 --> 01:43:07,720
And we were still
better off than others.

1618
01:43:07,720 --> 01:43:10,130
We were still better
off than the family

1619
01:43:10,130 --> 01:43:12,230
of my friend, Fred Weingarten.

1620
01:43:12,230 --> 01:43:16,160
They had the smaller apartment,
two rooms, with five people

1621
01:43:16,160 --> 01:43:18,200
there in them.

1622
01:43:18,200 --> 01:43:23,750
And his father also went from
house to house trying to sell

1623
01:43:23,750 --> 01:43:30,350
shirts, or shoes, or ties in
installment payments to poor

1624
01:43:30,350 --> 01:43:34,760
people who paid \$0.10
every visit to him or \$0.50

1625
01:43:34,760 --> 01:43:35,990
in monthly payments.

1626
01:43:35,990 --> 01:43:40,010
And those people encountered
a lot of anti-Semitism.

1627
01:43:40,010 --> 01:43:43,740
He was often thrown out and
told to never come back.

1628
01:43:43,740 --> 01:43:47,510
When he tried to collect money,
he was called the dirty Jew.

1629
01:43:47,510 --> 01:43:56,180

1630
01:43:56,180 --> 01:43:58,940
So you were friends with Fred?

1631
01:43:58,940 --> 01:44:01,070
You were friends with Fred?

1632
01:44:01,070 --> 01:44:02,240
Friends of--

1633
01:44:02,240 --> 01:44:02,780
Fred.

1634
01:44:02,780 --> 01:44:04,390
With Fred Weingarten?

1635
01:44:04,390 --> 01:44:06,860
He was a school buddy?

1636
01:44:06,860 --> 01:44:09,290
He went to school with me.

1637
01:44:09,290 --> 01:44:12,200

1638
01:44:12,200 --> 01:44:13,340
We were three--

1639
01:44:13,340 --> 01:44:16,970
Fred Weingarten,
Max Diamont, and I.

1640
01:44:16,970 --> 01:44:19,100
He also started to

make crossword puzzles.

1641

01:44:19,100 --> 01:44:21,750

We were always staying together.

1642

01:44:21,750 --> 01:44:25,040

He was the only one in my
whole class, Max Diamont,

1643

01:44:25,040 --> 01:44:26,510

who still spoke Yiddish.

1644

01:44:26,510 --> 01:44:30,060

His family had come later
than me from Poland.

1645

01:44:30,060 --> 01:44:32,090

He spoke Yiddish.

1646

01:44:32,090 --> 01:44:35,150

He was the brightest
boy in the whole class.

1647

01:44:35,150 --> 01:44:39,830

He became a Freudian
psychologist.

1648

01:44:39,830 --> 01:44:41,390

We fought all the time--

1649

01:44:41,390 --> 01:44:46,370

I tried to convert him
to Adlerian psychology,

1650

01:44:46,370 --> 01:44:51,680

and he considered it
stupid and foolish.

1651

01:44:51,680 --> 01:44:57,110

He survived and
came to St. Louis.

1652

01:44:57,110 --> 01:45:01,130
He, Fred Weingarten, and I
studied the same economics

1653
01:45:01,130 --> 01:45:03,410
and became PhD in economics.

1654
01:45:03,410 --> 01:45:05,840
Max Diamont was the only
one who made use of it

1655
01:45:05,840 --> 01:45:09,830
and became very
wealthy in St. Louis.

1656
01:45:09,830 --> 01:45:12,500
He died about three years ago.

1657
01:45:12,500 --> 01:45:16,010
Fred Weingarten died
about eight years ago.

1658
01:45:16,010 --> 01:45:20,840

1659
01:45:20,840 --> 01:45:23,660
I have still one schoolmate
living in Vienna,

1660
01:45:23,660 --> 01:45:27,980
Fritz Pince, who is half Jewish.

1661
01:45:27,980 --> 01:45:32,270
When Hitler came, he was one
of our socialist students

1662
01:45:32,270 --> 01:45:34,070
in our school group.

1663
01:45:34,070 --> 01:45:36,410
When Hitler came, he
had a Jewish girlfriend,

1664

01:45:36,410 --> 01:45:38,570
and the Nazis said to him--

1665

01:45:38,570 --> 01:45:40,400
he was half Jewish--

1666

01:45:40,400 --> 01:45:46,330
if you declare yourself
as Aryan, as Christian--

1667

01:45:46,330 --> 01:45:48,360
he was an engineer--

1668

01:45:48,360 --> 01:45:51,200
nothing will happen to you, but
you have to separate yourself

1669

01:45:51,200 --> 01:45:52,650
from your girlfriend.

1670

01:45:52,650 --> 01:45:55,730
So he said, no, I
will stay with her.

1671

01:45:55,730 --> 01:46:00,240
And so he was
declared to be Jewish.

1672

01:46:00,240 --> 01:46:06,800
And he fled to Hungary with
his girlfriend, was married to.

1673

01:46:06,800 --> 01:46:11,390
They were both
sent to Auschwitz,

1674

01:46:11,390 --> 01:46:14,180
then his wife died there.

1675

01:46:14,180 --> 01:46:17,360
He went through all the camps.

1676

01:46:17,360 --> 01:46:22,610

As an engineer, somehow he
was not so badly treated

1677

01:46:22,610 --> 01:46:28,340

as the others, and came back
in 1945 to Vienna searching

1678

01:46:28,340 --> 01:46:35,450

for his father who he thought
had survived in France in Nice,

1679

01:46:35,450 --> 01:46:38,210

but he had died there, I think.

1680

01:46:38,210 --> 01:46:44,780

And he started as a small
position in the street

1681

01:46:44,780 --> 01:46:49,370

or streetcar organization
in Vienna as an engineer,

1682

01:46:49,370 --> 01:46:57,800

and became a leading man
there, and organized change

1683

01:46:57,800 --> 01:47:00,950

into the subways there--

1684

01:47:00,950 --> 01:47:03,590

really responsible for
the underground subways

1685

01:47:03,590 --> 01:47:09,920

in Vienna now, still a
good friend of mine--

1686

01:47:09,920 --> 01:47:11,180

fine boy.

1687

01:47:11,180 --> 01:47:12,170

All the others died.

1688
01:47:12,170 --> 01:47:14,900

1689
01:47:14,900 --> 01:47:19,100
Did he share with you
his camp experiences?

1690
01:47:19,100 --> 01:47:21,520
He doesn't like to
talk much about it.

1691
01:47:21,520 --> 01:47:25,290

1692
01:47:25,290 --> 01:47:27,970
He only told me that
when he came back and got

1693
01:47:27,970 --> 01:47:36,970
this job there in the
Viennese municipal streetcar

1694
01:47:36,970 --> 01:47:41,020
department, every day
somebody came to him and said,

1695
01:47:41,020 --> 01:47:44,560
that other fellow, what he
did during the Nazi time,

1696
01:47:44,560 --> 01:47:45,910
he was the worst of them.

1697
01:47:45,910 --> 01:47:49,540
Next, that man would come
and tell him, that fellow,

1698
01:47:49,540 --> 01:47:51,580
he was the worst of it.

1699

01:47:51,580 --> 01:47:54,850

And he said to me
that's surprising--

1700

01:47:54,850 --> 01:48:01,170

only three or four
good Catholics who

1701

01:48:01,170 --> 01:48:04,330

were supporting the
Catholic government

1702

01:48:04,330 --> 01:48:09,570

remained all during Hitler's
time decent people, never

1703

01:48:09,570 --> 01:48:13,490

did something against
Jews, were honest people.

1704

01:48:13,490 --> 01:48:18,880

But the others, former social
democrats and former Nazis,

1705

01:48:18,880 --> 01:48:25,650

each one accusing the other of
his moral deeds against Jews.

1706

01:48:25,650 --> 01:48:29,520

He could have gotten easily
very important positions

1707

01:48:29,520 --> 01:48:32,850

in the government, because
former colleagues of his

1708

01:48:32,850 --> 01:48:35,310

were already a member
of the parliament.

1709

01:48:35,310 --> 01:48:38,850

When the war ended and
they had survived the war,

1710

01:48:38,850 --> 01:48:41,010

there was a shortage
of non-Nazis,

1711

01:48:41,010 --> 01:48:45,810

and one became
minister of justice--

1712

01:48:45,810 --> 01:48:47,535

Chaldick-- I remember him well.

1713

01:48:47,535 --> 01:48:52,590

One became minister of
industry, Wildinger.

1714

01:48:52,590 --> 01:48:53,910

They offered him big jobs.

1715

01:48:53,910 --> 01:48:57,100

And they said, I don't want to
have anything to do with you.

1716

01:48:57,100 --> 01:48:59,850

I don't trust any of you.

1717

01:48:59,850 --> 01:49:04,270

If the situation changes, you
would become again all Nazis

1718

01:49:04,270 --> 01:49:04,770

again.

1719

01:49:04,770 --> 01:49:12,320

1720

01:49:12,320 --> 01:49:17,330

I came back to Vienna only after
I had married my second wife.

1721

01:49:17,330 --> 01:49:20,150

Her mother and father
still lived there.

1722

01:49:20,150 --> 01:49:25,820

Her father had become in Vienna
in 1945, and he had come back.

1723

01:49:25,820 --> 01:49:27,470

He was an engineer
and architect.

1724

01:49:27,470 --> 01:49:30,110

There were a few Jews
there, but they started

1725

01:49:30,110 --> 01:49:33,320

to form a new congregation.

1726

01:49:33,320 --> 01:49:35,730

And he didn't want
to stay in Vienna,

1727

01:49:35,730 --> 01:49:38,600

he wanted only to stay
until relatives of his

1728

01:49:38,600 --> 01:49:42,890

in Israel, or in Argentina, or
Brazil, where he had relatives,

1729

01:49:42,890 --> 01:49:44,870

would obtain visas for them.

1730

01:49:44,870 --> 01:49:46,730

But they asked him
to stay and to look

1731

01:49:46,730 --> 01:49:49,620

after the properties
that were still existing

1732

01:49:49,620 --> 01:49:53,210

and were formerly in the
hand of the Jewish community,

1733

01:49:53,210 --> 01:49:56,450
to repair them or to save them.

1734

01:49:56,450 --> 01:50:01,125
His main task was to look after
the cemeteries and of the burnt

1735

01:50:01,125 --> 01:50:05,750
or bombed or few
synagogues that existed,

1736

01:50:05,750 --> 01:50:08,780
especially the one in
the center of Vienna,

1737

01:50:08,780 --> 01:50:15,470
the [NON-ENGLISH] temple,
and in the big cemetery.

1738

01:50:15,470 --> 01:50:17,930
That cemetery is
a few 100,000 Jews

1739

01:50:17,930 --> 01:50:21,710
buried during the centuries
of Jews in Vienna--

1740

01:50:21,710 --> 01:50:23,960
all that died.

1741

01:50:23,960 --> 01:50:29,980
Huge cemetery, and whatever
could be still saved of it,

1742

01:50:29,980 --> 01:50:30,890
he was doing.

1743

01:50:30,890 --> 01:50:34,370
He rebuilt the
ceremony hall there.

1744

01:50:34,370 --> 01:50:38,600

He was responsible
for a large monument

1745
01:50:38,600 --> 01:50:42,380
that was built there for the
victims of the Hitler time.

1746
01:50:42,380 --> 01:50:46,700
He stayed in Vienna worked
for the Jewish communities

1747
01:50:46,700 --> 01:50:54,030
until he died about
eight years ago.

1748
01:50:54,030 --> 01:50:56,000
And during that
time, I went back

1749
01:50:56,000 --> 01:51:01,550
with my wife to visit
her parents there,

1750
01:51:01,550 --> 01:51:05,720
met with some of my
former socialist friends

1751
01:51:05,720 --> 01:51:06,860
who had come back--

1752
01:51:06,860 --> 01:51:09,860
had survived in countries
and had gotten back.

1753
01:51:09,860 --> 01:51:14,900
When I was in Sweden, I
was one of the first one,

1754
01:51:14,900 --> 01:51:17,760
because I had come even before
Hitler had come to Vienna.

1755
01:51:17,760 --> 01:51:22,490

But soon after Hitler took over Vienna, a few more came there.

1756

01:51:22,490 --> 01:51:27,260

One of them was Bruno Kreisky, who then became,

1757

01:51:27,260 --> 01:51:31,340

after the war, the Austrian chancellor.

1758

01:51:31,340 --> 01:51:35,720

He retired three years ago and died last year.

1759

01:51:35,720 --> 01:51:41,000

I knew him very well and I sent him one of my books.

1760

01:51:41,000 --> 01:51:45,050

I never agreed with his policies of compromises,

1761

01:51:45,050 --> 01:51:50,705

and opportunism, and pretty strongly anti-Israel position.

1762

01:51:50,705 --> 01:51:56,630

1763

01:51:56,630 --> 01:52:00,320

Those who had gone back had become important people

1764

01:52:00,320 --> 01:52:01,040

in Austria.

1765

01:52:01,040 --> 01:52:07,700

Some became presidents of banks, became university professors,

1766

01:52:07,700 --> 01:52:11,030

one became education minister--

1767
01:52:11,030 --> 01:52:11,810
Jewish people.

1768
01:52:11,810 --> 01:52:14,720

1769
01:52:14,720 --> 01:52:17,840
What was your impression of
the city when you went back?

1770
01:52:17,840 --> 01:52:21,610
What was your impression of
the city when you went back?

1771
01:52:21,610 --> 01:52:27,680

1772
01:52:27,680 --> 01:52:30,200
The first thing when I came
back, I went to the house

1773
01:52:30,200 --> 01:52:36,380
where I lived to show
off with it to my wife,

1774
01:52:36,380 --> 01:52:39,470
because I considered it-- it
was a very large and beautiful

1775
01:52:39,470 --> 01:52:42,020
house.

1776
01:52:42,020 --> 01:52:46,730
And I was ashamed how shabby
it was and how small, really.

1777
01:52:46,730 --> 01:52:49,310
But as a child,
you always remember

1778
01:52:49,310 --> 01:52:53,390

those things big and
beautiful, and the street wide.

1779
01:52:53,390 --> 01:52:54,690
The street was narrow.

1780
01:52:54,690 --> 01:52:59,360
And the next street where a
streetcar moved through, there

1781
01:52:59,360 --> 01:53:03,504
was not room for a car
to pass that streetcar.

1782
01:53:03,504 --> 01:53:06,350

1783
01:53:06,350 --> 01:53:09,160
Most of the houses
were still shops,

1784
01:53:09,160 --> 01:53:13,190
still signs of war damage.

1785
01:53:13,190 --> 01:53:15,300
Even the first time
I came back was

1786
01:53:15,300 --> 01:53:21,980
'65, that was already
17 years after the war,

1787
01:53:21,980 --> 01:53:25,310
still many streets showed
signs of the war damage.

1788
01:53:25,310 --> 01:53:28,130

1789
01:53:28,130 --> 01:53:32,360
I had a very unpleasant feeling.

1790

01:53:32,360 --> 01:53:37,280

I didn't like to have any
contact with Austrians that

1791

01:53:37,280 --> 01:53:42,290

were over 60 years
of age, because I

1792

01:53:42,290 --> 01:53:45,770

was afraid any of them
could have been involved

1793

01:53:45,770 --> 01:53:51,950

in killing my family members,
or friends, or Jews altogether.

1794

01:53:51,950 --> 01:53:54,080

But I had good feelings
to young people.

1795

01:53:54,080 --> 01:53:58,010

The young people,
students, people

1796

01:53:58,010 --> 01:54:04,280

over the age of 18 to
30, 35, they're all

1797

01:54:04,280 --> 01:54:08,255

searching for what happened,
all had great guilt feelings.

1798

01:54:08,255 --> 01:54:10,880

1799

01:54:10,880 --> 01:54:13,600

They are accusing
their parents who

1800

01:54:13,600 --> 01:54:15,300

couldn't explain to
them what happened

1801

01:54:15,300 --> 01:54:18,010
and that, in the
eyes of the children,

1802
01:54:18,010 --> 01:54:21,580
perhaps somehow
participated in that thing.

1803
01:54:21,580 --> 01:54:26,050
I saw the same 1953 already in
Germany when I came to Munich

1804
01:54:26,050 --> 01:54:28,750
and went to the university--

1805
01:54:28,750 --> 01:54:33,400
meetings there where they
spoke out against the lack

1806
01:54:33,400 --> 01:54:38,020
of anti-Nazi
legislation and the lack

1807
01:54:38,020 --> 01:54:44,050
of propagating to form working
groups to send to Israel

1808
01:54:44,050 --> 01:54:47,230
to help Israel to build it up.

1809
01:54:47,230 --> 01:54:52,040

1810
01:54:52,040 --> 01:54:56,170
I still have the same feeling
I've been back many times now.

1811
01:54:56,170 --> 01:54:58,760
I still have the same feeling.

1812
01:54:58,760 --> 01:55:00,050
But now it's changing.

1813

01:55:00,050 --> 01:55:03,080

Now the young people
too are becoming again

1814

01:55:03,080 --> 01:55:07,100

to some degree anti-Semitic
and not interested, or not

1815

01:55:07,100 --> 01:55:10,070

interested in politics,
or anti-foreigners.

1816

01:55:10,070 --> 01:55:17,270

1817

01:55:17,270 --> 01:55:22,130

I'm not sure what the future
of democracy in Austria

1818

01:55:22,130 --> 01:55:24,830

or in Germany will be.

1819

01:55:24,830 --> 01:55:31,010

I'm pretty certain it will
be quite strong for 10, 20,

1820

01:55:31,010 --> 01:55:32,420

30 years--

1821

01:55:32,420 --> 01:55:33,620

perhaps not 30.

1822

01:55:33,620 --> 01:55:36,080

Let's stick to 20.

1823

01:55:36,080 --> 01:55:40,760

But if the general
situation changes,

1824

01:55:40,760 --> 01:55:42,340

anything can happen again.

1825

01:55:42,340 --> 01:55:45,663

1826

01:55:45,663 --> 01:55:47,330

This may be a good
time to take a break.

1827

01:55:47,330 --> 01:55:49,470

I need to change tapes.

1828

01:55:49,470 --> 01:57:49,000