

1  
00:00:00,000 --> 00:01:07,240

2  
00:01:07,240 --> 00:01:08,580  
I didn't bring any photographs.

3  
00:01:08,580 --> 00:01:09,750  
Forgot to bring them.

4  
00:01:09,750 --> 00:01:10,740  
OK, we're rolling.

5  
00:01:10,740 --> 00:01:11,700  
You can start any time.

6  
00:01:11,700 --> 00:01:12,200  
OK.

7  
00:01:12,200 --> 00:01:14,760

8  
00:01:14,760 --> 00:01:16,510  
I'm here with John Steiner.

9  
00:01:16,510 --> 00:01:21,690  
We're doing interview number  
four for the San Francisco

10  
00:01:21,690 --> 00:01:24,390  
Holocaust Oral History Project.

11  
00:01:24,390 --> 00:01:28,770  
Today is November  
the 19th, 1991.

12  
00:01:28,770 --> 00:01:31,470  
And also here as a  
second is Brian Paris

13  
00:01:31,470 --> 00:01:37,530

and Carol Horwitz is here  
along with John also.

14  
00:01:37,530 --> 00:01:39,450  
So where we left off  
last time was were

15  
00:01:39,450 --> 00:01:42,362  
about to leave for Australia.

16  
00:01:42,362 --> 00:01:48,360  
Yeah, so my decision  
which is quite interesting

17  
00:01:48,360 --> 00:01:52,140  
to go to Australia was  
primarily based on the fact

18  
00:01:52,140 --> 00:01:57,180  
that my affidavit to the  
United States, my quota number,

19  
00:01:57,180 --> 00:02:01,440  
was not-- there was such a  
long waiting list that I simply

20  
00:02:01,440 --> 00:02:05,100  
couldn't wait until I  
would get permission

21  
00:02:05,100 --> 00:02:07,950  
to come to the United States.

22  
00:02:07,950 --> 00:02:12,660  
Instead, I had  
Australian relatives

23  
00:02:12,660 --> 00:02:19,140  
and a great, great uncle who was  
the black sheep of the family,

24  
00:02:19,140 --> 00:02:23,430  
who started a family there

and was very successful,

25

00:02:23,430 --> 00:02:27,120

and had married  
a Scottish woman.

26

00:02:27,120 --> 00:02:31,260

And then relatives,  
that is to say

27

00:02:31,260 --> 00:02:35,850

my aunt and my two  
cousins followed,

28

00:02:35,850 --> 00:02:38,670

came to Australia via England.

29

00:02:38,670 --> 00:02:41,310

And they actually sent  
there because they

30

00:02:41,310 --> 00:02:46,800

were viewed as aliens because  
they came from Austria

31

00:02:46,800 --> 00:02:48,900

and they didn't care  
whether or not they are Jews

32

00:02:48,900 --> 00:02:49,650

and what have you.

33

00:02:49,650 --> 00:02:51,330

So they were interned  
in Australia,

34

00:02:51,330 --> 00:02:55,560

and then stayed there  
and became citizens.

35

00:02:55,560 --> 00:02:57,540

And that was actually  
the main reason,

36  
00:02:57,540 --> 00:03:02,530  
because it was a very  
closely knit family.

37  
00:03:02,530 --> 00:03:06,150  
And my relationship  
to my aunt especially

38  
00:03:06,150 --> 00:03:09,720  
and to my considerably  
older cousin

39  
00:03:09,720 --> 00:03:14,400  
was close, because we used  
to see each other every year

40  
00:03:14,400 --> 00:03:16,930  
in one way or another.

41  
00:03:16,930 --> 00:03:20,040  
And so they were in  
Australia, and so I

42  
00:03:20,040 --> 00:03:22,170  
decided to go to Australia.

43  
00:03:22,170 --> 00:03:25,530  
Now prior to my decision  
to go to Australia,

44  
00:03:25,530 --> 00:03:30,060  
I talked to some people with  
whom I had been at Dachau,

45  
00:03:30,060 --> 00:03:35,670  
and these people are very  
important Czech people

46  
00:03:35,670 --> 00:03:40,770  
who were very important  
role models to me because

47

00:03:40,770 --> 00:03:45,510  
of their conduct, their bravery,  
and their profile in courage.

48

00:03:45,510 --> 00:03:49,020  
One of them was the  
Archbishop of Prague,

49

00:03:49,020 --> 00:03:56,670  
a man called Beran and  
became later cardinal.

50

00:03:56,670 --> 00:04:06,390  
Died in the Vatican, is actually  
buried in St. Peter's Cathedral

51

00:04:06,390 --> 00:04:08,790  
back in Rome.

52

00:04:08,790 --> 00:04:15,720  
So I went to see him and said  
I know that I cannot accept

53

00:04:15,720 --> 00:04:16,560  
communism.

54

00:04:16,560 --> 00:04:19,950  
It's another  
totalitarian system,

55

00:04:19,950 --> 00:04:21,450  
and I've had enough of Nazis.

56

00:04:21,450 --> 00:04:24,780  
And he was with me  
in Dachau, so we were

57

00:04:24,780 --> 00:04:27,610  
kind of brothers, so to speak.

58

00:04:27,610 --> 00:04:33,960  
And so either I can be here and

be continuing the underground,

59

00:04:33,960 --> 00:04:35,700

but chances are  
because I already

60

00:04:35,700 --> 00:04:40,770

had been arrested before  
and my father got me out

61

00:04:40,770 --> 00:04:45,990

with the help of influential  
friends, out of jail.

62

00:04:45,990 --> 00:04:48,450

It was not prison then yet.

63

00:04:48,450 --> 00:04:50,990

And couldn't recognize  
me because they

64

00:04:50,990 --> 00:04:54,330

had beaten me up  
to such an extent

65

00:04:54,330 --> 00:04:59,760

that I was totally deformed.

66

00:04:59,760 --> 00:05:02,580

And it was actually  
worse than any

67

00:05:02,580 --> 00:05:05,670

beatings I got from the  
Nazis, as a matter of fact,

68

00:05:05,670 --> 00:05:07,780

if I come to think of it.

69

00:05:07,780 --> 00:05:12,840

And so I was on the blacklist  
because when they arrested me

70

00:05:12,840 --> 00:05:15,810

I was taken to one  
police precinct

71

00:05:15,810 --> 00:05:19,590

and then they looked at the  
list and there was my name.

72

00:05:19,590 --> 00:05:23,220

So I was not prepared to go  
through another sort of slave

73

00:05:23,220 --> 00:05:26,610

labor camps and all that,  
which of course existed already

74

00:05:26,610 --> 00:05:29,680

during that time, of course,  
for a number of years,

75

00:05:29,680 --> 00:05:31,300

as a matter of fact.

76

00:05:31,300 --> 00:05:33,870

So I decided to skip  
the country because I

77

00:05:33,870 --> 00:05:36,810

knew that I couldn't continue  
my studies by virtue of the fact

78

00:05:36,810 --> 00:05:38,700

that I was not a  
communist, by virtue

79

00:05:38,700 --> 00:05:42,090

of the fact that I  
was opposing communism

80

00:05:42,090 --> 00:05:46,630

with all means at my disposal.

81

00:05:46,630 --> 00:05:52,980

So then I had very  
wealthy relatives

82

00:05:52,980 --> 00:06:01,380

who left prior to World War Two  
in time with lots of riches.

83

00:06:01,380 --> 00:06:06,815

They were the richest Jewish  
people in Czechoslovakia.

84

00:06:06,815 --> 00:06:11,170

Their name was  
Petschek Otto Petschek

85

00:06:11,170 --> 00:06:16,990

And that was a family with my  
mother was the first cousin

86

00:06:16,990 --> 00:06:20,680

of Otto Petschek wife.

87

00:06:20,680 --> 00:06:26,830

And so they arranged  
for me to go to England,

88

00:06:26,830 --> 00:06:28,120

but they closed their borders.

89

00:06:28,120 --> 00:06:30,130

I think I've mentioned that.

90

00:06:30,130 --> 00:06:33,700

And I had a ticket, everything,  
but they closed the borders

91

00:06:33,700 --> 00:06:36,580

just about the day I  
was supposed to leave.

92

00:06:36,580 --> 00:06:39,340

And so that's how I got



into concentration camps.

93

00:06:39,340 --> 00:06:41,920

Now, I didn't want to go  
through all these things again,

94

00:06:41,920 --> 00:06:45,370

because I felt I've had my fill.

95

00:06:45,370 --> 00:06:50,740

So then I got  
papers and then just

96

00:06:50,740 --> 00:06:56,500

smuggled my way  
through the borders

97

00:06:56,500 --> 00:07:01,760

and they paid for the trip.

98

00:07:01,760 --> 00:07:04,330

What form did the smuggling  
through the border take?

99

00:07:04,330 --> 00:07:09,760

Well, it just meant false papers  
and all these sort of things.

100

00:07:09,760 --> 00:07:12,310

And just a number  
of difficulties,

101

00:07:12,310 --> 00:07:16,870

so I guess since I had some  
training and all this back

102

00:07:16,870 --> 00:07:19,450

in the camp so it was not  
that difficult for me.

103

00:07:19,450 --> 00:07:21,940

But it was not easy either.

104

00:07:21,940 --> 00:07:24,460  
How old were you at this time?

105

00:07:24,460 --> 00:07:26,830  
How old was I at this time?

106

00:07:26,830 --> 00:07:31,600  
At this time, I was 22.

107

00:07:31,600 --> 00:07:36,140

108

00:07:36,140 --> 00:07:40,970  
No, 23, 23.

109

00:07:40,970 --> 00:07:52,510  
And I decided that I didn't  
care what I had with me

110

00:07:52,510 --> 00:07:55,090  
because I didn't have virtually  
anything with me at all,

111

00:07:55,090 --> 00:07:59,490  
couldn't take anything  
with me, or minimal.

112

00:07:59,490 --> 00:08:04,335  
So this very wealthy relative  
came to the United States

113

00:08:04,335 --> 00:08:07,210  
via England.

114

00:08:07,210 --> 00:08:12,550  
But my whatever, my  
mother's cousin, her name

115

00:08:12,550 --> 00:08:18,700  
was Martha Petschek She  
arranged all the things for me

116  
00:08:18,700 --> 00:08:19,210  
in London.

117  
00:08:19,210 --> 00:08:21,890  
And then her children arranged--

118  
00:08:21,890 --> 00:08:25,150  
she was no longer  
aliva-- arranged for me

119  
00:08:25,150 --> 00:08:28,790  
to go first class to Australia.

120  
00:08:28,790 --> 00:08:30,820  
Which was kind of an  
irony, because I didn't

121  
00:08:30,820 --> 00:08:32,710  
have a handkerchief to my name.

122  
00:08:32,710 --> 00:08:37,000  
So I went first class without  
having a handkerchief.

123  
00:08:37,000 --> 00:08:48,460  
And that took about 28 days,  
and I was shipped in and Genoa,

124  
00:08:48,460 --> 00:08:52,630  
and was picked up by  
my relatives in Sydney.

125  
00:08:52,630 --> 00:08:54,715  
And that, of course,  
was a tremendous reunion

126  
00:08:54,715 --> 00:08:55,960  
and all that.

127  
00:08:55,960 --> 00:08:58,870  
Then they took me to Canberra.

128

00:08:58,870 --> 00:09:03,280

And within about  
two or three weeks

129

00:09:03,280 --> 00:09:06,850

I had a job with the  
Department of Immigration

130

00:09:06,850 --> 00:09:10,750

of all the things, based on  
the fact that I spoke English

131

00:09:10,750 --> 00:09:15,730

and that I had some  
education and what have you.

132

00:09:15,730 --> 00:09:19,540

And within that  
particular time, also I

133

00:09:19,540 --> 00:09:21,910

started to think  
about the university

134

00:09:21,910 --> 00:09:26,920

and I enrolled as I think  
the first immigrant displaced

135

00:09:26,920 --> 00:09:34,690

person type at the so-called  
Canberra University

136

00:09:34,690 --> 00:09:38,560

College, which was associated  
with the University

137

00:09:38,560 --> 00:09:40,930

of Melbourne, kind of a branch.

138

00:09:40,930 --> 00:09:45,610

And so that was a  
big thing and was

139

00:09:45,610 --> 00:09:50,260

put into the papers that  
John Steiner of whatever John

140

00:09:50,260 --> 00:09:53,800

Steiner or whatever they  
called me then enrolled

141

00:09:53,800 --> 00:09:57,490

at the Canberra University  
College, which was a big thing,

142

00:09:57,490 --> 00:10:00,000

and worked for the  
Department of Immigration.

143

00:10:00,000 --> 00:10:02,620

Now, the important thing  
working for the Department

144

00:10:02,620 --> 00:10:06,370

of Immigration was that I could  
help countless other people

145

00:10:06,370 --> 00:10:11,650

to come into Australia,  
and primarily, Czechs.

146

00:10:11,650 --> 00:10:15,620

Not that many Jews,  
as a matter of fact.

147

00:10:15,620 --> 00:10:18,280

There were some Jews among  
them, but primarily Czech people

148

00:10:18,280 --> 00:10:23,080

who also had skipped the country  
and needed to go someplace,

149

00:10:23,080 --> 00:10:24,490

and they didn't know where to.

150

00:10:24,490 --> 00:10:29,200

So I assisted them to  
get landing permits,

151

00:10:29,200 --> 00:10:32,260

simply because I knew the ropes.

152

00:10:32,260 --> 00:10:35,410

And because of some of  
my activity, which I then

153

00:10:35,410 --> 00:10:42,700

initiated, we started  
an organization

154

00:10:42,700 --> 00:10:49,210

which was called The  
Czechoslovakian Australian

155

00:10:49,210 --> 00:10:53,200

Alliance Organization.

156

00:10:53,200 --> 00:10:58,600

And that was exceedingly active  
in supporting Czech immigrants

157

00:10:58,600 --> 00:11:03,170

and also bringing Czech  
immigrants into the country.

158

00:11:03,170 --> 00:11:07,390

So was one of my  
major activities,

159

00:11:07,390 --> 00:11:10,150

from which I derived a  
great deal of satisfaction.

160

00:11:10,150 --> 00:11:18,730

And then I also worked for  
the Australian Intelligence

161

00:11:18,730 --> 00:11:23,410  
to work against the communists,  
because there some communist

162  
00:11:23,410 --> 00:11:25,840  
infiltrators coming  
in and all that.

163  
00:11:25,840 --> 00:11:27,640  
So that, to me,  
was also important,

164  
00:11:27,640 --> 00:11:33,910  
because my experience  
with the communists and I

165  
00:11:33,910 --> 00:11:38,410  
was very glad to be connecting  
with this sort of thing.

166  
00:11:38,410 --> 00:11:40,810  
It didn't amount to  
very much to be sure,

167  
00:11:40,810 --> 00:11:47,410  
but it gave me a psychological,  
emotional outlet.

168  
00:11:47,410 --> 00:11:49,600  
Were other survivors,  
you say not many Jews

169  
00:11:49,600 --> 00:11:52,210  
were coming to Australia, but  
I thought other survivors--

170  
00:11:52,210 --> 00:11:55,390  
There were some Jews,  
of course, who came.

171  
00:11:55,390 --> 00:11:57,205  
But they didn't come  
as displaced persons,

172

00:11:57,205 --> 00:11:59,800  
most of the people.

173

00:11:59,800 --> 00:12:02,650  
Because displaced persons  
had a two year contract.

174

00:12:02,650 --> 00:12:04,720  
They paid the  
Australian government

175

00:12:04,720 --> 00:12:09,040  
because they needed the  
manpower or human power,

176

00:12:09,040 --> 00:12:12,520  
they paid their passage.

177

00:12:12,520 --> 00:12:16,060  
But for that, they  
were under contract

178

00:12:16,060 --> 00:12:18,100  
for two years, which  
means that they

179

00:12:18,100 --> 00:12:22,930  
had to accept assigned  
work given to them

180

00:12:22,930 --> 00:12:26,150  
by the various  
departments of immigration

181

00:12:26,150 --> 00:12:29,680  
in different regions  
of Australia.

182

00:12:29,680 --> 00:12:33,160  
And there was just  
ruthless exploitation

183



00:12:33,160 --> 00:12:35,590  
because they were given jobs  
Australians didn't want,

184  
00:12:35,590 --> 00:12:37,810  
the worst possible jobs.

185  
00:12:37,810 --> 00:12:43,330  
And so I working then  
later I moved from Canberra

186  
00:12:43,330 --> 00:12:49,780  
to Melbourne because my father  
worked and lived in Melbourne

187  
00:12:49,780 --> 00:12:52,000  
and I wanted to be  
with him and also

188  
00:12:52,000 --> 00:12:58,760  
his second wife, who also was  
a survivor from Theresienstadt,

189  
00:12:58,760 --> 00:13:01,360  
but was half Jewish.

190  
00:13:01,360 --> 00:13:05,890  
And because of a fluke was  
sent to the concentration

191  
00:13:05,890 --> 00:13:09,520  
camp, Theresienstadt  
by virtue of the fact

192  
00:13:09,520 --> 00:13:17,740  
that although she was a  
half Jew first degree, not

193  
00:13:17,740 --> 00:13:19,960  
second degree, but first degree.

194  
00:13:19,960 --> 00:13:23,710  
That means these

people were exempt

195

00:13:23,710 --> 00:13:25,330  
because she was baptized.

196

00:13:25,330 --> 00:13:30,040  
She was a Catholic  
and therefore,

197

00:13:30,040 --> 00:13:34,930  
would have been exempt  
from being sent to a camp.

198

00:13:34,930 --> 00:13:39,250  
But by virtue of the fact  
that she had married a Jew

199

00:13:39,250 --> 00:13:41,820  
she lost all these privileges.

200

00:13:41,820 --> 00:13:45,930  
Although, she was a widow  
because that person had died,

201

00:13:45,930 --> 00:13:47,170  
so that didn't help her.

202

00:13:47,170 --> 00:13:52,150  
And her mother was not because  
she was the non-Jewish link,

203

00:13:52,150 --> 00:13:53,460  
and she of course stayed there.

204

00:13:53,460 --> 00:13:57,720  
And so she was sent there but  
stayed in the Theresienstadt.

205

00:13:57,720 --> 00:13:59,910  
Was not sent to any  
other destruction camp,

206

00:13:59,910 --> 00:14:02,790  
so that saved her life.

207  
00:14:02,790 --> 00:14:09,420  
And anyway, so my father  
married her and they both worked

208  
00:14:09,420 --> 00:14:12,300  
in Melbourne, and I just  
wanted to be with them.

209  
00:14:12,300 --> 00:14:15,540  
Also, I wanted to  
continue my studies.

210  
00:14:15,540 --> 00:14:20,100  
I was not getting all the  
various courses I needed back

211  
00:14:20,100 --> 00:14:22,410  
at the Canberra  
University College,

212  
00:14:22,410 --> 00:14:26,310  
so I wanted to be at the  
University of Melbourne proper.

213  
00:14:26,310 --> 00:14:28,890  
So that's when I moved  
there and continued

214  
00:14:28,890 --> 00:14:32,700  
to work with that  
Department of Immigration

215  
00:14:32,700 --> 00:14:36,210  
in Melbourne, where I was able  
to help lots of immigrants

216  
00:14:36,210 --> 00:14:42,000  
and cut all the various  
red tape and got people out

217

00:14:42,000 --> 00:14:44,220  
of difficulties.

218  
00:14:44,220 --> 00:14:47,520  
And saw to it that some  
people who were not divorced

219  
00:14:47,520 --> 00:14:53,010  
could marry married people,  
and did all sorts of things

220  
00:14:53,010 --> 00:14:58,740  
in order to aid people who had  
been affected by war conditions

221  
00:14:58,740 --> 00:15:02,400  
and sought refuge  
in Australia and got

222  
00:15:02,400 --> 00:15:08,830  
into some sort of  
bureaucratic morass.

223  
00:15:08,830 --> 00:15:12,250  
So that gave me some  
degree of satisfaction.

224  
00:15:12,250 --> 00:15:19,270  
But because I had also a number  
of interesting encounters

225  
00:15:19,270 --> 00:15:22,810  
and met a young woman,  
an Australian woman,

226  
00:15:22,810 --> 00:15:27,670  
I wanted very badly  
to marry, but it

227  
00:15:27,670 --> 00:15:32,140  
didn't work out because I  
left for the United States.

228

00:15:32,140 --> 00:15:37,600  
Because I couldn't  
continue my studies

229  
00:15:37,600 --> 00:15:41,960  
at the University of Melbourne  
because I had a full time job.

230  
00:15:41,960 --> 00:15:44,980  
It was virtually impossible  
to get any sort of fellowship

231  
00:15:44,980 --> 00:15:46,750  
or scholarship.

232  
00:15:46,750 --> 00:15:50,150  
And I wanted to continue, but  
I simply it was just too much.

233  
00:15:50,150 --> 00:15:51,970  
And at that particular  
time, I still

234  
00:15:51,970 --> 00:15:59,380  
had an active tuberculosis,  
lung tuberculosis.

235  
00:15:59,380 --> 00:16:02,500  
And so it was getting too much.

236  
00:16:02,500 --> 00:16:09,160  
And I decided that  
it would be better

237  
00:16:09,160 --> 00:16:12,580  
for me to come to  
the United States

238  
00:16:12,580 --> 00:16:16,250  
and to take advantage  
of an offer I'd received

239  
00:16:16,250 --> 00:16:20,230

from the so-called  
Masaryk Foundation, which

240  
00:16:20,230 --> 00:16:25,480  
supported and  
obtained fellowships

241  
00:16:25,480 --> 00:16:27,700  
for people who were political.

242  
00:16:27,700 --> 00:16:30,100  
I mean, real political  
refugees because they

243  
00:16:30,100 --> 00:16:33,610  
had to escape from  
Czechoslovakia because

244  
00:16:33,610 --> 00:16:37,310  
of political reasons, namely  
that they are anti-communist

245  
00:16:37,310 --> 00:16:42,310  
and were working  
against the communists.

246  
00:16:42,310 --> 00:16:44,920  
And I certainly fit  
that description.

247  
00:16:44,920 --> 00:16:47,440  
And they wrote to  
me in Australia

248  
00:16:47,440 --> 00:16:51,760  
that if I come to  
the United States

249  
00:16:51,760 --> 00:16:57,400  
they would guarantee me  
to get a fellowship to one

250  
00:16:57,400 --> 00:17:01,180

of the larger universities  
in the United States.

251  
00:17:01,180 --> 00:17:05,410  
And so I decided to  
take advantage of it

252  
00:17:05,410 --> 00:17:18,670  
and in March, 1953 I  
went tourist class,

253  
00:17:18,670 --> 00:17:20,849  
not first class,  
because obviously I

254  
00:17:20,849 --> 00:17:28,450  
couldn't afford via  
England, where I also stayed

255  
00:17:28,450 --> 00:17:30,690  
for a while, toured Europe.

256  
00:17:30,690 --> 00:17:35,440  
And in England I was able to  
get some sort of inheritance

257  
00:17:35,440 --> 00:17:40,480  
from my uncle who had money all  
over the world, which included

258  
00:17:40,480 --> 00:17:42,085  
England and other parts.

259  
00:17:42,085 --> 00:17:45,310  
I only got a fraction  
of it, but that really

260  
00:17:45,310 --> 00:17:49,630  
put me into a very good  
shape so that I could indeed

261  
00:17:49,630 --> 00:17:54,430  
come to the United States

from England cabin class,

262

00:17:54,430 --> 00:17:57,430  
and that was something  
I never regretted.

263

00:17:57,430 --> 00:18:00,970  
Because you just came to  
the United States not only

264

00:18:00,970 --> 00:18:07,400  
the poor immigrant, but in  
style, which is very unusual.

265

00:18:07,400 --> 00:18:10,660  
And I remember that I bought  
all these sort of things

266

00:18:10,660 --> 00:18:12,560  
back in London at  
expensive shops

267

00:18:12,560 --> 00:18:19,690  
so that I could have  
all the outfits to wear

268

00:18:19,690 --> 00:18:22,210  
for the gala, dances.

269

00:18:22,210 --> 00:18:26,300  
I even won some sort of  
things back during that time.

270

00:18:26,300 --> 00:18:31,480  
And there was a intelligence  
officer on board

271

00:18:31,480 --> 00:18:35,020  
and I got to know  
him and he found out

272

00:18:35,020 --> 00:18:38,410  
about my background and my



anti-communist activities,

273

00:18:38,410 --> 00:18:40,210

which of course  
put me immediately

274

00:18:40,210 --> 00:18:41,890

into favor with him.

275

00:18:41,890 --> 00:18:44,350

So that when I checked  
out with all my luggage

276

00:18:44,350 --> 00:18:51,400

I didn't have to go through  
any of the passport and things,

277

00:18:51,400 --> 00:18:52,532

and red tape.

278

00:18:52,532 --> 00:18:54,490

And that was kind of, I  
was very proud of that.

279

00:18:54,490 --> 00:18:56,330

That was very nice.

280

00:18:56,330 --> 00:18:58,750

I was going to ask you,  
in leaving Australia,

281

00:18:58,750 --> 00:19:02,170

how had your relation with your  
father been when you reunited?

282

00:19:02,170 --> 00:19:08,733

Well, the interesting thing  
is that I knew, of course,

283

00:19:08,733 --> 00:19:10,900

I knew her very well because  
they had lived together

284

00:19:10,900 --> 00:19:15,070  
in Prague already without  
being married, which was OK,

285

00:19:15,070 --> 00:19:17,640  
but not necessarily  
accepted socially.

286

00:19:17,640 --> 00:19:21,250  
But I mean, they didn't have  
any problems because of it.

287

00:19:21,250 --> 00:19:23,695  
Besides, he had  
some other ladies,

288

00:19:23,695 --> 00:19:28,160  
and saw other ladies too,  
which was kind of interesting.

289

00:19:28,160 --> 00:19:30,250  
But for him, not for me.

290

00:19:30,250 --> 00:19:37,570

291

00:19:37,570 --> 00:19:41,560  
So she was a very  
excellent cook,

292

00:19:41,560 --> 00:19:45,550  
and so I used to  
come there for meals

293

00:19:45,550 --> 00:19:48,370  
and she never forgot to  
tell me about all the things

294

00:19:48,370 --> 00:19:51,170  
they did for me and what  
I would do in return.

295

00:19:51,170 --> 00:19:57,730

So she was a very,  
very calculating lady,

296

00:19:57,730 --> 00:20:00,160

and pretty cold.

297

00:20:00,160 --> 00:20:03,910

But she was very  
good looking and that

298

00:20:03,910 --> 00:20:06,940

was very important for my  
father because he responded

299

00:20:06,940 --> 00:20:09,670

to good looks and sex appeal.

300

00:20:09,670 --> 00:20:13,330

I don't blame him for  
that, I hasten to add.

301

00:20:13,330 --> 00:20:17,890

But I never developed any  
very close ties to her

302

00:20:17,890 --> 00:20:23,110

because she was a cold  
fish in so many ways.

303

00:20:23,110 --> 00:20:24,920

Very intelligent and all that.

304

00:20:24,920 --> 00:20:30,910

And so I got to know  
them already in Prague

305

00:20:30,910 --> 00:20:34,270

and I had hoped that he would  
marry someone else with whom

306

00:20:34,270 --> 00:20:36,560

he was engaged after the war.

307  
00:20:36,560 --> 00:20:42,910  
But just she persuaded  
him to marry her

308  
00:20:42,910 --> 00:20:45,790  
instead of the other woman, whom  
I liked very much because she

309  
00:20:45,790 --> 00:20:47,510  
was exactly opposite.

310  
00:20:47,510 --> 00:20:51,640  
She was very appealing and all  
that, very nice, and very warm

311  
00:20:51,640 --> 00:20:55,160  
person, and we  
became very close.

312  
00:20:55,160 --> 00:20:59,650  
And so that was a disappointment  
that he married her

313  
00:20:59,650 --> 00:21:01,870  
instead of the person I  
really liked and thought

314  
00:21:01,870 --> 00:21:03,610  
would have been probably  
the better wife.

315  
00:21:03,610 --> 00:21:07,150  
They would have gotten  
along much better.

316  
00:21:07,150 --> 00:21:11,110  
The only problem was that  
she was German and had

317  
00:21:11,110 --> 00:21:13,270  
considerable problems,  
but because she was not

318

00:21:13,270 --> 00:21:17,410  
a Nazi, but merely a German,  
she could have stayed.

319

00:21:17,410 --> 00:21:20,800  
But she chose not to  
stay in Czechoslovakia

320

00:21:20,800 --> 00:21:27,760  
because she went with the  
rest of her family to Germany.

321

00:21:27,760 --> 00:21:31,540  
All right, so we got  
along quite well,

322

00:21:31,540 --> 00:21:34,600  
except she always asked  
me what am I going to do

323

00:21:34,600 --> 00:21:36,460  
and what presence  
and this and that.

324

00:21:36,460 --> 00:21:42,790  
And at that time, I was not as  
flexible as I would be today.

325

00:21:42,790 --> 00:21:46,810  
So I neglected her  
appeals in a way,

326

00:21:46,810 --> 00:21:51,310  
and in retrospect,  
I feel that I should

327

00:21:51,310 --> 00:21:59,530  
have given her more recognition  
for whatever she did.

328

00:21:59,530 --> 00:22:02,050  
Because she was an

excellent cook and really

329  
00:22:02,050 --> 00:22:05,560  
looked after both of  
us in this respect.

330  
00:22:05,560 --> 00:22:08,740  
Not in terms of  
affection or so, but she

331  
00:22:08,740 --> 00:22:12,140  
put all the things into the  
cooking and hospitality and all

332  
00:22:12,140 --> 00:22:12,640  
that.

333  
00:22:12,640 --> 00:22:17,410  
She was very excellent  
in doing that.

334  
00:22:17,410 --> 00:22:21,940  
So it was not a very  
close relationship,

335  
00:22:21,940 --> 00:22:25,160  
but it was not a strained  
relationship either.

336  
00:22:25,160 --> 00:22:27,610  
The only thing I  
missed in her she

337  
00:22:27,610 --> 00:22:30,490  
didn't share the sense  
of humor my father had,

338  
00:22:30,490 --> 00:22:33,610  
who had a tremendous  
sense of humor

339  
00:22:33,610 --> 00:22:36,040  
and we had a lot

of laughs together.

340

00:22:36,040 --> 00:22:40,420

So that we all were in tears  
very frequently because of some

341

00:22:40,420 --> 00:22:41,750

of the jokes he made.

342

00:22:41,750 --> 00:22:43,180

They were just really uncanny.

343

00:22:43,180 --> 00:22:45,050

It was just really  
out of this world.

344

00:22:45,050 --> 00:22:46,990

And I still miss that  
because I haven't

345

00:22:46,990 --> 00:22:48,820

met anyone who would  
have been that funny,

346

00:22:48,820 --> 00:22:53,620

could have been that funny  
in some sort of level

347

00:22:53,620 --> 00:22:58,150

of sophistication, but kind  
of intellectual sense of humor

348

00:22:58,150 --> 00:23:01,420

which I appreciate very much.

349

00:23:01,420 --> 00:23:05,260

And I miss that, yeah.

350

00:23:05,260 --> 00:23:08,350

So she didn't share that.

351

00:23:08,350 --> 00:23:11,840

All right, then I met  
this young lady there

352  
00:23:11,840 --> 00:23:14,080  
and of course, I brought  
them all to that place.

353  
00:23:14,080 --> 00:23:16,660  
And they of course, assessed  
and immediately took

354  
00:23:16,660 --> 00:23:20,510  
measurements, what have  
you in so many ways

355  
00:23:20,510 --> 00:23:22,960  
and assessed their  
manners and all.

356  
00:23:22,960 --> 00:23:26,950  
And they're all Australian  
women and lovely women,

357  
00:23:26,950 --> 00:23:29,065  
all very good  
looking and all that.

358  
00:23:29,065 --> 00:23:31,630

359  
00:23:31,630 --> 00:23:36,710  
But they always found something  
which just didn't fit that.

360  
00:23:36,710 --> 00:23:40,690  
So the one I was really  
very attached to I

361  
00:23:40,690 --> 00:23:42,760  
think they liked also,  
except she was not

362  
00:23:42,760 --> 00:23:44,710



attached to the United  
States and certainly

363  
00:23:44,710 --> 00:23:49,870  
didn't think in terms of  
leaving Australia because of me.

364  
00:23:49,870 --> 00:23:56,650  
And she was very open about  
that, and if I had stayed there

365  
00:23:56,650 --> 00:24:00,220  
the chances are I  
would have married her.

366  
00:24:00,220 --> 00:24:04,180  
And so then I came  
to the United States

367  
00:24:04,180 --> 00:24:06,160  
for reasons which  
I've explained.

368  
00:24:06,160 --> 00:24:13,510  
Also, I was notified  
that the affidavit, which

369  
00:24:13,510 --> 00:24:19,990  
was the quota number was  
a Czech, I had to wait

370  
00:24:19,990 --> 00:24:21,160  
and all this.

371  
00:24:21,160 --> 00:24:24,310  
Now I was due, so I was able  
to come to the United States.

372  
00:24:24,310 --> 00:24:34,610  
And I came to New York and I  
was picked up by these very rich

373  
00:24:34,610 --> 00:24:41,380

relatives, director of one of  
the enterprises who also had

374  
00:24:41,380 --> 00:24:44,980  
been a colleague and a  
friend of my father's.

375  
00:24:44,980 --> 00:24:49,875  
And they're very nice, but I've  
never met this these relatives

376  
00:24:49,875 --> 00:24:55,680  
because somehow they  
delegated these sort of care

377  
00:24:55,680 --> 00:25:01,170  
to this director.

378  
00:25:01,170 --> 00:25:06,870  
And so I found some  
friends, people

379  
00:25:06,870 --> 00:25:12,690  
who permitted me to share  
an apartment with them

380  
00:25:12,690 --> 00:25:17,460  
from Connecticut,  
Darien, Connecticut,

381  
00:25:17,460 --> 00:25:21,600  
to Englewood, New Jersey, and  
from Englewood, New Jersey

382  
00:25:21,600 --> 00:25:26,760  
to New York for just about  
half a year until the fall.

383  
00:25:26,760 --> 00:25:30,180  
And then for reasons  
which still escape me they

384  
00:25:30,180 --> 00:25:31,800

said, well, you  
can go to Harvard,

385  
00:25:31,800 --> 00:25:36,090  
you can go to this and that. but  
I was so unbelievably ignorant

386  
00:25:36,090 --> 00:25:40,710  
about the reputation of  
American institutions

387  
00:25:40,710 --> 00:25:42,900  
that for reasons  
which still escape me

388  
00:25:42,900 --> 00:25:47,490  
I selected the University  
of Missouri, which

389  
00:25:47,490 --> 00:25:54,780  
at that particular time was  
number 10 on the list of state

390  
00:25:54,780 --> 00:25:56,820  
universities--

391  
00:25:56,820 --> 00:25:59,910  
state universities,  
not large universities.

392  
00:25:59,910 --> 00:26:03,420  
And that was on  
one hand, very good

393  
00:26:03,420 --> 00:26:07,620  
because I learned  
a great deal and I

394  
00:26:07,620 --> 00:26:15,120  
met professors who were  
like a family to me,

395  
00:26:15,120 --> 00:26:17,220

and I'll never  
forget the chances.

396  
00:26:17,220 --> 00:26:18,720  
I don't know whether  
this would have

397  
00:26:18,720 --> 00:26:22,920  
been the same case at Harvard.

398  
00:26:22,920 --> 00:26:26,500  
But of course, Missouri  
didn't have all the--

399  
00:26:26,500 --> 00:26:27,900  
I made very good contacts.

400  
00:26:27,900 --> 00:26:33,120  
But that cannot be compared with  
contacts which were made by old

401  
00:26:33,120 --> 00:26:36,990  
Henry Kissinger and other people  
who were immigrants who knew

402  
00:26:36,990 --> 00:26:39,330  
exactly what they were doing,  
simply because they knew

403  
00:26:39,330 --> 00:26:40,330  
the ropes.

404  
00:26:40,330 --> 00:26:41,595  
I didn't.

405  
00:26:41,595 --> 00:26:49,690  
And so I got my master's there  
and started my doctorate.

406  
00:26:49,690 --> 00:26:52,600  
And then I had a  
chance and worked

407

00:26:52,600 --> 00:26:54,940

in a state mental  
institution just

408

00:26:54,940 --> 00:26:58,570

to apply some of the theoretical  
concepts which I had picked up

409

00:26:58,570 --> 00:26:59,960

and see how that would work.

410

00:26:59,960 --> 00:27:02,680

And that was a very  
beneficial experience

411

00:27:02,680 --> 00:27:03,640

apart from the money.

412

00:27:03,640 --> 00:27:06,880

Because I had a fellowship  
and this fellowship

413

00:27:06,880 --> 00:27:18,820

was consisted of pocket money,  
tuition, and all the textbooks,

414

00:27:18,820 --> 00:27:21,070

and whatever I needed  
for my studies,

415

00:27:21,070 --> 00:27:25,180

they paid for that,  
and meals, which

416

00:27:25,180 --> 00:27:29,260

I had to take at  
various fraternities.

417

00:27:29,260 --> 00:27:31,750

And that proved to be  
exceedingly interesting,

418

00:27:31,750 --> 00:27:34,720  
although at times  
was a bit cumbersome.

419  
00:27:34,720 --> 00:27:38,800  
And that way I became  
I think the notion was

420  
00:27:38,800 --> 00:27:43,960  
to become acquainted with the  
different American sectors,

421  
00:27:43,960 --> 00:27:44,960  
walks of life.

422  
00:27:44,960 --> 00:27:47,250  
And I think that  
did a very good job.

423  
00:27:47,250 --> 00:27:49,000  
I thought it was  
extremely interesting

424  
00:27:49,000 --> 00:27:50,800  
for me to be  
introduced this way,

425  
00:27:50,800 --> 00:27:52,600  
and I made quite a few friends.

426  
00:27:52,600 --> 00:27:54,640  
Were you at all apprehensive  
about starting over

427  
00:27:54,640 --> 00:27:56,682  
in a new country and having  
to leave your family?

428  
00:27:56,682 --> 00:28:02,080  
Yeah, I was very apprehensive,  
simply because the university

429  
00:28:02,080 --> 00:28:04,970

system was very different.

430

00:28:04,970 --> 00:28:08,710

And so for example, at the  
University of Melbourne

431

00:28:08,710 --> 00:28:13,600

or Canberra you only  
had examinations

432

00:28:13,600 --> 00:28:17,200

at the end of the academic  
year, which took hours.

433

00:28:17,200 --> 00:28:19,840

In every subject there  
was at least three hours

434

00:28:19,840 --> 00:28:24,130

and you had to write countless  
papers and things like that

435

00:28:24,130 --> 00:28:26,270

throughout the semester.

436

00:28:26,270 --> 00:28:29,170

But then, on taking that  
seriously, the important thing

437

00:28:29,170 --> 00:28:34,390

is that you had to, under  
very strict supervision,

438

00:28:34,390 --> 00:28:44,230

you had to respond to printed  
questions for about three hours

439

00:28:44,230 --> 00:28:47,020

in just one subject.

440

00:28:47,020 --> 00:28:52,420

And so here all the weekly  
quizzes and objective tests

441  
00:28:52,420 --> 00:28:55,270  
were something totally new  
to me and took a great deal

442  
00:28:55,270 --> 00:28:56,620  
to adjust.

443  
00:28:56,620 --> 00:29:00,100  
And by virtue of the fact  
that I had a scholarship

444  
00:29:00,100 --> 00:29:02,020  
I needed to excel.

445  
00:29:02,020 --> 00:29:04,840  
And during the first  
part of the semester

446  
00:29:04,840 --> 00:29:08,590  
I had two Ds because of that.

447  
00:29:08,590 --> 00:29:13,950  
And the dean called me in and  
said, and addressed me as sir,

448  
00:29:13,950 --> 00:29:18,130  
you are a disappointment  
to us because we gave you

449  
00:29:18,130 --> 00:29:21,160  
a scholarship  
expecting you to excel,

450  
00:29:21,160 --> 00:29:26,180  
and the report you have  
on these two subjects,

451  
00:29:26,180 --> 00:29:28,000  
I remember one was  
in anthropology

452



00:29:28,000 --> 00:29:30,440  
and one was in psychology.

453  
00:29:30,440 --> 00:29:35,950  
And these were graded courses,  
and you have two Ds there.

454  
00:29:35,950 --> 00:29:39,160  
And that was a very bad  
things, so what then?

455  
00:29:39,160 --> 00:29:42,440  
I mean, a very  
embarrassing situation.

456  
00:29:42,440 --> 00:29:49,510  
And so there was not very much  
I could say other than just

457  
00:29:49,510 --> 00:29:51,370  
I'm adjusting or what have you.

458  
00:29:51,370 --> 00:29:56,110  
And that was a bit  
traumatic to be sure.

459  
00:29:56,110 --> 00:30:00,640  
And I worked hard, it's not that  
I was lazy, that I didn't try.

460  
00:30:00,640 --> 00:30:05,450  
But then I've learned the  
ropes and the quizzes in time.

461  
00:30:05,450 --> 00:30:12,160  
And so the D one  
day turned into a B,

462  
00:30:12,160 --> 00:30:14,650  
and the other D turned  
into a C. That's

463  
00:30:14,650 --> 00:30:21,370

the only blemish I had on my  
graduate record, the one C.

464  
00:30:21,370 --> 00:30:25,420  
But because all the other things  
during the next two semesters,

465  
00:30:25,420 --> 00:30:27,520  
three semesters, I  
was at the University

466  
00:30:27,520 --> 00:30:31,000  
of Missouri for four semesters.

467  
00:30:31,000 --> 00:30:34,870  
I got my masters in  
3 semesters, which

468  
00:30:34,870 --> 00:30:37,150  
included the writing  
of the thesis,

469  
00:30:37,150 --> 00:30:40,130  
so that means one and 1/2 years.

470  
00:30:40,130 --> 00:30:46,890  
Which is not bad for someone  
who comes from another start,

471  
00:30:46,890 --> 00:30:48,910  
mostly the Jewish start.

472  
00:30:48,910 --> 00:30:54,760  
But so that was not too bad.

473  
00:30:54,760 --> 00:30:57,490  
And when I made  
Honors Society simply

474  
00:30:57,490 --> 00:31:00,010  
because all the other  
things were As, you see.

475

00:31:00,010 --> 00:31:04,690

So therefore, I just caught  
up and got quite a bit

476

00:31:04,690 --> 00:31:07,430

of recognition, as  
a matter of fact.

477

00:31:07,430 --> 00:31:09,580

How did you adjust  
to social life?

478

00:31:09,580 --> 00:31:11,260

Social life was  
not very difficult

479

00:31:11,260 --> 00:31:16,240

because for some reasons,  
which at that particular time

480

00:31:16,240 --> 00:31:20,830

escaped me, I had lots of  
friends, very good friends.

481

00:31:20,830 --> 00:31:27,340

Also by virtue of the fact  
that I was in fraternities I

482

00:31:27,340 --> 00:31:31,585

had bit of problems  
with women, young coeds

483

00:31:31,585 --> 00:31:38,230

at the number of two  
private junior colleges

484

00:31:38,230 --> 00:31:42,670

at the same place  
Columbia, Missouri.

485

00:31:42,670 --> 00:31:46,890

Not that many women at  
the University of Missouri

486  
00:31:46,890 --> 00:31:51,060  
proper, and so I  
dated quite a bit.

487  
00:31:51,060 --> 00:31:53,550  
But I was very insecure  
by virtue of the fact

488  
00:31:53,550 --> 00:31:56,880  
that I didn't have a car,  
I didn't have any money,

489  
00:31:56,880 --> 00:31:59,760  
and couldn't invite  
them to big things.

490  
00:31:59,760 --> 00:32:04,560  
And most of these kids came  
from very well-to-do homes.

491  
00:32:04,560 --> 00:32:09,180  
So I was very self-conscious  
about my limitations.

492  
00:32:09,180 --> 00:32:12,780  
But apparently,  
these limitations

493  
00:32:12,780 --> 00:32:17,310  
were not that dreadful,  
because I had no problem.

494  
00:32:17,310 --> 00:32:21,480  
They still liked me and for  
reasons which, as I say,

495  
00:32:21,480 --> 00:32:23,260  
escape me then today.

496  
00:32:23,260 --> 00:32:26,880  
Perhaps it's a bit more  
easy to understand.

497  
00:32:26,880 --> 00:32:33,330  
I was not starved for  
company, for sure.

498  
00:32:33,330 --> 00:32:36,060  
And except my  
choices, I just simply

499  
00:32:36,060 --> 00:32:39,750  
didn't understand them too  
well because you had a date

500  
00:32:39,750 --> 00:32:42,135  
and they kissed you  
good night at the dorms,

501  
00:32:42,135 --> 00:32:44,363  
and then you went  
with someone else

502  
00:32:44,363 --> 00:32:45,530  
and the same thing happened.

503  
00:32:45,530 --> 00:32:48,120  
You see the girl  
you dated yesterday

504  
00:32:48,120 --> 00:32:50,710  
was kissing someone else.

505  
00:32:50,710 --> 00:32:52,530  
And that was very  
confusing to me

506  
00:32:52,530 --> 00:32:55,170  
because the dating  
system was not exactly

507  
00:32:55,170 --> 00:32:57,760  
something I was used to.

508

00:32:57,760 --> 00:32:59,280  
So I had to adjust to that.

509  
00:32:59,280 --> 00:33:03,870  
And in a way, I didn't  
because I said hey, either you

510  
00:33:03,870 --> 00:33:10,470  
like someone and you  
just are steady with them

511  
00:33:10,470 --> 00:33:19,590  
and do the things  
from all the way,

512  
00:33:19,590 --> 00:33:22,890  
or you just sort of this  
halfway thing and all

513  
00:33:22,890 --> 00:33:25,860  
that was very frustrating.

514  
00:33:25,860 --> 00:33:27,960  
Because of the puritan  
ethic, which still

515  
00:33:27,960 --> 00:33:33,765  
prevailed at that time  
and people of course

516  
00:33:33,765 --> 00:33:36,390  
pretended to be this and that.

517  
00:33:36,390 --> 00:33:40,890  
But you know everyone claimed  
to be a virgin until she

518  
00:33:40,890 --> 00:33:42,120  
had a ring on her finger.

519  
00:33:42,120 --> 00:33:44,160  
If nothing else, at  
least the engagement,

520  
00:33:44,160 --> 00:33:47,640  
but usually there had  
to be the wedding.

521  
00:33:47,640 --> 00:33:48,780  
So I wasn't used to that.

522  
00:33:48,780 --> 00:33:51,190  
I had problems with that.

523  
00:33:51,190 --> 00:33:54,420  
So then I found some people who  
didn't have problems with that

524  
00:33:54,420 --> 00:33:59,140  
occasionally, and then I  
didn't have a problem too.

525  
00:33:59,140 --> 00:34:00,390  
That was supposed to be funny.

526  
00:34:00,390 --> 00:34:05,880

527  
00:34:05,880 --> 00:34:08,610  
But I was very overwhelmed  
with the hospitality

528  
00:34:08,610 --> 00:34:13,650  
of all the people, they  
were exceedingly hospitable.

529  
00:34:13,650 --> 00:34:20,280  
And I had a very functional  
support system there,

530  
00:34:20,280 --> 00:34:23,780  
and some of us who  
excelled were even

531  
00:34:23,780 --> 00:34:26,489

invited to the  
governor's mansion, which

532  
00:34:26,489 --> 00:34:32,639  
was in Jefferson City and  
hosted by the governor in a very

533  
00:34:32,639 --> 00:34:33,699  
unusual way.

534  
00:34:33,699 --> 00:34:36,449  
I wish to god that something  
like that would happen here

535  
00:34:36,449 --> 00:34:37,949  
in California.

536  
00:34:37,949 --> 00:34:41,790  
But so that was very, and we had  
lots of important activities.

537  
00:34:41,790 --> 00:34:46,350  
And I was invited  
with another person

538  
00:34:46,350 --> 00:34:50,969  
who had excelled grade wise  
and all that, academically.

539  
00:34:50,969 --> 00:34:58,380  
We were invited as unusually  
gifted people to Dallas

540  
00:34:58,380 --> 00:35:03,480  
by the United Churches  
of Dallas for Christmas.

541  
00:35:03,480 --> 00:35:06,750  
And that, I never had  
heard of Dallas totally.

542  
00:35:06,750 --> 00:35:08,430  
And said who wants



to go to Dallas?

543

00:35:08,430 --> 00:35:13,410

And my friend who was  
the secretary general

544

00:35:13,410 --> 00:35:19,050

of the University YMCA  
to which I belonged

545

00:35:19,050 --> 00:35:21,900

said Dallas is a  
very important place.

546

00:35:21,900 --> 00:35:25,080

And he started to explain to  
me, and I was not very impressed

547

00:35:25,080 --> 00:35:28,120

because I never heard of Dallas.

548

00:35:28,120 --> 00:35:31,210

So we went there and we were  
hosted red carpet treatment

549

00:35:31,210 --> 00:35:32,830

and all the oil  
millionaires with

550

00:35:32,830 --> 00:35:34,260

all their beautiful daughters.

551

00:35:34,260 --> 00:35:36,930

But I was a very naive  
person and didn't

552

00:35:36,930 --> 00:35:39,090

take advantage of all  
the contacts, which

553

00:35:39,090 --> 00:35:40,320

I should have at that time.

554

00:35:40,320 --> 00:35:45,400

But I just had my nose  
into the academic stuff.

555

00:35:45,400 --> 00:35:49,770

And so during that particular  
visit, which was when in--

556

00:35:49,770 --> 00:36:00,550

I came to '54, that  
was '54, Christmas '54.

557

00:36:00,550 --> 00:36:04,680

And so they asked  
me, well, what do

558

00:36:04,680 --> 00:36:06,840

you want to do when you  
finish your studies?

559

00:36:06,840 --> 00:36:09,570

I said, well I guess  
maybe teaching.

560

00:36:09,570 --> 00:36:13,500

And I said, well, how much  
will you make as a teacher?

561

00:36:13,500 --> 00:36:15,633

And I said well, I don't  
know, not that much.

562

00:36:15,633 --> 00:36:17,550

They said well, if you  
make that little money,

563

00:36:17,550 --> 00:36:20,790

these millionaires said, you  
can't be very intelligent.

564

00:36:20,790 --> 00:36:24,030

So that gave me some sort  
of a taste of the value

565  
00:36:24,030 --> 00:36:29,070  
system in the United States  
while I was in Dallas,

566  
00:36:29,070 --> 00:36:30,900  
and it was exceedingly  
interesting.

567  
00:36:30,900 --> 00:36:33,900  
And also, what happens  
to you and then

568  
00:36:33,900 --> 00:36:39,150  
you are treated as a VIP, which  
somehow I couldn't relate to.

569  
00:36:39,150 --> 00:36:41,200  
I just couldn't quite  
assume that role

570  
00:36:41,200 --> 00:36:43,230  
which they assigned to me.

571  
00:36:43,230 --> 00:36:46,430  
Because if I had, I wouldn't  
be sitting here talking to you,

572  
00:36:46,430 --> 00:36:47,110  
the chances are.

573  
00:36:47,110 --> 00:36:52,150

574  
00:36:52,150 --> 00:36:53,500  
How was your health?

575  
00:36:53,500 --> 00:36:54,120  
My health?

576  
00:36:54,120 --> 00:36:54,620  
Yes.

577  
00:36:54,620 --> 00:36:55,162  
Was terrific.

578  
00:36:55,162 --> 00:36:57,110  
You said you had still the TB?

579  
00:36:57,110 --> 00:37:01,560  
No, the TB had healed.

580  
00:37:01,560 --> 00:37:07,150  
It had healed apparently  
at some time or another,

581  
00:37:07,150 --> 00:37:11,920  
either prior to leaving  
or after leaving.

582  
00:37:11,920 --> 00:37:15,190  
And I haven't had any  
problems with it since.

583  
00:37:15,190 --> 00:37:18,520  
So physically, you were all  
in pretty good shape then?

584  
00:37:18,520 --> 00:37:19,990  
I was in pretty  
good shape, yeah.

585  
00:37:19,990 --> 00:37:21,865  
Were you suffering any  
other kinds of things,

586  
00:37:21,865 --> 00:37:22,990  
like nightmares?

587  
00:37:22,990 --> 00:37:30,310  
Nightmares stopped pretty much  
back in the first few years

588  
00:37:30,310 --> 00:37:34,480

in when I had returned  
back to Prague.

589  
00:37:34,480 --> 00:37:41,200  
And because I got it out of  
my system, to some extent,

590  
00:37:41,200 --> 00:37:44,680  
so that I wouldn't be  
bothered by nightmares.

591  
00:37:44,680 --> 00:37:49,150  
I had indeed nightmares  
and frequent ones

592  
00:37:49,150 --> 00:37:51,490  
the first few years.

593  
00:37:51,490 --> 00:37:57,850  
And I've had particular problems  
with the loss of my mother,

594  
00:37:57,850 --> 00:38:00,400  
because at that particular  
time emotionally

595  
00:38:00,400 --> 00:38:02,650  
I had not cut the  
umbilical cord at all.

596  
00:38:02,650 --> 00:38:06,010  
I was not ready for  
that loss and that

597  
00:38:06,010 --> 00:38:09,580  
is something which lingered  
on for very, very many years.

598  
00:38:09,580 --> 00:38:12,910  
And for all practical  
purposes, I still

599  
00:38:12,910 --> 00:38:15,970

haven't come to terms with that,  
because that is something which

600  
00:38:15,970 --> 00:38:19,060  
both of us, that  
is my mother and I,

601  
00:38:19,060 --> 00:38:25,510  
were totally unprepared  
to cope with,

602  
00:38:25,510 --> 00:38:29,080  
including also many other  
my relatives because it

603  
00:38:29,080 --> 00:38:32,080  
was a very closely knit family.

604  
00:38:32,080 --> 00:38:33,580  
It's a very important  
point, which

605  
00:38:33,580 --> 00:38:36,624  
I think I've repeated  
on several occasions.

606  
00:38:36,624 --> 00:38:39,370  
It was probably the  
worst thing which

607  
00:38:39,370 --> 00:38:46,300  
has happened to me, the worst  
consequence of the Holocaust.

608  
00:38:46,300 --> 00:38:50,230  
So that all the physical  
injuries and the mental anguish

609  
00:38:50,230 --> 00:38:54,430  
and the trauma which  
was experienced,

610  
00:38:54,430 --> 00:39:00,370

which I experienced in  
the camps, was something

611  
00:39:00,370 --> 00:39:03,550

I could come to  
terms with in time.

612  
00:39:03,550 --> 00:39:07,960

But I have not come to terms  
with the loss of my family.

613  
00:39:07,960 --> 00:39:10,330

That's a lifelong grief.

614  
00:39:10,330 --> 00:39:13,090

Absolutely, absolutely, yeah.

615  
00:39:13,090 --> 00:39:16,150

And that's still my  
problem, and it's still

616  
00:39:16,150 --> 00:39:21,580  
something which comes back  
every new year, every Christmas,

617  
00:39:21,580 --> 00:39:26,290

every holiday and  
Pesach for what I know.

618  
00:39:26,290 --> 00:39:34,930  
Because that was something which  
was celebrated by my uncle's

619  
00:39:34,930 --> 00:39:40,420

relatives to which we  
were always invited.

620  
00:39:40,420 --> 00:39:46,240

Because in contrast to  
my father, my mother

621  
00:39:46,240 --> 00:39:50,890

and her relatives,

which included

622

00:39:50,890 --> 00:39:53,290  
my aunt who was married  
to that particular uncle,

623

00:39:53,290 --> 00:39:56,140  
were very well to do  
people and very cultured

624

00:39:56,140 --> 00:40:02,860  
and highly sophisticated  
individuals, role models

625

00:40:02,860 --> 00:40:04,090  
in so many other ways.

626

00:40:04,090 --> 00:40:05,770  
Not just people  
who were relatives,

627

00:40:05,770 --> 00:40:08,980  
but people I looked up  
to and had good reasons

628

00:40:08,980 --> 00:40:13,840  
to look up to because they  
just were fantastic people.

629

00:40:13,840 --> 00:40:17,230

630

00:40:17,230 --> 00:40:22,210  
My uncle's family were  
not religious Jews,

631

00:40:22,210 --> 00:40:24,340  
but were very cultured Jews.

632

00:40:24,340 --> 00:40:27,850  
And part of that  
included Jewish holidays,



633

00:40:27,850 --> 00:40:31,610  
and Pesach happened to be a  
very important one for them.

634

00:40:31,610 --> 00:40:34,810  
So that is something  
which was very important

635

00:40:34,810 --> 00:40:36,400  
and we all participated in that.

636

00:40:36,400 --> 00:40:43,430

637

00:40:43,430 --> 00:40:47,870  
So just closing  
that circle is that

638

00:40:47,870 --> 00:40:52,880  
because of these  
experiences and because

639

00:40:52,880 --> 00:40:57,210  
of the age in which  
I lost my family,

640

00:40:57,210 --> 00:41:02,750  
it is something which I am not  
able to come to terms with.

641

00:41:02,750 --> 00:41:05,540  
And also primarily  
because I have not

642

00:41:05,540 --> 00:41:07,710  
been able to find a substitute.

643

00:41:07,710 --> 00:41:11,270

644

00:41:11,270 --> 00:41:13,280  
I've had my relationships.

645  
00:41:13,280 --> 00:41:19,100  
I had a very unsatisfactory  
marriage, and I have a son.

646  
00:41:19,100 --> 00:41:21,830  
And that is the  
only link I still

647  
00:41:21,830 --> 00:41:25,770  
have in terms of really  
feeling of family.

648  
00:41:25,770 --> 00:41:32,720  
But other than that, also  
the death of my father

649  
00:41:32,720 --> 00:41:34,940  
and all that, to  
whom I after the war

650  
00:41:34,940 --> 00:41:38,330  
was not that close because  
then it reverted back

651  
00:41:38,330 --> 00:41:40,550  
to the sort of pre-war  
situation, which

652  
00:41:40,550 --> 00:41:48,890  
was very conflicting,  
I just simply

653  
00:41:48,890 --> 00:41:52,100  
haven't had a chance  
to find a substitute.

654  
00:41:52,100 --> 00:41:56,810  
And that is something which  
made things even worse.

655  
00:41:56,810 --> 00:42:01,910  
Because if you fall into

and marry into a family

656

00:42:01,910 --> 00:42:06,860

by virtue of the  
appropriate person, then

657

00:42:06,860 --> 00:42:09,590

I think it would have  
been eased, I'm sure.

658

00:42:09,590 --> 00:42:16,060

But under the circumstances,  
that was not the case.

659

00:42:16,060 --> 00:42:18,680

So your vision is  
that if you would

660

00:42:18,680 --> 00:42:22,020

have had a good mate,  
and not only that,

661

00:42:22,020 --> 00:42:25,440

but someone with a family,  
the whole sense of family?

662

00:42:25,440 --> 00:42:27,650

Well, you see, that's  
the irony of my life

663

00:42:27,650 --> 00:42:29,660

in a way and the  
dreadful disappointment,

664

00:42:29,660 --> 00:42:31,700

because I always hoped for that.

665

00:42:31,700 --> 00:42:34,820

And that was also something  
which was more or less

666

00:42:34,820 --> 00:42:39,710

implanted into me by my mother.

667

00:42:39,710 --> 00:42:43,070

And my mother always  
dreamt about that

668

00:42:43,070 --> 00:42:45,600

and we talked about it  
even in Theresienstadt.

669

00:42:45,600 --> 00:42:47,750

As a matter of fact, I  
specifically said, well,

670

00:42:47,750 --> 00:42:52,850

when we get out  
and there was no if

671

00:42:52,850 --> 00:42:58,760

or but, yes we would get out.

672

00:42:58,760 --> 00:43:00,790

And we both were  
convinced that we would.

673

00:43:00,790 --> 00:43:04,970

Therefore, for reasons  
which were kind of strange,

674

00:43:04,970 --> 00:43:08,040

but psychologically  
understandable I'm sure,

675

00:43:08,040 --> 00:43:12,710

and so she said, well,  
I really hope that you

676

00:43:12,710 --> 00:43:14,970

will have a nice family.

677

00:43:14,970 --> 00:43:20,390

And I would not want to  
live with you in one place.

678

00:43:20,390 --> 00:43:22,910

And it was all these  
sort of pre-war notions

679

00:43:22,910 --> 00:43:27,290

which would supposedly  
continue after the war,

680

00:43:27,290 --> 00:43:29,720

after the liberation, whatever.

681

00:43:29,720 --> 00:43:31,670

And that's what she envisioned.

682

00:43:31,670 --> 00:43:37,910

And you will have the  
family and she saw herself

683

00:43:37,910 --> 00:43:40,790

as a grandmother and  
then just as a person who

684

00:43:40,790 --> 00:43:44,150

continued to be the very  
close thing which yes,

685

00:43:44,150 --> 00:43:47,730

I certainly would have wished  
more than anything else.

686

00:43:47,730 --> 00:43:52,430

And said but I'm not  
going to impose on you.

687

00:43:52,430 --> 00:43:54,770

And the way she  
talked, it was just

688

00:43:54,770 --> 00:43:58,580

something which really stirs  
my emotions when I just

689

00:43:58,580 --> 00:43:59,720  
think of that.

690  
00:43:59,720 --> 00:44:03,620  
And I wouldn't want  
to impose on you,

691  
00:44:03,620 --> 00:44:08,510  
but I would like to have a small  
apartment near where you live.

692  
00:44:08,510 --> 00:44:10,310  
And all these sort  
of things come back,

693  
00:44:10,310 --> 00:44:15,050  
and I said my god, in terms  
of my private personal life

694  
00:44:15,050 --> 00:44:17,660  
what actually  
happened and all this

695  
00:44:17,660 --> 00:44:20,390  
would have been a dreadful  
disappointment to her.

696  
00:44:20,390 --> 00:44:26,570  
And she would be turning  
whatever her ashes at Auschwitz

697  
00:44:26,570 --> 00:44:33,770  
or whatever it is would stir  
in responding to my situation.

698  
00:44:33,770 --> 00:44:37,550  
And that is something which  
is a very heavy weight on me.

699  
00:44:37,550 --> 00:44:41,340  
And say my god, in a way, it's  
a terrible disappointment.

700

00:44:41,340 --> 00:44:43,580  
Not just to myself, but  
certainly if my mother

701  
00:44:43,580 --> 00:44:47,270  
had lived it would have  
been a tragedy for her.

702  
00:44:47,270 --> 00:44:49,710  
Now, on the other hand, if  
she would have been around,

703  
00:44:49,710 --> 00:44:52,310  
the chances are she would  
have given me counsel

704  
00:44:52,310 --> 00:44:55,070  
so that some of the  
mistakes I've made I

705  
00:44:55,070 --> 00:44:57,620  
may not have because  
of her counseling.

706  
00:44:57,620 --> 00:45:00,800  
That she would have been  
at my side, and I'm sure

707  
00:45:00,800 --> 00:45:02,344  
she would have counseled me.

708  
00:45:02,344 --> 00:45:07,310  
Whether I would have listened  
to her or not is another thing,

709  
00:45:07,310 --> 00:45:12,440  
because at times these sort of  
things are not always heeded.

710  
00:45:12,440 --> 00:45:15,770

711  
00:45:15,770 --> 00:45:18,560

That is to me,  
one of my-- that's

712  
00:45:18,560 --> 00:45:29,370  
the crucial thing in my life  
that this has not happened.

713  
00:45:29,370 --> 00:45:36,180  
That my personal life, my  
family life was destroyed

714  
00:45:36,180 --> 00:45:40,410  
and I was not able to replace  
it in any shape, or form.

715  
00:45:40,410 --> 00:45:47,160

716  
00:45:47,160 --> 00:45:50,920  
And I think probably,  
I may be wrong there,

717  
00:45:50,920 --> 00:45:55,610  
I think that it was made more  
difficult by virtue of the fact

718  
00:45:55,610 --> 00:45:58,150  
that I came to  
the United States.

719  
00:45:58,150 --> 00:45:59,600  
In what way?

720  
00:45:59,600 --> 00:46:02,510  
Well, I think in Australia it  
would have been easier in terms

721  
00:46:02,510 --> 00:46:05,300  
of human relationships.

722  
00:46:05,300 --> 00:46:10,950  
And the chances are that  
this particular girlfriend



723

00:46:10,950 --> 00:46:13,250

I had back in Australia,  
I think she probably

724

00:46:13,250 --> 00:46:18,350

would have filled the bill more  
readily than what I had found

725

00:46:18,350 --> 00:46:23,030

here or elsewhere, for that  
matter, because I married

726

00:46:23,030 --> 00:46:25,160

the person from  
the wrong country,

727

00:46:25,160 --> 00:46:27,530

our wrong culture I should  
say more than country, both.

728

00:46:27,530 --> 00:46:31,320

729

00:46:31,320 --> 00:46:33,180

Would you have had a  
closer relationship

730

00:46:33,180 --> 00:46:37,520

you think with your father  
had you stayed in Australia?

731

00:46:37,520 --> 00:46:41,820

Well, he wanted to stay.

732

00:46:41,820 --> 00:46:44,330

He was very successful  
in Australia.

733

00:46:44,330 --> 00:46:51,170

He really built for himself  
a very secure existence

734

00:46:51,170 --> 00:46:58,053  
and was well recognized in  
his field as an accountant.

735

00:46:58,053 --> 00:47:03,780  
He was very able,  
very successful.

736

00:47:03,780 --> 00:47:08,650  
And he wanted to stay, but  
because of his wife who

737

00:47:08,650 --> 00:47:14,000  
had relatives in Germany, who  
then came who were Sudeten

738

00:47:14,000 --> 00:47:23,120  
Germans and went to Germany,  
her brother, her mother I think,

739

00:47:23,120 --> 00:47:26,390  
and then she had a  
sister in England.

740

00:47:26,390 --> 00:47:33,590  
So she wanted to go back and  
she just persevered in this,

741

00:47:33,590 --> 00:47:37,610  
that he then gave  
up his job there

742

00:47:37,610 --> 00:47:41,750  
and decided to come  
with her to Munich.

743

00:47:41,750 --> 00:47:46,490  
And that also affected  
my personal life,

744

00:47:46,490 --> 00:47:49,370  
because the chances are I may  
have returned back to Australia

745  
00:47:49,370 --> 00:47:50,900  
under different circumstances.

746  
00:47:50,900 --> 00:47:57,890

747  
00:47:57,890 --> 00:48:02,780  
But because he went to  
Munich I was more than Europe

748  
00:48:02,780 --> 00:48:05,900  
oriented, by virtue of  
the fact that he was there

749  
00:48:05,900 --> 00:48:09,320  
and I wanted to visit  
and keep in touch, yes.

750  
00:48:09,320 --> 00:48:14,860  
And that was not the worst  
thing because I got also

751  
00:48:14,860 --> 00:48:19,550  
a doctorate back at the  
German University, which

752  
00:48:19,550 --> 00:48:20,570  
I do not regret.

753  
00:48:20,570 --> 00:48:22,610  
On the contrary, I think  
I've learned more there

754  
00:48:22,610 --> 00:48:24,470  
than anywhere else.

755  
00:48:24,470 --> 00:48:26,620  
Were you and he in  
Germany at the same time?

756  
00:48:26,620 --> 00:48:28,010

Yeah.

757

00:48:28,010 --> 00:48:33,020

Well actually, the same time, I came to Germany because of him.

758

00:48:33,020 --> 00:48:36,230

Because he had come there, not that I had not

759

00:48:36,230 --> 00:48:40,730

visited Germany before, yes, but that was for different reasons.

760

00:48:40,730 --> 00:48:44,920

But he had come there and because he had come to Germany

761

00:48:44,920 --> 00:48:47,440

I also frequently came to Germany.

762

00:48:47,440 --> 00:48:49,400

And that was one of the major reasons

763

00:48:49,400 --> 00:48:52,510

apart from some of my research, which I conducted

764

00:48:52,510 --> 00:49:00,170

in with the archives there in Munich, the Institute

765

00:49:00,170 --> 00:49:01,770

of Contemporary History.

766

00:49:01,770 --> 00:49:05,120

And later then did all the research

767

00:49:05,120 --> 00:49:07,550

with former perpetrators.

768  
00:49:07,550 --> 00:49:11,300  
And so that was  
something which I never

769  
00:49:11,300 --> 00:49:14,390  
would have done if I had been  
in Australia, the chances of.

770  
00:49:14,390 --> 00:49:18,160  
So you continued your  
graduate studies in Germany,

771  
00:49:18,160 --> 00:49:19,285  
is that what you're saying?

772  
00:49:19,285 --> 00:49:22,300

773  
00:49:22,300 --> 00:49:27,140  
Well, I was a doctoral  
candidate at Berkeley,

774  
00:49:27,140 --> 00:49:29,990  
but they didn't want me  
to do the type of research

775  
00:49:29,990 --> 00:49:31,790  
I was interested in.

776  
00:49:31,790 --> 00:49:35,360  
So after you left Missouri,  
where did you then go?

777  
00:49:35,360 --> 00:49:36,080  
Oh, I see.

778  
00:49:36,080 --> 00:49:37,700  
So we didn't talk about that.

779  
00:49:37,700 --> 00:49:39,370  
No, I'm sorry, maybe

I'm confusing it.

780  
00:49:39,370 --> 00:49:44,420  
No, that's sequentially I think  
we've gone a little bit astray.

781  
00:49:44,420 --> 00:49:50,480  
But no, I was back in  
Missouri until '55.

782  
00:49:50,480 --> 00:49:55,670  
And then one of  
my mentors got me

783  
00:49:55,670 --> 00:50:00,050  
a fellowship because I  
already started my doctorate

784  
00:50:00,050 --> 00:50:02,780  
at the University  
of Missouri after I

785  
00:50:02,780 --> 00:50:04,560  
completed my master's in '55.

786  
00:50:04,560 --> 00:50:09,350

787  
00:50:09,350 --> 00:50:13,190  
So he felt very strongly about  
the fact that he was a very

788  
00:50:13,190 --> 00:50:17,750  
eminent sociologist  
actually, a ? monologist ?

789  
00:50:17,750 --> 00:50:20,540  
man called Noel Gist.

790  
00:50:20,540 --> 00:50:24,770  
He felt that they  
taught me all they

791  
00:50:24,770 --> 00:50:26,348  
could at the  
University of Missouri

792  
00:50:26,348 --> 00:50:27,890  
that I should  
continue, and he didn't

793  
00:50:27,890 --> 00:50:32,430  
want me to get a PhD from  
the University of Missouri.

794  
00:50:32,430 --> 00:50:34,760  
Which I think was a  
mistake, because it

795  
00:50:34,760 --> 00:50:37,280  
prolonged the whole thing  
and complicated things,

796  
00:50:37,280 --> 00:50:39,260  
but made as it be.

797  
00:50:39,260 --> 00:50:42,470

798  
00:50:42,470 --> 00:50:45,890  
Then he helped me  
to get a fellowship

799  
00:50:45,890 --> 00:50:52,910  
to a place I was  
not particularly

800  
00:50:52,910 --> 00:50:59,480  
interested in going, which was  
in Louisiana, University, well

801  
00:50:59,480 --> 00:51:02,420  
known university.

802  
00:51:02,420 --> 00:51:04,190

Tulane?

803

00:51:04,190 --> 00:51:05,660

Tulane, yeah.

804

00:51:05,660 --> 00:51:12,680

And I was scared of the climate  
because I developed an allergy

805

00:51:12,680 --> 00:51:15,500

and I couldn't take  
humidity, climatic kind

806

00:51:15,500 --> 00:51:17,480

of climatic allergy.

807

00:51:17,480 --> 00:51:22,310

And humidity is something which  
really exacerbated that state

808

00:51:22,310 --> 00:51:25,520

of sneezing and all this other.

809

00:51:25,520 --> 00:51:30,830

And so although I've had  
it and I was accepted,

810

00:51:30,830 --> 00:51:32,870

I was very reluctant.

811

00:51:32,870 --> 00:51:45,560

And in '56 I got a fellowship  
to a university in San Diego

812

00:51:45,560 --> 00:51:51,800

to spend about, I think it was  
about a month or six weeks,

813

00:51:51,800 --> 00:51:59,930

something like that, at a sort  
of international corporation.

814



00:51:59,930 --> 00:52:07,090  
An international kind of  
interesting experiment

815  
00:52:07,090 --> 00:52:10,830  
which brought 23 different  
nations together,

816  
00:52:10,830 --> 00:52:15,250  
represented 23 nations  
together to live together,

817  
00:52:15,250 --> 00:52:19,090  
international kind of experiment  
in international living

818  
00:52:19,090 --> 00:52:22,510  
and interacting.

819  
00:52:22,510 --> 00:52:23,680  
And I got a fellowship.

820  
00:52:23,680 --> 00:52:26,800  
There was something  
which was done

821  
00:52:26,800 --> 00:52:32,950  
by the Quakers and  
the Friends service.

822  
00:52:32,950 --> 00:52:35,630  
And I got a fellowship  
to that and that way

823  
00:52:35,630 --> 00:52:40,960  
I came to California, which  
I had not intended before.

824  
00:52:40,960 --> 00:52:43,180  
And while I was in  
California I had

825  
00:52:43,180 --> 00:52:47,290

a number of friends who were  
at the University of California

826  
00:52:47,290 --> 00:52:49,570  
Berkeley, who had  
studied with me

827  
00:52:49,570 --> 00:52:53,320  
and received doctorates from  
the University of Missouri.

828  
00:52:53,320 --> 00:52:55,910  
Who were in other words,  
more advanced than I

829  
00:52:55,910 --> 00:52:58,670  
because they had come earlier.

830  
00:52:58,670 --> 00:53:02,020  
So they said, why don't you  
[INAUDIBLE],, why don't you come

831  
00:53:02,020 --> 00:53:05,710  
and you may get something here?

832  
00:53:05,710 --> 00:53:09,130  
And so I had one of  
my Indian friends

833  
00:53:09,130 --> 00:53:11,980  
who I was very close to.

834  
00:53:11,980 --> 00:53:19,180  
I was particularly very close  
to people from India, students

835  
00:53:19,180 --> 00:53:20,860  
at the University of Missouri.

836  
00:53:20,860 --> 00:53:24,220  
It was a very closely  
knit communal sort

837

00:53:24,220 --> 00:53:26,890

of relationship in which  
I was totally accepted

838

00:53:26,890 --> 00:53:29,770

for interesting reasons.

839

00:53:29,770 --> 00:53:36,430

And all these people were  
in their doctoral studies.

840

00:53:36,430 --> 00:53:42,220

And one of them was a man called  
[? Shanty ?] [? Tongre. ?] And

841

00:53:42,220 --> 00:53:46,270

he graduated from the University  
of Missouri and got a job

842

00:53:46,270 --> 00:53:48,160

at Berkeley.

843

00:53:48,160 --> 00:53:51,400

And he said, why don't you come  
and I'd like to introduce you,

844

00:53:51,400 --> 00:53:53,840

me be possibilities  
and all that.

845

00:53:53,840 --> 00:53:58,030

And he did a lot of foot work  
for me prior to my coming.

846

00:53:58,030 --> 00:54:00,280

And I came and he  
said, well, they

847

00:54:00,280 --> 00:54:08,100

are hiring some  
instructors, lecturers

848

00:54:08,100 --> 00:54:11,640  
in the department of  
speech, and you really

849  
00:54:11,640 --> 00:54:16,550  
should go and try and  
introduce yourself.

850  
00:54:16,550 --> 00:54:19,000  
And I thought it's just  
absolutely ridiculous.

851  
00:54:19,000 --> 00:54:20,880  
I didn't have any  
teaching experience.

852  
00:54:20,880 --> 00:54:22,950  
I was not an assistant.

853  
00:54:22,950 --> 00:54:27,660  
And just absolute  
100% greenhorn,

854  
00:54:27,660 --> 00:54:30,218  
and I felt I wouldn't have  
a chance, particularly

855  
00:54:30,218 --> 00:54:31,260  
at Berkeley and all that.

856  
00:54:31,260 --> 00:54:33,540  
So I came, I had an interview.

857  
00:54:33,540 --> 00:54:36,990  
And they were enthusiastic, for  
reasons which still escape me.

858  
00:54:36,990 --> 00:54:38,900  
It just doesn't make  
any sense to me,

859  
00:54:38,900 --> 00:54:41,230  
it just doesn't make whatsoever.

860

00:54:41,230 --> 00:54:44,910

And they hired me on the  
spot, and I became a lecturer

861

00:54:44,910 --> 00:54:47,160

at the University of  
California Berkeley.

862

00:54:47,160 --> 00:54:52,210

And then I wrote to my  
professor, my mentor and say,

863

00:54:52,210 --> 00:54:55,890

hey, I'm here  
Berkeley and Tulane.

864

00:54:55,890 --> 00:54:56,820

He was very mad.

865

00:54:56,820 --> 00:54:59,940

He was very angry with me and  
say we've done so much work.

866

00:54:59,940 --> 00:55:03,660

And now next time around we  
don't have a chance with Tulane

867

00:55:03,660 --> 00:55:07,920

because you have somehow given  
up that sort of fellowship.

868

00:55:07,920 --> 00:55:11,880

And that I was very  
sorry for, because he was

869

00:55:11,880 --> 00:55:14,640

behaved like a father to me.

870

00:55:14,640 --> 00:55:16,390

I didn't want to be  
a disappointment.

871  
00:55:16,390 --> 00:55:17,580  
But I still stayed there.

872  
00:55:17,580 --> 00:55:22,350  
But then before I actually I  
got that job and they said OK,

873  
00:55:22,350 --> 00:55:24,720  
you start now in the fall.

874  
00:55:24,720 --> 00:55:28,020  
It was just summer.

875  
00:55:28,020 --> 00:55:31,630  
And I had butterflies  
in my stomach.

876  
00:55:31,630 --> 00:55:35,490  
And I had sleepless nights, and  
I said I can't possibly do it.

877  
00:55:35,490 --> 00:55:39,010  
I can't face a class of  
students without having ever

878  
00:55:39,010 --> 00:55:41,250  
taught before and  
not really knowing

879  
00:55:41,250 --> 00:55:43,360  
what the hell I was doing.

880  
00:55:43,360 --> 00:55:50,100  
And so I couldn't eat and lost  
a lot of weight and sleepless

881  
00:55:50,100 --> 00:55:52,735  
nights and butterflies  
in my stomach.

882  
00:55:52,735 --> 00:55:54,360  
And I said, I'm going

to skip Berkeley.

883  
00:55:54,360 --> 00:55:55,277  
I'm going to run away.

884  
00:55:55,277 --> 00:55:57,540  
I'm just going, I'm going.

885  
00:55:57,540 --> 00:56:01,320  
And then I talked  
to my friend and he

886  
00:56:01,320 --> 00:56:03,570  
said don't do it,  
try it, and all this.

887  
00:56:03,570 --> 00:56:06,180  
And he was very  
supportive and all that.

888  
00:56:06,180 --> 00:56:10,680  
And then I mustered the courage  
to face up to the whole thing

889  
00:56:10,680 --> 00:56:13,920  
and I thought it just  
absolutely impossible.

890  
00:56:13,920 --> 00:56:18,540  
And for reasons, whatever,  
I adjusted and then

891  
00:56:18,540 --> 00:56:21,600  
I was in the doctoral  
program also.

892  
00:56:21,600 --> 00:56:24,670  
So I was a lecturer, but  
also a doctoral student

893  
00:56:24,670 --> 00:56:26,400  
back at Berkeley.

894

00:56:26,400 --> 00:56:29,880

And within a half year I  
was a very popular lecturer.

895

00:56:29,880 --> 00:56:32,370

Again, for reasons which  
I don't understand,

896

00:56:32,370 --> 00:56:34,590

but it just happened.

897

00:56:34,590 --> 00:56:38,540

The chair came, said John,  
he was a blind person

898

00:56:38,540 --> 00:56:44,040

and [Personal name] was his  
name, very famous attorney

899

00:56:44,040 --> 00:56:51,540

and a jurisperdent, wrote  
a lot of interesting, very

900

00:56:51,540 --> 00:56:52,290

important books.

901

00:56:52,290 --> 00:56:55,200

And so I sat down  
with you I mean

902

00:56:55,200 --> 00:56:58,020

all these students of  
course some female students

903

00:56:58,020 --> 00:57:00,868

they just all rave about you  
and say how well you dress

904

00:57:00,868 --> 00:57:01,410

and all that.

905

00:57:01,410 --> 00:57:02,760



What's with you?

906  
00:57:02,760 --> 00:57:06,340  
So I had to describe to  
him, because he never saw me

907  
00:57:06,340 --> 00:57:07,430  
by virtue of being blind.

908  
00:57:07,430 --> 00:57:10,606

909  
00:57:10,606 --> 00:57:11,106  
?

910  
00:57:11,106 --> 00:57:12,920  
What about ?

911  
00:57:12,920 --> 00:57:16,030  
the success and so on.

912  
00:57:16,030 --> 00:57:20,280  
And so he said, well,  
when I left he said John,

913  
00:57:20,280 --> 00:57:23,400  
I like to finish your  
doctorate and you will send us

914  
00:57:23,400 --> 00:57:32,080  
a dissertation, and then we  
want to consider for full time

915  
00:57:32,080 --> 00:57:37,040  
track, tenure track.

916  
00:57:37,040 --> 00:57:41,370  
All right well, and that  
was, of course, very nice,

917  
00:57:41,370 --> 00:57:45,930  
but the fact is that while I

was finishing my doctorate back

918

00:57:45,930 --> 00:57:48,390

at the University of  
Freiburg in Germany

919

00:57:48,390 --> 00:57:50,100

where I went there  
because they were

920

00:57:50,100 --> 00:57:52,730

very supportive of my theme.

921

00:57:52,730 --> 00:57:55,350

Of course, there  
are people there

922

00:57:55,350 --> 00:58:00,630

who themselves were interested  
in national socialism.

923

00:58:00,630 --> 00:58:03,930

And one of the professors,  
a very well known person

924

00:58:03,930 --> 00:58:10,170

called Arnold [Personal name]  
who was a professor in Chicago

925

00:58:10,170 --> 00:58:13,500

during the war because he  
had to flee from Germany,

926

00:58:13,500 --> 00:58:16,178

not being non-Jewish, but  
very active politically.

927

00:58:16,178 --> 00:58:18,720

So he had to flee and got a job  
at the University of Chicago,

928

00:58:18,720 --> 00:58:23,010

and then after returned to

the University of Freiburg.

929

00:58:23,010 --> 00:58:25,620

How did you get this  
connection with Freiburg again?

930

00:58:25,620 --> 00:58:32,700

Well, that goes again  
back into a sort

931

00:58:32,700 --> 00:58:36,070

of interesting situation.

932

00:58:36,070 --> 00:58:39,210

I went to Germany.

933

00:58:39,210 --> 00:58:45,270

No, I went from Berkeley,  
I went because I

934

00:58:45,270 --> 00:58:47,010

wanted to have some  
sort of a change

935

00:58:47,010 --> 00:58:50,910

to continue my doctorate,  
but have some change.

936

00:58:50,910 --> 00:58:54,840

And I was hired by the  
United States Air Force

937

00:58:54,840 --> 00:58:59,910

as a social psychologist,  
as a researcher.

938

00:58:59,910 --> 00:59:05,040

And I went to  
Dayton, Ohio, which

939

00:59:05,040 --> 00:59:09,160

is the Wright Patterson Air  
Force Base to research there.

940

00:59:09,160 --> 00:59:12,040

And for reasons which  
I can't understand,

941

00:59:12,040 --> 00:59:16,270

which are partially  
political and my interest

942

00:59:16,270 --> 00:59:19,600

in applying some of the  
theoretical stuff, which

943

00:59:19,600 --> 00:59:23,890

I picked up back at Missouri,  
as well as at Berkeley.

944

00:59:23,890 --> 00:59:26,710

And it was  
exceedingly well paid,

945

00:59:26,710 --> 00:59:29,750

I just thought I'll try  
and see what it will do.

946

00:59:29,750 --> 00:59:32,620

And yes, I've tried it,  
and I know what it did,

947

00:59:32,620 --> 00:59:35,290

and I was pretty  
much disappointed

948

00:59:35,290 --> 00:59:38,020

because of some of  
the things which

949

00:59:38,020 --> 00:59:41,800

were going on there, which  
I absolutely disapproved of.

950

00:59:41,800 --> 00:59:48,520

The squandering of money and

the nepotism, which I disliked,

951

00:59:48,520 --> 00:59:51,460

and some other things

which were just really bad.

952

00:59:51,460 --> 00:59:54,850

And so I resigned and

came back to Berkeley

953

00:59:54,850 --> 00:59:59,260

and applied for a job

with the State Department,

954

00:59:59,260 --> 01:00:03,550

which I received as a vice

counsel to go to Laos.

955

01:00:03,550 --> 01:00:08,290

And so they gave me all

sorts of shots and all that,

956

01:00:08,290 --> 01:00:10,390

and I was ready to go.

957

01:00:10,390 --> 01:00:13,420

And prior to my going

I wanted to be sure

958

01:00:13,420 --> 01:00:17,770

that I will see my

father and visit there.

959

01:00:17,770 --> 01:00:23,590

And while there I got a cable

from the State Department said

960

01:00:23,590 --> 01:00:28,150

unfortunately, we regret that

we cannot give you the job

961

01:00:28,150 --> 01:00:31,730

because you have not been a

United States citizen for five

962  
01:00:31,730 --> 01:00:32,230  
years.

963  
01:00:32,230 --> 01:00:35,600

964  
01:00:35,600 --> 01:00:40,970  
And I was a United citizen for  
four years and eight months

965  
01:00:40,970 --> 01:00:43,280  
or something like that.

966  
01:00:43,280 --> 01:00:47,330  
And I don't know, I think  
it was a trumped up thing.

967  
01:00:47,330 --> 01:00:49,670  
I think the CIA had  
something to do with that,

968  
01:00:49,670 --> 01:00:53,510  
because all the people  
would have been sent to Laos

969  
01:00:53,510 --> 01:00:57,740  
would have had also  
to work for the CIA.

970  
01:00:57,740 --> 01:01:03,660  
And I may not have been to  
their liking because of my past.

971  
01:01:03,660 --> 01:01:06,770  
And I think that was the  
reason because I said OK,

972  
01:01:06,770 --> 01:01:10,250  
before you go to Laos you  
just can go through all

973

01:01:10,250 --> 01:01:12,560

the various training,  
and in four months

974

01:01:12,560 --> 01:01:17,990

you can go when you've been  
a citizen for five years.

975

01:01:17,990 --> 01:01:20,270

All right, and that happened  
while I was in Germany,

976

01:01:20,270 --> 01:01:23,900

because I got that cable came  
to my father's address, which

977

01:01:23,900 --> 01:01:25,880

I gave to the State Department.

978

01:01:25,880 --> 01:01:28,460

After I had been  
screened, after I

979

01:01:28,460 --> 01:01:32,060

had all the shots, plague,  
cholera, you name it,

980

01:01:32,060 --> 01:01:33,310

I just had all these.

981

01:01:33,310 --> 01:01:35,750

I felt sick for  
quite a few days.

982

01:01:35,750 --> 01:01:38,660

Did you know you were going to  
have to work with the CIA too?

983

01:01:38,660 --> 01:01:42,830

Well, I had some  
inkling, but I felt

984

01:01:42,830 --> 01:01:46,250  
that I could stay out of it  
because it was not-- well,

985  
01:01:46,250 --> 01:01:51,130  
the State Department  
was particularly too

986  
01:01:51,130 --> 01:01:53,330  
in aiding people.

987  
01:01:53,330 --> 01:02:01,535  
So I would have had to work  
with aids, third nations,

988  
01:02:01,535 --> 01:02:03,950  
in that case Laos.

989  
01:02:03,950 --> 01:02:06,390  
But I talked to people  
who were there and said,

990  
01:02:06,390 --> 01:02:09,260  
hey, the CIA  
connected everything.

991  
01:02:09,260 --> 01:02:11,080  
You will be ruined.

992  
01:02:11,080 --> 01:02:16,820  
And I think that broke  
the camel's back And.

993  
01:02:16,820 --> 01:02:17,450  
I didn't go.

994  
01:02:17,450 --> 01:02:21,130  
Well, these sort  
of things happened

995  
01:02:21,130 --> 01:02:24,050  
while I was in Germany.



996

01:02:24,050 --> 01:02:26,420

And what now?

997

01:02:26,420 --> 01:02:27,680

What then?

998

01:02:27,680 --> 01:02:30,020

I had a girlfriend

who won't you come

999

01:02:30,020 --> 01:02:35,730

with me to Germany and all  
that, and I want to get married.

1000

01:02:35,730 --> 01:02:39,080

And I said, I can't get married  
at this point and all that.

1001

01:02:39,080 --> 01:02:42,290

And she was very disappointed  
and bitter and a very lovely

1002

01:02:42,290 --> 01:02:43,940

woman.

1003

01:02:43,940 --> 01:02:47,900

And so I had sacrificed  
a great deal because

1004

01:02:47,900 --> 01:02:49,790

of that, what I wanted to do.

1005

01:02:49,790 --> 01:02:53,240

And then it just fell through.

1006

01:02:53,240 --> 01:02:55,760

So then I was  
saying now I'm here,

1007

01:02:55,760 --> 01:02:59,180

I might as well see  
what I can do here.

1008  
01:02:59,180 --> 01:03:02,930  
And I was interviewed  
for a research job

1009  
01:03:02,930 --> 01:03:04,210  
at the University of Freiburg.

1010  
01:03:04,210 --> 01:03:06,775  
Well, it was not actually  
the University of Freiburg,

1011  
01:03:06,775 --> 01:03:09,110  
but it was some  
sort of supervised

1012  
01:03:09,110 --> 01:03:14,570  
by this particular  
[Personal name] person.

1013  
01:03:14,570 --> 01:03:19,650  
And I got to know him because  
I got the job as a researcher

1014  
01:03:19,650 --> 01:03:23,540  
in this sort of  
research institute, kind

1015  
01:03:23,540 --> 01:03:25,040  
of a trumped up situation.

1016  
01:03:25,040 --> 01:03:27,850  
But nevertheless, I  
learned quite a few things

1017  
01:03:27,850 --> 01:03:31,520  
about particularly German  
perspectives and research

1018  
01:03:31,520 --> 01:03:33,410  
and all, which was helpful.

1019

01:03:33,410 --> 01:03:35,330

What was the subject  
of the research?

1020

01:03:35,330 --> 01:03:47,730

My subject was primarily  
race, international race,

1021

01:03:47,730 --> 01:03:49,015

and minority problems.

1022

01:03:49,015 --> 01:03:52,970

1023

01:03:52,970 --> 01:03:54,740

You really should  
talk a bit about why

1024

01:03:54,740 --> 01:03:56,300

you were studying  
social psychology

1025

01:03:56,300 --> 01:04:03,740

and sociology, really, why  
you chose those fields.

1026

01:04:03,740 --> 01:04:07,640

Well, but that was  
prior to that simply

1027

01:04:07,640 --> 01:04:11,810

because I studied my  
medical studies in Prague,

1028

01:04:11,810 --> 01:04:14,630

and couldn't continue  
back in Australia.

1029

01:04:14,630 --> 01:04:19,350

When I came to the United States  
I felt I was too old for that.

1030

01:04:19,350 --> 01:04:23,870

And then I decided to  
switch to something

1031  
01:04:23,870 --> 01:04:29,030  
which would be related  
to the camp experience

1032  
01:04:29,030 --> 01:04:37,250  
and somehow find answers to  
questions which I've had,

1033  
01:04:37,250 --> 01:04:41,760  
find meaning in all this trauma.

1034  
01:04:41,760 --> 01:04:48,050  
And so I decided  
to study sociology

1035  
01:04:48,050 --> 01:04:52,370  
because I felt that that was  
a field which might provide me

1036  
01:04:52,370 --> 01:04:57,260  
with the tools necessary for  
understanding what is going on,

1037  
01:04:57,260 --> 01:05:02,330  
and social psychology  
specifically.

1038  
01:05:02,330 --> 01:05:04,460  
So that's what I did.

1039  
01:05:04,460 --> 01:05:06,680  
Well, anyway, so when I was--

1040  
01:05:06,680 --> 01:05:08,530  
so that's the answer  
to that question.

1041  
01:05:08,530 --> 01:05:12,470  
But and also because  
I felt I was getting

1042  
01:05:12,470 --> 01:05:16,490  
too old to study medicine,  
which was not correct at all,

1043  
01:05:16,490 --> 01:05:20,120  
but I mean, I felt  
for reasons I was

1044  
01:05:20,120 --> 01:05:25,410  
too old to start from scratch.

1045  
01:05:25,410 --> 01:05:32,270  
And so when I was in Freiburg  
doing this sort of research

1046  
01:05:32,270 --> 01:05:36,770  
and meeting this Professor  
Arnold [Personal name]

1047  
01:05:36,770 --> 01:05:41,140  
with whom I had a very in-depth,  
very personal and in depth

1048  
01:05:41,140 --> 01:05:44,690  
talks and who could  
relate to my background,

1049  
01:05:44,690 --> 01:05:49,870  
he suggested you should  
get a doctorate here,

1050  
01:05:49,870 --> 01:05:52,820  
forget Berkeley.

1051  
01:05:52,820 --> 01:05:54,950  
Because we are interested  
in your dissertation,

1052  
01:05:54,950 --> 01:05:56,990  
and we'll give you  
credit for things

1053

01:05:56,990 --> 01:05:59,200  
you've done and all that.

1054

01:05:59,200 --> 01:06:06,440  
And so that I could finish the  
doctorate in a minimum of time

1055

01:06:06,440 --> 01:06:12,380  
and had not lost any, in  
spite of the loss of semesters

1056

01:06:12,380 --> 01:06:16,550  
and all that, I could catch  
up and finish the doctorate

1057

01:06:16,550 --> 01:06:20,670  
within the shortest  
possible time, which I did.

1058

01:06:20,670 --> 01:06:22,580  
What was the subject of it?

1059

01:06:22,580 --> 01:06:27,340  
The subject was very simple.

1060

01:06:27,340 --> 01:06:41,400  
The subject was national  
socialism, the sociology

1061

01:06:41,400 --> 01:06:44,040  
of national socialism.

1062

01:06:44,040 --> 01:06:47,820  
And the title of my dissertation  
was Power Politics and Social

1063

01:06:47,820 --> 01:06:49,800  
Change in National  
Socialist Germany.

1064

01:06:49,800 --> 01:06:52,470

1065  
01:06:52,470 --> 01:06:55,410  
This you have  
published into a book?

1066  
01:06:55,410 --> 01:06:56,640  
Yeah.

1067  
01:06:56,640 --> 01:06:59,460  
Yeah, it was very  
important because I

1068  
01:06:59,460 --> 01:07:01,080  
had a friend back  
at Berkeley who

1069  
01:07:01,080 --> 01:07:06,420  
happened to be in the process  
of getting his doctorate

1070  
01:07:06,420 --> 01:07:08,370  
from the University of Oslo.

1071  
01:07:08,370 --> 01:07:14,730  
And that was in '58, and  
that is to say the same year

1072  
01:07:14,730 --> 01:07:16,200  
I was actually hired.

1073  
01:07:16,200 --> 01:07:26,790  
Well, actually no, I was hired  
'56, so he got it in '58.

1074  
01:07:26,790 --> 01:07:32,760  
And he asked me to come with  
him to meet his parents in Oslo,

1075  
01:07:32,760 --> 01:07:36,210  
at the University of Oslo.

1076  
01:07:36,210 --> 01:07:41,850

And I helped him to put  
together his index on the boat.

1077  
01:07:41,850 --> 01:07:43,770  
We took a boat, beautiful trip.

1078  
01:07:43,770 --> 01:07:48,000  
It was just luxury  
and fun and just

1079  
01:07:48,000 --> 01:07:54,330  
El Dorado on that ship  
from Stavanger Fjord.

1080  
01:07:54,330 --> 01:07:56,220  
It was Stavanger  
Fjord it was called,

1081  
01:07:56,220 --> 01:07:58,760  
a ship from New York to Oslo.

1082  
01:07:58,760 --> 01:08:02,500  
It was just a terrific  
thing, two weeks.

1083  
01:08:02,500 --> 01:08:07,000  
And so that was  
relatively inexpensive.

1084  
01:08:07,000 --> 01:08:08,880  
I could well afford  
it, although it

1085  
01:08:08,880 --> 01:08:11,220  
was everything was first class.

1086  
01:08:11,220 --> 01:08:14,970  
It was first class, and I  
shared a cabin with him.

1087  
01:08:14,970 --> 01:08:22,109  
And while we were on the trip  
he finished his last touches



1088  
01:08:22,109 --> 01:08:25,500  
of his dissertation and then  
had to defend his dissertation

1089  
01:08:25,500 --> 01:08:27,479  
at the University of Oslo.

1090  
01:08:27,479 --> 01:08:33,450  
And he also said  
that the conditions

1091  
01:08:33,450 --> 01:08:37,439  
for getting a doctorate  
at the University of Oslo

1092  
01:08:37,439 --> 01:08:41,189  
was that you had to  
publish, that university

1093  
01:08:41,189 --> 01:08:43,920  
had to be a publishable  
dissertation.

1094  
01:08:43,920 --> 01:08:47,010

1095  
01:08:47,010 --> 01:08:49,109  
And it had to be  
published or they

1096  
01:08:49,109 --> 01:08:53,220  
had to have your contract  
to have it published

1097  
01:08:53,220 --> 01:08:55,830  
in a reputable publishing firm.

1098  
01:08:55,830 --> 01:08:57,330  
And I was very  
impressed with that,

1099

01:08:57,330 --> 01:08:59,200  
and I felt that it  
was very proper.

1100  
01:08:59,200 --> 01:09:02,520  
So I just simply  
emulated that and wanted

1101  
01:09:02,520 --> 01:09:05,880  
to write a dissertation  
which indeed was publishable,

1102  
01:09:05,880 --> 01:09:07,760  
and that's exactly what I did.

1103  
01:09:07,760 --> 01:09:12,490

1104  
01:09:12,490 --> 01:09:14,819  
And so at that point,  
you had already

1105  
01:09:14,819 --> 01:09:18,250  
decided to make your life's  
work studying the perpetrators?

1106  
01:09:18,250 --> 01:09:21,670  
- Well, yeah, I mean,  
at that particular point

1107  
01:09:21,670 --> 01:09:24,930  
I was not sure to what  
extent it would be possible.

1108  
01:09:24,930 --> 01:09:30,990  
But while I was doing  
my preliminary research

1109  
01:09:30,990 --> 01:09:36,720  
at the Institute of  
Contemporary History in Munich,

1110  
01:09:36,720 --> 01:09:39,270

looking at all the  
archives and the documents

1111  
01:09:39,270 --> 01:09:41,189  
and getting stuff  
together, looking

1112  
01:09:41,189 --> 01:09:46,319  
at the German publications,  
the newspapers and Der Sturmer,

1113  
01:09:46,319 --> 01:09:50,220  
and all these sorts of  
things, I had a person

1114  
01:09:50,220 --> 01:09:52,090  
who was very supportive of me.

1115  
01:09:52,090 --> 01:09:55,120  
A very well-known person,  
one of the leading people

1116  
01:09:55,120 --> 01:10:01,060  
who died quite a few years  
ago now, a man called

1117  
01:10:01,060 --> 01:10:07,170  
[? Brochet, ?] who was one of  
the leading German historians

1118  
01:10:07,170 --> 01:10:10,920  
of Nazi national socialism.

1119  
01:10:10,920 --> 01:10:12,570  
And he was very  
supportive and was

1120  
01:10:12,570 --> 01:10:15,120  
very impressed with what I  
was doing and very supportive

1121  
01:10:15,120 --> 01:10:15,620  
indeed.

1122  
01:10:15,620 --> 01:10:25,770  
He was older than I, but very,  
very friendly and supportive.

1123  
01:10:25,770 --> 01:10:31,970  
And so we talked about personal  
things and also my ambitions,

1124  
01:10:31,970 --> 01:10:39,560  
and looking into not being  
satisfied with just simply

1125  
01:10:39,560 --> 01:10:43,490  
archival material, and  
that I actually wanted

1126  
01:10:43,490 --> 01:10:46,850  
to interview SS perpetrators.

1127  
01:10:46,850 --> 01:10:50,000  
And that had not been  
done at the time,

1128  
01:10:50,000 --> 01:10:54,050  
certainly not by a survivor.

1129  
01:10:54,050 --> 01:10:58,190  
And so he was very helpful  
and said that's interesting

1130  
01:10:58,190 --> 01:11:00,090  
because in Munich  
you are people,

1131  
01:11:00,090 --> 01:11:03,440  
and I think it's crucial  
that you start with a man

1132  
01:11:03,440 --> 01:11:06,050  
called general  
Steiner, Felix Steiner.

1133

01:11:06,050 --> 01:11:10,280

And he was one of the senior  
SS generals, actually,

1134

01:11:10,280 --> 01:11:12,770

and a person,  
interestingly enough,

1135

01:11:12,770 --> 01:11:15,240

another national socialist,  
but he didn't know that.

1136

01:11:15,240 --> 01:11:17,810

But he said that this  
general Steiner is very open

1137

01:11:17,810 --> 01:11:22,680

and he's accessible.

1138

01:11:22,680 --> 01:11:26,660

And so I called him and I said,  
hey, my name is so-and-so,

1139

01:11:26,660 --> 01:11:32,540

and I think we have  
namesakes and may even

1140

01:11:32,540 --> 01:11:35,530

be remotely related.

1141

01:11:35,530 --> 01:11:41,150

And I'm from Berkeley,  
and originally

1142

01:11:41,150 --> 01:11:43,550

from Berkeley and this  
and that, and just would

1143

01:11:43,550 --> 01:11:46,520

be interested in coming  
to talking to you.

1144

01:11:46,520 --> 01:11:50,570  
And he was immediately very  
enthusiastic, very open.

1145  
01:11:50,570 --> 01:11:51,890  
And we hit it off.

1146  
01:11:51,890 --> 01:11:56,570  
Of course, I was full of  
trepidation with an SS general.

1147  
01:11:56,570 --> 01:11:58,340  
I mean, here you are  
with all the notions

1148  
01:11:58,340 --> 01:12:00,740  
which experiences I had.

1149  
01:12:00,740 --> 01:12:03,890  
And I said my god, what  
are you getting into?

1150  
01:12:03,890 --> 01:12:07,970  
And so I was kind of  
jittery to be sure.

1151  
01:12:07,970 --> 01:12:12,260  
But the funny thing is so he  
came very elegant and very well

1152  
01:12:12,260 --> 01:12:14,870  
dressed, kind of stocky  
fellow just about

1153  
01:12:14,870 --> 01:12:23,990  
my size, stocky, big fellow,  
with the hands of a butcher.

1154  
01:12:23,990 --> 01:12:28,850  
And so we opened the door  
and I came to the apartment

1155  
01:12:28,850 --> 01:12:31,650

back in Munich, which  
a very nice apartment,

1156  
01:12:31,650 --> 01:12:37,000  
which he shared with a relative  
of Cardinal Faulhauber,

1157  
01:12:37,000 --> 01:12:41,180  
a Munich cardinal who  
made an interesting law

1158  
01:12:41,180 --> 01:12:44,210  
during the Nazis opposing Nazis.

1159  
01:12:44,210 --> 01:12:50,480  
And so there was the table all  
spread with cake and coffee,

1160  
01:12:50,480 --> 01:12:53,040  
and he had put all  
the things together.

1161  
01:12:53,040 --> 01:12:55,220  
And I just said,  
what's going on here?

1162  
01:12:55,220 --> 01:12:59,330  
I mean, you were SS and a coffee  
table with cake and all this.

1163  
01:12:59,330 --> 01:13:02,397  
And so I had to adjust to  
my role as an interviewer,

1164  
01:13:02,397 --> 01:13:03,230  
and not as a victim.

1165  
01:13:03,230 --> 01:13:05,060  
Did he know you were a survivor?

1166  
01:13:05,060 --> 01:13:10,100  
Well, I didn't tell him look,  
I just come from Dachau.

1167  
01:13:10,100 --> 01:13:14,780  
I just come to visit  
and give you hell.

1168  
01:13:14,780 --> 01:13:20,480  
Well, I couldn't, I  
couldn't do that of course.

1169  
01:13:20,480 --> 01:13:26,330  
So I said yeah, I'm a researcher  
and I'm a former faculty

1170  
01:13:26,330 --> 01:13:33,010  
member for Berkeley, and I'm  
interested in interviewing

1171  
01:13:33,010 --> 01:13:33,770  
perpetrators.

1172  
01:13:33,770 --> 01:13:35,855  
Perpetrators-- I said  
members of the SS,

1173  
01:13:35,855 --> 01:13:38,540  
I didn't say perpetrators,  
I said members of the SS.

1174  
01:13:38,540 --> 01:13:41,630  
And you have been  
suggested to me

1175  
01:13:41,630 --> 01:13:48,620  
by this and that Dr.  
[? Brochet ?] and here I am,

1176  
01:13:48,620 --> 01:13:51,150  
and I'm very interested.

1177  
01:13:51,150 --> 01:13:54,960  
And so we hit it  
off, for reasons



1178

01:13:54,960 --> 01:13:59,990  
which because I said my god,  
he was a monster, monster.

1179

01:13:59,990 --> 01:14:01,685  
And it turned out  
not to be a monster.

1180

01:14:01,685 --> 01:14:05,510  
He was a very amicable sort of  
dreadfully interesting person

1181

01:14:05,510 --> 01:14:09,950  
who was very generous  
and very hospitable

1182

01:14:09,950 --> 01:14:14,990  
in a way which was exemplary.

1183

01:14:14,990 --> 01:14:20,840  
I mean, his hospitality because  
he had put his paper napkins

1184

01:14:20,840 --> 01:14:24,260  
in some sort of special way  
so that they had decoration

1185

01:14:24,260 --> 01:14:26,330  
because he just folded.

1186

01:14:26,330 --> 01:14:31,017  
So he went into real minute  
sort of things to prepare this.

1187

01:14:31,017 --> 01:14:32,600  
And I was totally  
unprepared for that,

1188

01:14:32,600 --> 01:14:36,140  
because I saw the SS  
types from the camp.

1189

01:14:36,140 --> 01:14:37,220  
That's my projection.

1190  
01:14:37,220 --> 01:14:47,330  
I expected some brutal type  
of sadist barking at me.

1191  
01:14:47,330 --> 01:14:48,860  
Well, the contrary  
was the truth.

1192  
01:14:48,860 --> 01:14:52,520  
And so then he  
wouldn't let me go

1193  
01:14:52,520 --> 01:14:56,850  
and then I came back and  
back and he just said,

1194  
01:14:56,850 --> 01:15:00,200  
I want to call you Dr.  
Steiner or whatever.

1195  
01:15:00,200 --> 01:15:04,100  
And can I call you John and you  
call me Felix, and all this?

1196  
01:15:04,100 --> 01:15:06,350  
And I thought, what  
the hell is going on?

1197  
01:15:06,350 --> 01:15:10,310  
This man is becoming my  
friend, an SS general.

1198  
01:15:10,310 --> 01:15:13,340  
I mean, it's absolute irony.

1199  
01:15:13,340 --> 01:15:16,580  
And I just had the  
problem to adjust to it.

1200  
01:15:16,580 --> 01:15:21,620

But I said, well, I  
have to be open minded,

1201  
01:15:21,620 --> 01:15:26,240  
and I have to go through  
that because that

1202  
01:15:26,240 --> 01:15:30,830  
may develop into life's  
work, and I just simply.

1203  
01:15:30,830 --> 01:15:36,950  
And then I came back and back  
and he kept on writing to me

1204  
01:15:36,950 --> 01:15:39,210  
and we telephoned.

1205  
01:15:39,210 --> 01:15:44,900  
And then I came out with my  
first full blown project that

1206  
01:15:44,900 --> 01:15:50,020  
was prior to the completion  
of the dissertation,

1207  
01:15:50,020 --> 01:15:54,380  
but was certainly  
connected also.

1208  
01:15:54,380 --> 01:15:59,690  
And in a questionnaire,  
which authoritarian

1209  
01:15:59,690 --> 01:16:02,765  
personality and all that.

1210  
01:16:02,765 --> 01:16:05,090  
What do you do?

1211  
01:16:05,090 --> 01:16:08,360  
So I mean, what he has  
done is precisely handed me

1212  
01:16:08,360 --> 01:16:11,030  
two other SS generals.

1213  
01:16:11,030 --> 01:16:15,020  
And one of them was an  
SS General Karl Wolff.

1214  
01:16:15,020 --> 01:16:21,140  
And he was really, he  
was a different type

1215  
01:16:21,140 --> 01:16:26,605  
altogether because he was a  
political general, not a Waffen

1216  
01:16:26,605 --> 01:16:29,750  
SS general as Felix Steiner.

1217  
01:16:29,750 --> 01:16:31,520  
So he introduced  
me more and more so

1218  
01:16:31,520 --> 01:16:34,940  
that a circle of people  
whom I was handed to

1219  
01:16:34,940 --> 01:16:37,100  
simply was and this  
fellow is on the level.

1220  
01:16:37,100 --> 01:16:39,410  
He's going to do  
objective research

1221  
01:16:39,410 --> 01:16:42,290  
and he's got my support.

1222  
01:16:42,290 --> 01:16:45,950  
And because of his  
position, senior position

1223

01:16:45,950 --> 01:16:50,180  
in the SS of that  
particular time,

1224  
01:16:50,180 --> 01:16:53,420  
he opened all the doors for me.

1225  
01:16:53,420 --> 01:16:56,270  
And so I was not a  
person non grata,

1226  
01:16:56,270 --> 01:16:59,540  
but I became a  
persona non grata,

1227  
01:16:59,540 --> 01:17:02,180  
and that made it all possible.

1228  
01:17:02,180 --> 01:17:06,050  
And including this sort of  
Karl Wolff, who was, again,

1229  
01:17:06,050 --> 01:17:12,230  
a very influential person who  
was Himmler's right hand up

1230  
01:17:12,230 --> 01:17:12,980  
to a point.

1231  
01:17:12,980 --> 01:17:22,820  
And taken with  
mischief because he

1232  
01:17:22,820 --> 01:17:27,980  
interceded in the  
transport ministry

1233  
01:17:27,980 --> 01:17:37,580  
to get the box cars, which  
made it possible to ship Jews

1234  
01:17:37,580 --> 01:17:42,590  
to Treblinka, for which

he got 15 years in prison

1235  
01:17:42,590 --> 01:17:46,070  
and was released after five.

1236  
01:17:46,070 --> 01:17:50,900  
So this fellow then  
viewed me as a friend

1237  
01:17:50,900 --> 01:17:54,560  
and said now we know  
each other, and of course

1238  
01:17:54,560 --> 01:17:56,060  
got to know my wife too.

1239  
01:17:56,060 --> 01:17:59,150  
And said well, when you  
visiting in Freiburg

1240  
01:17:59,150 --> 01:18:04,020  
and I stayed with him, and all  
the other places overnight,

1241  
01:18:04,020 --> 01:18:07,820  
and was included in  
all the personal stuff.

1242  
01:18:07,820 --> 01:18:16,910  
And Felix Steiner, I  
was the guest of honor

1243  
01:18:16,910 --> 01:18:21,830  
during a so-called  
yule festivity,

1244  
01:18:21,830 --> 01:18:26,600  
where all the SS  
congregated in the beer hall

1245  
01:18:26,600 --> 01:18:29,010  
where Hitler used to  
meet and all that.

1246  
01:18:29,010 --> 01:18:31,040  
So it was just real  
unbelievable stuff,

1247  
01:18:31,040 --> 01:18:33,890  
and I went through this  
sort of thing like a dream.

1248  
01:18:33,890 --> 01:18:35,720  
So I come with this SS general.

1249  
01:18:35,720 --> 01:18:39,440  
Everyone was sitting  
there, hundreds of people

1250  
01:18:39,440 --> 01:18:42,440  
congregated there to  
celebrate not Christmas,

1251  
01:18:42,440 --> 01:18:45,830  
but what this Germanic  
Yule Fest, which

1252  
01:18:45,830 --> 01:18:47,090  
was to be the new religion.

1253  
01:18:47,090 --> 01:18:48,860  
And that's how I got  
this sort of interest

1254  
01:18:48,860 --> 01:18:51,185  
into what was really  
brewing and what

1255  
01:18:51,185 --> 01:18:54,200  
was being in preparation  
to really replace

1256  
01:18:54,200 --> 01:18:58,910  
the traditional religions  
with the new Nazi religion.

1257

01:18:58,910 --> 01:19:00,500

And that's what I  
was introduced to,

1258

01:19:00,500 --> 01:19:03,110

and I was the first to  
really describe that also

1259

01:19:03,110 --> 01:19:04,340

in publication.

1260

01:19:04,340 --> 01:19:06,330

When was that?

1261

01:19:06,330 --> 01:19:13,460

That was in, it must  
have been in '64.

1262

01:19:13,460 --> 01:19:15,888

I don't know the exact thing,  
because it's published.

1263

01:19:15,888 --> 01:19:16,430

More or less?

1264

01:19:16,430 --> 01:19:20,330

'64, '64.

1265

01:19:20,330 --> 01:19:22,850

And there you come and  
see all these people,

1266

01:19:22,850 --> 01:19:29,210

and there comes the  
Yid with an SS general.

1267

01:19:29,210 --> 01:19:30,630

With your arm  
covered, I presume?

1268

01:19:30,630 --> 01:19:37,550

As I had long sleeves



and it was winter.

1269

01:19:37,550 --> 01:19:38,480

Fortunately.

1270

01:19:38,480 --> 01:19:40,350

They never-- none of them had--

1271

01:19:40,350 --> 01:19:40,850

Oh, no.

1272

01:19:40,850 --> 01:19:42,470

Never knew what  
your history was?

1273

01:19:42,470 --> 01:19:44,490

Well, I mean, some did.

1274

01:19:44,490 --> 01:19:48,147

Some did, because I told  
them, but he didn't.

1275

01:19:48,147 --> 01:19:50,480

I would have told him too,  
except he would have probably

1276

01:19:50,480 --> 01:19:51,490

died of a heart attack.

1277

01:19:51,490 --> 01:19:54,690

1278

01:19:54,690 --> 01:19:57,890

And so there all  
these people were

1279

01:19:57,890 --> 01:20:03,530

sitting with their families,  
all the former SS people

1280

01:20:03,530 --> 01:20:08,420

in all different things,

but primarily or Waffen SS.

1281  
01:20:08,420 --> 01:20:12,470  
But then of course,  
many people came

1282  
01:20:12,470 --> 01:20:18,230  
from different walks of life,  
SD and the concentration camps,

1283  
01:20:18,230 --> 01:20:19,250  
what have you.

1284  
01:20:19,250 --> 01:20:22,280  
So all the Munich SS people  
are congregated there,

1285  
01:20:22,280 --> 01:20:23,600  
let's put it that way.

1286  
01:20:23,600 --> 01:20:25,910  
And there I come [INAUDIBLE].

1287  
01:20:25,910 --> 01:20:28,970  
He was a senior general at  
that particular time, surviving

1288  
01:20:28,970 --> 01:20:30,620  
general.

1289  
01:20:30,620 --> 01:20:32,840  
So there I come into  
this beer hall thing

1290  
01:20:32,840 --> 01:20:38,160  
where all these people are with  
him just as the guest of honor.

1291  
01:20:38,160 --> 01:20:41,030  
I still can't quite  
fathom the whole thing.

1292

01:20:41,030 --> 01:20:44,540  
And all these people  
get up, the SS people,

1293  
01:20:44,540 --> 01:20:48,430  
and stand in attention.

1294  
01:20:48,430 --> 01:20:51,380  
Little do they know.

1295  
01:20:51,380 --> 01:20:52,410  
Sounds surreal.

1296  
01:20:52,410 --> 01:20:52,910  
Yeah.

1297  
01:20:52,910 --> 01:20:55,040  
Absolutely and totally.

1298  
01:20:55,040 --> 01:20:59,020

1299  
01:20:59,020 --> 01:21:04,720  
So this was a new religion  
you're saying that was brewing?

1300  
01:21:04,720 --> 01:21:05,890  
Yeah.

1301  
01:21:05,890 --> 01:21:09,310  
And so then I was seated, of  
course, the guest of honor

1302  
01:21:09,310 --> 01:21:11,380  
next to Felix.

1303  
01:21:11,380 --> 01:21:16,450  
And then the people came  
and talked to me, because I

1304  
01:21:16,450 --> 01:21:17,650  
was the American, you see.

1305  
01:21:17,650 --> 01:21:20,170  
I was not a Yid, I  
was not from Prague.

1306  
01:21:20,170 --> 01:21:22,070  
I was an American.

1307  
01:21:22,070 --> 01:21:23,920  
And so they talked to me.

1308  
01:21:23,920 --> 01:21:25,660  
And then the one  
came and explained

1309  
01:21:25,660 --> 01:21:30,040  
this and that, that's the  
Yule and Christian is nothing.

1310  
01:21:30,040 --> 01:21:32,290  
It was a Jew and  
all this and that,

1311  
01:21:32,290 --> 01:21:36,520  
and comes and tells me about  
these sort of religious rights.

1312  
01:21:36,520 --> 01:21:43,350  
And I, in my naivete, had a  
piece of paper and a pencil

1313  
01:21:43,350 --> 01:21:45,100  
and I took notes.

1314  
01:21:45,100 --> 01:21:47,830  
And they said, hey,  
what are you doing?

1315  
01:21:47,830 --> 01:21:50,500

1316  
01:21:50,500 --> 01:21:52,200

So I said, well,  
I'm very interested.

1317  
01:21:52,200 --> 01:21:53,510  
I'm taking notes.

1318  
01:21:53,510 --> 01:21:54,970  
And then this  
fellow came, and it

1319  
01:21:54,970 --> 01:21:57,940  
was a staff  
sergeant, a real bad,

1320  
01:21:57,940 --> 01:22:01,060  
badnik I mean, if I've seen  
a badnik he was a badnik.

1321  
01:22:01,060 --> 01:22:04,018  
And telling me about all the SS  
religion, which I, of course,

1322  
01:22:04,018 --> 01:22:05,560  
never heard because  
there was nothing

1323  
01:22:05,560 --> 01:22:10,230  
in the literature at that  
time published after the war.

1324  
01:22:10,230 --> 01:22:14,080  
Documentation during the war  
I had not seen much of it,

1325  
01:22:14,080 --> 01:22:17,440  
just some, minimal.

1326  
01:22:17,440 --> 01:22:22,010  
And so he comes and then starts,  
don't listen to this person,

1327  
01:22:22,010 --> 01:22:23,050  
he's just a criminal.

1328  
01:22:23,050 --> 01:22:26,110  
Don't listen to him.

1329  
01:22:26,110 --> 01:22:27,760  
And it's all published.

1330  
01:22:27,760 --> 01:22:31,810  
I keep the whole episode,  
which is published.

1331  
01:22:31,810 --> 01:22:36,395  
And but of course,  
I listened to him

1332  
01:22:36,395 --> 01:22:38,020  
and I didn't see a  
criminal, because he

1333  
01:22:38,020 --> 01:22:41,650  
wanted to disparage  
him because this

1334  
01:22:41,650 --> 01:22:43,550  
was a very threatening thing.

1335  
01:22:43,550 --> 01:22:45,790  
When you say he's a badnik  
was that from your sense

1336  
01:22:45,790 --> 01:22:46,190  
that you had learned--

1337  
01:22:46,190 --> 01:22:46,540  
Oh, yeah.

1338  
01:22:46,540 --> 01:22:47,050  
I mean, he was a bad--

1339  
01:22:47,050 --> 01:22:48,092  
That you could recognize?

1340

01:22:48,092 --> 01:22:49,270

Oh god, he was bad.

1341

01:22:49,270 --> 01:22:53,340

He was a real badnik  
no question about that.

1342

01:22:53,340 --> 01:22:55,273

Well, could you elaborate  
on this religion

1343

01:22:55,273 --> 01:22:56,440

and what he was telling you?

1344

01:22:56,440 --> 01:23:00,520

Oh, yeah he said, well,  
it's all the things.

1345

01:23:00,520 --> 01:23:05,140

It's all the Germanic paganism  
and all this Jewish stuff

1346

01:23:05,140 --> 01:23:11,420

and Christianity,  
it's all bad news.

1347

01:23:11,420 --> 01:23:14,860

And this is what it  
really stands for,

1348

01:23:14,860 --> 01:23:18,280

and the Christians  
have stolen that all

1349

01:23:18,280 --> 01:23:21,850

this from the  
Germanic festivities

1350

01:23:21,850 --> 01:23:23,620

and turned it into Christianity.

1351

01:23:23,620 --> 01:23:26,260

And we were there, and that's  
something which is important.

1352  
01:23:26,260 --> 01:23:28,690  
And he explained  
to me the meaning

1353  
01:23:28,690 --> 01:23:34,250  
of the solstice and yule and  
all these sort of things.

1354  
01:23:34,250 --> 01:23:35,830  
And what the ritual  
were when they

1355  
01:23:35,830 --> 01:23:41,800  
were singing songs and lighting  
candles for the people who

1356  
01:23:41,800 --> 01:23:46,600  
died for Germany, these  
people for the children

1357  
01:23:46,600 --> 01:23:48,215  
and for the mothers  
who suffered,

1358  
01:23:48,215 --> 01:23:49,340  
and all this sort of thing.

1359  
01:23:49,340 --> 01:23:51,048  
And I just don't  
remember all the things.

1360  
01:23:51,048 --> 01:23:51,730  
I put it down.

1361  
01:23:51,730 --> 01:23:53,600  
It's all published.

1362  
01:23:53,600 --> 01:23:56,410  
And so I went through all that.



1363

01:23:56,410 --> 01:24:06,170

And then he got wind of  
it while he was and said,

1364

01:24:06,170 --> 01:24:07,255

don't listen to him.

1365

01:24:07,255 --> 01:24:08,630

He doesn't know,  
what a criminal.

1366

01:24:08,630 --> 01:24:10,900

He doesn't know what the  
hell he's talking about.

1367

01:24:10,900 --> 01:24:12,940

And of course, he knew  
exactly, except he

1368

01:24:12,940 --> 01:24:17,260

didn't want me to know what  
really what the game was,

1369

01:24:17,260 --> 01:24:19,930

because that's what  
they celebrated.

1370

01:24:19,930 --> 01:24:24,310

And then they said, well,  
we are still into this,

1371

01:24:24,310 --> 01:24:26,290

and some other people  
are still into it,

1372

01:24:26,290 --> 01:24:30,790

but our children we raised them  
in Christian thing because this

1373

01:24:30,790 --> 01:24:31,500

doesn't--

1374

01:24:31,500 --> 01:24:34,930  
we will be the  
last ones probably.

1375  
01:24:34,930 --> 01:24:38,740  
But in order for them to  
survive in this new society,

1376  
01:24:38,740 --> 01:24:40,450  
it's important  
for these children

1377  
01:24:40,450 --> 01:24:48,370  
to be brought up in a  
acceptable Christian religion

1378  
01:24:48,370 --> 01:24:50,560  
denomination.

1379  
01:24:50,560 --> 01:24:54,453  
And so--

1380  
01:24:54,453 --> 01:24:55,120  
It sounds like--

1381  
01:24:55,120 --> 01:24:58,660  
He devalued all the things  
which some of the people

1382  
01:24:58,660 --> 01:25:04,510  
did and tried to keep apart, but  
they came and started talking

1383  
01:25:04,510 --> 01:25:07,300  
and I listened because  
that's why I was there,

1384  
01:25:07,300 --> 01:25:09,490  
except they thought  
I was there because I

1385  
01:25:09,490 --> 01:25:11,020  
wanted to be a guest of honor.

1386  
01:25:11,020 --> 01:25:12,220  
I didn't do anything.

1387  
01:25:12,220 --> 01:25:14,460  
He said I want to invite  
you to this Yule Fest,

1388  
01:25:14,460 --> 01:25:18,040  
Felix did, and I  
want you to be here.

1389  
01:25:18,040 --> 01:25:21,310  
And then instead of  
then, so I was his guest

1390  
01:25:21,310 --> 01:25:23,750  
and I was because I  
was his personal guest,

1391  
01:25:23,750 --> 01:25:25,540  
I was the guest of honor.

1392  
01:25:25,540 --> 01:25:29,890  
And it really shook me up.

1393  
01:25:29,890 --> 01:25:31,510  
It really shook me up.

1394  
01:25:31,510 --> 01:25:33,670  
So it sounds like this  
is another big element

1395  
01:25:33,670 --> 01:25:36,580  
of many of the hints  
of the occult going on?

1396  
01:25:36,580 --> 01:25:38,500  
Yeah.

1397  
01:25:38,500 --> 01:25:40,350  
And that's what I was after.

1398  
01:25:40,350 --> 01:25:44,110  
And then this led  
to my sensitivity

1399  
01:25:44,110 --> 01:25:45,320  
towards this sort of thing.

1400  
01:25:45,320 --> 01:25:50,380  
And then when this Karl  
Wolff, General Karl

1401  
01:25:50,380 --> 01:25:53,560  
Wolff was sentenced to 15  
years, and I went to the trial

1402  
01:25:53,560 --> 01:25:59,400  
because I was there at that  
particular time in Germany

1403  
01:25:59,400 --> 01:26:04,260  
doing my research and starting  
to work on my doctorate

1404  
01:26:04,260 --> 01:26:06,750  
at the University of  
Freiburg, so I went there.

1405  
01:26:06,750 --> 01:26:09,120  
I was already  
working quite a bit,

1406  
01:26:09,120 --> 01:26:10,780  
as a matter of fact,  
on the doctorate.

1407  
01:26:10,780 --> 01:26:13,890  
And so I went there to be on  
the trial because I knew him.

1408  
01:26:13,890 --> 01:26:15,780  
So I come to Munich.

1409

01:26:15,780 --> 01:26:18,720

The trial of [INAUDIBLE]

said hi, hi, hi,

1410

01:26:18,720 --> 01:26:22,470

and I talked to him.

1411

01:26:22,470 --> 01:26:25,800

He was sentenced and then

I visited him in prison,

1412

01:26:25,800 --> 01:26:29,640

and visited other SS people

whom he introduced me,

1413

01:26:29,640 --> 01:26:32,340

oh by the way, there is

this and this and that,

1414

01:26:32,340 --> 01:26:34,320

and so we talked.

1415

01:26:34,320 --> 01:26:36,990

And then one day,

when I visited him,

1416

01:26:36,990 --> 01:26:41,880

he said, well John, I've

got a big favor to ask.

1417

01:26:41,880 --> 01:26:46,800

And I've got this chain

here with this amulet,

1418

01:26:46,800 --> 01:26:51,630

and I'd like you to have that

repaired because it tore.

1419

01:26:51,630 --> 01:26:55,260

And tore, I say tore, it's

interesting because it

1420

01:26:55,260 --> 01:26:56,220  
[INAUDIBLE].

1421  
01:26:56,220 --> 01:26:59,640  
And I took it and  
there was a hammer,

1422  
01:26:59,640 --> 01:27:02,020  
a silver hammer on a silver--

1423  
01:27:02,020 --> 01:27:03,450  
or was it platinum?

1424  
01:27:03,450 --> 01:27:06,510  
I don't know, platinum  
or silver chain.

1425  
01:27:06,510 --> 01:27:07,650  
I said what the hell?

1426  
01:27:07,650 --> 01:27:09,000  
Why would he have a hammer here?

1427  
01:27:09,000 --> 01:27:11,910

1428  
01:27:11,910 --> 01:27:18,730  
Why would an SS general have  
a hammer on a silver chain?

1429  
01:27:18,730 --> 01:27:21,180  
And so I went to this  
[? Brochet ?] fellow,

1430  
01:27:21,180 --> 01:27:27,180  
and said look, I've got that,  
I told him about my encounters

1431  
01:27:27,180 --> 01:27:28,900  
because I went to visit him.

1432  
01:27:28,900 --> 01:27:32,430

And he told me many things  
about CIA connections

1433  
01:27:32,430 --> 01:27:35,850  
and all these sort of things,  
the SS and CIA connections,

1434  
01:27:35,850 --> 01:27:37,170  
that's what also he told me.

1435  
01:27:37,170 --> 01:27:39,270  
And said, well, if  
they don't release me

1436  
01:27:39,270 --> 01:27:43,500  
within a certain time  
I'm going to talk.

1437  
01:27:43,500 --> 01:27:46,350  
And I said what  
do you mean talk?

1438  
01:27:46,350 --> 01:27:50,730  
I'm going to spill the  
beans in terms of the CIA

1439  
01:27:50,730 --> 01:27:53,680  
and their role in the  
SS and in all of this.

1440  
01:27:53,680 --> 01:27:54,180  
Really?

1441  
01:27:54,180 --> 01:27:55,420  
This is Wolff speaking?

1442  
01:27:55,420 --> 01:27:56,160  
That was Wolff.

1443  
01:27:56,160 --> 01:27:59,580  
And I said by all  
means, spill it now.

1444

01:27:59,580 --> 01:28:05,250

And said well, I'll wait until  
I'll find out what's-- and sure

1445

01:28:05,250 --> 01:28:08,980

enough, he got out  
because CIA intervention.

1446

01:28:08,980 --> 01:28:10,380

Really?

1447

01:28:10,380 --> 01:28:12,185

Did you ever find out whatever?

1448

01:28:12,185 --> 01:28:13,560

Oh, yeah, I know  
the whole thing.

1449

01:28:13,560 --> 01:28:14,950

What the CIA connections?

1450

01:28:14,950 --> 01:28:16,950

Oh, yes, I know the whole thing.

1451

01:28:16,950 --> 01:28:19,725

1452

01:28:19,725 --> 01:28:24,390

And so anyway, so coming  
back to the chain,

1453

01:28:24,390 --> 01:28:29,060

and I went to  
[? Brochet ?] and said,

1454

01:28:29,060 --> 01:28:30,880

hey, John, I have no idea.

1455

01:28:30,880 --> 01:28:33,690

I can't place it.

1456



01:28:33,690 --> 01:28:37,200  
So but this sort of  
thing reminded me.

1457  
01:28:37,200 --> 01:28:39,990  
I said I've had it repaired,  
I paid for it, of course.

1458  
01:28:39,990 --> 01:28:41,700  
I always smuggled  
cigarettes to him

1459  
01:28:41,700 --> 01:28:43,620  
which he could use and  
all that, and then he

1460  
01:28:43,620 --> 01:28:48,180  
opened up and told me things,  
all sorts sort of things which

1461  
01:28:48,180 --> 01:28:52,320  
otherwise he may not have  
because he felt obligated

1462  
01:28:52,320 --> 01:28:57,570  
and also felt that I kind  
of was supportive of him.

1463  
01:28:57,570 --> 01:29:00,390  
So it was a very complex game.

1464  
01:29:00,390 --> 01:29:08,300  
And so I brought back the chain  
relatively shortly after that,

1465  
01:29:08,300 --> 01:29:10,960  
brought it in the prison  
and said here you are.

1466  
01:29:10,960 --> 01:29:12,615  
But you know, I'm  
bringing it to you.

1467

01:29:12,615 --> 01:29:14,190  
Now, tell me what  
it's all about.

1468  
01:29:14,190 --> 01:29:16,390  
What the hell is this?

1469  
01:29:16,390 --> 01:29:20,440  
And he was very reluctant  
to talk about it.

1470  
01:29:20,440 --> 01:29:26,010  
And then piece by piece  
it came out that it

1471  
01:29:26,010 --> 01:29:27,900  
was a hammer of the Thor.

1472  
01:29:27,900 --> 01:29:31,800

1473  
01:29:31,800 --> 01:29:33,205  
And I said what  
the hell is this?

1474  
01:29:33,205 --> 01:29:35,580  
And then I got into this sort  
of religious sort of thing,

1475  
01:29:35,580 --> 01:29:40,350  
and that gave me the end which  
I then continued to research

1476  
01:29:40,350 --> 01:29:43,950  
and came out with a really  
important publication

1477  
01:29:43,950 --> 01:29:45,670  
relating to this sort of thing.

1478  
01:29:45,670 --> 01:29:48,780  
What was the name  
of the publication?

1479  
01:29:48,780 --> 01:29:56,640  
"The God Believers in the SS."

1480  
01:29:56,640 --> 01:30:01,350  
And that was published  
in German, in English,

1481  
01:30:01,350 --> 01:30:06,330  
and in Swiss history journal.

1482  
01:30:06,330 --> 01:30:08,020  
Is this in a book form?

1483  
01:30:08,020 --> 01:30:12,720  
No, it was just an article, but  
and also part of my book, yes.

1484  
01:30:12,720 --> 01:30:16,320  
It was a chapter,  
subject in the book.

1485  
01:30:16,320 --> 01:30:22,740  
Except in the modified form  
it was in some other journals

1486  
01:30:22,740 --> 01:30:27,030  
and see in a chapter in a  
book, in a German book, a very

1487  
01:30:27,030 --> 01:30:29,280  
reputable history  
book, tool books

1488  
01:30:29,280 --> 01:30:35,100  
talks god, for just about four  
or five different publications

1489  
01:30:35,100 --> 01:30:37,740  
in modified forms.

1490  
01:30:37,740 --> 01:30:42,960

And one, which appeared  
in Switzerland, with lots

1491  
01:30:42,960 --> 01:30:46,210  
of pictures, photographs.

1492  
01:30:46,210 --> 01:30:50,130  
And so that was a very popular  
thing and most of the SS people

1493  
01:30:50,130 --> 01:30:51,400  
read it.

1494  
01:30:51,400 --> 01:30:55,260  
They were all over me later  
on said, hey, how can you

1495  
01:30:55,260 --> 01:30:56,510  
do that, this and that?

1496  
01:30:56,510 --> 01:30:59,150

1497  
01:30:59,150 --> 01:31:03,360  
So were you referring by saying  
god to the ancient mythical

1498  
01:31:03,360 --> 01:31:07,380  
gods that were pre-Christian?

1499  
01:31:07,380 --> 01:31:12,900  
In this yule celebration,  
along with this mythology,

1500  
01:31:12,900 --> 01:31:18,570  
were they still upholding  
the principles of fascism?

1501  
01:31:18,570 --> 01:31:22,200  
Well, the interesting  
thing is they simply

1502

01:31:22,200 --> 01:31:25,140  
looked back more than forward.

1503  
01:31:25,140 --> 01:31:27,450  
And somehow, I think  
most of these people

1504  
01:31:27,450 --> 01:31:29,910  
understood that this  
was the end of the line,

1505  
01:31:29,910 --> 01:31:31,680  
that this would  
not be perpetuated

1506  
01:31:31,680 --> 01:31:33,840  
or would not be easy.

1507  
01:31:33,840 --> 01:31:37,290  
Because they themselves  
said that we are bringing up

1508  
01:31:37,290 --> 01:31:43,350  
our children in Christianity,  
in some sort of whatever

1509  
01:31:43,350 --> 01:31:47,310  
Protestant or Catholic faith.

1510  
01:31:47,310 --> 01:31:50,070  
But they still brought  
them to these yule things

1511  
01:31:50,070 --> 01:31:52,680  
while they were around,  
and they continued

1512  
01:31:52,680 --> 01:31:55,470  
to do that now, the old ones.

1513  
01:31:55,470 --> 01:32:00,570  
Because they are their last who  
will continue with what they

1514  
01:32:00,570 --> 01:32:05,970  
had adopted, accepted  
during that particular time

1515  
01:32:05,970 --> 01:32:09,190  
while they were SS, in  
the SS during Nazi time.

1516  
01:32:09,190 --> 01:32:11,910  
But they also know that  
it is coming to an end,

1517  
01:32:11,910 --> 01:32:14,460  
and that chances are  
that no one else will

1518  
01:32:14,460 --> 01:32:17,580  
pick it up and perpetuate it  
again, although we don't know.

1519  
01:32:17,580 --> 01:32:19,890  
No, because the children  
are being inculcated

1520  
01:32:19,890 --> 01:32:20,932  
with this to some degree?

1521  
01:32:20,932 --> 01:32:24,540  
Well, yes, but I think  
they are exceeding those--

1522  
01:32:24,540 --> 01:32:28,150  
many I've met, I  
don't think they--

1523  
01:32:28,150 --> 01:32:31,110  
I think they have been  
so much influenced

1524  
01:32:31,110 --> 01:32:38,550  
by the media about  
national socialism and all

1525

01:32:38,550 --> 01:32:43,560

that that I don't  
think they are building

1526

01:32:43,560 --> 01:32:50,970

or think it would be prudent  
to continue this sort of thing.

1527

01:32:50,970 --> 01:32:55,020

I think there would be a very  
small minority, because I think

1528

01:32:55,020 --> 01:32:57,810

the influence of the  
media and the teaching

1529

01:32:57,810 --> 01:33:01,530

and the Democratic sort of  
perspective at this time

1530

01:33:01,530 --> 01:33:05,100

is stronger than the  
influence of their parents.

1531

01:33:05,100 --> 01:33:07,050

Should we assume  
that all these people

1532

01:33:07,050 --> 01:33:10,350

who were celebrating the yule  
were brought up as Christians

1533

01:33:10,350 --> 01:33:11,280

also?

1534

01:33:11,280 --> 01:33:14,190

Oh, yeah, you can because  
you see because at that time

1535

01:33:14,190 --> 01:33:20,100

this sort of thing was just  
beginning to be popular.

1536

01:33:20,100 --> 01:33:22,500

And that was before,  
I'd like to make sure,

1537

01:33:22,500 --> 01:33:25,350

that it was also  
existing starting

1538

01:33:25,350 --> 01:33:27,850

at the turn of the century,  
something of that nature.

1539

01:33:27,850 --> 01:33:37,200

And even before the beginning,  
the seed of it if you will,

1540

01:33:37,200 --> 01:33:53,450

the beginning of that particular  
development, but no one

1541

01:33:53,450 --> 01:33:55,080

took it that fully seriously.

1542

01:33:55,080 --> 01:33:58,600

And very few people adhered to  
it or were interested in it.

1543

01:33:58,600 --> 01:34:02,960

It only then became popular  
and furthered officially

1544

01:34:02,960 --> 01:34:06,470

by the top Nazis.

1545

01:34:06,470 --> 01:34:10,890

1546

01:34:10,890 --> 01:34:15,480

Now they all belong,  
for example, Bormann

1547



01:34:15,480 --> 01:34:19,020  
and Himmler and Goebbels  
and all these people

1548  
01:34:19,020 --> 01:34:26,790  
came to this sort of thing and  
renounced the Christian faith

1549  
01:34:26,790 --> 01:34:33,090  
to become what they called god  
glory, namely believers in god,

1550  
01:34:33,090 --> 01:34:35,250  
which was the name  
of the new faith.

1551  
01:34:35,250 --> 01:34:38,100  
And now with a  
friend of mine I'm

1552  
01:34:38,100 --> 01:34:45,270  
doing research which has  
not been done before,

1553  
01:34:45,270 --> 01:34:58,080  
because I found in legal  
texts that according

1554  
01:34:58,080 --> 01:35:05,130  
to the Nazi definition,  
racial Jews called

1555  
01:35:05,130 --> 01:35:10,200  
be Catholics or practice  
the Catholic or Protestant

1556  
01:35:10,200 --> 01:35:13,200  
or any sort of Christian faith.

1557  
01:35:13,200 --> 01:35:21,150  
But they are not permitted  
to become believers in god.

1558

01:35:21,150 --> 01:35:23,475  
That is something we  
were not permitted to do.

1559  
01:35:23,475 --> 01:35:24,990  
You had to be Aryan to do that?

1560  
01:35:24,990 --> 01:35:26,520  
That's right.

1561  
01:35:26,520 --> 01:35:28,322  
And no one has ever  
written about it.

1562  
01:35:28,322 --> 01:35:30,030  
It's just something  
which is totally new.

1563  
01:35:30,030 --> 01:35:32,490  
And I just simply,  
because I browsed

1564  
01:35:32,490 --> 01:35:42,220  
through some legal texts which  
I do see what sort of laws,

1565  
01:35:42,220 --> 01:35:45,375  
particularly racial laws,  
and among those things

1566  
01:35:45,375 --> 01:35:46,000  
precisely that.

1567  
01:35:46,000 --> 01:35:49,570

1568  
01:35:49,570 --> 01:35:52,840  
Including the fact  
that Hitler himself

1569  
01:35:52,840 --> 01:35:55,940  
was the only one who could make  
an exception to the Nuremberg

1570  
01:35:55,940 --> 01:35:56,800  
laws.

1571  
01:35:56,800 --> 01:35:59,710  
That's also a legal permission.

1572  
01:35:59,710 --> 01:36:02,080  
And right now, we are  
interested in both things,

1573  
01:36:02,080 --> 01:36:10,300  
to find out if there indeed  
were cases of full blooded Jews,

1574  
01:36:10,300 --> 01:36:12,790  
"full blooded" quote  
unquote, because there's

1575  
01:36:12,790 --> 01:36:15,190  
no such thing as Jewish blood.

1576  
01:36:15,190 --> 01:36:17,910

1577  
01:36:17,910 --> 01:36:21,800  
That's the fiction of  
the Nazi imagination.

1578  
01:36:21,800 --> 01:36:29,110  
And so I'm particularly  
interested in finding out

1579  
01:36:29,110 --> 01:36:32,720  
if indeed an exception was  
made by Hitler, because yes

1580  
01:36:32,720 --> 01:36:33,970  
there was a provision in that.

1581  
01:36:33,970 --> 01:36:36,290  
Which kind of boggles

my mind that even

1582  
01:36:36,290 --> 01:36:40,000  
there was a legal provision  
and that's in the legal books,

1583  
01:36:40,000 --> 01:36:41,870  
and I have it in  
several legal books.

1584  
01:36:41,870 --> 01:36:45,320  
So you haven't yet run into  
an instance that he used this?

1585  
01:36:45,320 --> 01:36:46,330  
No.

1586  
01:36:46,330 --> 01:36:52,830  
I know that some people who  
were half Jews, or were just

1587  
01:36:52,830 --> 01:36:53,820  
married to Jews.

1588  
01:36:53,820 --> 01:36:58,020  
For example, a very  
well-known Austrian actor,

1589  
01:36:58,020 --> 01:37:07,020  
his Jewish wife was exempted  
from her Jewish status,

1590  
01:37:07,020 --> 01:37:10,710  
and that was referred to in  
documentation which I have

1591  
01:37:10,710 --> 01:37:12,600  
lots of documentation on that.

1592  
01:37:12,600 --> 01:37:14,280  
So would that be an instance?

1593

01:37:14,280 --> 01:37:16,800  
Because last year I went to  
Koblenz through the archives

1594  
01:37:16,800 --> 01:37:19,500  
to search just to do  
a search like that.

1595  
01:37:19,500 --> 01:37:22,430  
And now, because of  
east German all that,

1596  
01:37:22,430 --> 01:37:27,120  
there are very many more  
archives open and access

1597  
01:37:27,120 --> 01:37:32,440  
to documentation which hasn't  
been even tapped before.

1598  
01:37:32,440 --> 01:37:36,540  
So and Prague also has very  
important documentation,

1599  
01:37:36,540 --> 01:37:38,670  
particularly on the SS.

1600  
01:37:38,670 --> 01:37:41,130  
So all these things,  
if I have a chance,

1601  
01:37:41,130 --> 01:37:44,820  
if I ever should get  
into a financial position

1602  
01:37:44,820 --> 01:37:47,250  
that I can do that,  
then I certainly

1603  
01:37:47,250 --> 01:37:53,580  
would like to do that with  
Ms. Horowitz or someone else

1604

01:37:53,580 --> 01:37:54,230  
do that.

1605  
01:37:54,230 --> 01:37:56,820  
But I mean, just it's  
something that we'll

1606  
01:37:56,820 --> 01:37:59,430  
be able to get the funds,  
because it takes time

1607  
01:37:59,430 --> 01:38:02,580  
to get away from.

1608  
01:38:02,580 --> 01:38:08,880  
You had said that some  
of these SS people

1609  
01:38:08,880 --> 01:38:11,820  
were aware that you  
were a survivor?

1610  
01:38:11,820 --> 01:38:17,600  
Well, yeah, because  
you see, when

1611  
01:38:17,600 --> 01:38:24,240  
I, for example, interviewed some  
of the Auschwitz perpetrators

1612  
01:38:24,240 --> 01:38:26,490  
who by now have  
all-- and I taped

1613  
01:38:26,490 --> 01:38:28,115  
all the interviews,  
which is important,

1614  
01:38:28,115 --> 01:38:37,530  
or most of the  
interviews, I told them.

1615  
01:38:37,530 --> 01:38:43,410

And after the interviews say I  
am a survivor, and they said--

1616  
01:38:43,410 --> 01:38:49,770  
they burst into  
tears, many of them,

1617  
01:38:49,770 --> 01:38:54,960  
and said how is it that you  
treat us the way you do?

1618  
01:38:54,960 --> 01:39:05,640  
And where-- couldn't  
quite come to terms.

1619  
01:39:05,640 --> 01:39:07,680  
And I came back and  
talked to them again.

1620  
01:39:07,680 --> 01:39:10,740  
Because of you, we haven't  
eaten and I have not eaten

1621  
01:39:10,740 --> 01:39:15,930  
and I have not slept and all  
that, because of the encounter

1622  
01:39:15,930 --> 01:39:16,830  
I've had with you.

1623  
01:39:16,830 --> 01:39:20,940  
And you treated me as a human  
being, and all this and that.

1624  
01:39:20,940 --> 01:39:22,770  
And these were the  
Auschwitz perpetrators.

1625  
01:39:22,770 --> 01:39:23,910  
These were the gassers.

1626  
01:39:23,910 --> 01:39:27,630  
These were the people

who were doing it.

1627

01:39:27,630 --> 01:39:30,490

1628

01:39:30,490 --> 01:39:32,310

And that was a very  
fortunate thing,

1629

01:39:32,310 --> 01:39:35,460

because I had access  
to them by virtue

1630

01:39:35,460 --> 01:39:37,230

of the fact that  
I was befriended

1631

01:39:37,230 --> 01:39:49,680

with the Jewish attorney general  
of Hessen in whose jurisdiction

1632

01:39:49,680 --> 01:39:52,770

the Auschwitz process and  
he initiated the Auschwitz

1633

01:39:52,770 --> 01:39:53,760

process.

1634

01:39:53,760 --> 01:39:55,740

And then these people who--

1635

01:39:55,740 --> 01:39:58,530

I did not attend the Auschwitz  
process, unfortunately,

1636

01:39:58,530 --> 01:40:02,040

but I talked to them later  
on after they were sentenced

1637

01:40:02,040 --> 01:40:05,790

to multiple life sentences.

1638



01:40:05,790 --> 01:40:08,850  
And then I had access  
because of his permission

1639  
01:40:08,850 --> 01:40:11,340  
and because of friends I've had.

1640  
01:40:11,340 --> 01:40:15,840  
One friend who actually  
was the director

1641  
01:40:15,840 --> 01:40:19,950  
of that prison at that time,  
was a personal friend of mine.

1642  
01:40:19,950 --> 01:40:23,130  
So I stayed with him at  
the premises of the prison

1643  
01:40:23,130 --> 01:40:26,290  
where all these  
Auschwitz people were.

1644  
01:40:26,290 --> 01:40:29,940  
So I virtually 24  
access to them,

1645  
01:40:29,940 --> 01:40:31,320  
and took advantage of that.

1646  
01:40:31,320 --> 01:40:37,750  
Except these people I taped,  
most of these interviews.

1647  
01:40:37,750 --> 01:40:40,260  
So it sounds like  
in this group there

1648  
01:40:40,260 --> 01:40:45,070  
was quite what you might  
call a human reaction?

1649  
01:40:45,070 --> 01:40:46,420

Oh, yeah, very, very much so.

1650  
01:40:46,420 --> 01:40:52,750  
And most of these  
people were exceedingly

1651  
01:40:52,750 --> 01:40:54,160  
eager to talk to me.

1652  
01:40:54,160 --> 01:40:58,990  
And that is something which  
came to me a surprise because I

1653  
01:40:58,990 --> 01:41:04,300  
thought that most people,  
once I start probing in depth,

1654  
01:41:04,300 --> 01:41:06,190  
that they would clam up on me .

1655  
01:41:06,190 --> 01:41:07,150  
But none of them had.

1656  
01:41:07,150 --> 01:41:09,310  
Not only they did  
not clam up, but they

1657  
01:41:09,310 --> 01:41:12,610  
couldn't get enough of it, so I  
had to come back and come back.

1658  
01:41:12,610 --> 01:41:16,270  
And then one of them  
who was another,

1659  
01:41:16,270 --> 01:41:19,090  
was not the Auschwitz but  
he was known as the Hangman

1660  
01:41:19,090 --> 01:41:25,870  
or Buchenwald,  
man called Sommer,

1661

01:41:25,870 --> 01:41:28,780

he wrote to me twice a month.

1662

01:41:28,780 --> 01:41:31,060

And I have the correspondence  
over the years, which

1663

01:41:31,060 --> 01:41:35,160

is just a mountain of letters.

1664

01:41:35,160 --> 01:41:40,780

1665

01:41:40,780 --> 01:41:45,910

Somehow, I became the  
father confessor and also

1666

01:41:45,910 --> 01:41:55,320

some person whom they  
could talk to in order

1667

01:41:55,320 --> 01:42:00,010

to get all this dreadfulness  
out of their system,

1668

01:42:00,010 --> 01:42:02,880

and that was to my advantage.

1669

01:42:02,880 --> 01:42:05,460

And so they wrote  
to me, and they

1670

01:42:05,460 --> 01:42:09,570

expected me to respond to  
their needs, which I did.

1671

01:42:09,570 --> 01:42:19,650

And relations developed so that  
when still a person with whom I

1672

01:42:19,650 --> 01:42:24,060

worked very closely, was one of

my major research assistants,

1673

01:42:24,060 --> 01:42:26,340  
if you will, back in Germany.

1674

01:42:26,340 --> 01:42:29,490  
So whenever I come  
there I stay with them.

1675

01:42:29,490 --> 01:42:34,260  
They treat me like a family, and  
he knows that I am a survivor.

1676

01:42:34,260 --> 01:42:41,070  
And whenever I leave he  
bursts into tears and tells me

1677

01:42:41,070 --> 01:42:42,850  
I'm so thankful to  
you and all that.

1678

01:42:42,850 --> 01:42:45,695  
It's a dreadfully  
embarrassing situation for me.

1679

01:42:45,695 --> 01:42:48,880

1680

01:42:48,880 --> 01:42:51,670  
And he embraces me  
and cries and weeps,

1681

01:42:51,670 --> 01:42:57,790  
a man who was a guard at Dachau.

1682

01:42:57,790 --> 01:43:05,200  
And witnessed and participated  
in one way or another

1683

01:43:05,200 --> 01:43:08,230  
the destruction  
of Warsaw Ghetto.

1684  
01:43:08,230 --> 01:43:09,280  
How is it for you--

1685  
01:43:09,280 --> 01:43:12,700  
And he wrote me his  
whole description

1686  
01:43:12,700 --> 01:43:15,880  
of the destruction of which  
he as an eyewitness, SS

1687  
01:43:15,880 --> 01:43:20,050  
eyewitness, wrote and  
he's a journalist.

1688  
01:43:20,050 --> 01:43:22,660  
He knows how to write.

1689  
01:43:22,660 --> 01:43:29,530  
How was it for you to be in the  
role of forgiving and assuaging

1690  
01:43:29,530 --> 01:43:30,560  
the feelings of--

1691  
01:43:30,560 --> 01:43:31,420  
I don't know.

1692  
01:43:31,420 --> 01:43:32,240  
I don't know.

1693  
01:43:32,240 --> 01:43:36,280  
You see, the sort of forgiving  
to begin with, I was terribly

1694  
01:43:36,280 --> 01:43:44,050  
confused because hey, I  
mean, project my experience

1695  
01:43:44,050 --> 01:43:46,450  
of numerous death camps.

1696

01:43:46,450 --> 01:43:49,600  
Most people didn't survive one.

1697

01:43:49,600 --> 01:43:53,680  
I survived four, five, a  
death march and all this.

1698

01:43:53,680 --> 01:43:57,760  
And project into this,  
particularly with Felix Steiner

1699

01:43:57,760 --> 01:44:00,590  
and say he is an  
SS general, my god.

1700

01:44:00,590 --> 01:44:03,700  
Swine like that  
terrible stuff, how

1701

01:44:03,700 --> 01:44:06,790  
am I going to stand up and  
not do something or say

1702

01:44:06,790 --> 01:44:12,250  
something or whatever, be there  
as a sociologist, an interview.

1703

01:44:12,250 --> 01:44:14,620  
And I thought I couldn't do it.

1704

01:44:14,620 --> 01:44:16,960  
And also the feelings came back.

1705

01:44:16,960 --> 01:44:21,350  
There was all this sort of  
replay of what had happened.

1706

01:44:21,350 --> 01:44:28,670  
And he turned out to  
be exceedingly human.

1707

01:44:28,670 --> 01:44:34,430

A person who can be a very  
loyal and fully supportive

1708  
01:44:34,430 --> 01:44:38,240  
friend, who is very caring.

1709  
01:44:38,240 --> 01:44:39,860  
And I said hey,  
how is it possible

1710  
01:44:39,860 --> 01:44:44,330  
that under those circumstances  
you can be humane,

1711  
01:44:44,330 --> 01:44:50,390  
and before that they  
fought for the Nazi cause?

1712  
01:44:50,390 --> 01:44:55,850  
How can you-- or you're  
glad to see me and talk

1713  
01:44:55,850 --> 01:45:00,010  
to me as a human being, and you  
were the Hangman of Buchenwald.

1714  
01:45:00,010 --> 01:45:05,210  
Or all you burst into tears and  
you gassed a hundred thousands

1715  
01:45:05,210 --> 01:45:07,160  
of Jews.

1716  
01:45:07,160 --> 01:45:11,060  
Just how do you put that  
into proper context?

1717  
01:45:11,060 --> 01:45:15,140  
Well, yes, and that's  
precisely how people respond

1718  
01:45:15,140 --> 01:45:17,120  
to different situations.

1719  
01:45:17,120 --> 01:45:19,670  
And the interesting thing  
is and the upshot of it

1720  
01:45:19,670 --> 01:45:23,695  
that most of these people  
who participated in it

1721  
01:45:23,695 --> 01:45:27,350  
were not people who  
initiated, but were

1722  
01:45:27,350 --> 01:45:29,870  
sucked into it by the system.

1723  
01:45:29,870 --> 01:45:32,600  
Because they themselves never  
would have been initiators,

1724  
01:45:32,600 --> 01:45:33,270  
most of them.

1725  
01:45:33,270 --> 01:45:35,700  
Some of them are sadists,  
no question about it.

1726  
01:45:35,700 --> 01:45:37,460  
And I discussed it  
with Erich Fromm

1727  
01:45:37,460 --> 01:45:39,830  
and we agreed that  
among all these SS

1728  
01:45:39,830 --> 01:45:44,030  
people in concentration camps,  
there was a pitiful 17 just

1729  
01:45:44,030 --> 01:45:47,540  
about 16, 17, 18% of sadists.

1730



01:45:47,540 --> 01:45:49,010  
I've met them.

1731  
01:45:49,010 --> 01:45:53,540  
And that's why I think  
that they feel a Zimbardo's

1732  
01:45:53,540 --> 01:45:55,670  
experiment was very important.

1733  
01:45:55,670 --> 01:45:57,540  
They simulated the prison.

1734  
01:45:57,540 --> 01:46:00,050  
And that's why I participated  
in that as a consultant,

1735  
01:46:00,050 --> 01:46:07,650  
because that was a replay of a  
situation which was not totally

1736  
01:46:07,650 --> 01:46:11,330  
unsimilar to the whole thing.

1737  
01:46:11,330 --> 01:46:16,100  
Except of course it was by far  
not as traumatic obviously,

1738  
01:46:16,100 --> 01:46:19,610  
but traumatic enough  
to see what sort of--

1739  
01:46:19,610 --> 01:46:25,280  
Eichmanns are all in us, which  
under certain circumstances

1740  
01:46:25,280 --> 01:46:33,600  
will come out and we will  
behave out of character.

1741  
01:46:33,600 --> 01:46:35,270  
So like the pressure  
of the hierarchy,

1742  
01:46:35,270 --> 01:46:38,250  
the pressure of the peers  
to force you into this?

1743  
01:46:38,250 --> 01:46:40,970  
Well, yes, the system.

1744  
01:46:40,970 --> 01:46:43,820  
The system which  
creates situations,

1745  
01:46:43,820 --> 01:46:47,930  
because the structure, which  
is manned by individuals,

1746  
01:46:47,930 --> 01:46:51,200  
will compel, persuade  
and compel people

1747  
01:46:51,200 --> 01:46:54,080  
with the help of an  
ideology, Nazi ideology,

1748  
01:46:54,080 --> 01:46:58,760  
absolutist ideology,  
persuade people to lend

1749  
01:46:58,760 --> 01:47:03,150  
a hand in mass destruction.

1750  
01:47:03,150 --> 01:47:05,210  
It has like a life of  
its own, the system?

1751  
01:47:05,210 --> 01:47:05,810  
That's right.

1752  
01:47:05,810 --> 01:47:06,620  
That's right.

1753  
01:47:06,620 --> 01:47:10,070

Which is being created  
with the help of Hitlerism

1754  
01:47:10,070 --> 01:47:13,370  
and people who will benefit  
from it because of power

1755  
01:47:13,370 --> 01:47:16,940  
and satisfaction of their  
needs at the expense

1756  
01:47:16,940 --> 01:47:20,630  
of countless millions.

1757  
01:47:20,630 --> 01:47:23,510  
And where other people  
also will participate

1758  
01:47:23,510 --> 01:47:27,260  
because they feel they are doing  
the right thing ideologically,

1759  
01:47:27,260 --> 01:47:31,760  
indoctrinated, brainwashed  
to believe that they

1760  
01:47:31,760 --> 01:47:34,550  
are doing the right thing.

1761  
01:47:34,550 --> 01:47:37,180  
And when this sort of  
ceases to exist then

1762  
01:47:37,180 --> 01:47:39,950  
they revert back into some  
sort of normal, quote unquote,

1763  
01:47:39,950 --> 01:47:43,760  
"normal" selves and  
behave in a way which

1764  
01:47:43,760 --> 01:47:46,850  
is not going to break any law.

1765  
01:47:46,850 --> 01:47:48,560  
And you would meet  
them and say what

1766  
01:47:48,560 --> 01:47:52,220  
a nice person,  
totally innocuous,

1767  
01:47:52,220 --> 01:47:58,950  
nice kind of  
harmless individual.

1768  
01:47:58,950 --> 01:48:02,835  
These Auschwitz  
perpetrators, the ones

1769  
01:48:02,835 --> 01:48:04,210  
who were immediately  
involved, it

1770  
01:48:04,210 --> 01:48:08,390  
sounds like they were  
suffering obvious guilt.

1771  
01:48:08,390 --> 01:48:09,320  
Oh, yeah.

1772  
01:48:09,320 --> 01:48:11,675  
But was this also true of the--

1773  
01:48:11,675 --> 01:48:14,300  
Well, and some other people,  
for example, very few people,

1774  
01:48:14,300 --> 01:48:19,400  
I just spoke to one of  
them, a man called Boger.

1775  
01:48:19,400 --> 01:48:22,880  
And he was a well-known sadist.

1776

01:48:22,880 --> 01:48:27,140  
And I had one encounter  
with him and then

1777  
01:48:27,140 --> 01:48:29,420  
he didn't want to  
continue any interviews.

1778  
01:48:29,420 --> 01:48:37,210  
And this man just  
thrived on sadistic acts.

1779  
01:48:37,210 --> 01:48:39,190  
I mean, he was  
thriving on it and he

1780  
01:48:39,190 --> 01:48:42,920  
invented torture for that.

1781  
01:48:42,920 --> 01:48:47,120  
A fellow called  
Boger, B-O-G-E-R.

1782  
01:48:47,120 --> 01:48:48,980  
But then I also met  
someone else who

1783  
01:48:48,980 --> 01:48:53,150  
was another general SS,  
also involved with-- no,

1784  
01:48:53,150 --> 01:48:54,710  
that was not there anymore.

1785  
01:48:54,710 --> 01:48:59,180  
But I went back because I  
wanted to see some other SS

1786  
01:48:59,180 --> 01:49:02,480  
people in a prison in Bavaria.

1787  
01:49:02,480 --> 01:49:06,320  
And then I tried to have

an interview with a man

1788

01:49:06,320 --> 01:49:12,380  
called Bach-Zelewski  
who was actually

1789

01:49:12,380 --> 01:49:25,100  
the admin of all that  
region, Von dem Bach-Zelewski

1790

01:49:25,100 --> 01:49:30,710  
And I met him at this prison,  
and the director of that prison

1791

01:49:30,710 --> 01:49:32,690  
was very cooperative  
and with whom

1792

01:49:32,690 --> 01:49:35,210  
I had a tremendous  
relationship and also was

1793

01:49:35,210 --> 01:49:43,415  
a very fair minded and  
sophisticated individual,

1794

01:49:43,415 --> 01:49:45,080  
a humanist in a way.

1795

01:49:45,080 --> 01:49:49,700

1796

01:49:49,700 --> 01:49:52,450  
He cooperated with me  
and said, OK, we'll

1797

01:49:52,450 --> 01:49:56,667  
bring him out, Von dem  
Bach-Zelewski and Erik von dem

1798

01:49:56,667 --> 01:49:57,250  
Bach-Zelewski.

1799

01:49:57,250 --> 01:49:59,890

1800

01:49:59,890 --> 01:50:08,270

And you can eyeball each other  
and see how we will respond.

1801

01:50:08,270 --> 01:50:11,410

And so I came there and  
he was sitting there,

1802

01:50:11,410 --> 01:50:12,820

because they brought him out.

1803

01:50:12,820 --> 01:50:16,870

And I said my name is  
Steiner, and he introduced me

1804

01:50:16,870 --> 01:50:18,970

and was kind of very  
courteous, very nice.

1805

01:50:18,970 --> 01:50:22,085

And said Professor Steiner  
would like to interview.

1806

01:50:22,085 --> 01:50:28,960

Would you mind doing that?

1807

01:50:28,960 --> 01:50:31,570

And said if I have a  
choice, I'd rather not.

1808

01:50:31,570 --> 01:50:33,970

And then this fair  
minded director

1809

01:50:33,970 --> 01:50:37,730

said OK, if you don't want  
to, we won't force you.

1810

01:50:37,730 --> 01:50:45,550

And that was one of the major interviews, which is about 98%

1811  
01:50:45,550 --> 01:50:47,755  
of people never refused an interview.

1812  
01:50:47,755 --> 01:50:49,990  
It was a matter of fact cooperated

1813  
01:50:49,990 --> 01:50:54,370  
and it's just about 2% roughly speaking.

1814  
01:50:54,370 --> 01:50:58,840  
And he's one of the 2% who refused to be interviewed,

1815  
01:50:58,840 --> 01:51:01,630  
which is a tremendous loss because he

1816  
01:51:01,630 --> 01:51:03,160  
was responsible for most.

1817  
01:51:03,160 --> 01:51:07,000  
He was the senior man in all the destruction

1818  
01:51:07,000 --> 01:51:19,050  
policies in the East

1819  
01:51:19,050 --> 01:51:20,790  
So that's lost then?

1820  
01:51:20,790 --> 01:51:22,570  
That's lost, because the man is dead.

1821  
01:51:22,570 --> 01:51:27,270  
He died of cancer and was released



1822  
01:51:27,270 --> 01:51:33,480  
prior to this, before his  
because he had a life sentence.

1823  
01:51:33,480 --> 01:51:36,000  
He was the real.

1824  
01:51:36,000 --> 01:51:42,660  
The other SS generals and people  
at that level of the hierarchy,

1825  
01:51:42,660 --> 01:51:45,960  
did you feel that they  
were justifying themselves,

1826  
01:51:45,960 --> 01:51:49,650  
or did they too suffer  
guilt in their decisions?

1827  
01:51:49,650 --> 01:51:57,240

1828  
01:51:57,240 --> 01:51:59,070  
I think that's a very  
important question.

1829  
01:51:59,070 --> 01:52:06,000  
And I had a feeling that some  
of them to some extent maybe,

1830  
01:52:06,000 --> 01:52:09,780  
but to a minimal extent.

1831  
01:52:09,780 --> 01:52:17,370  
I would say primarily they  
bathed in their glory,

1832  
01:52:17,370 --> 01:52:18,480  
in their past glory.

1833  
01:52:18,480 --> 01:52:24,720

They continue to  
look back and focus

1834  
01:52:24,720 --> 01:52:28,380  
on their glory and their power.

1835  
01:52:28,380 --> 01:52:30,580  
And that to them  
was more important

1836  
01:52:30,580 --> 01:52:32,370  
than the consequences  
of their power,

1837  
01:52:32,370 --> 01:52:34,140  
namely what they had done.

1838  
01:52:34,140 --> 01:52:36,090  
And that I could see in Steiner.

1839  
01:52:36,090 --> 01:52:37,950  
That I could see in Wolff.

1840  
01:52:37,950 --> 01:52:41,850  
In all the generals, and I  
met a few, god I'd met a few,

1841  
01:52:41,850 --> 01:52:44,430  
and none of them really  
came to say, hey,

1842  
01:52:44,430 --> 01:52:47,070  
look this time is terrible.

1843  
01:52:47,070 --> 01:52:50,910  
I mean, and now  
in the first time

1844  
01:52:50,910 --> 01:52:53,740  
I got an apology, and that  
is an important thing,

1845

01:52:53,740 --> 01:52:56,580  
which I think it made history,  
although it's not recognized,

1846  
01:52:56,580 --> 01:53:00,780  
so it maybe after my  
death that may come out.

1847  
01:53:00,780 --> 01:53:04,090  
Because now when I was  
in Germany last summer,

1848  
01:53:04,090 --> 01:53:08,790  
I had the first  
table talk, which

1849  
01:53:08,790 --> 01:53:17,190  
was with SS people, which was  
a public broadcast in which two

1850  
01:53:17,190 --> 01:53:20,940  
of them said, and we talked  
about it, any one of you

1851  
01:53:20,940 --> 01:53:22,123  
apologize?

1852  
01:53:22,123 --> 01:53:26,070

1853  
01:53:26,070 --> 01:53:29,160  
Havel, Vaclav Havel,  
the Czech president,

1854  
01:53:29,160 --> 01:53:32,790  
apologized to the Sudeten  
Germans what they've done,

1855  
01:53:32,790 --> 01:53:33,630  
the Czechs to them.

1856  
01:53:33,630 --> 01:53:35,713  
And I've been there, and

I know what they've done.

1857  
01:53:35,713 --> 01:53:36,540  
I've seen it.

1858  
01:53:36,540 --> 01:53:38,645  
And I've helped many  
of the Sudeten Germans

1859  
01:53:38,645 --> 01:53:40,020  
to save their  
lives, particularly

1860  
01:53:40,020 --> 01:53:42,660  
those who were friends  
and I knew they're just

1861  
01:53:42,660 --> 01:53:45,930  
as narcissistic as I am.

1862  
01:53:45,930 --> 01:53:49,480  
And so he has done that, and  
that's what I use to say,

1863  
01:53:49,480 --> 01:53:50,890  
hey, what have you done?

1864  
01:53:50,890 --> 01:53:52,560  
Have you ever  
thought of apology?

1865  
01:53:52,560 --> 01:53:56,820  
And yes well, yeah, I  
mean, it's really terrible.

1866  
01:53:56,820 --> 01:53:59,610  
And so we discussed that, and  
that became a very interesting

1867  
01:53:59,610 --> 01:54:00,820  
sort of thing.

1868

01:54:00,820 --> 01:54:04,170  
But of course, I left Germany  
before it was broadcast,

1869  
01:54:04,170 --> 01:54:08,880  
so I don't know what sort  
of response it stimulated.

1870  
01:54:08,880 --> 01:54:12,300  
But it was broadcast in a  
major broadcast stations

1871  
01:54:12,300 --> 01:54:14,730  
all over Germany, including  
Cologne and all that,

1872  
01:54:14,730 --> 01:54:16,740  
which caters to Berlin  
and what have you.

1873  
01:54:16,740 --> 01:54:19,590

1874  
01:54:19,590 --> 01:54:23,700  
And so there they  
said yeah, well,

1875  
01:54:23,700 --> 01:54:26,340  
if we come to think of  
it, two out of the three

1876  
01:54:26,340 --> 01:54:30,060  
said if we had understood  
what the consequences would

1877  
01:54:30,060 --> 01:54:31,860  
be at that particular  
time we would have

1878  
01:54:31,860 --> 01:54:33,780  
not become members of the SS.

1879  
01:54:33,780 --> 01:54:36,720

That was the first  
public statement anyone

1880  
01:54:36,720 --> 01:54:39,690  
has made since World War Two.

1881  
01:54:39,690 --> 01:54:41,502  
And I got them to do it.

1882  
01:54:41,502 --> 01:54:44,520  
They said they would  
not have joined the SS?

1883  
01:54:44,520 --> 01:54:46,320  
That's right.

1884  
01:54:46,320 --> 01:54:47,325  
And they had regrets.

1885  
01:54:47,325 --> 01:54:49,980

1886  
01:54:49,980 --> 01:54:53,730  
And one fellow was just  
as old as I, same year,

1887  
01:54:53,730 --> 01:55:03,060  
born same year, and the  
other one was born 1920.

1888  
01:55:03,060 --> 01:55:05,774  
That's right, just turned 17.

1889  
01:55:05,774 --> 01:55:08,440

1890  
01:55:08,440 --> 01:55:11,150  
And the other one who  
was the senior there,

1891  
01:55:11,150 --> 01:55:14,656  
he didn't join the club.

1892  
01:55:14,656 --> 01:55:15,835  
No.

1893  
01:55:15,835 --> 01:55:18,610  
He didn't join the  
club, he didn't say it.

1894  
01:55:18,610 --> 01:55:21,420  
It seems that then,  
in general, they

1895  
01:55:21,420 --> 01:55:24,180  
didn't have that same  
outpouring as those--

1896  
01:55:24,180 --> 01:55:25,680  
Well, but you see,  
this is something

1897  
01:55:25,680 --> 01:55:28,740  
with my questionnaire,  
I've tapped that all

1898  
01:55:28,740 --> 01:55:31,020  
because these are  
questions I've asked.

1899  
01:55:31,020 --> 01:55:33,870  
And that was published in 1970.

1900  
01:55:33,870 --> 01:55:42,180  
And said how do you look  
back with regret or whatever?

1901  
01:55:42,180 --> 01:55:47,070  
And categories there, and  
only a very small minority

1902  
01:55:47,070 --> 01:55:49,350  
had regrets.

1903

01:55:49,350 --> 01:55:51,040  
It was too soon.

1904  
01:55:51,040 --> 01:55:51,540  
Huh?

1905  
01:55:51,540 --> 01:55:52,500  
It was too soon.

1906  
01:55:52,500 --> 01:55:53,370  
Oh, no.

1907  
01:55:53,370 --> 01:55:54,305  
I don't think so.

1908  
01:55:54,305 --> 01:55:56,805  
I think it was just the timing  
was I think very appropriate,

1909  
01:55:56,805 --> 01:55:57,630  
'70.

1910  
01:55:57,630 --> 01:56:05,380  
I think I mean, you're  
talking 25 years.

1911  
01:56:05,380 --> 01:56:07,110  
So you're saying the  
response would not

1912  
01:56:07,110 --> 01:56:08,110  
have been any different?

1913  
01:56:08,110 --> 01:56:09,095  
No.

1914  
01:56:09,095 --> 01:56:10,470  
Surely, they would  
have by then--

1915  
01:56:10,470 --> 01:56:11,845  
And that was of



course in person,

1916

01:56:11,845 --> 01:56:13,830

because they filled  
in a questionnaire

1917

01:56:13,830 --> 01:56:17,230

without anyone being present  
and it was anonymous.

1918

01:56:17,230 --> 01:56:19,200

So I mean, they  
had no reason to--

1919

01:56:19,200 --> 01:56:21,480

and so I think that  
two or three times

1920

01:56:21,480 --> 01:56:24,600

of their real true sentiments,  
I think that came out.

1921

01:56:24,600 --> 01:56:26,890

That kind of came  
out loud and clear.

1922

01:56:26,890 --> 01:56:30,210

So now at this  
point that you have

1923

01:56:30,210 --> 01:56:33,400

spent a good deal of your  
adult lifetime studying

1924

01:56:33,400 --> 01:56:36,420

the perpetrators,  
kind of generically,

1925

01:56:36,420 --> 01:56:38,340

what conclusions have you drawn?

1926

01:56:38,340 --> 01:56:44,460

Well, the conclusion, the

terrible thing that most of us

1927

01:56:44,460 --> 01:56:48,120  
are capable of  
dreadfulness, regardless

1928

01:56:48,120 --> 01:56:51,600  
of how we were brought up.

1929

01:56:51,600 --> 01:56:54,150  
Well, maybe not, I  
think there is still

1930

01:56:54,150 --> 01:56:58,560  
some difference in terms  
of how we were brought up

1931

01:56:58,560 --> 01:57:01,710  
and what sort of insights  
we have gained by virtue

1932

01:57:01,710 --> 01:57:04,050  
of the way we were socialized.

1933

01:57:04,050 --> 01:57:06,750  
And so I think there is  
a significant difference.

1934

01:57:06,750 --> 01:57:09,240  
There's a significant  
difference between people

1935

01:57:09,240 --> 01:57:13,410  
who are authoritarian and not,  
because the authoritarians will

1936

01:57:13,410 --> 01:57:15,450  
be more susceptible  
to ideologies

1937

01:57:15,450 --> 01:57:18,780  
and also more willing  
to participate

1938  
01:57:18,780 --> 01:57:23,190  
in crimes against humanity.

1939  
01:57:23,190 --> 01:57:26,550  
But for all practical purposes  
that we see in everyday life

1940  
01:57:26,550 --> 01:57:30,540  
that all of us are  
capable of things

1941  
01:57:30,540 --> 01:57:33,450  
which would be defined  
as out of character

1942  
01:57:33,450 --> 01:57:34,710  
and would be destructive.

1943  
01:57:34,710 --> 01:57:39,990  
So human destructiveness is  
something which is not merely

1944  
01:57:39,990 --> 01:57:42,420  
done by people of  
who won't say this,

1945  
01:57:42,420 --> 01:57:48,480  
but by relatively, as Hannah  
Arendt said, individuals

1946  
01:57:48,480 --> 01:57:52,840  
like Eichmann who himself  
would have not initiated,

1947  
01:57:52,840 --> 01:57:56,850  
I'm sure, that the chances  
are in terms of what we know.

1948  
01:57:56,850 --> 01:58:00,480  
The destruction he participated  
because he identified

1949

01:58:00,480 --> 01:58:04,200  
with the ideology and  
he was given orders,

1950

01:58:04,200 --> 01:58:09,540  
and wanted to advance  
in rank and power.

1951

01:58:09,540 --> 01:58:12,410

1952

01:58:12,410 --> 01:58:15,250  
And so that is, I think,  
that's the danger.

1953

01:58:15,250 --> 01:58:16,580  
That's the danger.

1954

01:58:16,580 --> 01:58:21,890  
And politicians and  
just general individuals

1955

01:58:21,890 --> 01:58:30,080  
who are not that fully well  
read or have not looked into it

1956

01:58:30,080 --> 01:58:32,287  
don't know that, and  
we all are more or less

1957

01:58:32,287 --> 01:58:33,620  
capable of these sort of things.

1958

01:58:33,620 --> 01:58:35,660  
And that's, I think,  
the dreadful outcome

1959

01:58:35,660 --> 01:58:37,070  
of this investigation.

1960

01:58:37,070 --> 01:58:39,350  
That these people,

and that's something

1961  
01:58:39,350 --> 01:58:42,110  
which I found out  
without any question,

1962  
01:58:42,110 --> 01:58:44,740  
that the majority  
of the SS people

1963  
01:58:44,740 --> 01:58:57,220  
who were perpetrators,  
who were doing

1964  
01:58:57,220 --> 01:59:05,380  
all these ghastly,  
monumental crimes,

1965  
01:59:05,380 --> 01:59:13,020  
under different  
situations revert

1966  
01:59:13,020 --> 01:59:18,450  
into kind of behavior which is  
not going to break any laws.

1967  
01:59:18,450 --> 01:59:20,400  
And that's exactly  
what I found out.

1968  
01:59:20,400 --> 01:59:22,290  
They have not broken any laws.

1969  
01:59:22,290 --> 01:59:26,910  
They are law abiding citizens  
who have not harmed anyone.

1970  
01:59:26,910 --> 01:59:28,430  
That's the frightening thing.

1971  
01:59:28,430 --> 01:59:30,643

1972

01:59:30,643 --> 01:59:31,560

Do you think there's--

1973

01:59:31,560 --> 01:59:34,410

Because I too went into this  
beginning of the research,

1974

01:59:34,410 --> 01:59:37,260

I went into this sort  
of thing believing

1975

01:59:37,260 --> 01:59:39,300

that I'm going to  
interview an SS

1976

01:59:39,300 --> 01:59:43,800

and he's going to  
eat me up alive.

1977

01:59:43,800 --> 01:59:46,140

Because I projected  
my experience

1978

01:59:46,140 --> 01:59:48,810

into this sort of situation  
and that was my conviction.

1979

01:59:48,810 --> 01:59:51,900

Say, hey, my god, am I  
going to blah, blah, blah,

1980

01:59:51,900 --> 01:59:55,830

what am I doing exposing  
myself to all this?

1981

01:59:55,830 --> 01:59:58,410

Who needs it?

1982

01:59:58,410 --> 02:00:02,700

Only to be seen that these  
people are just absolutely

1983

02:00:02,700 --> 02:00:07,640  
charming, concerned, hospitable.

1984  
02:00:07,640 --> 02:02:09,000