

1
00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:56,790

2
00:00:56,790 --> 00:01:01,800
So we had been talking about
the role of child raising

3
00:01:01,800 --> 00:01:06,780
practices, particularly
thinking about the Alice Miller

4
00:01:06,780 --> 00:01:11,880
theory and how this
affects the creation

5
00:01:11,880 --> 00:01:15,330
of the authoritarian
personality,

6
00:01:15,330 --> 00:01:22,870
the role of raising
obedient people, et cetera.

7
00:01:22,870 --> 00:01:27,040
So do you have any notions
about how that plays out?

8
00:01:27,040 --> 00:01:30,930
Well, what I found in some
of the cases, as far as one

9
00:01:30,930 --> 00:01:33,480
could go back into details--

10
00:01:33,480 --> 00:01:36,780
so two things which
were striking,

11
00:01:36,780 --> 00:01:41,430
as far as that is
concerned, which

12
00:01:41,430 --> 00:01:45,750
I found interesting
to reflect on,

13
00:01:45,750 --> 00:01:53,310
was first of all, the
relative ignorance

14
00:01:53,310 --> 00:02:00,840
of the parents, people who
were not very educated,

15
00:02:00,840 --> 00:02:05,430
low-middle class,
if not low class,

16
00:02:05,430 --> 00:02:10,259
people who were unenlightened,
culturally and otherwise.

17
00:02:10,259 --> 00:02:11,080
Number one.

18
00:02:11,080 --> 00:02:15,240
Number two, the
strictness and the more

19
00:02:15,240 --> 00:02:19,890
the challenges are, the
less educated people are,

20
00:02:19,890 --> 00:02:24,540
less cultured they
are, the more they

21
00:02:24,540 --> 00:02:32,990
will depend on the
role they play.

22
00:02:32,990 --> 00:02:35,720
And by virtue of their
role they play as a parent,

23

00:02:35,720 --> 00:02:42,890
they say, I say so, not because
of my knowledge or wisdom,

24

00:02:42,890 --> 00:02:45,860
but by virtue of the fact
that I play a parental role.

25

00:02:45,860 --> 00:02:48,380
And therefore, you have to
obey, you have to do that.

26

00:02:48,380 --> 00:02:50,780
So that was this
type of strictness

27

00:02:50,780 --> 00:02:58,220
which was, to me, quite not
only apparent, but probably

28

00:02:58,220 --> 00:02:59,510
striking.

29

00:02:59,510 --> 00:03:03,050
So you talk about strictness
and adhering to the rule

30

00:03:03,050 --> 00:03:05,960
without knowing the
whys and wherefores.

31

00:03:05,960 --> 00:03:09,260
So they say, because I say so.

32

00:03:09,260 --> 00:03:14,300
And so I think that was a very
strong tendency, particularly

33

00:03:14,300 --> 00:03:18,200
in those people who were
relatively unsophisticated,

34

00:03:18,200 --> 00:03:23,330
with very little education
and basic school,

35
00:03:23,330 --> 00:03:29,420
and some even less, coming from
culturally and economically

36
00:03:29,420 --> 00:03:31,460
deprived backgrounds.

37
00:03:31,460 --> 00:03:33,140
And that to me was very typical.

38
00:03:33,140 --> 00:03:36,420
Now, that was one
group of people,

39
00:03:36,420 --> 00:03:43,010
namely from the social stratum
of the low class or lower

40
00:03:43,010 --> 00:03:44,000
classes.

41
00:03:44,000 --> 00:03:46,400
And it was different
with the upper classes.

42
00:03:46,400 --> 00:03:51,030
And there, I think things
become more complicated.

43
00:03:51,030 --> 00:03:54,350
And what enters into the picture
is, I think, the tradition.

44
00:03:54,350 --> 00:03:58,250
And I dwelled on some
of that in my writing,

45
00:03:58,250 --> 00:04:02,240
because I think that

the Prussian tradition,

46

00:04:02,240 --> 00:04:04,100

the military
tradition as well as

47

00:04:04,100 --> 00:04:08,870

the social cultural tradition,
has elements in it which

48

00:04:08,870 --> 00:04:11,810

are, indeed, strongly
authoritarian and particularly

49

00:04:11,810 --> 00:04:16,320

male chauvinist
and male dominant.

50

00:04:16,320 --> 00:04:20,700

And so that I could see
that, in these families,

51

00:04:20,700 --> 00:04:26,600

the father was the
ruler, in these middle,

52

00:04:26,600 --> 00:04:28,880

upper-middle class people.

53

00:04:28,880 --> 00:04:34,490

And so that obviously
had rubbed off.

54

00:04:34,490 --> 00:04:40,910

And again, the sort of
strictness, which was

55

00:04:40,910 --> 00:04:47,570

reflected in the parents'
notion that they know better.

56

00:04:47,570 --> 00:04:53,330

And they reflected the

tradition that, indeed, there is

57

00:04:53,330 --> 00:04:56,850

a pecking order or hierarchy.

58

00:04:56,850 --> 00:04:59,390

And these people

don't have to rule,

59

00:04:59,390 --> 00:05:02,150

because if they don't rule,

they are not really playing

60

00:05:02,150 --> 00:05:03,840

the roles as they should be.

61

00:05:03,840 --> 00:05:08,870

And that was also reflected

as I said in the middle class

62

00:05:08,870 --> 00:05:11,280

and upper middle class.

63

00:05:11,280 --> 00:05:11,780

Now--

64

00:05:11,780 --> 00:05:14,360

65

00:05:14,360 --> 00:05:19,292

Do you think that this was

particularly severe in Germany,

66

00:05:19,292 --> 00:05:20,750

or not particularly

severe compared

67

00:05:20,750 --> 00:05:22,040

to other European countries?

68

00:05:22,040 --> 00:05:24,770

Well, I think-- I don't know

whether it's just German.

69

00:05:24,770 --> 00:05:26,630

I think it's pretty
Central European.

70

00:05:26,630 --> 00:05:28,340

I think, certainly,
part of Austria

71

00:05:28,340 --> 00:05:31,100

plays a role in that,
certainly, no question.

72

00:05:31,100 --> 00:05:35,210

It's changing now a little
bit, but it's still, I think,

73

00:05:35,210 --> 00:05:38,030

very apparent that
the male feels--

74

00:05:38,030 --> 00:05:40,250

and even if they
don't like to, it's

75

00:05:40,250 --> 00:05:43,130

just part of the role they play.

76

00:05:43,130 --> 00:05:44,930

It means that they
have to be the boss.

77

00:05:44,930 --> 00:05:45,950

And if they don't--

78

00:05:45,950 --> 00:05:48,320

or, not because they enjoy
necessarily being the boss,

79

00:05:48,320 --> 00:05:50,850

but somehow, if they
are not the boss,

80
00:05:50,850 --> 00:05:53,480
they feel that they
are not living up

81
00:05:53,480 --> 00:05:55,940
to the expectations
of the role they

82
00:05:55,940 --> 00:06:01,010
should be playing and feel
very self-conscious about that.

83
00:06:01,010 --> 00:06:02,600
That is something
which is very crazy.

84
00:06:02,600 --> 00:06:04,590
It's not necessarily
because they want to play.

85
00:06:04,590 --> 00:06:06,410
But they feel if
they don't, they

86
00:06:06,410 --> 00:06:08,990
will not be taken
seriously or they

87
00:06:08,990 --> 00:06:25,430
will be targets of some sort,
some targets of ridicule.

88
00:06:25,430 --> 00:06:27,630
I would imagine historically
it was the children who

89
00:06:27,630 --> 00:06:28,880
couldn't question the parents.

90
00:06:28,880 --> 00:06:35,090
They couldn't, as you say, ask
why or form their own opinion.

91
00:06:35,090 --> 00:06:36,170
Is this still true?

92
00:06:36,170 --> 00:06:37,747
Or has there been--

93
00:06:37,747 --> 00:06:38,705
I think it has changed.

94
00:06:38,705 --> 00:06:41,270

95
00:06:41,270 --> 00:06:45,140
They said-- I found that there
is a great deal of rebellion

96
00:06:45,140 --> 00:06:54,960
of children against the parents
who are strict and unyielding.

97
00:06:54,960 --> 00:07:00,950

98
00:07:00,950 --> 00:07:05,730
So now, I think people,
because condition has changed,

99
00:07:05,730 --> 00:07:07,940
it's very difficult
to enforce things,

100
00:07:07,940 --> 00:07:11,300
because so many things which
will influence the children,

101
00:07:11,300 --> 00:07:17,120
the media, and the peers.

102
00:07:17,120 --> 00:07:20,750
And I think they're just
pretty much out of control now.

103
00:07:20,750 --> 00:07:24,890
So this is no doubt true
among the children of the SS,

104
00:07:24,890 --> 00:07:25,970
as well?

105
00:07:25,970 --> 00:07:26,930
Well, I would imagine.

106
00:07:26,930 --> 00:07:29,270
But as I said, I
really don't want

107
00:07:29,270 --> 00:07:31,100
to talk about the
children of the SS,

108
00:07:31,100 --> 00:07:34,850
because I have relatively
very little experience.

109
00:07:34,850 --> 00:07:40,310
And so-- because that's
not my focal point.

110
00:07:40,310 --> 00:07:42,932

111
00:07:42,932 --> 00:07:49,760
Those SS that chose to
answer the questionnaire,

112
00:07:49,760 --> 00:07:54,200
they were clearly, in some
form, a self-selected group.

113
00:07:54,200 --> 00:07:57,890
But did you find that they
had any particular motivation

114

00:07:57,890 --> 00:08:00,620
for wanting to answer
this questionnaire,

115
00:08:00,620 --> 00:08:02,210
for wanting to be interviewed?

116
00:08:02,210 --> 00:08:13,030
Well, I think the letter, which
was written by General Steiner,

117
00:08:13,030 --> 00:08:16,560
I think was persuasive
enough to say, well,

118
00:08:16,560 --> 00:08:20,620
if someone is interested
in us who wants to be fair

119
00:08:20,620 --> 00:08:25,780
and just in assessing
who we are, we'll do it.

120
00:08:25,780 --> 00:08:28,280
Because that may
be in our interest,

121
00:08:28,280 --> 00:08:30,340
so that the public
will know somewhat

122
00:08:30,340 --> 00:08:35,450
about the people who will lead
the study, and what have you.

123
00:08:35,450 --> 00:08:38,740
And so I think that
was certainly also

124
00:08:38,740 --> 00:08:40,863
a motive, that they
felt there is someone

125

00:08:40,863 --> 00:08:41,905
who is really interested.

126
00:08:41,905 --> 00:08:46,150
They're not biased and will
put us in the proper light.

127
00:08:46,150 --> 00:08:50,020
In their interest, in the
sense that they could speak

128
00:08:50,020 --> 00:08:55,240
their side, perhaps speak to--

129
00:08:55,240 --> 00:08:57,190
if not justification,
at least to--

130
00:08:57,190 --> 00:09:00,340
Yeah, yeah, in our favor.

131
00:09:00,340 --> 00:09:02,650
Now, this can be
contested, because I

132
00:09:02,650 --> 00:09:03,980
have very different experience.

133
00:09:03,980 --> 00:09:06,790

134
00:09:06,790 --> 00:09:09,010
And that should be
mentioned in connection

135
00:09:09,010 --> 00:09:13,490
with that, because I think
it's quite revealing.

136
00:09:13,490 --> 00:09:19,150
Then, when I was asked
to go with the crew

137

00:09:19,150 --> 00:09:22,360
to do Hitler, Man or Myth--

138

00:09:22,360 --> 00:09:25,960
Man and Myth, or Myth and Man--

139

00:09:25,960 --> 00:09:33,790
to Germany, I already had
talked to people prior to that.

140

00:09:33,790 --> 00:09:36,100
And they are very
willing to cooperate,

141

00:09:36,100 --> 00:09:40,060
because they're willing to
cooperate with me in the past.

142

00:09:40,060 --> 00:09:47,980
And I made a mistake by saying
it's the people who are behind

143

00:09:47,980 --> 00:09:51,020
it, or who just behind that
sort of you say -- well,

144

00:09:51,020 --> 00:09:54,250
which cooperation or
whatever was doing that.

145

00:09:54,250 --> 00:09:55,870
And I made a mistake.

146

00:09:55,870 --> 00:09:59,410
Instead of saying Greystone--

147

00:09:59,410 --> 00:10:02,230
which was the
subsidiary or whatever

148

00:10:02,230 --> 00:10:06,370
of doing the movie, that

producing the movie--

149
00:10:06,370 --> 00:10:08,080
I said Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer.

150
00:10:08,080 --> 00:10:11,410
And then they all backed out.

151
00:10:11,410 --> 00:10:12,250
Horrible.

152
00:10:12,250 --> 00:10:16,270
Because said well, Jewish,
and they've already

153
00:10:16,270 --> 00:10:19,000
done so many bad things
with their movies

154
00:10:19,000 --> 00:10:20,620
on the Nazis and SS.

155
00:10:20,620 --> 00:10:23,560
So we will be portrayed
in a way which

156
00:10:23,560 --> 00:10:26,440
will be to our disadvantage.

157
00:10:26,440 --> 00:10:30,130
And there will be a typical
stereotype of the typical Nazi,

158
00:10:30,130 --> 00:10:32,560
movies which
Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer already--

159
00:10:32,560 --> 00:10:34,940
and they just refuse
to participate.

160
00:10:34,940 --> 00:10:37,660

So I had to find
new people when I

161
00:10:37,660 --> 00:10:39,880
was in Germany, people
who would participate,

162
00:10:39,880 --> 00:10:41,387
because they were just out.

163
00:10:41,387 --> 00:10:42,220
They were out of it.

164
00:10:42,220 --> 00:10:44,320
They just refused to cooperate.

165
00:10:44,320 --> 00:10:47,170
Were they ever informed
that that was not

166
00:10:47,170 --> 00:10:48,490
the studio that was making it?

167
00:10:48,490 --> 00:10:49,380
Well, I didn't.

168
00:10:49,380 --> 00:10:54,700
I made the mistake, because
they asked me, instead of--

169
00:10:54,700 --> 00:10:56,620
was stupid, was not
properly reflected.

170
00:10:56,620 --> 00:11:00,160
Because I felt that if
I tell them Greystone,

171
00:11:00,160 --> 00:11:02,650
they've never heard of
it, because I didn't.

172

00:11:02,650 --> 00:11:04,615
I don't know who
Greystone, or who

173
00:11:04,615 --> 00:11:07,030
could-- so I said
Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer in order

174
00:11:07,030 --> 00:11:08,230
to create some impression.

175
00:11:08,230 --> 00:11:10,750
But I didn't know that
it would backfire,

176
00:11:10,750 --> 00:11:15,490
that they had that impression
of Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer,

177
00:11:15,490 --> 00:11:20,710
that they simply distort
realities and turn

178
00:11:20,710 --> 00:11:24,850
that against the SS and
Nazi and stereotyping them

179
00:11:24,850 --> 00:11:25,960
in this source.

180
00:11:25,960 --> 00:11:28,450
Because I could have
known that if I would have

181
00:11:28,450 --> 00:11:30,070
thought more about it.

182
00:11:30,070 --> 00:11:33,580
If I would have reflected
more, I could have guessed it,

183
00:11:33,580 --> 00:11:35,170
I could have prevented it.

184
00:11:35,170 --> 00:11:37,250
But I didn't think about it.

185
00:11:37,250 --> 00:11:39,730
And then, therefore,
I lost a great number

186
00:11:39,730 --> 00:11:45,490
of people who were ready to
be interviewed on camera.

187
00:11:45,490 --> 00:11:47,470
You were able to get
others, I gather?

188
00:11:47,470 --> 00:11:52,240
I was able to get others,
but it wasn't easy.

189
00:11:52,240 --> 00:11:54,340
I was able to get
others, and they're not

190
00:11:54,340 --> 00:11:56,560
very easy, because they,
too, were influenced,

191
00:11:56,560 --> 00:12:03,370
and people whom I had more
direct contact and all that.

192
00:12:03,370 --> 00:12:05,530
But the powerful
people, the people

193
00:12:05,530 --> 00:12:09,340
who would have been
possibly of great interest,

194
00:12:09,340 --> 00:12:14,960
I just simply didn't get
with, just other people.

195
00:12:14,960 --> 00:12:19,510
And so I had to
find substitutes.

196
00:12:19,510 --> 00:12:23,980
In your talks, personal talks
with the SS, did any of them

197
00:12:23,980 --> 00:12:28,330
ever discuss Adolf
Hitler, per se, with you?

198
00:12:28,330 --> 00:12:30,970
Well, some did, yes.

199
00:12:30,970 --> 00:12:38,560
But you see, to me, it was
not that relevant to discuss

200
00:12:38,560 --> 00:12:41,440
Adolf Hitler with people
who didn't know him

201
00:12:41,440 --> 00:12:44,950
or were not in his entourage
or were not close to him.

202
00:12:44,950 --> 00:12:47,560
I was more interested
in discussing that

203
00:12:47,560 --> 00:12:52,780
with people who indeed
have been in his presence.

204
00:12:52,780 --> 00:12:55,420
And those people
just simply were

205
00:12:55,420 --> 00:13:00,100
glowing, absolutely glowing,
with few exceptions the rule.

206

00:13:00,100 --> 00:13:06,630
But one SS general said that he
didn't get the charisma at all

207

00:13:06,630 --> 00:13:08,820
and that he wasn't particularly
impressed with him,

208

00:13:08,820 --> 00:13:10,446
and all this and that.

209

00:13:10,446 --> 00:13:13,860
Two of them, Steiner and
another SS gentlemen,

210

00:13:13,860 --> 00:13:16,020
that they're not
that fully impressed.

211

00:13:16,020 --> 00:13:19,260
And somehow his
charisma, which no

212

00:13:19,260 --> 00:13:22,210
question he must have
had for very many people,

213

00:13:22,210 --> 00:13:24,010
didn't affect them.

214

00:13:24,010 --> 00:13:28,710
And so that-- but other people
who were in his entourage

215

00:13:28,710 --> 00:13:30,550
were absolutely taken by him.

216

00:13:30,550 --> 00:13:32,310
Wolff said and then
saw that he was

217

00:13:32,310 --> 00:13:34,980
just a very charming person.

218
00:13:34,980 --> 00:13:39,480
And then his secretary was
the most important to me,

219
00:13:39,480 --> 00:13:42,750
who knew him best of
them all, because she

220
00:13:42,750 --> 00:13:46,440
was 24 hours available, had
to be 24 hours available.

221
00:13:46,440 --> 00:13:48,360
I mean, she was not
the only one therefore,

222
00:13:48,360 --> 00:13:51,120
but she was one
of the senior ones

223
00:13:51,120 --> 00:13:55,470
and by far the most
sophisticated of them,

224
00:13:55,470 --> 00:13:56,970
intellectual.

225
00:13:56,970 --> 00:14:00,000
And so she said that he
was a very mixed bag,

226
00:14:00,000 --> 00:14:02,010
that he would be
exceedingly charming

227
00:14:02,010 --> 00:14:08,100
and at times totally unyielding
and scary and all that.

228
00:14:08,100 --> 00:14:11,790

But I mean, this is something
which so many people said,

229
00:14:11,790 --> 00:14:15,240
that he had a very, very
specific personal charm

230
00:14:15,240 --> 00:14:20,850
and very caring and
interested in his environment

231
00:14:20,850 --> 00:14:27,570
and inquiring relatives and
kind and pleasant and writing

232
00:14:27,570 --> 00:14:30,840
short notes, birthday
and all that,

233
00:14:30,840 --> 00:14:35,160
and seemed concerned,
as long-- and that's

234
00:14:35,160 --> 00:14:38,160
very important-- as long
as they were useful to him.

235
00:14:38,160 --> 00:14:40,200
When they ceased to be
useful, he dropped them

236
00:14:40,200 --> 00:14:42,870
like a hot potato, dropped
them like a hot potato.

237
00:14:42,870 --> 00:14:43,920
And they were out.

238
00:14:43,920 --> 00:14:46,680
So they are no longer
part of his horizon.

239
00:14:46,680 --> 00:14:48,360

And that was all very clear.

240
00:14:48,360 --> 00:14:50,760
That was very, very clear.

241
00:14:50,760 --> 00:14:57,510
And that happened, for
example, to the family

242
00:14:57,510 --> 00:15:02,760
of Baldur von Schirach who
was a youth leader and later

243
00:15:02,760 --> 00:15:08,220
the [INAUDIBLE] leader
of Vienna and his wife.

244
00:15:08,220 --> 00:15:10,650
And they came in and
they talked about--

245
00:15:10,650 --> 00:15:13,770
she came and talked about
what she saw in Holland

246
00:15:13,770 --> 00:15:17,100
when the Jews were
rounded up to be deported

247
00:15:17,100 --> 00:15:19,530
and how horrible it was,
whether he knew about it.

248
00:15:19,530 --> 00:15:22,410
Asking, my Fuhrer, do
you know about that?

249
00:15:22,410 --> 00:15:25,570
So he became very unpleasant,
very abrupt, and said,

250
00:15:25,570 --> 00:15:26,702
you don't understand.

251
00:15:26,702 --> 00:15:28,410
You don't know what
you're talking about,

252
00:15:28,410 --> 00:15:29,327
and all this and that.

253
00:15:29,327 --> 00:15:31,590
You don't understand
what is involved there.

254
00:15:31,590 --> 00:15:33,180
And that was the end.

255
00:15:33,180 --> 00:15:35,700
He cut off all--

256
00:15:35,700 --> 00:15:39,870
he knew her when she was
a small girl, because she

257
00:15:39,870 --> 00:15:42,060
was the daughter of
the court photographer,

258
00:15:42,060 --> 00:15:43,860
a man called Hoffman.

259
00:15:43,860 --> 00:15:49,260
And so he knew her since she
was a small girl because Hoffman

260
00:15:49,260 --> 00:15:51,180
was kind of a court jester.

261
00:15:51,180 --> 00:15:53,730
Apart from being the
court photographer,

262
00:15:53,730 --> 00:15:56,610
he also was used as a

kind of a court jester

263

00:15:56,610 --> 00:16:00,240
and as a person who
was very humorous

264

00:16:00,240 --> 00:16:05,340
and was entertainer of the sorts
of Hitler and his entourage.

265

00:16:05,340 --> 00:16:07,530
So he knew her for a long time.

266

00:16:07,530 --> 00:16:09,390
And then, of course,
Baldur von Schirach

267

00:16:09,390 --> 00:16:11,880
played a very important
role, but especially as

268

00:16:11,880 --> 00:16:19,140
long as he was leader of
the youth, the Hitler Youth.

269

00:16:19,140 --> 00:16:24,450
And then he was replaced and
became [INAUDIBLE] leader of--

270

00:16:24,450 --> 00:16:27,480

271

00:16:27,480 --> 00:16:31,080
special title of Vienna.

272

00:16:31,080 --> 00:16:35,340
And so because she had saw that,
they had to leave the next day.

273

00:16:35,340 --> 00:16:38,400
They just had to leave,
because that was--

274

00:16:38,400 --> 00:16:41,250

but it was talked
about and all that.

275

00:16:41,250 --> 00:16:44,108

It brought an important
point, because some people say

276

00:16:44,108 --> 00:16:46,650

Hitler didn't know, or didn't
give their orders and all that,

277

00:16:46,650 --> 00:16:47,150

of course.

278

00:16:47,150 --> 00:16:50,100

I mean, this is the
proof of the pudding, one

279

00:16:50,100 --> 00:16:53,400

of many other ones,
documents, and what

280

00:16:53,400 --> 00:16:57,270

he said in some of his
table talks, and all that.

281

00:16:57,270 --> 00:17:00,990

And I've got it all down, too.

282

00:17:00,990 --> 00:17:06,119

Absolutely, unmistakably,
that it had to come from him,

283

00:17:06,119 --> 00:17:09,119

and no one else assumed
the responsibility

284

00:17:09,119 --> 00:17:10,859

to initiate something.

285

00:17:10,859 --> 00:17:14,819

If people spat in the landscape,
he was informed about it.

286
00:17:14,819 --> 00:17:17,710
And that was a major
thing, millions of people.

287
00:17:17,710 --> 00:17:21,329
So absolutely, particularly
in terms of revisionism,

288
00:17:21,329 --> 00:17:23,319
it's just simply not any.

289
00:17:23,319 --> 00:17:28,140
So anyway, so they were
very close to Hitler.

290
00:17:28,140 --> 00:17:30,042
They're very frequent
guests and all that.

291
00:17:30,042 --> 00:17:31,500
And he just dropped
them overnight,

292
00:17:31,500 --> 00:17:33,865
simply because she
asked that question.

293
00:17:33,865 --> 00:17:35,490
And when people were
dropped like that,

294
00:17:35,490 --> 00:17:37,240
were there any other
kinds of retribution?

295
00:17:37,240 --> 00:17:39,750
Well, it could have been
in some cases, yes, indeed.

296
00:17:39,750 --> 00:17:40,980

But I mean that--

297

00:17:40,980 --> 00:17:42,540

yeah, certainly.

298

00:17:42,540 --> 00:17:44,910

But in their case,

it wouldn't be.

299

00:17:44,910 --> 00:17:47,940

I mean, it wouldn't be

because of the duration

300

00:17:47,940 --> 00:17:50,640

of their relationship and

the position they've had.

301

00:17:50,640 --> 00:17:52,370

But in some other cases, yes.

302

00:17:52,370 --> 00:17:56,190

303

00:17:56,190 --> 00:17:58,320

He'd drop people if

they were accused

304

00:17:58,320 --> 00:18:02,370

of some sort of serious

breach of confidence,

305

00:18:02,370 --> 00:18:06,710

or if they did something

which he didn't like,

306

00:18:06,710 --> 00:18:09,550

or betrayal of

sorts, and all that.

307

00:18:09,550 --> 00:18:11,440

He just dropped them

like-- even if they're

308

00:18:11,440 --> 00:18:14,050
very close, drop them.

309

00:18:14,050 --> 00:18:19,360
You just talked about
the chief of espionage,

310

00:18:19,360 --> 00:18:28,510
Admiral Canaris, and some of the
people of the 20th of July 1944

311

00:18:28,510 --> 00:18:34,720
movement who were part
of the inner circle.

312

00:18:34,720 --> 00:18:35,260
That was it.

313

00:18:35,260 --> 00:18:38,080

314

00:18:38,080 --> 00:18:41,720
And also, in case they didn't--
so he had, for example,

315

00:18:41,720 --> 00:18:44,470
a dietitian.

316

00:18:44,470 --> 00:18:46,540
And all these sort
of informations

317

00:18:46,540 --> 00:18:49,090
I got direct from
an eyewitness who

318

00:18:49,090 --> 00:18:51,250
was the secretary of
[INAUDIBLE] and all that,

319

00:18:51,250 --> 00:18:54,160
because they were

directly there.

320
00:18:54,160 --> 00:18:58,930
Wolff became the later
adjutant, and Christa Schroeder

321
00:18:58,930 --> 00:19:05,200
was, of course,
Hitler's secretary.

322
00:19:05,200 --> 00:19:11,500
And I said, I've met two of
them or one of them in addition,

323
00:19:11,500 --> 00:19:14,830
and she by far was-- in
terms of what I've read

324
00:19:14,830 --> 00:19:19,930
and what I've seen myself, she
was by far, as I said before,

325
00:19:19,930 --> 00:19:22,600
the most sophisticated.

326
00:19:22,600 --> 00:19:30,940
So some of these things
which I've been told just

327
00:19:30,940 --> 00:19:33,820
come from eyewitnesses.

328
00:19:33,820 --> 00:19:35,720
But there was something
else I wanted to say.

329
00:19:35,720 --> 00:19:40,330

330
00:19:40,330 --> 00:19:46,420
Yes, and they've told me
that he was absolutely--

331

00:19:46,420 --> 00:19:49,060
when any something happened,
people fell into disfavor

332

00:19:49,060 --> 00:19:50,760
and just finished.

333

00:19:50,760 --> 00:19:53,470
And they just-- they're dropped.

334

00:19:53,470 --> 00:19:57,910
And there are quite a few people
throughout Hitler's 12 years,

335

00:19:57,910 --> 00:19:59,500
quite a few were
dropped, and who

336

00:19:59,500 --> 00:20:03,100
used to be members
of the inner circle.

337

00:20:03,100 --> 00:20:06,725
But that was something else I
was going to say, but I forgot.

338

00:20:06,725 --> 00:20:08,350
We had been talking
about whether there

339

00:20:08,350 --> 00:20:10,630
was any act of retribution to--

340

00:20:10,630 --> 00:20:13,690
Oh, well, active retribution,
yes, in some cases,

341

00:20:13,690 --> 00:20:15,730
yes, there was
active retribution.

342

00:20:15,730 --> 00:20:18,370

And some were sent to
concentration camps

343
00:20:18,370 --> 00:20:24,970
and some people were able to
escape and get out of Germany.

344
00:20:24,970 --> 00:20:28,450
And one of them, for
example, is [Personal name]

345
00:20:28,450 --> 00:20:33,870
And he was able to
get out in time,

346
00:20:33,870 --> 00:20:35,638
although, they said
he should come back

347
00:20:35,638 --> 00:20:37,180
and nothing's going
to happen to him,

348
00:20:37,180 --> 00:20:39,820
that it was all a mistake,
and all this and that.

349
00:20:39,820 --> 00:20:43,180
And he was certainly part
of the early inner circle

350
00:20:43,180 --> 00:20:46,180
and wrote a very,
very well-written book

351
00:20:46,180 --> 00:20:48,010
on his experience,
early experience,

352
00:20:48,010 --> 00:20:51,640
with Hitler, a man
called [Personal name]

353

00:20:51,640 --> 00:20:56,080
And then you had Otto Strasser.

354
00:20:56,080 --> 00:20:58,080
And they tried to-- he escaped.

355
00:20:58,080 --> 00:21:02,950
His older brother was
assassinated in 1934

356
00:21:02,950 --> 00:21:05,680
during the Rohm Purge.

357
00:21:05,680 --> 00:21:14,140
And he was able to
escape to Czechoslovakia.

358
00:21:14,140 --> 00:21:16,960
And there he was
politically active

359
00:21:16,960 --> 00:21:18,730
against Hitler and all that.

360
00:21:18,730 --> 00:21:22,750
And they send a special
commando, or SD people,

361
00:21:22,750 --> 00:21:27,310
security service people, SS
security, to assassinate him,

362
00:21:27,310 --> 00:21:28,880
except it just didn't work.

363
00:21:28,880 --> 00:21:30,640
And they've tried it
on several occasions.

364
00:21:30,640 --> 00:21:32,770
He was lucky, that's all.

365

00:21:32,770 --> 00:21:35,830
Or, they didn't work too
well, but [INAUDIBLE]..

366
00:21:35,830 --> 00:21:38,830
So there you get
clear-cut retribution.

367
00:21:38,830 --> 00:21:43,810
For the average, say,
SS person, as you say,

368
00:21:43,810 --> 00:21:46,180
Hitler wasn't a personal
force in their life.

369
00:21:46,180 --> 00:21:49,150
But was the Hitler--

370
00:21:49,150 --> 00:21:53,980
the charismatic Hitler an
active, sort of godlike force,

371
00:21:53,980 --> 00:21:58,510
or the ideology something
that they felt strongly about?

372
00:21:58,510 --> 00:22:00,045
Well, I'm glad you
mentioned that,

373
00:22:00,045 --> 00:22:01,420
because that's
something I wanted

374
00:22:01,420 --> 00:22:05,320
to talk about a little bit,
that very many researchers have

375
00:22:05,320 --> 00:22:12,700
underplayed the power of the
ideology as something secondary

376

00:22:12,700 --> 00:22:13,940
and was not that important.

377
00:22:13,940 --> 00:22:16,480
Well, I totally,
totally reject that.

378
00:22:16,480 --> 00:22:19,720
Because the ideology
was, again, the cement

379
00:22:19,720 --> 00:22:23,680
which hold things together
with Hitler's personality.

380
00:22:23,680 --> 00:22:26,380
And Hitler's personality
and national socialism,

381
00:22:26,380 --> 00:22:31,240
or Hitler is something which
cannot be dissociated to then

382
00:22:31,240 --> 00:22:32,480
fit together.

383
00:22:32,480 --> 00:22:39,550
And so it has to be understood--
and particularly when

384
00:22:39,550 --> 00:22:44,680
we talk about the SS,
we talk about 1943

385
00:22:44,680 --> 00:22:46,420
when people volunteered.

386
00:22:46,420 --> 00:22:54,640
It's not something with
people who were not drafted,

387
00:22:54,640 --> 00:22:56,530
but they volunteered

to join the SS.

388

00:22:56,530 --> 00:23:00,940

So that means even if they in
some way are not party members,

389

00:23:00,940 --> 00:23:04,360

they must have had some sort
of affinity towards National

390

00:23:04,360 --> 00:23:06,980

Socialist ideology, to be sure.

391

00:23:06,980 --> 00:23:12,850

And so therefore,
they had to have

392

00:23:12,850 --> 00:23:14,830

some feelings about Hitler.

393

00:23:14,830 --> 00:23:16,870

Now, later, that
may have changed.

394

00:23:16,870 --> 00:23:19,990

Because out of the
tremendous success

395

00:23:19,990 --> 00:23:23,110

he had during the
early parts of the war,

396

00:23:23,110 --> 00:23:27,250

which turned then,
particularly after Stalingrad,

397

00:23:27,250 --> 00:23:30,670

into the beginning of
the defeat, the beginning

398

00:23:30,670 --> 00:23:32,280

of the end, then,
of course, they

399

00:23:32,280 --> 00:23:35,620
had a change of
heart, obviously.

400

00:23:35,620 --> 00:23:38,470
And that's what I said
also in one of my writings,

401

00:23:38,470 --> 00:23:42,610
who's better at his
song, I'll sing.

402

00:23:42,610 --> 00:23:47,410
And I think it's a very
nice German saying,

403

00:23:47,410 --> 00:23:51,020
because it's opportunism.

404

00:23:51,020 --> 00:23:54,187
I like you because
you satisfy my needs.

405

00:23:54,187 --> 00:23:55,270
And if you don't, I just--

406

00:23:55,270 --> 00:23:56,230
I may drop you.

407

00:23:56,230 --> 00:23:59,680
Well, some people won't, and
say, OK, you have friends,

408

00:23:59,680 --> 00:24:01,300
and we still may be friends.

409

00:24:01,300 --> 00:24:03,430
You may not be the same
level on friendship,

410

00:24:03,430 --> 00:24:06,460

but still be-- but in
Hitler's case, and some

411
00:24:06,460 --> 00:24:09,700
of the very pragmatic,
utilitarian types,

412
00:24:09,700 --> 00:24:14,200
they just simply said, OK, you
no longer of any use to me.

413
00:24:14,200 --> 00:24:20,510
Therefore, I will reflect
it in my feelings.

414
00:24:20,510 --> 00:24:22,190
And we all are in some way.

415
00:24:22,190 --> 00:24:26,290
We get divorced,
or we just don't

416
00:24:26,290 --> 00:24:29,980
stop a relationship, friendship,
or whatever you have simply

417
00:24:29,980 --> 00:24:32,410
because it's no
longer satisfied.

418
00:24:32,410 --> 00:24:36,100
And therefore, we lose
interest in that person.

419
00:24:36,100 --> 00:24:38,230
And some other
people say, well, I

420
00:24:38,230 --> 00:24:40,380
mean, you may not
satisfy my needs,

421
00:24:40,380 --> 00:24:43,290

but because of the
past relationship,

422
00:24:43,290 --> 00:24:44,920
I'm not going to drop you.

423
00:24:44,920 --> 00:24:47,070
And so there are
always alternatives,

424
00:24:47,070 --> 00:24:48,750
and it's exactly how
we play the roles.

425
00:24:48,750 --> 00:24:50,070
But that's the role margin.

426
00:24:50,070 --> 00:24:52,050
And in coming back
to the role margin,

427
00:24:52,050 --> 00:24:55,540
to the glimpse of my
discretion, which I have.

428
00:24:55,540 --> 00:24:59,290
And then I can use
this in a certain way.

429
00:24:59,290 --> 00:25:02,760
And if we look at it
so we can see much more

430
00:25:02,760 --> 00:25:04,830
and tell much more
about their personality

431
00:25:04,830 --> 00:25:09,570
of the character of that
person we are observing.

432
00:25:09,570 --> 00:25:10,620
Anyway, so--

433
00:25:10,620 --> 00:25:13,740

434
00:25:13,740 --> 00:25:15,960
Well, in terms
of, as you say, it

435
00:25:15,960 --> 00:25:19,500
was an element of
choice to join the SS,

436
00:25:19,500 --> 00:25:21,375
to embrace the ideology.

437
00:25:21,375 --> 00:25:21,900
Did that--

438
00:25:21,900 --> 00:25:24,490
Well, no, I would say
element of choice.

439
00:25:24,490 --> 00:25:27,270
Well, I chose, not
just in order to--

440
00:25:27,270 --> 00:25:32,130
when so many people became
SS people out of ignorance

441
00:25:32,130 --> 00:25:35,160
inadvertently, but not
because they disliked

442
00:25:35,160 --> 00:25:37,890
Hitler and national socialism.

443
00:25:37,890 --> 00:25:39,860
Because if you did, you just--

444
00:25:39,860 --> 00:25:41,190
it was your own place.

445

00:25:41,190 --> 00:25:43,110

Now, some people
changed their mind.

446

00:25:43,110 --> 00:25:46,560

Some few people changed their
mind and became disillusioned.

447

00:25:46,560 --> 00:25:48,060

And that certainly happened.

448

00:25:48,060 --> 00:25:52,170

That certainly happened
in a number of cases.

449

00:25:52,170 --> 00:25:56,040

But you see, if I have too
much of an investment--

450

00:25:56,040 --> 00:25:58,680

and many people had a
long years of investment,

451

00:25:58,680 --> 00:26:00,960

relatively speaking, long
years of investment--

452

00:26:00,960 --> 00:26:08,790

so you're not going to cut
the ties that easily because

453

00:26:08,790 --> 00:26:09,690

of the reinvestment.

454

00:26:09,690 --> 00:26:11,310

And therefore, you will justify.

455

00:26:11,310 --> 00:26:14,800

You will justify,
you will rationalize.

456

00:26:14,800 --> 00:26:15,300
You--

457
00:26:15,300 --> 00:26:15,883
So I presume--

458
00:26:15,883 --> 00:26:17,370
--use the cognitive dissonance.

459
00:26:17,370 --> 00:26:19,890

460
00:26:19,890 --> 00:26:23,940
--at first, when the
ideology was very focused

461
00:26:23,940 --> 00:26:28,320
on Aryanization, et cetera,
but not talking about the total

462
00:26:28,320 --> 00:26:29,698
destruction of--

463
00:26:29,698 --> 00:26:30,240
That's right.

464
00:26:30,240 --> 00:26:31,020
That's--

465
00:26:31,020 --> 00:26:35,070
--you entered at that point.

466
00:26:35,070 --> 00:26:40,470
Do you have some sense of how
these general SS people reacted

467
00:26:40,470 --> 00:26:42,830
once they learned
the total scope of--

468
00:26:42,830 --> 00:26:45,480
Well, that depended on their

level of sophistication.

469

00:26:45,480 --> 00:26:49,680

Among the 20th of July people are some SS people, too.

470

00:26:49,680 --> 00:26:57,750

And a person who was the police president of Berlin

471

00:26:57,750 --> 00:27:01,470

was a highly posited general of the SS.

472

00:27:01,470 --> 00:27:05,520

And so he was caught in that.

473

00:27:05,520 --> 00:27:12,090

And another one, too, was caught in that who was directly

474

00:27:12,090 --> 00:27:16,070

on the high deck and caught later under Miller,

475

00:27:16,070 --> 00:27:18,960

a man called [Personal name] And [Personal name]

476

00:27:18,960 --> 00:27:21,300

became disgruntled, although he was

477

00:27:21,300 --> 00:27:28,560

a leader of the Einsatzgruppen there, too.

478

00:27:28,560 --> 00:27:33,240

But see he, he could see the end coming.

479

00:27:33,240 --> 00:27:36,960

So it was also

opportunism and say, hey--

480
00:27:36,960 --> 00:27:43,140
I mean, what they
did to Mussolini

481
00:27:43,140 --> 00:27:48,690
and how they felt about history,
once you are unsuccessful--

482
00:27:48,690 --> 00:27:50,460
I know we all have that same--

483
00:27:50,460 --> 00:27:57,540
once you successful, people
will kowtow to you and be nice

484
00:27:57,540 --> 00:27:58,150
and all that.

485
00:27:58,150 --> 00:28:02,100
But when they see that
the going gets rocky

486
00:28:02,100 --> 00:28:06,000
and you no longer in favor
because you just fail or just

487
00:28:06,000 --> 00:28:10,410
simply are not succeeded in some
of the things you are doing,

488
00:28:10,410 --> 00:28:13,720
they won't continue
their alliance.

489
00:28:13,720 --> 00:28:15,240
And that's what you see.

490
00:28:15,240 --> 00:28:19,920
Well, if I'm not famous,
people will treat me

491

00:28:19,920 --> 00:28:21,810

as someone who is
not necessarily

492

00:28:21,810 --> 00:28:27,090

infamous, but nothing special.

493

00:28:27,090 --> 00:28:34,860

But when I become a big success
and get a lot of publicity

494

00:28:34,860 --> 00:28:38,040

and the praise and
recognition, then people go,

495

00:28:38,040 --> 00:28:39,460

oh, yeah, you're my friend.

496

00:28:39,460 --> 00:28:48,510

And I say, where were you when I
was not recognized and rewarded

497

00:28:48,510 --> 00:28:52,380

and whatever, for whatever.

498

00:28:52,380 --> 00:28:54,810

And that's what I
think very frequently,

499

00:28:54,810 --> 00:28:57,580

is one day I may
wake up and say,

500

00:28:57,580 --> 00:29:00,810

hey, I've done my work
which has been recognized.

501

00:29:00,810 --> 00:29:04,110

And then some people I'm sure
who ignored me will come, oh,

502

00:29:04,110 --> 00:29:05,190

it's so nice to see you.

503
00:29:05,190 --> 00:29:06,120
I congratulate you.

504
00:29:06,120 --> 00:29:07,720
I've always your
friend and supporter.

505
00:29:07,720 --> 00:29:08,220
Bull.

506
00:29:08,220 --> 00:29:10,830

507
00:29:10,830 --> 00:29:12,062
And I say, well, where you?

508
00:29:12,062 --> 00:29:13,770
Well, that's exactly
what I would-- where

509
00:29:13,770 --> 00:29:15,420
were you when I needed you?

510
00:29:15,420 --> 00:29:17,100
Now, I don't need you.

511
00:29:17,100 --> 00:29:20,130
See you later, alligator.

512
00:29:20,130 --> 00:29:24,000
Well, or just go and fly a kite.

513
00:29:24,000 --> 00:29:27,490

514
00:29:27,490 --> 00:29:30,300
I have a lake nearby so
you can jump into it.

515

00:29:30,300 --> 00:29:33,220

516

00:29:33,220 --> 00:29:34,680

So that is something
which I think

517

00:29:34,680 --> 00:29:37,170

is we are talking also
about human nature.

518

00:29:37,170 --> 00:29:38,850

And human nature
is cross-cultural.

519

00:29:38,850 --> 00:29:40,540

You're not really
that different.

520

00:29:40,540 --> 00:29:44,110

There may be some genetic
differences maybe and so

521

00:29:44,110 --> 00:29:44,830

who knows?

522

00:29:44,830 --> 00:29:50,260

But in terms of climatic
differences, whatever.

523

00:29:50,260 --> 00:29:53,020

But human nature is
pretty much the same.

524

00:29:53,020 --> 00:29:54,070

It hasn't really changed.

525

00:29:54,070 --> 00:29:55,653

And that's one thing
which I also have

526

00:29:55,653 --> 00:30:01,000

discovered, fortunately, and

wrote in one of my things

527

00:30:01,000 --> 00:30:04,510

about the fact that human
nature has not changed, really,

528

00:30:04,510 --> 00:30:06,550

and over thousands of years.

529

00:30:06,550 --> 00:30:08,620

So for all practical
purposes, you

530

00:30:08,620 --> 00:30:12,300

see 4,000 or 5,000 years
the same human nature

531

00:30:12,300 --> 00:30:15,220

and driven by the
very same sentiments.

532

00:30:15,220 --> 00:30:18,640

And that's something
which I keep on stressing.

533

00:30:18,640 --> 00:30:22,240

Because I don't think we've--
we may have made quite a bit

534

00:30:22,240 --> 00:30:31,150

of progress in the
technological field,

535

00:30:31,150 --> 00:30:37,720

but with the human nature, I
think not much has happened

536

00:30:37,720 --> 00:30:40,870

which would reflect
a positive evolution.

537

00:30:40,870 --> 00:30:43,420

538
00:30:43,420 --> 00:30:53,330
This is an enormous and
depressing point, because--

539
00:30:53,330 --> 00:30:55,760
maybe it's too much
to get into this time,

540
00:30:55,760 --> 00:30:59,810
but it's the whole issue of
can we do anything different?

541
00:30:59,810 --> 00:31:00,800
Well, I think we can.

542
00:31:00,800 --> 00:31:02,280
I mean, my--

543
00:31:02,280 --> 00:31:03,470
I may be wrong there.

544
00:31:03,470 --> 00:31:06,770
You see, why do people
become educators?

545
00:31:06,770 --> 00:31:09,530
Well, people-- educators
become educators,

546
00:31:09,530 --> 00:31:14,540
because if they're really
dedicated, if they identify

547
00:31:14,540 --> 00:31:23,750
with what they are doing, if
they view that as an avocation,

548
00:31:23,750 --> 00:31:25,730
then they do it
because they think

549

00:31:25,730 --> 00:31:27,380
they can make a difference.

550
00:31:27,380 --> 00:31:31,760
And I still do, in
spite of my pessimism,

551
00:31:31,760 --> 00:31:34,610
and no question
about my pessimism.

552
00:31:34,610 --> 00:31:38,120
And I still feel
that, yes, if we try--

553
00:31:38,120 --> 00:31:40,010
and we have to try--

554
00:31:40,010 --> 00:31:41,990
then we can make a little
bit of a difference.

555
00:31:41,990 --> 00:31:45,830
And in some cases, we
actually may make it so.

556
00:31:45,830 --> 00:31:47,840
Therefore, what
is my alternative?

557
00:31:47,840 --> 00:31:54,080
Not do anything, or become a
crook, or howl to the wolves?

558
00:31:54,080 --> 00:31:56,210
That's one-- these
are alternatives.

559
00:31:56,210 --> 00:31:59,660
Or, do something which
will set a precedent,

560
00:31:59,660 --> 00:32:05,270

or will produce some sort
of a role model out of me,

561
00:32:05,270 --> 00:32:08,610
which will be taken
more seriously.

562
00:32:08,610 --> 00:32:13,670
And in some way, I think I may
have succeeded in doing that,

563
00:32:13,670 --> 00:32:16,790
in accomplishing that,
in a minor sort of way.

564
00:32:16,790 --> 00:32:19,707

565
00:32:19,707 --> 00:32:20,540
Do you know of any--

566
00:32:20,540 --> 00:32:22,130
What sort of
difference it will make

567
00:32:22,130 --> 00:32:26,130
is another question in practice.

568
00:32:26,130 --> 00:32:29,310
But I think, in terms
of my own recognition,

569
00:32:29,310 --> 00:32:32,330
my own insight I think has
altered my life somewhat

570
00:32:32,330 --> 00:32:34,310
in the way I conduct myself.

571
00:32:34,310 --> 00:32:36,360
I think I've become
more accountable.

572

00:32:36,360 --> 00:32:39,320

And I think I've
become more mindful.

573

00:32:39,320 --> 00:32:42,680

I'm far from being what
I would like to be,

574

00:32:42,680 --> 00:32:44,210

but I think I've
made some progress.

575

00:32:44,210 --> 00:32:46,740

576

00:32:46,740 --> 00:32:48,750

Yes.

577

00:32:48,750 --> 00:32:54,210

Do you know of any instances in
which, say, a member of the SS

578

00:32:54,210 --> 00:32:59,530

took on some of these
notions of the undoing?

579

00:32:59,530 --> 00:33:00,030

Oh, yeah.

580

00:33:00,030 --> 00:33:01,800

Well, we've talked about it.

581

00:33:01,800 --> 00:33:02,850

We've talked about it.

582

00:33:02,850 --> 00:33:05,130

I've talked about it
with a lot of people.

583

00:33:05,130 --> 00:33:10,980

And to some extent, I also
motivated them to work with me

584
00:33:10,980 --> 00:33:14,280
or talk and respond
to questions,

585
00:33:14,280 --> 00:33:18,630
and said, hey, that's the way
to your restitution, that's

586
00:33:18,630 --> 00:33:19,840
restitution.

587
00:33:19,840 --> 00:33:21,030
So that we better--

588
00:33:21,030 --> 00:33:23,310
and they understood
it and said yes.

589
00:33:23,310 --> 00:33:26,880
And particularly, one of
the hangmen of Buchenwald,

590
00:33:26,880 --> 00:33:30,300
I became like--

591
00:33:30,300 --> 00:33:33,480
he was older, of course, so
considerably older than I--

592
00:33:33,480 --> 00:33:37,440
but I became a very significant
other to him, a kind of a role

593
00:33:37,440 --> 00:33:38,970
model to whom he looked up.

594
00:33:38,970 --> 00:33:42,570
And it was not just
simply because I

595
00:33:42,570 --> 00:33:48,150

rendered support of sorts
and even send him money,

596
00:33:48,150 --> 00:33:53,100
but simply because he
understood the message.

597
00:33:53,100 --> 00:33:55,680
And wrote me-- that
by itself would

598
00:33:55,680 --> 00:33:58,300
be a book, in terms
of all the letters

599
00:33:58,300 --> 00:33:59,490
which he has written to me.

600
00:33:59,490 --> 00:34:08,070
And he is an individual who was
condemned and, indeed, infamous

601
00:34:08,070 --> 00:34:13,380
at the concentration Buchenwald,
which includes [Personal name]

602
00:34:13,380 --> 00:34:16,350
And people who were there, I
talked, and all that, and said,

603
00:34:16,350 --> 00:34:17,107
you deal with him?

604
00:34:17,107 --> 00:34:17,940
Tell me where he is.

605
00:34:17,940 --> 00:34:20,639
I'm going to murder him.

606
00:34:20,639 --> 00:34:21,969
No, really.

607

00:34:21,969 --> 00:34:26,850

And this person was a well-known
physician whom I got to know,

608

00:34:26,850 --> 00:34:31,958

a Jewish physician I
got to know in Germany

609

00:34:31,958 --> 00:34:33,000

through a friend of mine.

610

00:34:33,000 --> 00:34:37,960

And he was in Buchenwald
and said, what?

611

00:34:37,960 --> 00:34:39,345

This fellow needs to be killed.

612

00:34:39,345 --> 00:34:42,179

613

00:34:42,179 --> 00:34:51,270

So he got the message,
this Buchenwald hangman,

614

00:34:51,270 --> 00:34:52,075

he got the message.

615

00:34:52,075 --> 00:34:52,575

And--

616

00:34:52,575 --> 00:34:55,208

617

00:34:55,208 --> 00:34:56,250

Was he able to act on it?

618

00:34:56,250 --> 00:35:00,130

--understood that some
restitution has to be made.

619

00:35:00,130 --> 00:35:02,880

And I think he's made
some, in terms of-- well,

620
00:35:02,880 --> 00:35:05,370
he tried to in his
relatively limited way,

621
00:35:05,370 --> 00:35:06,660
because he was in prison.

622
00:35:06,660 --> 00:35:09,730
He had many times
life sentences.

623
00:35:09,730 --> 00:35:13,890
So what-- I mean, in what kinds
of ways did he act that out?

624
00:35:13,890 --> 00:35:17,670
Well, that he just tried to
tell me about his motivations,

625
00:35:17,670 --> 00:35:20,940
about-- talk in-depth
psychology, by any means,

626
00:35:20,940 --> 00:35:24,190
if that wasn't in-depth
psych, I don't know what was.

627
00:35:24,190 --> 00:35:28,740
And so he wrote me several
autobiographical accounts.

628
00:35:28,740 --> 00:35:34,410
He's submitted to interviews
on many occasions.

629
00:35:34,410 --> 00:35:40,590
He wrote me letters, probably
hundreds over the years,

630
00:35:40,590 --> 00:35:46,970

and taped the interview
before he died.

631
00:35:46,970 --> 00:35:49,380
He was a cripple, couldn't walk.

632
00:35:49,380 --> 00:35:52,380
He was a wheelchair
type, totally crippled,

633
00:35:52,380 --> 00:35:57,570
with open wounds
which never healed

634
00:35:57,570 --> 00:36:01,122
and all that terrible stuff and
really suffered and all that.

635
00:36:01,122 --> 00:36:03,330
And so what they did, they
took him out of the prison

636
00:36:03,330 --> 00:36:06,900
where I met him, because
I was involved there.

637
00:36:06,900 --> 00:36:10,710
And some other people-- this
Bach-Zelewski was in the same--

638
00:36:10,710 --> 00:36:14,610
the General Bach-Zelewski
was in the same--

639
00:36:14,610 --> 00:36:18,405
von dem Bach-Zelewski
was in the same prison.

640
00:36:18,405 --> 00:36:19,530
And that's where I met him.

641
00:36:19,530 --> 00:36:21,260
And then they

removed him and put

642
00:36:21,260 --> 00:36:23,040
in some sort of a
nursing institution

643
00:36:23,040 --> 00:36:25,320
because the prison
couldn't take care of him.

644
00:36:25,320 --> 00:36:28,110
He needed medical attention.

645
00:36:28,110 --> 00:36:32,490
So they put him there,
but he was in confinement,

646
00:36:32,490 --> 00:36:34,230
in confinement.

647
00:36:34,230 --> 00:36:35,910
And it was not easy to see him.

648
00:36:35,910 --> 00:36:39,780
Well, I managed and all that,
because I cut all the red tape.

649
00:36:39,780 --> 00:36:43,020
So Wolff and other people,
I always got to the people

650
00:36:43,020 --> 00:36:45,480
I wanted to talk, whether they
were in prison or elsewhere,

651
00:36:45,480 --> 00:36:47,530
and we talking dozens of people.

652
00:36:47,530 --> 00:36:49,560
So he was very limited
in what he could do?

653

00:36:49,560 --> 00:36:50,550
Oh, yeah, very limited.

654
00:36:50,550 --> 00:36:53,830
Were there any other
examples of SS people

655
00:36:53,830 --> 00:36:57,240
who did such things as speak
out openly, or teach, or--

656
00:36:57,240 --> 00:36:59,100
Yeah, yeah, yeah, right.

657
00:36:59,100 --> 00:37:02,310
And this is one fellow
who was the witness--

658
00:37:02,310 --> 00:37:06,330
who witnessed the destruction
in one way or another--

659
00:37:06,330 --> 00:37:08,550
was an eyewitness of the
destruction of the Warsaw

660
00:37:08,550 --> 00:37:12,000
Ghetto, because he was in
the vicinity and all that.

661
00:37:12,000 --> 00:37:13,620
What sort of hand
he had in it, you

662
00:37:13,620 --> 00:37:15,870
know, that still is something
he's very reluctant,

663
00:37:15,870 --> 00:37:18,570
because that could finish him.

664
00:37:18,570 --> 00:37:21,850
So I'm not quite sure what sort

of role he actually played.

665

00:37:21,850 --> 00:37:24,670

He said he was a bystander.

666

00:37:24,670 --> 00:37:26,550

He happened to be in
the vicinity there

667

00:37:26,550 --> 00:37:29,610

and was stuck there
and so he was present

668

00:37:29,610 --> 00:37:31,140

when these sort of
things happened.

669

00:37:31,140 --> 00:37:34,140

I'm not necessarily
buying that altogether.

670

00:37:34,140 --> 00:37:38,850

But maybe-- he wrote down
a very detailed account

671

00:37:38,850 --> 00:37:44,083

which by itself should be
published because it's unique.

672

00:37:44,083 --> 00:37:46,500

There's no one else who has
done anything which would even

673

00:37:46,500 --> 00:37:49,050

come close, other
than description

674

00:37:49,050 --> 00:37:51,710

on part of the Jewish people.

675

00:37:51,710 --> 00:37:55,350

But none of the SS
people have described it

676
00:37:55,350 --> 00:37:59,070
in the detail and the
reflections what was going on

677
00:37:59,070 --> 00:38:00,520
at this particular time.

678
00:38:00,520 --> 00:38:04,200
So I really think that this
is a very unique sort of--

679
00:38:04,200 --> 00:38:06,210
Is it likely to be published?

680
00:38:06,210 --> 00:38:07,500
Well, I mean, I don't know.

681
00:38:07,500 --> 00:38:12,960
I mean, I've-- so far,
we've heard oral history,

682
00:38:12,960 --> 00:38:14,520
talked about all
sorts of things.

683
00:38:14,520 --> 00:38:17,920
But you see, most people talk
more than they can deliver.

684
00:38:17,920 --> 00:38:21,780
And so I have a new lead maybe
that the Holocaust Museum

685
00:38:21,780 --> 00:38:23,760
or Foundation, they
may-- they have

686
00:38:23,760 --> 00:38:28,390
a publishing sort of situation,
which they're interested in.

687

00:38:28,390 --> 00:38:30,090
So I'm going to pursue that.

688
00:38:30,090 --> 00:38:34,282
We have to call and see
what's going to happen.

689
00:38:34,282 --> 00:38:35,115
I've got the number.

690
00:38:35,115 --> 00:38:37,080
I was given that
by what's his name.

691
00:38:37,080 --> 00:38:42,720

692
00:38:42,720 --> 00:38:46,360
But then, one particular
person, as I said,

693
00:38:46,360 --> 00:38:51,930
was the eyewitness of the
destruction of the Warsaw

694
00:38:51,930 --> 00:38:54,060
Ghetto.

695
00:38:54,060 --> 00:39:01,185
He came out at a publishing
press company, publishing

696
00:39:01,185 --> 00:39:05,490
company, and he
came out with a book

697
00:39:05,490 --> 00:39:11,580
to publish the contribution of
German Jews to German culture.

698
00:39:11,580 --> 00:39:14,430
And very well done,
very well done,

699

00:39:14,430 --> 00:39:17,790

and I have a copy of that.

700

00:39:17,790 --> 00:39:22,920

And so they all-- the list of
all the people, German Jews,

701

00:39:22,920 --> 00:39:26,250

who've made a major
contribution to German culture.

702

00:39:26,250 --> 00:39:26,940

All right.

703

00:39:26,940 --> 00:39:31,350

And then he opposed it
and argued the point

704

00:39:31,350 --> 00:39:33,120

that, yes, there
are gas chamber,

705

00:39:33,120 --> 00:39:36,510

yes, it happened,
against those Nazis

706

00:39:36,510 --> 00:39:40,230

who are even further to
his right, who are deniers,

707

00:39:40,230 --> 00:39:41,850

who were just revisionists.

708

00:39:41,850 --> 00:39:45,970

And he got into things, and
they virtually destroyed him.

709

00:39:45,970 --> 00:39:48,300

He is also a person
who said, yeah,

710

00:39:48,300 --> 00:39:51,390
I regret that I've been a
member of the SS and all that.

711
00:39:51,390 --> 00:39:52,050
Yeah.

712
00:39:52,050 --> 00:39:55,900
So that's what I call-- he has
had a tremendous hard time.

713
00:39:55,900 --> 00:40:00,060
And I almost got killed once
when we got into an argument

714
00:40:00,060 --> 00:40:01,480
while he was driving a car.

715
00:40:01,480 --> 00:40:04,630
We were going to
some specific place.

716
00:40:04,630 --> 00:40:07,320
He did a lot of things when
he was physically better off.

717
00:40:07,320 --> 00:40:10,260
Now, he's got lots
of serious illnesses

718
00:40:10,260 --> 00:40:15,990
and hardly can walk
around anymore.

719
00:40:15,990 --> 00:40:20,430
And so we were in the
car and we started

720
00:40:20,430 --> 00:40:22,920
discussion and disagreements
and all this and that,

721
00:40:22,920 --> 00:40:26,110

and he got a red head
and drove like a maniac.

722
00:40:26,110 --> 00:40:28,530
I thought I was going
to get killed, you see,

723
00:40:28,530 --> 00:40:32,070
because he got so upset.

724
00:40:32,070 --> 00:40:35,880
Red head, immediately red head,
and so either he had a stroke,

725
00:40:35,880 --> 00:40:39,742
or I'll get killed because
he was driving like a maniac,

726
00:40:39,742 --> 00:40:40,950
and all these sort of things.

727
00:40:40,950 --> 00:40:46,710
Now, he's much calmer, in spite
of the fact that he's worse

728
00:40:46,710 --> 00:40:49,830
off physically, much worse off.

729
00:40:49,830 --> 00:40:53,070
And you can argue
your point differently

730
00:40:53,070 --> 00:40:57,870
and he won't get upset and will
accept many things which he was

731
00:40:57,870 --> 00:40:59,730
not prepared to accept before.

732
00:40:59,730 --> 00:41:04,380
Now, I went to with him to
interview very important people

733

00:41:04,380 --> 00:41:10,410
no one ever has interviewed
and who were actually the SS

734

00:41:10,410 --> 00:41:16,170
ideologues and published the SS
weekly, the Black Corps which

735

00:41:16,170 --> 00:41:18,660
was translation Black Corps.

736

00:41:18,660 --> 00:41:24,660
And that was a weekly, which
had an edition of one million

737

00:41:24,660 --> 00:41:26,050
a week.

738

00:41:26,050 --> 00:41:30,000
And so these were the two
publishers, both SS people

739

00:41:30,000 --> 00:41:31,950
in relatively high rank.

740

00:41:31,950 --> 00:41:39,210
One was a colonel, and the other
one was a captain, his deputy.

741

00:41:39,210 --> 00:41:42,900
And so we went to--

742

00:41:42,900 --> 00:41:46,770
I got them to interview,
because of his-- so

743

00:41:46,770 --> 00:41:48,480
he was very willing.

744

00:41:48,480 --> 00:41:52,860
And now, next summer, when
I'll go to Europe-- if I go,

745
00:41:52,860 --> 00:41:55,080
which is most likely--

746
00:41:55,080 --> 00:41:57,660
we already have
arranged that regardless

747
00:41:57,660 --> 00:42:01,650
whether it will be broadcast
or televised, we get

748
00:42:01,650 --> 00:42:04,620
a number of SS people together.

749
00:42:04,620 --> 00:42:07,530
And we'll have a table
talk, which may or may not

750
00:42:07,530 --> 00:42:10,560
be publicized at
this particular time.

751
00:42:10,560 --> 00:42:12,450
I certainly will
tape it, because I've

752
00:42:12,450 --> 00:42:14,520
got the equipment now--
which I haven't used--

753
00:42:14,520 --> 00:42:18,240
but the equipment, too late
professional equipment,

754
00:42:18,240 --> 00:42:20,520
to tape, and stereo.

755
00:42:20,520 --> 00:42:23,160

756
00:42:23,160 --> 00:42:25,770

So we're going to have
a discussion with them.

757
00:42:25,770 --> 00:42:28,080
And I'm looking forward
to that, because--

758
00:42:28,080 --> 00:42:34,590
and so it may or may not be
developed into a broadcast.

759
00:42:34,590 --> 00:42:40,140
Because, again, very many
people are totally blind.

760
00:42:40,140 --> 00:42:44,340
So I have to call one of
the persons in Germany

761
00:42:44,340 --> 00:42:48,755
and remind her because
she was interested.

762
00:42:48,755 --> 00:42:50,630
And I could have stayed
a little bit longer--

763
00:42:50,630 --> 00:42:53,440
they would have paid me
the difference, penalty

764
00:42:53,440 --> 00:42:58,790
difference-- but I had to go see
my son, so I just didn't do it.

765
00:42:58,790 --> 00:43:01,310
So I have to remind her,
because I sent her material

766
00:43:01,310 --> 00:43:05,410
and she has not acknowledged
or not done anything.

767

00:43:05,410 --> 00:43:09,190
I think we're coming to the end
today, but one more question.

768
00:43:09,190 --> 00:43:13,750
Was the plans of
the final solution

769
00:43:13,750 --> 00:43:20,040
and the internal workings of
the camps known to all the SS?

770
00:43:20,040 --> 00:43:20,800
No.

771
00:43:20,800 --> 00:43:21,790
No?

772
00:43:21,790 --> 00:43:23,590
Because you see,
that is something

773
00:43:23,590 --> 00:43:25,840
which I also learned
very directly

774
00:43:25,840 --> 00:43:27,040
from Hitler's secretary.

775
00:43:27,040 --> 00:43:31,030
And she said Hitler had one
idea, which she absolutely--

776
00:43:31,030 --> 00:43:35,680
and she gave me a copy of the
original document in which it

777
00:43:35,680 --> 00:43:41,530
is said that people only
need to know what they need

778
00:43:41,530 --> 00:43:45,190
to for the role they played

within that organization,

779
00:43:45,190 --> 00:43:45,940
or Nazi--

780
00:43:45,940 --> 00:43:49,520
any Nazi organization,
and not go beyond that.

781
00:43:49,520 --> 00:43:54,040
So there was a very
severe penalty.

782
00:43:54,040 --> 00:43:58,870
Any person who was caught that
he talked about, SS person, who

783
00:43:58,870 --> 00:44:01,510
knew about that and all
that-- and that's also

784
00:44:01,510 --> 00:44:04,390
one of the reasons why
they gassed periodically

785
00:44:04,390 --> 00:44:07,750
those people were helpers
in the mass destruction.

786
00:44:07,750 --> 00:44:15,760
So whether it was in
Auschwitz-Birkenau, people

787
00:44:15,760 --> 00:44:20,695
who worked in Canada, every
six months, they're gassed

788
00:44:20,695 --> 00:44:24,820
and a new crew came because,
precisely because, they

789
00:44:24,820 --> 00:44:29,440
were witnesses to mass murder.

790
00:44:29,440 --> 00:44:34,180
And that the same thing was
in where they had also a gas

791
00:44:34,180 --> 00:44:37,990
chamber, in Mauthausen.

792
00:44:37,990 --> 00:44:41,090
And so that was--

793
00:44:41,090 --> 00:44:43,610
they replaced it.

794
00:44:43,610 --> 00:44:45,085
So anyone [INAUDIBLE]
some people--

795
00:44:45,085 --> 00:44:48,680

796
00:44:48,680 --> 00:44:51,160
so therefore, it was top secret.

797
00:44:51,160 --> 00:44:52,390
It was just top secret.

798
00:44:52,390 --> 00:44:56,260
And any sort of
communication which I've seen

799
00:44:56,260 --> 00:45:01,660
and all that regarding
the final solution

800
00:45:01,660 --> 00:45:06,730
was stamped top secret.

801
00:45:06,730 --> 00:45:09,130
And so even among
those SS that knew,

802
00:45:09,130 --> 00:45:10,750
the knowledge was contained.

803
00:45:10,750 --> 00:45:11,320
Yeah.

804
00:45:11,320 --> 00:45:13,220
Well, I mean, that's
something interesting,

805
00:45:13,220 --> 00:45:14,470
why I don't accept that.

806
00:45:14,470 --> 00:45:17,830
Wolff said, I didn't
know about the gassing.

807
00:45:17,830 --> 00:45:21,190
Now, I have absolute proof
that the man went to--

808
00:45:21,190 --> 00:45:29,510
own admission, mass
destruction, the Einsatzgruppen

809
00:45:29,510 --> 00:45:30,460
where he saw--

810
00:45:30,460 --> 00:45:32,830
actually, Himmler was
in that situation,

811
00:45:32,830 --> 00:45:34,390
where Einsatzgruppen were.

812
00:45:34,390 --> 00:45:36,580
So he admits that,
and says, yeah, I

813
00:45:36,580 --> 00:45:37,960
know that that happened.

814

00:45:37,960 --> 00:45:39,890

He does not deny the gassing.

815

00:45:39,890 --> 00:45:41,650

Said, but I didn't
know about it.

816

00:45:41,650 --> 00:45:44,350

817

00:45:44,350 --> 00:45:48,700

He doesn't deny it, never
denying that, not for a moment.

818

00:45:48,700 --> 00:45:50,270

But he said, I
don't know about it.

819

00:45:50,270 --> 00:45:52,330

Well, that may be.

820

00:45:52,330 --> 00:45:55,570

But so the funny
thing is, yes, that he

821

00:45:55,570 --> 00:45:59,320

admits that he was
present with Himmler

822

00:45:59,320 --> 00:46:02,700

when the Einsatz commandos
were killing people.

823

00:46:02,700 --> 00:46:04,870

And he admits that.

824

00:46:04,870 --> 00:46:07,660

But then, when we talked
about gassing and all

825

00:46:07,660 --> 00:46:11,680

that and that Hitler gave

that order, he denied it.

826

00:46:11,680 --> 00:46:16,657

And when I pressed him-- and I
still have that taped telephone

827

00:46:16,657 --> 00:46:17,240

conversation--

828

00:46:17,240 --> 00:46:20,030

I say, hey, look,
I've been waiting now,

829

00:46:20,030 --> 00:46:22,150

and it's just about time.

830

00:46:22,150 --> 00:46:24,010

I have documents to
show you and all that.

831

00:46:24,010 --> 00:46:25,120

I showed him.

832

00:46:25,120 --> 00:46:26,590

He said, well, if you say so.

833

00:46:26,590 --> 00:46:29,740

If you say so, I'll
have to accept it.

834

00:46:29,740 --> 00:46:32,110

But it was very
difficult for him.

835

00:46:32,110 --> 00:46:36,460

And then when he was dying,
the devil was after him.

836

00:46:36,460 --> 00:46:40,210

Well, we'll stop here today.

837

00:46:40,210 --> 00:46:42,120

I guess so, at the devil.

838

00:46:42,120 --> 00:46:42,880

John?

839

00:46:42,880 --> 00:46:45,600

Probably a [INAUDIBLE].

840

00:46:45,600 --> 00:48:52,000