

Recording now. But we need 10 seconds for everything to get to the right speed. I'll let you know, Judith, when we're ready. OK.

OK. So we're at the barracks in Lublin, and we were talking-- there were four tiers.

Yeah.

And how many women slept in one bed?

Oh, wow. You mean, do you--

It's one-- there's one unit, one.

Well, no. There was quite a bit.

So there were boards across?

The boards-- the boards were on the sides. I would say eight to 10, eight to 10, eight to 10 from-- let's say from this wall to that wall, there were the boards. And then there were eight or 10 or sometimes 12.

So there could be about 40 on one tier.

Oh, yeah. Oh, yeah-- a lot.

And were you given a blanket?

No. No blanket.

So it was January. It was winter. It was cold.

You slept in your clothes. That's the way you slept-- in your clothes, it whatever you had on. I mean, later on, when you had dysentery and stuff like that, you didn't even have underwear no more because that became dirty. So whatever you had-- you had very little clothes on, and that's what you slept on at nighttime.

OK, and then, what about shoes? Did you have any?

In the beginning-- in the beginning, they gave us a pair of shoes. Like I told you, there were hardly any soles on or toes were out or. Well, after a while, those were gone. That was it. No more.

So you were bare feet. You had no more underwear. You just had a little thin dress on. And summer or winter, that's what you wore.

And the winters in Poland are cold.

Very cold. And this was January '43, so it was very cold.

Was there snow?

Yeah, there was snow.

So were you walking around barefoot in the snow?

At that time, we still had shoes I think. We still had shoes. We were eight months in Lublin. So at that time, we still had

shoes. And I think in Lublin, we were pretty good with shoes. Auschwitz was worse. But in Lublin, we were pretty-- pretty good for shoes, yeah.

What about toilets or showers?

Oh, the toilets. The toilets were holes-- outhouses. And there were little holes where you-- like a typical outhouse. And that's where you did all your-- you had to go at nighttime.

You had to go out of the barrack and go. And a guard standing outside there, so they watched you going and coming back. There were always guards on duty.

And the showers-- well, the showers you-- once a week, I think, you were lined up. And you had to take a shower. And there was one little thing with water, and there were 20 women were trying to get some water over their body.

You were fighting to get a little bit of water over your body, you know? And just a little bit of dribble of water came out of that. Those were you showers.

And was it hot or cold water?

Mostly cold. Mostly cold water, yeah. But at least you got some water over your body, you know?

And soap?

No, no soap. No soap, no. No.

Were the women that you came with, were they in your barrack?

Mm-hmm, we were all together. All of-- yeah. All of 40 girls were together, yeah.

And then what happened once you were doing the barrack and your clothes? What happened next?

Well, then they finally started giving you a piece of bread and a cup of soup. And I don't know how we got it, but you had to fight. Oh, I think they gave it out to you in the beginning. You got a little bowl, and you had to go at night and hold it out. And they would dish a little bit of watery soup in there. And then they gave you a little bit of crust of bread.

In Poland, the breads are round. And then, they cut them in-- I think they cut them in eighths or in 10ths. And you got that little piece of bread and a bowl of water for-- that was your whole day of food then.

Once a day?

Yeah, once a day. And sometimes they did it in such a sarcastic or sadistic way that they didn't even have people who dished it out. They just put that thing with soup in the middle, and then they said go and get your soup.

And you can imagine if 40 or 60 people run to the barrel of hot water or whatever it was-- hot soup supposedly-- most of it was spilled on the floor. Hardly anybody got anything. Things like that, that's what they-- mean. Real, real, mean, you know?

And then, sometimes you want to save a little piece of bread for the following morning, and then you woke up in the morning and somebody had stolen it. So your best bet at nighttime was, when you got your food, that you ate your piece of bread and your soup and don't save anything for the next day because somebody would steal it from you anyway.

So those were the barracks then. And you had to go-- I was on the fourth level-- you had to run all the way down to go to the bathroom. And you run all the way up again to go back to sleep.

Very often, you couldn't hold it because you had such dysentery-- it was so running out of you-- that you just-- it run all the way with you when you went down. By the time you got to the bathroom, it was all gone. So actually, the dirt was all over the floors. And it was just terrible, terrible. That was Lublin.

And what was your first day there like? Did they call you out for the Appell?

Absolutely.

And describe that.

Early in the morning, there would be a sound, and that meant-- it was either they blew a whistle or whatever it was. And that was-- they called it Appell, which is roll call here.

And you had to stand 10 in line, and I believe 10 like that. And every morning, you were counted.

Well, in Lublin, it was not with clothes on, but naked. So in that snow, you stood naked on Appell. And they were counting you.

And then, very often-- two or three times a week-- there were those SS came on horses. And they went around, and they picked people out who were too thin. And those people were sent to conce-- they had to have a certain amount each week for people to be gassed. And those were the people were-- who they picked out and were gassed. And that's the way you started your day in Lublin.

So you stood naked at Appell at least for an hour, an hour and a half. And then, they picked you out or-- I've never-- I was never picked out. We were always very thin, Bep and I-- always.

And like I said, I didn't eat much in that orphanage, so I don't think the hunger bothered me very, very much. So we became thin, of course, but some of those-- some people became really thin-- became like you saw the bones coming through it, you know?

Oh, Muselmanner.

Yeah. Yeah.

Do you recall your thoughts as you were standing there naked while the SS was picking out the women?

Well, your thought was always, am I going to be next, or what are they going to do with me? In the beginning, you didn't know. It was all so new. But when you got acquainted with all those other people, you knew what was going on. Those were the people picked to be gassed because they had a certain quota. They had so many people that had to gas every week or every day or whatever. And those were the people being picked.

And that was your morning. That's the way you started your morning out. And then you went back into the barracks and you got dressed-- whatever you had-- a dress, or skirt and a blouse or whatever. And then you went to work.

And everything was done marching with music and marching. And there were the dogs and the guards and Ukrainians-- Ukrainians. And they marched you all over to your work.

And in the beginning, what I had to do-- and Bep too-- we had to sort shoes, which they probably had gathered from all those people. And you had to sort them out. And you take it from one place, and you carry them on your back. And then you walk for half a mile, and you dump them out at another place. That was the work you to do.

And there were all those dogs behind you. And you ran because otherwise you storks would bite you. And schnell, schnell, schnell. They were hitting with-- was it a whip? A whip. And the dogs behind you. And that's the way you worked all day long. You brought those shoes from one place to the-- from here to there, from here to-- that's all you

did.

All day. Do you remember how many shoes, or was it a heavy load?

Oh, yeah. You had to pack the bag up all the way. Oh, definitely. Oh, definitely.

And then, for the time being, they had me also-- Jewish gravestones. And you had to hammer those in small, small little teeny weeny pieces. And they made roads out of those. And they marched the Germans over-- those Germans would march over those roads singing. And that's what you had to watch, you see?

This is the way they got you. They-- they were killing your morale. They were-- you were not a human anymore. You were treated worse than an animal.

If you saw those things that you-- those beautiful gravestones, Jewish gravestones, and you had to hammer those in pieces. And then they make roads out of those, and the Germans marched over those with their music and their singing, that was very bad. So this was the kind of work we did in Lublin.

And then, my sister became very, very ill. She had typhus. And they put her into an or-- an orphanage-- into an hospital. There was a hospital in Lublin.

And did you visit her? Were you allowed to?

Oh, yeah.

What was that like? What was the hospital like?

Well, it was-- they had also barracks. And they laid in beds. And here, they were-- half a mile away, they were gassing all those healthy people. And they were getting all those sick people. They were trying to nurse them back to health.

We never understood why they did this. Why did they do that? We didn't understand that at all. You could go to a dentist and have your tooth taken care of. There were dentists on duty. And the next morning, they could pick you out, and you were going to be gassed. So Bep became very ill.

And then, of course, there is always, wherever you go, there is Black market. So in Lublin, my piece of bread, I would exchange for candy. And then, I would bring the candies to Beppie in her bed so she could eat a candy at least, you know? So that tasted good when she had high fever and stuff like that. But they nursed her back to health.

Were there German doctors or Jewish doctors?

I don't know. I wasn't there. I wasn't in the hospital while they were taking care of the patients. But I'm pretty sure that all Jewish doctors who took care of them under order from, of course, from the Germans.

The Kapos were all Jewish, you see? And those were the ones-- some of them were very mean, very mean. And they were under order by the Germans. And they were all Jewish.

What's a Kapo in English? Supervisor?

We call it Kapo. I only know it as Kapo.

Oh. I think it's--

It's like a head.

A head of-- well, I would say either a manager or a supervisor over the whole barrack. You see, you had one Kapo over

the whole barrack. And they took-- they got orders from the Germans again. And they told us what to do and what not to do.

In regard to the barracks where you slept, where was the hospital barracks? Was it close by? Was it a quick walk?

Yeah, quick walk. Was close by. Was all in the same vicinity. Yeah, all in the same camp.

How long was Beppie in the hospital?

I would say six to eight weeks. Six to eight weeks she was in the hospital. When she came out, she was thin, but they nursed her back to health. And she had typhus and dysentery. She was really very ill, yeah. So they got her out of there.

And then-- well, when we were in Westerbork, one thing they always told us-- do not volunteer for the Germans. You can't trust them. They always told us that. Do not volunteer.

So we kept that in mind because we didn't want to volunteer in Sobibor either. But then, they got us out of there. And I don't like I said, I don't know if we were lucky or not, but I guess it was.

And we-- we were in the camp for about eight months in Lublin. That was our every day going then. Whatever I told you the-- shoes and the stones and every day the same routine at nighttime. You got your piece of bread. And in the morning, you stood Appell naked, and they-- that was every day.

And you were about eight months. And then, all of a sudden, we stood Appell one day-- roll call-- and one of those Germans came on the microphone or whatever-- not a microphone. One of those--

Megaphone.

Yep, megaphone. Mega? No. Is it? Yeah, it probably is. One of those things where you speak very loud.

And he said, we need 40 girls to volunteer to work in a marmalade factory. I said to my sister, let's go. She said no, we shouldn't volunteer. I said, Bep, we're dying here. What's the difference if we go to die there or we die here? We're dying.

So we volunteered. And we didn't know what was going to happen to us. But by golly, they sent us to a marmalade factory. That was eight months after Lublin.

And we made marmalade out of carrots for the soldiers on the front. So what we have to do is scrape the carrots, and we ate that. And that was real good vitamins and stuff like that. And we loved it. At least we got some food in our body.

Well, there were 100 men and 40 women who were in that marmalade factory. And then, we worked with Polish people in there. We couldn't talk to them because we had the guards standing behind us. But the Polish people made the marmalade, and we just got all the carrots cleaned, you see? So we were there for about six weeks.

Now, the men lived in a different barrack as the women did. And one day, we came to work in the marmalade factory. Mind you, the marmalade factory was guarded by Wehrmacht, not by the SS-- by Wehrmacht.

And we came to the marmalade factory, and the men were not there. We were very surprised because we always saw them there. Not that we could talk to each other, but we saw them. Well, we didn't pay any attention to that, and nobody would say anything, you know?

And about a week later, the Germans walked into our barrack, and they told us that we were going to be transferred to-- this marmalade factory was in Milej<sup>3</sup>w was the name-- Milej<sup>3</sup>w.

How far is that from Lublin? Do you remember how long the ride was? Was that like an hour or?

An hour, I would say. Terrible. That was awful because we were in one of those military trucks again with Ukrainians-- the ones with the dogs and the ones who volunteered into the German SS from the Ukraine. They kept-- they couldn't speak to us because they didn't speak German. They only spoke Russian.

And they kept on saying to us like this. Your head is going to come off. Higher. That, they kept on doing it to us.

So we didn't know where we were going. But that was to the marmalade factory. We did get there.

So now we were put again on one of those trucks. And same guys who-- not the same men, but, I mean, Ukraine is again with the dogs were in there. And they kept on doing this-- that we're going to get killed, you know? So this was always-- whenever they transferred you, you were under that feeling something is going to happen to you, you know?

So we came out of Milej<sup>3</sup>w not knowing where a men went. And we drove into Trawniki. And I don't know exactly where that is either. But it's all in Poland.

Now, Trawniki was a-- it wasn't a ghetto. Yeah, maybe it was a ghetto. It were a place where the Jewish people lived, but they could go outside the gate and earn their living. And there were tailors, and there were bakers, and there were shoemakers.

And even in there too, in that ghetto itself also, there were-- like, barracks again. But they lived very well. They had stoves in the barracks where they could cook, and they had blankets. And it was like-- I would say it very much similar to what Westerbork was, you see? And those people had money, and they could go outside the gate and buy things and bring things in-- food and stuff like that. So it must have been some kind of a ghetto.

And we drove in there, and it was very strange. When we came through the gate, we saw all the windows had like a weather stripping around it and the doors too had all that white weather stripping around it. We thought, what's going on here? It was quiet. There wasn't a soul in there. It was quiet.

And they shoved us into a barrack. And one of those officers came to us, and he said, well, I want you all to be comfortable now. And we thought, right-- he wants us to be comfortable. I mean, there's all this stuff around the barracks, and there isn't a soul around here. They're going to do something to us.

And about a half an hour later, he came back. And he started whipping us because we hadn't made ourselves comfortable. We were supposed to have made ourselves a bed and to clean up the barracks and make your quarters. In other words, where you were going to sleep. And we didn't do that. And he was very mad.

And he started whipping us. And he said, in half an hour. I want you all to see if you have your quarters or not and where you're going to sleep. And I'll be right back.

Well, we all did. We made our bed, and we got blankets and a pillow. We pulled it from all the other things off, and we made wherever we were going to sleep.

So he came back and he said-- he had his dog on his leash and the whip in his hand. And he said, you 40 girls, are here to clean all the barracks up. We have in this barracks, we have clothes. We have bedding. We have furniture. We have everything in here. And that all has to be neatly folded and put into bags and into boxes.

All jewelry what you find has to be handed over to the Germans. Every day, we want so much jewelry which you find. And if you don't find it, you get killed. You have to hand them over your jewelry. In other words, you would not keep it.

So he said, and you can cook yourself. You'll find plenty of food in those barracks in cans and in whatever. And you can cook yourself here. And you're going to get-- not this barrack. You get a barrack all of your own, and you can do your cooking and everything in there. And we will give you, once a week-- once a day, we will give you food and soup. And for the rest, you can cook yourself here. That was then in Trawniki.

Well, we really didn't believe him in the beginning. We thought, this is-- this is-- this is unreal. This is-- we're nearly in a year in a concentration camp, and this looks like a resort, you know?

So indeed, at night, they gave us some food. And we all went to bed. And we woke up. There was a terrible smell came into the barrack. And he had brought all those 100 men into the barrack whom they had taken out of the marmalade factory.

And their task had been pulling all the bodies out of the barracks, which had been gassed-- all the barracks had been gassed. And they were burning the bodies. And that was their task. And they carried that smell of the death with them into the barracks.

So then, they told us then that that's what they had been doing since they from the marmalade factory. When they put them in there, they had to do all those things. And right now, they were burning all those bodies.

And that was-- then they told us it had been some kind of a ghetto there that people had lived with their children. And they went about a normal life. In other words, they could-- could be about their normal lives, except they were-- in the community, they were guarded, you see? And now, they were all killed, and they had to bury the bodies.

And that they did for six weeks. And on one morning, they called all the men outside. They had to stand on Appell or roll call. We had the roll call, though, every day. Every day, we had roll call in the morning and at nighttime also.

Were you dressed?

Yeah. Dressed. Dressed. And they counted-- counted the men. We could hear him count. The Kapo always counted, then they gave the result to the Germans.

And then we heard a march off. Never saw them again. They were shot. They were all shot and killed because they've seen too much, you see? Yeah.

So they were gone. All those men were gone. And we figured, well, now we are next. But they let us clean the barracks. And we cleaned the barracks, and we found-- every day, we found jewelry. The jewelry was hidden in shoulder-- shoulders, in hems, you know?

And as long as she gave some to them every day, you were safe. They were not going to kill you. That was their threat. They were going to kill you if you didn't hand them all your jewelry-- the jewelry. And there was a lot of diamonds and rubies and-- unbelievable. But all hidden. And money, of course, we have to give to them.

And for the rest, we could have whatever we want. We could dress ourselves warm. We could-- whatever we wanted. And we were there eight months, and we gained all our weight back. You see, we became normal people again. And that was our luck really-- those eight months in that camp where we had to clean up all those barracks.

So every day you spent cleaning barracks, finding jewellery. And you are able to cook whenever you wanted to?

No, no. No, no, no. You worked from 9:00-- no. From 6:00 to 12:00. And then they sent you into your barrack to have a bite to eat. And then you came back, and you worked until 6 o'clock at nighttime. Was all day work, seven days a week.

Did you have dinner at 6 o'clock at night?

Yeah. Yeah. You stood-- you stood in Appell, on roll call. And then they served you after they had counted you again. That went fast with 40 people. They gave you a piece of bread and your soup.

In-- in-- I forgot to tell you that in Lublin, one of our girls in Lublin had gone at nighttime to the bathroom and was raped by one of the Germans. And the following morning, they just pulled her away out of the barrack, and we never

saw her again. Yeah. And then that was in Lublin.

And then now in Trawniki, we had two women escape. And they gave us a good talking to. They said, if it ever happened again, they shoot the rest of us.

So we had no more 40. We had 38. Two Polish women escaped. I'll bet you with a lot of jewelry. And they escaped. And one woman hung herself in the-- in one of the bathrooms she hung herself-- in outhouses-- in one of the outhouses. Because there was always outhouses, you know?

So yeah, we did that for eight months. And we had the SS take care of us there. But they didn't hit us. They didn't whip us as long as we did our work and as long as we handed all the jewelry over. They were-- well, I would say, OK to us.

So this camp-- this ghetto-like camp, this just consisted of the 40 girls and those-- and SS and barracks were empty?

All empty. We cleaned all those barracks out.

And that was it?

Yeah. And they had some German people. You see, for the SS, there were always cooks. But the Jewish people didn't cook for the SS because they didn't trust them. So the-- they had German people then doing the gardening there-- the vegetables and stuff like that-- and the cooking and stuff. So they had some staff there who lived with them there then.

And you had regular beds and blankets and pillows?

Yeah.

You each had your own?

Yeah.

Wow.

Yeah.

I never heard of this place.

Yeah.

And then, did you shower when you wanted to? Or what were the toi-- well, the toilets were outhouses. But was there a shower?

There were public showers. There were very similar to what we had in Lublin, but except you didn't have to go with 20 women under a little stream. You could go one under one because we were only 40 women.

And was the water hot?

No. No. Mostly we had cold water-- mostly cold. Even in the barracks, everything was cold water. No. I don't think there was hot water.

But as long as you got a little bit of water, even to drink, you were happy, you know? Yeah. Yeah. So that was the-- that was Trawniki.

Before we go ahead, I'd like to go back, if you don't mind--



Sure.

--to Lublin. For eight months, you then-- you carried the shoes from one place to another and you broke the tombstones and those were yours. During those eight months, you mentioned one girl that was raped and then killed. Were there any other incidents that you recall? Beatings, dogs. If you can talk about more details about Lublin and the things you saw.

One I had to even testify for in Hamburg. And this is the one I had to testify for. There was a young Dutchman whom was just in Holland becoming very popular with his voice-- beautiful operatic voice or opera voice. And he was becoming quite popular. And he was also in Lublin.

Now, the Lublin camp-- the men were separated, of course, from the women. We were never together. And this is the most amazing thing. In Lublin at nighttime, if you liked, you could go and see the men for some reason.

And they could go and visit the men. And a lot of women did. I never did. But, I mean, a lot of women did.

And they either-- well, I hate to say it, but they sold their bodies. And they got a piece of bread for it, or they got something for it. But they allowed it. They allowed that to-- can you imagine that? Yeah. Yeah. That was in Lublin. So that's why we got to know some stories about this young singer.

And you know that we had roll call every day. Well, one day we were called up, not indiv-- we had a roll call. We were going to go for roll call in the men's lager, the men's-- it's called the lager-- men's camp. And we all had to stand Appell.

And in the middle of the square, there were-- oh, I would say about two or three men were working in the middle of the square. We didn't know what they were doing. And we just stood there. You stand in the boiling sun, and you just have to stand there, you know? Thank God, I was young.

And all of a sudden, we could see he's building a gallow. And we thought, we wonder what's going on. Well, after-- that was the young man. Oh, I have to go back-- excuse me-- for a few minutes.

You know that we had to also empty those outhouses, and that was called the-- well, I don't know if I can say that on camera. It's called dishes scheisse kommando, which meant the waste commando. So you had to empty those latrines out and then put them in a big wagon. And that wagon was taken out to the outside where they dumped it.

Well, he was on that particular-- that young man was on this particular task to do. And he had to sing operatic-- you know, Germans love music, operatic music-- while he was pulling that wagon. And we had to listen to him. While he was pulling that wagon, he sang the most beautiful Arias from-- yeah. So statistic they were, those Germans. That's what he had to do.

Well, we saw him many times pulling that wagon. And then, that one day when we had to go for Appell up to the men's lager, he was building-- he was one of them building that gallow. And after he was through, guess what. They hung him. They hung him.

And then, the next week, they hang him outside that lager, and we had to march every morning to see his body hanging there. Yeah. Yeah. That was Lublin. So we saw quite a few awful things in Lublin. That was one of the worst-- that poor young man.

Yeah. Something, huh? Yeah. Although, many things went on there-- many things. I can't recall them all, but these are the things which stick with you.

But Hamburg, the German called me to testify against some of those S-- and the Nazis to testify about this particular incident that we saw, that we witnessed. For no reason at all they did that. Just out of-- a joke.

Sadism.

Yeah, sadism. That's it. Yeah. And that's what they were punished for, you see? That if they were just would have been guards and they were under order. But this was not-- this was not all this was just out of sadism, right. And a lot of things like that went on there.

Can you recall any other incidents that happened there?

I think this was-- no. Except that you saw a lot of m-- those poor men. They were so-- you saw those men working. They were so thin and so fragile. And if they couldn't walk fast or run fast-- because you had to do everything running-- they sent those dogs behind those men.

And those dogs, you could just see the flesh-- the way those dogs would pull on those men or push them or bite them to make them go faster or they collapsed on the floor. They couldn't do it. And then they made them get up again and stuff like that.

I mean, just torturing them to death. Yeah, that's what-- those are the things we saw in Lublin. That was really bad, really bad.

And, of course, then seeing that every morning-- seeing those people pulled out out of those-- the expression on their faces when they were pulled out out of that-- the roll call and put in separate line. They knew what was going to happen to them. And you saw their faces, you know? Yeah, that was pretty bad.

Did anything happen to you in Lublin or anyone that you knew?

No. No. No. Not-- yeah. One of the ladies who was-- yeah, she was-- there was one of the-- there was a big, beautiful woman. She was quite a bit older than I was. She-- she must have been around 40, and when I was 16. So she already looked like an older woman to me, you know?

And she went to the bathroom at nighttime, and one of those Germans attacked her. And he told-- he told-- he told it that he had done it. And then she was killed.

And of course, that is terrible because that is, for the Germans--

Your watch is on the floor.

Yeah. For the Germans-- the Germans-- there's a Rassenschande. That was the race shame if they would-- I don't know what they did to him. But somebody must have talked and told them, because it is Rassenschande-- race shame. You can't mix races. So that was very bad, you know? Yeah.

But nothing too my sister and me. No. Except that Beppie was very ill in Lublin. And no. Nothing personal. With the whole group, yes. But nothing personal to myself, no.

Do you recall the smells there? What it smelled like-- if there was burning flesh--

Oh, yeah. Oh, yeah. Yeah.

Every morning, you got up. And when you stood Appell, you could see the smoke coming out of the chimneys. And you could smell the flesh burning. And you could really smell the crematoriums.

Yeah. That was always hanging over there-- the smell of the burning of the bodies-- especially in Lublin. Yeah.

Do you recall as you were maybe what? 16 or 17 at that point. Just on a reflective, personal perspective, what you were-- what you were thinking about life, about the rest of the world, about anybody coming to rescue you. Whatever-- what they were doing on the outside.

Well, I always said, we are getting out of here. Because like I told you, I always strongly-- very strongly believed in God. And I said, we'll get out of here. Somebody will rescue us. I always said that to my sister too.

Something will happen, you know? We'll get out of here. That's what I always, always-- especially when I was 17 years old.

But once I was in Auschwitz, I think I gave that up. I think that was really the end, you know? So what shall I say? The thought of somebody coming and rescuing you was less and less and less.

In the beginning, I was very optimistic about it. I thought, well, sure. I'll get out of it. But the longer it took.

You see, another thing is, we had no idea of time. We just went by the sun. We had no idea about days because every day was the same. You didn't know if it was Monday or Sunday. It was all the same.

So you didn't know how long you were in the camp. I just estimate myself-- later on when everything came in perspective and I got my sense together and stuff like that-- that I was approximately eight months in Lublin. And then how long was I in Trawniki? Eight months there. Yeah. Approximately eight months there. And then, the rest of it in Auschwitz.

So you didn't know that while you were in the camp. You had no idea what day it was or what time it was or what year it was. You lost-- you see, what they were trying to do to you was-- you became a complete imbecile, a nothing.

You didn't know the day, the time, the date, nothing. You didn't even know when your birthday was. So those things, for a little while, you can cope with that. But after two years, you-- I really gave that up. You tired.

So in Lublin, you still believed in God?

Oh, absolutely. I believed I was coming out of it. Oh, definitely. And even in Trawniki when we cleaned up all those barracks, I really saw light again because my body was coming back to normal. And your thoughts, when you are hungry and you are undernourished, your thoughts are not the same as when you felt fat and stuff like that. So that came all back.

Your period came back in Trawniki, which for years for all the time I was in Lublin, never did show up because of undernourishment. And I think they put something in the soup too. I don't know. That's what I heard. I'm not sure about that.

But in Trawniki, your whole life became-- you were under guard, and you were in a camp. But it was somehow a little bit more civilized than what we had come from.

The whole time in Lublin, were you given that same chore-- that same task to do the shoes and the bricks? Nothing else?

Nothing else.

So basically every day was--

Back and forward, and uphill and downhill, and up. I think they-- a lot of people died. They couldn't take it. A lot of people died.

In the winter, it was freezing. In the summer, it's very hot under that boiling sun. So yeah, that's all I did in Lublin.

Did Beppie do that with you?

I think Bep did the shoes with me. I don't know. You see, I-- I shouldn't say it on-- I can't say it on camera.

But Bep and I, we don't really talk about it. Very little. Very little. Talk about it very little. So I really don't know. She doesn't remember a lot of things. And I don't remember a lot of things after we were liberated.

Is there any other incident in Lublin that comes to you? Anything good, bad?

Well, no.

Seeing people tortured? Were there babies?

No, I didn't see no babies. I saw children only in Auschwitz. I did not see babies in Lublin. I did not see them, no.

And I didn't see no torture. I just saw the hanging, and I saw the whipping. And I saw the dogs just attacking people-- those Ukrainian dogs. Not from the Germans, but mostly from Ukraine.

And of course, the torture of standing sometimes-- you know, if the Appell didn't come out-- if the roll call was not correct, they made you stand for hours until they-- until they found where that person was or what happened-- for hours at a time. So people fainted and things like that. I mean, real sadistic they were. Those things, they really get you down. They were-- that was bad, was really bad.

So would you consider-- was your morale low in Lublin?

Yeah.

But you still had some faith?

I still have faith, yeah. I always said, we'll come out here. We'll come out of here. Not everybody thought so, but I said, I think we'll get out of here. But your morale was already going down, down-- slipping down.

Did you have any friends that you talked with in Lublin?

No.

So you do-- what about you and Beppie? Did you talk much there? Did you have conversations?

Very little because the Germans did not like you to talk in your language. If you talked, you had to talk in German so they know what you were talking about. So there was very little spoken.

The Polish only knew Polish. They don't know any other language, so we couldn't converse with them. The Eastern Jew and the Western Jew do not get along-- do not get along. Their background and their culture is completely different. They don't understand each other.

And I would say, in bad times, they should really come together and help each other. But my experience was that they do not. They do not get along-- do not get along. I don't know what it is-- if it is education or-- I don't know what it is. But they certainly did not even get along in the concentration camp.

So then, this is the end of the story, of course, but you'll go back to it. When we came to France, when we were liberated, the first thing they asked us if we wanted to go to Israel. And that's all I needed to know-- to be with-- I hate to say this on--

Say whatever.

To be with a whole bunch of Jews again who don't get along. No way. No way. I refused it. No way would I do that.

And yet, I've been to Israel. It's beautiful. It's beautiful. But that was the first question they asked me when we came

back. Wow. That was the wrong question to ask us. Yeah.

We'll be able to do more on liberation after. So before we leave Lublin, I just want to make sure there's no other thoughts or incidences or scenes that you saw-- anything unusual or anything you felt?

No, that's just it. No, was him. Actually, outside that camp was three bodies hung. But that one body was that beautiful guy from Holland. No, that is really the only thing I can recall.

OK, and if something comes up again--

I can always--

--you can always just say--

OK.

--whatever. And I just wanted to then talk about how it came-- the day they asked you to go to the-- who wanted to go to the factory, was that-- did that happen in the Appell or did you come to the--

Yeah. Yeah, yeah.

So you went out in the morning to do Appell-- or evening.

No, I think they called the special Appell. They called the special roll call. And then they yelled out the thing again, and they said, we need 40 girls to be to volunteer for a marmalade factory. Well, it took a long time before 40 made up their mind because a lot of them didn't want to volunteer. So we stood there for quite a while until they finally got the 40 girls.

And you know what? Out of those 40 girls, 11 came out-- out of the camp. That's a pretty good average. It's a pretty good average, you know? So it's 1/4 came out of the 40 girls came out of the camp. They were all nationalities. But as I recall, 11 came out.

11?

Yeah.

11. So then they took the 40 girls in the army truck-- the covered army truck? Covered army-- yeah. Yeah, covered army truck. Nobody could see who was inside, of course. I mean--

And the Ukrainians-- that's when--

All they did was this. So that's all you had in front of you-- that you were going to get killed. You thought you were going to the gas chamber, you see, when they did that. And they did that twice to us-- to Milej<sup>3</sup>w to the marmalade factory, and to Trawniki.

So the marmalade factory was in Milej<sup>3</sup>w?

Yeah. I don't know how to spell it. I think it is--

That's OK. We can find it.

M-I-L-E-- and then there was a little umlaut. And then O-V believe it is. O-V or O-W.

OK, we can find it. Never heard of that. And that was about 15 minutes, maybe, from Lublin or?

Maybe half an hour.

Half hour? OK. And where do they first take you when you went to the factory? Was there a barracks area like a little camp? Or where did they put you?

Well, it was yeah-- a barrack. All we saw was one barrack. I don't know what-- if we'd been in there before. But maybe those people who worked there lived in barracks too. Who knows? Yeah.

And you stayed where? Where did you stay?

What do you mean?

I mean, did you sleep in that one barrack?

Yeah.

So it was one barrack for the 40 girls?

Yes. And then the men slept separate.

OK. So was it a small area? I'm trying to get a sense of the environment.

Yes, very small. Very small.

Do you remember if it was trees or green?

No. No, I don't remember. I don't even know if there were trees or not. No, I don't remember. All I know is from the barrack, we walked to the marmalade factory.

And from the marmalade factory, we just sat on those-- there were bins, and there were pounds of pounds of carrots. And we just sat there and scraped all the carrots into those bins. Wonderful.

Now, you said that while you were doing that, the German guards were watching you.

Yeah.

But they didn't-- they allowed you to eat the carrots?

Oh, yeah. They allowed you to-- no. not the carrots.

The scrapings?

The scrapings. Not the carrots. The carrots were meant for the marmalade. See?

But it was OK for the scrapings?

Yup. They didn't mind.

And what time in the morning did you wake up to go to the factory?

Oh, early. Probably 6 o'clock always.

Did you a great lunch, or did you work for 12 hours?

No. No, no. No break for lunch. You work straight through. And then, at nighttime, you get your-- your piece of bread and your soup again, you see? But you were not that hungry because you ate all day those carrots that they-- the scrapes of the carrots. So it helped. Let me tell you. It helped.

Did you work for 12 hour days or how many hours?

Every day. No day off. Every day.

12 hours or 10 hours?

Oh, I would say it was 12 hours-- 10 to 12 hours. Starting early in the morning, coming home late at nighttime, standing roll call. Maybe after roll call you got your piece of bread and butter-- bread and soup.

And did they dish that out, or did they make you run?

No, they dished it out there. You know, they didn't do that running all the time. But so now and then they would really do that.

And they had that in Auschwitz particularly very bad that they did that. But in Lublin a couple of times too. And I never did it because I was afraid they would kick me or kill me or do something, so I never got any soup. And the Kapos are supposed to dish them out, you know?

OK. So in the marmalade factory, you-- Beppie was there with you?

Yeah.

And you just--

We were together, yeah.

Did anything happen there unusual? Any incident? Anyone being beaten?

Oh, no. This was all-- the Wehrmacht took care of us. So no, no, that was pretty good. That was pretty good. Nothing wrong with that. We were there only for six weeks. But approximately-- I go by time-- by--

Season.

Yeah, right, by season. And I don't know the days and the dates and the months. But yeah, we were there for about six weeks. And then they took us to-- and that was not bad at all. We slept there. We got up early in the morning and went to bed early at night and you know?

Did you have beds there with pillows and blankets? What were you sleeping on? Can you recall?

No. I really don't recall. Maybe Beppie remembers. I don't know. Maybe my sister remembers. I really couldn't tell you.

What about a toilet or shower? Do you remember if there was any toilet?

I'm sure there were outhouses there. Don't remember showers. Maybe didn't even have showers. Wouldn't be surprised. Wouldn't be surprised. We did have outhouses, I'm pretty sure.

And that was about six weeks approximate?

Yeah, we got about six weeks.

Then what happened the last day you were there?

They-- in the marmalade--

In the marmalade factory.

They called us on Appell, and they told us that the work was done in the marmalade factory. That's what they always said. The work is done here. Now you go somewhere else. And we have to line up again for the truck, and they would take us somewhere else where we have to work. And that's what we did.

Now, this was the place where there were 110 men-- the marmalade factory-- that you saw--

100.

100 men that you saw every day.

Every morning, we saw them together with us in the marmalade factory. So I don't know what they were doing, but the six weeks that they had us there, I think they got that other place completely taken care of or something like that. I don't know.

And then, they first took those 100 men out of there to Trawniki. And then, later on, they took us-- the 40 girls.

OK, so the same men were at Trawniki?

Yeah.

OK.

That's where we saw them again.

And they put you on that truck again?

Yeah.

And Ukrainian guards.

Yeah.

So it was the sa-- similar situation.

Always, yeah.

And Trawniki-- do you remember approximately how far it was from Milej<sup>3</sup>w? If it was an hour or 20 minutes?

I think I looked it up once at the map. And I found it too. But I don't know how long it took. Let me see. From Milej<sup>3</sup>w, Trawniki-- probably an hour.

OK, not too bad.

Not too long, no.

OK. And OK, then you arrived at Trawniki, and that was the Jewish camp.



Yeah. Yeah. Yeah.

So for eight months there, you just cleaned up barracks and gave jewelry back to the SS?

Yeah. Folded all the bedding. Got the pillows all nicely together, the bedding. The clothes all nicely folded. And I understand it all went to Germany, you see? Yeah.

And then we just gave the-- and we have to give the money. The money we found and the jewelry we found, we had to give to the Germans at nighttime. You think my sister is here?

Don't worry about it. If she calls, I'll get it.

Oh, OK.

And this was where they took the men, the 100 men, to go and burn the bodies. And then they killed these men. Was this the place.

Yeah.

This was at Trawniki?

Yeah.

For the first three or four weeks, every mor-- every night, those men used to come in. And they had a terrible smelling, again, from what they carried-- from the burning and the dead bodies. And in the morning, they marched off. And then, we marched off. Always marching with the music.

And so that went on for about four weeks-- four to six weeks, you know? And then, all of a sudden, the men were called out, and we never saw them again. They killed them. They shot them. We could hear the guns.

You heard it?

We heard it. We heard the guns. Just massive grave, you know?

Did you ever break down? Cry, scream, lose it?

No, never.

What held you together?

I don't know. I don't think-- I don't think I realized it was real. I probably thought I was in a different world. I don't know. I really don't know what held me together. It's unbelievable.

Because now, sometimes when I talk about it, then I get the tears in my eyes, you know? But I don't know if I even cried in the camp. So there you are.

I think you hardened up, and there's nothing you can do. You were helpless. You are absolutely helpless.

You-- you couldn't speak up. You couldn't say anything. You couldn't complain. You couldn't do anything because all you had in your mind, if I say something, I'm in the gas chamber. So you just went with the flow.

Did you ever think about your relatives?

Oh, many times. Many times what happened to my relatives. And I had a lot of relatives. Yeah, many times. There was

none left-- few aunts.

How many relatives did you have?

Oh, I think maybe over 100 with my father's sisters and brothers and mother's sisters and brothers and all their children. They were all about the same age as Bep and I were. And my father-- my father-- maybe two or four years older, you know, in that. Just two aunts were left, and two cousins-- three cousins, three cousins and two aunts.

That's a lot of relatives.

Yeah. And both my aunts are gone. And I've got 1, 2, 3 rela-- three cousins of my age still living in Holland. That's about it.

And the rest were all gone.

All gone. All gone. Yup. Not one left. Yeah, then my cousins, which we are very friendly with because we speak to her all the time on the phone and-- one of them at least. And we hope to go next year to Europe, Bep and I. And we go and visit them and stay with them and have a good time.

Yeah. You were in Trawniki about eight months, you said?

Yeah, about eight months.

And during those eight months, were there any incidences that stand out, or was it pretty much the same kind of work? Was there any beatings or screaming, yelling?

No. No, no, not really. Not really. Because I think all those girls were quite happy with the-- were very content with what they're doing. Excuse me.

They were very content. They enough food. You had enough clothes. You had decent shoes on your feet. You had underwear. We had bras. You came back to a little bit of normal living again, like civilization.

So I don't-- there was no beatings. Except they warned us that we had to turn all the jewelry-- that was their biggest threat. The jewelry had to be turned over every night to the Germans. For the rest, they couldn't care less what we did.

Was--

Excuse me.

It's OK. Are you OK?

Mm-hmm.

Was there ever a day that somebody didn't find jewelry to turn back to them?

Oh, no. You don't-- excuse me.

It's OK. Are you-- do you want water? Is there any water?

No. Oh, just leave this thing in there. I don't need it anymore.

I'll put water in it.

Yeah.

In the bottle. You want to get more water?

Just a little bit of water, yeah. If you don't mind.

Aren't you nice? Aw, thank you so much.

You're welcome. I don't want you to choke.

Thank you very much.

Oh, no problem. Are you OK?

I'm fine. Thank you.

So there was jewelry that was found every day?

Yeah, but it's almost a group gave it. It didn't have to be individual.

Oh, so that's OK.

See? So all 40 girls worked together, and then we stood Appell-- a roll call at nighttime. And then one of the girls or the Kapo would give him the jewels we had found.

Not everybody had to find it. But you had to give every night-- the group had to give them a certain amount of jewelry which had been found.

Is there any incident that stands out during those eight months? Anything else you want to add at Trawniki?

Well, the only incident we had really was that we were very shocked that one of the ladies there in Trawniki hung herself and that the two girls, the two Polish women then, that they fled. And they threatened us very badly because if that would happen again, we would get killed on the spot and so on. So those were the two biggest incidents that happened there.

For the rest, they were pretty decent. We had also a couple of girls working in there-- in the vegetable gardens. So at nighttime, we could take vegetables home. And that was all for their-- for the officers, for their kitchen where they cooked-- where they cooked, you know?

So it wasn't-- Trawniki was not bad. That was our-- I think that saved our lives, you know? It really did.

And then, what happened at the end of your stay? And what led to you being taken from there? What was the next step?

We could hear planes coming over-- Russian planes. The Russians were coming closer.

This was what year?

That was-- well, wait a minute. Let it go back now because--

End of '44 maybe?

No. Oh, no, no, no. Way before that. In the beginning of about May of '44-- May '44 we could hear the Russians. Even the Germans told us that the Russians were coming closer. And we could hear the planes coming over.

And they transferred us back. One day we stood on Appell, and they told us that we could not stay here any longer. The

work had been done they told us.

We had finished the work. That's what they always said. You've done your job, finished your work. We're going to take you somewhere else.

So they took us back to Lublin. Lublin is right in the middle of Poland. So all the other places must have been more on the side of Russia. And we came back into Lublin. And--

By truck or?

By truck. By truck. They got us back into Lublin.

And well, we were assigned a barrack again. But we didn't work. There's nothing to do.

That whole camp-- and now, I have to tell you this. This whole camp sure six weeks after we had volunteered to go to that marmalade factory, this whole camp was gone-- was shot. From Kapos to children to adults to anybody who was in the camp, they were all shot into mass graves-- that whole camp. And we had just come out of there six weeks before.

So here, we had come out so Sobibor. We had come out of Lublin. You see?

somebody was watching.

So somebody was watching. That's why I always said, I still believe in a God, and I still-- we come out.

So here, became back to Lublin. And there were a lot of political prisoners there-- Polish prisoners, communist prisoners-- and not too many Jewish people. Was mostly political prisoners.

And we were there for about six weeks, and I don't know if we did any work there. You see, now it comes to the end, and I really don't remember that much no more there. But in Auschwitz, I start remembering again. And they put us on a death march.

From Lublin?

To Auschwitz-- marching with those political prisoners and us.

So it was not a lot of people?

No, not a lot of people. And the Germans and the dogs and everybody marched. And a lot of them left behind because they couldn't do it. They were shot. You know what they did in those death marches. And a lot of them fled because they knew the Russians were coming closer, so they had to hide in the bushes and in stuff. Yeah.

And I even was thinking of hiding again. But I don't know the language, see? So I didn't speak Polish. So that's what you had to consider because if you didn't speak Polish, you were an enemy. So what was the use of fleeing again?

So we, Bep and I, we both walked. And she helped me quite a bit because my feet were getting so bad that you throw everything off you because you had-- you keep on walking, walking. And your feet has big blisters. And in the end, you have nothing on anymore.

And well, I think we had walked, I don't know how many days. And finally, the Germans got a train for us and put us on a train to Auschwitz.

Did they stop in the evening when you were walking? Was there ever a point to stop and rest?

I don't know if we stopped. No, I don't. Yeah, at nighttime they stopped. At nighttime they stopped-- not for long.

You just sat in place?

Yeah, sat wherever you were-- not for long. And then you went marching again because they couldn't do it either no more. But apparently, what happened was there was no more train service for the Germans from Lublin to where they wanted to get us because the Russians were coming already much closer.

So then we finally arrived in Auschwitz on a train-- on was that a freight train? I think it was. It was a freight train.

So it was one of the closed cattle cars?

Yeah, cattle cars.

How long was the train ride? Do you recall? Hour or?

Quite a-- quite a bit from Lublin to Auschwitz. Auschwitz is way up north there. Yeah, that was quite a bit-- quite a long ride.

It's near Kraków.

Yeah. It's quite, quite a long ride. I would say probably six, seven hours-- somewhere in that area.

What was the train ride like? Can you recall? Were you stuffed?

No.

If there weren't a lot of people, you weren't stuffed.

Don't remember. Don't remember. All I know is that that march we went on, which was terrible. And then that they stopped us and put us on one of those freight trains. And I really don't remember that. I don't remember that.

Do you remember if anybody was shot on the march?

Yes. We heard it.

A lot of people? How many?

I don't know how many, but we could hear it. I mean, the minute someone-- you see, you had guards in front of you and got at the end of the line. And if the guards at the end of the line saw people just lying on the road, they shot them. So you have to keep on marching.

So all you could hear was the shots. You do not-- you didn't see it, but you could hear it because the people who fell down that couldn't-- from exhaustion, they just fell down whatever they were. The other ones just walk besides them. And if the guards saw them, he just shot them.

Do you remember thinking on that march that you were definitely going to make it? Or did you ever feel like you were going to just lie down?

No. No, no, my hope was really gone because I was terrible. My feet, I had big, huge blisters. My flesh was just hanging. My-- it was awful. My feet were just awful.

My sister was better off than I was. And she kept on pulling me. She kept on pulling me to come with her, to come with her. And then we run a little bit, and then we were ahead of the others so we could slow down. So that was quite-- that was awful that march.

Did you ever contemplate stopping? Did you ever think that there was a point that you couldn't take another step and you were just going to stop?

Oh, yeah. But she kept on pulling me. I told her, I couldn't do it anymore. I couldn't do it. And she kept on pulling me, you see?

You have to do it. You have to do it, so come on. Come on. And she would pull me. We would run a little bit, and then we slow down. Because very often, I just wanted to sit down and told her I couldn't do it anymore. But then, finally, we got into Auschwitz.

So the train ride you don't recall. Were you-- do you remember if you were standing or sitting? Do you remember other people?

I don't remember. I think I was sitting.

OK. Was it nighttime? Do you remember?

No, we left in the afternoon. We left in the-- from Trawniki, we left in the afternoon. So I'm pretty sure it was nighttime when we arrived in Auschwitz-- or late the following day or something like that.

Can you recall your very first vision when you arrived in Auschwitz? What happened? Can you tell details?

Well, the train pulled in, and it was that shouting again from schnell and raus and schnell and that you had to come out-- quick, quick, quick, quick. And yelling at us.

And there was cement when you came out. And like I've seen on many of the films that was left and right, was not with us. They just marched us right into the showers. We had to undress. And they marched us right into the showers where we got a shower, not gas. We got a shower.

Now, you knew about the gas at that point, did you?

No. We didn't know we were in the gas chamber. No.

You didn't hear about it yet?

Oh, yes.

So when you went into the showers, did you expect water or gas? Or did you--

We expected water. But then, later on, we found out that those were the gas chambers. And they gave us a shower.

And we all showered the same way that we did in Lublin. 20 women standing under that stuff and those men. There were all those-- no, no. Not the men together with the women. But those political prisoners were all the time with us.

In the showers?

No, no, no. On the road.

Oh.

One incident, I have to tell you, on that march from Lublin halfway to Auschwitz. In a little village, they put us up one night in a-- where they-- in a brick factory where they made bricks. And they have very hot heat to make bricks. And upstairs in the attic, there were little lamps. And those were very hot from the heat coming up from the bricks.

And that's where they put us to sleep. And they were going to kill us all-- the Jewish people. All the non-Jewish people that called out, they were all going to-- they were all called out, all the political prisoners. And all the Jewish people are going to be left behind on top there. I think they were going to blow the whole thing up.

And when the non-Jewish people came outside that brick factory, they raised h-- don't want to use that word. Raised cane with the Germans. And they told them, if they would lay one hand on us, they would go right back in again and everybody would get killed. Yeah. Yeah.

They saved you.

They saved us. They saved us. It was awful. There wasn't-- there was like an attic with little hot lamps. And when you tried to walk, you burnt your feet. Was terrible. But that's where they put us to sleep one night.

But they were ready to kill us there. But the political prisoners told them no. No way

Was there anybody-- did you see civilians in the villages as you walked by?

Yeah.

Did you see regular people?

Yeah.

What did they--

Nothing.

Did they do anything when you walked by?

No. Not with German SS, they don't dare do anything. No, there was SS people with the dogs and stuff like that. They knew we were prisoners, so they're not going to do anything.

No, we saw them. That was in a little suburb, you know?

How did that make you feel seeing a village, a suburb, a town? Did you--

I don't even think you could feel anymore. You-- you-- you were just numb, just numb. And I think, shortly-- the following morning, shortly after that, they got us in a train to get into Auschwitz. But this is one incident I never forget-- what they did to us up there.

Were you all crowded into one little room?

No, it was a factory. And they had some kind of an attic up there. And we had to go up ladders to that attic. And there were all little lamps.

And I don't know what those little lamps were used for-- lights, or what they were used for. But it was pitch dark up there. So when you were trying to find yourself a spot where you could lie down, you burnt yourself on those little lamps. So I don't know-- I don't know exactly what it was, but that stayed in my mind.

Were you able to sleep?

I don't know. I really don't know. But anyway, those non-Jewish people-- those political prisoners got us out of it.

Were they Polish political prisoners?

Polish and I think some Russian communists and political prisoners. But I just want to go back to that.

But when we came into Auschwitz, all I can recall is they just marched us right into the showers and gave us some clothes to wear. And then, they took us to-- is it Birkenau?

Birkenau is where the gas chambers.

Birkenau is where the gas chambers are?

Yeah, I think so.

No. I think it's just the other way around.

Auschwitz I, or Auschwitz II?

They took us to Birkenau I think. But anyway, then they took us to the barracks where the gas chambers are not. And well, we were put into a barrack there.

And then, you were told what kind of kommando you were going to be on. And I was on the scheisse kommando.

The latrines.

The latrines. And Beppie was-- I think she was too. Don't know what my sister was on, but that's what I was on. And that was awful.

You cleaned all those latrines out, put them into one of those, and then you went outside the camp and you had to dump it somewhere. And you got the horses. You pulled it like horses. And um-- go on.

When you first got out of the train, do you recall what you first saw-- the buildings, or if you saw chimneys? Do you remember the physical environment?

No, I didn't see the chimneys then. And I didn't see no ovens either. I didn't see that.

Did you see any buildings or was-- did you see the gate, that famous-- that arbeit macht frei?

No. Yeah, I saw that. But that you walk in. You didn't come there by train. By train, you came into the station actually where the gas chambers are. That arbeit macht frei is in the gates when you march in. Yeah.

Did you marching to that?

Oh, yeah. Because you had-- I marched in with my-- when I was in like a horse you went through that. That's the gate you went in and out of.

So the first thing you saw after you arrived at the station, did you have to then walk to the camp? Or did the--

I don't know if they made us walk, or did they transfer us. I think we walked. I think we worked to Birke-- we walked Birkenau. I'm not sure about that. That I can tell you.

But anyway, we got into the camp. And they assigned us which kommando we were going to be on.

Did you know that this was Auschwitz?



Yeah, from other prisoners. And I didn't know what Auschwitz was at that time.

Oh, OK.

See? Just thought another camp. We didn't know. And then, later on, we found out that-- oh, oh. When we came into Auschwitz-- now, this I have to tell you-- they took our clothes off. And that's when I got my number.

That's really fast.

The number was not in all the other camps.

It's so much.

Auschwitz, that's where they gave us the number. And it were Jewish people who did this.

Can you talk about that and how that-- did you get the number before the shower or after the shower?

After.

OK. So--

After the shower, you stood in line. And there were two girls sitting on two tables. And you just had to stand there. And Beppie is-- I am 83,919. Bep was ahead of me, and she is 83,918.

And that's what-- that's-- did you see that on the camera? You want me to stand up? No, don't touch it. Did you see?

OK.

We'll focus it after.

OK. Well, anyway so--

So you went to a table?

And that's where two were sitting. And they did it very fast. That went so fast. I was amazed how fast they did that.

Did it hurt?

Yeah, terribly sore.

Were you screaming?

No.

No?

You had to hold your arm like that, and then they put a needle.

Do you recall how you felt, what you were thinking-- this barbaric act was happening to you?

I couldn't believe what was happening to me. I just couldn't believe it. I mean, there was plenty already that happened to me. But this was really-- this, I couldn't believe it. They'd marked me for life. They had branded me like a cow or a lamb or a sheep.

At that point, did you feel that God was with you, or did you abandon your belief?

I think already I'd given up hope by that time already. And that was-- I had eight more months to go, but I already so-- there's nothing worse can happen to me anymore. That's it. I really, I had given up I think.

And I was in pretty good shape because we'd come out of the Trawniki. We're only six weeks in Lublin. And they did give us bread and soup. But we still were not that thin again. We still were halfway-- nutrition in our body and stuff like that.

So we were still in very good shape. But I think, mentally, I think my-- it was disappearing that I would ever see the outside again.

Did you ever think to give up? I mean, to kill yourself?

No. No, never. No, never had that in my mind. But it was very bad that they branded you for life. Every time I walk through the streets or when I sit in a restaurant, people just sit and stare at me.

And I've had comments made to me like, is that your telephone number? And I tell them, yes. What am I going to say? No? So this is it. You've been branded for life.

Now, I wanted to take this out a long time already ago. But my husband said, no way. You should be proud of that for the rest of your life. So that's why I never had it removed. Because they do the operation, you know? You can have it removed.

But it's a bother, you know? I mean, I really don't like to be with short sleeves because every time I sit, I know that people stare at this. So that is kind of-- that's hard.

Yeah.

That was the last eight months in Auschwitz when they did that to me.

After the tattoo, what did you do? What happened next?

They gave us some clothes to put on again and some shoes. And like I said, they transferred us to the barrack where we were going to live in and assigned us the kommando and told us what time in the morning we got up and when we have Appell-- roll call-- and what time we have to work.

What did the barracks look like? Same. Same. Similar than Lublin. Yeah.

Was it wood?

All in a row. Wood. All in a row all. One and two, one and two. The nighttime, you could hear the-- what do you call those beasts in the woods? The-- we have them here in San Francisco too.

Animals?

No. No, no. The little beetles. What do you call them? The ones in the wood. Cockroaches. You could hear the cockroaches going in the wood and stuff like that. Yeah.

How many women in your bunk in the barracks about? Was it very crowded when you slept at night?

Yeah. Oh, yes. Similar, very similar to Lublin-- 10 to 12. I mean, Oh, so you couldn't leave your bread because next morning your bread was gone again. So here, we started all over again.

Same idea-- same thing-- you got your bread at nighttime and your bowl of soup at nighttime. And sometimes they even gave you coffee if I recall. I never drank it because I wasn't used to coffee at all.

But in the morning, you got up. You Appell. You went to work. At nighttime you came home. There was Appell. And then you got a piece of bread and a little bit of soup, and that was it.

Was the Appell always long? Was it an hour or two hours?

Yeah. The Appell was at least one hour, sometimes longer. And then, one day we stood on roll call one afternoon, and was a long, long roll call. And all of a sudden, we stood on Appell.

And there was a young girl that was brought in and a couple of German officers behind her. And she was marched in. And apparently she-- she had a love affair with one of those German officers. And she was hung right front of us in Auschwitz.

She was Jewish--

She and him. Yeah. Both of them were hung. mm-hmm. That was one of the things in Auschwitz.

So then I was taken off the scheisse kommando. And that's when my sister became very ill again. And again, she had typhus and dysentery and was put into a hospital again.

We never went into the experimental camps because we were young, had never been married. And she went in the hospital. And I was put on in some kind of a factory where we-- like you make plaits in your hair with the three things.

The rope for your hair?

Yeah. My daughter makes it for my granddaughter.

Braids?

Braids. You had to braid rope-- ropes, heavy ropes. And you had to do so many yards a day. And if you didn't do those, you got lashes. They gave it you with the whip whatever you didn't do.

Did you get whipped?

No. I always made it. But I had blisters all over my hand. Heavy rope-- and that was all for the army, you see? I was in that.

And in the meanwhile, I didn't know where my sister was. She's been put in a hospital somewhere. Now we were-- we were-- that was the first time in the camps that we were separated.

Were you able to find her?

Well, I'll tell you. And this went on for eight months. And I became very ill. And they put me into the hospital.

I had become-- all my legs had become with big sores, huge sores all over my legs and in my mouth too. And I became very sick, so they put me in the hospital. And while I was there, my sister was there. I found my sister again. So we both were very ill in the hospital. And we knew the two of us were going to die.

And we were liberated in Auschwitz by the Russians. I'm sure you have a lot of questions now. But that's the way it all happened. We were so ill we were really at the end of our lives, both of us.

And in fact, I had Beppie hidden in my bed one day when roll call came because she was supposed to have gone outside

because they were going to take her another place-- to the gas chamber most likely. And I hid her in my bed, in my bed so they didn't find her. So every time we had roll call, I had her hidden.

And then, about a week later, we woke up in Auschwitz and there were no more guards. And we couldn't understand it.

Were you in the hospital?

I was in the hospital. My sister was in the bed with me. And there were no more guards outside. And people came screaming in, the Germans are gone. The Germans are gone.

But then they warned us-- know what they did? They took all the healthy ones on a death march a couple of days ago. So we better get out of here because there might be time bombs around our barracks. So everybody went out the second we opened. And we waited until the Russians came in. And the Russians liberated us.

And oh, boy, I wish I was telling that-- I don't know who I spoke to on the telephone the first time. But would I love to meet those Russians who liberated us. They liberated us. They came in, and they couldn't believe it. We were all sitting outside.

Mind you, it was January--

'45?

'45. And we had plenty of snow on the floor. And you could eat the snow, you know? And they broke into the barracks where the Germans kept the spare food. So we got some food from that. And then, of course, the Russians brought us all kinds of food in.

And then my mind went really blank. Isn't that funny? Yeah. My sister remembers what happens then. I remember that we were liberated by them.

And now, Beppie told me that-- that they put us on a truck. And then they put us on a train, and they took us to Odessa in Russia. And the war was still going on of course. But we were in a camp in Russia. But we were not-- no more gas chambers.

So we found each other again in Auschwitz after so many months-- after so many months we were separated. And so we stayed in Odessa until May. And then they shipped us by boat to France. And then, from France, we went to Holland. Was nobody left.

And then, my sister became very ill with tuberculosis. She was two years in the sanitarium. But she's doing all right now.

So that's my story. So she married an Englishman, and I married an American. And we were 40 years separated again.

Now, why was that separation?

Because she lived in England, and I lived in the United States. I married an American.

Where did you move to America?

Here, in the United States. Bep and I, we applied for-- in England-- for a visa. And we had to wait five years. So we worked both of us in England for five years.

Then the visa was due, and he asked her to marry her-- her boss. So she married her boss. And I came here to the United States. And six weeks later, I met my husband. And we married six months later.

So Bep lived in England for 40 years, and I lived here 40 years. And I became a widow after 13 years like I told you. And Beppie just six years ago lost her husband. So she came over here. So now we're back together again.

That's incredible.

Yeah.

Where in the States did you come into?

New York.

New York?

New York-- to Hoboken. Yeah.

And then I had \$100 in my pocket. I was through with my \$100 in two days. And I called a friend in San Francisco, and she had me come out to San Francisco. And she worked for a very well-to-do family in-- here in San Francisco. So they put me up-- Mr. and Mrs. Sindel.

Was she Jewish? Was she a survivor?

No. Her sister worked as one of the supervisors in the orphanage. And I knew she lived here in the United States. So I got hold of her. Don't ask me how, but I got hold of her. And she worked as a nanny for a very well-to-do family. And she got me out to San Francisco. And six weeks later, I met my husband, and I married him.

What's his name?

Kurt-- K-U-R-T. Kurt Sessler. And he had two little boys, two and four years old. And I always told him, I never fell in love with him, only with the kids. They were so cute, two and four years old. Had lost their mommy when they were-- no, they were two, four when they lost their mommy. And I think I met them and they were three and five.

It's like you and Beppie when you were two and four.

Yeah. So I knew what those little boys went through. And then they lost their daddy too. So I was married 13 years-- but a very happy marriage.

And that's why I said, this was the worst. Because finally, I had a person who loved me very much. And then he was taken away from me. So here I was again-- no love.

I get a lot a love from my daughter, from my grandchildren, and from my boys. So that-- well, it doesn't make up for it. But it gives me a little bit.

So that's why I said, it's one tragedy takes over from the other, see? Because, to me, this was worse than my husband died than what I went through as a child. This was much worse to me.

I never remarried. No. But I'm doing pretty good. I work hard all my life. Got my kids through college-- all three of them. And I'm doing OK.

You are. Very strong.

Thank you.

And very beautiful.

Thank you.

And it's when your husband died is when you start talking about your Holocaust experiences-- you mentioned off camera.

Yeah. Yeah, my son and my daughter were in high school. And, well, in fact, I went to night classes. I took typing.

And one of the-- my teacher came over to me. And he said, to me, he said, have you been in a concentration camp? And I told him, yes. And he said, oh. He said, wow, one of our teachers he has just all the Nuremberg trials. So I wonder if he would be willing to speak for them?

Then I said, well, I have to really psych myself out because I've never talked about it. And I did. It was in Burlingame, in Cupertino, Milbrae. And I-- I spoke first there.

And then I spoke at my daughter's high school in San Bruno. And I spoke for the Hadassah, a couple of times. But not as detailed as what I've told you. I only had an hour at school or two hours at school. And the kids had questions.

Right. That's wonderful.

You know, I'd like to go back a little to Auschwitz if you don't mind.

Not at all.

You went through that fast. But you were there for about eight months. Before you got sick and went into the hospital, can you talk more about your experiences-- the work you did, some of the things you saw? If you saw people being beaten, the dogs, the crematorium or what you knew about it, the gas chamber.

Well, it was very similar to Lublin. They had dogs. And there were no Ukrainians there. There was all Nazis, all Germans.

And they-- we-- what did you see? I'm sorry.

That's OK. I just wanted more details on Auschwitz.

Oh, OK.

What you witnessed there.

What I witnessed there.

If you saw any hangings, tortures.

No, I didn't see any tortures. I really never did see any tortures. I saw people being whipped, people being hung-- like I told you. Long, horrible hours of Appell-- of roll call.

Horrible jobs-- the work was terrible. You couldn't live long in Auschwitz. Auschwitz, if you lived eight months, that was it unless you had a fabulous job. But the ones who had to throw the bodies into the crematoriums, they were killed also.

So I mean, you couldn't live very long in Auschwitz. There was no way, no way. Because the work was so strenuous. The food was hardly anything there. Well, what else can I say?

I saw the-- we saw the chimneys. We had the same smell again every morning when you got up and you stood 6 o'clock outside there. You could smell the horrible smell from the bodies and from the crematoriums.

Can you describe what that smell was like? If it reminded you of anything, can you compare it to some other smell?

Well, it's like-- I remember as a child that people used to burn the feathers off of chicken.

Feathers?

Feathers of the chicken. They were not plucked. They did themselves. A lot of them plucked chickens and they burned them off. Very similar smell to that-- a horrible, fleshy, smoky smell. Terrible. Terrible smell to it.

And that smell permeated throughout the camp?

That hang-- that hang over-- over the camps. And then, of course, in the mornings, you could see the chimneys-- the smoke go up into the sky, especially was a clear sky. You could see the smoke go up. And that was the burning of the bodies.

Now, when I testified in Hamburg, the judge afterwards came with me into the hotel. He sat with me, and he talked to me. And he said to me, he said-- he asked me the story then about Auschwitz because I had to testify for Lublin-- what happened in Lublin. So we talked about Auschwitz.

And he said, he knows exactly the transport I was on when I came into Auschwitz. And I said, you do? And he said, oh, yes. I've had many court sessions about it.

And he spoke German. And I spoke English. Now, he could understand English, and I can understand German. And that's the way we communicated.

And he told us that actually our transport from Trawniki was supposed to have gone into the gas chamber. Yeah. We were supposed to have been-- everybody, also the prisoners of war should have been all gassed. And they didn't do it for some reason.

He said, for some reason, you're lucked out. That's what the judge told me. Yeah.

He was very surprised that I came alone. He said, I should have taken either my daughter or son with me. I shouldn't have come alone. So that's why he escorted me back to the hotel, which, by the way, in that hotel which I was in was, you could still feel the antisemitism. They knew why I was there, you see? That they knew that I was going to testify because they were paid for that-- for the people, the witnesses who came there.

What year was that?

That was-- oh, dear. oh, dear. 19-- either late '70s or beginning '80s. Somewhere in there. Or in the '70s. Twice I had to come there.

And I-- I forgot what I was going to say. I think I'm getting tired.

The judge said that you should have taken your son or daughter. And the hotel was antisemitic.

Oh, yeah. Very antisemitic, yeah. When I checked in, they put me in a room without heat and without radio without television. So I went downstairs, and I went downstairs, and I said, would they please have another room for me? No, they don't.

But they handed me something from-- I think it was the Jewish Welfare Federation. They handed me an envelope. And I opened it up, and they said, if you have any problems or if you need to know anything, we are here to help you. And we are only a few blocks away. So I went upstairs, got my coat, and I went to see them.

Well, the guy I saw there didn't speak a word of English. But the girl did-- his secretary. So I told them that I was sitting-- oh, no. That I-- yeah, that I was sitting in a very cold room, very miserable room, and they had nothing else for me.

There was no heat. I come from California. And that was-- I think it was in January, February I was there in Hamburg-- freezing cold. And I said, there was no radio, no television. I didn't know what to do with myself.

So he said, we'll take care of that. We'll talk to you later on. You just go back to the hotel, and we'll talk to you later.

So I went back to the hotel, and I went to the desk. And I said to the girl at the desk-- there's another girl sitting now, see? And I said, listen, I've checked in in number so and so, but would you have for the time being another room where I can at least watch television and be a little warmer?

She said, sure. She said, why don't you check in-- not check in, but just go and sit in there for a little while so you can watch television. I said, fine.

So she gave me the key, and I went in there-- beautiful room. Heat, a beautiful desk, I could watch television. There was radio.

You know what I did? I went back to my old room, took my suitcase, and I brought it up there. And I said, now, I wonder if any German can get me out of this room. Nobody's getting me out.

Good for you.

Yeah. So I sat there. And the telephone rang. No sooner that I sat down, the telephone rang. And there was that gentleman from the Jewish Welfare Federation-- not him, but somebody who spoke English. They were waiting for me downstairs in the lobby.

So I went down to the lobby. And he told me who he was. And then, he said, I understand your trouble with your room. And I said, I told you what I did. And I told him the story. And he said, good for you.

So he went over to the desk. He said, just a minute. Just stay here. And I got that room.

And I said, you know what? I wouldn't have moved out of there anyway. Not what they have done to me. No way would I have moved out of that room. They would have got me-- they had to get me the Nazi-- the SS again to get me out of there. But I told the judge that. And he said, there is a lot of antisemitism still in Germany.

And then I was invited to the most beautiful synagogue in Hamburg. They had Israelian dancers in there. And I thought to myself, I can't believe this. The most beautiful synagogue you ever saw in your life that was all rebuilt already again.

How those Jews could live there, I-- I just can't understand it. I couldn't understand. I was so glad to get out of there. You have no idea. But really, there's still a lot of antisemitism there.

Oh, yeah. Oh, really?

Yeah. Yeah.

Yeah.

Was there anything in Auschwitz? So what were your days like? You got up. You went to roll call. Then what? You went to work. Did you get food?

Well, the food we got at nighttime after you came home from work, you see? After you roll call, you got your food.



So in the morning, what happened?

In the mornings, you got up, you had roll call, you went to work. And I went to my-- either my latrine, or I went where they made me make those-- that's where I got so sick there, where I had to make those ropes.

But you walked. And you walked about a half a mile outside the gate where you dumped all that stuff. And then we could sit and rest for a few minutes.

And then you were horses again. You went back to another barrack where the latrines were, and you emptied those. And you brought that back again.

And it was all day long. You cleaned just all those holes out and put them into a big tank on an-- that was on a wagon. And you threw it go into the tank. You see all those holes you took out, you threw it in the tank.

And then, when you got half a mile outside of the camp, there was open fields. And you just let that all go out. The smell, you can imagine.

And then you came home. And you had roll call again. And it all depends. If somebody was missing, you stood there for hours and hours and hours. And if it all was in order, then you got your piece of bread and soup real fast. And then you went into the barrack, and you went to sleep or you rested.

That's all you could do because there was nothing else to do. That was your life-- is work and a little bit of food and sleep and work. And it was seven days a week.

Like I said, I mean, I worked there eight months. And I think I was at the end. I really was at the end. And my sister was too. We both were very, very ill.

She had-- well, like I said. She had typhus. She had a lot of-- a respiratory disease problem. And I think when we came out of the war, that's where she got the tuberculosis from. She was taken care of in the hospital for two years by the Red Cross.

Before she went into the hospital in the camp, were the two of you in the same barracks in Auschwitz? When you arrived in Auschwitz, were you--

Yeah. Yeah, when we arrived in Auschwitz, we were together. And then, when Beppie became ill, she went into the hospital. And they had several hospitals. You never know where it was.

And I went into another barrack because I was put on to another kommando work on the job. I was making those ropes now. So they put me into another barrack. So Beppie didn't even know which barrack I was in. So we really were split up again. And that's when we met in the hospital, you see?

Was there any support among the prisoners with each other-- all of you? I mean, did you try and help each other?

No, not really. Everybody's for his own. It was dog-eat-dog. It was fighting for yourself. Just keep yourself alive. Keep going. You didn't care about the other person. But that's what they wanted to do is cut your morale that you don't care about another person. I mean, you just took care of yourself. And that's what I did.

Did you ever-- when you were in Auschwitz, did you ever hear of the name Mengele or about the experiment block?

No. No. I found that out after we were liberated. We were liberated in Auschwitz by the Russians like I told you. And then we were in Odessa.

And in Odessa, we didn't work at all. We just sat in the barracks, and we were able to walk with the guards to the beach-- beautiful. Odessa is beautiful. And you could not go in the water because of the mines. So they just warned you just to

stay on the beach. So we walked to the beach.

And that's where I met a lot of people who had been in Auschwitz who had been liberated. And they told me about those camps and stuff like that. That's when the stories really started coming out, you see? Before that, you had no idea-- no idea what was going on there.

Yeah.

Did you ever hear about any news from the outside-- from the world? Or were you really closed off? And I know there were undergrounds--

No. Never heard anything. Never heard anything. Like I said, we really had to ask the Russians what year it was. And it was hard to talk to the Russians, you know? And what day it was. And we knew it was winter. It was cold. The snow was outside our barracks. Yeah.

Anything else? Did you find, in your experiences, the women SS harsher than the men? Or there was no difference?

Some of the women were terrible, terrible. Some of the women were real animals. Real-- yeah, some of them were really bad. I think the men sometimes were nicer than the women were.

OK.

Yeah.

Hmm. In your barracks were there other Dutch Jews? Could you communicate with anybody? Or was there--

Yes, there were. No, you didn't. I never talked to anybody. You really didn't.

You were afraid of what you said. You don't know if somebody was going to talk about you or something like that. It was very hard. No, no. you was much better off not to say a word.

Right. Was there ever in your barracks or either of the barracks, did you ever-- was there any fighting or conflict among these prisoners?

Oh, yeah. Oh, yeah. I had a fight with one Polish woman. And she broke-- a she no I had borrowed a mirror in Trawniki from somebody. I don't know who it was. Maybe to comb my hair or do something. And I broke that mirror. And they're very superstitious. So she took that piece of-- not the mirror itself, but the metal. And she broke that over my nose here. I still have the scar.

In Trawniki?

In Traw-- that was in Trawniki, yeah. And she said because that means seven years bad luck she told me. Yep-- seven years bad luck. And she really broke it right over my nose.

Oh, yeah. That was fighting in between prisoners. Oh, yeah.

What did you do? Was there bleeding? Did you need a doctor?

Yeah, I was bleeding. But you don't dare go. I just let it go.

Just let it bleed?

Just clean it up. Yeah. You don't-- you don't-- you didn't dare do anything because you didn't know which direction you would go into, you see? You would not.

I never went to a dentist either because who knows what he was going to do with my teeth. I never went to a doctor, never did anything because you never knew what they were going to go do with you.

So was there any other incidents in Auschwitz that you recall among prisoners or anything that the SS did to other prisoners-- to you or friends or other people?

No, no. There probably were, but I probably don't remember. The ones which stuck with me is the one from the lady who was hung with that German prisoner also-- both of them. Next to each other they hung them.

And we had to march by them with the music and-- always music, always singing, always music. That was one incident. And then-- no, not really. I mean, just terrible.

They lashed the people. They whipped them if they didn't make the ropes-- enough rope. Then they got so many yards for the-- yards that they didn't do it, or meters, really, meters. They got lashes.

If you get three or four meters short, you were whipped. So, boy, did you work in order not to get whipped, you see? And that's why I became very ill like I told you before.

That's when I couldn't take it no longer, and I got those huge sores on my legs. And I didn't want to go to a doctor. So then they finally put me in a hospital.

And mostly, most people in hospitals died anyway. So that's where they let you die.

You thought that was it.

Yeah.

Were there men around the camp, or did they separate you?

Separated.

So you didn't see men?

No. I know there were men camps. Oh, yeah. Oh, yes. But we were not together with the men-- never saw them.

Were you in Birkenau the whole time?

Yeah. Yeah.

How many months were you in Auschwitz before you got sick and went to the hospital?

Oh, seven months. 7 and 1/2 months. I was only just got in-- by the end, I was ready to die. I was ready to go. I had given up. I had given up. Couldn't-- couldn't eat no more. I just sores in my mouth. And my legs couldn't-- I couldn't walk my legs no more. So I had given up.

Did somebody-- did another prisoner take you to the hospital, or do they call an SS and say--

No, you go to the Kapo. And then she takes care of it, or he took care of it. He said, you can't walk anymore, you can work anymore. And then, they put you in a hospital.

You see, they not only had Kapos in the barrack where you slept. They had Kapos who took you to work. You were always-- you were always with Kapos. Besides, you had the guards always with you.

Yeah, they always guarded you.

You see? But you did not-- I did not speak to the guards. You always went to the Kapo.

How were the Kapos?

Some were pretty good. Some were terrible. Some just cooperated with the Germans. And some were pretty good.

Did you ever have a bad experience with a Kapo?

No, because I very seldom spoke to them. They were mostly Germans-- German Jews and Polish Jews-- Jews. We were with a lot of Czechoslovakians, Hungarian Jews, Czechoslovakian Jews, Germans, Dutch. I didn't see many more of other countries. Lots of Polish Jews.

Did you ever have a chance after the first time you had a shower when you arrived to bathe, to put water on your body, to get clean? Could people take a shower?

In Auschwitz?

In Auschwitz.

We had same kind of shower arrangement what Lublin had. You went to the shower, and you fought for a little bit of water under the one-- same idea. I don't know what it was. I mean, they just did it on purpose. They put 20 people into a small room like, that and they had two pieces of water going out of the ceiling. And that was it.

How often were you able to take a shower? I think you were supposed to take it once a week. I don't know if we got it, but that's when they usually marched you is to-- once a week to the showers.

And like I said, there were a couple of drips of water coming out, and everybody was fighting to get a little bit of water. And very often, the Germans were watching too while you were naked, especially in Lublin.

In Lublin, they stood behind the windows there and watched you while you-- and they love to see the women fight for that little bit of water. They got a show.

In Auschwitz, were the latrines near your barracks? If you were to go in the middle of the night, what--

Always, yeah. There was always latrines between the barracks.