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INTERVIEW OF: Stefan Einhorn

Transcribed By: Rebecca Park

11/12/84
Lynn Rappaport
San Francisco
Poland

1 Q. Where did you live in Poland?

2 A. In a little city, the name is Bochnia. It was
3 a province of Krakow, the big city.

4 Q. How old were you when the Germans occupied Poland?

5 A. Twenty--twenty-four, I think.

6 Q. What were your circumstances, what did you do?

7 A. I was--I was working in a factory in a--this
8 was my work and I was attending Krakow School, Art School
9 in ceramic.

10 Q. What were you doing in the factory?

11 A. In the factory I was making models for ceramic.
12 This was a practical work and I got paid for it but I
13 attended the school, too.

14 Q. To be a sculptor or--

15 A. A sculptor, in ceramics.

16 Q. What did your parents do, your brothers and
17 sisters?

18 A. Oh, at this time my parents were dead already.
19 My parents died before the war.

20 Q. Your parents died before the war?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. Huh. And your brothers and sisters?

23 A. I didn't have brothers. I had only two sisters.
24 One was older and the other was younger.

25 Q. Who took care of your sisters?

1 A. I did.

2 Q. You supported them?

3 A. Yes, I supported them. The younger one, of
4 course, she was in the grammar school, and the older
5 was at the university and with my work I support them.
6 We were very poor.

7 Q. You were very poor?

8 A. Right.

9 Q. And both sisters died?

10 A. One died in Auschwitz, the older one, Sofia--

11 Q. Uh huh.

12 A. --and the younger one, Helen, she died in
13 Belzec.

14 Q. How old was she?

15 A. Sixteen, was the younger one.

16 Q. What happened immediately after the occupation?

17 A. The Germans entered our city, Bochnia, in
18 1939 and right away they took the--they order (??),
19 this means the eldest of citizens. They have to govern
20 by themselves, under the direction, of course, of the
21 Nazis, the SS.

22 Q. Uh huh.

23 A. The young people, they put to work. And my
24 first experience was I was working--this was right--the
25 Polish--Polish workers and there are Jewish workers were

1 working together. But in the same evening we came from
2 work, right away I felt the discrimination even in food
3 because the Poles got the food, about a pound of bread, and
4 the Jew, only a half pound. But we didn't pay much atten-
5 tion in beginning, but right away this was--meant something
6 to us.

7 Q. Uh huh.

8 A. And later when they built the ghetto, they
9 divided the young people in working commandoes. I was
10 working--it was already the Germans entered Poland in
11 September and December I was working already in the forest
12 commando, cutting--cutting woods. There was a young SS
13 man, the leader of this group, who--in--from nowhere, we
14 are marching through the woods, and he shot the first Jew.
15 I don't know, this was--he uses some kind of psychology
16 to--to build up fear in us. And he did it, he succeeded.
17 From this day on, we're in constant fear. Who will be
18 the next whom he will shot. And this, I was working this
19 commando for about six months, but I--we're in constant
20 fear because you don't forget something like this, an
21 innocent young man in front of you, poof, one shot and
22 he's dead. And we had to bury him in--in forest and
23 every morning we're passing by this grave and the snow
24 was falling and higher later, we didn't see nothing anymore,
25 but this was our--my first experience with the Nazi cruelty

1 and death himself.

2 Q. Uh huh. What was life like in the ghetto
3 otherwise?

4 A. In beginning wasn't too bad because--I am talking
5 about young people, you know, we still would hold together
6 and we heard rumors that the Germans are someplace in
7 (??), so not very, very north of Poland they
8 are burning ghettos. But somehow didn't--didn't appear
9 that it is possible that--that they would just kill
10 innocent people, old people, children, women and men.
11 This is the 20th Century, this is impossible.

12 So watch out rumors, dark shadows, but we were
13 working. We were working. In the meantime they started
14 to concentrate on the surrounding places, the Jews, to
15 the Bochnia ghetto, from the villages, from the little
16 towns, so this ghetto swelled up. There was less of
17 food, start to be a Black Market, start to be a fight for--
18 for food.

19 So we did--the people from Bochnia, start--we
20 are surrounded by strangers, also Jews, but from other
21 cities.

22 Q. Uh huh.

23 A. (overlap of voices) --cities, and the hunger
24 started to grow and where there is hunger is Black Market.
25 And I believe that the first type of really heroism were

1 the little children, the Jewish children, who went out--
2 went out (inaudible) from the ghetto to hunt (inaudible),
3 went to the Gentile--(inaudible) to buy some food. Some
4 for money, some from clothes--from clothes and some rings,
5 some valuables. And this little child knew when it would
6 come back to the ghetto, and it will be caught, they will
7 kill him and still this child did it for the parents.

8 Q. How did you survive--live during that time?

9 A. I was working. I was working just as I said
10 in this forest commando, later (?) commando. This
11 mean--

12

13 MRS. EINHORN: Cutting--cutting wood?

14

15 Q. Later--

16 A. Cut--cut, you know when they make--they make
17 two by fours, all this stuff from wood--

18 Q. Uh huh.

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. Did they give you money or just food coupons?

21 A. Say--no, no money, no food coupons, but we
22 get rations, you know.

23 Q. Right.

24 A. Every Jew gets so much--so much food and wasn't
25 still bad because still we could--had our little food

1 on the side from the--as I said, true, because the Jews
2 still have some little left. But now restrictions started.
3 Every day a new order. Today the Jews give up all the
4 gold rings, all the valuables, all the --

5

6 MRS. EINHORN: Pieces of fur.

7

8 A. --pieces of fur or photo cameras already. So
9 whatever--whatever. And this was the physical (inaudible)
10 and later was the Jew cannot go to
11 the Jew cannot go out, and everything. Just come little
12 by little like a number, like a nobody.

13 Q. Uh huh.

14 A. And now come this 1942, this terrible year,
15 summer, when suddenly all the Jews, more Jews come to
16 this ghetto Bochnia and the SS surrounded the ghetto
17 and the first transport. This means most the Bochnia
18 Jews, much went with this transport in a terrible hot
19 day, and between my sister, too, and her friends. And
20 still we didn't know what's happened, what's happened,
21 go to work.

22 Q. How did you get out of it?

23 A. I--I was working and I have got the stamp, you
24 know.

25 Q. Yeah.

1 A. But I didn't believe--see, we didn't know what's
2 happened actually, still the rumors. But I had a girlfriend
3 and my sister were very close with this--my girlfriend--

4 Q. Uh huh.

5 A. --and they both went with the same transport.

6 Q. Uh huh.

7 A. And two days later, uh, somebody brought to the
8 ghetto a little note and on this note was written, to me,
9 "Don't worry, we are young, we are going to work."

10 Q. Ah.

11 A. So--I--I--we still didn't know. Later, of course,
12 years later, we found out that Belzec, this was the
13 (massen grave) for the Bochnia Jews--Bochnia Jews (inaudible).

14 Now, this was the first action, what they call.

15 Q. Uh huh.

16 A. Few months later, the second action came but
17 it was no more Bochnia Jews. It was all the other leftovers.

18 Q. Uh huh.

19 A. That's why we call it, the Bochnia action was
20 the last ghetto fallen.

21 Q. Is that right?

22 A. Yeah.

23 Q. So the second action happened a few months--

24 A. The second action (overlap of voices)
25 on other Jews, and I was still working, on different

1 places and after the second action--

2 Q. How many Jews were left by the time of the
3 second action?

4 A. By the first action, 600 Jews were killed
5 on the spot, and another 2,000 deported to Belzec Death
6 Camp.

7
8 MRS. EINHORN: And they died there.

9
10 Q. And they all died?

11 A. Yeah. On November 10, 1942, a second deportation
12 took place.

13 Q. November of 1942?

14 A. Yeah. Took place during which about 700 people
15 were killed and more than 500 deported to Belzec.

16 Q. And you were among the 500 deported?

17 A. No, no, no.

18
19 MRS. EINHORN: No, those died.

20
21 A. They died.

22 Q. They all died, okay.

23
24 MRS. EINHORN: Nobody came out.

25 A. (continuing) Yeah, and a short time later they

1 took us to Szebnia. This was a horrible camp. This wasn't
2 a concentration camp. They called--

3 Q. Same one you were in (To Mrs. Einhorn)?

4 A. Correct, they called it SS A _____

5 Q. What did they call it?

6 A. SS A _____ . SS is--

7

8 MRS. EINHORN: SS means--

9

10 Q. Yeah, I know what SS means.

11 A. A _____ is like a working camp. And

12 was a SS man, the leader, his name was Grzymek.

13 G r z y m e k. He was hanged after the war in Poland
14 for his crimes were committed in Belzec.

15 Q. What was his name, Grzymek?

16 A. Grzymek.

17

18 MRS. EINHORN: G-r-z-y-m-e-k.

19

20 A. I will never forget the day when the welcome

21 from Arandan. Was a Sunday. Sunday we didn't work.

22 Narandan, he took one Jew and he hanged him by the _____

23 of the fingers to a--to a two by four pole. His foot
24 were about--

25 MRS. EINHORN: Feet.

1 A. --feet were about--about two--about two--about
2 a foot from the ground. He was hanging by his--

3

4 MRS. EINHORN: By his fingers.

5

6 A. --end--by the fingers, like this. And this
7 man, in pain, was crying. He was hanged from ten
8 o'clock in the morning until four o'clock afternoon.
9 And the whole--we all stayed around and had to
10 watch it.

11 He constant was turning around himself,
12 from pain.

13 Q. Uh huh.

14 A. So this two by four come from one side almost
15 around, you know.

16 Q. Uh huh.

17 A. And afternoon this Grzymek came and shot him.
18 And when we watched the body--this was not a natural
19 body anymore because--

20

21 MRS. EINHORN: The arms.

22

23 A. --the arms would come along like a monkey and
24 his stomach was in his--

25

26 MRS. EINHORN: Heart.

1 A. --heart like this. This was the most horrible
2 death that I ever witnessed.

3 Q. Was that the worst one in all the years?

4 A. I -- I believe. Because later--you see, I was
5 still human in this point.

6 Q. Uh huh.

7 A. Later, you know, hunger and other things
8 come together, that I--I wasn't anymore sensitive
9 about death and all of this.

10 Q. Right.

11 A. Like, like, you see, sensitive. Like my
12 first experience with (Bierchinau)

13 Q. Was this in--

14 A. This was--

15 Q. --this was in Auschwitz, right?

16

17 MRS. EINHORN: That's Auschwitz.

18

19 A. Bierchinau. See, from Szebnia they brought us
20 to Bierchinau first.

21 MRS. EINHORN: Auschwitz.

22 A. This is the--this is the Auschwitz Bierchinau.

23 Q. Right. I know where Bierchen--

24 A. So the story, like my wife tell you, with the
25 senseless carrying stones, in mud, in the rain.

1 Q. You had to do the same work detail?

2 A. Yeah, from one place to another but I didn't
3 know the women, because this was for men's side.

4

5 MRS. EINHORN: Women did the same thing.

6

7 A. From one place to another, a whole day carrying
8 the stones, with no reason, with no sense. The dogs, there's
9 German Shepherds around us and if you went out a little,
10 right away grab you by the leg and you are, whatever.
11 I believe the Germans themselves were angry with the
12 senselessness, but they had to follow, they had to work
13 with us together.

14 Q. What were the guards like in Auschwitz?

15 A. I wasn't long in Auschwitz, I was just like
16 maybe four or six--this was the quarantine. You know,
17 we become terrified with everything, scared. Example,
18 they took all the clothes away in Bierchinau.

19 Our first experience was they put different
20 clothes on us, you know, from people, what they guess.

21 Q. Uh huh.

22 A. Example, when we say put some kaftan, like
23 two different shoes. If one was looking on the other,
24 we didn't recognize ourself with this, you know. This
25 was also part of humiliation. And still--still in Auschwitz

1 already we were taught, but I jumped. I will tell you
2 about the selection . . . (inaudible)

3 Q. Well, let me--I didn't want to interrupt you,
4 but if you want, you can go back and tell me about the
5 transports and selection.

6 A. Yeah, okay. From--when SS (lage Szebnia)
7 was liquidated, one night they took off all our clothes--
8 I don't know if I was embarrassed or whatever, I start
9 to--and they put us on the trains.

10 Q. They put you on the train naked?

11 A. Half naked, three quarter naked.

12

13 MRS. EINHORN: Half naked.

14

15 A. Naked when it was winter to Auschwitz. We
16 didn't know it, but we arrived in Auschwitz. It was
17 night and you know something, something out--out (?)
18 You saw some people in Zebra clothes. You never knew
19 them before, you never see. (Raus, Raus) Just everybody
20 out, out, out. And right away was a selection. I
21 didn't even know this is selection.

22 Q. Uh huh.

23 A. This was so fast, links, right--left, right,
24 left, right, left, right, and in few minutes later
25 everything was over and I saw on a -- on this--

1 (INAUDIBLE CONVERSATION WITH MRS. EINHORN.)

2

3 A. A few minutes later I saw a group of people,
4 in between was her father. They was pushed to a place
5 and later we found out they were immediately taken to
6 the gas chambers. And we, suddenly, once I am in a group
7 of people and the same night we have to sit the whole
8 night and we--still we didn't know what's happened to
9 us, why and what.

10 Q. Uh huh.

11 A. All night on the ground and it was a cold night,
12 cold winter night.

13 Q. Were you still without clothes?

14 A. I don't even know was a little something on
15 me because following day they took us to the showers,
16 showers--two drops of water, and they give us some
17 clothes, you know, and their leader, (inaudible), he
18 said, "Now, you're in a concentration camp," and explained
19 to us what a concentration is, is anything what--you know,
20 you have to obey order because when you went in did you
21 see "Arbeit Macht Frei" on the gate?

22

23 MRS. EINHORN: Said Work Makes you Free.

24 A. Yeah, yeah, and we talk, this, how will happen.

25 Q. Did you have any friends with you at that time?

1 A. No, no, no, no. Nobody because everything was
2 divided, everybody was pushed in different places.

3 Q. How did you feel that first few days?

4 A. That is strange because started to be rumors,
5 you know, the other--the inmate, the other inmate said
6 to us, you know, here is the gas chambers.

7 Q. Could you smell it?

8 A. Wait a minute, wait a minute. I was in Auschwitz
9 already and I still didn't believe that the gas chambers.
10 I still didn't believe, I still said this is the 20th
11 Century, still was in my--of course, later, later we
12 find out about it and we knew it is. Smell it, and how,
13 smell it. Constantly. Like burnt feather, like burnt
14 rubber, like I--you cannot even compare.

15

16 MRS. EINHORN: And smoke.

17

18 Q. And smoke, yeah, hard to see, I read, because--

19 A. They started to divide us in groups of working--
20 working people.

21 Q. Uh huh.

22 A. Luckily enough, was fate or whatever, said I
23 was--I say, ask me, what do you know to do. I said I
24 am a painter, I know how to paint. So they put me to
25 the "maller" commando, painters' commando. And I was

1 working but the hunger started to be terrible.

2 I don't know, maybe I was young, maybe I needed
3 more food, but constantly I was hypnotized by hunger.

4 And this -- this, they send me to the Maderlag,
5 it was Auschwitz, and surrounding --

6 Q. Uh huh.

7 A. --this was Szebnia, was the name of the camp
8 where they--I'm sorry, the name of the Swietochowice--
9 Swietochowice. Swietochowice, this was the name of
10 the concentration camp.

11 Q. Do you know how to spell it?

12 A. Yeah, I will.

13

14 MRS. EINHORN: S-w-i-e-t-o-c-h-o-w-i-c-e.

15 Q. Okay, that was a camp you were--

16 A. Yeah. Yeah, but before they send me to Swietochowice,
17 of course, in Auschwitz, they tatoored me with the number,
18 this is the number, hundred sixty-one thousand, hundred
19 seventy three.

20 Q. One--

21 A. 161,173.

22 Q. For you it was also a lucky number?

23 A. Ah, I--yeah, I never--

24

25 MRS. EINHORN: No, the gypsy made me aware

1 of it.

2 INTERVIEWER: I know.

3 MRS. EINHORN: I had no idea that I was lucky.

4 It was not lucky to me.

5 A. I never thought about it. So I--I was working
6 as a painter painting the barracks with others and the
7 hunger was terrifying. I don't know, probably I didn't
8 have the ability to organize, I didn't know how to do
9 it.

10 Q. You didn't do it either?

11 A. No, I didn't do it and I didn't know. But was
12 electrician also working, an electrician, and one day
13 this was winter and he said to me, speak, you know, if
14 you will go down in the cellar, I've some frozen beets.

15 Q. Ah.

16
17 MRS. EINHORN: Red beets.

18 A. Red beets. And I knew that they kill you
19 in a concentration camp just because Jewish, with no
20 reason. And if they would catch me, they kill me
21 thousand time. But the hunger was so strong that
22 I will never forget, this dark cellar. I went down--I--
23 and suddenly I see the little stirs. This was the rats.

24 Q. Ah.

25 A. Rats. And I start to feel the coolness of

1 them.

2 Q. Uh huh.

3 A. And somehow the rat was become my friend, because
4 I was a rat myself. I grabbed, uh--

5

6 MRS. EINHORN: Piece of beet.

7 A. --a piece of beet and it was so frozen that
8 I broke the teeth.

9 Q. Oh.

10 A. But I didn't even feel the pain on the--I felt
11 a little of this--this--

12 MRS. EINHORN: Blood.

13 A. --blood, and I knew that I cannot take this
14 out with me because if they catch me, but I ate as much
15 as I could, and I went out and somehow I survive.

16 Nobody got me in this--in this--with this experience.

17 (laughs) And I doubt--I doubt that ever in my life, the
18 best food in the best restaurants in the world would
19 ever taste as this--

20 Q. Beets?

21 A. --this frozen beet with my friends, the rats.

22 Q. So you lived on the rations in the camp also?

23 A. I--I--

24 Q. You couldn't get other food?

25 A. No, but from Auschwitz, of course, from this

1 Swietochovice they send us to--started the letter--the
2 word was 'progressive'.

3 Q. What was your rations at Swieto--at the paint
4 commando?

5 A. In the morning--pardon? What?

6 MRS. EINHORN: Coffee in the morning.

7 A. In the morning coffee, if you called it coffee.
8 Some dirty water. I don't know what was.

9 Q. Dirty water.

10 A. Lunchtime, lunchtime we used to get some soup.
11 What this soup is, you have to--I saw some kind vegetables.
12 Also if you're lucky you get some vegetables in the
13 beginning. Later there was no--because was just a
14 little water. In the evening they used to give you
15 bread, but wasn't bread, they used to give you (?)

16 MRS. EINHORN: Bowl.

17
18 A. Red bowl, and in this bowl was--was some . . .

19
20 MRS. EINHORN: Crumbled up--

21 A. Crumbled up, uh---

22 MRS. EINHORN: --crumbs.

23 A. Crumbs.

24 Q. Crumbs?

25 A. Yeah. And you--my goodness, how you ate is not

1 to lose a drop of this crumbs, you know, and also I--I--I
2 always ate everything that they give me because I don't
3 know what would be tomorrow, the gas chamber or whatever.

4 MRS. EINHORN: (inaudible)--piece of salami.

5 A. Oh, yeah, and once in a while was a piece of--

6 MRS. EINHORN: Salami.

7 A. --liverwurst or--

8 Q. Salami.

9 A. --or salami. But in this commando where I
10 was working, also painting commando and Swietochowice,
11 I was a little more lucky because I was spraying the
12 German anti--with the state craft guns.

13 MRS. EINHORN: Aircraft guns.

14 A. They used to make the aircraft guns and I was
15 spraying with acetone--the paint was with acetone--

16 Q. Uh huh.

17 A. --very fast drying, so the Germans used to
18 give us, maybe a half pint of milk because, you know,
19 for your lungs.

20 Q. The acetone is real bad for your lungs, huh?

21 A. Yeah, yeah, but always I took the milk and I
22 give the milk away to give me some bread.

23 Q. Oh.

24 A. So I have a little more bread. This was the
25 only organizing I--

1 Q. Oh, the only time you organized?

2 A. Yeah, was organized.

3 Q. Huh. Okay, what happened after that?

4 A. What happened?

5 MRS. EINHORN: Mauthausen.

6 Q. You're--you went to Mauthausen?

7 A. Okay, this--end of Winter 1944, somehow we find
8 out that the war is--the war comes macht now to Europe
9 and they started to evacuated this--Auschwitz, Auschwitz
10 and Swietochovice, and we are the lucky one, we didn't
11 have to go with the (?) as much. We--they took
12 us by train straight to Mauthausen, and we arrived at
13 Mauthausen in January--January--by end of January, 1945.
14 In '45 until the day of liberation I was in Mauthausen.

15 In Mauthausen I was sent also to a camp named
16 Guzen Zwei--Guzen Two.

17 MR. EINHORN: How you spell it, Guzen?

18 MRS. EINHORN: Guzen?

19 MR. EINHORN: Yeah.

20 MRS. EINHORN: G-u-z-e-n.

21 Q. Guzen Two?

22 A. Yeah.

23 Q. Okay.

24 A. And again, somehow I--this Guzen Two I become
25 again a painter, but my job was to paint on the Messerschmidt.

1 This means the fighting airplanes, the--

2 MRS. EINHORN: Swastika.

3 A. --inside the motor are different--different
4 wires and each wire is painted with different colors
5 and we're sitting . . . line of prisoners and doing this
6 job, but the couple--he was, I believe from Silencia--

7 MRS. EINHORN: Silencia.

8 A. --before the war he was already a professional
9 murderer--a (?) they call them. He had a very
10 kind type of sport. You are sitting like this and
11 painting and I was -- was a Hungarian Jew, and I was
12 starting to whisper, we couldn't talk. Painting, you
13 know, you sit, if you're lucky enough, you don't have
14 to--and you sit and paint, and I talk and suddenly
15 nobody else is, but he like a cat, he used to come behind,
16 put a wire and grab this little guy and you look, he
17 hangs him already. This was his--his--(overlap of
18 voices)

19 Q. His idea of sport?

20 A. Yeah, this was documented by several others.

21 Q. I've read about that before.

22 A. Yes. And I have now can't imagine in what
23 condition you work and you live, that any minute somebody,
24 you'll be the next, you know? And this how--I work
25 like in this condition to the day of liberation. This was

1 May 5th, 1945, Saturday afternoon. And this--here was
2 really tragedy started because--

3 Q. May fifth?

4 A. May fifth, 1945. You see, the Americans
5 such warmhearted soldiers, they didn't realize. They
6 started to throw sardines and sausages to the camp.
7 Imagine, after so many years of starvation, a guy
8 grabs a sardines, gets dysentery and he's dead. And so
9 many died after liberation.

10 Q. Oh!

11 A. I was lucky enough with a friend, we didn't
12 want to and they ordered, say stay in camp, but I didn't
13 want to stay in camp. With another friend we left the
14 camp. We left the camp and we went to Linz. This is a
15 city in Germany.

16 Q. How do you spell it?

17 A. A city in Austria.

18 MRS. EINHORN: L-i-n-z.

19 A. A city in Austria, not far from Mauthausen.

20 MRS. EINHORN: L-i-n-z.

21 Q. City in Austria?

22 A. Yeah. And we started to work, me and my friend,
23 we started to work for the American-built hospital.

24 Q. Well--

25 A. I believe it was--

1 Q. How--were you strong? How much did you weigh?

2 A. I was okay.

3 Q. You were okay?

4 A. I was okay. I--this was--I will tell you the
5 story, this was American built hospital and me and my
6 friend, we started to do manual work, whatever was
7 necessary for them, and they was so compassionate, they
8 know our story, what's happened, and lunchtime, we--we
9 used to eat together with the officers, with the soldiers
10 together. They give us uniforms and we was written a
11 Polish worker--

12 Q. Uh huh.

13 A. (inaudible-overlap of voices) And every day
14 I remember was Thanksgiving and they have turkeys
15 and oranges and stuff what we didn't see for
16 so many years, but every day after everything was
17 finish, me and my friend, we stole the bread.

18 Q. Oh.

19 MRS. EINHORN: And put it away.

20 A. And put it away, and when this unit left
21 out here to Germany, we left the whole house with
22 bread.

23 Q. Why did you steal the bread?

24 A. You see, the constant in our mind, the hunger,
25 bread, bread was so important and still constant fear

1 maybe they would go away and we got that bread.

2 Q. Oh.

3 A. So we left the bread--

4 Q. And you never ate it?

5 A. Of course not.

6 Q. But when they liberated you--

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. --you were okay, you were not skinny, you had
9 not lost a great deal of weight?

10 MRS. EINHORN: Of course he was skinny.

11 A. Skinnier, but you see, oh, yeah, on day of
12 liberation, skinny. My legs were swollen out like
13 this--

14 Q. Right. From--

15 A. And my face was so round like the moon from
16 lack of nourishment and probably another two weeks I
17 would be in the gas chamber too.

18 Q. You would have died.

19 A. Yeah, but amazing recovery. Maybe four weeks
20 after, I was already normal, the water is gone. Maybe
21 the food, and I was still, you know.....

22 Q. Four weeks?

23 A. Four, six weeks, and I was already normal, but--
24 but the really tragedy was started because I experience
25 also in Austria--this was in Austria, after liberation,

1 that we had---there was an unwritten law you can kill
2 every German what you see.

3 Q. You could?

4 A. Yeah, sure, sure. We could have weapons and
5 everything. And this was start--where our tragedy
6 started because was May, was a beautiful, beautiful days,
7 and in camp I was surrounded with death and with hunger
8 and this was gone, suddenly see I'm left alone in the
9 world.

10 Q. Huh.

11 A. And I believe that--not only me, this is--maybe
12 this is hard for me to talk about all the Jewish people,
13 that is something that not to kill. The tragedy that
14 happened to us was stronger is that--so what's good
15 that you killed some Germans--your father, your mother,
16 your brother, your sister, will not--not come to life.
17 The tragedy, what certain was stronger.

18 And later on when I went to the German cities
19 Hamburg and so, and I saw the little German children,
20 with the big eyes as once the Jewish children, and so
21 what's the use? Hitler destroyed, Fascism destroyed
22 not only the Jewish people, but all others, but his
23 own people, too.

24 Q Did you ever want to kill Kappos or SS?

25 A. I didn't have to because other--other people

1 did for me, other did for me and I saw it. Oh, boy.

2 Q. They did kill the Kappos and find them--

3 A. Yeah. The most--the most was the Russian prisoners,
4 the Russian-Gentile prisoners, in most cases. They
5 took revenge. They killed practically every Kappel.

6 Q. And every SS they could find?

7 A. At first, you see the big heroes, the conquerors
8 of the world, thousand years in Germany. They become the
9 biggest cowards. First of all, they run away, they
10 run away from Mauthausen, and they sent the old people,
11 I believe the tired firemen and all innocent people,
12 they put them in the German--in the SS uniform.

13 Q. Huh. So you couldn't find them?

14 A. I didn't look--as I said, I wasn't interested in
15 killing them. You know, right away the movement started,
16 what I was busy, when I was a young boy in Poland, the
17 dream about Israel, you know, that we started to organize
18 right away, (inaudible) the groups, and so life started
19 to go on.

20 Q. Did you want to go to Israel?

21 A. I wanted to go--yeah, in meantime I forgot one
22 expects, uh, incident. We got married, too. (laughs)

23 Q. You found your wife?

24 A. We find each other, and she told you already under
25 what conditions. I wrote my first letter--my first love

1 letter to her was if she knows what's happened to my
2 sister, younger sister. And, of course, she knows that
3 she's dead.

4 Q. So you--

5 A. My life in camp prison different from others.

6 Q. Well, everyone has different experiences.

7 A. Yeah.

8 Q. Did you have any time in the camp when you were
9 almost killed, that you were selected or you were
10 beaten or that you were--

11 A. I will tell you, in Mauthausen, who--who came
12 from Mauthausen knows as--as--this poet, the Jewish
13 poet wrote, when you go to Mauthausen, you limp there
14 a little bit and squeeze, the Jewish blood come out.
15 Mauthausen was a horrible camp for Jewish people. Terrible.
16 I mean, we're on the constant death sentence, could happen
17 any minute because this experience what I tell you by
18 the painting commando was every minute. You never know--
19 knew what conditions. To kill a Jew is a cockroach,
20 to step on it.

21 So actually wasn't one incident was close to
22 me--two hundred--

23 Q. Do you --

24 A. And still--and still the will to survive.

25 Q. How do you think you--

1 A. I--I--

2 Q. --how--you think that's the will to survive?

3 A. Part of it. Part of it you know was something
4 in you so strong that even you believe--you believe and
5 everything tells you will not hurt you and you still
6 believe in it. You want to see what will happen, how
7 Fascism will die, how Fascism will be destroyed, how--
8 how the suffering for millions, how this will be
9 revolted, what would happen.

10 Q. So you wanted to live to see Fascism destroyed?

11 A. I--

12 Q. That was one element?

13 A. Yeah, one of the other ways. One was element
14 but the first element was what will happen to the Jewish
15 people? Some, some--what will happen to just . . .
16 cobblestones.

17 MRS. EINHORN: But you were interested to know.

18 MR. EINHORN: Yes, yes. (inaudible)

19 Q. So you wanted to live because you wanted to
20 see Fascism destroyed--

21 A. Yeah.

22 Q. --you wanted to live to--

23 A. To--just to live--

24 MRS. EINHORN: To live.

25 A. --to--what will happen to the Jewish people,

1 what will happen? Is it true just cobble--I don't know
2 how say it. Is this possible that the whole people
3 would be destroyed.

4 Q Oh.

5 A. I just wanted to know. It was--

6 Q. You wanted to know if--

7 A. (inaudible)

8 Q. You don't know the translation?

9 A. No.

10 MRS. EINHORN: No, it just want to know, that's
11 it.

12 Q. It means you want to know?

13 MRS. EINHORN: Anxious. He was anxious to
14 know.

15
16 A. Anxious to know this, that maybe in this
17 century, a whole people, innocent people, has no
18 more power and the history will be complete destroyed.

19 Q. Was there ever a time that you were about
20 to give up?

21 A. Oh, yes. Oh, yeah, many times when the
22 hunger took over, where--where the force of hunger
23 was stronger as the appeal for death, yeah, there were
24 moments like this.

25 Q. And you thought you would give up?

1 A. (No audible answer.)

2 Q. Never? Never once?

3 A. You see I was a struggle, was a struggle.

4 Q. Constant--

5 A. Constant struggle, constant struggle, because
6 if you can put the emotions away from letting use
7 logic, so what is of important to get up tomorrow,
8 another day of torture, humiliation--

9 Q. Right, right.

10 A. --of helplessness, of hopelessness, and still,
11 still when you got up in the morning and you were not
12 in the gas chamber, still you wanted to live.

13 Q. Did you ever get beaten?

14 A. In 1945, which was February, and I was working
15 in this painting commando, and I had my number, this
16 number from---on my hand, the tatoo on my hand was
17 on my working--

18 MRS. EINHORN: Clothes.

19 A. --clothes, on the overalls. And some--every
20 little time new--new SS leaders came to the camp and
21 came to this place where working, and a young man, he look--a
22 young SS man, he looks at me and sees this number--you
23 (inaudible), you come here.

24 And he looks at the number, it's 161,000, and
25 I don't know how he figure out, he said, "You legst too

1 long." "You live too long. You live too long."

2 I wrote this down for the German. And he
3 takes me in the corner, and I still didn't know what
4 was happening. He takes out the gun and start to shoot
5 me. He hit me with the (overlap of voices with Mrs.
6 Einhorn - word inaudible) handle and the--from the--
7 with the handle from the gun to my teeth. I don't know
8 how many he knocked out, I remember falling down. And
9 are still doctors from this hospital what I tell you
10 I was working--doctor's name was Paul-a (phonetic); he
11 fix, he took out the--after the war, the rest of it, he
12 did some false--how say--

13 Q. Yeah, false teeth.

14 A. Yeah. And he fixed this. And this happens
15 seconds--

16 Q. You mean an SS just came up and said you'd been
17 living--you've lived too long and--

18 A. Yeah, you live too long. I don't know how he
19 looked it, and just--well, but you don't--well, you--I
20 still can see in front of my--the gun, when he took him out
21 like this and a step like this, he turned around and,
22 cha!, like this and the holding--the lip was -- and
23 maybe three or four--

24 Q. Why do you think he did that?

25 A. Because you lives too long, maybe--maybe because

1 my number, you know--

2 Q. Well, why do you think he hit you instead of
3 shooting you?

4 A. Maybe because I--you see, I noticed, said
5 every time a Jew, when he started to beg, to cry, the
6 Germans become more vicious.

7 Q. And then they kill him?

8 A. Yeah. Kill him and torture them. I didn't
9 say a word. I just look at him. I don't know. Heh.
10 Maybe--not because I was heroic. I look at him, in his
11 face and his eyes, and rather I didn't understand what
12 is happening.

13 Q. Hmm.

14 A. Actually I didn't--there was no fear in it because
15 I didn't know what he's going to do because was no reason
16 for it, you know. I--I didn't do nothing wrong by work, I
17 do sabotage or something. I look in his face, maybe
18 he thought lack of fear is what--who knows? Who knows?

19 Q. He changed his mind. For some reason he
20 changed his mind?

21 MRS. EINHORN: Just changed mind (inaudible)

22 A. Yes. And I believe this is, if you will ask
23 the average guy, how come you alive?

24 Q. Uh huh.

25 A. It's just pure incidence (sic), but same time, you

1 see--

2 Q. Pure luck, you mean? Pure chance?

3 A. Pure chance, pure luck, I don't know. This is
4 why so hard, I believe many of us--maybe most of us,
5 subconscious we have some guilt.

6 Q. For being alive?

7 A. For being alive, right. Because when you're
8 in underworld, like in Poland, what kind of scholars and
9 educators and people contributed so much to -- to the
10 work civilization, universal, they are dead and you ask,
11 your little girl, you're alive, well, you know, and very
12 often--it's a sadder, you know, holidays--

13 Q. Uh huh.

14 A. --when you have some friends and guests and
15 are sitting by the table, usual like our people never--
16 always happiness, but suddenly in the most festival
17 moment, right Auschwitz come back and we talk again, by
18 this food, by this all. So I still feel that physically
19 we left Auschwitz, but emotionally there is still at
20 Auschwitz and we'll go with it until our (?)

21 Q. Well, you still remember it.

22 A. Yeah, you see, it doesn't--we--

23 Q. But it hasn't ruined your life in that you had
24 children, you got married--

25 MRS. EINHORN: But still ruined our--we cannot

1 enjoy (overlap of voices, inaudible)

2 A. We--we had children, we got married, you see,
3 everything, but you know, you look on your children and
4 you see, you--very often, what is their future? What--

5 Q. Uh huh.

6 A. --what--when--okay, where is relation fades
7 away few more years--

8 Q. Uh huh.

9 A. --(inaudible)--but what--like maybe one (?) --
10 now, now, this very often--probably so many will not
11 agree with me, is how did my father got the courage to
12 make me Jewish?

13 Q. Uh huh.

14 A. And his father before him, me, I will love the
15 children, and right away, few is enough, that they be
16 killed again. So this is--

17 Q. Do you think--

18 A. --this is how we manifest our love for the
19 children, it's constant struggle with me, you know--

20 MRS. EINHORN: Yeah.

21 A. --it's very, very often a struggle.

22 MRS. EINHORN: I am proud to be Jewish, I
23 am very proud of my Jewish name, but many
24 times (?) you know, did we do right,
25 what would happen to our children, they don't

1 have to go through the same thing what we
2 were.

3 A. I--I love the United States. This country
4 was always good for you--we came here with broken
5 heart, with no money, and can still somehow, somehow,
6 you know, pick work with tools and we gave confidence--

7 MRS. EINHORN: Confidence.

8 Q. Confidence?

9 A. Because when I left the camp I had more
10 confidence toward doctors, toward human beings, and
11 because of United States, but still same side, we
12 ask, can it happen here? Of course can happen here.

13 (Pause.)

14 Q. You think it could happen with the Jews
15 again here, they could be--

16 A. Yes, yeah, could happen.

17 Q. How?

18 MRS. EINHORN: This is Germans were not some
19 people--

20 A. No, people with such high culture in civilization
21 like the Germans and then (?) during the one night
22 they changed to barbarians and childkillers. So what's
23 about--what's about all others who come to this land
24 and who are--who are the enemies of the Jews, people
25 from generations, the Poles and the Ukranians and the

1 weiss--white Russians, people just (inaudible . . .)

2 I hope we'll never have.

3 Q. I hope so, too.

4 A. Yeah, but you know this constant struggle
5 is here. Not for my life but for my children and for
6 all other children and with no--no--not necessary
7 Jewish children, because the Second War, Jewish children
8 died, but so many other children, too.

9 Q. Well, do you worry about the Nuclear Arms
10 race at all?

11 A. Of course I worry, of course I do. Of course,
12 because I know, how can I not worry if I--in the
13 Second World War they used only conventional
14 weapons, and whole cities were destroyed. And terrible,
15 the hunger and all with it, all suffering, so what's
16 about more powerful weapons, and my opinion, nobody
17 wins in wars. Nobody.

18 Q. Could I--let me go back to the camp. Did you
19 have anybody helping you live when you were in Matthausen
20 or Auschwitz?

21 A. No.

22 Q. No friends? No help?

23 A. No, we knew each other by numbers. How--who
24 could help me if I couldn't help? What work--what could
25 I share with -- even if I knew the guy by number and he

1 was a fairly nice guy, what could I share with him? Mein
2 hunger or his hunger?

3 My supper?

4 Q. I just read so many accounts of how most--so
5 many people say they couldn't have lived without their
6 friends' help.

7 A. No, because you see it like this. Some were
8 luckier and used to work on commandos.

9 Q. Oh.

10 A. That was more like you was in the kitchen.

11 Q. Uh huh.

12 A. Maybe you had yourself a little more food, but
13 what could I give the guy? Paint, what I was painting,
14 because--

15 Q. You know, just where they fell during roll
16 call and their friend helped them up or --

17 MRS. EINHORN: Something like that, yes.

18 Q. --you held them up during roll call, did that
19 ever happen? Somebody helping you up or keeping you
20 on your feet when you were trying to--

21 A. You see, you see, I went through all the
22 camps pretty healthy.

23 Q. You did.

24 A. Yeah, I never, never experienced one sick
25 but if I--you see, I'm by nature, you know, I don't

1 give up so easy. When--she has to push me, I--who
2 said that once, that I belong to the people who have a
3 checkup twice a life, when they are born, when they die.

4 (Everyone laughs.) I -- I didn't--

5 Q. You were very healthy?

6 A. Yes, I was healthy, yes.

7 MRS. EINHORN: Uh huh.

8 Q. What happened after you--you met and you
9 got married and you had your first daughter, then you
10 came to this country, so tell me about that.

11 A. We came to this country and her aunt wrote us
12 a letter, was in New Jersey--

13 (END SIDE ONE OF TAPE RECORDING)

14 And we landed in New Orleans and was the choice
15 to go straight from New Orleans to her house, to New
16 Jersey, or to San Francisco to camp--camp displaced
17 persons call it.

18 Q. Uh huh.

19 A. And so we decide, no, we need some house, was
20 some kind stupid or false prideness, we will start our
21 life with no . . . (inaudible) --nobody.

22 Q. And you came to San Francisco?

23 A. We came to San--the beautiful--

24 Q. 1950?

25 MRS. EINHORN: '50.

1 A. '50. Came to San Francisco--

2 Q. Who paid for your way?

3 A. And ironically the next morning the war in
4 Korea started.

5 Q. Oh.

6 MRS. EINHORN: I think it's a Jewish, a joint
7 distribution (inaudible)--

8 A. Yeah, joint distribution--(inaudible)--

9 MRS. EINHORN: (overlap of voices)

10 A. But New Orleans--in New Orleans, now I will
11 tell you New Orleans experience. It was a very hot
12 day because we came on June 21st, you know, all the
13 mostquitoes and this stuff is nothing. So my wife, she--
14 she spoke a little English so she took care of some
15 formalities, paperwork--

16 Q. Uh huh.

17 A. --with this community, and I went, I saw Coca Cola,
18 and this I remember from Poland and I said I will go
19 because I have and I will drink a Coca Cola, and I got
20 some ten cent or twenty--I don't know even the money.

21 Q. Uh huh.

22 A. And I saw, Coca Cola, more with (?)
23 and I got the Coca Cola, everybody look at me. And I
24 said, what, my goodness, how smart this American people
25 are, look, that they know, they recognize already a refugee.

1 Q. Huh!

2 A. And later my wife come in and say, come on,
3 (?), don't you see what's already happen, written
4 for colors only--colors only.

5 Q. Oh.

6 A. I didn't know, I didn't know. And going out--
7 going out I saw a barber shop for colors only and I saw
8 the bus and I said let's go back, we are again in a Nazi
9 complex.

10 Q. (laughing)

11 A. You see, again--again--

12 MRS. EINHORN: That's a terrible impression.

13 A. Again, you know--

14 Q. A terrible impression.

15 A. --we are so sensitive then, you know, look and
16 see, what did we come, look at this, we are again, again
17 look as if yesterday, we had for Jews only. Look is--
18 this was the nicest part.

19 Q. So then you left New Orleans and came--

20 A. We left New Orleans and we came to San Francisco.

21 Q. How long did you stay in New Orleans?

22 MRS. EINHORN: Just for the night, I think.

23 Q. Oh, just overnight, okay.

24 A. I feel sorry for the women in New Orleans, my
25 goodness, with the short sleeves and constantly--

1 MRS. EINHORN: Mosquitoes.

2 A. --mosquitoes. How they get used to it--

3 MRS. EINHORN: We landed, we landed.

4 Our boat landed in New Orleans.

5 A. Yeah, in the harbor.

6 Q. Oh, so then you flew to --

7 MRS. EINHORN: And then to San Francisco--no,

8 by train.

9 A. By train--

10 MRS. EINHORN: To Los Angeles. Los Angeles.

11 A. By train, three days to Los Angeles and

12 beautiful San Francisco where I . . . (inaudible).

13 Q. How did you make your way here? How did you

14 live, what did you do?

15 A. Well, they first--they put us someplace downtown

16 in a hotel.

17 MRS. EINHORN: Stay for two weeks.

18 A. For two weeks hotels. For two weeks hotel, and

19 they tell us go look for--for a place to live.

20 Q. Uh huh.

21 A. And we go--me, my wife, and Anna--she was three

22 year old, and wherever we saw for rent, we went in, oh,

23 what a beautiful child, but no children, no pets.

24 Q. Oh. Even then?

25 A. Yeah. And yeah, her legs were swollen, and

1 finally we came to feel so disgusted already. Some lady,
2 you Jewish? Yeah.

3 And she was a Jew, she's dead already, and she
4 took us in to her apartment.

5 MRS. EINHORN: She had (?)
6 in her apartment--in her apartment house.

7 A. In her apartment house, and I saw (?)
8 refrigerator, is a butler, and this was this (?
9 . . .)

10 MRS. EINHORN: (?)

11 A. (continuing . . . ? . . .) in a world, that,
12 well, you know, after our experience, everything was
13 new, like a child, you know. You started to live again.
14 And she explained to me the--this wall bed, you know--

15 Q. What kind of bed?

16 A. A wall bed, you know.

17 Q. Oh, a wall bed!

18 MRS. EINHORN: A wall bed.

19 A. And I want to see how this wall bed worked.

20 Q. (Laughing)

21 A. You don't understand, really, you know, what's
22 happened to my husband, you know?

23 MRS. EINHORN: Funny.

24 A. And, okay, now . . . you have to work, you have
25 to make a living.

1 Q. Did they give you money to live on?

2 A. For two weeks. For they -- provided they could
3 support us longer, but for the first weeks, and again
4 this lady, ceramic--how can you work ceramic, you know,
5 ceramic--

6 MRS. EINHORN: Costume jewelry?

7 A. No, the ceramic what I used to know in Europe.

8 Q. Ah.

9 A. Ceramic, like, you know. You don't have here
10 factories like this. They make the children and women,
11 so you cannot support a wife. So again, I took the
12 little brush and I become--no, first -- first I went to
13 work--

14 MRS. EINHORN: Custom.

15 A. --to a custom jeweler, you know.

16 Q. Uh huh.

17 A. And--how long?

18 MRS. EINHORN: Not long.

19 A. About six, eight months. It was hard work but--

20 Q. What were you making?

21 A. I don't know, maybe \$28.

22 MRS. EINHORN: And then you washed laundry--

23 A. Yeah, later--later I was working in a laundry,
24 in Pacific hospital laundry, also (?), and later
25 I said okay, so I will change the style brush to a wall

1 brush--to a wall brush, and I become a house painter.
2 For how many, maybe for 16 years. I was working for
3 one company and they liked me, I like them and this is
4 how we save a little money.

5 MRS. EINHORN: I was managing apartment house.

6 INTERVIEWER: You were managing an apartment
7 house?

8 MRS. EINHORN: Yes.

9 A. And--and--yes, and the boss'--the house of
10 my boss belong in marina. He took us to his apartment
11 and we paid less rent but we're to--

12 MRS. EINHORN: Manage.

13 A. --manage apartment. And later on when we had
14 a little money, me and my friend, we came from the same
15 city, we opened a store.

16 Q. Was he also a concentration camp --

17 MRS. EINHORN: Yes.

18 A. Yes, yes. Somehow we worked another 15 years
19 in the store and--

20 Q. What kind of store?

21 MRS. EINHORN: Grocery.

22 A. It was groceries, little--

23 Q. Where?

24 A. In Mission--Mission 18th.

25 Q. 18th?

1 A. Yeah.

2 Q. And you worked there 15--you had the store for
3 15 years?

4 A. Plus 17 years--17.

5 MRS. EINHORN: Uh huh, 17.

6 A. 17 and on the day of my birthday, when I was
7 65, we sold the store and we retired and we--

8 Q. You didn't like working there?

9 A. Pardon me?

10 Q. You didn't like it?

11 MRS. EINHORN: Oh, he liked it.

12 A. Yeah, I--I can--I can--yeah, I liked it, I
13 liked it.

14 MRS. EINHORN: (inaudible) people.

15 A. I liked it because, you see, it was, uh, poor
16 people and somehow I always believed that the
17 poor are the most honest.

18 Q. Ah.

19 A. And we had fun, you know, making a living.
20 Meantime our children got married and we got old
21 and--

22 MRS. EINHORN: That much in Auschwitz, such
23 a small thing, I remember somebody said it's
24 18 of January.

25 INTERVIEWER: Uh huh.

1 MRS. EINHORN: And 18, I don't know if you
2 know in Jewish, in Hebrew, eighteen means life.

3 INTERVIEWER: Uh huh.

4 MRS. EINHORN: Life. So I said, 18, that means
5 I have to survive. You know, you hold on to
6 it like somebody who is drowning hold on to a
7 piece of wood. I said, yes, I have to survive.
8 See, such a small thing. Like the gypsy telling
9 me my number is lucky, I have to survive.
10 You understand?

11 INTERVIEWER: Yes, yes. It gave you a will.

12 MRS. EINHORN: Those are the things--yes,
13 those are the things, and of course, plus
14 that that I myself by nature am an optimist and
15 believe that I have to survive, I have to live.
16 And altogether--

17 MR. EINHORN: And plenty luck, too, and--

18 MRS. EINHORN: Yes, oh, and luck, too, of course.
19 But I mean, will to survive--

20 MR. EINHORN: And I wanted, too, you see.

21 MRS. EINHORN: Yeah.

22 MR. EINHORN: It was very important, the
23 commando for which you work.

24 INTERVIEWER: Uh huh. You told me something
25 last Sunday that I thought was very interesting.

1 MR. EINHORN: Uh huh.

2

3 Q. You said that Death was walking around in your--
4 in your pocket?

5 A. Yeah.

6 Q. You carried Death in your pocket?

7 A. Yeah, this--

8 MRS. EINHORN: Not Death.

9 A. No, I mean like a death sentence because --

10 MRS. EINHORN: Death sentence.

11 A. --is death sentence for year and death, you
12 don't (inaudible)--

13 Q. No, you said Death was like in my pocket.

14 A. Yeah, that's right.

15 Q. "So Death became my friend."

16 A. That's--yeah--

17 Q. That's what you said, "Death became my friend."

18 A. I still say it, yes. Because--because like
19 I said, what do I fear death for? If I would die
20 tomorrow, I don't have to get up and be humiliated and
21 be tortured and be another day, another day of suffering,
22 in this sense. What's wrong with it? You see. If
23 you are dead, when you have so much to lose, your health
24 and everything, and here, what you lose? Another --
25 another day of --

1 Q. So you weren't afraid of dying?

2 A. No, I wasn't afraid of dying. I was more
3 afraid of hunger and today if they give me--I don't
4 know what kind of psychology, whoever is and let him
5 distinguish the difference, what is stronger, the
6 fear of death or the--the pang of hunger? Hunger, as
7 I experienced, I still believe that the hunger is
8 stronger than the death.

9 Q. Why did you call death your friend? You told
10 me Sunday death was like a friend.

11 A. Yeah, death was like my friend because if I
12 would die it would end. I not--

13 MRS. EINHORN: Was hard.

14 A. You see, was different. You fear death or
15 you don't fear. I didn't fear death any more and
16 maybe this (inaudible . . .) you know (inaudible . . .)

17 Q. So you--

18 A. Because if I would not wake--okay, death takes
19 me tonight, yeah?

20 Q. Uh huh.

21 A. So what I--so why should I fear death? Is
22 like (?), like freedom again, like I--I don't
23 have to get up again for all this troubles what--another
24 day, you know--

25 MRS. EINHORN: Was hell, it was hell, what it was like.

1 A. (overlap of voices, inaudible) --somebody, who,
2 who. I tell you also that I do believe that not the
3 Jewish or English or any language, the human language
4 is too poor really to describe what's happened in one
5 day in Auschwitz, what happened one day in Mauthausen,
6 because you say I was tortured, I was this, I was this--
7 this is just simple words. Now isn't--a new language--
8 (overlap of voices - inaudible)

9 MRS. EINHORN: Horrible.

10 A. A new language (inaudible). A new language.
11 What really, what really a person felt.

12 MRS. EINHORN: I explain to you what I was
13 already on the track to go to gas chamber.
14 I was not scared of that. The only thing what
15 I had in front of my eyes is my life
16 pass by, I will never forget it. Like I
17 would see a film, my childhood and everything--

18 MR. EINHORN: Like the SS men--

19 MRS. EINHORN: --and I knew I am going to die.

20 MR. EINHORN: --with the gun. I wasn't afraid.
21 I was just--I tried to understand what -- what
22 somehow, you know, like I said, this what you
23 feel normal--a normal life every day, practically
24 every--and I do it again, you know.

25 Q. Are you afraid of dying now?

1 A. Yeah, of course. Of course.

2 Q. Now you are?

3 A. Now because I have a reason for living, you
4 know. And in camp was--

5 MRS. EINHORN: There was no reason.

6 A. --was--what's the reason some more?

7 MRS. EINHORN: We just get so horribly and
8 terribly angry when I hear that people are
9 like (?) professor or whatever saying
10 that there was no Holocaust, nothing like
11 that happened.

12 MR. EINHORN: Yeah, this is--

13 MRS. EINHORN: That, you know, if I would see
14 such a human being telling me that, I think--
15 I don't know, I wouldn't be responsible what
16 I do.

17 MR. EINHORN: You realize in my lifetime, I'm
18 still here and still breathing, I still feel
19 the--this smell of the gas chambers on me.
20 I still hear the crying of the babies or the
21 horrible screaming and already somebody tells
22 me there's no Holocaust--

23 MRS. EINHORN: There was no (?), wasn't
24 he?

25 MR. EINHORN: How do I feel about this? Not to--

1 not to show that I am a hero from Auschwitz.
2 But how can you deny, how can you say something,
3 how can you make liars of six million people
4 who cannot answer you?

5 MRS. EINHORN: Says it was nothing. That--that's
6 what burns me up. That I can't take. And
7 when I saw those girls marching, marching--

8 MR. EINHORN: Again--

9 MRS. EINHORN: --I was afraid to go out to
10 street, because I--then I could do something,
11 throw a stone or something (inaudible).

12 MR. EINHORN: And the girls, same story, you see.
13 Okay, as Jews we cry after the death of the
14 six million people, but let the six million--
15 they're the six million not be in pain, but
16 for other--other--other people, other races,
17 other religions, everybody have a warning
18 what war can do and what war does.

19
20 Q. Well, how have you felt about the recent
21 Cambodian massacre of four million people--

22 MRS. EINHORN: Hurting like all over again.
23 Seeing mothers' children die.

24 A. Not only hurts, but hurts, this hopelessness, the--
25 the -- that feeling--

1 MRS. EINHORN: Helpless.

2 A. Helplessness, yes.

3 Q. Helplessness.

4 A. Yeah, what can you do?

5 Q. What about the death squads in El Salvador?

6 MRS. EINHORN: Ah, that's terrible. I
7 see--I see them in Nazi uniform. I see SS men.

8 INTERVIEWER: They are. They are.

9 MRS. EINHORN: I cannot see it any other
10 way.

11 INTERVIEWER: The--the--a lot of the high-up
12 Gestapo went to Latin America--

13 MRS. EINHORN: No, I know.

14 INTERVIEWER: --transported--

15 MRS. EINHORN: And the same tactics, the father
16 impart to the children. Those are grown people
17 now, like our kids are this age. Now they
18 taught them hatred and--

19 INTERVIEWER: And torture and terror.

20 MR. EINHORN: You see, you familiar with the
21 Bible a little bit?

22 INTERVIEWER: A little bit, but I'm not a very
23 good Christian.

24 MR. EINHORN: You know the prophet, prophet
25 Jeremiah?

1 INTERVIEWER: Yes.

2 MRS. EINHORN: Jeremiah.

3 MR. EINHORN: He says when -- when the destruction
4 started, he said: I will . . . uh, (inaudible
5 . . .) From this sentence I (inaudible . . .

6 INTERVIEWER: Oh, okay.

7 (AT THIS TIME THE VOICES ON THE TAPE ARE MUFFLED.)

8 MR. EINHORN: I don't know, would be hard for
9 you to understand it, (inaudible . . .)

10 MRS. EINHORN: It's written in English.

11 INTERVIEWER: Instilled run our tears for the
12 slaughtered of our people?

13 MR. EINHORN: Yeah.

14 MRS. EINHORN: Uh huh.

15 INTERVIEWER: Unstilled (emphasis) run our tears
16 for the slaughtered of our people.

17 MR. EINHORN: See this is the six million.

18 MRS. EINHORN: Slaughtered.

19 MR. EINHORN: Slaughtered. Here is the--here
20 is the (?), everything is in Hebrew, you
21 know, all the martyrs and--

22 INTERVIEWER: Uh huh.

23 MR. EINHORN: --(overlap of voices, inaudible)
24 for Jewish, (inaudible . . .) looks a little--

25 (END RECORDING.)