

Interview with Paula Phillips

A: My name is Paula Phillips

Q: And when and where were you born?

A: I was born in [?Vicearoya Tricevilzitz Ovinsskosen?].

Q: What year?

A: October the 12th, '98.

Q: Can you tell us when was the first time you start feeling danger?

A: It start getting dangerous?

Q: uh-huh.

A: It start dangerous in nineteen hundred thirty three.

Then Hitler.

Q: How did you see?--How did you experience this?

A: My experience?

Q: Uh-huh.

A: I was at my job...I am run [?] Shabbat. All the Jewish stores had to be closed because they want to find out which is the Gentile store, which is the Jewish store. And I was in a big office. The man and I--we both had ... One owner was a Jew and the other was a printer. And it was to go out somebody had to offer somebody [?] some alternate home and I didn't know about this, you know, and said you have to go out, but I don't let you go alone. I bring you in your house. That was nice. I didn't recognize then how dangerous it was. And said of course. So we had nothing to go back--the boy [...?...] he had nothing to go back to this business. It was a big coal business. Coal to fire

the ovens. For the heat, in winter.

This big firm was connected with my company where I was working together [] concerned.

Q: Which company were you working for?

A: I worked....I'm trying to remember the name from the one owner from the Jewish man, Pakachinski.

Q: What kind of a company was it?

A: Coal.

Q: A coal mine?

A: No. They had no mine. This company had no mine. This company bought the coals from the mine and [?] distributed.

Q: Was Posen an area where there was a lot of coal? A lot of coal mining and manufacturing?

A: I think they got the coals from the Upper Silesia. I think--I am not, I am not--I [?] I forgot something here--but I'm not so sure because I was not connected with the big company. I was connected with the customers from the big company. And they ran them all together. But before this, my company, where I worked, were connected with Ober Silesia coal...coal gr....It was a big out for coals here....The president on this company want to take me in in this big company. I should be their private um, their private [?], their private accountant who goes around improves the books and all the business. But in the mean time it [?] different [?] so that's why I [?] my disease.

Q: Had you gone to school to study accounting in

A: Oh yes.

Q: Jah?

A: You went, you went--All your schooling was in Germany.

Q: Yeah.

A: Now when you were at school before 1943, did you notice the--Hitler or the Nazis--did they come to you?

Q: I was in school when I was a young girl. I was in school in the First World War. In the First World War I started business school.

A: Uh-huh.

Q: And then I was the only Jew in the class and every class there would be one or two. That was a private school--uh, that was a school from the city--yeah, a business school, through the city. [?] I'm just so old, I guess.

Q: When you went to school you were--was anti-semitism directed at you.

A: No, no, no.

Q: Okay, can we go back to the Shabbat that you were told to go home and somebody took you home?

A: Yeah, then I was out of work.

Q: That was the last day you worked.

A: That was [?]. But my brother had a business--big caps. Made caps. In Germany the people were made caps. And, uh, this business was running so until the war caught, you can no [?] longer buy [?] from Jews and the Jews had to go out of business. That's [?]. And I became then, by this company, the--that's the name--the Director of the big company from Ober Silesia--coal--

what is it--[?]-a mine, a coal mine. And he called me in because he knew that I was out of work. So I took over and became a saleswoman for coals. But then some others make me some trouble. They gave me a hard time so I quit and I said I'd had enough.

Q: How did they give you the trouble....

A: Oh they followed me and they want to put me in prison.

Q: They didn't.

A: They...This man, Mr. Kachinski, has a company--the Gentiles, they were very close. And this Gentile make [?] trouble--they bullied me.

Q: Uniformed Nazis or public officials followed you?

A: Yeah. They came even in our house and looked for me, but I wasn't there, so they said we come again. So that was ... the boundary. My company where I was working...as they knew I did and all the papers and they wrote the numbers, everything [?]. And they were afraid I could call in their customers, to their customers.

Q: Were you living with your family at the time?

A: Huh?

Q: Your parents.

A: My parents? My mother was not alive. She passed away after the First World War. And my father was alive, and my brother, my sister. We were together, one family.

Q: What happened?

A: My brother had this business and [?] with my father [?].

We were all together.

Q: And what happened next?

A: Then my brother owns the business and so its, uh, merchandise what we got from Gentiles--they had some nice customers and [?] sellers--but we can't pay right away. We have not the money. So my father said "okay." They have--I don't know if they have it here--they call it the [?]tion or [?]. You have to pay this amount in three months, or in six months. And then when it was due, we could prolong it for a longer time. And that's what we did. But by this time the people pay my brother, and my brother then said he had many friends--doctors--and had to go into a Jewish hospital and learn to be a male nurse. My brother stands for only doctors and lawyers, so he, uh, studied and my brother learned. It was not so hard to become a male nurse. You weren't tested. And he was in a small hospital in Berlin. Two hospitals--One from the [A?] Congregation and one from [B?]. And he learned from [B?]. And my sister went in too, and, too to be a nurse. But my brother makes examination by the government. My sister not...I will be, do what I can...And I, we had a big apartment because we make the business from the house. And [A?] Congregation need places to live for people who were already from smaller places evacuated. They brought them from miles and miles up from Berlin. Farther than from Berlin, to Berlin, and brought and gave them shelter. Mostly older people. And so we are, I think we have nine or eleven people even the first go upstairs for another couple. They have some in this

little [?] cook possible. I didn't cook. And so that we were doing the time until we find out. We had to protect first my brother because they send every Jewish man. Mainly it was to the autobahn, to build autobahns. Or build [?], and that was not so easy. So we thought and my brother as a male nurse, is protected as a nurse....

Q: Because he was a nurse?

A: Because [] a registered nurse. A registered male nurse.

Q: He was protected because he was a nurse?

A: Jah, they need help. In the hospitals [?] they couldn't [?] The Gentiles didn't help, so they need something to get help. That's why we thought we can go out much earlier, but we had no opportunity. Where can you go.

Q: The Nazis kept the Jewish hospitals open?

A: The huge hospital--this little hospital was open for a long time and I think, I'm not sure. The [name], the big hospital took it over. [Name] had no money and the big congregation had money. They took it over. Then--I don't think they--I'm not sure if they closed it. That I don't know. But they sent many people out to the concentration camps []. They sent many that was on our time many people with mental effects to a special place. They never came back. That was before the Holocaust but I thought [] They never came back but I forgot the name of the place. It was an institution like here, like Napa. But bigger, jah. That's its name, []. They're both hospitals open, but they couldn't take care of one Gentile. The Gentile

person there had to go out. [] this little hospital, just a little hospital for 90 beds, a little one had to hire a nurse-- was an operating room, a surgical nurse. She was there I think 30 years. And one day she was called to the []. They told her not to go out. And she was a Catholic and said I cannot go out. I'll stay here the whole--for half the night. And she was feeling very []. She had to go out. They had always mostly Jewish nurses there. They had two nurses for the night--this was Gentiles. They were there for years and years [] years [] go out. They forced them to work the [both?]. So there's one special [] that's very friendly with the Jews. He said "[...September 22]. We stay here all our lives till--most of our lives and now they have to go out. That was all.

Then came from other places some doctors. Who--they were already evacuated from Upper Silesia. They came to Berlin and they took some in. They couldn't take everybody [] big hospital []. And one I remember he was [dragged?] [] from there to go to the autobahn [?] and there he might get free. [] He came and my brother was a doctor's friend and said, "Come on. If you go to the autobahn you have to be warm dressed and Germany's so cold in the wintertime. And my brother had a--70, 80 years ago is it--it was a great big coat with a big plate over that says Kaisermondel. And its heavy lined so the Dr. could [] and my brother make him a cap to put over the ears. [] But we never saw him anymore. And the other--one day they came. It was the day before Yom Kippur. They came to the hospital and sent two young

doctors out. They were of Polish descent. They took them and they didn't say a word. They would go out the [] day [?]. So my sister and brother came to the--my sister [I should say?]-came to the hospital [] the Gentile nurse [] took my sister under the arm and said. []believe [] police, the Gestapo was there and they took the young doctor, very nice guy. Nobody knew when he was gone. I think he had several brothers there but they were not doctors; they were teachers or something like this. And so one day they come and took them like this. My brother became then the male nurse. He had many goals. The doctor said my [] time to teach him privately in the hospital, the upper room, and he gave them lessons, but the nurse had to leave. Had to learn. His friend was then in [] hospital from the [] congregation [] Dr. Fisher. And my brother was very much friend with him, because his friend, when they were little boys, took the [Sommerfelt?] studied together with Dr. Fisher, so they were all like a bunch of friends together. And [I was a?] [] years ago Dr. Fisher says [] and give the girls a lesson they can make the examination. And comes the date of the examination they have to two or three years. And they made it. My brother made it. [] And [] a doctor, he was quite a [city]. He was a Jew. He was married to a Gentile. And this doctor, I forgot the name, he wrote a book special for patients analysis. And the committee, of course, are all Gentiles, yes, some Nazis, I don't know where though. So my brother says "Okay, I am going to the examination. If I do it, okay. If I don't do it, you know []." And this doctor he said

[], I'm not sure. He had a question and made it very hard. And this commission for the Gentiles talked to him for the whole class and said, "Why you want if he is not making examination?" My brother was astonished, yeah. The Gentile and Nazi [] and they said, "Look, he is the [] here. He will make the examination. He make with the first class here excellent. And my brother was already in a great big hospital for a great congregation, the Grosse [] everything, yeah? There's the cemeteries, old age homes, the big hospital--there was a big hospital, 400 beds. Yeah that was a bigger hospital than Mt. Zion because besides it was a wonderful hospital, wonderful, the hospital was built here, this way, this way, on the home of a big lawn with flowers and everything. But in the back what was this side of [a ravine] that was the resting home. This side, jah? A big convalescent home, and on the other side from the street, was a big old-age home. []. There were many old age homes. That was not the only one. But I [].

Q: These were all Jewish facilities that the Nazis left open.

A: I don't know if they have this. They were brought, all the doctors, sent by []. Some came maybe back. Then when my brother started to be a nurse, they all had to get dressed in white. That's not like here. All the nurses on the, the men have to wear a white gown. So I knew the business was there, so I found them [] yes we bought [private?] [] we couldn't afford it []. I bought some and I ordered some and paid some and then

said, okay we can do this. So that's what I could get under my arm right away for my brother to the hospital. And the other would be a car, but we can't more make the delivery. They couldn't deliver on Jews. This was a Gentile outfit. M[?] this was a good outfit. They couldn't deliver anymore.

Q: While your brother was in the hospital, what were you doing?

A: I?

Q: Yes.

A: I was home. We had eleven old people there. They were living in our house. We had from the big house only two rooms. And we gave them room and upstairs was the [] cooked for them. They gave them food. I had nothing to do with the cooking. That was a huge congregation and they, you see, they confiscated the home because it [paid?] But see, once there were that the people have a decent [] and take care of the group and so on, all old people, jah? I had to look at them.

Q: Who paid for the, taking care of them? Who paid for the food?

A: It was a huge congregation took care of them. They had a special department []. They had a special department. Like welfare, the Jewish welfare. They paid for that. In our house, there was a big house [] besides the house of the Jewish congregation. That [] house for Rabbis and for [teacher?]. And in the back by the big house there was a blue hall. Now were living in the back people, Jewish people. And they took from

everybody, but it would give one or two rooms. [] the other people own a smaller apartment because they give them one or two rooms.

Q: How long did your brother in the hospital and you in the home--How long did that last?

A: How many years?

Q: How many years?

A: [] from '35 to '41.

Q: From '35 to '41 and then between '33 and '35, what?

A: That's what I say. I wanted to go salesroom [] and my sister was in the hospital and my brother a nurse. In Germany you had to learn three years to be a nurse.

Q: Could you tell us how you got out?

A: Did we get out?

Q: Yes

A: We got out in 1941.

Q: How were you able?--Before we get to that, do you remember 1939 when the war started? Did anything change then when the war started?

A: Everything was rationed. They use special ration, get only, I think, 60 gram of butter, a little bit of meat. And I went in the store--we always bought there candies and coffee and we got already the rationing cards--so I went there and bought some candies and some coffee and the girl sold it to me. And two weeks later I got from the [Gestapo??] to come to see them, and they said you were a Jew and you went to buy candies and coffee.

I said "jah, that's a card." But you go not [] supposed to go. [] trouble. I said "Okay, I give you a [] back here."

Q: Did they threaten to put you in a prison or camp?

A: What?

Q: Did they threaten you at all, to put you in a camp when you were with the SA?

A: No they didn't send me to a camp, but they gave me a notice. But [] notice. And the same girl who was in the store always all friendly and nice, jah? She went against me and said "she was here and she bought this." I didn't know that Jews were not supposed to buy it.

Q: Were your rationing cards--Did Jews have anything, like stars or anything, on the rationing cards to say they were Jews.

A: Uh.

Q: Just the same as--

A: No. On the rationing cards, no. But we have a Juden card. I have [] and show you. Everybody has a card, with a picture in it. Every Jew. You couldn't go on the street without this card. And the second [] we picked our things to go out to the United States, under SR supervision, and says there packed seven weeks before we were leaving. And my father had his Shabbat suit and packed the Juden card[] in, and forgot to take it out. And next Shabbat [] he want to go to []. "Where's the card? Where's the card? Where's the card?" I couldn't find. So I went to a place where we get the card, and I said, what was it? I went to [] a special department. You will see a place

there for soldiers, but this was a special zone--a special part. And I said to [], "The card is gone. We don't know where it is. And my father's an old man. He can't go on the street. [] a decent man." And he said, "I see your situation and I want to help you." And you've got to come with your father. So I took my father and we went over and my father was already an old man. And we went over. And he became a friend with my father. And said, "Oh you were sworn in the army for three majestics. Three kaisers: Kaiser Frederick, Wilhelm [lerste, Kaiser Frederick and Wilhelm []. Oh, that's a fine thing. You know I was a old, uh, an old sergeant [] an old soldier and I am your friend, and I will help you." So I thank him. My father says "thank you." They stay there talking the whole time was the military. And he said, "I help you. You will get a new card." And this card, I have it here. I will show it to you. "But," he said. "Be careful."

So you know we got this affidavit to go to the United States one Saturday evening came a cousin of my father to visit him. And he had his sons already out in Holland, the Nederland. So my brother said, "I don't want to [] everyplace. It's all the same already like here. Not better. So we said here, our album, with pictures. And the man saw the picture and said, "Oh, that is my stepfather, Louie! Louie B[?]ter." Here's what my father did, "It's your stepfather, aye." And "do you know where he is living?" And he said, "We are not now connected. I think he passed away in the mean time." And so my father said you know,

my grandfather, that's the father of my father, he bought him out for [] before 1900 because he should become a soldier in the navy. And then they put him in the sea for six years, in this time. And his mother was a stepmother, she said, a very religious woman. I can prove this. It is against my feeling. He is my stepson here, but I have to take care of him. And she talked with my grandfather and my grandfather said, "[]." And my grandfather put them under sheeps, on a boat, that he could go out of the United States. He could never go back to Germany because he was a deserter. And [(?) just no questions. I want to let you know what she said (?!)] "My father wouldn't go back. He was a deserter." He said, "Yes, that's right."

So we went to a funeral then for my cousin. And my brother went in a special []. We took him out in Berlin from the cemet[], where he was, to the cemetery. In Berlin was the bigger cemetery and different []. And the man who brought the car went out on the way of [g?] so they had to stop. Then they came very late to the cemetery. My cousin and I, we went directly to our house. So when we came to the cemetery, was a man standing on the gate, and said, "You can't leave the body alone until you are here. You were the people who give him over." "Now we are here." He was a man was standing []. Quote: "Are you not Phillipson?" [] said, "Yes." He couldn't remember my brother were much younger than he []. And my brother said, "Who are you?" "My name is Lesser." So he said, "How are you? What are you doing?" And he was already out. He could get []. He was in

the division, was a [] the dead bodies, of the whole city. This [] in Berlin was a congregation had a big department, a special department, a big. So my brother said, "How are your parents?" And he said, "My parents are on their way to San Francisco. They will arrive maybe tomorrow or the next day in San Francisco." Oh. So my brother came home and tells us the story. I said, "Why didn't you ask him for the address from the parents from the brother who he will go?" He said, "I forgot. There was so much excitement, so much trouble here. This man, the doctor, you should know of. I can go with [] a cousin []. We came late." And so forth. I said, "Okay, I will go the next day to the Division and ask them for the address from []Jessa. So I can [] lose the people and some names that help them." "What do you want the address?" I say, "It isn't a bad thing. I want it because he like to go out." And this so I told him the story. And he said, "okay, I give you the address." And he gave me the address and I went out, maybe one hour, [] a streetcar, to Weissensee[?]. Weissensee[?] was a big tract of the cemetery. The [?]Weir[?] Cemetery. You can't imagine what they have [] houses []. And, okay, he gives me the address. When I come over to the place a little boy, [] years old, says parents were not home. The father were at work. Sundays they had to bring in the bodies. Saturdays they couldn't. And the mother was working, a cleaning lady or something like this. So I said, "I want to talk to the parents. Your father knows me. Your mother don't. I want the address from your uncle in San Francisco." The little

boy said, "I can give you the address. I know the street and the number." He was a good boy, a clever boy. And I say, "Okay. Write it down." He did and the next day comes the mother of course and says [] they go to work. They have to work, jah? And I wrote a letter here to San Francisco to Mrs. Lesser, and told her the story. And she then--We didn't know the address yet from the people. And she found out by telephone [] that the people []. "Can you give the people an affidavit?" And she [] all the days, and so she did. "But, she said, If you come to San Francisco on the boat, from the ferry, you have to show me the picture of []. [], we had the picture, jah? Here's the picture []. And we had to make certain we had the affidavit. And since the affidavit was good for two years. Then we had to change. So we went ahead. We sent a telegram. We couldn't write a letter. The time was too short. And she gave us, the person, she gave us a new affidavit. But she had a lot of foresight. Two! One wasn't enough. The first man was a man he was a watchmaker by-- what was the name called, the big company on Market Street, uh, there was a clock []--

Q: Samuel's?

A: Samuel's, jah. He was working at Samuel's. So this affidavit was [] because we need to [] my father, my brother, my sister, my [], but we need the highest affidavit for my father. Ours were not so bad. But for an old man, we need a high affidavit. And he didn't give it. Then took our--she wasn't our [] she was from my father--he was a step-cousin to her father,

Jah. A [] moderation. And she found a new affidavit gave [] Mr. Sol Alberts. I still have another envelope. He gave us affidavit. So, his mother and sister, she's an old Jewish woman, Jah, and she insist that he give them the affidavit. So that was a second. Then we have to wait a while, then we can't say anything. You can go []. That was not so easy, to get Visa. We had a while to wait until our number was ready. We had a relative low number. We were on the Jewish Quarter. Our part, when we were born, [], was, before the divided home, Polish, that came to Germany. You know they divided Poles.

Q: You mean in the 1700s.

A: Jah. And after the first World War, this part came back to Poland. We didn't know. We came under the Polish Quarter. So what could we do? We have the number, I think nineteen hundred and six or so, or nineteen thousand. A very low number. But it was closed. The Polish Quarter was closed. They put out from the German [?]Quarter. They put out from Russian Quarter. They put from, but the Polish Quarter was closed. So what could we do? We have the new affidavit, and we had to wait, that's all. So, one day my sister was working in the hospital, and my brother called his patient [] and the woman came from the same little town where my mother was born, [?]Trace. And [?]Skarsten knew exactly the [] and said, "What are you doing here?" My brother, my sister told him the story: "We have affidavit, but we are in the Polish Quarter. We can't go out." And he said, "I am in the same line, Jah? I have affidavit, but mine is much

higher. And I am in the Polish Quarter." He was in the same district as we. So what can we do? But he said, "You were the only one here--[] married to was a cancer patient--who was nice to my wife. Nobody would [] the cancer patients are very difficult to []. And he said, "I will help you, and see what we can do for you. Your number is much, much lower than mine." His was under 3,000. He said, "I don't come out. I don't think so." My sister said, Mr. Stargater, I doubt that you can do anything." And he said, "Let me see. Maybe. It cost no money, but I can do things yet." He was in the Department--He had not a high post []--He lost his business too. So he had something to do, jah. And a few days later he came and said, "You have to bring from your affidavits [] some money is there. You can go out, and"...another thing. So we send the [] back, jah, and said, "Yes, isn't this [] so and so. Done?" [] We couldn't move [] pay your money. And the agent who will buys you the tickets for the ship and for this, nobody could do this anymore. Only the [] this was a department for the Jewish Congregation. That's why a whole house full of people. They did everything. []. So I went over, I got the [], went over, and said, "you have to wait for hours and hours in rooms and rooms full of people, hundreds of people sitting and waiting for answers to question or....You can't imagine some of the people were sitting whole days there. So I was sitting and sitting in the line, and the [] man said, "this and this is going on and we want to go out. And []." So he said, "Let me see." He come back and said, "You told me there is

money. There is no money paid for you." I said, "What did you say?" I says, "the money is there. I paid." Because nobody's coming and here the little bit black money he couldn't get up and sell. I make just [] him official, jah?, up and say he couldn't get any money out. I told him that that's what I just don't think. "No, is not here." So, my sister [] the money is not there. Who has the money?" So, Mr. Steiger that came and my sister [] to show, jah, that Mr. Steiger [] my sister [?] for money out to a place and our relatives here sent us, us here. And he said "No, so the money. There was the money." And he said, "Wait. I'm going to go to the head man. [] that was the doctor, the head, a very fine man. And I will make out [] your sister to [] the []. My sister said, "If you can do, go ahead []." We were [] "Yes, yes, no, no. We know that we have to die." And then they called me in, came to [], and I told them the story. I said, "[] I couldn't make the pressure with the money. You know it was black money, jah? I brought it over. I had a friend in the American Embassy. [] and she said, "Paula. And I can help you. If you need some money when you go out, I will give it to you." And I said, "Okay." I had []. She was a Gentile, but she was a nice one. And she said, "You can come to the Embassy [], so I had not only my money. I had money when a friend, from Jewish Home. She was a girl. She was a dietitian. And she said, "Paula, I don't have [] income, but I have a little bit money I can give you." I say "Okay." This is the way I do it with mine not much of you or somebody. So she brought me the

money and I went then to the Embassy [] and the day when Mussolini was [] there. []. There was the Embassy. I was standing here, on the side []. What's going on here? People and people and people. And there came this [] and said, "Where you want to go?" I say, "To the American Embassy." He told me--- [End of tape].

[Beginning of tape]---They came already [] came down and took me in their arms and said, "Paula, what did you do?" I say, "I didn't know that was the [] you see. I didn't know nothing. I come here." And they say, "I have the money in my pocket." So we went round the corner, I gave them the money. And [] the Embassy, where 700 Jewish people were [] American. But they make the business. We pay for in dollars and 15 marks as well. Lots of money. Don't have much left for the money. But she did it, and the money was here. So this money, the [?Hilsforein] went in touch with our [?] here to send the money on a certain place, and they did. And she sent back every penny. "I've not a penny left." So we paid all and we had not a penny. Then we had to pay a little more, so I went to Dr. H[]. I said, "Dr. H[], the money is gone out. It must be here. He is the [] our relation. And he said, "I can't tell you this this minute. I have to look over the whole thing. But I go home and I do what I can." So [] and he couldn't phone me because nobody was allowed to have a telephone. Jews had no more telephone. Say you can go to the Jewish Home, tell Mr. Strasse my sister is there and can tell her

what I have to do. And [] months later [] my sister came of course right away home []. We go over. The money is there. They did--Jews like to make money besides. And they had some people there who did it. I have to say it's to our shame, and, but they did it. So this particular woman, she sent other people out. She make different things there. But I say, "okay. The main thing we come out. This is all that we want. So then, we have to, we had already packed our things. The Gestapo, under the Gestapo supervision, we packed our little belongings. We couldn't bring very much. We each had a bag, I think, ten or fifteen bags. Then we had to wait longer.

Q: What did they let you take with you?

A: Huh?

Q: What did they let you pack?

A: Our belongings. A little bit underwear, a little dress, and little things, jah? Not much. We, I sent already before in the whole year, we sent 16 or 18 big packages, but [] and something else. And well this sending out we got across the street by the post office and the man [] and two week later, I forgot, when the Gestapo Berliner took them over. So I went to the Gestapo [] my father []. A decent guy, he was decent []. He looked at me and I said, "I got [] what?" He said, "You sent packages out[] to the United States. Do you try to go to the United States?" "Yes." "What did you send out?" So I said, "I have a declaration on each package what we sent, here, you could see it: underwear for my father, for my brother, all their

things, nothing costly or nothing we cared about."

Q: You could bring out the candlesticks?

A: Jah, that we could bring out. And we brought out the []. We couldn't bring out pictures. We couldn't bring out jewelry that was anymore confiscated. This I ask the man at the Gestapo, that I have from my mother and like they had 100 years ago, a little broach [] with a little [] and I say, "I know we have everything to deliver here, but I have this and this is inherited from my mother. Can I keep it?" And the man was a little bit ashamed and said, "I have to take. You can't. Everything is confiscated. Only the wedding [things] you can take from your parents. []. The candlesticks, the [].... There's of course the tal[ess, otherwise you couldn't take nothing. That is all, jah. They looked at every piece that they put in. It was put on the table and they looked at all []. And this was packed, we got a list, everything was [(German phrase?)ziegelt]. We couldn't open it anymore. [German]. "When can we go? When can we go?" So, Dr. Helt said you will go. I can't tell you the date." The date you get an answer, jah, first you will have to go to the American Counsel. A nice guy. He took everybody special. That was my brother, my sister, my father, and me. I was []. He said, "Where you go in the United States?" And I said, "I don't know. I don't know by myself. My brother...." He said, "You're brother going to be a male nurse, your sister will be [?] nurse." I said, "Maybe we have to go first [l]ation. I don't know, but we don't want it. I will do what I can, jah? I can do the []

alone. I will do what I can. I do every kind of...." He said, "Okay." And my father said, he told me, my father, "you [?work] [] you are on good terms. You [] and they take care of you." He said, "You can [] anything." "Okay." And in the mean time, the American Consul interviews my sister and he went in touch with the hospital so she is able to take care of a little kid what they're going to bring out from Germany to here. This is a little [?poor thing]. And later he told her, "Can you do me a favor?" And my sister said, "When I can, sure." He had people from [] he was sent over later []. The father wasn't at the Embassy and the mother want to bring her relations her. The grandparents were already here, the other relations in the United States. And I want to have this [] to bring out the baby, a little baby, jah, []. And the mother [] "I have all the information about you. And I know you will do [] everything until the last mother came [] the mother [? was Jewish] to keep the baby. [] comes and said, "I want to help her [] come, jah? But she hasn't []. And the aunt we were glad when we had trouble enough to go out by ourself, "Believe me, you can take care of other people in such a case." And we had Dr. Sis[el] finish. We had to go. We had to take out 10 mark, 10 mark. Then the dollar was \$4.20. That's worth two and a half dollars. We had []. Getting off. First was the Gestapo, I think. Then it was the Federal Reserve Bank, to fill out the form to give them the money and you get the dollars. And I went [] old doctor. He want to go to his doctor's hours and I say come here for []cy alright?

And come visit you, and she said, "take and that is a []. [] [will be very close], and I have, of course, a little bit more than he. He had put in different.... It took a whole day to do this. In the mean time, my brother worked in the night. He thought already they put me in jail. And that was really easy. So we come to the [] and said, "Now we have everything finished." The doctor had finished that afternoon. And the girl on the telephone said, "Nobody on telephone []. Your aunt phoned from another place and asked if you were here. And your brother is crying in the halls [] the Gestapo. Go right away home. Go home." [] my brother knew what was going on, jah? And I am told here I [] did everything that I could. We are now ready to go out. We have the papers. We have the passport. We have the money. We can go. So the other morning, went to []. I went up down []. [] from the doctor, went, "Oh. We can't go out." I said "Why? We have everything finished." He says, "Barge ferry. It's not for transportation for civil people, only for the soldiers. We can't go." I said, "Let me go in. I have to ask by myself." So I went in. I could talk so only that was in English. So I went in and I said, "What is going on here? Yesterday I finished that whole thing and I come over and tell you everything is finished here I had to do it. And the husband [] got here too. And now...." And they said, "yes." We were ready to go. []. No civil transportation. Only the military. So what can we do? We have to pay. Go to []. We have to pay. We tried. We tried. Okay, tried. Anyhow, everything was

packed. My brother was [] working. My sister was still working. And Mr. Shreiber [] us all. No one should have []. Jah, she was old. And my brother and I, we went to the cemetery from Weissensee, and my sister was home with my father. We came home and late in the afternoon comes Mr. S[?]er and said, "[] to be here. We have to go tomorrow morning." So we had a little bit things to put together, and I had to give this woman upstairs all the people, all the things what they had, jah. She had to take care of them. And my aunt came, which was the last visit from her. She want to stay overnight, but I told her she couldn't. The other woman [] said she didn't sleep all night. We put my brother to bed and my father. My sister and I, we were up all night. I gave the woman, Mrs. [?Pintos] all the instruction that we had to for putting the last money in the bank and for these things, jah, you have, the last minute []. [] [doctor] we went out to the station. []strasse. And we came over and we saw already on the, on the station, bunched like the [] of people [] things in. They were waiting for the train. That train is huge, that train. On the end by the one train wagon were 69 people. []. We were already glad that we were in, jah. The 69 people, they were like this. Some got on the way sick. Some had cramps. Some need medicine. Ah, that [] organizer. That young doctor lady, she had an order, but she was a bad organizer. And the man [?must be her boyfriend] so my sister []. My brother had the nurse and she, and we had some medicine. We [] what older people need [], but we had a little bit and gave it. When we first

stopped there, my brother wrote a letter, [?Jerusalem] Hospital and said, "[Did?] you send out another transport," that didn't come one more. We were the last who didn't know [] had given some medicine and this and this, and so on. So we came with a train [] hiding, to Frankfurt am Main. In Frankfurt, [] was locality from the Congregation at Frankfurt am Main there were all for this transport people people on this train who brought something to eat because we had enough to eat. We had enough bread and butter and coffee and something. But some people didn't. So they brought for them something to eat. We came to Frankfurt am Main. Nobody here. There were always from organizations some women or men. Nobody. And my sister brought me then to a Jewish nurse who was in the [] Hospital and told them we are all out on the [], we and the train. []. What could we do? During the time we were standing there, came two Jewish women and said, "We knew that you were coming, but we couldn't come out here because this morning they confiscated the Jewish Old Age Home at Frankfurt am Main, the Gestapo. They had to bring their own people out, old and sick. Who was it called the private [] hospitals, the private homes. The Jews were so busy they couldn't make it. Then she said, "You know, you wrote a letter [] his nurse, but he was so busy he couldn't. []." So we said, "Okay. We will try our hard way and hope that they can [?get] them off the cars [?/guards]. We never can go out in any case. So we had [] maybe one or two hours [] just standing. Then we went from Frankfurt am Main to Strasbourg. You know

Strasbourg? On the French border. In Strasbourg...

Q: How did you get to Strasbourg?

A: Strasbourg? On French border.

Q: No, how did you get there? You said on a train.

A: With the same train. []. We were the last on the train and they brought the soldiers to Bonns.

Q: So the same train you wait...

A: We were on the end. First was the soldiers. We were on the end. []strasse []. Came on the end. I don't know whether the Gestapo [] I don't remember this--and said, "You were on the [?waiting] a long time. Anything you want, come here. Come, send to us the men with pails, for coffee and--" I don't know if they have bread. They had marmalade []. It was like, "Oh boy. Some people think, "[] and they have coffee?" And it was marmalade. We had brought enough food. We couldn't eat this bread, but we had coffee--my father [] them anyway. And after we had this coffee--or maybe the soldiers did it. I don't know--somebody []. Then we went on [?Bonns] [] strasse[] too fast.

Q: The Germans had already occupied--

A: All []. And we're on the soldier train. We came to Paris Saturday late. And they said in Paris, a wonderful station, a great station. You can't compare this with here. A beautiful station, very big. And they said, "You can't stay here. We have to bring you out from this station, outside from Paris...where we were sitting. We couldn't do much. We went. They brought us out. Where did we get something to eat I don't

know. And in the night, it start hale, and thunder, and lightning, and rain--it came down. We [] stepping inside and said, "Oh, the Nazis get it. The soldiers were []sitting out and they couldn't leave us alone. And we were sitting inside. We were laughing really loud--saw us, and we were laughing. A while later they came and said, "We have to bring you back to Paris. "Okay. Bring us back to Paris." So we came to Paris and were sitting there until the morning. And in the morning, came some people and had to bring us something to eat. They had a little package and a little bottle of wine, this was the main thing, and white bread, and some fruit. That it was, people had a little bread, jah. We had some bread. We took so much we had some. And in the daytime, we didn't pass--stay so long in Paris, maybe a few hours then. Then we went farther to Spain. We come to Spain in the night. The little kids, they were thin, the were-- You could see they mustn't drink. And the dogs. You could count then the dogs' ribs. In the night they came and crouched on the windows. They want some bread. They want something to eat.

Q: Was there any fighting, any military fighting going on when you drove through France on the train?

A: No, we got then on another train. That was only []. Then we were under Nazi supervision, we had to...the Gestapo mainly. We [] to stay on the border. And they said, "We can't let you go in." "Why?" "Today is a holiday. We have to stay until the next day." "Oh. My God." What can we do? Nothing. So some men went and talked to the Spanish soldiers, [] what was

there, and said to them. "So." The Spaniards make some business and say, "If you give us bread, we will manage this so you can go. So one man or two men came and said, "Give us all your bread that you have [] is old. And then we can go." They let us go without supervision [] and we could go to Spain. We went to Spain. That was a beautiful country. Nice day, sunshine. And we came to the border from Portugal. In Portugal on the border was a very, very tiny place. A few houses only. And [] house, like a barrack, that was already for the [?Britishers]. Who went out. They had to pass this and get their food and.... So we came there. And they had to make it already larger. Like a stable, jah?, some chairs, some benches, and some tables. And we got there a []. They put me. They had [] on the Portugese border. We [], we were 69? I don't know in the mean time keep some []. That I don't know. So, we were sitting there [], meat we didn't eat because my father, we had kosher. And my brother had all the meat he could eat. We had bread, we had potatoes and vegetables...and custard. My brother my father liked the custard. We said, "That's enough for me to eat the custard." And we had finished, come a train like the American trains, that's not American train. And we became, when we left, a package, was a day, was a day to eat. Again, wine, fruit, some bread, I don't know--cheese or [] something. So we had something to eat. [] we always we always sleep overnight. Long trips. The other day, we came to Portugal []. I'd say two or five was [] from that table and a nice American car, and a [] man standing

there, and I said, "What are you doing there?" He said, "I am the man from the Gestapo. I bring you over to the border. Then I have to go." And on the border from Portugal, he disappeared. He was []. He was all the days there, until the border, then he went. So from there we went then with the train from Portugal. Lousy train [] there was hardly a place to sit. The Jews were shaking, and the farmers, and everything was in there. They live their lifestyle there and we have to do it too. And we came to a place on the Bay of Biscay. So we come there and we came in a very elegant hotel who in peace time were the rich Englishmen and the rich Dutchmen. So we had our homes to sleep. We had, we had--We were laughing--we had a bathroom that was as big like this living room, or bigger. And bedrooms and other rooms and there's a whole sink for these poor guys and we were poor. We were all poor. We had nothing. Nobody had nothing. So, it was the day when we came and my sister and I we sat. My father had in the evening here outside. And we said, "We're both go and look here. Just go around down here--What is this for a country." We came and we saw a big house. We saw a market place. In this country they have the market place not outside, they have it inside in big places. So we entered this enormously poor. They have lambs, I mean, there, the butchers. []. And the woman came running behind us, took us on the arm, and showed us what there for vegetables and fruits. They have beautiful fruit. I said, "No money. No money." And [] you know, you know. They showed us cups and plates. They said, "But you have. Come and

bring." We went home and said, "Here. We can't use it. For what we bring it to San Francisco, old cups and [] we got for the food, jah. So we took everything when we went out, but they said, "[]." They gave us wonderful food. Wonderful oranges. Wonderful strawberries. Big cherries. The best food [], the best food was so good because they have over there four seasons. So the taste is different.

Q: What time of year was it?

A: Huh?

Q: What time of the year was it?

A: May.

Q: May.

A: No, in June, in June. So they gave us plenty. We came home and on the way came two men--They were in our transport--and said, "What you are carrying there, where you got the money?" And we said, "We bought this without money. We didn't have any money. We had money like you." And we told them. "Oh," they said. "We can do the same. I tell my wife. She can take all the things and bring it over." So in the evening my father is outside and the people came, the people who sold us [] the cottage, and we offered them [] the strawberries. They were all happy, jah, they got those nice things. And we took the rest from over there to into the United States. From this little, from this place, here we went the other morning to the Bay of Biscay. That is []. That is []. But it was very, very cold for we stay long, we were afraid my father catch []. And in the

night my father said, "Close the windows. Make shadows on because were near the airport. Like we had in Germany. When the airplanes--

Q: Blackout.

A: I said "No, no. We will not have it here but I close them []. And [] we were there overnight. In the morning we went to breakfast. There wasn't much for breakfast. Is there anything [] little cans of coffee, but it was coffee that's not like coffee, that was coffee made from [?ishel]. [Ishel] coffee, this is a little fruit that they have in the forest, jah? It's called "Ishel" jah? The coffee []. We had still [twist]. [] still [?twist] there. I bring this down []. The waiters say, "Give us a piece too." They were more hungry than we. So we had something to eat for my brother and my father. Dinners for the saved. Was nothing to eat, this country was poorer than we. Nothing to eat. Of course, everything, every time, the waiters and [] were cut away. I just []. ...the poor guys. But they had nothing. They had nothing to eat. So in the afternoon, we had to go back inside, evening. We had a true coffee beans. We brought these from Germany. In case somebody collapses over here, we give them a cup of coffee. So at last [] I said, "Girl come here. I have a cup. We'll make a big cup of coffee. She make coffee for [] mocha. I saved the other coffee for myself! So some people got a little, little, little cup of mocha, jah? Okay, there's something [useful]. And the last bread that we got, it was dried out []. I want to put it in the garbage. The

girl came and said, "Oh no. Don't put it in there. I take it for my mother." That was a situation []. [].

Q: When you left, when you left Germany, did you know you were going to go on this long train trip?

A: Yeah. Yeah, we knew this. In some parts, went already over Russia to China. It was not [] the direct way. And the soldier car in Lisbon, here we came in the evening. It's a city mostly like San Francisco, it's a harbor. A harbor city, jah. They [] of everything, like here. There we had to []. People who were there on the train from the committee were terrible. I tell you terrible. So I told some people who said, "I know they are very terrible." [] said we had people [] like the people [].

They had terrible people there, terrible. So everybody []. They had not all []. They had [] us in a pension. They had business. They brought the people in there. A boy came. He said, "I take you to my house." And our package, when we were there, was waylaid [] 3 or 4 o'clock. We lost the one of our packages. []. The next morning, my brother went to the same boy and he said, "No. Nobody will steal it here." It was standing [] the same place. The people [came down] the little pension. Coffee and breakfast, [] we had two rooms. [] maybe six, seven days. [] somebody called from the street and said that [] there's a synagogue. It was a quiet place, jah, but it was you feeled a little, you felt a little bit, not [] sick. A little bit of a different area. []. There were many, many refugees. We were not only alone [] 69, but on the way we got some too. We

got some people [] coming. From Luxembourg. From Luxembourg came some people too. They were already there, jah?, and they came with us on the same boat. Jah, the head rabbi from Luxembourg, he was there. That's the [?story]. Then, from Luxembourg we had to go to the Committee again. And they told us all aboard because the next morning the boat is leaving for the United States. Everything was arranged through the Committee. So my sister and my brother went to the Committee. I was home with my father. And they came back and said, "They said we are not on the list." "Why? We came over we were on the list. Why we're not on the list?" [] We had some bad experience with the old Jewish people. But my brother had a friend. He was American in Luxembourg. And too his wife. She was [] of us, very familiar there with the Committee. And she said, "Come with me and I go." And she went and so others around [from] the people, and said, "What did you say here. These people are not on the list?" And so when she found out and said, "You will go tomorrow morning." So we were on the boat. That was a boat, an old German boat from the First World War, built--[] an enemy tanker, an enemy boat--the build it over, for human beings....

Q: How long did it take you from the time you left Germany to the time you got on the boat?

A: The whole trip, from Germany to here, was seven weeks.

Q: Uh-huh.

Q: Because we had to stay, to wait, [over], jah? The boat-- how long it was--5, 6 days, 5 days []. On the boat, we had

already many airplane attacks.

Q: Was it a German, it was a German-registered boat? A German boat?

A: No, no. That boat because they had to give it up, then up [] the First World War. Up to the Germans to give us for []. The German had to make payments.

Q: War payments.

A: And that's [for] the boat, jah?

Q: Whose flag were you sailing under?

A: What?

Q: What...?

A: It was a Portugese boat.

Q: A Portugese boat.

A: A Portugese boat, jah. The whole thing was Portugese.

Q: You say it was attacked, though, by airplanes, the boat?

A: Jah. They had not attacks, but they had--They prove it if they can stand it, jah? It was in the daytime [] lonely, so that everyone know, knew, what we had to do, to go from the boat, to go inside, and so on. [].

Q: Were they German planes or American planes, or British planes that were attacking it? Or do you know?

A: There were no planes. They make it only in case--

Q: In case, okay.

A: Jah. [?As a matter of fact], we didn't see a plane. One more [] a circle. We passed the Bermudas, and they always go on to Bermuda--things are going on, jah?--but they didn't. In case

of the air traffic, they went to []. My brother and I, we were all the time sick. We couldn't sleep in the boat. We slept the whole time, my sister too, on deck. In the night, I [?fought] with some people there. And [he] said, "you can have the big chairs." And he had big coats, and big black blankets, and you can sleep here on deck until 4 o'clock in the morning. 4 o'clock in the morning, they start to clean the deck. Then you have to get up. "Okay." We will do that. In the--if you were in [?] with everything you have to try everything. So I went to a man, to a cleaner, and said "Look. You see that place?" Where we can wash ourselves and sleep here in [] place and no nothing. My father was inside and somebody took care of him there.

Q: Was everybody on the boat Jewish, all the passengers?

A: We went about 650. When we came home, 60. When we arrive [safe], 616. One day we were []. That's a [] Wednesday. [] the day we were [] doctor and his [] was a helper from the doctors-- there were two young doctors who were from the, from this end-- they said--delivered in the morning when she was already on the boat. And [] big ships was a machine[]. Now she was over the []. So the captain came to the overlobby up from uh....Anyway, it was [] gone to. And the captain he said, "Look. This has just happened here." He had two rooms. "Can you not give us one of them for this woman to put her in? She can't stay there anymore." But he refused. And we begged him again. He refused. And the captain said, "So, you stay where you are. I give up my cabin." And the captain was nice. The captain was nice. And

the friends went there in the morning and the woman was then in his cabin until we had arrived in New York. Then of course the Red Cross was there and the family of these people and they brought the friends the mother and the baby first out from the boat. This was the first, the first passenger.

In the--we arrived here Saturday morning and [] Friday evening [] on board, the men, and they told me, "Come join us." What he was doing there, I don't know. The [] party who had kosher and the other ate everything. So we were in the party for kosher. They wouldn't let us in. We said, "We have to go in there." My father []. So we were there. And Friday evening came the [] man and said, "I heard you were going to San Francisco." I say, "Jah." "But you need something to eat and this is a far away from New York to San Francisco. And here is so much food left. And said, "Anyhow, you can ask. Go to the [] and ask him." And I said I had already the stomach from the day. I said, "No, no, no. I will not go." And he said, "I insist that you are going. And he was standing here and I went then down the hall and knocked on his door. [] some time before he came. He wasn't [?mighty quick]. He opened the door, got very polite, and said, "[]" And I said, "I would ask you if we can have some from the food that is left because we are going to San Francisco and my father is an old man." And he said, "No." And the man was standing here []. And I excused myself. And I come back. I was of course [stunned]. I said, "I told you I wouldn't [] the food." And he said, "Yes." And that was the story []. We

came to []. We were in the morning in New York the boat []. It took a long time. It was 650 people, yet it takes a long time. We came down from the [hold] []. There was a red cross sign down there [] nothing []--[end of tape 1, side 2]

[beginning of tape 2, side 1]--[] [There was a platform there][] large building and people there [] came down [] my father []us. He took some of the, some people [] relation of [?her] and said, "We are the [?friends] here too." The friend of my brother was on the boat but he was the []. They [] my sister, but I []. My sister, my brother was []. Was the [?highest][?nice] transportation. [] Jewish Congregation and he survived [] break down. He took a cab and put her in with the husband. My father, my sister, and I, and my brother and his friends that came by street[?cars] []. We had to [] with the [?violence] [?] car and we came to the others, came to the others, [] shabbat []. And late. We said, "We are [?hungry] and nothing to eat!" So the men, they took [] and brought some bread and some []loche and said []. []. They were awful. I tell you, awful. My brother had to go the highest [] of place where the so-called homeless sleeping. And my brother said, "[] the evening coming, all the people go to sleep." He slept there three or four nights, I think. I then said I don't know if that was a sh[]ling or something in New York. He hadn't--we couldn't go by street car because it was morning, so we walked. And I walked over [] came over [] friends of my brother in our hotel. At least he is []. The [] car from the

street. And then we came []. [] We went to eat, to the [] to breakfast, lunch, and dinner. [], and by consequence I don't if that was a [] or something [] was a lady from []. And she said "You have to wait here maybe ten days. We have to go in touch with you at the [baggage s[]lder] if she wants you to come over. Then we have not the answer, "Yes. Of course." They wrote the letter, then was the transportation, not [] yet. And they got the answer they told us, "[[] let you go." And we said, "Okay." [] my father and my brother had dreamed [] go with us. And [] said, "No there's nice people there." And said, "No, you are in one family and you won't be []. You go together [] by train." So we went by train. And in New York, we left there. My brother's customer's son. He was a [] boy. And he said, "[[] you can go from here to San Francisco. Long trip without money, without nothing. How can you do it? He lend us twenty five dollars and he come with a big luggage and had [] something to eat for us. Something to eat there. So we had []. We came from there to Chicago.

[phone rings]. Excuse me. That's a friend. His sister [] she want to phone him she [] to me and she didn't.

Q: So you were there in New York.

A: Then we came here by [?airplane?]. From Chicago. Chicago we went after one half day [] on the station, wonderful station. And very good fish from Lake Erie. My father [] "[[] eat such good fish all my life like here." Fish and tomato soup and potatoes. That's so good. We had to make [] half of the

night. Instead we went by Pullman []. [] a very nice [lower class]. We said, "We will--We want to make it cheap and not too expensive for the Committee. My father, my brother [don't] sleep and they both [were] [sick], jah. And she came and said, "No. I have--your father and your brother, they have already a bed. Won't you come. I give you one too." Course I didn't take it.

Q: The group on the ship, how many came to San Francisco?

A: What, the ship, to San Francisco. We were four. And there came another man []. He [] underneath []. He came. That's what I know. San Francisco didn't have many. They all went to the East. Because many had in the East relations, relatives, and for they had already kids here, jah. Like this doctor couple. They had already two sons, see. One was a doctor, was already a doctor. One studied. And they maybe, maybe didn't [] to leave and come, right. I don't know. Mr. H[], whose this. They were all [fallen] and [] this six hundred fifteen or sixteen were sixteen or eighteen kept on the boat, they went to another country. I don't know to a island, but first they went other country. They went then, we came on the boat of [July] over Lake Erie and on Saturday morning we arrived here. []. You have to have [], and, of course, nobody had money. If you had money, they seize [], but if you were poor, that's very, very hard.

Q: Ms. Phillips, could we jump back to Germany for a minute?

A: What?

Q: Could we?--I want to go back a little bit to when you

were still in Germany.

A: Jah.

Q: Do you remember when Kristallnacht? Was that?--

A: Oh jah.

Q: Jah, what happened then?

A: Oh [].

Q: Okay you don't want to.

A: Ah. The next morning after the Kristallnacht, my brother told me, []. You go and look in Friedrichstrasse. They had a customer here that [] there. And I went. [] on the streets, of course, [] and was standing people there [] saying, "What is going on here?" [] didn't know what was going on. It was []. [] I think the people who did it lost their brain. Otherwise I cannot []. They burn the synagogues. They burn the [] also. I was in the daytime a Jewish Hospital. I helped them often when they had too much work in the office and [] a little bit. And some man, he was a secretary in the hospital, this was [an old man], he couldn't go anywhere. He said [] couldn't go out [] it was with a woman [] so bad it was a man. And there came a woman [] all Jewish people [] a woman I had never [] before and she came crying, "What is going on?" So she passed a little synagogue in a little area [] shule, and she said they burned the second []s. []. I said, "[]. Are you looking there? You go up there." []. They did--They burned, but that they did later. The synagogue in the Brandenburgerstrasse, the [M[]schumer]. Three thousand people [], but that was the building, inside and

outside. We were for a while the neighbor. [] house was a synagogue. Down by the, uh, synagogue. That was a building that was, years ago, an old age home, but they transferred the people to a newer building and they make the whole house []. [] or one of two floors were the department for the cemetery. There were many, many people working in this department, jah, only to carry on and bring out and bring in. They were, end[], together with Weisensee, and Weisensee was an asylum, a big one. And big theatre, and so on. Oh it was a []. And that is so like a story, [?information], like a story, jah? And people here can't understand that other []. and you came [] strasse. There was a vestibule so big [] three quarter of the [] on the []. The people at [?these stories], they laugh, you know, but outside the building, inside, there was a special big [?court] for b[?]ies made from [Catina Ca?alon] that was a Kaiser Wilhelm s[?]en business, jah? But inside the synagogue, it was the most []. First, []. Several synagogues [] the new shul and the old shul. [] the old shul and, eh....The old shul was in []strasse. []. [?Oben]strasse had a big office building [] the Jewish Home at []. The [] on the little [area] has a big building and other [] of the Jewish Congregation. And there was a man, Dr. Bederfelt. He was a doctor and he was a--he was first of the Hassidim, a very, very [virtuous] man. And he was [new] in the back in the altashul. He wore big [] nice, jah. I was there. It was the last time they had the shul of the []. And you know on []. They took out 72. I never []. I never could forget this. Never in

my life until my [death] what I saw there. The people were, the synagogue was covered, downstairs, upstairs--the people were crying and laughing and they want to go out and nobody could help them. It was so []. This was the altashul. When I went back it was [already] evening [] dark.

And I went home. [] the man, and he said [], "Where are you coming [now]?" And he [was] [] the first home. And I said, "I was in the altashul." But he gave us [] and said []. That I am I see my own life. And he said, "In the altashul." That what he answer. He was in a--years ago--synagogue, new shul, was a, in the back, a little--excuse me--are you coming?

(Female voice): Excuse me. I just want to bring the laundry up, that's all. I won't disturb you.

A: The H[], they're not as Sh[]. They were very warm people. They were a lot of poorer Jews. They were laundries there, a little house in a very [] there. And in the old shul, there was a very famous rabbi called Heyman. [], long beard, like a prophet. He came there to []. They had pollers and rol[]gers in [] Shabbat []. That's why in the back from the new shul, I read [] speak. I [] the old auf[]bau. You know the auf[]bau? And they explained--I didn't even know that t[] []. [] a little star [] poor. They start to build it new, but they make a plate on the wall where I was standing, the old shul. And this side was the old shul--the new shul, from the Rei[]strasse, and across

the street was a post office, a big post office. And we thought always they didn't go and restore the synagogue because the post office was the other side. They were afraid that they [] [block] the []. But now I saw, jah, that's a []. That was a terrible job.

In this, in the ground of the synagogue, in the offices, were downstairs a [vault]. And this is the same man what I met at the [?vault]. He said, "I know you." I say, "Where?" And he say I was assumed in the [?vault]. Because the little hospital had to make, estimate what they will use the whole year for money. And I had to make this [] and this goes together to the big congregation, to the big hospital. And he said, "Come down. I show you something." So we went down. It's got it here basement it was a vault. The big, the whole building, the whole. What I saw there for [friends] was a need for services. And the high holidays, there were in Berlin not enough synagogues. And they rented from big restaurants, big garden restaurants, big halls. One was [Tier]garden, but there were maybe ten or twelve or more they rented, and they had to furnish this all with [], with []. I said, "My god. This is a town by itself." There were a [garden] [] this congregation was very, very rich, jah, to have this hall, this stuff. I think some from the library [] in a museum said something recently, but I don't know. But it was inside building on the side from the synagogue was the [], it support the Gestapo their office there, the SR was there and the office [] rich everything.

In the R[osen]strasse were the big offices. I went several times. We had a neighbor. He was a he[] and she was []. They had little girls. And little girls, they want to bring them out. And I went [] R[osen]strasse, so I went to R[osen]strasse. I knew some people and I asked them, "Can the girls go out? Can you bring them out to England to the [cemeteries], jah?" [Doctor] said, "Yes. [] together with the mother to Shanghai." When I was sitting there, I saw some man, "What is this? What kind of [company] is this? And then I ask. And I come out the office there and said, "Sorry," some people [outside]. "What this is [] like?" The people [weren't] there. And they said, "They come back from concentration camp on Sachsenhausen." []. They look like the prisoners have suits that were all, like, pressed together like from an [?iron]. Because they said, "This [] never take you []. We send to the train station." But was not so far away. I think was a []. We send there men. And we know that the people come back. We take them here and give them [] food and money. Then we take them here to the train, and send them home. []. People can []. I go back []. I tell you this: that I hope that this never happens so when the world [] this from me, I can [?drop the world] []. If I had a longer life than [], first [?it hurts] they all [?]. Then they throw the others in to this. We have--maybe people wrote []. My brother here, he was on business--"come and help us and we want to go out"--and my brother []. I don't think that they--and because we [pick up] and [], we never will go back, even to the ghetto. We never will

see this [].

Q: You never went back to Germany.

A: We had enough for once. So this is all, jah. Later--but later, had [] when they--yeah they confiscated our [] the morning they came. And my brother [] back []. Awful, awful, awful []. So they said, "Here. [] all ready. We set to go out to the United States, jah, []ere everything. We knew we couldn't [] out, then, we have what we need, jah. So they said, "Oh, that's a good one. I take this." My brother asked, "Can I get a receipt?" No, you can't say anything. He was glad to come back.

Anyhow, well I'm []. Since I'm glad that they didn't take my father and my brother. That was a big thing. [] very important [].

Q: Anything else you want to add?

A: Yes.

Q: You want to add anything else? Or should we stop it.

Q: Would you like to say anything more, or would you like to stop now?

A: I have enough. For a while I [] everything much.