

1  
00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:41,300

2  
00:00:41,300 --> 00:00:44,340  
I want to just skip around  
and ask [INAUDIBLE]..

3  
00:00:44,340 --> 00:00:45,590  
OK, tell me what--

4  
00:00:45,590 --> 00:00:47,870  
OK, are we rolling?

5  
00:00:47,870 --> 00:00:48,710  
Yes we are.

6  
00:00:48,710 --> 00:00:51,560  
OK, when you were  
in Moscow did you

7  
00:00:51,560 --> 00:00:54,740  
go to the opera or the ballet?

8  
00:00:54,740 --> 00:00:58,340  
Yes, the first night  
I came to Moscow.

9  
00:00:58,340 --> 00:01:04,610  
The first night I came to Moscow  
the Russian Intourist gave us

10  
00:01:04,610 --> 00:01:08,060  
tickets to the Moscow opera.

11  
00:01:08,060 --> 00:01:11,150  
And at that time they  
put Carmen was going.

12  
00:01:11,150 --> 00:01:16,265  
And I came there but we were so  
tired and Carmen was beautiful

13  
00:01:16,265 --> 00:01:20,420  
and the music was beautiful,  
but we fell asleep.

14  
00:01:20,420 --> 00:01:25,820  
We were tired from being  
on the train all day.

15  
00:01:25,820 --> 00:01:28,940  
So we were so tired  
that we fell asleep.

16  
00:01:28,940 --> 00:01:32,580  
Till this day, I regretted that  
I couldn't see all of Carmen

17  
00:01:32,580 --> 00:01:33,080  
there.

18  
00:01:33,080 --> 00:01:35,870  
It was the most beautiful  
opera I ever saw my life.

19  
00:01:35,870 --> 00:01:38,900

20  
00:01:38,900 --> 00:01:40,700  
OK, now coming to  
Japan and stuff

21  
00:01:40,700 --> 00:01:42,860  
were you able to keep in  
touch with your parents

22  
00:01:42,860 --> 00:01:45,740  
and how did you keep in touch?

23  
00:01:45,740 --> 00:01:54,370  
In Japan I have two postcards  
from my father in Lithuania

24

00:01:54,370 --> 00:01:54,870  
from--

25  
00:01:54,870 --> 00:01:56,240  
Start--

26  
00:01:56,240 --> 00:01:57,710  
While being in Lithuania--

27  
00:01:57,710 --> 00:02:00,590  
No, while in Japan.

28  
00:02:00,590 --> 00:02:01,340  
Japan.

29  
00:02:01,340 --> 00:02:03,120  
While in Japan I  
got one postcard.

30  
00:02:03,120 --> 00:02:07,190  
That was the last postcard that  
I had from my hometown that

31  
00:02:07,190 --> 00:02:10,940  
they heard that I am going to  
the United States and they are

32  
00:02:10,940 --> 00:02:17,090  
very happy for me and  
they hope that I'll--

33  
00:02:17,090 --> 00:02:19,490  
and it was written in  
Russian because that

34  
00:02:19,490 --> 00:02:21,890  
was Russia at that  
time and the sender

35  
00:02:21,890 --> 00:02:25,130  
was always looking  
for foreign languages

36

00:02:25,130 --> 00:02:30,680

that they would be able to  
either destroy it or send.

37

00:02:30,680 --> 00:02:33,800

But in Russian the postcard  
they let it through.

38

00:02:33,800 --> 00:02:37,220

They didn't think of it much.

39

00:02:37,220 --> 00:02:40,562

Did they receive anything from  
you while you were in Japan?

40

00:02:40,562 --> 00:02:42,340

No, from Japan they--

41

00:02:42,340 --> 00:02:43,400

I don't believe it.

42

00:02:43,400 --> 00:02:45,770

I don't know if they  
did get it because I

43

00:02:45,770 --> 00:02:47,910

was writing every time.

44

00:02:47,910 --> 00:02:52,820

But I have no idea if  
they got to-- done that.

45

00:02:52,820 --> 00:02:57,880

46

00:02:57,880 --> 00:03:00,660

Let see.

47

00:03:00,660 --> 00:03:02,700

Could you tell me  
again why you were so

48

00:03:02,700 --> 00:03:05,970  
motivated to get out of Russia?

49

00:03:05,970 --> 00:03:08,010  
As I told you, I was born into--

50

00:03:08,010 --> 00:03:09,790  
You can't say [INAUDIBLE]

51

00:03:09,790 --> 00:03:10,290  
Sorry.

52

00:03:10,290 --> 00:03:12,090  
And don't go all the way back.

53

00:03:12,090 --> 00:03:15,780  
Just say because you  
hated the Russians or--

54

00:03:15,780 --> 00:03:17,730  
Because I was a Zionist.

55

00:03:17,730 --> 00:03:19,800  
OK, no.

56

00:03:19,800 --> 00:03:21,570  
You wanted to get  
out of Russia or you

57

00:03:21,570 --> 00:03:23,640  
wanted to get out from  
under Russian rule.

58

00:03:23,640 --> 00:03:26,920

59

00:03:26,920 --> 00:03:30,250  
All my life I was a  
Zionist and my dream

60

00:03:30,250 --> 00:03:34,810

was to go to Israel, at  
that time was Palestine.

61  
00:03:34,810 --> 00:03:38,770  
Once the Russian occupied  
our country I knew in time

62  
00:03:38,770 --> 00:03:41,110  
we couldn't get out  
from them because we

63  
00:03:41,110 --> 00:03:43,250  
knew what's going on there.

64  
00:03:43,250 --> 00:03:47,830  
And in a way we were  
very well informed

65  
00:03:47,830 --> 00:03:51,190  
and I knew that  
after a while they'll

66  
00:03:51,190 --> 00:03:54,100  
close all the avenues of escape.

67  
00:03:54,100 --> 00:03:55,510  
You couldn't go out.

68  
00:03:55,510 --> 00:03:59,470  
So I look for ways to get out  
of Russia out from under the--

69  
00:03:59,470 --> 00:04:02,990  
Not of Russia but from  
under the communist regime.

70  
00:04:02,990 --> 00:04:07,830  
And the only way was  
open was Vilnius.

71  
00:04:07,830 --> 00:04:11,620  
And Vilnius never  
supposed to be given back

72  
00:04:11,620 --> 00:04:15,160  
to the Lithuanians which the  
Lithuanians made it later

73  
00:04:15,160 --> 00:04:18,100  
for their capital city.

74  
00:04:18,100 --> 00:04:23,370

75  
00:04:23,370 --> 00:04:26,685  
Why do you think it's important  
for you to tell this story?

76  
00:04:26,685 --> 00:04:29,860

77  
00:04:29,860 --> 00:04:30,910  
Why.

78  
00:04:30,910 --> 00:04:34,050  
You see, as a matter of fact,  
I should have written down

79  
00:04:34,050 --> 00:04:37,560  
everything but I didn't,  
that the closest way

80  
00:04:37,560 --> 00:04:45,490  
to leave some legacy  
for my grandchildren

81  
00:04:45,490 --> 00:04:51,300  
and for future generations.

82  
00:04:51,300 --> 00:04:54,750  
If I can contribute  
a little bit,

83  
00:04:54,750 --> 00:05:00,060  
if everybody could contribute

just one letter that

84

00:05:00,060 --> 00:05:03,390

would leave some  
history that people

85

00:05:03,390 --> 00:05:05,940

wouldn't come later and  
say, no, nothing happened.

86

00:05:05,940 --> 00:05:15,930

It was just a figment of your  
imagination, or something.

87

00:05:15,930 --> 00:05:17,820

I've never been a refugee.

88

00:05:17,820 --> 00:05:19,740

I've never had to  
run from anything.

89

00:05:19,740 --> 00:05:22,320

I've never had to--

90

00:05:22,320 --> 00:05:23,340

Lucky you.

91

00:05:23,340 --> 00:05:24,990

Yes, very lucky.

92

00:05:24,990 --> 00:05:27,960

93

00:05:27,960 --> 00:05:28,710

What is it like?

94

00:05:28,710 --> 00:05:32,880

Do you live day to day  
or do you make big plans

95

00:05:32,880 --> 00:05:36,690

or is it full of risk or--

96  
00:05:36,690 --> 00:05:38,460  
what's it like to be a refugee?

97  
00:05:38,460 --> 00:05:44,550  
To be a refugee is  
like any normal people.

98  
00:05:44,550 --> 00:05:49,080  
They live from day to day  
mostly except that they

99  
00:05:49,080 --> 00:05:54,690  
have their problems where  
to go and live permanently

100  
00:05:54,690 --> 00:06:00,120  
without any threat for your  
life or for your family or for--

101  
00:06:00,120 --> 00:06:05,520  
So most of the day so you  
are trying to make a living,

102  
00:06:05,520 --> 00:06:09,270  
you're trying to injure  
yourself because you are young.

103  
00:06:09,270 --> 00:06:14,280  
At this age all you  
think is of having

104  
00:06:14,280 --> 00:06:17,550  
enough to eat and shelter  
and enjoy yourself.

105  
00:06:17,550 --> 00:06:22,890  
But the longer you're  
looking of ways

106  
00:06:22,890 --> 00:06:28,590  
to get out to get back whatever  
you can put your roots in.

107  
00:06:28,590 --> 00:06:31,900  
My idea was Israel.

108  
00:06:31,900 --> 00:06:33,960  
I wasn't thinking  
of the United States

109  
00:06:33,960 --> 00:06:36,150  
or of any other  
country in the world.

110  
00:06:36,150 --> 00:06:37,800  
Only love Israel.

111  
00:06:37,800 --> 00:06:40,600  
But the trouble was  
hard to get there.

112  
00:06:40,600 --> 00:06:46,290  
So you start to make plans  
and you tried all the avenues.

113  
00:06:46,290 --> 00:06:53,350  
But you weren't always  
successful in it.

114  
00:06:53,350 --> 00:06:58,240  
What was your lowest  
point during this period

115  
00:06:58,240 --> 00:07:01,690  
and what was your highest point?

116  
00:07:01,690 --> 00:07:06,550  
The lowest point to my period  
was on the way from Lithuania

117  
00:07:06,550 --> 00:07:12,250  
to Vladivostok to get a visa,  
a Japanese visa because if I

118

00:07:12,250 --> 00:07:15,020  
don't get it I go to Siberia.

119  
00:07:15,020 --> 00:07:18,640  
One country was open  
for me, that's Siberia.

120  
00:07:18,640 --> 00:07:21,550  
The second lowest  
time was in Shanghai

121  
00:07:21,550 --> 00:07:27,620  
after the American bombardment  
of Shanghai, which was in 1945

122  
00:07:27,620 --> 00:07:28,720  
I believe.

123  
00:07:28,720 --> 00:07:32,410  
The rumors came to us that  
the Japanese want to put us

124  
00:07:32,410 --> 00:07:38,360  
on leaky ships and take us out  
to the Yellow Sea and sink us,

125  
00:07:38,360 --> 00:07:45,590  
let the ship sink or to  
leave us on Ban Islands which

126  
00:07:45,590 --> 00:07:49,310  
[? a rock?] only birds  
used to stop there,

127  
00:07:49,310 --> 00:07:51,920  
and let us die there.

128  
00:07:51,920 --> 00:07:54,770

129  
00:07:54,770 --> 00:07:59,120  
We were making plans to run  
away into the interior of China

130  
00:07:59,120 --> 00:08:01,450  
to Chiang Kai-Shek.

131  
00:08:01,450 --> 00:08:06,200  
But it was a dream only  
because among the Chinese

132  
00:08:06,200 --> 00:08:08,470  
you stuck out like a sore thumb.

133  
00:08:08,470 --> 00:08:11,110

134  
00:08:11,110 --> 00:08:13,570  
But we tried to do  
whatever we could.

135  
00:08:13,570 --> 00:08:17,960  
We were talking hard where  
to run and how run and--

136  
00:08:17,960 --> 00:08:19,770  
but things got the world.

137  
00:08:19,770 --> 00:08:22,730  
The America started to  
bombard, and all of a sudden

138  
00:08:22,730 --> 00:08:25,910  
we had about Hiroshima  
and Nagasaki.

139  
00:08:25,910 --> 00:08:31,130  
And the rumours were dead.

140  
00:08:31,130 --> 00:08:34,880  
What were some of your  
high points in this journey

141  
00:08:34,880 --> 00:08:39,002  
overall picture of going from

Poland all the way to the US?

142  
00:08:39,002 --> 00:08:39,919  
What was some of the--

143  
00:08:39,919 --> 00:08:42,179  
The high points when  
the war was finished.

144  
00:08:42,179 --> 00:08:43,800  
Sorry, I still talking.

145  
00:08:43,800 --> 00:08:47,660  
The high points of  
my being a refugee

146  
00:08:47,660 --> 00:08:51,290  
was the minute we heard  
that the war was finished.

147  
00:08:51,290 --> 00:08:54,900  
We didn't know  
about the Holocaust.

148  
00:08:54,900 --> 00:09:01,530  
There rumors were only coming  
through the Russian news which

149  
00:09:01,530 --> 00:09:03,390  
we didn't trust and believe.

150  
00:09:03,390 --> 00:09:06,210

151  
00:09:06,210 --> 00:09:11,400  
And then that was  
for us terrible,

152  
00:09:11,400 --> 00:09:14,100  
and our feeling was  
very bad about it.

153

00:09:14,100 --> 00:09:16,080  
But we didn't have the details.

154  
00:09:16,080 --> 00:09:19,410  
We didn't know what to believe  
and what not to believe.

155  
00:09:19,410 --> 00:09:22,150  
Our minds couldn't  
comprehend it.

156  
00:09:22,150 --> 00:09:25,890  
So we said maybe  
it's just rumours.

157  
00:09:25,890 --> 00:09:28,390  
We still hope maybe  
it's not true.

158  
00:09:28,390 --> 00:09:31,650  
How could it be a whole  
population to be annihilated?

159  
00:09:31,650 --> 00:09:34,390

160  
00:09:34,390 --> 00:09:40,475  
Do you ever wonder why you  
made it and others didn't?

161  
00:09:40,475 --> 00:09:40,975  
Luck.

162  
00:09:40,975 --> 00:09:43,840

163  
00:09:43,840 --> 00:09:47,680  
Most of it anyway is luck.

164  
00:09:47,680 --> 00:09:50,860  
Your thinking, a  
lot of people were

165

00:09:50,860 --> 00:09:54,580

thinking about it the  
same way, but you had also

166

00:09:54,580 --> 00:09:57,490

to have a little initiative.

167

00:09:57,490 --> 00:10:02,000

But I ascribe it mostly to luck.

168

00:10:02,000 --> 00:10:05,440

Initiative helps.

169

00:10:05,440 --> 00:10:09,220

If you don't do anything,  
you don't get anything.

170

00:10:09,220 --> 00:10:11,650

But with all this  
you have to be lucky.

171

00:10:11,650 --> 00:10:16,120

172

00:10:16,120 --> 00:10:19,510

And do you have any questions or  
topics that I haven't touched?

173

00:10:19,510 --> 00:10:21,605

I can tell you an episode.

174

00:10:21,605 --> 00:10:22,590

Excuse me, I--

175

00:10:22,590 --> 00:10:26,380

I want to tell you one  
episode in Shanghai.

176

00:10:26,380 --> 00:10:28,810

If you want you can  
record it or not.

177  
00:10:28,810 --> 00:10:31,630  
You want to hear  
it first and then--

178  
00:10:31,630 --> 00:10:35,440  
while being in  
Shanghai, in Japan there

179  
00:10:35,440 --> 00:10:38,910  
was a Japanese consulate still.

180  
00:10:38,910 --> 00:10:43,950  
He constantly was working  
from some neutral country.

181  
00:10:43,950 --> 00:10:47,910  
And they were  
recruiting young people

182  
00:10:47,910 --> 00:10:53,310  
in the Polish army which  
were in London at that time.

183  
00:10:53,310 --> 00:10:58,560  
And they recruited young  
people to send them to Canada

184  
00:10:58,560 --> 00:11:02,690  
to train for the Polish army.

185  
00:11:02,690 --> 00:11:08,060  
So of course in order to get out  
of Japan not to go to Shanghai

186  
00:11:08,060 --> 00:11:10,610  
I will go in the army gladly.

187  
00:11:10,610 --> 00:11:13,400  
So we went to register.

188  
00:11:13,400 --> 00:11:16,910  
When I came to register

there was a Jewish fellow

189

00:11:16,910 --> 00:11:21,590  
which is the secretary or the  
secretary of the consulate who

190

00:11:21,590 --> 00:11:24,120  
was sent by London.

191

00:11:24,120 --> 00:11:28,910  
And he was a Jewish fellow who  
was in the lumber business,

192

00:11:28,910 --> 00:11:31,670  
the same as my father  
when said the name.

193

00:11:31,670 --> 00:11:36,170  
And the [INAUDIBLE] says, I knew  
a guy by the name of Goldberg.

194

00:11:36,170 --> 00:11:38,870  
We had some business  
dealings with him.

195

00:11:38,870 --> 00:11:40,270  
And he took down my--

196

00:11:40,270 --> 00:11:41,990  
And I told him,  
that's my father.

197

00:11:41,990 --> 00:11:47,000  
Took down all the details and  
says, wait, we'll let you know.

198

00:11:47,000 --> 00:11:50,750  
That was in Tokyo we went.

199

00:11:50,750 --> 00:11:58,730  
And we came especially overnight  
by train to Tokyo from Kobe.

200

00:11:58,730 --> 00:12:01,340

I went back to  
Kobe and I waited,

201

00:12:01,340 --> 00:12:06,320

and of course we went there for  
a day to the seashore to swim

202

00:12:06,320 --> 00:12:08,960

and there was  
nothing else to do.

203

00:12:08,960 --> 00:12:12,217

When I came in the evening I  
came to the Jewish committee.

204

00:12:12,217 --> 00:12:12,800

I take a look.

205

00:12:12,800 --> 00:12:19,530

My name is on the list, but  
the train left an hour ago.

206

00:12:19,530 --> 00:12:20,460

So what did I do?

207

00:12:20,460 --> 00:12:26,000

I went next day I went  
to Tokyo and I came in,

208

00:12:26,000 --> 00:12:29,600

and the fellow that I knew  
my father looked at me

209

00:12:29,600 --> 00:12:32,210

and says, Goldberg,  
what are you doing here?

210

00:12:32,210 --> 00:12:36,716

The ship left  
today, this morning.

211

00:12:36,716 --> 00:12:40,010

So I say, I came  
late in the evening--

212

00:12:40,010 --> 00:12:45,170

I mean, late in the  
day and I saw the list,

213

00:12:45,170 --> 00:12:47,190

but the time was left already.

214

00:12:47,190 --> 00:12:48,440

So I didn't know.

215

00:12:48,440 --> 00:12:51,560

He says, your name is approved.

216

00:12:51,560 --> 00:12:52,610

And looks in the list.

217

00:12:52,610 --> 00:12:55,910

He says, but you  
are on the ship.

218

00:12:55,910 --> 00:12:58,135

You are on the steamship now.

219

00:12:58,135 --> 00:12:59,930

He says, no, it couldn't be.

220

00:12:59,930 --> 00:13:04,790

What came out is that another  
guy with the same name as mine

221

00:13:04,790 --> 00:13:09,920

and the same age saw  
the name and he went

222

00:13:09,920 --> 00:13:11,760

and that was meant for me.

223

00:13:11,760 --> 00:13:17,780

So he says, now you have to wait for the next boat, which

224  
00:13:17,780 --> 00:13:22,850  
of course never came because it was odd in November.

225  
00:13:22,850 --> 00:13:27,980  
And the American ship started to call on Japanese ports.

226  
00:13:27,980 --> 00:13:30,620

227  
00:13:30,620 --> 00:13:33,560  
So that guy went to Canada and he

228  
00:13:33,560 --> 00:13:38,600  
had a hard time in the army because of the anti-Semitism

229  
00:13:38,600 --> 00:13:39,560  
in the army.

230  
00:13:39,560 --> 00:13:42,230  
And I had a good life in Shanghai comparatively

231  
00:13:42,230 --> 00:13:43,730  
to everybody.

232  
00:13:43,730 --> 00:13:45,851  
We had a nice life in Shanghai.

233  
00:13:45,851 --> 00:13:48,680

234  
00:13:48,680 --> 00:13:50,090  
So yeah.

235  
00:13:50,090 --> 00:13:51,680

Yeah, do you have  
any questions or--

236  
00:13:51,680 --> 00:13:53,300  
I didn't go into the army.

237  
00:13:53,300 --> 00:13:58,010  
It was a very anti-Semitic  
army which they gave you

238  
00:13:58,010 --> 00:14:00,050  
the hardest time possible.

239  
00:14:00,050 --> 00:14:02,828  
And I lived a good  
life in Shanghai.

240  
00:14:02,828 --> 00:14:07,010

241  
00:14:07,010 --> 00:14:07,760  
How did you feel--

242  
00:14:07,760 --> 00:14:10,460

243  
00:14:10,460 --> 00:14:15,650  
when you were in Vladivostok  
and you didn't have a--

244  
00:14:15,650 --> 00:14:16,910  
A visa.

245  
00:14:16,910 --> 00:14:20,420  
A visa to Shanghai or to Japan--

246  
00:14:20,420 --> 00:14:22,640  
To Japan yeah.

247  
00:14:22,640 --> 00:14:28,670  
How did you have faith,  
how did you know that you

248  
00:14:28,670 --> 00:14:29,780  
were going to get through?

249  
00:14:29,780 --> 00:14:30,410  
I didn't.

250  
00:14:30,410 --> 00:14:32,590  
I did my best that I could.

251  
00:14:32,590 --> 00:14:35,258  
As I told you, if that  
wouldn't go through then

252  
00:14:35,258 --> 00:14:36,050  
we'd go to Siberia.

253  
00:14:36,050 --> 00:14:38,660  
I knew it.

254  
00:14:38,660 --> 00:14:43,970  
And Siberia would have been  
better than staying in Vilnius?

255  
00:14:43,970 --> 00:14:46,790  
Of course, the people in  
Siberia, a lot of them

256  
00:14:46,790 --> 00:14:47,920  
came out alive.

257  
00:14:47,920 --> 00:14:53,240

258  
00:14:53,240 --> 00:14:55,520  
Were you surprised that  
your resourcefulness?

259  
00:14:55,520 --> 00:14:56,510  
I mean--

260

00:14:56,510 --> 00:14:58,800  
No.

261  
00:14:58,800 --> 00:15:01,400  
You see, my father  
was a merchant

262  
00:15:01,400 --> 00:15:04,130  
and my grandfather  
was a merchant,

263  
00:15:04,130 --> 00:15:06,860  
though he lived in a  
village, my grandfather.

264  
00:15:06,860 --> 00:15:09,250  
So we had initiative always.

265  
00:15:09,250 --> 00:15:12,990  
We always looked to  
better our lives.

266  
00:15:12,990 --> 00:15:14,280  
So I wasn't surprised.

267  
00:15:14,280 --> 00:15:19,460  
But the luck held out for me.

268  
00:15:19,460 --> 00:15:21,970  
You see, every little thing  
could have gone wrong.

269  
00:15:21,970 --> 00:15:24,110  
They could have  
refused, the Russians,

270  
00:15:24,110 --> 00:15:29,150  
to let me out because I  
have to give them a history

271  
00:15:29,150 --> 00:15:33,200  
my life, a cockamamie  
story how did I

272  
00:15:33,200 --> 00:15:37,040  
wind up in Warsaw to get a  
temporary passport and this

273  
00:15:37,040 --> 00:15:38,580  
and that.

274  
00:15:38,580 --> 00:15:40,480  
So everything was--

275  
00:15:40,480 --> 00:15:44,360  
I could have said right  
away it's a falsified paper.

276  
00:15:44,360 --> 00:15:47,060

277  
00:15:47,060 --> 00:15:49,640  
The seal was new, everything.

278  
00:15:49,640 --> 00:15:52,580  
So he took this finger if  
it will come off or not.

279  
00:15:52,580 --> 00:15:53,930  
But it didn't come off.

280  
00:15:53,930 --> 00:15:56,360  
They had good ink there.

281  
00:15:56,360 --> 00:15:59,180  
Why do you think that  
guard let you through?

282  
00:15:59,180 --> 00:16:00,890  
He might have been Jewish.

283  
00:16:00,890 --> 00:16:02,270  
He might have been a liberal.

284

00:16:02,270 --> 00:16:06,350  
He might have hated  
the Russian government.

285  
00:16:06,350 --> 00:16:13,100  
You see, there was a  
lot of things like this

286  
00:16:13,100 --> 00:16:21,080  
because there was also a lot  
of Jewish in the army officers,

287  
00:16:21,080 --> 00:16:22,280  
Jewish officer.

288  
00:16:22,280 --> 00:16:24,200  
So sometimes he knew  
the truth from them

289  
00:16:24,200 --> 00:16:26,690  
what's going on in Russia.

290  
00:16:26,690 --> 00:16:31,670  
When I came to the  
hotel in Chelyushkin

291  
00:16:31,670 --> 00:16:37,340  
after a beautiful dinner  
they gave us tea with lemon.

292  
00:16:37,340 --> 00:16:38,540  
But what did they do?

293  
00:16:38,540 --> 00:16:45,380  
They give us one piece of sugar  
[INAUDIBLE] cubes of sugar.

294  
00:16:45,380 --> 00:16:46,700  
You need three.

295  
00:16:46,700 --> 00:16:48,650  
For big glass of tea  
you need at least three.

296

00:16:48,650 --> 00:16:52,250

So used to call them

[INAUDIBLE] we need some sugar.

297

00:16:52,250 --> 00:16:54,680

So he used to bring us.

298

00:16:54,680 --> 00:16:56,900

I need another two

pieces of sugar.

299

00:16:56,900 --> 00:16:57,770

He brought us.

300

00:16:57,770 --> 00:17:01,250

And then said,

nobody should here.

301

00:17:01,250 --> 00:17:06,305

He says, we drink three glasses  
of tea with one piece of sugar,

302

00:17:06,305 --> 00:17:09,359

not three pieces with one.

303

00:17:09,359 --> 00:17:13,560

And he was a Jewish fellow

and knew right away.

304

00:17:13,560 --> 00:17:15,993

305

00:17:15,993 --> 00:17:16,868

We're still shooting.

306

00:17:16,868 --> 00:17:20,010

307

00:17:20,010 --> 00:17:21,329

Let's see.

308

00:17:21,329 --> 00:17:23,800

Was your trip on the  
train extremely stressful?

309

00:17:23,800 --> 00:17:26,280

I mean, you're hiding from  
the NKVD the whole time.

310

00:17:26,280 --> 00:17:32,100

But wasn't stressful  
because in every car

311

00:17:32,100 --> 00:17:35,070

we had people that was  
looking out for them.

312

00:17:35,070 --> 00:17:36,690

When they saw them  
coming to this car

313

00:17:36,690 --> 00:17:39,630

right away they  
told us where he is

314

00:17:39,630 --> 00:17:41,550

and we waited until  
the last minute, then

315

00:17:41,550 --> 00:17:49,320

we went into the next and hid  
in that one of the bathrooms.

316

00:17:49,320 --> 00:17:52,800

But there was an episode  
which I have to tell you,

317

00:17:52,800 --> 00:17:56,670

and if you put it on  
or not I don't know.

318

00:17:56,670 --> 00:17:59,010

When we came to have  
Khabarovsk, which

319  
00:17:59,010 --> 00:18:04,890  
is the Baikal, the  
beginning of Siberia.

320  
00:18:04,890 --> 00:18:12,360  
It was 30 below 0, very cold  
but the sun was shining.

321  
00:18:12,360 --> 00:18:15,420  
When we stopped there  
he said we have an hour.

322  
00:18:15,420 --> 00:18:19,690  
We came go off the  
train to the station.

323  
00:18:19,690 --> 00:18:23,100  
And there is rest and with food.

324  
00:18:23,100 --> 00:18:25,080  
So of course, we  
have pretty good food

325  
00:18:25,080 --> 00:18:30,510  
on the train but fresh food  
and everything if you go down.

326  
00:18:30,510 --> 00:18:31,890  
We came down.

327  
00:18:31,890 --> 00:18:39,300  
There was table served with  
the meat and borscht and bread,

328  
00:18:39,300 --> 00:18:41,700  
white bread and dark bread.

329  
00:18:41,700 --> 00:18:47,580  
And in Russia it looked  
like you fell into paradise.

330

00:18:47,580 --> 00:18:50,520  
So we sat down and then we ate.

331  
00:18:50,520 --> 00:18:56,220  
And then at the door  
was standing militiamen.

332  
00:18:56,220 --> 00:19:01,290  
And a big guy comes in,  
about 30 years old maybe 6

333  
00:19:01,290 --> 00:19:04,020  
foot 3, tall, beautiful.

334  
00:19:04,020 --> 00:19:06,630  
And he wants to come in.

335  
00:19:06,630 --> 00:19:09,660  
So he said, where are you  
going, the policeman asked.

336  
00:19:09,660 --> 00:19:12,830  
Says, I want to eat lunch.

337  
00:19:12,830 --> 00:19:14,850  
Dinner they call it there.

338  
00:19:14,850 --> 00:19:16,620  
So he says, no you cannot now.

339  
00:19:16,620 --> 00:19:21,180  
Let the foreigners finish  
eating and then you'll

340  
00:19:21,180 --> 00:19:23,130  
be able to go in.

341  
00:19:23,130 --> 00:19:27,780  
So he says, I know you  
what you are doing.

342  
00:19:27,780 --> 00:19:32,010

After they leave [INAUDIBLE]  
you have to clean up

343  
00:19:32,010 --> 00:19:34,980  
and we'll never get  
anything to eat.

344  
00:19:34,980 --> 00:19:38,400  
So another two guys came  
over, took him under the arm,

345  
00:19:38,400 --> 00:19:40,170  
and took him out from there.

346  
00:19:40,170 --> 00:19:43,440  
This is what Russia  
was at that time.

347  
00:19:43,440 --> 00:19:49,890  
A second episode, we went  
through Siberia to Birobidzhan.

348  
00:19:49,890 --> 00:19:55,710  
Birobidzhan was supposed to  
be a Jewish autonomous region.

349  
00:19:55,710 --> 00:19:57,810  
And we stopped at  
the station called

350  
00:19:57,810 --> 00:20:00,510  
Biro, which was part of it.

351  
00:20:00,510 --> 00:20:02,100  
We came down to the station.

352  
00:20:02,100 --> 00:20:06,930  
We see there's a kiosk  
or a newspaper stand

353  
00:20:06,930 --> 00:20:11,310  
and a fellow standing there,  
and we knew right away

354  
00:20:11,310 --> 00:20:12,780  
that he's Jewish.

355  
00:20:12,780 --> 00:20:16,620  
And we started to  
look at the books.

356  
00:20:16,620 --> 00:20:21,330  
There was two scroungy books  
and a couple scroungy magazines

357  
00:20:21,330 --> 00:20:24,450  
and a newspaper by  
the name of Emmis

358  
00:20:24,450 --> 00:20:28,770  
which is Pravda in Yiddish.

359  
00:20:28,770 --> 00:20:31,540  
And he looks at us,  
says, You are Jewish?

360  
00:20:31,540 --> 00:20:32,520  
Yes.

361  
00:20:32,520 --> 00:20:33,360  
Where are you going?

362  
00:20:33,360 --> 00:20:35,160  
We say, we are going to America.

363  
00:20:35,160 --> 00:20:37,800  
All we knew is America.

364  
00:20:37,800 --> 00:20:40,620  
He looks at us and smiles he  
says, you are going to Siberia.

365  
00:20:40,620 --> 00:20:42,120  
You are not going to America.

366

00:20:42,120 --> 00:20:44,880

Nobody comes out of Russia.

367

00:20:44,880 --> 00:20:50,190

This is the episode if  
you want to include it.

368

00:20:50,190 --> 00:20:51,055

No, that's good.

369

00:20:51,055 --> 00:20:52,450

Good.

370

00:20:52,450 --> 00:20:55,338

OK, I think that's it.

371

00:20:55,338 --> 00:20:56,190

[INAUDIBLE]

372

00:20:56,190 --> 00:20:56,730

That's it.

373

00:20:56,730 --> 00:20:57,300

That's right.

374

00:20:57,300 --> 00:20:58,260

That's what I have.

375

00:20:58,260 --> 00:21:00,330

We need to roll for  
about 20 seconds

376

00:21:00,330 --> 00:21:02,075

of just silence of the room.

377

00:21:02,075 --> 00:21:02,700

Shall I go out?

378

00:21:02,700 --> 00:21:04,050

No, no please join us.

379

00:21:04,050 --> 00:21:06,788

Just sit there and--

380

00:21:06,788 --> 00:21:09,420

[INAUDIBLE] rolling.

381

00:21:09,420 --> 00:21:10,488

Room tone.

382

00:21:10,488 --> 00:21:28,920

383

00:21:28,920 --> 00:21:29,850

End room tone.

384

00:21:29,850 --> 00:21:31,640

Thank you.

385

00:21:31,640 --> 00:23:35,000