

INTERVIEW WITH HENRY DLUZNOWSKI

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INTERVIEWER: October 6, 1994, and this is an interview with Mr. Henry Dluznowski. This is our first interview, and we're here in Agawam, in his house, and with his wife.

Let's begin by some basic questions about your background before the war. Your name is Henry...please pronounce it for me.

HENRY DLUZNOWSKI: Henry. Dluznowski. (spells it)

INT: Yes. In Yiddish you have another name?

HENRY: Chaim. (laughs)

INT: That's nice. And your age?

HENRY: I was born September 3, 1924.

INT: And where were you born?

HENRY: In Piotrkow, in Poland.

INT: And your marital status? You are married.

ETHYL DLUZNOWSKI: It's me. Twenty years we're married.

HENRY: Yes. Now I'm married, sure.

ETHYL: Try to get away! (laughs)

INT: Twenty years. And tell me about your education. The number of years you were educated, and schooling, and so on. Can you tell me about that?

HENRY: Well, I still remember when I was seven years old my parents send me to school, and I was, I finish high school. Till 1939, I attended school. When the war broke out, I stopped school, because I couldn't continue education, because the Germans came in, and they took us right to a ghetto, and was no school.

INT: What kind of a school was it?

HENRY: It was a regular school, you know, for the...

INT: Like a public school.

HENRY: A public school, a public school. And I was trying to get college degree, but I could not continue, because then the war, there was no such thing. We have to...I was very young...when the war. Thirteen years old. You know. So I could not continue my education. And during the war I was in Piotrkow, from 1939 to 1942. In the ghetto. They took us from our houses, and they put you know, the two streets around the block, and they make a ghetto, and we always were living there in a very bad situation. We lived in a family in one room, maybe eight, ten people in a room. And we were working for the Germans. You know, they took us to work, different kind of work, to shovel snow, I remember, and to unload the transport. We did a lot of...

In 1942, I remember, one day, they came, the Germans, and took us in a big parking lot, all the people. And we have to take everything what we could, a little suitcase, whatever we could, and they took us to the parking lot, and the SS came over, and they start sorting us, left, and right, left and right, and I don't know how I come, they took me to left. My parents... And I was very young. So I said, "I'm going back to my parents." They didn't let me. So I said, "Please let me take my brother with me." So he said, "Who's your brother?" He took my brother with me, you know. And I, my parents said, "Go, and maybe you will be better off." So I remember that they took us, and they took away my parents on trucks, and I never saw them again.

ETHYL: There were two little boys, the two little brothers. The two little brothers, too.

HENRY: Yeah. I know, I had two more little brothers. So everybody. They left over me and my brother. And right away they took us to Skazysko-Kamenye. It was a factory, they made ammunition for the Germans, and we were working there for a certain time, and later they took us to different kinds of concentration. Buchenwald, Bergen-Belsen. I was a short time in Auschwitz, very short time. Because I don't have a number. You know, the numbers they gave to the people who went through. I always was outside in the commando, a working commando. So we didn't have. But later through all the years, I remember we were working for the Germans in different camps, wherever. I cannot remember now exactly the name of the camps, but at the end of the war, I remember, when the war was, in the end, in 1945, they took us on the train, and they tried to, because the Russian army was coming to Poland, you know, closer and closer, so they tried to take us to Czechoslovakia. And they came to Czechoslovakia. They tried to build another concentration camp in Czechoslovakia, but they couldn't finish it up, there was no time. And the Russian army came in, and you know, they were free.

INT: That's when you were liberated.

HENRY: Yeah. Liberated in...what's the name? Theresienstadt. I remember, Theresienstadt. So the war was over. I had, I remember, a lot of, I think from Israel a delegation came over and said, "You want to come to Israel?" So my parents were very rich, you know, they had a lot of property, so me and my brother decided to go back to Poland, sell all the property, and leave Poland. So we went back, and we tried to sell a lot of, in the country we had a lot of property, houses, and this. So they sell it almost for nothing. We tried to get out, we couldn't get out anymore. So I settled down in Poland.

I was in the restaurant business for so many years. And I couldn't get out, and I was working there all the time. So when 1967, the war came with Israel, the Polish government said, "If you want to leave, all Jewish people, you can go now." So I tried to sell everything what I could, and I left Poland, and we went to Austria. In Austria, in Vienna, some from the Jewish organization, from HIAS came over, and asked me if I want to go to Israel or I want to come to America. I said, Sure, I would like to come to America. So he took us in a different place, and they took care, the HIAS. They took us to Italy, Rome. And they tried to get a visa for me. It took about six months. I came to America in 1970. And I tried to start a new life, because you know, I didn't know the language, and I didn't know, it was very hard for me.

ETHYL: You had no money. You couldn't get something to eat.

HENRY: No. The Polish money, I was rich in Poland, but the Polish money was worth nothing. So I tried to get a job here. I tried to, I was all alone. I have no family, you know, so I tried to meet people, and I tried to get something to do. I was in very bad situation.

ETHYL: Tell them about the rabbi.

HENRY: No, no.

ETHYL: Tell 'em.

INT: Is this in Springfield, you came straight to Springfield?

ETHYL: It's very important to put that in about the rabbi.

HENRY: No.

ETHYL: I want you to.

HENRY: No, in the beginning I didn't have anybody. I tried to get something to find out, to make a dollar, you know, like I was without nothing. So I went to find a job. I was working on Main Street in Springfield, and I was thinking to myself, how can I start to make the dollar here? Because you know. So I looked around downtown on Main Street in Springfield, and I looked around. I came to a furniture store. I looked big windows, and they're dirty. I was thinking to myself, maybe if I will go in, I can clear the window to make a dollar. So I went to him, I didn't speak English. They didn't know, they thought I want to buy something. So we couldn't get any....you know, they didn't understand me, I didn't understand them.

INT: No communication.

HENRY: No. So they asked me, "What language do you speak?" I said Polish. He said, "Okay, we have a man, he works here. He's in the office." So he came out, and I

explained to him. I said, "You know, I came over from Poland, and I have no job, and I want to make a few dollars, to do a little work. Maybe I can..." So he said, "Wait a second." He went to the boss, he asked. He said, "No, we don't need. We have a company. An agreement with a company; they do the job." So I walked out. And I thought it's very hard to make a living, you know. I tried to find out. I went to the shul, to the synagogue in the morning. I said, maybe I will find people they will help me out. The worst thing if you don't know the language. That's terrible. If you come to a country, you don't know the language.

So I went down to daven in the morning. We came to the Kadimah synagogue here. And I, after everybody runs out very quick. So I didn't have anybody to, just the rabbi was there. I said to the rabbi in Yiddish, I said, "Rabbi, please." I told him my situation. I said, "I know, somebody told me about a job, but I have to go there. It's now snowing and cold, and I need a ride to get there, to American Saw. Somebody told me maybe they can hire. Hire me there." So he said to me, "You know, in this country, zikh nisht keyn toyves [don't look for favors]."

INT: Who told you this?

HENRY: I got upset. I said, "My Gosh, with a car to take me." So I said, "Okay, rabbi, thank you. Don't want to do me any favor?" I walked. I walked there, you know, from Springfield, about seven miles. In the winter, I was frozen, but I came to the office there, and they told me, "Okay," I filled out application, and they will let you know. So I filled out application. They helped me there, some people in the factory, they helped in English, they helped me fill it up, and they said they will let me know. And after a little while, I got a call, to come, my job, I got a job there.

ETHYL: It was a very good place to go.

INT: What company was this?

HENRY: American Saw in East Longmeadow. They make saws. It's a very good company. I wish...you know.

ETHYL: The best thing he ever did.

INT: So you worked for them all those years?

ETHYL: 21 years.

HENRY: 21 years. I start 1970. And I worked there, and I was very happy. You know, I learned how to operate the machine, you know, on the production. I work on the production.

ETHYL: You did very well.

HENRY: Yeah. In the beginning, I worked a lot of hours. It was an opportunity for me to make a few dollars. They said, "You want to work overtime? Go ahead. Work." I worked sometimes on holidays, on Sundays, you know. I remember, they were so busy in the beginning, they told me, come in Sunday work. So I came in. So in the beginning they didn't pay me too much. You know, an hour, I don't remember, \$3.00 or \$4.00 an hour. But every year they gave you a raise there. So in the beginning, I made, you know, I was very happy there.

INT: So how did you feel when that rabbi said that to you, and then you made up your mind to do it?

HENRY: I was very heart-broken. I said, "My gosh, nobody can help me." And I didn't have anybody to help, you know? Because, the worst thing, if I would know English, I would go to anybody ask him. But you know, how can I ask, if I don't know, you know. I was very heart-broken. Because for me, it was so much, such a little favor, and for me such a big deal. You know, because it was only a ride in a car. Seven miles, take him two minutes. Three minutes. You know, I walked, I remember I was freezing like hell. And I walked there to East Longmeadow, and I came to the place, maybe three hours I walked, in the wintertime. It was in January, it was snowing. And I will never forget the rabbi, aluv hashalom, he died already. But it wasn't nice. For me, it was, I thought, they will show me more heart. I did it all by myself. I tried, I worked hard. And I got, you know, later, they said I'm a good employee, and they gave me more pay, and I did it very well. Because I met people, and the owner from the company was a good man, and I was happy there. I was working all the time. And I came to a house, and I came to a car.

In the beginning, (laughs) I remember when I was starting, I didn't have a car to get to work. So I met over there a worker, and he said, "I will pick you up. Wait for me every day in the morning, and I will, I live there close by." So I was there a half an hour earlier to wait, not to miss him. One time, I was waiting in the winter, and I look, I start 7:00 my job. He's not there. I thought maybe I missed him. Or maybe he left, or he got sick, and I was waiting, and I'm waiting, and I didn't know, it was very hard. But till I got...you know, I was very ambitious. Very ambitious. I said, "No, I'm going to make a license. I'm going to buy a cheap car. A car to be independent." So I worked, the first, my paycheck, I saved it every month a little money, and I went to do...but to make a license in English, I had another troubles.

I went down to Chicopee, here's another Polish town. You know, in Chicopee, a lot of Polish, and I made the license Polish.

INT: You're kidding!

HENRY: Yeah. I made in Polish language, the same questions, but in Polish writing.

INT: How did you find that out? How did you know to think about that?

HENRY: Because where I was working, a lot of Polacks work. You know, Polish people, worked in the factory where I was working. They gave me ideas. They told me, "Do this." You know, in the beginning, I need some kind of a, till I got on my feet. In the beginning I... (laughs) was very hard.

ETHYL: A lot of courage.

HENRY: So I was working a lot of overtime. I make money, I saved money, you know, I'm not a spender. So I saved money, and now...

INT: So you worked until about a year ago.

ETHYL: '91 he retired.

HENRY: I retired three years ago. And I'm very happy. What can I say? Now I can help people, if there's somebody to help. Because I try to help people. A little story about the Russian immigrants. I bought a car, a new car, and this guy from Russia came over, he looked at cars, he said to me he cannot afford it. I said, "You see, I'm buying a new car. I have a good car." My car was still good. It was only 40,000 miles. I said, "I will sell you mine cheap." He came over, looked at my car. My car was in good condition. And he said to me, "I cannot afford it." I said, "Take the car." Because I know my situation. He didn't have money. So (laughs) he took the car...

ETHYL: I don't believe this, Henry.

HENRY: And in a little while, maybe in a month or two months, I remember, he came over with a new car to me.

ETHYL: It was the new car.

HENRY: I said, "What is it with my car?" He said, "I trade it in, and I bought a..." (laughs)

ETHYL: For cash.

HENRY: You see, my heart. I want to tell you another story, how good I am, because I remember my situation. My situation, when I came, I was in a very bad situation, you know, because I need help. I appreciate if somebody can help me. Now I would do everything to help somebody. We finish, we bought new furniture here. We had very good furniture still.

ETHYL: I got sick of it.

HENRY: And the carpet, everything. I called up, she said, "Let's sell it. Let's sell it." I will not sell it. Let's get the Russian immigrants.

ETHYL: Jewish Family...

HENRY: I call up the Jewish Community Center, and I said, "We have good furniture, and a television, and a couch, and a love seat, and carpet, I would like that some people who need it, please come." So they send over a family, and they like it, but they couldn't take it. They didn't have a truck. I said, "I will help you to get a truck." I went to a neighbor, he has a truck. He came over with the truck. He took the furniture.

ETHYL: He was gone for several hours.

HENRY: And he took the furniture, with the television, with everything, put it in the truck, and he disappeared for **hours!** My neighbor was worried about the truck, because he thought maybe, after three, four hours, he came back. And I ask him why it took you so long to come? He said, "I went to Hartford." What for? "Because my friend needed furniture." He sold it there. (laughs) So I don't care. But I would like to help. You know, now I can help, and I want...

ETHYL: I would never help them again, for what they did.

HENRY: I know when I came over, and I need a helping hand...

ETHYL: There was no one to give it to you.

HENRY: But I would do anything to help anybody.

INT: So why do you think that is? Because if you think about it, really, some other person might say, "Nobody helped me; I don't want to help anybody." But you're saying the opposite.

ETHYL: He's a gute neshome, [good soul] that's why.

HENRY: Because I know, in the beginning, we didn't have money, and you don't know. From the beginning, I didn't have a job, you know. I went there, and I went to a restaurant. Without money, on Main Street, on the corner, I went and I said, "My gosh, if I could get a cup of soup, you know, I would appreciate it." So I said, I have to be a shnorrer, you know what means a shnorrer. I went in and I said, "Please, can you give me a cup of soup? I don't have money." He gave me. Yeah. He gave me. I said to him, "Oh, was very nice of you. For food, you know, if you're hungry, food is everything for you." But now I'm very happy, and everything worked out good. Was hard. Hard. I have a lot of stories to tell, you know. (laughs)

INT: Sure. What brought you to Springfield? How did you come to this area?

HENRY: The HIAS, they found a sponsor. You know, every immigrant has to have a sponsor, because the government doesn't want to take responsibility, so it's a private, like

a private, so somebody sponsored me in Springfield. And this is why I came to Springfield.

ETHYL: I can't understand why you didn't go to Mrs. Stein that she would help you. You had no one.

INT: Who was that?

ETHYL: She was the sponsor. The social worker, or whatever. She should have helped you more than she did.

HENRY: They tried to find me a job. You know, they took me in a car. "What do you like to do?" You know, I didn't have any trade. Only, I can work in a restaurant. So they took me to different places to work in a restaurant. I was fine in the beginning a few days, they put me to wash dishes. So I said, "This is not a future, to wash dishes in a restaurant. I have to look for something else. If I cannot do better in a restaurant." Because I know a lot of things in a restaurant. But you know, if you don't know the language, that's the worst thing. So I said, "I'm better off." I worked, you know, in a restaurant, you have to work a lot of hours, and weekends, and nights. So when I worked, I worked from 7:00 till 5:00, I know the evening, the weekend is free, you know. And so I...

ETHYL: He did very well.

INT: How did you learn English?

ETHYL: Himself.

INT: Did you teach yourself?

HENRY: No, I went to...

ETHYL: You didn't go to school that much, Henry. Very little.

HENRY: After work, they send me to school. Yeah, I went to...

INT: Because you speak **very** well.

HENRY: Thank you but...There's still a lot. (laughs)

INT: You know, I'm supposed to ask about your wife, also. You told me you were a teacher, right? So you were educated in this country.

ETHYL: Oh, yes, I'm American.

INT: You're American born.

ETHYL: Oh, yes.

INT: In Rhode Island.

ETHYL: Rhode Island, yes.

INT: And you were a teacher there. You taught social studies, you told me?

ETHYL: That's right. In a junior high school.

INT: And you worked until when? Until...

ETHYL: I retired in 1973, I think.

HENRY: We got married, and she retired.

INT: How did you meet?

ETHYL: Dancing.

HENRY: Dancing. Yeah.

ETHYL: We love to dance. He loves to dance.

INT: What kind of dancing?

HENRY: Any kind of dancing.

ETHYL: Ballroom dancing.

HENRY: We like to go. We still going out Saturday night. Saturday night.

INT: Where do you go dancing?

HENRY: I belong to the Elks in Chicopee. They have a good band there, good food. So we go on the weekends.

ETHYL: Saturday night we go out.

HENRY: Yeah. A lot of time we're going up to the mountains. You ever been in the Catskill Mountains?

INT: Sometimes, sure. The Nevele I've been to, a couple of times.

HENRY: This season we were five times there, maybe six times.

INT: That's where you went with the Ackermans, right?

HENRY: Oh, we love there. There is beautiful. I would go up every weekend. Now I'm retired, you know. Before, I couldn't. I was...I know I can lose money. If you don't work, they don't pay you, but now I have a lot of time. I can go up, whatever.

INT: So you met dancing, where, here? In Springfield?

ETHYL: No. He used to run all over. When I was single. And the first time I met him, I said, "I need him? A foreigner? And he has no money. Who needs him?" Here I'm educated and everything. But as time went on. Immediately, when I met him, there was something special about him. **Something special.**

HENRY: In the beginning, when I was alone till the seventy, about two years, I had a friend in New York, and he said, "You know, why don't you come to New York? I will introduce you to a nice girl here." (laughs) She speaks Polish, so you will be..."

ETHYL: That was a disaster, Henry.

HENRY: So I said to her, "Sure, I would like to meet people, and I would like to maybe...so I said, I will be there Saturday." I worked at 12:00 Saturday, I will take the bus, I will go to New York. So he said, "I'll give you the telephone number, and call her up, make a date. You can speak to her in Polish." I said, "Oh, that would be fine." I called her up, and I spoke in Polish. I said, "Listen. I will be there Saturday about 3:00, let's say, because the bus takes two, three hours from Springfield. So I said, when I come to New York, how will I know you are you?" (laughs) "How I will recognize you?" She said, "You know, I will wear a flower, a red rose in my right side on the hair." This was a funny story. I went to New York, I said, "I will look for a lady with a red rose in her hair." So I came to New York, I didn't know which way to go. So many entrances. The bus station, left and right, and so many people, and I didn't know where to go, and she didn't tell me where to go. So I came, and I didn't know where to go.

So I walked up two floors, upstairs. I said, "I have to go around, maybe I will see her." And I was walking around, upstairs, downstairs, walking an hour, my gosh, an hour and a half! I couldn't find anybody. Later I saw an elderly lady, you know, with a flower. I said, "That could not be her, because she is maybe in the seventies." (laughs) I said, but anyway, I have to ask her. So when I came over to ask her, she grabbed her pocketbook - she got scared. (laughs)

INT: That's New York.

HENRY: Yeah, she got scared, what I want from her. So I start in Polish, she didn't understand. You know. So anyway, I said, "To hell with it, I'm going home. I'm taking the bus, I'm going home. I'm so tired, I'm exhausted, and I didn't have my lunch." So I walked back to my bus, and I looked, oh, my gosh, I see a lady going with a, nice girl,

walking with a flower, I said, "That must be her." So she is (pants) and I'm (pants) you know, running around to find each other.

ETHYL: She was wrong. She should have given you specific...

HENRY: So anyway, I walked to her, and I said in Polish, "Excuse me is your name such and such?" She said, "Sure, I'm looking for you all over! Where you been?" I said, "I'm walking here, and I'm walking there, I was upstairs and downstairs. You didn't give me any directions, I'm the first time in New York. I couldn't ask anybody, because I couldn't speak English." So she said, "I'm sorry. Okay. Everything is fine now. Let's go." So we walked out on 42nd Street. You know, I've never been to New York. You know, the first time in New York. I walked out with her, and I walked on 42nd. So many people, my G-d! New York! I never saw such a". We start talking what we're doing, what she is doing, and this, and we walked and we talked, and all of a sudden, she fall down.

ETHYL: She collapses.

HENRY: She got an attack, you know?

ETHYL.: Epileptic.

HENRY: Epileptic attack. I didn't know anything about it. She didn't tell me. In, you know, in New York, they thought I beat her up. All the people and the police, and she lies down like dead in the middle of the street, her pocketbook... And I got so scared. The police came over and said, "We know you from last year. You beat her up."
(laughs)

INT: You're kidding!

HENRY: Yeah, so it was so funny. I cannot explain, express myself, "It's not me, you made a mistake." You know, I would tell him in Polish. What can I do in English? I don't speak the language. So he said, "You have to pay \$100 now for the ambulance. We will call the ambulance." And I didn't tell him I had a hundred dollars with me. Because I didn't get my paycheck. I had a few dollars, but...so anyway, in a few moments...

ETHYL: She revived.

HENRY: She got up. And I said, "My G-d, why didn't you tell me?" She said, "Oh, I forgot to take my pill."

ETHYL: Take my medication.

HENRY: "My medication. I forgot to take my medication." I said, "My gosh." So she got up, and she got normal, and she said, "I was supposed to tell you before, I am an epileptic." I said, "My G-d, what I need this for?" You know. So I said, "Let's go, where

do you live?" She said, "In Brooklyn." Can I take you to the B train? I know in a few minutes she can have another attack. So I took her, the policeman said, "Can you take care of her?" I said, "Sure I will take care." So I took her down on the subway there, on the B train, and she got another attack, and a few minutes, and it's good, there was not so many people, so I wait a few minutes, she got up again, and to this day, I don't know what happened to her. I didn't want to have anything to do with her, but I needed so much, you know, aggravation, and so much, I was so embarrassed, you know, because they thought I beat her up, or something.

INT: You couldn't explain yourself.

(END TAPE ONE, SIDE ONE)

(TAPE ONE, SIDE TWO)

INT: So that was the New York experience.

HENRY: Yeah, New York.

INT: So you settled, then. Once you were married, you moved to Agawam?

ETHYL: Yeah, we did. We've live here all the time.

HENRY: I was living in...

ETHYL: In an apartment for three years.

HENRY: I was living in a private house...

ETHYL: For three years, and then we bought this house.

INT: You moved here.

ETHYL: Seventeen years we're here.

INT: Do you belong to organizations in the area? This is still -- I'm going to ask you some questions about now, and then we're going to move back before the war. But you said you belong to the Elks?

HENRY: I belong to the Elks.

INT: Other organizations that you belong to?

HENRY: The Brotherhood. Beth El, Brotherhood.

INT: That's the synagogue.

HENRY: Synagogue Beth El.

ETHYL: We belong to the Jewish Community Center. And you belong to the Silver Foxes and Bells in the Center.

INT: That's at the Center.

HENRY: And I go swimming every day in the morning. An hour. I love it. Swim. Exercise, you know? I keep active. I work around the house. Around in the garden. (laughs) It keeps me busy. When I retired, you know, and I sometime go helping out for the hungry people, to serve meals, you know? Wherever they need me.

ETHYL: He's available.

HENRY: I'm available. One time the Beth El, you know, they had a big meeting, a dinner meeting, and this was a few years ago. And the chef who was supposed to cook the meal got sick, so they got in trouble. So all of a sudden I came home from work, when I was working. They called me up, they said, "Henry, we're in big trouble. 350 people coming in the evening, and we don't have the meal ready. I know you are a cook." I said, "Sure! You need me, I will be right there." I washed up and I went there, I prepared the meal on time, and I didn't know what was so good. Quick. What I made was spaghetti with meat balls, and Polish style, was finger licking good, with good sauce, and everybody wants the recipe. So, and here, I cook a lot, too. (laughs)

INT: You cook at home? You're lucky. That's great. I'd like that recipe. I need a good Polish recipe. (laughs)

HENRY: I can give you a big book. Polish recipes. Many recipes.

INT: In English?

HENRY: In Polish.

INT: Oh, I can't read. My mother still cooks from a book.

HENRY: I brought from Poland such a book with all the beautiful pictures. It's only to look at the pictures how the food is prepared.

ETHYL: Well, we don't have to eat fancy stuff. Very simple.

HENRY: No, we don't need too much. You cannot have too much meat, you cannot eat. You have to be very careful what you're eating. You cannot get too fat. I'm active. I try to do my...

INT: Do you belong to any organizations, are you involved with any Holocaust-related activities? Do you do anything?

HENRY: No. We don't have anything around here.

ETHYL: Just once a year they call on him to light the candles.

HENRY: Light the candles. Yeah, when they have the memorial, I'm lighting.

INT: So people know that you're a Holocaust survivor.

HENRY: Oh, everybody knows. Everybody knows I'm Holocaust. I don't hide it. You know, it's nothing to hide. Nothing to be ashamed. So life, you know, it goes around. Life is how you make it. But I will tell you, it's a good country, America. A very good country. Now I can see. In the beginning, maybe I wasn't...but now I see, they have the same rights than everybody else. I can vote, and I can do everything what I...freedom of religion. In Poland, I have to hide. After the war, I went back, so my name is strictly Polish. And nobody knew I'm Jewish. When I was in the restaurant business, till the Polacks didn't know I'm Jewish, was okay. But if they find out I'm Jewish, they write on my door: Ne Kupoco Zhide. "Don't buy at the Jewish place." You know. So I have to move to another town, they didn't know me. So it was very hard. But here I am free. I don't have to hide like I did in Poland. I can be free. That's what I like the best. And I appreciate. I do everything, I would do everything to help somebody, you know, to make life easier. Whatever you need, I will be able. I can help. And whatever you need help, whatever you want, I'm ready to do everything.

INT: Well, as I said before, I'm struck by that. That you have made that decision, you know, that even though people maybe didn't help you right away when you came here, you still want to help whatever you can, and that seems like a...

ETHYL: I said to him, "Why didn't you call me?" (laughs)

INT: "I would have helped you."

ETHYL: Why didn't you call me? I get very depressed when he tells me these things. And I was so close. Just a few hours away.

INT: Do you feel like we could talk now a little bit about your family before the war? Your family of origin? Do you feel like you want to now?

ETHYL: He doesn't remember too well.

HENRY: I remember, when I was a little kid, I can remember when I was five years old, I remember, my family had some kind of a wedding in the country, and in a small town called Rospcha. I remember, like today, we went by train, it was maybe fifteen, twenty miles from Piotrkow, and we went, it was a wedding, you know, a wedding, it was so

beautiful. In a home, a Jewish wedding, with all the, oh, I **love** that so much! And I enjoy it. But to this day I still remember. But not too much, because I didn't have any...My father said to me, before the war, in September, he said, "You know, you have to find what you like to do for the future." I said, "I don't know what to do for the future. I would like to go to college, or get an education." He said, "You know, we would suggest pick up some kind of a trade. Learning a trade is better than college, you know." And I said, "Okay." So they send me to become a tailor. So I was very, maybe a few months before the war. They send me to a tailor shop, and you know, I learned, they showed me how to do that and that, but I was like a busboy. They send me around to the store, they send me to buy this. But I picked up a little bit.

ETHYL: You can do alterations. He does alterations.

HENRY: Yeah, I still remember what they teach me. I do a lot now. Even now. I didn't become a tailor, because it was a short time. The war broke up, everything was finished for me. I couldn't continue my education, you know. Five, six years. Five, six years, was for nothing. With the war, you know, you wasted the time with aggravation. It was very hard. You know, your parents know how hard it was in the concentration camp. Living was...

ETHYL: How anybody survived is beyond me. I don't know how **anybody** survived. But they were so young. The old didn't survive. Only the young ones.

HENRY: Yeah. I got a little lucky, too, you know. When I was in the concentration camp, I was working. Like the people got to the gas chamber. You know, how they got there? They took them, they told them, "You're going to take a shower, and you have to wash up, and we'll give you a job." So all the clothes, they have to undress, the clothes, you know, go in the gas chamber, you know. I was there looking everything, and how it's...the voices, you know, the crying, "Help," and when they put the gas, you choked. Choke, only a few minutes, you're choking. And the whole...I won't tell -- it was terrible.

So later, the clothes we have to take, put on the trucks, you know, all the clothes from the people. And put them in a storage room, you know. They shipped this to Germany, the good clothes. So I was working in a warehouse from clothing, and all the clothing, and I find a pair of shoes, you know, I said, "My gosh, the shoes are so heavy. Something is not with the shoes." So I looked at the shoes, and they had double soles, and I opened the sole, it was all gold. Gold rubles, you know? Twenty rubles. Everything in gold. And I said, "My gosh." And some people tried to hide, when they was, to hide, not to give it away to the Germans. But they got killed. So the shoes, when I find the shoes, everything full, the sole was so light, and they opened up like...and I said, I will not give them to Germans. So I kept all the gold rubles. So this guy working, a German, I said, "Can I trust him, or something?" I tried to talk to him. So I said, he's maybe an honest man. I said, "You know, I have a few gold rubles, can you buy me something outside?" Because you know, in the concentration... He says, "Sure." So I gave him twenty gold ruble, he brought me a bread. He got rich. You know. I gave it away. I had a few, so he brought me some bread from outside, you know. But it didn't last me for a short time.

But he got rich. Because I gave everything away. For me it was worth nothing. If you cannot buy anything...

ETHYL: Bread was worth more than anything.

HENRY: So I survived, and I helped my brother and my uncle, you know, he survived. He moved to Israel. He already is dead.

INT: So before the war you had, there were four children in your family?

HENRY: Four brothers.

INT: Your parents, and four boys.

HENRY: Four boys. So I survive, and another brother in Israel lives now, survived. And my parents, father and mother and two brothers, they...

INT: Could you tell me the names, so that we would know their names?

HENRY: Yeah. My mother was Bayla. My father was Shia, and my one brother was Chaskel. Chaskel, an old Yiddish name, you know in Yiddish. Chaskel and Meir. That's what I remember. The younger ones.

ETHYL: And Avram.

HENRY: Avram is in Israel.

INT: And you, are you the oldest, or where are you in the...

HENRY: No, my brother is the oldest, in Israel. I am the second one. The other were two smaller. Younger.

INT: So everybody in your family was born in Piotrkow? All your brothers...

HENRY: Yeah. My brothers.

INT: And your father and mother were from Piotrkow?

HENRY: No, Rospcha.

INT: Oh, they came from that town.

HENRY: In a little town. A dort, a village, you know, they call them. From the village, from the village near the...and they had a lot, I remember they had a lot of family there in the little village. They owned almost the whole village, my family. Uncles, with the Bubbles, with a lot of, so what I went there, I know everybody got killed. You know,

nobody was left, so I go sell the property. That's what I made the biggest mistake in my life. I went back to Poland. If I would come here right away in the beginning, I hope I would be better situation, you know. But Gott se dank, worked out good.

ETHYL: If he did that, I wouldn't have met him. So it's all in G-d's hands. (laughs)

INT: Absolutely.

HENRY: Yeah, she likes me. She's so darn good.

ETHYL: I kind of like him. He's the best there is. I'm very fortunate.

HENRY: Now, it's quiet.

ETHYL: I don't know if he got such a bargain, but I got a bargain.

INT: (laughs)

ETHYL: My health isn't that great.

HENRY: I tried to do my best, you know. Housework. I like to work, you know, it keeps me busy. At least now.

INT: What kind of business, or what kind of work did your family do before the war, in Poland. Your father's...

HENRY: They was in a business. Was two brothers. My father and my uncle, my father's brother, and in the same house, you know, was a big house, in Piotrkow. They have the same store. They were selling hay for the horses. You know.

INT: Hay.

HENRY: Hay and everything for the horses. Straw and potatoes, I remember that. They had the same business. It was only one brewery, but they had horses there. You know eight horses, and one customer, good customer. My father and my uncle was fighting with each other to get the customer to sell the... (laughs) So I remember they went to the office and said, "I will give you cheap. Come to my store." My uncle went, "I will give you cheaper." And they were not talking to each other, yeah, to make, to get the customer. Was not too much business.

ETHYL: So who won? Your uncle?

HENRY: I don't know. One time, I think no, my uncle no. My father won. Because he went there, and they gave him more business. And it wasn't so sweet. Later, they bought corn, you know. Everything in the village. They bought stuff, potatoes, and they were selling to the mill, where they make the flour.

INT: A mill. Yeah.

HENRY: And they went and they bought, and the mill didn't pay them the money for the stuff. One night, I remember, they went there in that office, they said, "We will not leave the office till we get paid for our..."

ETHYL: Merchandise, yeah.

HENRY: Merchandise. And they were lying there, didn't want to pay them for maybe three, four days. They were sleeping in the office. Yeah. It was so hard.

ETHYL: You remember all this? You were only a little kid.

HENRY: Yeah. And I want to tell you. You know, I was a young boy, I didn't know too much about business, and about money. But when the Germans came into Piotrkow...

INT: 1939. So you were eleven.

HENRY: No. I was thirteen. I, you know, a German came into Piotrkow, they went marching down our street, near our house. One crazy guy went out on a balcony, you know, on the house, we had a big, large house, you know, five, six floors, and a large around the block. He start hollering at the German. And the German, right away, they pulled grenade on the balcony to kill him, you know? And they burned down our house right away. Right away on the same day, our house was **burning**, you know?

ETHYL: So how did you have any property to come back to if they burned it?

HENRY: Not the house. This is something else. So it was burning. The next day, you know, when the fire stopped, or two days later, everything was hot, my father went. Me, we survived. We went down on the back door and we run away from the fire. But the next day we came back, and my father said, "Oy, my gosh, I lost all the money." And I know where the money was, and he came and he start in the rubble, looking for the money. And we find, we found it, in cans. Aluminum cans, all silver money. But it was so dark. Dark.

INT: From the fire?

HENRY: Yeah. Ten zlotys. All silver money, yes? And when I was a young boy, I never got a dollar. I said, "Father, I want a bicycle." He said, "You know, I cannot afford to buy a bicycle."

ETHYL: He had a lot of money.

HENRY: So I went to the junkyard, I find a, I put together an old bicycle. I remember it was hard. He could buy me, but you know, they lived for the future. For the future, they need to save money for the future. So anyway when we found the money, cans, aluminum cans, and silver money, silver zlotys, Polish, and we tried to clear up from the smoke, all black from the fire. But when the Germans came in, the Polish money was worth nothing. So they worked so hard, they were fighting with each other about a zloty, you know? I remember, and later, later, you never know what can bring the future.

ETHYL: It was the German marks.

HENRY: But the future, you know, we lost all the money, a lot of money, because we could enjoy it. Now, I'm different. I said, I have money, I want to spend it. You know, I don't know what tomorrow can bring. Be happy today. Live it today, and help people. That's my...

INT: And you think from remembering back, I mean, you remember that, when you were a child.

HENRY: Yeah. Because you know, I can't...

ETHYL: So what good did it do them? Nothing.

HENRY: Yeah, you see, they died in the camp. And they were in Treblinka. My father, my mother, my two brothers, they took them to Treblinka, and they died there. I was right there, but you see, I was in the Arbeitkommando. You know, whatever they need us, they didn't put us.

INT: In Treblinka?

HENRY: In Treblinka.

ETHYL: What about digging graves? Didn't you do that, too? You dug graves, didn't you? You dug graves?

INT: This was all in Treblinka?

HENRY: No. I didn't tell you. When we was in the ghetto in Poland, you know, when we were working, so they took us to different kind of jobs. To shovel snow, to load to the gas station, to do a lot for the Germans. One time they need twenty people. The Germans came, the SS, and they picked up twenty people. I was between the twenty people. They took us on a truck, they gave us shovels, and they drove us down to the woods, out of the city there, in the woods, and they told us to dig a grave, a large grave. So we digged a grave.

ETHYL: They told you a "large hole." I don't think they told you a grave. They didn't say "Dig a grave," did they?

HENRY: No, a hole.

INT: A pit, or something.

HENRY: Yeah. They got a large hole. Sure, they didn't tell us. But anyway, we dugged that large...and later, they took us on the side, and after a little while, we saw trucks with elderly women, elderly women, young children, they brought them down, and they start hollering, "Get undressed, undress!" And they put them near the hole and they...

ETHYL: Shot them.

HENRY: Killed them. With the machine guns (imitates the shooting.) And you know, when you get hit, you fall down into the hole, but you see, when you get hit, somebody would get hit here and here, it depends where he move, you know? But everybody fall down. Later they called us. And people were **living** there. They were screaming and crying, "Please," because you know, maybe some only got it in the hand, but they still...And we...

ETHYL: Buried alive. They were buried alive.

HENRY: So we start digging, and otherwise, we have to bury them, you know. So we took the shovels. I couldn't do it. You know, I couldn't do it. I moved from place to place and place to place, and nobody wants to do it. How can you put dirt on life, living people? How can you do it? I couldn't do it. So the SS, what he did, he shot us. Four people got shot from our group. I said, "What can you do? You have to save your life."

ETHYL: That's right.

HENRY: So we digged up. They took us back home. One guy was shot in the finger. A very strong, a butcher. This I know exactly, because I was a witness after the war. And he, you know, there wasn't too much dirt on him. It wasn't so deep.

ETHYL: He was covered.

HENRY: He was covered up with dirt. But when the Germans left, he digged himself out. He digged himself out from the grave, you know, and he was naked, but he was only wounded in the finger. Was a strong man, a butcher. Very strong man. And was in the woods, in the evening. He didn't know what to do. So he went in, a guy, in English, how to say, what takes care of the woods, you know, a person like...

INT: A caretaker?

HENRY: Yeah. He went to his house. He lives there right in the woods, there's a house. He went, he knocked at night, and he said, he told him the story what's happened to him. "You know, I digged up myself, they killed me." So he took him in the house, he

gave him some food, he washed him up. Next day what he did to the man, he took him to the Gestapo. You know, he took him on his truck, and he got the guy, the caretaker got some kind of a prize for that, you know, from the Germans.

ETHYL: A bonus, or whatever.

HENRY: A bonus. So they killed him. They killed him. After the war, we went back to Poland. I was a witness, and a lot of other people were witnesses. The man who did it, he got, you know, he got life in prison. That was years ago, how many, fifty years ago. I don't know, but he's still living. He got life in prison. Because what he did for a prize, maybe \$500, or I don't know how much he got it for, but you know, how could they do that, something?

ETHYL: He was a German. That's why he could do it.

INT: He was a German, or he was a Pole?

HENRY: No, he wasn't a German. I think he was Polish. But to make money, you know, some people will do to another people...that's...

ETHYL: This is the first time I've heard this. He doesn't discuss it.

INT: Sure. It's hard.

HENRY: It's a lot, a lot....five years, five years was like Gehinnom, you know? For me to live in a concentration camp, father was in such terrible, you wait for the piece of bread, you don't know when to eat. When I go to bed, maybe I will go, I will be not hungry, I will eat my bread. If you give him a piece of bread and a little soup, so you're standing, you're hungry. Always hungry. Always hungry. Because it's not enough food. And hunger, you know, if you are hungry, you are very unhappy. And you don't know **when** to eat. The bread was so black. So you take the piece of bread, you say, "Now it's 5:00 afternoon, and I will go to lie down, 9:00, so I will keep the bread till 9:00, I will be not so hungry when I sleep." So you never know when to eat. And a lot of people, they were smoking, they were selling the piece of bread for a cigarette. That was much worse. They were dying of, you know, you don't eat, you smoke. Because they'd rather smoke than eat, for the piece of bread, they got a few cigarettes. I didn't smoke, so I...yeah. Life wasn't easy. My gosh, life...you have to appreciate if you're...if you have all what now I have. You know, you have to...

INT: Do you feel that you appreciate that more now because of what you went through? I mean, do you feel you think about your life differently now?

HENRY: I appreciate much more. Because I see what freedom is, and you have everything you need in your life. You're happy. If you don't have, like I don't...like you're hungry all the time. So you are not happy, and you...it's different. It's a lot of different.

INT: Do you think that before the war, before the Germans came in, did you ever imagine this? I mean, did your family ever think, I mean, what was your life like in Poland before, in terms of how you felt about...

HENRY: Before the war, I went to school, like everybody else, and I got my education, but I didn't know what will be. I finished my seven, there was seven grades in high school. I was born in 1924, so I went to school in '31, I think. Till '39. Eight years I went to school. So you see, we didn't know will be a war. Who expects it? All of a sudden the war came out, and I remember when everything, we only was listening. The Germans trying to get to Poland, the radio announced it. The Germans broke down the borders, and we heard so many people got killed, because they put, and I said, "My gosh, till they came to Piotrkow," it took a few days, you know? They were going very quick. They went to Warsaw, you know. From Piotrkow what gives there. In Warsaw they had a lot of trouble there, with the ghetto. You heard of the ghetto? It was something in the ghetto in Warsaw. I wasn't there, but a lot of people had courage, you know. A few people to take up guns.

ETHYL: And they murdered a few Germans, anyway.

HENRY: And try to defend themselves to such a big army, the Germans. My G-d, they had so much. Yeah.

INT: So you wouldn't say that you experienced anti-Semitism in Poland before the war?

ETHYL: He was young. He didn't know much about that. Did anybody call you "Jew" in Poland?

HENRY: I want to tell you about anti-Semitism. Because my family was very rich. I remember one uncle had a big, big store, and it was very...but they had a lot of merchandise. You know, all silver, and a lot of good stuff.

INT: Also in Piotrkow?

HENRY: Yeah, in Piotrkow. So we knew, when the Germans take everything away, the best things from the Jewish people, they take it away. They coming, search your house, and find....

ETHYL: Take whatever they want.

HENRY: Let them find something very expensive, they will take it. So my uncle went to the neighbor, to Polish people, a Polish family, and said, "Listen. You know what's going on. We have a lot of good stuff. We want to hide it. And you know, after the war, we'll pay you for keeping it."

ETHYL: What a mistake that was.

HENRY: So he said, "Sure, why don't you bring it?" So they took all the belongings, all what they had, with gold and silver, and everything, they put in the house with them. So in a little while, those neighbors went to the Germans, and they told something, that Jews were trying to tell for the Germans, so they took my family, they killed them right away. Because he wants their money, you know? He wants the stuff. If they will be killed, so they can take the stuff.

INT: And these were people that he **trusted**, he thought he could trust these people?

ETHYL: How could you trust them?

INT: I mean, when he went to ask them, he thought they would.

HENRY: They're neighbors, you know, like neighbors. So he trust the neighbors. He thought I can trust, like with my whole belongings, I can trust. Because they were...but you see...

ETHYL: Very naive.

HENRY: It wasn't nice from them. They went and they told the Germans that the Jews tried to kill some Germans, to make some kind of a...so they came, they took the whole family, before the ghettos, before everything. So it was only a short while when the Germans came into Piotrkow. Because the ghetto, they made it later.

INT: When did they make the ghetto?

HENRY: The ghetto must be a year, maybe, they start. We were living, I remember, still in our house, we were living on a street like everybody else. But later, I think 1940, they made a ghetto. They took all the Jewish people from the whole town, and they put them, they make a lot of, two streets with wires around, and everybody was living in the ghetto.

(END TAPE ONE, SIDE TWO)

(TAPE TWO, SIDE ONE)

INT: It is...

HENRY: The tenth.

INT: October tenth [1994], and this is the second meeting with ...

HENRY: Henry.

INT: With Mr. Henry Dluznowski, in Agawam, Massachusetts. I know that, I'm still thinking about these books, I know they're going to bring back lots of memories.

HENRY: Yeah. Oh, it's very interesting for me. It's a lot. I live here, you know (laughs) It's so quiet, nobody around. New York, it's a lot of people, and you get together with old friends. But it's a lot of time passed. Maybe I will still, you know, after the war, I suppose all those people came here earlier, in the fifties, and after the war. You see, I came in 1970. That's a lot of difference. But I know, after the war, I met all those, they told me they are leaving. They didn't know I will come to America, but they left Poland. I know, because I remember them. And they had a little party there in the house, and they said they're going to leave Poland. But I didn't know where they will go.

INT: Some went to Israel, and then came to America.

HENRY: I suppose the friends; a lot of people went different ways.

INT: I wanted to continue today to ask you about you and your family before the war. Because we talked some about...the last time we were talking about whether you felt anti-Semitism before the war, and we talked some about what happened when the Germans came in, and they...

HENRY: You see, before the war, I was a young boy, not so many years, but I know in Poland there was a lot of anti-Semitism there, you know. This one time, I remember, we lived in like a Jewish street, all Jewish people living there in one street. So it was like Christmas or some time. They made a...you know, they killed a Polish boy, they took it for matzah.

INT: So a bilbul.

HENRY: Yeah, a bilbul. It wasn't true. You know, to make a lot of...but not too much I can remember, because, when I was five, six, you cannot remember this. But I think there was some, you know. Not from the government, from individuals. All people, all nations, so the same things. Different kind of people.

INT: And your family before the war, you said that they had a business. I think you described your father's business, and you talked about him being in somewhat of a competition with your uncle. The two of them had the same business.

HENRY: Yeah, this I remember.

INT: And your grandparents still lived in the small town.

HENRY: The small town. I remember the wedding, I was so happy to be there by train to the wedding. Oh! It was so **beautiful**. I was maybe eight years old. And I remember the Jewish wedding with the klezmerim, with the Jewish rabbis, you know, before the war. This was before the war. I was a little boy. It was so enjoyed it. But you see, when

the war came, everything ended. They took all the people from the town, from the country there, all my family, and then they killed them. But before the war...what I remember is not too much.

INT: If you had to describe your relationships with your family members, with your brothers, with your parents, how do you remember that? How was it in the family, what kinds of ways did you have of interacting with each other? Were you close with your brothers, would you say?

HENRY: Oh, yeah, we were very close. You know, my two little brothers were very small. They were born in 1931...maybe two years after me. Yeah, we were apart about two years. So when I was a little boy they were small, too. I couldn't have the other two brothers. My older brother, in Israel, you know, he has two daughters, you know. They moved to Israel. And I told him, I thought I'm going to Israel, too. Somebody came over asked me if I want to come to this country, I said, Yes, sure. And they went straight.

INT: He had two daughters that were born in Israel?

HENRY: No, in Poland. Poland. And they were there in Israel, later she came, one niece came here for a visit. A young girl. So she liked so much this country, and she said she wants to move here. She was here about five years ago. And I told her I will help her if they want to come. They had family. She was married with two children. I said I will do everything to help them. So I took her to New York, and we were trying to get some papers for her. And later, she went back to Israel, and she got so mad at me. I don't know why. Because I couldn't find anything to help her right away. I introduced her to a friend in New York, and I think my friend helped her more than I did. So I think they moved, but I lost any connection with them. I think they moved to New York. And I can find out about this, because if they're in New York, maybe they went to this committee, and they can help me. I want to find the address. She got so upset, my niece, and my wife, they had something. She right away, she wants this and this. I don't know nothing. And I'm sure, because I wrote to them, to Israel, and she told me that a letter came back, they moved. And later I found out they moved to the United States.

INT: Would your brother be able to tell you where she is?

HENRY: It's a secret. I'm so upset, you know, because I have only one brother and my nieces. I would give anything to get in contact. So I wrote to my brother, I said, "Listen. Why you don't want to give me the address? Comes the holiday, to send a Jewish card." And I cannot understand what's happened to him. And I have to go to New York find out the address. Maybe this committee can help me. It's a secret; I don't know what they got mad at me. For me, it's very...I'm very, you know, I don't feel good. Because we're only two brothers, and the nieces. She didn't tell nobody. She came here, and five years ago, and she was here in the house with us three weeks. And I was working. But I took her in New York, I took her around everywhere. And later my wife had an argument with her, I don't know all about what's happened, and she got upset. You know, she got mad at me, and she don't want to write. That's terrible. I feel, you know, it comes to Yom Kippur,

Rosh Hashana, to send a card or something. We don't have anybody. So I said I'm gonna take her someday to New York. I was in New York, and I was looking in the book. You know, I don't know where they live. I know in New York, where, what town, but I know they're in the States. They moved. And she has a sister, the sister moved, too. They sold the house. And my brother still lives in Israel. I told him, I was there two years ago -- I told him, why don't you move to America, the same thing? Why do you have to stay, be with your children. He said, "I get social security in Israel, if I go to America, they won't have this." And I sent him Yom Kippur I sent him a card, I never got an answer. I'm still hurt, you know. I'm very hurt, because it's not nice. What can I do? So I'm going to take off, and this will be the best thing. Maybe they know. If they're in New York, maybe they got in touch with the organizations.

INT: Maybe. Maybe. I mean, it's a big city.

HENRY: Oh my! I know, Brooklyn. I went to Brooklyn, because my friend, what I introduced the girl, I know where he lived. But he changed his address. I went there, and they don't live anymore there. And I don't know, he doesn't write again to me. Not nice. What can I do? Maybe I will find him. If not...I know he get upset with the family, but how long can you keep it? It's already five years, and I don't know where they are.

INT: So do you stay in touch with your brother?

HENRY: Yeah. I invited him to come here. My brother's very kosher, you know, he's so kosher. He wouldn't eat here for nothing. And here at the synagogue, he likes to go out in the morning, 6:00, 5:00, like I was in Israel, he runs to the shul, davens every morning. And here we don't have a shul. We have to go to Springfield, to Beth El, because he has to go driving. He doesn't drive. You know, he doesn't have a car. So I told you, I will take him every day. And I said I will. I am not...

(interruption)

I'm telling about Yaffa [niece]. They had an argument, and I'm telling her...

ETHYL: What do you mean an argument? She's a terrible person. I can't say that about many people. While she was here, I didn't say a word to him, but he couldn't believe. Well, he knew, because she did different things. What about the sale, when you want to buy her stuff?

HENRY: No, she's...

ETHYL: Very aggressive, and very chutzpah, chutzpah, I can't describe it. She was awful. Everyone I introduced her to hated her. That's how obnoxious she is. She fought with me, screaming and hollering at me. And she never had enough. You go in to a store, and she piles everything into..."You should pay for it." She did that **repeatedly**. **Repeatedly**. You did so much for her.

HENRY: I helped her a lot. I took her to Sears. She wants to buy clothes. You know sometimes they have a sale. It's the same stuff, they have a sale. She didn't want to, a sale is no good, she said. The stuff is no good because it's a sale. She wants the regular, the better store. I explained to her. No. But at the last minute, I didn't know. But they had...

ETHYL: She was the most horrible person I ever met in my life.

HENRY: I tried to do the best for her.

ETHYL: She wasn't satisfied with anything.

HENRY: I'm very hurt.

ETHYL: She lives in New York, we **think**, and she doesn't want us to know where she is. When he was in Israel, the brother would not give him...

HENRY: (laughs) They told my brother, "Don't tell him where we live." You know, it's not nice.

ETHYL: I don't **want** to know where she lives.

HENRY: I would like to.

ETHYL: If anything happens to me, you'll be right with them, and they'll take everything out from you.

HENRY: Oh! It's a family. There's nothing, no more left.

ETHYL: Henry, a family, but they're worth **nothing**. They're worth **nothing**.

HENRY: They're worth nothing. No, no.

ETHYL: That niece, I shiver, just to mention her name, I shiver. That's how bad she was.

HENRY: Well, she came over with the suitcases... (laughs)

ETHYL: Empty.

HENRY: Empty suitcases, and she went, she bought and bought and bought, and we helped her. I want you to know, we helped her. So much suitcases. And when she went by plane, I took her to Boston, when she went home, she couldn't take so much stuff. So (laughs) she had the ticket. When she came, she has to pay a lot of overweight. About sixty dollars overweight, because she can only take two suitcases, and she had so much stuff. It's good I went with her. She didn't have a penny. I paid for it. I gave her.

ETHYL: You told me this, about the tax. But she came with like \$500 or something. I said, "Save something for your taxes or something," you know. Not a penny. To the **last penny**.

HENRY: No, no.

ETHYL: And as soon as she came to the airport, she ran right to where the gift shop was. And I can't describe that woman. I can't describe her.

HENRY: Last minute she came, she wants stuff. I don't mind this. I would like to know where they are. I would like to get in touch with her.

ETHYL: I wouldn't allow her in this house. I'm sorry, Henry, I would not. She made me very sick. I was sick for weeks afterwards. It was like a devil. A **devil**. And then they would sit at the table...is this connected?

HENRY: They make a big party.

ETHYL: I entertained her. She would just walk away and go somewhere else.

HENRY: When she came, we make a big party, we invite so many people. My niece came from Israel. And she didn't want to stay.

ETHYL: Nobody liked her. No one. It must be something, something about her. There's something I wanted to tell you, I forgot already.

INT: At the table, you were sitting at the table.

ETHYL: The two of them talking Polish, like I didn't exist.

HENRY: What?

ETHYL: You and your niece talking Polish, was so ignorant. She spoke English, she understood English. You were just as bad as she was. I gave him over for three weeks. And he took her everywhere, like I didn't exist. I said, "Okay, let him go." She didn't even like whatever we took her out, that wasn't good. Whatever I made wasn't good. I took her to friends' house, that wasn't good. Have you ever come across anybody like that?

INT: There are all kinds.

ETHYL: They say there's a lot of them in Israel. They're a lot of them. They have a lot of chutzpah, that's what they tell me. That's what people tell me. I don't know.

INT: Well, it's so hard too, because when there's so little family, and you want to have some connection.

HENRY: I want to forget what's worse. If I start, I will say I'm sorry.

ETHYL: You're sorry? You're sorry.

HENRY: Yeah. I want to get in touch with them. I don't know if my brother's still living. He didn't send me a card, and I don't know what's happened. And I write so many...

ETHYL: So what's the big treatment you got when you did everything for your brother? What's the big treatment you got from your brother?

HENRY: No, it's a brother. I don't want to...I always, you know, even after the war. We went back to Poland with my brother. So it starts with me, you have to make a living. So my brother, you know, I'm more...

ETHYL: Aggressive. You are more aggressive than he.

HENRY: Aggressive. I'm more aggressive than him. He didn't find a job; I find a job right away. So he got a job, was paying nothing.

ETHYL: Menial, menial.

HENRY: No, he was paying nothing. And when he got married, he was working, he was in bad shape. And I always was better off. Then even, when I came here, and they went to Israel, the same thing. I'm more aggressive, and I can...but it doesn't matter, I will do everything to me.

ETHYL: When he was with his brother, he did the housework, he cooked for him, he did everything the week that he was there, and he dressed him up. So he brought him to shul, he didn't know who he was.

INT: In Israel.

ETHYL: When you brought him to shul, they didn't recognize him when he was all dressed up.

HENRY: No, I bought him a suit. He's like a nebechl. His wife died. So he's all alone now. So I said, why don't you go to be with your children? We'll be more close.

ETHYL: Now another thing, he comes every summer to his daughter, you know that. He has the fare. All of a sudden we get a letter, "If you send me the fare, I'll come." I could read right through the lines, that that was her. He'd go to New York. Get the free fare.

HENRY: I told him the situation. I wrote him a letter. I said, "You know, we live in a small town. You see, there's no Jewish here. No shul. And we don't have a special kosher home." So I told him the situation. "We'll make the home kosher, but davening, I have to take you to the shul every morning. Get up in the morning." No, he...in Israel he gets up and in the next street, there's a little bais medresh, and they go daven, they have a minyan, they daven, but here he has to go to Springfield. So it's not so comfortable. But in New York, and on every street they have a shul. You know.

INT: Well, it's not like Israel, but he could...

ETHYL: So why did he go live with his daughter in New York? I saw right through it. It's not that I mind it, sending him the fare, but I know he has the money. He goes every year, he never calls Henry, nothing.

INT: How do you know he's here?

ETHYL: I know he is. I know he comes in the summer. He told you, didn't he?

HENRY: For the summer, he comes to America.

ETHYL: She doesn't let him call. She doesn't let him call. He's so stupid he can't even make a phone call. There must be something.

HENRY: Ah. He's afraid of the daughters. Like I say, he's a nebbach, he's such afraid of his shadow. So the daughters told him, "Don't call," so he doesn't call.

ETHYL: "Don't tell him anything. And ask him for the fare."

HENRY: No, they gave him the advice. But it's not nice. But he's supposed to get in touch with me. They know my telephone number, my address, but I don't know theirs.

ETHYL: She's mad with you, kind of mad with you. What she carried on, what she called me names. She carried on, it was awful. I was shaking, but I kept my mouth shut till she was in the car and on the way, gone. When he came back, then I told him. He was very surprised.

HENRY: But I think the whole, when she came to America, she called the house. I was working, you know, so she called during the day, and she didn't know it was her. She thought somebody else, so she told me, "Somebody called, I don't know who."

ETHYL: No, no, I heard this voice, and I said, "Is this Helenka?" Helenka is his daughter-in-law in Sweden, and she said, "Yes." She said, "When will he be home?" I said, "He usually comes home 5:00." It so happened he didn't come home 5:00, and she called again. So she must have thought I did it deliberately, which I didn't. I really thought it was the one in Sweden.

HENRY: She called twice, and she thought I don't want...

ETHYL: And I can't converse with the one in Sweden. But she speaks English.

INT: So she thought you...

ETHYL: Yeah, deliberately, didn't tell him or something.

HENRY: She got upset for nothing.

ETHYL: Oh, she's something.

HENRY: You know, it says in the Jewish, Yom Kippur, take away the sins, and be again good.

ETHYL: She used to tell me stories, that her husband, at the holidays, he goes to his folks, and she stays home. They don't want her. Does that tell you something? So how can your husband and the children leave you, and you stay alone? She fought with everybody. She goes in the store, and she has a fight.

HENRY: She was a nervous girl.

ETHYL: Very, very.

HENRY: So the husband, it comes Yom Kippur, he didn't take her. His parents, in Israel, they didn't like her. So they said, "If you come, don't bring her." So he went by himself, with the children.

ETHYL: He's a very nice guy. He's a sabra, but I spoke with him on the phone.

HENRY: No, he's Israeli.

ETHYL: And he looked nice on the picture. She wouldn't care. She would have left her children and him, as long as she could stay. She said, "I didn't come here for..." I said, "You're only here for a **visit**." She said, "I didn't come for a visit." She said, "I intend to stay." I said, "What about your children and your husband? That didn't matter. No matter what we did wasn't good. I tried everything. Tried everything. I gave her clothes, my clothes, in good condition. Whatever. She had nothing. Just the clothes she had on her back. That's all she had. And empty suitcase. I never saw anything like it. Don't you come with underwear? I don't know. Then I set up a bureau for her, where she could put her...she never took it out of her suitcase. So she always was buying something, and we always had to pay. The last minute, when she was going, she said, "I want to go to the store. Give me five dollars." I said, "What do you need in the store?" She said, "I want to buy Hershey bars." I said, "By the time you get to Israel, it'll be all melted. You can't take anything." Henry had already bought her the Hershey bars, and it had all melted in the suitcase.

HENRY: Yeah, she cannot take chocolate.

ETHYL: Do you see the logic of what I'm...? I don't understand it. I said, "What are you going to do with Hersheys? It'll all melt." I don't get it. I don't understand that woman.

HENRY: (laughs) She was a little nervous. When I went to Israel, they went to a store. She needs, she told me, "You know, I need a fry pan, electric fry pan?"

ETHYL: Electric fry pan, or just a regular one?

HENRY: Electric fry pan. So I took her to the store, I said, "I'll get you one." So I bought her. I paid \$22.00 for it. And she took it. So we walked through the streets, she saw the electric for \$18.00 on another store. \$18.00 the same thing. She said, "Look, we paid \$22.00."

ETHYL: I think I would do the same.

HENRY: "And here is \$18.00." So we went in the store, just the same thing. So she said, "I'm going to bring back this pan, and he will give me back the \$22.00, I will have four dollars in my pocket." I said, "Do it." So she went back to the store, and the owner didn't want to, he said, "You bought it, that's it." She said, "You...you cheat me for \$4.00. Over there is \$18.00." You know, he said, "It's private industry. If I want to take \$18.00, or \$14.00, whatever. You have no right." So she started fighting with him. And she didn't get back. I said, "Leave it alone. For \$4.00, you will have, no I cannot take this." She's a little bit, on this side. Very smart girl.

ETHYL: She tells you how smart she is. How smart can she be? She has no common sense. And she's not in the books.

HENRY: She didn't let do anything wrong to her. Something wrong, she will tell you right off. So you have to be very careful with her.

INT: So you think these two nieces are now in New York.

ETHYL: Oh, I'm sure of it. Positive. I bet she's **miserable!** Now what could she afford that was halfway decent? She must be in the slums there somewhere.

HENRY: You see, I could help a lot. We bought a car, I could give her my old, if she needs still a good car, why I have to give a Russian immigrant? I could give it to her. You know, I can help a lot.

ETHYL: Not if I'm living.

HENRY: Oh, please!

ETHYL: Go on; tell them you're forgiven.

HENRY: I will help her.

ETHYL: If anything happens to me, they will get everything.

HENRY: Everything, I want to help her. But it's not nice.

ETHYL: But it works both ways. She has to deserve it, and she doesn't. She's a terrible person.

HENRY: It comes to, when a holiday comes, it's nice to sit down with a family at the table and talk, you know, like other families. I don't have a family. I would like to go to New York, get together and talk.

ETHYL: I'd send you alone. She has twin daughters. How old do you think they would be now? They must be teenagers.

HENRY: I didn't see them about seven years. Maybe they were twelve years old.

ETHYL: More. I think they're more than twelve.

HENRY: When I was there, they were small children.

INT: So it makes you sad that you're not in touch with them.

HENRY: Oh, yeah.

ETHYL: She's not human. You can't, there's nothing you can do about it.

HENRY: You see, she can pick up the phone. She has the number and has my address, she can write a letter or tell me. I said, "Please write me. Why are you mad at me? Why don't you want to write to me? Why you don't want to get in touch with me?"

ETHYL: Because you have a terrible wife.

HENRY: Maybe.

ETHYL: What I put up with that woman. Henry, if everybody, I brought her to lots of places, they couldn't take her.

HENRY: Maybe she's a young girl, she didn't want to do with elderly people.

ETHYL: What?

HENRY: She was a young girl; she didn't want to stay with old people.

ETHYL: And Marsha was so old? That had nothing to do with it.

HENRY: (laughs) She went to a neighbor's, to Marsha's, she picked up the phone, she called somebody from Israel. In Hebrew, she was speaking in Hebrew an hour and a half, yeah.

ETHYL: Here I bring her to visit,

HENRY: From Holyoke.

ETHYL: She's on the phone.

HENRY: Maybe you know her, she works in the Jewish Center in Holyoke. What's her name? Mitzi?

INT: Oh, the Israeli? I know who she is. I don't know her, but I know who she is. I know she leads the seniors group at Holyoke.

ETHYL: Oh, she's like a **soldat!** She was a soldier.

HENRY: We went to Israel, you know, from this Jewish Center, with her. She had people from Holyoke, and here, with Barbara Levin.

INT: Oh, I know Bobbie Levin. A lovely person.

HENRY: Yeah, so I want to tell you, she was so on the bus, she was the leader from the group. Oh, my gosh, I said...it's not this, but with her, she's so disciplined. If you are late for the bus, a second, she can let you have it right there. "I will not wait for you! Where you been? You have to be here 8:00, it's five after eight!" or something. She will...

ETHYL: You didn't tell her off? I would have told her off.

HENRY: She is something, but a very nice person. Israeli. Disciplined.

ETHYL: The Israeli army. She's like a soldier. And she's built like it. She's absolutely flat. She looks like a man, with the short hair; she looks just like a man.

INT: So you took your trip to Israel with that group? Was that the first time you saw your brother after the war?

HENRY: No, I was the first time, by myself, you know. It's better to go with a group. They will take you around. And but I went far away. In the beginning, right after I came here, 1972, I went the first time, when I was here two years. Right after I came here, maybe six months, I think, 1971, or, I went to Israel.

ETHYL: All I can say is, Chanie, that I treated her very well. She was awful. She really **abused** me, it was terrible. And I had to keep my mouth closed.

INT: You said that your brother is now very kosher, and he needs to, is that something new for him, since he came to Israel?

HENRY: No, he was kosher. She is not kosher. I would have a kosher home. You know, my parents were very kosher.

ETHYL: My parents were very Orthodox, I got so fed up with them.

INT: And your parents were Orthodox, too, in...

HENRY: Yeah. So when I went the last time to Israel, he said he would like to have some home-cooked meal. He said to me, "You know, I would like to have some kind of a chicken soup or something." So I said, "I will make you a meal." It was Friday afternoon, you know.

ETHYL: This is a joke.

HENRY: So I said, "Let's go buy, where's a store? We'll go buy a chicken, and I will make the chicken soup."

ETHYL: He's a very good cook, by the way.

HENRY: So we went down to a supermarket there, and we bought a chicken, but so frozen. And it says it came from Australia, you know, the chicken. (laughter) It's like a stone in a package, you know? I paid nine dollars.

INT: He didn't know the store to take you to, probably.

HENRY: He's supposed to go buy a fresh chicken, but he doesn't live in Tel Aviv, but he lives, and the supermarket, I will show you, I still have the slip from the store. Nine dollars. I said...so frozen, it's after 3:00, and Shabbas is 5:00, 6:00, 7:00, I said it's too...

(END TAPE TWO, SIDE ONE)

(TAPE TWO, SIDE TWO)

INT: So what about in Poland, was he able to...he couldn't keep kosher or...

HENRY: His wife, yeah.

INT: He was?

HENRY: No, wait a second. He couldn't be after the war. After the war, wasn't too many Jews there left. No rabbis, no nothing. So I remember when we went Friday, we went down to buy a chicken, a live chicken on the market. You know. And they didn't go to a shochet, they killed the chicken themselves, so it couldn't be kosher, you know. There was no shochet.

ETHYL: Who killed the chicken themselves?

HENRY: They, or I did. Or they did.

ETHYL: Oh, gee. So what did you do with the frozen chicken? I'm interested.

HENRY: We put it in water...he ate it up. (laughs) He cooked it himself. I went out because, I was staying in the hotel, I had my supper at the hotel, you know, with the group.

ETHYL: So why didn't you take him to the hotel, and get him a good meal?

HENRY: He didn't want to go to a hotel. I said, "Why don't you come with me?" Shabbas, he will not. This was Shabbas.

ETHYL: He had to ride to the hotel?

HENRY: Yeah, in Tel Aviv. You know, I have to take him. So one time in Poland, I remember, we bought a chicken. Not me, my brother's wife. She was a good cook. Beautiful cook. So she was a big chicken, for some kind of Yom Kippur, some holiday. So she said, "Henry, you know, I don't know how to make a live chicken." (laughs) That was a funny story with the chicken. So she said, "Will you kill the chicken for me, and prepare the chicken?" So I said, "Sure. I'm not..." I tried to take the chicken between my legs, but the chicken got so... I tried to, you know, make like a shochet, with one cut, and the chicken, I injured him with a knife, and he runs. He run, you know. He almost was killed, but he run away. Was a big chicken. And later I grabbed him and killed him. There was nowhere to kill. In Poland there was no...

ETHYL: And you had to flick him, didn't you?

HENRY: Yeah, I had to prepare to flick him, and clean him, and this.

INT: But before the war, you knew about the shochet, and you knew all that stuff, because your family was Orthodox.

HENRY: You know Piotrkow had a lot of religious people, oh, a lot of people.

ETHYL: Your mother wore a sheitel, didn't she?

HENRY: What?

ETHYL: You think your mother wore a sheitel?

HENRY: I think so. I don't remember my father. He had a little beard. I don't remember how they look. I don't think they will have a picture. But I don't have. I cannot remember too much from ...it was out of my mind, everything.

INT: I was thinking about it, because I know you said to me, you would do anything to have a picture. And I was thinking, how is it that we remember what people look like? It usually is, often with a picture. And if you don't have a picture, it is so hard.

ETHYL: He was fourteen years old, or thirteen, he should have remembered what his mother looked like, but it was blocked right out of his mind. Because I asked him. I want to know what his parents were like, what his mother was like. He can't tell me anything.

HENRY: No, I cannot...

ETHYL: Was she a nice lady? I'm sure she was.

HENRY: I cannot remember nothing about the looks.

ETHYL: A religious woman.

HENRY: I can't remember nothing about the looks. I remember how it was, but not how they looked.

ETHYL: She must have wore a sheitel, Henry, they all wore sheitels.

HENRY: Oh, yeah, they were very religious. In our house, in Passover, I remember different dishes. They brought out, on the table, they put boards on the table. My gosh. So religious. Very religious. But was only a short time. I didn't have, my young age was gone with the wind. I couldn't be educated, because five years I spend in the concentration camps. Other kids going to school. But I...

ETHYL: You learned a lot. I don't know how you did, but you did.

INT: It's almost; you have a kind of approach to life, that makes me wonder whether you learned some of that even as a child. You know, it seems that you are very ambitious and energetic person. Even this that you have going on with your nieces. You know, you would start new with them.

HENRY: Yeah, I would forgive them everything.

ETHYL: I can't forgive her.

INT: Do you think that's something that you saw at home before the war, even? Can you remember that?

ETHYL: No, it's his nature. He's an unusual person.

HENRY: You know sometimes we have arguments. They would call on the phone for some kind...I will never say no. I always...

ETHYL: I get very annoyed with him.

HENRY: Yeah, I have arguments. No, some organizations, they need some help.

ETHYL: He doesn't say no. He doesn't want to hurt their feelings. I said, "Listen, they call you from all kinds of, say: 'I'm not interested, and sorry.'" You can be polite about it. You don't have to knock the ... I never knock the receiver down. They go on and on and on for nothing.

HENRY: If I can help, I will help, if I can.

ETHYL: This is not helping, Henry. This is business. You have to learn. He cannot say no. It's a good thing he's not a girl. (laughs)

HENRY: Okay. No, it's not the business.

ETHYL: He's too kind. He's too kind.

HENRY: Like the lung association, like the other. Like the charitable organizations. I would help. We always help.

ETHYL: I take care of that, listen.

INT: So how would you describe your own personal kind of philosophy, in your words, what would you say your philosophy about life is, and your approach to life would be?

HENRY: Oh, life is how you make it. You know, you have to be kind to people, and you have to be a good person, and honest. And live in good with your neighbors. (laughs)

ETHYL: He's very kind. What can I tell you?

HENRY: I like the life, to enjoy it. To be healthy, you know to have fun.

ETHYL: He's very helpful. He will help anybody.

HENRY: You live only once, and you have to...you know.

INT: I remember from our last conversation you told me that you think that also because of your experiences in the war, you now feel that you want to **live** life, I mean, that you want to enjoy.

ETHYL: Make the most of every day. That's how we live.

HENRY: Yeah, you see, you never know what tomorrow can bring. And you have to be, I go to the pool, and I see people coming. They want to live, but they're sick.

ETHYL: They're in wheelchairs. It's so hard. You just have to be thankful.

HENRY: Yeah, you have to be thankful every day.

ETHYL: That you can get up in the morning, and walk, get out of your bed, and walk around, and get dressed. That's a gift. That's a gift. Not at your age, but at our age.

HENRY: Yeah. You know, the clock doesn't stay. Everybody gets older. (laughs) I was your age years and years ago.

ETHYL: When he came to this country, when I first met him, he was only in his forties.

HENRY: Yeah. I was 48 years old.

ETHYL: That's all. He was young.

HENRY: Time goes fast. If you're young, nothing bothers. If you're getting after fifty, it runs down, already, from the hill. But till fifty, goes up the hill. Oh, the time, I'm here 22 years. It went like...

ETHYL: More. 24 years. 1970.

HENRY: Yeah, my gosh. The time goes so fast.

ETHYL: We were married twenty years, and it was like it happened yesterday.

HENRY: I worked out my retirement, you know, I work in a factory, like I said, for 22 years I worked. 21 years. Now I get retirement, I get the social security.

ETHYL: He said if he could get his job back, he'd go back to work.

HENRY: I made a mistake. I would like to work.

ETHYL: He retired too soon. He did.

HENRY: Because maybe I wouldn't retire, but they changed my job in the place, and I didn't like it, so I said, it's enough.

INT: Oh. They changed the work you were doing?

HENRY: They changed the machine. I was working a machine, later they gave me another job, I couldn't perform, so I said, I was 65, so I said it's enough. I will retire. So later I was sorry, but I got used. I want to tell you. I'm so busy every day, doing something. And I will find something to do.

ETHYL: Also, the house takes a lot of work.

HENRY: Yeah. I like to do...

INT: You're a doer.

HENRY: A doer.

ETHYL: Not a lazy bone in his body.

HENRY: I will do everything. You see, the housework and outside. And fixing things.

ETHYL: He sews for me. He does my slacks.

HENRY: Yeah, whatever. Yeah.

INT: If we could go back to the war years, when the war broke out, and actually even that attitude during the war. Because you said that there were so many different things that you had to do, and how do you keep going? Would it be all right if we talked about that now?

HENRY: Yeah. What I remember, you know, the first day of the war, when the Germans walked to Piotrkow. And like I said before, one guy, one man went out on the balcony, he started to holler at them and the first thing what they did, they burned down the house. We had a house, you know. And this was for me a shock. You know, we didn't have a place where to live. And it was such a hard time. During the war, we had some money, we found the burned money, but we couldn't buy anything. The Polish money was very hard. But later they made the ghetto, and we went in the ghetto they gave us a little room.

ETHYL: How could anybody live through that?

INT: But where did you live after your house was burned? Where did your family go? You were the parents and four children?

HENRY: Yeah. We found later a little, I remember the next house, you know, with a little room. And we were living in one room, four children and two parents. And the worst thing was the winter. In Poland, the winter was very...rough winters. Was cold.

So what we did, I remember for the winter, we bought potatoes, you know, in the little room, we had under the bed, put potatoes for the winter. Because it was very hard to get food.

ETHYL: Did you have a stove in the room? Or it was a community kitchen?

HENRY: Remember, this was before the war. Before the war, but I like for Shabbas, you know, because we had a good meal. Everything was, so my parents didn't light the stove, so they had a gentile.

INT: A Shabbas goy.

HENRY: Yeah. Came and lighted the kitchen and the stove, and after the shul, we had a dinner. Yeah it was very good. (laughs) We had a cholent. What I like is a cholent. Oh, I love it. So my parents said, "Go, why don't you, take it Friday night to the bakery, and leave it for overnight." So they send me for the cholent to the baker. So I went with the cholent, and I was carrying a big...

ETHYL: Somebody stole it, didn't they? Somebody took it from you.

HENRY: So I was carrying home -- the bakery wasn't too far from the house, was the next street. So all of a sudden a guy run off and he took away the cholent from me. He grabbed it, you know? A little crazy.

ETHYL: You were only a little kid.

HENRY: Yeah. I was maybe ten years old or something. I came home, I want to tell you, what happened to the cholent. (laughs) The mishuggene, he grabbed the cholent, he ran away, and I lost it. But I got a hard time. I came home.

INT: What did your parents say?

HENRY: Oh, they were very upset. They were waiting for it. The best thing was Shabbas was the cholent.

INT: So what did they do? Did they hit you? Did they discipline you?

HENRY: Yeah, they hollered at me, but I said it wasn't my fault.

ETHYL: Did they ever hit you, Henry?

HENRY: No, they wouldn't hit me. But I remember they were screaming the hell out of me. They were waiting for the cholent.

ETHYL: Is that a main meal, a cholent?

INT: Lunch?

ETHYL: That's a main meal? You didn't have chicken?

HENRY: Yeah, you put everything in the...oh, it was so good. You make cholent sometimes?

INT: Yeah. We do. Sometimes.

ETHYL: What's the ingredients?

INT: How do you make it, with potatoes, and beans.

HENRY: We grated the potatoes.

ETHYL: Like potato latkes.

INT: It's great.

HENRY: Yeah, we put a lot of beef, beef flanken, and make a kugel there inside. Oh, was so good. Was so good.

INT: And it sits.

HENRY: Was so good.

ETHYL: It sounds like it could be heavy.

INT: It can be heavy. It can be heavy.

HENRY: Or you can make from potatoes, only potatoes.

INT: Right. Without meat.

ETHYL: So make a potato kugel. Same idea. What makes it a cholent?

INT: Well, it's cooking all those hours.

HENRY: 24 hours.

INT: Sort of like a crock pot. You make these...

HENRY: You close it down.

INT: It just keeps on cooking and cooking.

ETHYL: I'll tell you what my mother made -- p'tchah. My father was the only one that ate it. I didn't see her eat it either. Just my father ate p'tchah.

INT: Yeah? My mother used to make that.

ETHYL: It's horrible. It's like gel.

HENRY: So your husband, he was born here, how he can speak Yiddish?

INT: He studied Yiddish. He studied Yiddish in Yiddish schools. We both went to Yiddish schools here in America. In New York.

HENRY: I'm interested. There's still places in the university, they're teaching Yiddish to students?

INT: Yeah.

ETHYL: Maybe in New York.

INT: No, I used to teach it up here at U. Mass.

HENRY: Yiddish? Yiddish language. And writing too?

INT: Writing and reading.

HENRY: Oh, you can write, huh?

INT: Yeah. I can write and read. Was Yiddish the language you spoke at home, with your parents?

HENRY: Yeah, Yiddish. Yiddish.

ETHYL: You didn't speak Polish?

HENRY: Polish and Yiddish. Mostly Yiddish. I forgot, because we don't speak Yiddish here a lot of time.

ETHYL: I miss it. I love to hear Jewish. I love to hear Jewish.

HENRY: In the beginning, you know, (laughs) was a lot of fun here. Because I was, like I said, I came over here; I start living from the beginning.

ETHYL: From scratch.

HENRY: From scratch. Because in Poland, I was a big shot. I was a manager of a restaurant. But when I left Poland...

ETHYL: He was a homeless man. A homeless man.

HENRY: I had a lot of stuff, but I tried to sell it here, some stuff. But nobody would buy it from you. They have stores. So anyway, I had so much hard times, you know, to establish this country. And find friends, and find a job, and find...so I like a lot between people. I was running to the Jewish Center in Hartford. I met a friend, he said, take me with you. To spend the time. I met people in New Haven, and Hartford. So I start...and I made a lot of (laughs) I like dancing, you know. I went to the New Haven, they had a Sunday afternoon dance. So I met this girl. We danced, you know, everything was fine, and I liked her, she likes me, but she said right away, "What are you doing for a living?" And believe me, I didn't have a penny in my, you know, I was a poor man. Because I start living. And I didn't know what to say. If I will say I have no (laughs) So I have to lie to her. I said, "I'm an engineer." (laughs) I said, Okay, I will tell her I'm an engineer. So she said, "Yeah? So why don't you come next week to my house." (laughs) So she lived in Norwich, Connecticut. I bought in the beginning an old car. I couldn't afford it. So she said, "Come, we'll go out for dinner. We have nice places in Norwich, and pick me up." So my car was really, I bought it for \$350. And I was only a starter. I was driving, at the beginning, it was in the wintertime, it was very cold. I think January. So I went there to Connecticut, to Norwich, and I came to her place, I picked her up, and she said, "That's your car?" she thought I will come with a Cadillac or a Mercedes. (laughs) And my G-d, really was so ugly, with holes. (laughs) So she looked at me, she said, so I took her in my car, and we was driving in Norwich, I didn't know where to go. You know, she's supposed to tell me where the restaurant is. And she got lost with me. She missed the exit. And I was scared, because I didn't have enough gas in my car. I said, the whole thing wasn't worth it to come. Because she was so cold to me. She saw my car right away, she lost...

So we got off the next exit, and we went to some kind of a place, and we came there, and I was very hungry, so I said, "Let's have dinner." So we have to wait an hour for a table, you know. Have a bar. I didn't want to drink. She likes to have a few drinks, and I didn't. You know, if I drive, I don't want to have a drink. She had a few drinks. And we had a dinner; I wasn't enjoying myself at all. I was upset. Because it wasn't worth for me to come for me, and it was winter, and I was afraid, I didn't have enough gas to go home to Springfield. What I will do? And at night. This is 1:00 at night. And all the gas stations are closed. So I said, you know, "I'm really, I'm upset because I don't know how I will get home. I don't know where to fill up the car. It's 1:00. You know." So she said, "Take me home!" She didn't say anything else. "Take me home and go home." So I took her home, and she didn't mention one word, give me advice, where to go, fill up the car or, another lady would say, you know, "I know you're exhausted, why don't you stay over in my, in the basement, or whatever, and you drive tomorrow, you fill up the car." She didn't think of myself, nothing. And she let me go home, you know, at night; it's wintertime, with snow, without gas.

ETHYL: She didn't like you, Henry. Apparently she wasn't interested in you, because she didn't care.

HENRY: No, it didn't work out. She saw my car, right away.

ETHYL: That's right. She didn't like the car.

HENRY: (laughs) So I...you know, I was very upset. I came, and I drove down to Hartford, I find a gas station, I filled up this car, I came home in the morning, and I was living in Mrs. Narci's home, and I had a little room here. Because I was living, I had a little room there, in a private...so I came, I didn't want to wake up the people there, to let me in.

ETHYL: You had no key.

HENRY: I didn't have my key. And I was waiting till 7:00 in the morning, to go into my room.

ETHYL: Freezing.

HENRY: It was terrible.

ETHYL: That'll learn you! (laughs)

(Wife leaves. Discussion of getting together with the interviewer's kids.)

HENRY: Yeah. That's life. Life is not so easy.

ETHYL: Well, you were lucky when you met me.

HENRY: No. You know, she didn't ask me, what do you have? And I was in bad shape. I met a lot of women. Right away, how much money, what are you doing?

ETHYL: I saw the possibility.

HENRY: You see, I came, I was a boy. I said, I will do everything that I can. I don't promise. I don't know what to say. You know, I didn't know what I will do.

ETHYL: No one to give him advice.

HENRY: Nobody was here with the family, to give me advice. I didn't know what the future will be.

(wife leaves)

HENRY: So I had a lot. Everybody was financial. But I want to tell you, I worked very hard. Now, I live, I can afford it. You know, we saved up money, and we get checks

every month, my social security, and my pension. And that's enough. That's enough. We can live, we can go.

INT: And you're satisfied.

HENRY: I'm very satisfied, yeah. I'm very satisfied. So now I can help somebody.

INT: And you want to. I mean, I think that's what you were saying when you were talking about your nieces.

HENRY: I always want to be independent. Like I say, we were living in the Regency here in Agawam; we paid \$600 a month rent. I said, "Let's go buy a little house." A little house in 1974. 1977. So we looked around for a house. We got married. I said, why I have to pay rent? I can buy a house. So there wasn't too many houses. So we found this little house. So it was for sale, this house. It was, I don't remember, \$30,000, we paid for this little house, in 1977. So we paid off the house, and it's ours. We don't pay rent. Other people have to pay rent every month \$600, or \$1,000 a month. Here, it's yours. So for two people it's comfortable, and so you want to take a look?

(pause)

INT: You were saying that what you really enjoy about where you are now is that here you have a home, and you have your privacy.

HENRY: Yeah, a different life, you know. You don't have to worry about, I know my check will come every month, and we have insurance. That's a lot of things. A lot of people they don't have insurance, they have to worry about. We have my company's providing me with a secondary. You know, I don't have to pay. They pay. And Social Security pays for the Medicare. So there's nothing to worry about. Only to be happy and live a long life in this country. (laughs)

INT: Biz hundert un tsvontsik [120].

HENRY: (Laughs) Yeah. Hundert un tsvontsik.

INT: We could talk for a minute about life after the war, when you went back to Poland, you said that it was hard because you were moving, were you moving from place to place?

HENRY: No, it was hard to find a place. We couldn't afford to buy a house there, you know. So I was staying with friends a lot of time, when I was single.

INT: Now did Ethel say you have a daughter-in-law in Sweden?

HENRY: Yeah. I have a son. Yeah, in Sweden. They live in Sweden. You see he is from another marriage. I was married in Poland. I don't want to say, it was a shiksa.

And I got right away, I don't know, I got with her involved. She invited me to a party, and I made her pregnant, you know, and we got a son. And I married her. And I want to tell you; I was unhappy life with her. It was my wife, but a big anti-Semite like hell. And we had an argument, always, "Yid, Jew, Jew and Jew," but I couldn't get out from Poland. I would go out right away, but I was involved. I have to pay alimony, you know, for the son, till eighteen years. He is like, they didn't let me out. And I was you know, have a responsibility to pay for him. But when he became eighteen years old, we left Poland right away. So...

INT: You and your son?

HENRY: My son. So he didn't want to come here. He went to Sweden. Because he got involved with a girl, a Swedish girl there, and this and that, you know, young love. And they got married. Later, he went to Sweden. I had such a hard time with him. Because we were waiting for the visa, in Italy, and he, I said, "Let's go to America, both of us." And HIAS, you know, they helped us a lot, because they were the sponsors, and they paid for everything. So they said, "Oh, you're going to Sweden both, or you're going to the United States, both." Because he was a young boy. They didn't want to let him by himself to go. So he said he would never go, because he was afraid, he said he was a young boy, this was in the Vietnam War. You know, they will take him, and send him. In Italy, they told him, if you're going to America, they will take you to the army, they will send you to Vietnam, you can get killed. And he was scared, afraid of him, or something, and he didn't want to come here. So he went to the HIAS, the organization, and he has to write, he has no, he takes his responsibility for himself. He has to sign papers, and he went to Sweden. But he got married with a Swedish girl. I am a little disgusted, but I couldn't do anything. Now I live a different life. You know, a Jewish life, a Yiddish, but I always want to do that. There was no Jewish women in Poland. So...he got married there, and he went into business. You know, a hard life in Sweden. I went there a few times. They work so many taxes, 80% they pay taxes there. He works very hard. He's in a printing business. You know, he prints this stuff. But the government takes away the whole thing, so he cannot make. Young people have to work for their elderly people. Because school is free, and the Medicare, everything is free there. But young people pay for it. So I told him to come over here. I was working a company, he could take a job where I work, and he would be well off. Now he wants to come, but he cannot sell the machines, his house. He's in bad shape. I help him a lot. Every month, \$500, but the dollar in Sweden is worth nothing. If I send him \$500, he can't buy nothing. A television set costs \$4,000. Here, you can buy for \$500, \$400, \$300. Over there it's so expensive. So it's a hard life. I was there. I don't like Sweden. It's a different life than here. It's so cold there. The atmosphere is so different.

INT: He has a family there?

HENRY: Yeah. (laughs) I have two grandchildren. Yeah, I'm a zayde! Boys. Two boys. But you know, it's not the same. It's not the same.

INT: They're not being raised Jewish.

HENRY: I don't know. I would like to make him a Bar Mitzvah. I would love to, but you know, they are now nine years old. I would love to bring them here, and make them a Bar Mitzvah, but I don't think they live Jewish at all. They don't live Jewish. I cannot change it. It's the whole situation. I try not to talk about it, because it hurts me a lot. I would like to see him, you know, thank G-d, I'm...

(END TAPE TWO, SIDE TWO)

(TAPE THREE, SIDE ONE)

HENRY: Pictures...I have a picture. Nice boy.

INT: Yeah? What's his name?

HENRY: Marek. (Pause)

INT: This is the second tape on Monday, October 10th, with Henry Dluznowski.

HENRY: You know, in the beginning, I was very happy with my job. But like I said, I didn't have a car, so I was looking for a ride every day. So I got a few dollars. I saved up. I made a license, and I bought a car. A cheap car, but it was still running. One day, it was before New Year's, in December. I was going to work. I start work 6:00, and was still dark in the morning, and I always stopped on the way to buy some lunch. One time, one day in the morning, I stop my car, and I was walking to the store. And when I was walking to the store, I looked to my left, to my right, I didn't see any traffic. I walked down a few steps, and a car hit me. A car hit me right away. I didn't see the car coming from nowhere. And I got hit in my leg. And I was walking right here, you know, the bumper. I fall down, and I got bruised up. I didn't know what's happened to me.

So they took me to the hospital, the ambulance, and I was so alone. You know, nobody to help me. And I didn't speak, you know, in the beginning, in 1970. I was only a few months in this country. And I didn't know. I was all shook up, and pain. And they took me to the hospital. And after a little while, they took x-rays. The doctor came back and he said, "You know, it's such a bad thing, your leg is broken so badly, we have to amputate your leg." Yeah. He gave me the papers to sign, because we have to amputate the leg. I said, "Please, let me think something."

So I met before, I met a man here, a single man. He's from Poland, too, but he was here years. So I called him up, and I said, what's his name, I forgot -- David or whatever. "Why don't you come over to the hospital, please. I need some advice. You know, I got hit in an accident." He said okay. And I told him in Yiddish, you know. I didn't know what to do. He said, "Don't sign any papers. I will be right over." He came to the hospital, he said, "You know, what I suggest, let another doctor take another look at your leg." And he said, "I have a friend, Dr. Kruger, and he's an orthopedist." He came over and he looked at the pictures, he said to me, "You know, you have a very bad broken leg.

Look, all the bones are crushed." But he said, "I will try to do your leg without amputate it. Maybe it will heal, but I don't guarantee. If it's good, it will heal up, and you will have your leg, otherwise we will have to amputate." So he took me up. I said okay. He took me to the operating room, and he explained to me after. He took the two metal things, he put my bone piece by piece together, and put wire, and he said, "We'll see how it will heal." So after the operation I was waiting. He came every day to visit me. He said, "I think it's coming along good, and it will heal up." So after a little while he said, "Henry, I think I save your leg." Yeah, I was so happy. But I said, "Doctor, will I be able to dance again?" (laughter) Right after the operation. This was my question. He said, "I cannot guarantee. But you don't think about dancing now; you'll think about your life!" He said, "You're in such a bad shape." Right away I ask him about dancing. So anyway, it took him a year, you see my leg? I have a big, so after a year, I had another operation. I have to take out, he opened up again, he took out all the metal, you know, what was inside. The metal, he took it out. Now, you know, how lucky I am. The young doctor, for him it was easy to take a knife and cut off my leg, and it would be easy with the operation. He didn't want to think, like this doctor did, he put together the bones. And I'm lucky. I'm happy, because you know; I can do a normal life otherwise.

INT: You can dance!

HENRY: I can dance. That's my, you're supposed to see me how I'm dancing. I am high on dancing. (laughter) My wife cannot keep, I have to grab different ladies, oh, she cannot keep up. She will dance twice and sit down. You know, I love to dance. That's my enjoyment.

INT: You know, Henry -- you don't mind if I call you Henry.

HENRY: Yeah, sure, go ahead.

INT: Two things I thought about when you told that story. Because you say you were lucky. But it seems to me **you** were able to do something that shows **your** spirit. You knew somebody to call. Even though you were new, and you didn't know the language, but you...

HENRY: Yeah. It's good I had, you know, otherwise, I want to tell you, I didn't have too many friends, but this guy in particular. I knew him. He came here a long time ago. But he came from Poland, too. So I spoke in Yiddish, or in Polish, and I can have help. You cannot explain to the doctor. He gave me papers to sign. I said, "No, wait a second. Let me think. Let me get advice from somebody else, and let me think for myself what I have to do." If I would sign, I would be my whole life without a leg, to be without a leg, and now my leg is healed up like regular, you know. Like new.

INT: Well, that's a very special quality, I think, to be able to ask for help.

HENRY: My mind was good. I was bruised up, and shook up, and I had so much, you know when a car hit you. Oh, my G-d! I didn't know what's happened to me. Right on my leg. I have a big scar on my leg, but you know, nobody will see.

INT: But then your other question, you know, "Will I be able to dance?" It's like, no matter what happens to me, will I still be able to live life fully, you know?

HENRY: Yeah, that was the question right after the operation, the next day. I said, "Doctor, how was the operation? Will I be able to dance?" (laughs) He was laughing right away. He said, "You think about living, not dancing." But it came out very good. You know, and I appreciate very much. I would do the doctor, I see him, I always thank him. I see him. He belongs to Beth El, and I always say, "Doctor, you helped me a lot." Because if he wouldn't come, the other doctor would do it, and for him it would be much easier to take off the leg, and sew up, you know. Some people, you know, have to think about. You know, whatever you do, you have to think, not to make up your mind right away. You have to tell a lot of people, do a lot of things, and later they're in trouble. Yeah. Everything has to be thinking. And know what you're doing. Not to do the wrong thing.

INT: And that's what you'd like to help your son with that, too, at this point.

HENRY: If he would live here, I could do advice, I can help him, I can tell him to do this. And maybe I could take him my way, to live a Yiddish life, you know Jewish, like everybody. I would love the young children, the two children, to have Bar Mitzvah. And I talked to him.

INT: What does he say?

HENRY: He said, there's still time. We'll think. Maybe we'll come over to America, we can do that. And I called him, what time is it now? I think I have to call him today, because I didn't call him yesterday. I forgot all about, today's a holiday.

INT: You usually call on Sunday?

HENRY: Yeah, it's cheaper, you know. It's less expensive on the weekend.

INT: We can stop for today. I'd like to come back so that maybe we can talk about...

HENRY: Please, come back with the children, we'll take you out.

INT: Thank you. That was so nice of your wife to offer. But before I come with the children, first of all, you should tell me if you would like me to bring the Yiddish Piotrkow book.

HENRY: Yiddish, I cannot read in Yiddish.

INT: No? Because if you ever wanted to, I could help you with Yiddish. Maybe I'll bring it just to show it to you, so you could see what it looks like.

HENRY: I'd rather in English. I...when I was young, my parents were sending me to a cheder. But I didn't have too much time to learn. Let's say seven, you're going to school seven, six years, seven. And I went to a cheder, and I learned. I can daven. You know, I can daven, but I forgot to read. Because after the war, I went to Poland, I didn't use anything. I was married to a...not a...you know, I didn't use my Yiddish language, and I didn't use the Yiddish, only in Polish. So I forgot. I can maybe if I would be sitting down, show me a few times, it will still come to my head. But now, I don't think I will be able to read.

INT: Well, I think you'll find the English book the translated book, interesting, and the newsletter also has stuff. But I don't mind bringing you the books just so you could see, because it also has some pictures, and it has lists of people. You know, in Israel, there's also a Piotrkower committee. And they meet, and they have also information and papers. So maybe we'll end for today. I like to be here with you. It's a pleasure for me, really.

HENRY: Whenever you want to come, the door is open.

INT: (Discussion of next appointment)

HENRY: You know my wife doesn't feel so good. I have to live up, you know. I said I worked very hard on American soil. I worked, ten, twelve hours a day, and I did a lot of overtime. A lot of overtime. Sunday, holidays, like today, they pay you time and a half, work, work, work, and I was working and saving. Now is the time to enjoy it, you know? Why I have to think about to leave my money to...I want to spend it and go out and have fun. Because I worked hard for it, you know? It's not the money I got from yerusha, no, it's from my hands, you understand? And we saved up because we didn't go too much when I was working.

So, and my wife doesn't feel good. And that's for me a very, I said, "Let's go for a trip. Let's go to Israel." She cannot travel. A lot of seeing the town, so if I go, I have to go by myself. Like I went to Israel by myself. To Sweden, she cannot eat too much. She has a lot of trouble with her stomach, and this and this. But I, Gott tsu dank, I feel good, and I would like to go places. What can you do? Not everybody you can do it. You have to enjoy every day of your life. (laughs) Yeah. It will be better, it will get better, we will go on.

INT: She hasn't been to Israel?

HENRY: No. No.

INT: Or to Sweden with you?

HENRY: No.

INT: She hasn't met your son.

HENRY: My son was here. Yeah, he came here. He was here two years ago. He likes it here, you know, it's much, much better then. Oh, I don't want to tell you. And you smoke? No. Your husband? No. That's good. I know my son smokes cigarettes. And his wife smokes. They both smoke. And I want to tell you, in Sweden, a package of cigarettes cost \$3.00, \$4.00. And if they both smoke, they smoke \$3.00 a day, three packages. Because they smoke a lot. When I was there, I didn't like it. I don't smoke. I said, "Why are you smoking for?" Oh, they're nervous, so they need. But you can see, they're smoking about \$10.00 a day. Maybe more. You understand, for nothing. It's a lot of expenses. Every day \$10.00. And I said, "Quit smoking. What do you need this for?" Oh, they can't. They promised me they will do it, and they didn't smoke for a little while, and I ask him, do you...Yeah, I smoke again.

INT: So you're in touch with him regularly.

HENRY: Yeah, I'm going to call him. I will call him today. I send him, you know, sometimes I send him money. I always send him a check, because with cash, they can take it out of the envelope. I put a money order from the bank. But you see, every month I send him \$500. So here is a lot of money, and I want to tell you it's nothing there. Everything is expensive. Like I went there, and he said, "Bring me a pair of jeans." I bought stuff here. I paid, let's say for a pair of jeans, \$20.00, or \$18.00, you know. But I picked the wrong size. It was too big, or too small for him. So I said, "Well, I will buy here. I went, I paid sixty dollars, the same, you know? Three times as much.

INT: The high standards.

HENRY: \$60.00. I said to the man, "The same jeans cost \$18.00 in America." He said, "Oh, you're lucky you can buy so cheap there." And \$60.00, I pay it, I bought him another pair there for \$60.00, you know. And everything is expensive. I wouldn't like to live there. No.

INT: But there are lots of Polish Jews went to Sweden after the war, and Denmark.

HENRY: Like here, Eisenstein, you know. I saw here, Eisenstein. His father. My friend. He went to Sweden. Eisenstein (discussion of whether he's in the newsletter or not) But I had a friend, they went to Sweden. Like I came here, they went to Sweden. They lived there. And he died two years ago. He had heart trouble. So he went to Sweden, Eisenstein, and he was a tailor. Had a tailor, cleaning, the tailoring, like here. So he had a good life. But later, when he got sick, they take, the government takes good care. So they put him not in a hospital, they put him in his home. A nurse, 24 hours a nurse. Take care of you. Because it's maybe less expensive like to be in the hospital. So he got a heart attack two years ago, and he died. And a young man. He wasn't too old. Maybe 60. Maybe he wasn't 60 years old. But always, when I went to Sweden, I visiting him. I didn't like Sweden from the beginning. I don't know. For me, I like it here better.

I love Israel. I always say, Let's go move...did you hear what happened last night in Israel?

INT: Yes, I did.

HENRY: In Jerusalem, my gosh. Wherever you go, it's not quiet there. You never know what's going to happen. You know.

INT: Does your son know about your war experiences? Did you speak to him ever about what happened to you in the war? He knows about that?

HENRY: Oh, yeah. Oh yeah, he knows. He was a lot of time with me before he got married. We were in Poland together.

INT: Just you and him. Were you divorced then?

HENRY: Yeah. I was divorced. I divorced my wife, but I had to pay alimony. The Polish government, they wouldn't let you. So I got stuck till he was eighteen, and was another occasion, the '67 war with Israel, they said the Jews, because Poland is anti-Semitic to hell. I hate it. When I was going out with a Polish girl, like to a restaurant, for dinner, you know, we would go out, have a date or something. She would say to me, "You know, Henry, I don't want people to see I go out with a Jewish man. I will meet you in the restaurant." She was ashamed to go out. She liked me, but ashamed to go out with me, because the Poles are anti-Semites. The Polacks will say she goes out with a Jewish man. So I always met her in the place. You know, we went separate, and I met her. Yeah.

INT: How did that feel to you? What did that feel like to you?

HENRY: Oh, it's terrible. You feel like you're not the same person. Like you're...like, that it's not the right...terrible. I never liked the Polacks. I was there till my business, till they knew I'm Jewish. They didn't know I'm Jewish, I existed. But when they find out, somebody would tell them, you know, recognize me, I have to move from place to place, because they didn't let me exist.

INT: So you actually had to close your one restaurant to make another one?

HENRY: No, they making so much trouble. They will write on your door, you know, "the Jews," the Zhid was such a terrible thing, Zhid. You know, Zhid is a Jew in Polish. Zhid is like a...like a elephant. The word Zhid. I'm glad, I wish I would come earlier, you know. If I would come right after the war, I would be in better shape. You know, because I like to do a lot of business, and I can manage. I can manage. Really, I can manage. Even during the war. I managed.

INT: How did you manage during the war?

HENRY: Oh, I want to tell you, I managed. I don't know, you have to. I helped my uncle, you know. He moved to Israel. I always was trying to do something, to make something, to find something, because you didn't have a chance to go out to buy. You had to steal. When I was working for the Germans, like I told you, they let me work. So for...they had groceries there. You know, for the Germans. I always was trying to get a little food out from, you know, in my pocket, or a potato, whatever I could take it with me. Later, I went to the barracks, and I cooked it up. I helped. You know. And one time, I remember, what I did, I...[interruption] I was working for the wintertime, you know, all the Polacks, they bought potatoes for the winter, for the Germans. And one time I remember what I did, I put something, (laughs) I covered my pants, and I put all potatoes, you know, a lot of them. (laughs)

INT: In your pants. In the legs of the pants.

HENRY: Yeah, I was. You know, a potato was like an orange. My G-d, if you had a potato, it was gold. For food, you know, if you're hungry, and you have something, you would do everything for food. And I was working in my barrack, you know, with all the potatoes, and I was lucky, and I saw a German soldier, you know, an SS man, going around. And I don't know how he didn't see me with this, you know? I was lying down. He didn't see me. Luck. If he would have caught me there, and saw me with the potatoes, I would get killed right away. Right in the place he would kill me. But G-d was with me, and He helped me, and I went, I went through. I had, you know, I gave my brother potatoes, and my uncle, and we bake the potatoes later after work. Was a big help, for food. Because in the concentration camp, they gave you a little soup with a piece of bread. This was 6:00. After you came home from work. So you looked up. I said, "If I eat now, I will be hungry to going to bed later. Save the piece of bread. Have the soup," or something. So food is a lot of thing if you're hungry. Here, you come, you have so much food. You don't...it's a lot of difference, because (laughs) Oh, your father must know, because...

INT: Everybody has stories. So you were really taking care of your uncle.

HENRY: Yeah, I did help a lot. I don't know. I was thinking. Thinking, something to do, something to organize. You know. Or sugar. You know what I did? I had a hat, and I put a little sugar in my double hat, you know, because I have to do it to survive. You know, I didn't steal money. But I stole food. And this was the most important thing. Because the money you couldn't do. But food you can eat, and you can survive.

INT: You were so young then. You were a teenager.

HENRY: Yeah. I was young. I don't know. G-d was with me all the time.

INT: Do you believe that?

HENRY: Yeah. He was with me. He, from the beginning till the end. Because I went through so many things, you know, in the concentration camp. I wouldn't dream I can go through it. But always I went out.

One time, we were working, loading from the trucks heavy, heavy boxes. And I couldn't do it. I was a young boy. And heavy boxes. And the SS, you know, was watching us, came, they start hollering at me, "Shnell, shnell, you know, put it up." I said, "I cannot do it." And he was a healthy man, he took the box, he...So when he was at the truck, you know, he lost his wallet. (laughs) His wallet. I didn't know, it fell out from his pocket. I didn't know, and he didn't know, till the last minute. When I was a few boxes more to do, I see a wallet. I didn't know whose wallet. So I took the wallet. There was so many marks, you know, dollars, Deutsche marks. So many. I said, "My G-d, must be Bashert from G-d, (laughs) He sent me some money." I didn't know what to do with it, you know. So I didn't know what to do -- to leave it or take it. You know, because everybody went, and I was the last one from the truck.

So he said, I took the wallet with me. And I went to the barrack, where I lived there. I took it. Nobody tell, I didn't want nobody to see it. Maybe I see what's, I open the wallet and I looked hundred of marks. You know, and I saw, I took out identification card, I said, "Oh, my G-d, it's the SS! Now what can I do, to give it back, he can kill me." I cannot...because they say, "Where you got the wallet from?" So I, in the morning, they had everybody out, and I had the wallet, I said, I must be about...and he said, the SS, he said to us he lost the wallet, and who find it, give it back to him. I didn't know what to do. If I will give him back, he will kill me anyway, you know? He said, so I have to risk. It's true. He would say, "Where you got the wallet? Why you didn't bring it back?" For him to kill is like nothing. So I said, "I'm risky. I'm dead anyway. Give him back, he'll kill me, and not give him..."

So he took a lot of soldiers came over and started to search in our house. Naked. We have to undress, everything. I don't know, and I had the wallet right there. And I was the last. Every soldier had ten people. Was dark. And I went through, you know, like I went already searched. I went to the other...and I was telling you, I said, "I don't want the wallet, and I don't want the money, but I'm afraid to keep it. What can I do?" So I went there, I dig a hole, you know, in the woods, where we were working. I digged the hole, I put the wallet with the money there. I said, "Maybe I can come sometimes," you know. Because if they find out, you know, I couldn't be honest, because I would be killed anyway. So I said, "The hell with the money, and the hell with him." But what I took from the wallet was a little comb.

INT: A comb.

HENRY: A comb. (laughs) This I took, and the rest, I digged a hole, I fargrubt it there. I don't want to do anything with it, because maybe I made a mistake or not. I can use the money, but what can I do with the money in the lager? He cannot buy anything. So they will find out you have money, they said, you find a wallet? So with the comb, I had a lot, you know, this girl, she was a French girl, working in the kitchen. She saw the comb, she

said, "What do you need the comb? You don't have any hair." I was all shaved up. And she took the comb. On the comb was a monogram there. You know, the SS monogram. And he find the comb. Yeah, it's a true story, I'm telling you. G-d...he find the comb on her, he said, "Where you got the comb from?" He said, from some kind of...all of a sudden, "Everybody out!" And she, you know, the girl, she was working in the kitchen with him, recognized who the man was. I said, "Oh, I am...you know, lost now." And she was walking up and down and he hollered at her, because I think he was going on with this girl, you know. He hollered at her, "Who is it? Who is it?" She didn't want to tell. And she said, "You know, I know yesterday four people were killed. I think he was killed yesterday." She saved me. And I went out of so many situations like this. It's a true story. But I will never forget, with the comb I had so much aggravation. And lager, you know, every minute, you were worth nothing. If they find something. If she would tell me, right away, I would be killed right between. So I'm telling, G-d was with me. He saved me all the time. I made mistakes. I'm telling you, I was looking for food and this. Only food. (laughs) But it wasn't easy, you know? Every day was a hard day. Every day. But survived, I survived it.

INT: And you say something about "G-d was with me." What were your feelings about G-d during all of that, and after?

HENRY: Well, everybody, listen, everybody believes in G-d. Like my parents, I remember they were davening. They believed till the last minute. When the Germans, you know, they burned down the synagogue, they were davening in little private houses. They make a little minyan; they were davening Yom Kippur and this. Everybody believed till the last minute. And I said a lot of people got killed, but you have to believe. You have to believe. G-d...

(END TAPE THREE, SIDE ONE)

(TAPE THREE, SIDE TWO)

INT: You were saying before, so you **did** believe in G-d, until, and you thanked G-d for what happened.

HENRY: Oh, they say, I think He saved me. You know, I was in so many situations, to get the food, you know, you have to risk your life. Because if you're hungry, you never know what trouble, if you're hungry, you would do everything for food. Because without food you cannot exist. So I tried to do...whatever. You see, I was lucky. Maybe...I was very lucky in lager. Like I said, I had so many situations. I always had something to eat.

I told you about I was lucky with the man with the gold things, I told you, with the shoe. This was luck, too. And I have a lot, a lot of things to be thankful. But life wasn't easy. Every day, you never knew what tomorrow can bring there. Your life was worth nothing. If something would catch you, they can kill you right on the spot, without any court, without any justice. You're worth nothing in the lager, in the concentration camp. You was like a fly. (laughs) But thank G-d, now we can talk about it, and be thankful it's a

different life. I really appreciate what life is all about now. I can see what for different. Here in a country, you have everything what you need to live, and be thankful for. I am very, very thankful. Now I am, I really, I would like to help people. Because I know what life is all about.

INT: Well, I want to thank you. You're helping me, really, I appreciate a lot. How are you feeling?

HENRY: No, it's okay. I'm a little upset. You know, because it reminds me the all...but it's okay.

INT: Was it hard for you after...

HENRY: You're always welcome. Whenever you want to come, we can talk.

INT: How was it after I left the last time?

HENRY: Good. It was okay.

INT: Did you get sick?

HENRY: It's okay.

INT: Because you had mentioned that you think sometimes there are still strong feelings for inside.

HENRY: Oh, inside, I'm so...you know, when I watch sometimes the movies from the concentration camp, I can't watch it. I'm crying like a baby. I like to watch it, to remember, you know, to come, to see how it was, you know. Because I went through, and that's...we cannot forget it. We have to tell the children. Because people, you know, are getting older and older, and later will be no witnesses. So we have to tell the story. And I went through it, and I was there, and I saw it with my eyes, and I went, and I can be a good witness. I can tell stories.

INT: Well, maybe we should end for today. Because I know it has been a lot, and then I will be in touch with you.

(END TAPE THREE, SIDE 2)

(TAPE FOUR, SIDE 1)

INT: It's Thursday, October 20th [1994], and this is the third meeting with Henry Dluznowski, in Agawam. And today what we're going to try to talk about is something about, a little bit more about your experiences during the war. We talked some about that last time. You told me some of what your own experiences were during the war itself.

And then also we can start, perhaps, to talk about life after the war. So maybe both those things.

HENRY: Right after the war.

INT: Yeah, and since then. You know. (Hi, Ethel.) Is that okay?

HENRY: Yeah, it's okay. Whatever I know, I will tell you. You know. You mean, after the war? I went back to Poland, you know, and I got stuck there, in the business, and this, and I couldn't get out.

INT: Well, maybe we'll talk first about during the war. You know, just to sort of say what you have to say about that, just to be sure that we've covered as much as we can about that. Because I remember you telling me about some of the stories. And what I was wondering is whether there were any special words or messages that you remember using when you were separated from your family. Any ways in which you said farewell to each other? Do you remember any of that?

HENRY: Yeah, but in 1941, during the war, when they liquidated the ghetto in Piotrkow, so I remember, they took everybody out, and they said, "Left and right, left and right," you know. I don't know how come they left me to the right or to the left. And I saw, I went back to my parents, to my family. My father said to me, "Go, go to the other side. Maybe it's better." Because there was rumors, you know, the people, you know, they will get killed, and the killing of the Jewish people. So I went to the, you know, and I said to the SS man, to that guard, who I said to him, "Please, let my brother come with me." So he asked me, "Who is your brother?" And I showed him. So he took my brother out from the family, and we both, you know, were transferred to work.

So we were in the ghetto over there in Piotrkow, and later they send us to Skarzysko. You know, was a factory. And we were working; I think it was there, ammunition for the Germans. The time was terrible there. You know? In the ghetto you still could manage, cook a meal. You had a kitchen. But over there, you were in a barrack, you know, in the camps. You have to wait for the meal, what the German gave it to you. It's only they gave you a soup, I remember, and a piece of bread, and everybody, was not enough food. Everybody was hungry. But we were working. It was no chance, you know. We were waiting for the meal. You know, only we was thinking to yourself, "My G-d, there will come a time, I will have enough food. To sit down at the table and eat how much I would like to." But you know, in the war, you never knew what's happening the next day. Every minute, you could be killed, and sent to the death camps.

But I don't know. With me, I was working, you know, outside. I never been between...I heard all the screams, like in Treblinka. I heard when the people went in. What I was doing there, I took the, when they undressed everybody, and the clothes, we were loaded to the train, and they sent them, I think to Germany, or to factories, or...I remember, that was my job with my brother. But I was hearing, when the people went to a big hall, and they was screaming there. You know, they knew, the gas, they put the gas. You know, it

takes a few minutes. And later, the floor opened up, and everybody fall down in the crematorium. They were burning them later.

So I didn't have any choice. I couldn't, you know, I have to...everybody was scared, and they were scared like hell. I tried to manage, you know. I did what I could, and I tried to survive. Every day was a big day. But we were later moving to different camps. They moved us from here to there. From Skarzysko was a camp, for the ammunition, but was another camp near Skarzysko, they make like, people were all yellow, from the product they make. They make some kind of a bomb. They came to Skarzysko to the bathtub, to take a shower, and we saw them all yellow, the faces, with the skin. You know, it's from the poison, from the poison from the...they looked terrible. They could not live long, because they died, you know. I never worked there. But I worked in the other camp.

So later we were sending, I remember to Buchenwald, and so many camps. I still, you know, I thought it will never end, you know? It will never end. It will be all my life I will be in the camps. But we have to live with hope, and one day...

INT: Did you live with hope? What do you think helped you to survive?

HENRY: I always said, we must believe in something. I hope not all our lives will be in the concentration camp. Some day we will be free. And we were hearing different kind of rumors, that England, came against the Germans, the Russians start against the Germans, and so everybody was anxious to find out some news, what's going on in the world. We didn't have any radios, any papers. So the last time, they tried us, you know, we were working. What was the worst thing was they took me on the train. This was the last day, maybe in '45, you know, after all the concentration camps. I was working a lot of them. They took us on a train; they didn't know where to, because the Russians are coming from the other side, you know. And they were afraid. So they took us to Czechoslovakia. And they tried to build there a concentration camp, like a gas chamber, to kill us, but they didn't finish, and later I heard the Czechs blew it up.

And the Russian army came in, and one day...(emotional) we were free. We didn't believe it. But they said "We're free." So we start, you know, my brother said to me, "What we will do after the war?" My brother said to me, "Listen. We have to go home, sell this, and we'll leave later." So a lot of people went back to Poland, but they did a smart thing. They left right away to Israel, to America. To different countries, because Poland is a...a cursed...in the book they mentioned, too, what the Polacks did to the Jewish people you know, there is a lot of anti-Semitism. I want to tell you, they... you couldn't trust them. But when I went back with my brother to Poland, my brother got married, you know, the first time, and later...

INT: Was it somebody he knew from before?

HENRY: No, he met, she came from Russia, I think. His wife. So he met her on a kibbutz. Not a kibbutz, what they call, an organization, a Jewish organization they had after the war, like, what they call...

INT: A Zionist organization?

HENRY: Yeah, Zionist. And all the single people got together, and they met each other. So he got married before me. But I didn't like Poland at all. I was not comfortable. But I didn't have any choice. Was not good. I worked hard. Maybe I made the money, but like a horse I worked. I couldn't get out. That was the most important, I tried to get out, but they didn't let me out, the Polacks. And I was one day in 1967, that's my lucky day. They said "All Jews who want to leave can leave," because of the war with Israel. They were against that something, the Polacks. So I applied, and I got out. I went, I left Poland, and I went to Italy, later, and I came over here.

INT: I just wanted to go back for a moment, to that day that you were liberated. The liberation, when they said you were free. What do you remember?

HENRY: It was early in the morning. We were sleeping. And all of a sudden we heard such noise outside. Later on, maybe about 7:00, 8:00 in the morning, we saw something is not, you know, we heard noise, a lot of noise. And they came; they opened the gates, from our camp. We were standing there. In Theresienstadt. Everybody, you know, I didn't know what's happened. All of a sudden, they told us we're free. So everybody was hungry, and right away the people got, they gave us a lot of food. We couldn't have too much food, because you know, your stomach wasn't...so a lot of people got sick, you know, because they were hungry, and they ate too much, and they got...oh, a lot of sickness was after. You have to be very careful with that situation. And we saw a different life. Right away, you see, you're a free man. And so much agony, for six years. Yeah, from '39 till '45. Six years of agony, and all of a sudden you are a free man.

So we got, I remember from Israel, they came over to our barracks, and right away, yeah, the Israelis, they came over and they said, "Who wants to come to Israel, we will take you right away." But I would go right away, but my brother said, "No, let's go home first, and sell." Like I said, we had a lot of property after my family. I had a big family there. So we went back to sell it. This was our mistake. My mistake. I wasn't supposed to do it, but my brother wouldn't sell without me. I am still living, you know, so I have to sign it. So I signed up all the, I got nothing for it, believe me. **Nothing**. So later I got stuck in Poland. That was my terrible mistake. I have a lot of friends, all those people, you know, they came right after the war.

And you see I lost... I would get some compensation, because everybody gets from the Germans, you know, like a pension. I don't get anything, because I came too late. People who came right after the war, they are getting nice pensions from the Germans, till this time. So I, but, what can I say? It's over, and I'm glad, the few years what I'm living, I'm happy, and I live in a free country, and I thank G-d, you know, everything is different now.

INT: And now you **are** free.

HENRY: I can appreciate the good times and bad times. I can see how people, if you are a free man, and you have food on the table and where to live, it's a different life. You have to thank G-d for this living kind of life. I laugh. What else can I say?

INT: How did you find out about what had happened to your family and friends after the war? Did you...

HENRY: Yeah. You see, when I was working, I knew my family will get killed in Treblinka, because all the Piotrkower Jews, they send them to Treblinka. I was working there. You know, I was outside, you know. I don't know where, because they took different, every week a few cars to kill them, you know. I don't remember when my family, what date, but I knew they will be killed in Treblinka. I was there working. Loading, the...I heard all the screams. And I know that Piotrkow, everybody was sent to Treblinka.

INT: How did you cope, Henry? How did you cope with that tragedy?

HENRY: Oh! Very bad. Very bad. You know, I was a young boy, you know, a young man, and I had to cope. What could I do? It was very hard for me, very hard.

INT: I'm sure it was.

HENRY: Yeah.

INT: Do you feel like you had a chance to mourn for them? Are you still mourning for them?

HENRY: Oh, I want to tell you. I don't know what day my family got killed, but I still say Kaddish every day. Every Saturday I go to shul and say Kaddish. I don't know the Yahrzeit. I don't know what date they were killed, so I still, I still to this time. I still have in my mind. What I would do, I don't know how they look, because I was a young boy, I lost my memory. I looked in the book, different pictures. I said, "Maybe my family will be in, my father, mother. I would give everything to see how they looked. Because I couldn't find any...no pictures, because everything was burned. The house was, when the Germans came in, they burned the whole house, because some kind of guy went on the balcony and started screaming at the Germans, so they put bombs.

INT: Yeah, I remember you told me. They burned your house.

HENRY: And that's in the book, the same thing.

INT: Really?

HENRY: Yeah. I find this out. It's in the book, written down. Somebody knew exactly what's happened. And about a lot of things, and a lot of memories. Yeah.

INT: Did you ever -- we talked a little bit about this last time, and I remember being so taken with your will to live and to dance, remember? We talked about that -- but did you ever question your ability or your desire to go on living? Were there times when you thought you couldn't, you know, when you thought back on it? Or were you able to persevere?

HENRY: I always was living with hope, you know. I always was thinking, if there's a G-d there, one day will come, and we'll be free. I never gave up my hope, till the last minute. You know. I said, "Somebody will survive. They will not kill off everybody." So I was the lucky one.

INT: So what helped you to begin a new life after the war? What helped you to start again?

HENRY: Courage. You know. Courage. And I had a lot of courage. I am. I was, my mind was working, you know, thinking good, and because I always, even in this country, when I came over, you know, I tried to be independent, and I tried not to have any...

ETHYL: To depend on other people.

HENRY: I was looking from here, when I came over here, it was hard for me, too. I didn't have any money, or any, you know. But I try, I got courage, and I went to learn. I went to night school, and I went to do something to make a living. I said, I couldn't do anything else, I have to do what I **could** do. So I went, and I start working in a factory. But I was happy there, because I know that now I work for, I am a free man, I will work for a living, and I will not have any, not be scared of anything. So it's very...different. Living, you know, if you don't have the freedom, it's a different life. Very different.

INT: So that was very important to you, to have that...

HENRY: Courage.

INT: ...sense of being free, and then you could push ahead.

HENRY: Yeah, you have to, like even in the concentration camp, I always said. "We'll be someday free." To my friends there. "Don't give up courage." Some people, you now, even they were smoking cigarettes, in the concentration camp. So you get a piece of bread. Someone who was smoking cigarette gave away the piece of bread, to buy cigarettes. And this was a big difference, because you have to have food. If you don't have food, so the people who were smoking, they died. You know, they died, because they got disease on the lungs, you know. And I tried, to...you know. Sometimes I had, one day, I was cooking, they make a little, you know, I had a potato, something, to make a little meal, and in the concentration camp, because I remember I was working, when they brought potatoes for the winter. I always find a few potatoes in my pocket, you know, to bring. And I made (laughs) I made a little fire outside. You could do that. I

had wood, and made fire, and made a little soup from the potatoes. This was like a holiday.

INT: A feast, a feast. A seudah.

HENRY: Sure. It was something, to have a potato. I remember, when they brought the meals to the concentration camp, you know, some people, they was stealing potatoes from the truck. If the Germans didn't see, or the bread. A lot of time, they guard the bread from the truck. People was crazy about food. They tried to help themselves, you know, to do, to do something, whatever you could.

INT: Were you with your brother the whole time, or with any other family members?

HENRY: No. Yeah, sure, in the barracks was hundreds of people there.

INT: I mean, did you have anybody else that you were kind of responsible for?

HENRY: Yeah, I had my uncle. I tried he...he survived, too. He went to Israel. He died already. He was much older. So, yeah, I gave him, I remember, potatoes, and he survived. He went to Israel. I went to visit him. But he was, you know, older, maybe sick, and he died. More questions?

INT: Yeah. Let's talk a bit about rebuilding life in America. And I know you've told me about some of that. Was there any, for you, was there ever any kind of a support network, here in the United States? When you read this book, you told me how it feels different here in Agawam, than it might be in New York.

HENRY: When I came over to Springfield, the HIAS helped me. They paid for everything. And I was, you know, I didn't know the language, and I didn't have a place to live. So the Jewish Center, they helped me a lot. They tried to get me a little place to live, and they tried to help me find a job. I was very thankful for that. So they find a place to live with a family. You know, they have a house. His name was Mr. Hooper, I remember.

So I came, and he told me he has on the third floor a room. They will pay, the Jewish Community will pay at the beginning, I don't know, a month or something. They will pay; later I have to pay. So this, I came for Pesach.

ETHYL: In April.

HENRY: I came this time, like; he came, when I lived in his house, he said, "Henry, you know. We're getting close to Passover. I would like you to come down for the Seder." So I said, "Oh, I'm very happy." This was after the concentration camp, my first Seder. So I came. He said to me, "I know you have no job. You came over now to America. I will only charge you ten dollars." He said to me. (laughs) Isn't that terrible? I said, "My

gosh, okay, ten dollars. I will pay you everything." I didn't have money now. I find a job, I'll pay you. So you see, people are so, so...

When Passover came, I didn't get down, because I didn't have the money, but his sister came over to me, she said, "Why don't you come down for the Seder?" I went down. It was very nice. But you see, some people are, for the money, they will do everything. When I find a job in America, so I was living there. So I bought some stuff, I cooked for the whole week. And I put in the Frigidaire, I said, If I will come home, the next day I will warm up. I don't have to cook again, you know. So I went, and I bought, let's say, meat, and I made a goulash or something, and I put in the Frigidaire. I came home, everything was gone. You know, he ate it up. (laughs) Yeah. It was so funny, with this man. He was so anxious with the money. Oh, the money for him was everything. Yeah. And he was a survivor, too.

INT: You mean, he had come after the war?

HENRY: Yeah, he got a pension all the time. \$500.

ETHYL: He was rich. He was rich.

HENRY: He told me he gets. But some people for the money, you know, they will do everything. Money, money. I am not this kind. It was hard living, until I got on my own, later. Was much easier.

INT: When you say that was your first Seder, since before the war, the years when you were in Poland, were you at all connected to the Jewish community, or there was really nothing?

HENRY: You see, there was not too many people left in Piotrkow. Like I said, I got stuck there. Everybody left. The young people, they left right away. They did a smart thing -- they left. A lot of names here in the book I remember. They left. We, with my brother, you know I was young, maybe not so smart, not to tell him let's go. No, he was saying, "Let's stay here, we'll sell." You know, it's not so easy to go through court and establish it's your family, and so many lawyers. It takes time. So later we sold it, for pennies. I want to tell you, to get out...

ETHYL: He got all the pennies, didn't he? He got all the pennies, you got nothing.

HENRY: Yeah, a little gold, my Russian, the gold rubles, I remember. For him, you know, I was easier, more...to make a living. I could manage somehow. He's not...he worked, he got a job there, he couldn't make a living. I said, "Take the money. I don't need it, because I have money. I'm making money." And later, I wasn't supposed to be there. I'm supposed to come here right after the war, it would have been a different situation. I spent, how many years? Twenty years. Twenty-four years there, for **nothing**. Working hard. That's good, I make money, but when I come here (laughs) I start making a living from the beginning. Life from the beginning. Without money,

because the Polish money was worth nothing. So I managed, you know. Was, in the beginning, was not so easy. But I tried my best.

ETHYL: Then he met me.

INT: Right. I was just about to say. I was going to say, one of the regrets of your life was that you stayed in Poland. But one of the successes was that you met Ethyl!

HENRY: Yeah! (laughs) I met her. (laughs)

INT: That was one of the successes.

HENRY: Before Ethyl, I have so many dates.

INT: You had a lot of dates.

HENRY: Listen to this. I don't know whether I told you about the girl in New York.

INT: That's a great story.

ETHYL: Please, Henry, don't repeat it.

HENRY: No, it was funny. I was anxious to meet people. I was running right away for the singles, you know, and the Jews, I went to New Haven, Hartford, you know, they had a dance. Jewish...so I always went there to meet people.

ETHYL: Didn't I meet you at...where did I meet you, Henry? Was it Hartford? I think so.

HENRY: Yeah. So anyway, somebody introduced me to one girl, she had a liquor store. I was so interested to go in business, you know, like a restaurant.

INT: You wanted to do that.

HENRY: Yeah. I wanted to do something what I loved to do. So I met this girl, but I had a hard time to have conversation. She didn't understand Yiddish, and I spoke to her in Polish, a little bit, we had a few dances. Later I said, "Why don't you come visit my place?" So in the beginning I didn't have a car, you know. I said to my, when I start working, I said to a friend of mine, a Polack, I said to him, "You know, I will pay you for the gas. I want to go to Connecticut..." what was the place? Somewhere in a town in Connecticut. So Saturday he said, or Sunday we can go. I said Sunday I think is closed. So I remember Saturday after work, I think, he took me there.

So we came up to this place, a beautiful liquor store. I came into the liquor store. And I looked around, and I looked around, and I didn't know how to start conversation. I didn't see the girl, I saw the sales people there. And I didn't know how to start conversation,

how to express myself. So they thought maybe I'm suspicious, looking around. (laughs) Yeah. You don't know, somebody comes to a bank and looks around, they're suspicious, or to a store.

So I went there to the lady, and I asked for this girl. She said, "No, she's not here." So her mother -- they lived upstairs. I was so glad; the mother spoke Polish, and Yiddish. You know, they came from Poland, too, but she was born here. So I called her up, and she came down, and she said to me, you know, "she takes some kind of lessons; she goes to school, or this and that. And why don't you come another time. You can see her, talk to her. Or you can wait". So the guy who took me there said, "I will not wait so long. How long can I wait? You know, I have to go home." And I was waiting and waiting and she didn't show up. But later she said, "Why don't you go home and call her up?" So I called her up, (laughs) and she said, but I couldn't have anything with her. How can I talk if I cannot know the language? You know, it was so funny. She said, "Why don't you go to school, learn how to speak English, and come back to me." (laughs)

(END TAPE FOUR, SIDE ONE)

(TAPE FOUR, SIDE TWO)

HENRY: Oh, a lot of adventures, because I was a man who was going, going. I wasn't sitting around.

ETHYL: You were so naive.

HENRY: Yeah. Naive, I was. I know, I trust people, and I love people, and I want to get together.

INT: You're a "people person."

HENRY: Yeah. And I would help everybody now, and do everything. But sometimes, you know, it's not so...some people are different. I tried the best. Till I met Ethyl. Yeah. That was nice. She didn't ask me how much money I have (laughs). How much I have, what I do. Maybe in the beginning she didn't make a good deal with me, but now, you know, because I wasn't...

ETHYL: There was something special about him.

INT: You've said that. I know, you have said that.

ETHYL: Something special.

HENRY: No, because I wasn't making...

ETHYL: When I met him, he could hardly speak English. And I went home, and I said, "There's something about this guy. But who needs him? He can't speak, he's got nothing. Who needs him?"

HENRY: Yeah, nothing. (laughs)

ETHYL: He's got everything.

HENRY: No, now, wait a minute. Now I got everything. Now, I'm telling you, because I pull my sleeves up, and I was working, and I was working, sometimes I was working during the Polish Christmas time, I was working there to make money. And they always said, "Why you work so hard?" I said, "Will come a time, I will retire, I will not have any work."

ETHYL: So it paid off.

HENRY: So I made money, because I was working overtime.

INT: You worked a lot.

HENRY: So we saved, and we saved.

ETHYL: And saved. (laughs)

HENRY: So now is easy, like you say, easy, because...

ETHYL: Within reason.

HENRY: We get a pension, with social security, and you know, we have a house to live, and we have whatever we need.

INT: But I have to tell you something, because you take it for granted that you **are** this way, but I would say, other people would ask, how did you manage -- given what you went through -- how did you get the energy to keep looking ahead at the future, to keep working?

ETHYL: Because he's courageous, that's all.

INT: You know, when you think about that...

ETHYL: He's an optimist. I'm a pessimist, but he's an optimist.

INT: He's the optimist.

HENRY: And she sometimes don't feel good. I said, "Tomorrow will be a better day."

ETHYL: He always tells me that.

HENRY: "You'll feel better tomorrow. It will go away, you know. You always have to live with hope. Always."

ETHYL: Yeah, you're special.

INT: That's a special attitude.

ETHYL: No, he **is** special. He is. Those other girls were crazy to give him up. (laughs) They didn't know what they were missing!

HENRY: Yeah. They didn't find a good...

INT: Because Henry, you can't assume that everybody **is** the way you are.

ETHYL: They are not.

HENRY: You know, to work like you worked, to have gone what you went through, then to go what you went through in Poland, then to come here, I mean, this was...

ETHYL: But you got to realize, he was very young. When he was in the concentration camp, that's how he survived. If he were, you know, middle-aged, he never would have survived.

HENRY: Not only...I was lucky, too, you know.

ETHYL: Yes, you were lucky.

HENRY: Lucky. Sometimes, I'm thinking how I survived. So many people went to the camp and they died, and they got killed. How I survived? Luck. You have to have a bissele mazel. That's the word for it.

ETHYL: G-d was looking over your shoulder.

INT: So how have you made sense of your life? How do you understand it? How do you explain what has happened to you in your life when you think about it?

HENRY: I always live with some kind of hope. The hope always said, it will be good times. When was a time, like a holiday, and I know it's a holiday, and I couldn't celebrate, you know, with a piece of bread. I said, "My G-d. I wish to light candles, like it was before the war. To get together for the Yom Kippur, Rosh Hashana, you know, to be together with the family." But I knew my family's gone. I have to survive, and I cannot change my life, you know. I know they kill them. I knew right away they kill them. Not only my family, all the people. Because I was there. I looked, you know, I was outside.

INT: You were right there.

HENRY: Right there, and I heard all the noises, with all the crying for only for a short time. Oh...it's terrible. Yeah. Now I try to live a different life, not to remember all these things.

INT: Do you read Holocaust literature, do you see Holocaust films?

ETHYL: Yes. He sees all the films and cries.

INT: Do you look at Holocaust films, do you read Holocaust books?

HENRY: Oh, I would look at it over and over again, you know.

ETHYL: You saw "Schindler's List" twice. "Schindler's List" you saw twice. I would go and see it again, too.

HENRY: No, you cannot forget about it. You still have, till you live...

ETHYL: There was a woman that came to the Jewish community center here -- her name was Finder, or something -- and she was on Schindler's List.

INT: Oh, there was a speaker.

ETHYL: Yeah, she was the one, and she said everything was true that was in that movie. Just the way it was. She was right there. Remember, Henry, about that woman that was at the center that spoke? She was a survivor.

HENRY: Yeah.

INT: And what do you think about society's interest in your war experiences? Do you find that people **are** interested? Do people know, do people ask you questions?

HENRY: Yeah. You see, we lived here in a small town. We don't have...they're all, no Jewish people. All around, you know, they're not...if I would live in New York, I will be more active. More active, you know, to volunteer for this. Here, it's quiet. You know, I didn't go...

ETHYL: Gentile neighborhood.

HENRY: I supposed, they would send me information to some kind of meetings. I would love to go to New York to meet the people. But here, I didn't have the others. I never reported. They don't know about me. I would be in the book, if they would know, after the war. Because I came late, anyway, in 1970.

ETHYL: Will he be recorded, I mean, with what you're doing there?

INT: Yes. This will be a permanent record of this story.

ETHYL: I mean, will his name be on the list, that he was a survivor?

INT: Yes. Yes. I mentioned to Henry, when the interview is completed and all typed up, you're going to also receive a copy of it, so you'll have it, of the tapes and of the...

ETHYL: Well, I just hope it will be recorded somewhere. For posterity.

INT: Yeah. That's why it's so important, of course.

ETHYL: For posterity.

INT: Of course.

HENRY: Yeah. It's a lot to talk about.

INT: Yeah, there is a lot. Before you said, you would describe yourself as hopeful. You're the hopeful one.

HENRY: Yeah. Even my brother, you know...

ETHYL: Not him. No, not your brother.

HENRY: No. I'm hopeful.

INT: Do you generally feel trusting of people, or do you feel suspicious of people, generally, when you...

ETHYL: He is very trusting.

HENRY: It depends.

ETHYL: You're very trusting of people, Henry.

INT: Ethyl says you're trusting.

ETHYL: Very.

HENRY: No, for me, I would like to help, and trust a lot, and help people, because I think, I went through a lot.

ETHYL: But people aren't like that. He doesn't realize it.

HENRY: No. Some people, you know, they're more stingy, you know, and more...they believe in money, they believe in...

ETHYL: Themselves.

HENRY: In themselves, yeah. For me, I would like to...

ETHYL: You're unique, my dear.

HENRY: No, I trust people. I would like to help people. I would like to do everything, still what I can. So it's different.

INT: And here you generally feel safe here, or do you feel frightened here?

HENRY: Yeah. No, I think we live in a quiet town, on a quiet street. You never know, but it seems it's very quiet here.

INT: And what about in Poland? What was it like for you there?

HENRY: Oh, in Poland. In Poland was different, you know. In Poland you were afraid to sleep overnight, because they can... I want to tell you, I went to visit... how many years ago, I went to visit Poland three years ago, you know. I went to Sweden, to my son, from Sweden we went to Poland. And I went there, I couldn't get a hotel. Everything was taken. I didn't make reservation, because you have to make...So in Poland the situation's very bad. So I said, "Where can I stay over a few days?" I was only in Piotrkow a few days, and I want to go around, look. So one guy said, "You know, I am building a house. It's not finished, but it's a bed there, and you can sleep over." So I said, "It's better than nothing." So he took me there with the car, you know. It was out of town, like in a desert. In the wilderness. I want to tell you, I was sleeping, I was so scared.

ETHYL: You were freezing, weren't you, too?

HENRY: I was so scared, you know, because they can come kill you there, if they find out I'm from America, came for a visit, and you have money or something. The Polacks, they kill you for a dollar.

ETHYL: Why did you accept that Henry? I'm surprised you would accept it.

HENRY: So I didn't have a choice. I was there two nights, I think. But I didn't, I couldn't get a hotel. My son lives in Sweden, he was sleeping there in his family house. And there was no place for me. Because they have a very bad situation in Poland. They have a very small; they don't have big places to live. The apartments are very small, and it's no place. But I enjoyed it. I met a guy -- he's still there -- (?). He takes care of the cemetery. And I went to the cemetery. What I saw...the guy; they have a guy, and he takes care.

ETHYL: A caretaker.

HENRY: There's a house there. So he lives there. When I came to the cemetery, and I saw all the garden there, it was in the summertime, you know, with potatoes, and tomatoes, and vegetables of the graves, I said to him, "How..." He said, "Now nobody takes care of the cemetery, I don't have any money, and so..." If I would know here, in New York, the Piotrkower, I would write, go there, and report the whole thing, because I know that they would.

ETHYL: Planting over the dead bodies.

INT: I'm sure they know. By now I'm sure they know.

HENRY: So I met here, he's a little bit...a Jewish guy, one guy.

ETHYL: He had to be mental to do that.

HENRY: Yeah, he stays there. I said, "Why are you staying here? Why don't you come to Israel, or America?" He said he will never leave Poland. So anyway, he promised he will go. But I said, "I'm going to the mayor there, to the office, and I will report, and I will say." So I went there, they promised they will look to it, you know, to see. But I don't know. I left Piotrkow. I hope other people went there, too.

INT: I'm sure, by now.

HENRY: Yeah, because a lot of Piotrkower, you know. I don't know, but they changed. It was a terrible thing to do there.

ETHYL: What did they do with all the stones, Henry? There's a picture of all the stones.

HENRY: Oh, it's such a mess at the cemetery.

ETHYL: How did they get rid of all the stones, if he planted there?

INT: They used them to make something else.

HENRY: I think during the war, they took a lot of stones away, for buildings, you know.

ETHYL: Maybe, yeah, that's possible.

HENRY: Yeah, they took the stones, the Germans. They turned over the stones. Yeah. It's a big cemetery there. Big. Yeah.

INT: What does your son know about your experiences during the war?

HENRY: My son, he doesn't know anything. We didn't have any conversation. He knows I was in concentration camp. But I never had a chance to tell him the story about, you know, he is never with me.

ETHYL: He lives in a different world, anyway. Entirely different. He's not Jewish.

HENRY: What?

ETHYL: Your son is not Jewish.

HENRY: He will be raised Jewish. All my life, don't tell me. His wife is not Jewish.

ETHYL: So? How does that make him Jewish?

HENRY: Leave alone. He's Jewish, with all my...

ETHYL: Oh, Henry, please.

HENRY: But you know, he lives a different life. His wife is not Jewish. But I can't do nothing. You know, they're too far away. I cannot...I told him, I tried to help him out. He was, had 21 years old, he could do whatever he wants to do.

ETHYL: If he came with his father, he would have been in a different situation.

INT: Of course. How did he meet his wife again?

HENRY: Where?

ETHYL: First wife?

INT: No, your son. How did he met his wife?

HENRY: He met her somewhere.

ETHYL: He used to know her in Poland. She was living in Sweden or something.

INT: She's Polish, you mean?

ETHYL: Yes. It didn't work out, though.

HENRY: Oh, a lot to say. But I cannot do anything. I tried to live as a Jew, and everything I could, I can't do, you know. And I celebrate holidays, and I believe, I will never change my religion, and never do anything...

ETHYL: The children are not going to do; they'll do what they want. There's so much intermarriage, that it's frightening. Judaism is just going right down the drain. It's very frightening.

HENRY: Yeah.

INT: Do you feel pessimistic about that, too? About that view of Judaism?

HENRY: Yeah. (laughs) Very pessimistic. Pessimistic, I'm not against it. Sure. I will never, my father, mother, I remember, they were very religious people. Very religious, before the war. I was only a young little boy.

ETHYL: Your son is third generation. They don't give a darn. They don't care.

INT: Well, he didn't have an opportunity.

ETHYL: No, really, it's not his fault.

HENRY: I couldn't take under my wings, you know. He went to Sweden right after I came here, and...and we start living different lives.

INT: But yet he didn't want to stay in Poland.

HENRY: No.

INT: How come he didn't want to stay in Poland?

ETHYL: He was after the girl, his first wife.

HENRY: No, wait a moment. He left with me. He didn't meet the first...he wants to go with me to Israel later, you know. I remember he wants to go everywhere. But I told him, when we're coming to America, he said to me, "No, he's young, they will take him to the Vietnam War." You know, it was there in '67. The sixties, it was the Vietnam War, and he can get killed. He was afraid. So he was afraid.

INT: So he married somebody, a Polish girl, and he went to Sweden?

HENRY: Yeah. She had family in Sweden.

INT: That's the woman he's married to now?

ETHYL: No.

HENRY: What?

ETHYL: He's married to his second wife.

HENRY: Oy gevalt. It's complicated, so complicated.

INT: It's complicated.

HENRY: Complicated.

ETHYL: When he got divorced...

HENRY: You know, he didn't want to take my advice.

ETHYL: We wanted him to come here. You know, he was already involved with the second one.

HENRY: He didn't want to listen to me.

ETHYL: And he never listened to his father, never.

HENRY: And you know, I always remind him, when he called me. He said, you know, he works very hard there, and cannot make a living. It's very hard, because the taxes in Sweden are so high. So we send him money, too. But I will ask him, "Did you get the check?" So I said, "You know, I worked so many hours. Even on Sunday I worked. From night till late, from early morning till late night. I have to, because otherwise I cannot make a living," he said. "The taxes I have to pay is 70, 80% for the government," you know. It's a different. Because the young people work for the, they have free school, free hospitals, you know, they take good care of the retirement.

ETHYL: Socialized medicine.

HENRY: It's a different system than here. So the taxes are very high, and he has to pay for it. He would like to come here now. You know, or to go somewhere else to live. It's very hard. But...

ETHYL: There's no jobs available. If he came several years ago, he could have gotten him in the plant there. He never listened to his father. What are you going to do with these kids?

INT: How old is he now?

HENRY: He's in the forties. Wait a second.

ETHYL: I lost track. When was he born, Henry?

HENRY: '49.

ETHYL: So that means he's 45 years old? Wow.

HENRY: 45?

ETHYL: Yeah! 45. He's a...he came here, I met him.

INT: Yeah. I saw a picture.

HENRY: He was my age, when I came here. See, I came here, in the late, like him. I said, "You still can make a living. Do something". He said, "I would like to come, but I cannot sell the house." You know, he had a lot of machines, and he took from the bank, has to pay him back. He has to pay back the money to the bank; otherwise, they will not let him out. He would sell the house. He cannot sell the house. The situation. And I remember, they said, "Sweden is the best country in the world." It's not true. Here is the best country. (laughs) You can make a better living here than somewhere else.

ETHYL: Right now there aren't any opportunities.

INT: Right. Well, maybe his children.

HENRY: Oy, gevalt. (sighs) I would be happy to have a Bar Mitzvah, but you know, take him to a shul. Eynikl. But today, I suppose...

ETHYL: They don't know anything from Jewishness, either. There's nothing Jewish there.

HENRY: The mother. No. Terrible.

ETHYL: You weren't there to guide him, so you can't blame him.

HENRY: For me it's terrible. What can I do?

INT: It's painful for you.

HENRY: I cannot do anything. It's a terrible life.

ETHYL: If he would have listened to his father, he would have been successful.

HENRY: Yeah. From the beginning, he didn't want to listen.

ETHYL: Be in American soil, he would have been all set.

HENRY: He could go to school, a young boy, and become a doctor, become a lawyer. Because a lot of immigrants...

ETHYL: He did that painting. It was another color, but he did all the coloring there.

HENRY: Yeah, he can make...

INT: He's not O'Brien, I know that.

HENRY: No, he repainted. Was another color. The colors he put it on.

INT: That's beautiful.

ETHYL: Yeah. He's got a lot of talent. Wasted.

HENRY: Yeah, he was very talented.

INT: That's too bad.

ETHYL: What are you going to do? He's a nice guy, too. Very nice. I liked him. He looks just like his father.

INT: Yeah? Handsome? Do you think you'd like him to know some more about your story?

HENRY: In the beginning. If he would come with me, he would be in another, different life. If he would be with me, I would teach...

ETHYL: He's not with you, Henry.

HENRY: Yeah, but if he would come with me, he would be different.

ETHYL: He's 45 years old. You're not going to change his life.

HENRY: No, now I can't. He's a very big distance from here, I can't do nothing, you know? I cannot say, "You have to go here, or you have to go..." No. But when he was here, he went to the synagogue with me. To the shul, I showed him around.

INT: Did he?

HENRY: Yeah, sure, he likes it very much. And he knows a lot of Jewish, he sends me Jewish songs from Sweden, you know. And he knows, I'm not hiding I'm not Jewish. All his family know I'm Jewish. I was there, you know, they're all Polacks, they like me very much, you know.

INT: You mean, in Sweden, or in Poland?

HENRY: No, in Poland. Her family. You know, I don't trust the Polacks, because they're all anti-Semiten. But when I was there, they liked me. But I didn't want to interrupt anything, to say this way or that way. I cannot say, "You have to be Jewish, or not Jewish. Whatever you want to do, you're free to do."

ETHYL: She's a Polish woman, and she's a nice woman, his wife, very sweet. Isn't she, Henry? His second wife? I'm asking you, Henry, because you met her. Is she nice? Did you like her?

HENRY: Yeah. A very nice girl. But...

INT: But it's hard for you, that part.

HENRY: She is young, and she has rheumatism. They live in Sweden, in Sweden there's a lot of dampness. It's all water around. And it's cold there.

INT: A lot of the year it's cold.

HENRY: Yeah, it's cold in Europe, in Scandinavia. They all have water around, and the temperatures are cold. It's already snow there, I called him up, and it's already so cold, freezing. Here we still have a little summer, a little nice weather. But over there is already...

ETHYL: He stuck himself good, there. It's a lost cause. We can't support him.

HENRY: Tell me, did you go to the concert Saturday?

INT: No, I wasn't there, but I heard it was very good.

ETHYL: My friends couldn't get in.

INT: It was sold out.

ETHYL: Yeah, it was sold out.

HENRY: Sold out. Yeah. Because she told me. I was supposed to go with Ruthie.

INT: Oh, did they go?

HENRY: Yeah, they went there. He called me up; he said he doesn't feel good. But later they went. She said they couldn't get tickets. They couldn't get in.

INT: Really. Normally we would go, but we had tickets for another concert. A friend of ours plays in an orchestra, and we wanted to go hear him.

ETHYL: Was he any good?

INT: It was good. It was good. It was a classical music.

HENRY: Oh, classical. You like classical music?

INT: Yeah, I do. I like klezmer music, too. But I'll tell you, people are coming out to hear things. Elie Wiesel spoke, and I went to hear him.

ETHYL: You saw him? Oh, I'd like to see him. Elie Wiesel.

INT: He spoke in Northampton. You know who he is, Wiesel?

ETHYL: A Nobel Peace Prize recipient.

INT: He's also a survivor.

HENRY: Who?

INT: Elie Wiesel.

HENRY: Yeah, sure. He's in Israel.

INT: Well, he travels around. I think he lives in New York. He spoke, and it was also full. Full.

ETHYL: I would go myself. He is a survivor.

HENRY: Elie Wiesel, sure, he's a survivor.

ETHYL: So what was the gist of his speech?

INT: Oh, it was a wonderful speech. He was speaking mainly to college students, and he was trying to give advice about how to make a difference in the world. And he talked about starting with small steps.

HENRY: Sometimes we're putting on the TV in the morning. Like we look to Maury Povich, and Orlando, what's his name?

ETHYL: Geraldo Rivera.

HENRY: And they have the KKK, you know. And how they...

INT: What do you think about that?

HENRY: Oh, it's terrible. How can they allow them? With Hagenkruetz, you know? Like Germans. I said how can America be repeat it?

ETHYL: I know that the Constitution gives you freedom of speech, but they didn't mean that, for people like that.

HENRY: Oh, all the Blacks and the Jews, they will kill them off. How they can...

INT: What do you think about that? Do you feel like it could happen again?

ETHYL: Sure it could, easily.

HENRY: Sure, if we will not fight them, if we will not destroy them, it can happen, because they are growing, they are learning the children to hate other people.

ETHYL: The children hate people.

HENRY: And can come a time, it's terrible. But then later on, they're not supposed to allow them to do it.

ETHYL: They shouldn't air it.

INT: Well, one of the things Wiesel said that night was, he always used to think that memory, as long as people would remember what had happened, that that would be...

ETHYL: Sufficient.

INT: And he said, you know, it isn't. That people **don't** remember anymore.

ETHYL: Of course they don't. They don't **want** to remember. So you have to keep pounding at it, pounding at it.

HENRY: A lot of people they don't believe there was a concentration camp, either. No Holocaust. That's all propaganda. You see, they have so many witnesses.

INT: That's why it's so important to tell your story.

HENRY: Live people who were there. They saw it, and they can be witnesses. And they don't believe it.

ETHYL: That generation, they're all dying out.

HENRY: They're growing up and...

ETHYL: That's why they need records. It has to be recorded.

INT: That's right. Well that's why I really appreciate it. Every time you let me come, it means a lot to me.

ETHYL: You can come ten times if you want. Twenty times! (laughs)

INT: Well, I would like to come back, I have a few more questions. Maybe we should stop just for today. Because you've had some difficult stories you've had to tell me.

HENRY: No, that's okay.

INT: So I appreciate that. (Discussion of when to make another appointment. Go on to tape five.)

(TAPE FIVE)

INT: November 14, and continuing an interview with Mr. Henry Dluznowski. So in this English book you found a picture. Can you tell me what this picture is, Henry?

HENRY: This is the picture. When was the war, they took us to the woods, and we dugged a big hole. And after awhile, they brought women, elderly men, and they killed them; they shot them here. And this picture shows after the war, in 1945, right after the war, we went to this place, we digged out all the bodies, and we took them to the cemetery. This is really a real picture, what somebody took it right on the place.

INT: Do you remember that day?

HENRY: Yeah, I remember a lot of people here. And my brother will be here, too. He is digging here. You know, my brother.

INT: He's one of the people digging.

HENRY: Digging the bodies. Yeah.

INT: Who are these, back here? These look like soldiers.

HENRY: They are two soldiers.

INT: Polish?

HENRY: Yeah. That's two soldiers, Polish soldiers, and that's a lot of people. They already, I think, yeah...It's very interesting, this picture.

INT: It's amazing.

HENRY: Yeah, it is, because somebody took the picture and hold it. You know, I wish I can have...yeah.

INT: Well, you know, I brought you this book. I bet that picture came from here.

HENRY: And here, you see, another...

INT: That's another picture, what is that?

HENRY: That we said Kaddish. That's Roman Hipsha. That's the guy who still lives there.

ETHYL: He lives there. He still remains in that area.

HENRY: And here are the bodies, you know.

INT: Well, here it says, they brought some to Jerusalem, I guess.

HENRY: Some of them in Piotrkow. Yeah. From the Jews, some of them Piotrkow. Oh, they took bodies.

INT: This one person. He did that, it seems.

HENRY: M. Simberg. That's my cousin.

INT: Really? See, it says, "He exhumes again the remains of his mother Bina." Was that his mother?

HENRY: No, my mother was Bayla.

ETHYL: Not your mother. His mother.

HENRY: Bina. 1977. Was killed in the death camps of Treblinka. This is the forest. (reading) Yeah. That must be...I don't see, that must be the rabbi or somebody. But here I recognize Hipsha.

INT: Yeah, he probably goes to those things.

HENRY: Yeah, he is still there.

ETHYL: Maybe he's a little mental. I don't know.

HENRY: You know...

ETHYL: He's mental.

HENRY: Yeah, he's a little bit.

INT: What was it like for you when you found this picture?

HENRY: Emotional. You know, I read this book, and so much interesting. You know, because a lot of things remind me. I can see here...

ETHYL: There were tears from his eyes.

HENRY: Yeah. And you know, what I forgot here, the book says. About Piotrkow, you know, about the city. A lot. It's not even, you know, more than fifty years. So all the people who live here, they came right after the war. And I went back to Poland. So I didn't see them, you know? It's another twenty years I was in Poland, and now I came and I settled down here. You know, people change. If they're getting older, they change the faces, you know. You wouldn't recognize.

ETHYL: Unfortunately.

INT: I brought you this other book, Henry. If you're interested, you could certainly hold onto it. See, the pictures from here, you want to take a look?

HENRY: I find where our house is.

ETHYL: She saw that, didn't you show her?

INT: Not in the book.

ETHYL: No? You didn't see that? He's in back of that roof.

INT: And did you say you found your parents' names?

ETHYL: You found your parents' names, too.

HENRY: Yeah, but as a memory here. You know Irving Simberg...

INT: He met your parents?

HENRY: Yeah, my mother's name.

INT: Oh, I'd like to see that. Do you remember where it was?

ETHYL: You should have wrote the pages down.

HENRY: Yeah. All the memories are here. (flipping through the book)

INT: Oh, it might be hard to find.

ETHYL: This must be the people when they were young.

INT: These are pictures that people had.

HENRY: That's all they have, the pictures. (still flipping through the book)

INT: Okay, that's all right. Another time. That's all right. That must have been something for you, too, to see that, huh?

ETHYL: I would never recognize him. (pause as Mr. D. looks through book)

INT: That makes me wonder if it would be here, too.

HENRY: There's pictures over there, too?

INT: Yeah. There's a lot in here.

ETHYL: You showed it to me, I know, I saw it. His parents' names, I saw it. He said, "Look, look, look." You should have recorded the page. I remember it was on the left-hand side that you showed me.

INT: Who was this cousin?

HENRY: Simberg. He lives in Canada. He's my mother's sister's son.

INT: And he was also during the war in Europe?

HENRY: Yeah. He is a survivor.

ETHYL: You should visit him in Canada.

HENRY: Yeah. I have to get in touch with him.

INT: They would know his address. Maybe they would know.

HENRY: Oh here. Here is Joseph Simbergno, that's the uncle.

INT: That's your uncle.

HENRY: Yeah. And his family. Shlomo Simbergno, wife and six children. Chone Simbergno, wife and four children. Meir Simbergno, wife and five children. Bontsha, this is my mother's name.

INT: Oh, that's your mother.

HENRY: Bontsha Dluznowski. Husband and two children.

INT: Oh, look at that.

ETHYL: Two little boys.

HENRY: Yeah. That is my mother's name.

ETHYL: Bayla her name was.

HENRY: Yeah, in Jewish. They make Bayla. Was Bontsha Dluznowski, husband and two children.

ETHYL: Where's your father's name?

HENRY: My father, her husband.

ETHYL: Oh, it just says "husband."

INT: Does he know that you're alive?

HENRY: I never got in contact with him.

INT: I bet he doesn't know you're alive. Because you had one brother, right?

ETHYL: A brother in Israel.

HENRY: Yeah. They have four children. Two children, four brothers. So two lived, and two got killed. He knows I am alive, but he doesn't know my address.

So all the family. (reading) And this is my mother's side. Yeah. I have to write to him. He lives in Canada.

INT: Yeah. In Toronto.

HENRY: They send you from there every month...

INT: I get this.

HENRY: Every month?

INT: Every month.

ETHYL: Could he get his address?

INT: Sure. Every month, no. I think it's more like, let's see, September/October, maybe every two, three months?

ETHYL: Henry, give her the name. Maybe she can...

INT: You want me to tell them your address? I could write to them, and they could put you on the mailing list.

ETHYL: Yeah, but he wants to get in touch with that cousin, if he's still living. Get his address.

INT: You could probably; they could find it for you. This guy, this Giladi, he's the whole, you know...He is a macher there.

HENRY: Yeah. Because I saw Simberg here.

ETHYL: Is that him? In Canada?

HENRY: Yeah. He donated some kind of fifty dollars.

ETHYL: But no address?

INT: But they might have his address.

ETHYL: You have to get his address, Henry. Call him.

HENRY: Yeah. This is the address?

INT: This is the guy you could call in New York. He would at least know. Do you want me to write it down for you? I'll write it down for you.

ETHYL: Is there a telephone number?

INT: Yeah, an address and a telephone number. I'll write it down for you. He's the one who puts out this newsletter. So if you wanted to get this, you just tell him, and he'll give him your address.

ETHYL: If you want to get in touch with that cousin.

INT: Okay, I'll write it down for you. I will. This is the other book.

ETHYL: Do you know him very well, the cousin, Henry?

HENRY: I don't remember him. I wouldn't recognize him. I didn't see him. I saw him before, during the war, when I was thirteen, fourteen years old. I saw him last time, he went to another camp, and I went to another. We didn't see after the war. You know, it's a long time. I remember, he wouldn't recognize you.

ETHYL: He wouldn't recognize you, but make yourselves known to each other. Of course he wouldn't recognize you. You're adults. You're senior citizens.

INT: Well, I had some more questions for today, which I could ask you, but I also wanted to show you just this book, so you could see it and know about it. This is in Yiddish and in Hebrew.

HENRY: Oh. It's a lot of pictures.

INT: But just for you to know that this book does exist, you know, and this was the original Yizkor book that they put out. And there are all kinds of things in here. And you're welcome to look at it. I could leave it with you.

HENRY: Oh, that's all the organizations.

INT: All the organizations, and...

HENRY: Yeah. Hashomer Hatzair.

INT: Lag B'omer feyerung in front of the shul.

HENRY: When was this? Before the war? What year?

INT: Yeah. This is all before the war. Let's see. I don't know. This doesn't say what year. It doesn't say. But there's just a lot of pictures, and they write about different people. This is a yeshiva. Bais Yosef, in Piotrkow. So you know, there's stuff like that. And then at the end, they also have some pictures, and names of different people. It's up to you. I just wanted you to see it. If you'd like to borrow it for a little bit, you can. It's fine. You don't want to look?

HENRY: I already, you know, the others, I will take. This is from the library?

INT: No, no. The libraries were selling these. They don't need it, so that's how I got it. It's hard to get these books.

HENRY: What's his name? Shloime?

INT: Shloime and Jay Giladi.

HENRY: Yeah, I remember the name Giladi. And this is Yaakov...

ETHYL: Looks like a Nazi.

HENRY: No, it's a Polish, in the Polish army. A Jewish man. Yaakov...Yankele. Yeah. I read a little bit.

ETHYL: Now is this before the war? Two elderly people. Are they dead?

HENRY: They're dead.

INT: This is in Hebrew. (reading the name)

ETHYL: So are they deceased?

INT: Yes, of course. All of the people here are. These are all kind of memorial. All the people in these pictures.

ETHYL: Oh, I see. Memorial. They're all dead.

INT: I mean, Piotrkow was a big city. There are a lot of people here.

HENRY: Yosse ben Shloime.

INT: This is Greenspan.

HENRY: Who is he?

INT: This is Anja Greenspan.

HENRY: Anja Greenspan.

ETHYL: Do you read Jewish, Henry?

HENRY: A little bit. I forgot, you know. When I went to cheder, you know. I went to cheder when I was a young boy, but I never did. And the war, after the war, I didn't go to, so I forgot. I can still...I know the letters.

INT: Right. That's why I brought it. I thought sometime you might just want to...

ETHYL: To look at it.

INT: You're welcome to keep it for as long as you like. It's fine. And this shows, these are pictures already from the war. This is the eleventh of April. (Yiddish) This is when Buchenwald was liberated.

ETHYL: These are people that lived.

INT: Look at these young boys, like Henry.

HENRY: Young kids. They survived.

ETHYL: But Henry, how come they survived? And they were workers like Henry. They were in the labor camps like Henry.

INT: Yeah, they were liberated by the American Army.

ETHYL: He was liberated by the Russians, weren't you Henry?

HENRY: Yeah.

INT: And here they mention some of the people, some of the boys. Frederick Margolies, Yisrael Lau, and that Yisrael Lau, he's the one who's now the Chief Rabbi in Tel Aviv. I don't know which little boy it is here.

ETHYL: Oh, really? Oh, it gives me the chills. Honest to G-d.

INT: They have a lot of the history of the war, here too.

ETHYL: How did they ever part with that book?

HENRY: Oh, the same pictures.

INT: See the pictures in there, they took from here. Here's Henry.

ETHYL: That's Henry in front.

INT: No, here, right Henry?

HENRY: On the back, yeah. This is Lieberman.

ETHYL: You're in the back? This little face?

HENRY: Yeah. In this picture. But there's another picture in the front.

ETHYL: How do you know that's you? I thought this was you in front.

HENRY: No, no, no.

INT: He knows.

ETHYL: You don't look like you, Henry.

HENRY: Here, like me. I look different. Yeah.

INT: So you can hold onto this.

HENRY: No, maybe you need it.

INT: It's all up to you.

HENRY: Let's do your work here.

ETHYL: You have to be registered with the Holocaust Museum.

INT: If you want to, there's a registry at the museum.

ETHYL: I want him to be registered.

HENRY: Did you go to Washington? Was nice, huh?

INT: Yeah, it was very powerful.

HENRY: I have to fill out this, huh? You want to do it now, or later?

INT: Okay, so I'll help you with this. (filling out of form for registry at the Holocaust Museum) You know what this is for? Like in Washington, in the museum, they have on computer, anybody who gives this information, they put it.

ETHYL: That's why I want him in there.

INT: So let's say somebody wants to look for you, or wants some information.

ETHYL: He should have done it a long time ago.

INT: (Continues to fill out form) They want here to know the places that you were during the war. The names of the ghetto, the concentration camps, any hiding places.

ETHYL: There are so many, so many.

INT: Why don't I write down some.

HENRY: Piotrkow ghetto. I was in Szlibin, Buchenwald, and Skarzysko. This is Poland. That's Germany.

ETHYL: You were in a million places, Henry. There's more.

HENRY: Where else? Leipzig. I have written down. If you want to wait.

INT: You have it written down? Where were you when you were liberated?

HENRY: In Czechoslovakia. In Szlibin, Czechoslovakia.

INT: Do you have these names written down somewhere?

HENRY: Yeah, I have to go down and see them. Do you need them?

ETHYL: It'll take you forever to find it. Do you know where they are?

HENRY: I think I know.

INT: You wrote it down somewhere? So this is a list that your brother put together. Together you did it?

HENRY: Both together, yeah. Theresienstadt. And here I was in the Russian army came into Theresienstadt. That's a lot of...this is in German. You can read German? (looking through list) This was like a labor camp. Skarzysko. (pause)

ETHYL: It's so remarkable. He sent to Poland for his birth certificate, and he got it. I could not believe it. We assumed that all the records were destroyed.

HENRY: That is the same thing, a copy. That's my Polish document. That was years ago. That's from there.

INT: Is that when you came here?

HENRY: In Poland, you know, what I did in Poland, this is all in the restaurant business.

INT: What does that say?

HENRY: Gastronomia. This is from the restaurant.

ETHYL: This is a license, is that what it is?

HENRY: Yeah, diplomas with all this stuff. This is where I worked. Shia and Bayla.

ETHYL: That's your parents.

HENRY: Yeah, that's my parents.

ETHYL: That's a birth certificate.

HENRY: Yeah, this is all when I was in Poland for twenty years; they gave me all this stuff.

INT: That was when you left?

HENRY: Yeah, where I worked.

INT: From what office? What is that?

HENRY: This is the "opinion," how I was doing. What is an "opinion" in English? The company gave you, when you work for somebody.

INT: Like an evaluation.

ETHYL: Evaluation is the word.

HENRY: It says the office from this restaurant in, it says Dluznowski, my name, where I was born. Was working for us from 1952 to 1958.

ETHYL: And what's the evaluation? What did he say about you?

HENRY: For my work, I did a good job. I was a disciplined worker. And he didn't have any trouble. And I left my work for my own will.

INT: Because you wanted to leave.

ETHYL: On your own volition.

INT: It's like a letter of reference.

HENRY: That's from my school.

INT: Oh. Where did you find that?

HENRY: Yeah. High school. The first seven years. High school?

INT: Elementary school.

HENRY: Elementary school. That's when I left. What year was this?

ETHYL: Way before that.

INT: Oh, in 1965 you got this. But it was from...

ETHYL: 1965. But maybe they had records, you asked for it, maybe then, in 1965.

HENRY: Yeah, that must be a copy of some kind. Because I didn't have anything. They gave me another one. That's mine. You can see me with the picture. A long...thin face with the picture.

INT: So how come you asked for these papers?

HENRY: Because if I was leaving Poland, I have to show documents.

INT: So you were thinking even then, in the early sixties, about leaving.

HENRY: I have to have pictures for the embassy, who you were. You know, you have to show your name, what you did. I didn't belong to the Communist Party or whatever. They ask you questions.

ETHYL: Is that your newest? Where's your passport? Is that your new one? Do I have your passport?

INT: Are those pictures from Poland?

HENRY: No.

ETHYL: What's that?

INT: Oh, that's the naturalization papers.

HENRY: Yeah. When I became a citizen. (going through papers)

(Discussion of passport)

INT: Do you want me to finish the form? So we found the places during the war. Your spouse's name. We'll put Ethyl Dluznowski.

ETHYL: I spell my name y-l.

INT: That's important. And occupation, I'll also put retired.

ETHYL: Retired school teacher.

INT: I can put that down, whatever. Henry, what should I put down for you? Retired machinist. And then if your spouse is a survivor -- well, that isn't the case. Other living members of your family. Survivors, second generation. Members of your family.

HENRY: My son, in Sweden.

INT: So let me put down his name. What's his name?

HENRY: Marek. (Ethyl spells it)

INT: What's his address?

ETHYL: You have to get his address, Henry.

INT: His address is (reads it out) (pause while they discuss the worker in their house)

(TAPE FIVE, SIDE TWO)

INT: Henry, I have your son's address. (reads it off) Then the telephone they need. Do you happen to know it? (filling out form) That's all. They don't need anything more here. Are there other living members of your family?

HENRY: My brother.

INT: So you want to put your brother, of course. Abram Dluznowski. Do you know the address?

HENRY: Israel. (Tells address. Filling out form)

INT: Now, I'll tell you what it says on the back, and this is up to you. It says, please write the name, if you have any pictures that you want to include, either before, after liberation, or a recent picture.

HENRY: My picture. Yeah.

INT: Yeah, if you have one. Do you have a recent picture you want to give me?

ETHYL: Henry, what recent picture do we have? A snapshot?

INT: Anything, I think will do. And it says here, Don't affix the picture. You don't have to glue the picture on, or anything, you just put it in with the envelope, and they'll do it. When you fold this up, put the pictures in here, and here they just want to know approximately when the picture was, and where it was. When you pick the picture.

HENRY: Oh, you're leaving this, huh?

ETHYL: You're doing it for me. They sent it a long time ago.

INT: I'm happy to do it. If you have the picture now, I'll just put it in.

HENRY: Oh, I have pictures. Right here, maybe I have some kind of a picture.

ETHYL: Before the war.

INT: No, this is a recent picture.

HENRY: This is a picture of me in New York. This is my son's picture.

ETHYL: Where's your son? That looks like you.

HENRY: That's our house. I took this. This is the two little, in Israel.

INT: The two nieces?

HENRY: Yeah.

INT: You want to give that one?

ETHYL: That's recent, Henry. What's before the war?

INT: This one we're putting under recent. So should I give this one in?

HENRY: Yeah.

INT: When was this? Do you know about when?

HENRY: (Discussion of pictures, and which to use. This goes on for awhile.) I don't have from before the war.

INT: How you doing, Henry? Are you all right?

HENRY: I'm looking at the pictures, I didn't know I had the pictures, you know. This is my brother on the stairs. This is the house. (talking about son)

INT: So the children were with the first wife?

ETHYL: He has two boys with the first and two little boys now. They're darling little boys.

INT: Oh, so they're four?

ETHYL: Four boys.

INT: Do the first two live with him?

ETHYL: No. They live with their mother.

HENRY: That's my organization, where I worked. Where I worked. That's my workplace. That's New York, with my son when he was here. (Going through pictures) This is the restaurant in Poland.

INT: Oh. Now what kind of work did you do there?

HENRY: I ran a restaurant in this building, here.

ETHYL: That's a nice building.

HENRY: Beautiful.

INT: Now, where was this?

HENRY: In Piotrkow.

INT: This was in Piotrkow.

HENRY: Yeah. This is after the war, you know. Here was...the whole, and on the top was music and dancing. Upstairs. And like a nightclub. This is only for the evening. Here was for dinner. Beautiful building.

INT: It is beautiful.

HENRY: I was a boss for about fifty, sixty people, you know, worked for me. I was the manager. (laughs)

INT: Well, thank you for showing me those.

HENRY: Oh, if you have time, we have so many pictures. So many pictures, about ten books of pictures.

INT: Henry, I don't know if...

HENRY: What else you need?

INT: I don't know if you feel like, do you have koyech [strength] now?

HENRY: Koyech, yeah.

INT: Because I've had some time now to listen to the tapes that you made so far, and think about some things. So I wanted to ask you some questions that would ask you also to think back.

HENRY: Oh, you want to play tapes?

INT: No, no, I listened to the tapes that we made, and I wanted to ask you some things. For example, I wanted to ask you about when you look back over the past 45, 50 years, when you look back on that, and all that you've been through, how would you describe, now, how you feel about your life? How you feel about your marriage, how you feel about your children? How would you describe it?

HENRY: No, it's a different life. You know, when I was, it's like day and night. Fifty years, I have everything that I can dream for. It's only what G-d helped. But I'm very happy, and everything worked out good.

INT: I wanted to ask some questions about how you felt, about what your son should know about your war experiences.

HENRY: My son, I want to tell you, I don't have too much to do with him. He was...what I want to say? He was more with the mother, you know.

ETHYL: Oh, he's with you now, Henry, definitely. Your son is **definitely** for you.

HENRY: Oh, sure, he's on my side. He knows about the concentration camp and everything. But he lives so far away, you know, in Sweden. I cannot tell him too much. He knows everything.

INT: How did you have an opportunity to tell him?

HENRY: I call. What I told him?

ETHYL: He calls every month. He goes every couple of years. And he was here.

HENRY: He was here, I told him.

ETHYL: I liked him.

INT: But when he was growing up, he was more with his mother.

HENRY: Yeah, he got married, you know, and he lives far away from here. So...he knows everything. But he didn't go through it, you know. He knows I was in the concentration camp. We didn't talk too much about that with him.

INT: Do you have some idea how he thinks about your war experiences? What he thinks about it?

ETHYL: Never says anything.

INT: Never says anything.

HENRY: (discussion of mailman)

INT: How would you want your son to view you, to think about you? (interruption)
How would you want this?

HENRY: Yeah...

INT: How would you want your son to think about you, and to think about your experiences? If it could be anything?

HENRY: I would like him to know everything what's the truth, and to live in peace, and not to go through the life what I went through, you know. His children, and a good world, peace, and not to have any more hunger.

INT: Not to have any more hunger.

HENRY: To live a happy, healthy life. And for all the people I wish the same thing. So whatever I can... (laughs) I went through a lot, a terrible life, but now it's a lot of

different. A lot of different. What can I say? I'm lucky I'm alive, and I can tell the story to people, because a lot of people, they think it wasn't true. But I went through that, and I'm an eyewitness.

INT: Of course you are.

HENRY: Because I can see sometimes on the TV they start to tell it's not true. There was no concentration camp, and there's no this, and they try. But I want to know the people was a concentration camp, and was six million people killed, and I'm an eyewitness to it. For how long, you never know. That's what I want to know to the people, and to young people at least.

INT: Do you still, do you ever have any dreams or nightmares?

HENRY: Oh, nightmares I have.

ETHYL: Yes! Yes!

HENRY: Oh, almost every night.

ETHYL: He starts crying, and I have to wake him up.

HENRY: I'm screaming. You know, it comes to my head about, and I'm screaming and hollering, and this. And I'm very, I'm quiet, but I'm very emotional. Very emotional. A lot of...it never goes out of my head, you know. I try to forget, but I can't.

INT: So every night you...

ETHYL: Not every night.

HENRY: Not every night, but mostly.

ETHYL: Now and then.

HENRY: Mostly. Mostly.

ETHYL: But he's doing very well, believe me. He's very well adjusted.

INT: Of course he is. One doesn't have to do with the other.

ETHYL: (laughs) He's one in a million!

HENRY: I try to do my best, whatever I can do, you know.

INT: Of course. Of course.

HENRY: I worked till my retirement and now (laughs) living has to go on.

INT: I think it's remarkable.

HENRY: Yeah. I'm thankful they send me Social Security, and...

ETHYL: You provided very well for both of us. Very well.

HENRY: Yeah. She get a pension, I get a pension, we're getting along good. No complaints. The most important, to be healthy.

INT: We need good health. We need good health.

HENRY: We have insurance, both of us, because my company pays for it, still paying. And I have no complaints. No, everything is okay.

This next part of the interview is usually not included in the transcript:

INT: You know, I have some questions here that deal specifically with Jewish identity. I'll give you an example of the kind of question, and if we could go through this, it just takes a few minutes. It goes like this. Let's say, I would ask you this question: "I am proud to be a Jew." And you have a choice to say either you strongly agree, you agree very much, you agree, you disagree, or you strongly disagree. Do you know what I mean? That's the range of answers. So if you hear the statement, "I am proud to be a Jew," would you strongly agree, agree...

HENRY: Strongly.

INT: Strongly agree.

ETHYL: He goes to shul all the time.

INT: "I feel that I am personally connected to Jewish history. One link of a chain that extends for over 5,000 years." Do you feel connected to Jewish history? Strongly...

HENRY: Yeah. Strongly. To my parents, grandparents. You know, I always was brought up like a Jew, and I never forget I'm not a Jew. All my life I will never be not a Jew.

INT: "Jews have had an especially rich and distinctive history." Do you strongly agree?

HENRY: I agree.

INT: You agree. "Being Jewish is so much a part of me, apart from Jewish traditions and customs, I couldn't stop being Jewish. It's so much a part of me."

HENRY: I agree.

INT: You agree. "For me, Jewish involvement is a way of connecting with my family's past." Agree...

HENRY: I agree.

INT: "I am committed to being Jewish, but Jews shouldn't publicly display their differences from other Americans." In other words, do you feel that Jews should show how they're different, or they shouldn't show?

HENRY: Same thing.

INT: Okay. "I feel there is something about me that non-Jews could never understand." Do you agree or disagree? Is there something about you that if somebody isn't Jewish, they really couldn't understand?

ETHYL: That's true. I think that's true.

INT: Do you know what I'm...

ETHYL: You've got a Jewish heart.

INT: Should I say it again? "There is something about me that non-Jews could never understand."

HENRY: That's true.

INT: "When you think about what it means to be a Jew in America, would you say that it means being a member of a religious group, an ethnic group, a cultural group, a race?"

HENRY: A religious group.

INT: "How important would you say that being Jewish is in your life?" Very important, somewhat important, not very important...

HENRY: Important.

INT: "Do you agree or disagree with the following statement: Anti-Semitism is a serious problem in the U.S. today?"

HENRY: I agree.

INT: You do agree. Do you strongly agree?

HENRY: I agree.

INT: "Do you agree or disagree with the following statement: When it comes to a crisis, Jews can only depend on other Jews." When there's a problem, a crisis, can Jews only depend on other Jews? Do you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, or strongly disagree?

HENRY: I don't think so.

INT: Okay. "Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? That being a good Jew means advocating, that means being in favor of values of social justice and concern for the poor and the disadvantaged." Is that part of being a good Jew?

HENRY: Yeah.

INT: "Do you agree or disagree with the following statement: Being a good Jew means having a personal commitment to Jewish religious beliefs." Do you agree, do you somewhat agree, do you disagree?

HENRY: Will you please repeat it?

INT: Sure. Being a good Jew means having a personal commitment to Jewish religious beliefs. Do you somewhat agree?

HENRY: Yeah, I agree.

INT: "Which of these statements comes closest to describing your feelings about the Torah, the Bible. Do you feel that the Torah is an ancient book of history and moral precepts recorded by man; is the Torah the actual word of G-d; is the Torah the inspired word of G-d; but not everything should be taken literally, or is it hard to choose?"

HENRY: It's history.

INT: It's history. Okay. "Do you agree or disagree with this statement: A Jew's moral behavior should be guided by the Jewish religion." Strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, strongly disagree?

HENRY: I agree.

INT: "Do you agree or disagree with this statement: To be a Jew in the full sense requires observance of religious rituals, practices, etc." You agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree?

HENRY: I agree.

INT: "Do you agree or disagree: Jews have a special responsibility for one another no matter where in the world they live?"

HENRY: Yes.

INT: "In your opinion, how important is it for a Jew to have a Jewish education? Very important, somewhat important, not very important, not at all important?"

HENRY: It's important.

INT: Okay. "Do you agree or disagree? Jewish religious practices are **not** essential for Judaism to flourish?" In other words, Jewish religious practices are not essential, not important for Judaism.

HENRY: It's important.

INT: It is. So you disagree. Now, I guess in your case this, the question asks, "If your child were considering marrying a non-Jewish person, would you support or oppose the marriage, or would you strongly support it, support it, accept it or be neutral, would you oppose it?"

HENRY: No, I would say neutral.

ETHYL: You have to accept it.

INT: That's fine. If your child married a non-Jew, how would you relate to the marriage? Strongly support, be neutral, accept with reservations, oppose it?

HENRY: I will accept it.

INT: You would accept with reservations.

HENRY: It's already too late. And I have never changed. (laughs) I have never changed, what can I say? I have to accept it.

INT: Yes. Yes.

ETHYL: It's happening an awful lot.

INT: Yeah. "To what extent is your involvement in Jewish religious practice based on community affiliation, an expression of Jewish identification, belief in G-d, your commitment to Jewish survival." In other words, the fact that you go to shul, is it because you want to be with a community?

HENRY: No, I believe in Judaism.

INT: Okay. "To what extent do you see your involvement in Jewish communal activities as an expression of Jewish identification, an expression of your commitment to

Jewish survival. An expression of the need for communal involvement." Is it any of those in there, or maybe something else? It's a complicated one. I'll say it again. This is a question that tries to understand why people are involved with the community. Why they do things in the community.

HENRY: For social. What can I say?

INT: For social. That makes sense. That's fine. Communal involvement. That's fine. Okay. This is a question that asks, "How important was it for your parents that you be identified as a Jew"? Not important, moderately important...

HENRY: Important.

INT: What did they do to foster your identification as a Jew?

HENRY: They educate me like a Jewish, they send me to cheder.

INT: Religious education.

HENRY: Religious education, and I had...I don't remember. I had my Bar Mitzvah. I still don't remember. But I'm sure I had it, because when the war came out the first of September, I was born the third of September. But I want to find out. I have to get in contact with my brother. Whether I was Bar Mitzvah or not, it's out of my...I think I was, you know. During the first, or the first year of the war. I was thirteen years old.

ETHYL: Maybe because of it you couldn't be, Henry. Maybe you never were.

HENRY: Wait a second. If I was thirteen years old, I was born in 1924, in 1939, how much...fifteen years I was. I must be Bar Mitzvah. I must be. For sure, my parents wouldn't leave it out. Because I was...

ETHYL: You saw your brother so many times. Why didn't you ask him?

HENRY: I don't know, but he knows. I was for sure, you know. How many years? 60, 58 years ago. My gosh.

ETHYL: He doesn't even remember what his mother looked like.

HENRY: I don't remember a lot. I lost memory. That's what I lost. Because I was thirteen years old, six and seven, in 1937. Because I was born in 1924, and '37. 1937 was before the war. So the war came up, I was fifteen years old, not thirteen. Fifteen. So I was Bar Mitzvah. But I'm sure, my parents were so religious, they wouldn't let me out without a Bar Mitzvah.

INT: Maybe it was something, in Europe they didn't make them like here.

HENRY: Yeah, they went to shul, they celebrated, and later...

ETHYL: Yeah, sure, that was before the war, because 1939 the Germans invaded Poland.

HENRY: I remember they had a little party there, but I, the kids came around, they gave them candies or something. I think this was my Bar Mitzvah. Otherwise I would be trying to get my Bar Mitzvah now. But I have to find out more. Maybe if I see my brother, maybe he remembers better.

INT: How much older is he?

HENRY: Two years older. So he's 72. I'm 70. Yeah.

INT: "How strong is your Jewish identification and involvement?" Not strong, moderately strong, very strong?

HENRY: Strong.

INT: "What was the primary family practice or ritual that influenced your identification as a Jew? What do you think about was the most important influence on you?"

HENRY: To educate me in Jewish education.

ETHYL: What did your parents do that made you so Jewish?

HENRY: They made me go in a cheder, you know? And I go to the shul every day to daven or to laying tefillin. They were very religious.

INT: I know you have some feelings about your wish that your son would be more identified as a Jew, but he's not now.

HENRY: I wish he could live a Jewish life. Oh, I would do everything.

ETHYL: But it's never possible.

INT: But it won't happen.

ETHYL: No, it won't happen.

HENRY: It's too late, now.

ETHYL: She's a Catholic Polack, what are you talking about? She's a nice girl, very nice.

INT: His second one?

ETHYL: Yeah, lovely girl, Henry said.

HENRY: I don't think he goes to church.

ETHYL: He wouldn't go. He wouldn't go.

INT: He wouldn't go?

HENRY: No, my son.

INT: He wasn't raised with that.

HENRY: When he was here, he said, "Let's go to the shul." You know, he was very anxious to see.

ETHYL: Did you take him?

HENRY: I don't think. He wants to go to services, but he left before Friday night. He left on a Thursday.

ETHYL: That time, you could have brought him.

INT: Maybe it was hard to take him there. When he was growing up, do you know, did he go? Well, there wouldn't have been church, it was in a Communist...

HENRY: No, he's not interested.

ETHYL: She wasn't, either.

INT: Who?

ETHYL: His mother.

HENRY: When I was in Poland, you know, there was no synagogue in Piotrkow.

INT: Sure.

(END TAPE FIVE, SIDE TWO)

(TAPE SIX, SIDE ONE)

INT: Continuation on November 14 (1994) with Henry Dluznowski.

HENRY: I would be very happy to bring him in Jewish life, but it's...

ETHYL: You can't. It's gone.

HENRY: If he would divorce his wife and come over here, I would be happy to get him married to a Jewish girl, you know. But what can I say; he has his own family and children. I cannot, I don't want to take any responsibility.

ETHYL: We can't. We can't take responsibility.

INT: Of course. He's an adult.

HENRY: I cannot.

INT: So he has two boys with the wife that he's married to now?

HENRY: Yeah.

INT: And two older ones, too?

ETHYL: Yes.

INT: But you're not in touch with the older ones.

HENRY: No. Never saw them.

INT: How long has he been married with his second?

ETHYL: The kid is, the oldest is ten years old. I would say eleven years. When he got divorced from the first one, we wanted him to come over, but he was already involved with the second one. What a fool he was.

HENRY: (sighs) Oy, gevalt. (pause)

ETHYL: His father could have done something for him. Kids don't listen to their parents, for sure.

INT: Well, lots of times they don't. So the kind of schooling that you received for your formal Jewish education was in cheder?

HENRY: Yeah, I went to cheder. We have, I think, a school on Sunday. There was a different education, Jewish class. This was in the shul. They had like a special education. And I went to the cheder, I remember, and I learned.

ETHYL: I thought there was no shul there. Where was there a shul?

INT: Before the war.

ETHYL: Oh, before the war.

HENRY: I forgot a lot of things, you know, if you don't do it, you forget it.

INT: And now when you do it, it comes back?

HENRY: Now, I go to the services, I can daven in the shul, because I repeat it every time.

ETHYL: He does beautiful. He does beautiful.

INT: I bet.

HENRY: I can repeat it. I remember Jewish good. Now I am, it's out of my mind. So many years I didn't touch it. But if I would sit down with a teacher for two, three weeks, I will be reading again, you know.

ETHYL: Maybe you should do that, Henry.

HENRY: They have Jewish classes.

INT: Yeah. Did you ever take any classes, like in the synagogue? Or attending those classes?

HENRY: No. They're having in the Jewish Center, I'm thinking to go. Every Monday, they're having in Yiddish an hour.

INT: Oh, that's nice.

ETHYL: Oh, Henry, that was just talking Jewish. That's nothing. Oh, that's nothing, Henry. We're talking about learning to read and write.

INT: Well, if you look at this book, I bet some of that would come back. So you were raised in an Orthodox tradition, right? Shomer Shabbas and all that?

HENRY: Yeah, very religious, very religious.

ETHYL: They didn't know anything else. That's how it was.

INT: Sure. And today, if you had to give a kind of name to how you think of yourself, is it Conservative, Orthodox, something else, Jewish, secular, Orthodox/Conservative? If you had to.

HENRY: Conservative.

INT: Okay. And the synagogue that you are affiliated with is...

HENRY: Conservative.

INT: And about how often do you personally attend any type of synagogue or organizations?

HENRY: Every week.

INT: Every week you go?

HENRY: And every holiday.

INT: You can tell me if you do this never, sometimes, usually, or all of the time. “Do you or your household observe the following practices: Light candles on Friday night?”

HENRY: Sometimes.

INT: “Say a blessing over a cup of wine on Friday night?” Never, sometimes, usually?

HENRY: Sometimes.

INT: “Say a blessing over challah on Friday night?”

HENRY: Sometimes.

INT: “Refrain from handling or spending money on the Jewish Sabbath?”

HENRY: Never.

INT: “Refrain from travelling in a car on the Jewish Sabbath?”

HENRY: Never.

INT: “Attend a Seder during Passover in your home or somewhere else?” Never, sometimes?

HENRY AND ETHYL: Yes, yes.

INT: Usually, all of the time?

HENRY: All of the time.

INT: “Read from a Haggadah during the Seder?”

HENRY: Yes. All of the time.

INT: “Refrain from eating chometz during Passover?” All of the time, usually, sometimes....

HENRY: Yes, all of the time.

INT: “Buy kosher meat for home use?” Never, sometimes?

HENRY: Sometimes.

INT: Sometimes. “Eat only kosher meat outside the home?” Never, sometimes, usually, all the time?

HENRY: Sometimes.

INT: “Use separate dishes for meat and dairy?”

HENRY: No.

INT: “Light Chanukah candles?” Never, sometimes, usually?

HENRY: Yes. All of the time.

INT: “Have a Christmas tree?” Never.

HENRY: (laughs) Never.

INT: Some people do.

ETHYL: I don't know of any Jewish people.

INT: Oh, yeah. Oh, I do. “Hear the Megillah on Purim?” Never, sometimes, usually, all of the time.

HENRY: Yeah. All the time.

INT: “Celebrate Israel Independence Day this year?”

HENRY: Yes.

INT: Yes. “Fast on Yom Kippur?” Never, sometimes?

HENRY: All the time.

INT: You might be prevented by health problems?

HENRY: No, all the time.

ETHYL: He does. I can't.

INT: “Fast on Tisha B'Av?” Never, sometimes, usually.

HENRY: Never.

INT: “Fast on the fast of Esther?”

HENRY: Never.

INT: “Engage in formal prayer?” Do you, you do. You go to shul.

HENRY: Yeah.

INT: Or “Do you engage in personal prayer?” You know, some people do it.

HENRY: No. Social prayers.

ETHYL: What does that mean?

INT: With a community. Formal prayer. “During the past twelve months, have you done any volunteer work yourself, or as part of a group, for a Jewish organization?” For example, synagogue, social welfare agency, federation agency?

HENRY: Yeah. I'm ushering. I was ushering.

ETHYL: Oh, yeah, he does it all the time.

INT: “About how many hours in an average month do you spend in these Jewish volunteer activities?”

HENRY: About five hours.

INT: “To how many Jewish organizations other than a synagogue or a temple do you belong?”

HENRY: The Jewish Center.

INT: If you belong...

HENRY: To the Foxes.

ETHYL: That's all in the Jewish Center. Silver Foxes.

INT: “If you belong to a synagogue, have you ever served as an officer, or on the board, or on a committee?”

HENRY: Never.

ETHYL: On a committee. You've been on a committee.

INT: Which committee?

HENRY: Brotherhood.

INT: Brotherhood committee. Okay. “If you belong to an organization, have you ever served as an officer on a board or on a committee?”

HENRY: No.

INT: “In the past year did you or other members of your household contribute or give gifts to Jewish philanthropies, charities, causes or organizations?”

HENRY: Charity.

INT: “Do you read any Jewish periodicals, newspapers or magazines?”

HENRY: Yeah. "Jewish Weekly." "Shofar."

INT: You read that regularly?

HENRY: Yeah. I'm subscribing. Yeah. They send me.

INT: “How many times have you been to Israel? Never, once, twice, three times?”

HENRY: I went four times.

ETHYL: Maybe more.

INT: More? More than that. “Has anyone else in your household ever been to Israel?” You haven't been? Right, Ethyl?

HENRY: No.

INT: “How attached do you feel to Israel?”

HENRY: Very attached.

ETHYL: He's terrible. (laughs) He'd like to live there.

INT: That's my next question. "Have you ever seriously considered living in Israel?"

ETHYL: Yeah, if he gets rid of me.

HENRY: I am very serious to live in Israel.

ETHYL: So an Arab can kill you.

INT: "Among the people you consider your closest friends, would you say that none are Jewish, few are Jewish, some are Jewish, most are Jewish, all or almost all are Jewish?"

HENRY: Most.

ETHYL: They're all Jewish. Our closest are all Jewish.

INT: "Do you agree or disagree with the following statement. Here's the statement: Political lobbying, you know, when they lobby in Washington in support of Jewish causes, do you feel that that's an important right for American Jews?"

HENRY: Yes.

ETHYL: When they need to, sure.

INT: "Do you agree or disagree: separation of Church and State is an important constitutional right?"

HENRY: Yeah.

INT: "Do you agree or disagree: Under no circumstances should the government give any support to religious educational institutions, including textbooks, transportation."

HENRY: No, I don't agree.

INT: "Do you agree or disagree; it is the government's obligation to support the poor through a welfare program?"

HENRY: Yes.

ETHYL: When they need it, sure.

INT: "Do you agree or disagree: Abortion should be legal, as it is now, allowing a woman to make her own decision in consultation with her family, rabbi..."

HENRY: Yes. I agree.

INT: "In your opinion, what proportion of each of the following groups in the U.S. is anti-Semitic?" In other words, let's say if I say to you "Big Business," that group, do you think most, many, some or few, or if you're not sure, you can say that too, is anti-Semitic. Do you feel that that group is anti-Semitic?

HENRY: No.

INT: Union leaders.

HENRY: No.

INT: Hispanics. Most, many, some, few, you're not sure.

HENRY: Hispanics. No. I don't have anything to do with them.

INT: Blacks. You feel that, what proportion?

ETHYL: They hate a Jew. Instinctively, basically.

HENRY: Yeah, some.

INT: What about Democrats? Most, many, some, few?

ETHYL: What about Democrats?

HENRY: No.

INT: What proportion of each of these groups is anti-Semitic: Republicans? Is there a proportion?

HENRY: No.

INT: Liberals, Conservatives, Catholics, Protestants, Muslims?

HENRY: Muslims.

INT: Do you think most are, or many are?

HENRY: Most. How about the Ku Klux Klan...

INT: You think most of them are?

ETHYL: Oh, absolutely.

HENRY: Yeah. And the heads, the shaved heads. What they call them?

INT: Skinheads.

HENRY: Skinheads.

ETHYL: Listen, most everybody hates a Jew, let's face it. We have to face it. They're very envious of a Jew, and they hate us.

INT: Do you favor or oppose giving preference in hiring to, let's say, disabled people? Do you feel that they should be given some special consideration?

ETHYL: If they are capable.

HENRY: Yes.

INT: What about women? Should women be given some special...

HENRY: Yes.

INT: What about Blacks? Should they be given...

HENRY: Yes.

ETHYL: If they are capable. If they are capable.

INT: What about Hispanics? Do you feel they should be given any special consideration?

HENRY: No.

INT: What about Jews? Should Jews be given any special preference in hiring?

ETHYL: How can they say? If they are capable.

HENRY: If they're capable to work.

INT: When you were growing up, which of these best described, let's say your father's, usual stand on political issues. Did you know if he had...was he liberal, or middle of the road? Conservative, or...did you not discuss...

HENRY: My father. I think he was liberal.

INT: Yeah? And what about your mother? If you talked politics?

ETHYL: Yeah. They had nothing to say. The women had nothing to say in Europe. Are you kidding?

HENRY: Oh my G-d, if I remember, I would give anything for a picture. It's out of my mind. I know she was very religious, my mother, too.

ETHYL: She was religious, but...

HENRY: And my father. They were very religious. On Shabbas they did nothing, you know? We had, you know, the, to come in and light the fire on Shabbas. The stove, you know, with the lighting it up, at 12:00 after davening. So they didn't cook.

ETHYL: So many years ago.

INT: Let's see. When were you able to start voting, Henry? After you became a citizen, right? So if you can remember who you supported in the presidential elections. I don't know if you remember. Let's say in 1980. Let's start with that. When there was Jimmy Carter and Ronald Reagan. Do you remember?

ETHYL: He voted for Reagan.

INT: Do you remember?

HENRY: Reagan.

INT: And in 1984, Walter Mondale and Ronald Reagan?

HENRY: Reagan.

INT: In 1988 Michael Dukakis or George Bush?

ETHYL: I think we voted for Bush, Henry.

HENRY: Scrooge? Bush.

INT: In 1992, Bill Clinton or George Bush?

HENRY: Clinton.

ETHYL: He's in big trouble.

INT: What best describes your political identification now? Is it Conservative Republican, moderate Republican, liberal Republican...?

ETHYL: Independent.

HENRY: Independent.

INT: And when you first started to vote, was it also independent, or was it Republican? Okay. We're almost done. That's it for these questions. Thank you. Do you have some more coach, or should we stop? Maybe we should stop.

ETHYL: You got more?

INT: I have a little bit more, but we could stop.

HENRY: No, let's finish. Whatever you need to do. Now, they're not...

INT: This is also a kind of questionnaire that we can try to do. This is something that tries to help us understand how you cope, coping with a stressful situation, how you deal with stressful situations. This is the way this works. We're trying to learn how people deal with stress. So this questionnaire asks you to indicate what you did and how you felt when there was a particular stressful event in your life. Then, after you do that, it asks you to say whether that's how you usually respond when there's something stressful. Can you think of a situation that you would want to focus on?

HENRY: When I was in the concentration camp, let's say, I always said, Will be a day come when we will be free. I lived with hope.

ETHYL: He's very optimistic.

HENRY: I was very optimistic.

ETHYL: Even now. I'm a pessimist. He's an optimist.

HENRY: I always say tomorrow will be a better day.

ETHYL: He said, "You'll be better. Tomorrow will be a better day."

HENRY: So I live with hope. A lot of hope.

INT: So let's say for example, if I said to you, in that situation, when you think about your years in the concentration camps, would you say that you tried to grow as a person as a result of that experience? Did you try to learn from it? A little bit? Does that describe you? Does that make sense?

HENRY: (sighs) I tried to go through the day, you know.

INT: You tried day by day.

HENRY: Day by day. I couldn't make any arrangements, any plans, because you didn't know what the next day's gonna bring. So I lived day by day.

ETHYL: You lived with hope.

HENRY: And I always was in my mind will come a day we will be free. And this gave me a lot of...courage. I was very, you know, not only me, but a lot of other friends in the concentration camp. I always gave them courage. Say, "Let's go through the day, let's live. Let's try to live, we'll go through it."

ETHYL: This was a little boy.

HENRY: Listen. You cannot give up. Life is precious. But you never know what's coming the next day. You have a bissele mazel.

ETHYL: Yeah, but everybody wasn't as strong-willed as you were.

HENRY: A lot of people didn't make it. You know, millions didn't make it.

ETHYL: Even the young boys couldn't make it.

HENRY: It was very hard to make it, because hunger will take everything away from you. If you go hungry, they give you not enough food, you don't know what to do. Because the food is very precious to a person. So they gave you the little soup, and the little bread, you were thankful for that. Took you through the day. But I was always hungry.

ETHYL: Always hungry, huh?

HENRY: Hungry, yeah. Always hungry. Now we have bread enough.

ETHYL: Especially a growing boy.

HENRY: Yeah. You never had enough food. They gave you a piece, but you have to manage. Some people they was smoking cigarettes, they sold the piece of bread for a cigarette, and they died, you know...from...

ETHYL: Lack of food. Your philosophy must have been very good, because here you are sitting, answering these questions. So you had a very wonderful philosophy.

INT: Absolutely. Well, let me ask you, where did you take the faith? Where did you take the belief that it would be better? Where do you think that came from?

ETHYL: He believed in G-d, I guess. He thought G-d would help him.

INT: Well, did you?

HENRY: Oh, sure. I was always thinking about...

ETHYL: G-d would help you.

HENRY: Yeah. I always said to my brother, "Don't give up. Let's do it. Let's go. Will come a day, we'll be free." Always, my brother was, even now, he's...I am true, I make a good, like I said, I came here to this country, I didn't know what to do. I was a big shot in Poland, I had people working for me. Here, I start the life in the beginning without nothing. Without a language, without any trade, you know. So I got courage. I learned to be something, and I went to school. I learned to speak English, and I start working right away, and I made a good living, and G-d was good to me. You know, all the time till now, I worked 21 years till my retirement.

ETHYL: He could have worked more years. He's sorry he retired! (laughs)

HENRY: I made a mistake.

ETHYL: You didn't make a mistake.

HENRY: But I always live with hope.

INT: Did you ever feel, Henry, like you couldn't go on? Did that ever...

HENRY: No. I never gave up.

INT: You never gave up.

HENRY: Never.

INT: That's remarkable.

The transcript returns to the interview:

HENRY: People were there, like...even my uncle, you know. I pushed him, too. My uncle. He went through all the, he was an elderly man.

ETHYL: How come they didn't kill him, he was an elderly man?

HENRY: No. Look, they took him to work. A lot of people you know, they had to do work for the Germans. So he was working there, too. He was a little manager or something. He was elderly. So they gave him a lighter job or something. But the jobs are, you know, they need a lot of workers. They couldn't kill everybody. Because they need to build roads, and shovel the snow, I remember. And took us to different kind of jobs. And they save money. They didn't have to pay for nothing.

ETHYL: Slave labor.

HENRY: Yeah, slavery work in the country, and outside, in the city and everywhere.

ETHYL: Actually, do you think they were punished enough? I don't think Germany's been punished enough.

HENRY: So they couldn't kill anybody, because a lot of people were working for the Germans. They didn't have time to kill them, because they didn't expect so quick. They thought they will go all over the world, you know. The Germans was saying...

INT: That was the plan.

HENRY: They went, they went to Russia, they thought they will go to Russia, they will kill the people, and take over the whole world. And they went all over. They went, even all over Europe, you know. And later, they went to the Middle East there.

ETHYL: Apparently that was their mistake, when they didn't kill everybody. They hated Russia, that's all. And that was bad.

HENRY: They thought they were the strongest nation in the world. But later they saw somebody's stronger.

ETHYL: The winter defeated them.

INT: Yes. The weather, right. Well, there's one last thing I want to ask you if you're interested in doing this. There's a special part of this study that's a kind of an extension of the work. If you're interested in doing this we can do this. We're trying to collect the names of any small children that you may remember that were killed, that didn't make it. That did not survive.

HENRY: My two brothers.

INT: Actually, we're thinking at one point of maybe publishing a kind of memorial book that would have the names.

ETHYL: Do you know the names, Henry?

INT: I have to put in a separate tape for that.

(END OF INTERVIEW)