

REALTIME FILE

United States Holocaust Memorial Museum
FIRST PERSON: CONVERSATIONS WITH HOLOCAUST SURVIVORS
FIRST PERSON FRITZ GLUCKSTEIN
MARCH 28, 2018

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>> Neal Guthrie: Good morning and welcome to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum. My name is Neal Guthrie, host of today's program, *First Person*. Thank you for joining us. We are in our 19th year of First Person. Our First Person today is Dr. Fritz Gluckstein.

This 2018 season of *First Person* is made possible through the generosity of the Louis Franklin Smith Foundation, with additional funding from the Arlene and Daniel Fisher Foundation and the Helena Rubinstein Foundation. We are grateful for their sponsorship.

First Person is a series of weekly conversations with survivors of the Holocaust who share with us their firsthand accounts of their experience during the Holocaust. Each of our *First Person* guests serves as a volunteer here at the museum. Our program will continue through mid-August. The museum's website, www.ushmm.org, provides information about each of our upcoming *First Person* guests.

Fritz will share with us his First Person account of his experience during the Holocaust and as a survivor for about 45 minutes. If we have time at the end of the program, we'll have an opportunity for you to ask Fritz a few questions. If for some reason we do not get to your question today, please join us in our online conversation "Never Stop Asking Why" aimed to inspire individuals and new generations to ask the important questions that Holocaust

history raises and what this history means for societies sites today. To join the conversation, you can ask your question and tag the museum on Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram using @holocaustmuseum or #askwhy. You can find the hashtag on the back of your program today as well.

We have prepared a brief slide presentation to help with his introduction.

Fritz Gluckstein was born in Berlin, Germany, on January 24, 1927. This photo is from 1932.

He was the son of a Jewish judge and Christian mother, Georg and Hedwig Gluckstein. Here we see Fritz with his parents at the beach.

These contemporary photographs show places where Fritz lived, attended school, and played.

As a child, Fritz enjoyed family activities, friends, and school gatherings. Here Fritz is circled in the middle.

After the Nazis came to power, Fritz's father lost his job as a judge and because of his father's and mother's backgrounds, Fritz was considered a geltungsjude, a counted Jew.

The Nuremburg racial laws based Jewishness on genealogy and religious practice. This is the star that Fritz, as a geltungsjude, was required to wear.

Throughout these difficult times, Elfriede Dressler, Fritz's aunt, provided the Glucksteins with much needed extra food as their rations continued to decrease. In this photo we see Fritz and his Aunt Elfriede after the war.

At the end of the war, Fritz's parents stayed in Germany and his father, Georg, resumed his judicial career.

Fritz decided to immigrate on his own to the United States and arrived in the U.S. in 1948 where he studied veterinary medicine. He specialized in the study of diseases transmissible from animals to people. Fritz volunteered for years at the museum translating documents and letters for cataloging purposes and for our exhibitions. Fritz's work is invaluable because many of the letters he translates are written in old German cursive which stopped being taught in 1941.

In 2010, Fritz publishes his memoir, "Geltungsjude: Counted as a Jew in Hitler's Berlin."

And now I'd like you to join me in welcoming Fritz Gluckstein.

>> [Applause]

>> Neal Guthrie: Fritz, could you share with the audience a little more background information about the status that you had at that time as a Geltungsjude, about the type of intermarriage?

>> Fritz Gluckstein: Children of intermarriages, if you were raised Jews, we were counted as Jews. All the regulations and restrictions applied, you had to wear the star. If you were not raised Jewish, you only were subject to a number of restrictions.

>> Neal Guthrie: That was an important distinction. Could you tell us a little bit about your life before 1933, when the Nazis came to power?

>> Fritz Gluckstein: I remember it was a pretty good life. My father, a judge, he got the Iron Cross and actually considered himself a German. He never -- taught how to salute the flag. Sundays we went to the zoo, looked at the gorilla. If you gave an apple, wouldn't eat it. It was actually very pleasant. However, I was Jewish but Christmas and Hanukkah, I had the best of two worlds. Even right now, Passover and Easter.

1933, Hitler came to power and my father lost his job. He left his office, they told him to go out the back door because outside there was a Nazi demonstration. My father said, "I

came in by the front door and I'm leaving by the front door."

Of course, things -- money became quite tight. We had to move to a small apartment. My aunt Aunt Elfriede, my mother's sister, really stood by us, saw to it that we had a proper birthday party. My mother's relatives stood by us, too, all the time.

However, my father's colleagues, we lost contact. I still -- they would say, oh, sorry, we have to distance, we can't see you anymore. My father took an honorary job at the Jewish community center giving advice.

And of course, it was time to go to school, 6 years old. I was very lucky. In fact, lucky stone, a great school I attended. People were very decent. I did not have to sing patriotic songs. I was not harassed. My home room teacher was a Party member but treated me like any other. The fact that somebody was a Party member did not mean he actually was a Nazi or anti-Semitic. Friends father worked in the insurance company. Two children, mother-in-law lived with them. What he's going to do? Be a hero? Or a famous conductor was no Nazi at all but he wanted to become a music director and this happened.

I attended school four years. Finally it came time to leave, to go to a Jewish school. Actually, German school, German history. Discipline was quite stringent. Recess you had to go around counterclockwise. You had to sit straight. And something else, I still can't do this, put my hands into my pockets. If you did that, they ask you, "Going on a trip?" "Why?" "You packed your hands already."

>> Neal Guthrie: One of your memories that you talk about is Kristallnacht in 1938. Could you share with the audience?

>> Fritz Gluckstein: At that time Jews -- there were broken windows then I realized what had happened. We also saw smoke coming up from the synagogue. Not everybody knows. How did they know what windows to break? Did they have a list? They didn't have to because about two months before the Kristallnacht, every Jewish owner had to have his name on the shop in white letters. All they had to do was look around, ah, there is a window with white letters.

Went to school, some of the teachers already had been sent to the concentration camp. I remember taking home a note because of certain circumstances, report cards will be late this year. There were always winter report cards.

Right after this, of course, already certain restrictions applied. Jews weren't allowed to drive, no furs, instruments, were not permitted to go to the barber. Little things.

>> Neal Guthrie: And for school, I remember you mentioning especially afterwards, after the war, looking back, realizing how so many of your teachers in the Jewish school you see as everyday heroes. Could you talk about some of that?

>> Fritz Gluckstein: Yes. Everyday heroes. True to the profession, they knew they would be deported. The deportation started. But they came to school, helped us forget every harassment. The school was a release. We came back and every day would say to me, they were everyday heroes. Yes. Sometimes pranks but still realized what it is. At the time, of course, we did not but looking back I owe them great thanks.

>> Neal Guthrie: We talked about Kristallnacht. So in 1939 is when special --

>> Fritz Gluckstein: Yes, 1939, every Jew was issued a special identification card with a big J. The name Sarah for women and Israel for men. Therefore my name became Fritz Israel Gluckstein. And when you went anywhere, you had to pull out the note, I am a Jew, and actually had to give my identification number.

>> Neal Guthrie: In 1939, the war begins.

>> Fritz Gluckstein: 1939, things got quite tough. At that time, objection, rations, but Jews did

not get regular rations. No special allotments were allowed. Only could shop between 4:00 and 5:00 in the afternoon. My mother would go -- let me have your family's ration. And then, of course, no meat, no milk and other restrictions.

>> Neal Guthrie: To recap, it's more and more the Jews describe it --

>> Fritz Gluckstein: Actually, waited every week somebody else came. They did it deliberately bit by bit. You never knew what would happen next.

>> Neal Guthrie: And then in 1941 the yellow stars were introduced?

>> Fritz Gluckstein: Yes. 1941, the yellow star. Had to be fixed here and had to be very careful it was tightly fastened. There was a nasty policeman who came with a pencil. If he could get behind, it was not tight enough.

In Berlin -- I remember some people came with food. At least in Berlin, not bad.

>> Neal Guthrie: That's really what's so extraordinary about Fritz's story, as being a Geltungsjude, considered a Jew, living in Berlin, wearing the yellow star, living through Berlin, the capital of Nazi Germany through the entire war.

>> Fritz Gluckstein: In fact, living in Berlin was an advantage because close to the power. If you lived far out in the boondocks, you were subject to the commander. He did whatever he wanted.

>> Neal Guthrie: And in Berlin, you talk, too, about the air raids as they were perceived.

>> Fritz Gluckstein: The air raids. Of course, the Jewish had to go to a special air raid shelter. There was a rule. If the air raid all clear came after 1:00, school started late. Classes lasted 35 minutes. We wished the all clear would come, but 10 more minutes and then school will be late.

>> Neal Guthrie: And then in January 1942, the Jewish schools were disbanded.

>> Fritz Gluckstein: Were disbanded. I remember, of course, deportation had started in 1941. In the beginning of the deportation people received notice you would be deported, make a list of belongings. At a certain date, policeman came. You had to go to the nearest collection point. Later on, of course, people disappeared. Came to school and didn't know. Wasn't there. I hoped he was sick. But very often had been deported. Very often people were actually picked up off the street. I remember 35 students and five survived. One came back, survived. Another was hiding.

>> Neal Guthrie: Could you talk a little bit about your experiences at the [Indiscernible]?

>> Fritz Gluckstein: Yes. My mother at the collection point, What are you doing here? I bet you have a Jewish [Indiscernible]. Report tomorrow at the downtown collection point. The next morning my father arrived, reported at the downtown collection point. We were strictly forbidden to lie down. [Indiscernible] a very nasty man tried to catch us but he didn't succeed because the regular police guarded the building and they came around and said, get up, get up, he's coming. Really remarkable. We been caught [Indiscernible].

We were there about three days. Ok. I had to go downstairs for interrogation. My father and an older gentleman, well-known journalist prepared me. Don't be a hero. Don't be hostile. But answer the question fully but do not, do not, volunteer anything.

Well, I was called to the office. And there sitting at the desk. SS waiting, listening. Immediately wanted to catch me. Your mother is Jewish. No, I said my mother is [Indiscernible]. Then he pressured me. I said to him I worked at a cemetery. Ahh, we're going to give you a decent job. You will report to the office for a decent job. To date, 4 -- 24, January 1943, my 16th birthday, I won't forget this day.

>> Neal Guthrie: Could you talk a little bit -- you talked about the cleanup crew, when you were

assigned to these work details, that you were assigned to after the air raids.

>> Fritz Gluckstein: This happened --

>> Neal Guthrie: The factory action.

>> Fritz Gluckstein: Actually after. Next morning assigned to work at the factory making some instrument, I don't know what it was, for the Air Force, I believe. One day a good friend of mine, we were sitting there. The door opens. SS officer comes in. Everybody out! We took our stuff outside. There was a truck. Everybody on the truck. And SS men in the back. Away we went. They said it was a half-day. People didn't know what happened. Well, you wound up downtown in a dance hall, former dance hall. All chairs and everything put aside. We camped out in the middle. After two, three days, we were interviewed by some policemen, detectives. Said things like get out, don't want to see you again. Stepped out. It was 8:00 at night. We broke the law. Jews were not permitted after 8:00 outside. Went home. My mother was away visiting an aunt. Sent a telegram saying it's advisable if you come back.

Ration had to be picked up. My mother wasn't there. I went to the ration office. Outside a truck. Everyone who is a Jew in the truck. It drove us to another collection point. I remember it was a place, it was a synagogue where I had been bar mitzvah, confirmed. We stayed half a day and again a truck, downtown to a Jewish -- a building, a community center. There they put us 50 men in a room, very tight. Just enough room to lie down.

What did we do? We speculated what would happen to us. We stood in line. Of course the building wasn't set up for so many people. We had turnips for breakfast. I remember after a week or so we were released. There I found my father. Filled out our slip. Presented to him, to the sergeant. I still remember, he looked at my father. [Inaudible Off-mic] my father said, I hope not. And we stepped out. But what we did not know, outside there was a demonstration of Jewish women. They stayed. They didn't move. They demonstrated. It was the only challenge of authority of the Third Reich. The minister of, I forget --

>> Neal Guthrie: Propaganda.

>> Fritz Gluckstein: Propaganda. Felt it wasn't a good time. Didn't want any upset. Particularly not after Battle of Stalingrad. So they let us out. And after that we were assigned to a group that had to clean up after the air raids, move from place to place and had to clean up. Among us were lawyers, engineers. There were young people. But the older people said the young fellows don't learn anything and you got some instructions.

I remember particularly [Indiscernible]. Came back, you had to give the answer. I still remember one problem. When you come back, you give your names of the Great Lakes of the United States. Of course for us -- we were not used to such rough language that was used. We learned it was actually -- I remember later on, worked in the factory, some of the nice people tried to teach me certain words. Hoping I would use them but it didn't work because Anglo-Saxon origin are quite similar in German.

>> Neal Guthrie: During this time with the cleanup crews, you talked about the humor, how that played a role in getting you through the days.

>> Fritz Gluckstein: Oh, yes. Every day you had to make up a story. Propaganda fell into the river and some guy pulled him out. What can I do for you? Well, I'd like a state funeral. Why a state funeral? My father finds out, he's going to kill me. Oh, SS to a Jew, If you can tell which eye is glass, I let you go. Said the Jew, It's your right one. How did you know? Well, it looks so human. And, of course, a little dog was trained if you give a treat, from the Jew, he takes it, from the Nazis, he wouldn't take it.

And, of course, one story my father liked. There were substitutes for everything.

When will the war be over? When the British eat rats and the Germans eat rat substitute.

>> Neal Guthrie: Could you talk about the time during the cleanup crew of the one area where you actually came in contact with Adolph Eichmann?

>> Fritz Gluckstein: Actually while I was working, wall came down, I was knocked out, injured. They took me [Indiscernible]. This was remarkable because it was strictly forbidden to treat a Jew. People took a risk on my behalf. I still wonder what they wrote on the record to not get me into trouble.

>> Neal Guthrie: That's an important note. People had individual choices to make, to help or not to help in the case of the hospital. Also, when you talked about -- I mentioned a minute ago, if you could talk about the time you came in contact with Adolph Eichmann.

>> Fritz Gluckstein: Yes. We were bombed out twice. Second time, Jewish hospital. One morning I get out, leave the hospital, go to work. A group of Gestapo on the truck. A special duty. The door opened. And lo and behold, the devil's den, the Gestapo. The Gestapo officer in charge of the deportation. Left. I was lucky. There was a decent young lieutenant who took charge and he said, no, that kid is strong. I was lucky he was very decent. Never arrested. Others were very nasty.

One day we were walking, lo and behold, suddenly, "Eichmann is coming." Eichmann, everybody know Eichmann. And I wondered how he would look. And there I saw him. Ordinary. Nobody would have noticed him in the crowd. He came up, gave some instructions and left.

Well, after a week they let us go home. Every night sent to the hospital by truck and every morning again sent us back to what we called the devil's den. I remember the next day when I went to work, I climbed over the back fence of the hospital just in case I didn't want to be sent back.

>> Neal Guthrie: You talked earlier -- introduced in 1941, the yellow star, and how dangerous it was if you were caught -- as a Geltungsjude, caught without having the yellow star. That happened to you at one time. Could you talk about that?

>> Fritz Gluckstein: Yes, yes, yes. I was lucky. We moved to a smaller apartment, some furniture, items. A friend -- I wanted to get something. I took what you call -- turning of it. I come down. There is a guy you could tell immediately Gestapo, the way they looked, carried himself. And of course, he stopped me. What's a young guy doing in the front? I showed him my papers so-called military exclusion papers. I thought he knew right away I should have worn the star. Well, he looked at me. I was sitting there watching what would happen. No panic or anything. Looked, probably figuring out whether German or Jewish. A classmate was caught without it. Probably looked a little more Jewish, what they considered to be Jewish. But anyhow, walked up and almost was deported. I was lucky.

>> Neal Guthrie: That was a close call, getting caught without the star.

So as the war started to come to an end and the Russian front came closer and closer --

>> Fritz Gluckstein: The war was almost over. We worked at the SS barracks. One day what did we see? Some trucks, trucks down the street, pushed by SS men. Oh, boy. We were delighted. Because if even SS didn't have any gasoline, then the days of the Third Reich must be over soon.

And then of course what happened, a tank. And then just toward the end of the war we were sent to an area, to a place where they had to build the foundation for a new Berlin after the war. The Russians [Indiscernible]. For some time they were building [Indiscernible].

After a couple of weeks, build tank traps. It was close to a canal. Tank traps, dug ditches, put in beams, 45 degrees, worked about a day or two. Looked at what we had done and thought, well, How long will it take the Russians to get through? Said, about 31 minutes. Why? Why 31 minutes? Well, the tank will come to the tank traps. The drivers will laugh for 30 minutes. It will take one minute to go through the traps.

We didn't do a very good job. However, actually what we did was actually quite fortunate, our poor work. Because two armies came to Berlin [Indiscernible]. There was another Army coming. They came in very fast. They didn't have time to do anything to us. The southern part wasn't destroyed as much as the eastern part. Perhaps we did a little bit for the liberation of Berlin.

>> Neal Guthrie: So the war ends, you survive, your parents survive.

>> Fritz Gluckstein: The Russians came in. I had been away getting some bread by that time. The Russians came in. Again looked at me and says, oh, must be a soldier. All Jews are -- I showed him the star. They let us go. It seemed we had survived the Third Reich.

>> Neal Guthrie: Even the Red Army soldiers were surprised to find surviving Jews in Berlin at the end of the war.

>> Fritz Gluckstein: The place where we lived, Russians, we had to explain why we were still around. And then, of course, it took some time, the aftermath, Berlin was destroyed.

Right before the war we lived with two other people in an apartment, three other. The water, some pumps. You had to go out to get some water. Right now two buckets. The pump, got some water, hoped there was some. Ran back. Dropped. Spilled most of the water. Went back, refilled it. Still tabloid saying [Indiscernible] at the gates of Berlin, the Russians were defeated at the gates. Like the gates of Moscow, the Russians, the gates. Of course it was occupied by the Russians [Indiscernible]. The next powers was [Indiscernible]. The road out was a little steeper than thought but glad it was over.

>> Neal Guthrie: One of the experiences you talk about, too, is going back to school after the war, especially not only being -- going back to school with Jewish and non-Jewish together.

>> Fritz Gluckstein: Of course, after three years school started again. The occupied powers, it was very important to them to start schools again. I remember coming back and said after three years, can you imagine, mass, Latin, English, had to start again. Getting teachers to be cleared. It took quite some time to get a history teacher. He had been banned to the suburbs.

And of course, at the time electricity was shut off at certain points. There was no light at home. What did I do? The subway was running slowly again. I took my homework, ride back and forth on the subway. You can imagine what that did to my handwriting.

>> Neal Guthrie: And then -- so it's 1948. You decided to emigrate to the United States.

>> Fritz Gluckstein: Felt my duty to rebuild Germany and decided to immigrate. My father said, look, I am 60 years old; if I were younger, I would go with you. What can I do over there? Nothing. The law is completely different. There it is based on old English law. Here German law. But you go. But he said, I hope you will take a profession that is not limited to one country. Like law. So I did.

>> Neal Guthrie: Could you talk a bit about some of your new life, your first experiences in the United States?

>> Fritz Gluckstein: Yes. I still remember when I came in, saw cars up and down. I wondered what happened. New York, you see traffic, stores full of stuff you actually could buy. And I imagined -- I'll never forget. There were packages piled up between the mailboxes I thought, wait a minute, what is going to happen? You left them here? Well, they said here theft is a

federal crime. Wasn't worth the risk.

I had to learn English. I was grateful to my English teacher. And some people said, ok -- organizations had brought us over. They gave us \$10 spending money. In those days \$10 was quite something. I went to the movies. And afterwards I feasted in all night cafeterias. In the day, stayed in a hotel waiting. We waited until the Jewish organizations would pay us for help. I was called in. Well, you have the choice between Detroit and St. Paul, Minnesota. I chose Minnesota. I knew it would be very cold in Minnesota but I hadn't heard yet that there's only two seasons, July and winter.

>> [Laughter]

>> Fritz Gluckstein: They sent me off. I remember the train to St. Paul was late. We had to wait until the afternoon. The good ladies called St. Paul [Indiscernible]. Don't stay close to the neighborhood. [Indiscernible] I took the train to St. Paul. Imagine, just a small suitcase. It was wonderful.

After that, I started work. I worked refrigerator company. Afterwards, a time I was able to enter the University of Minnesota. They treated me very well. Never forget -- of course, it was important for me to get a resident status. I was called in. A friend asked me, explain why I should not have out-of-state fees. Came to Minnesota not to study but to live. So they granted me regular fees.

>> Neal Guthrie: Could you talk a little bit about your experiences at the Hillel house, experience that shaped future of your life?

>> Fritz Gluckstein: I was lucky. I got a job as an assistant caretaker. It was quite interesting. I remember what happened one day. There was a festival. They had a pie throwing contest, throwing in somebody's face. Very upset and didn't know why so excited. Came by and asked him, and he explained to him that I lived in times where food was very rare and very precious and it left me very sensitive.

And something very important happened at the Hillel house. I was taking care -- they were cooking in the kitchen. Two, one for meat and one for milk, don't mix them up. Be careful. Come back and they're all mixed up. Well, a pretty redhead asked -- tell me about it. She talked. Well, we became friends. And about a year after we married. Say meet your spouse at the Hillel house and so I did.

>> Neal Guthrie: Great story. Thank you.

So, it's about 11:54. We have some time for some questions from the audience. Then Fritz will close the program with a last few words.

There are two microphones out. Could you please ask your question using the microphone so that we all can hear. I'll repeat the question so Fritz hears it. And if you could please keep your questions as brief as possible so that more people can ask.

Any questions from the audience?

>> Good morning. Thank you for coming. I was wondering if you had a reaction to the march in Charlottesville last year by the white nationalist people. Did that remind you at all of the precursors to what you saw in Germany?

>> Neal Guthrie: He's asking if -- how you reacted, your thoughts, about the march in Charlottesville last year, if it reminded you of events that you had experienced?

>> Fritz Gluckstein: Yes, I realized, actually -- it brought back memories but I hoped it wouldn't repeat, that it wouldn't happen again. But, yes, it brought back memories.

>> Neal Guthrie: Thank you.

>> Maybe you were a small child at the time but I would like to know if you remember what

was the Nazi propaganda at the time of the election to get people to actually vote for them.

>> Neal Guthrie: If you could remember, what was some of the propaganda that the Nazis used at that time to get people to vote for them? He realizes you might have been a bit young for that.

>> Fritz Gluckstein: Propaganda to get Jews?

>> Neal Guthrie: To get people to vote, in the '30's. That might be tough. He was born in '26. So he would have been, you know, 7.

>> Fritz Gluckstein: Actually, at that time -- after the war -- after the First World War, had to pay reparations and there was quite a bit of people out of jobs, and lots of promises to, look, we are going to get you jobs. And of course, actually succeeded. At that time people were trying to get something else. At that time things were pretty drab. And they made promises.

>> Neal Guthrie: So the museum did a special exhibition on propaganda. I believe it's a traveling exhibition -- online exhibition, "State of Deception: Nazi Propaganda" on our website. You should check that out.

>> Appreciate it. Thank you.

>> Hi. Thank you very much. As you said, the Russians were surprised that you were still in Germany. And I am, too. What do you think that was about that you and -- how many people -- how many Jews were kept in Germany? Because I'm surprised to hear that any were there as that was the center of the war.

>> Neal Guthrie: She was saying as you were talking about how the Red Armies were very surprised to find Jews, she was curious if you could elaborate a bit more on that about your status. A lot of that was the fact that his mother was Christian so they fell under different rules. Had his mother been Jewish, they would not have fallen under those regulations and they would have been deported.

>> Fritz Gluckstein: That was it.

>> Ok. There were other people like him --

>> Neal Guthrie: There were, yes.

>> And that was why.

>> Neal Guthrie: So I believe in your work company that was primarily also the counted as Jews.

>> Fritz Gluckstein: Actually, Jews, too.

>> Neal Guthrie: They were married to Christians?

>> Fritz Gluckstein: Jews intermarriages. That's right.

>> Thank you.

>> Fritz Gluckstein: Some had to wear the star but -- Jews intermarriage had to wear the star. The one that had children that were raised Jewish had to wear the star. And the ones that had children that were not raised Jewish did not have to wear the star.

>> Thank you.

>> Fritz Gluckstein: Intermarriage.

>> Neal Guthrie: Thank you. Time for one more question.

>> You mentioned about the Russian Army. I was wondering if you recalled the very first American military man you saw. Do you remember the very first time you saw military G.I. or someone from the American military?

>> Neal Guthrie: After the war, do you remember the first time you saw an American G.I.?

>> Fritz Gluckstein: Yes. I remember. They came -- moved to the suburb, were assigned an apartment. One day they were the Americans. In fact, one American came looking around

what houses to take for the Army. I came by and talked to him. I told him I live here, hope he would not recommend the house we lived in. And he said, no, no. They came in pretty fast. Great surprise.

>> Thank you very much.

>> Neal Guthrie: Thank you so much for attending this program. I do hope you come back. We'll have *First Person* every Wednesday and Thursday. It's our tradition to give the First Person the last word but beforehand I would just like to let you know if you didn't get a chance to ask Fritz a question right now, after the program he will be signing copies of his book. All proceeds of the book do go to the museum. You can get a copy of the book signed. You can ask a question. You can say hello. You can take a picture with him. Whatever you would like to do.

With that I would like to turn the program back to Fritz for the last word. Sorry for catching you mid-drink.

>> Fritz Gluckstein: It was my good fortune to come to the United States and I am forever grateful for the help I received and the opportunity given to me. I hold my American citizenship very important to me.

I'm often asked what I have learned. And I say don't do to others what you do not want done to yourself. And then I say, do it now. Don't put it off. Make that call. Write that letter. If you have a dream, go after it now. Don't put it off. And if you have two bottles of wine, drink the better one first.

>> [Laughter and Applause]