

1

00:00:46,600 --> 00:00:48,600

Welcome. Thank you for joining us

2

00:00:48,610 --> 00:00:50,080

for first person conversations

3

00:00:50,770 --> 00:00:52,210

with Holocaust survivors.

4

00:00:52,750 --> 00:00:54,159

My name is Bill Benson.

5

00:00:54,460 --> 00:00:56,019

I have hosted the Museum's First

6

00:00:56,020 --> 00:00:58,060

Person program since it began

7

00:00:58,180 --> 00:00:59,289

in 2000.

8

00:00:59,740 --> 00:01:01,504

Through these monthly conversations,

9

00:01:01,510 --> 00:01:03,609

we bring you firsthand accounts

10

00:01:03,610 --> 00:01:05,290

of survival of the Holocaust.

11

00:01:05,740 --> 00:01:07,540

Each of our first person guests

12

00:01:07,720 --> 00:01:10,029

serves as a volunteer at the Museum.

13

00:01:10,840 --> 00:01:12,610

Jewish Holocaust survivors

14

00:01:12,880 --> 00:01:14,409

are those who were displaced,

15

00:01:14,410 --> 00:01:15,733

persecuted or discriminated

16

00:01:16,510 --> 00:01:17,799

against due to the racial,

17

00:01:17,920 --> 00:01:19,989

religious, ethnic, social

18

00:01:19,990 --> 00:01:21,879

and political policies of

19

00:01:21,910 --> 00:01:23,680

the Nazis and their collaborators

20

00:01:23,920 --> 00:01:25,537

between 1933 and

21

00:01:25,870 --> 00:01:27,189

1945.

22

00:01:27,580 --> 00:01:28,756

This included inmates of

23

00:01:28,930 --> 00:01:30,969

concentration camps, ghettos

24

00:01:30,970 --> 00:01:33,519

and prisons, as well as refugees

25

00:01:33,730 --> 00:01:34,870

and those in hiding.

26

00:01:36,410 --> 00:01:37,978

We are honored to have Holocaust

27

00:01:38,330 --> 00:01:40,069

survivor Albert Garih

28

00:01:40,250 --> 00:01:42,230

share his individual personal

29

00:01:42,380 --> 00:01:43,948

account of the Holocaust with us

30

00:01:44,090 --> 00:01:46,129

today. During our program

31

00:01:46,280 --> 00:01:48,050

please send us your questions

32

00:01:48,290 --> 00:01:49,790

and let us know where you are

33

00:01:49,800 --> 00:01:51,850

joining us from in the chat.

34

00:01:53,240 --> 00:01:55,279

Albert, thank you so much for agreeing to be

35

00:01:55,280 --> 00:01:56,680

our first person today.

36

00:01:58,290 --> 00:02:00,299

Thank you.

37

00:02:00,320 --> 00:02:02,129

Albert you have so much to share with us in

38

00:02:02,130 --> 00:02:03,770

our short time together today,

39

00:02:04,110 --> 00:02:05,939

please begin by telling us

40

00:02:05,940 --> 00:02:07,799

a bit about your early life.

41

00:02:09,789 --> 00:02:12,460

Well, I was born in 1938.

42

00:02:13,410 --> 00:02:14,733

Which was not a very glorious

43

00:02:15,360 --> 00:02:16,360

year. It was the year

44

00:02:17,280 --> 00:02:18,599

of the Anschluss

45

00:02:19,350 --> 00:02:21,930

of Munich and Kristallnacht.

46

00:02:22,770 --> 00:02:23,770

So it was

47

00:02:24,660 --> 00:02:26,759

not a very, it was a very

48

00:02:27,630 --> 00:02:29,069

threatening year actually.

49

00:02:29,670 --> 00:02:30,670

And,

50

00:02:32,160 --> 00:02:33,900

my parents were from

51

00:02:34,110 --> 00:02:35,999

Turkey, they,

52

00:02:36,910 --> 00:02:38,889

they had moved to France in

53

00:02:38,890 --> 00:02:40,000

1923.

54

00:02:40,570 --> 00:02:42,069

It's a long story, but the

55

00:02:42,910 --> 00:02:44,439

Turkey was part of the Ottoman

56

00:02:44,440 --> 00:02:45,399

Empire.

57

00:02:45,400 --> 00:02:46,990

And since the

58

00:02:47,560 --> 00:02:48,560

Ottoman Empire

59

00:02:49,390 --> 00:02:51,339

joined forces with Germany

60

00:02:51,340 --> 00:02:52,780

during the First World War,

61

00:02:53,290 --> 00:02:54,662

when Germany was defeated in

62

00:02:55,150 --> 00:02:56,990

the First World War, the

63

00:02:57,490 --> 00:02:59,290

Ottoman Empire was dismantled.

64

00:02:59,650 --> 00:03:01,479

And then came a strong man by

65

00:03:01,480 --> 00:03:03,099

the name of Mustafa Kemal

66

00:03:03,700 --> 00:03:05,919

Ataturk, which means the father

67

00:03:05,920 --> 00:03:07,029

of modern Turkey.

68

00:03:08,030 --> 00:03:10,369

And the Jews started

69

00:03:11,510 --> 00:03:13,430

to feel uncomfortable.

70

00:03:13,670 --> 00:03:15,439

They didn't know what was in store

71

00:03:15,830 --> 00:03:17,420

with this new strongmen

72

00:03:18,200 --> 00:03:20,659

and a lot of Jews decided

73

00:03:20,660 --> 00:03:21,660

to emigrate.

74

00:03:22,130 --> 00:03:24,289

Including both your, your parents,

75

00:03:24,290 --> 00:03:25,969

who I believe didn't know each other

76

00:03:25,970 --> 00:03:27,589

at that time.

No, they didn't know each

77

00:03:27,590 --> 00:03:29,729

other. They met in Paris and

78

00:03:30,370 --> 00:03:31,969

they went, they went to France

79

00:03:31,970 --> 00:03:33,409

because they have been educated

80

00:03:33,860 --> 00:03:35,880

in a school of Alliance israË©lite

81

00:03:35,900 --> 00:03:37,669

universelle, which was an

82

00:03:37,670 --> 00:03:39,260

international organization

83

00:03:39,530 --> 00:03:41,090

which opened schools

84

00:03:41,630 --> 00:03:43,189

all over the Ottoman Empire

85

00:03:43,900 --> 00:03:46,129

where education was provided

86

00:03:46,130 --> 00:03:47,119

in French.

87

00:03:47,120 --> 00:03:49,219

So my parents were perfectly fluent

88

00:03:49,220 --> 00:03:50,220

in French.

89

00:03:51,870 --> 00:03:53,487

Albert, apart from being fluent

90

00:03:54,180 --> 00:03:56,189

in French, you describe

91

00:03:56,190 --> 00:03:58,079

to me your father as smart

92

00:03:58,080 --> 00:03:59,780

but self educated.

93

00:04:00,120 --> 00:04:01,840

Tell us a bit about your father.

94

00:04:02,370 --> 00:04:03,509

Yeah, my father

95

00:04:05,070 --> 00:04:06,834

did go to school until the age of

96

00:04:06,900 --> 00:04:07,900

10.

97

00:04:08,540 --> 00:04:10,189

That was it, that at the age of 10,
98

00:04:10,190 --> 00:04:12,219

he was taken out of school and
99

00:04:12,270 --> 00:04:13,544

he started working to help
100

00:04:14,270 --> 00:04:15,270

his parents.
101

00:04:15,650 --> 00:04:17,839

That's how, you know, they were poor
102

00:04:17,870 --> 00:04:18,970

and that's what happened.
103

00:04:20,649 --> 00:04:22,040

And how about your mom?
104

00:04:22,060 --> 00:04:23,499

Tell us a little bit about her.
105

00:04:23,840 --> 00:04:25,839

My mom was more educated.
106

00:04:25,840 --> 00:04:26,840

My mom

107

00:04:28,090 --> 00:04:29,413

was in school until the age

108

00:04:29,950 --> 00:04:30,950

of 17 or

109

00:04:31,870 --> 00:04:32,649

18.

110

00:04:32,650 --> 00:04:34,699

She got a degree called

111

00:04:34,870 --> 00:04:35,990

a superior.

112

00:04:37,150 --> 00:04:39,399

That time it was the equivalent

113

00:04:39,400 --> 00:04:40,550

of baccalaurÃ©at.

114

00:04:41,530 --> 00:04:43,517

And so

115

00:04:43,600 --> 00:04:45,719

here she was. She was,

116

00:04:45,940 --> 00:04:47,070

she had a longer

117

00:04:47,800 --> 00:04:49,180

education than my father.

118

00:04:50,040 --> 00:04:52,059

And Albert, by the time

119

00:04:52,060 --> 00:04:53,775

you, you came along in that terrible

120

00:04:54,190 --> 00:04:56,259

year of 1938, your

121

00:04:56,260 --> 00:04:57,459

parents had already had two

122

00:04:57,460 --> 00:04:58,460

children. And

123

00:04:59,320 --> 00:05:01,130

tell us about your siblings.

124

00:05:01,960 --> 00:05:03,819

Yeah, my, my parents

125

00:05:04,900 --> 00:05:06,579

immigrated in

126

00:05:07,630 --> 00:05:08,630

1923 and

127

00:05:09,490 --> 00:05:11,769

they met in '27 and married

128

00:05:12,100 --> 00:05:13,480

in 1928.

129

00:05:13,870 --> 00:05:15,699

And my

130

00:05:16,270 --> 00:05:18,052

older sister who passed

131

00:05:18,130 --> 00:05:19,130

away of Covid a

132

00:05:20,140 --> 00:05:21,309

couple of months ago,

133

00:05:22,010 --> 00:05:23,284

Jacqueline. I'm so sorry to

134

00:05:23,890 --> 00:05:24,890

hear that Albert.

135

00:05:24,950 --> 00:05:25,779

Thank you.

136

00:05:25,780 --> 00:05:26,780

Yeah.

137

00:05:27,310 --> 00:05:29,829

She, she was born in 1930.

138

00:05:30,770 --> 00:05:33,079

Myself and my younger sister,

139

00:05:33,080 --> 00:05:34,401

Gilberte was born in

140

00:05:34,940 --> 00:05:36,019

1933.

141

00:05:37,240 --> 00:05:39,310

And I was born in 1938.

142

00:05:40,860 --> 00:05:42,749

Albert, tell us a little bit, if

143

00:05:42,750 --> 00:05:44,610

you don't mind, about your family's

144

00:05:44,850 --> 00:05:46,879

economic circumstances.

145

00:05:48,030 --> 00:05:49,500

Well, it was not brilliant, to

146

00:05:49,980 --> 00:05:52,050

say the least. My father was

147

00:05:52,470 --> 00:05:54,136

an accountant, he was working in a

148

00:05:54,240 --> 00:05:55,379

garment factory.

149

00:05:55,630 --> 00:05:57,569

He was doing the payroll of

150

00:05:58,740 --> 00:06:00,899

all the, the employees

151

00:06:00,900 --> 00:06:02,339

of the factory.

152

00:06:03,180 --> 00:06:04,180

And,

153

00:06:06,960 --> 00:06:09,089

his boss was also

154

00:06:09,090 --> 00:06:11,190

a Jew and he

155

00:06:11,400 --> 00:06:12,400

allowed us

156

00:06:13,310 --> 00:06:15,709

to live in the janitor's

157

00:06:15,710 --> 00:06:17,269

apartment because he knew that

158

00:06:17,870 --> 00:06:19,079

we were struggling.

159

00:06:19,100 --> 00:06:20,689

My parents were struggling.

160

00:06:22,190 --> 00:06:24,310

With three, actually we were four,

161

00:06:24,530 --> 00:06:26,170

four children, but then

162

00:06:27,410 --> 00:06:28,410

I was a twin, my

163

00:06:29,420 --> 00:06:30,958

twin brother died at

164

00:06:31,250 --> 00:06:32,299

the age of six months.

165

00:06:33,710 --> 00:06:35,689

Albert, the year after

166

00:06:35,690 --> 00:06:37,720

you were born, 1939,

167

00:06:38,090 --> 00:06:39,829

that's when World War II began,

168

00:06:39,830 --> 00:06:41,509

when Germany invaded Poland.

169

00:06:42,020 --> 00:06:43,245

But the war really didn't

170

00:06:43,910 --> 00:06:45,709

come to France until Germany

171

00:06:45,710 --> 00:06:48,220

attacked France in May of 1940.

172

00:06:48,650 --> 00:06:50,269

You were nearly two years old at

173

00:06:50,270 --> 00:06:51,829

that time when German troops

174

00:06:51,830 --> 00:06:52,970

advanced on Paris.

175

00:06:53,570 --> 00:06:55,789

Nearly 80 percent of Paris'

176

00:06:55,790 --> 00:06:57,619

population fled the city.

177

00:06:57,920 --> 00:06:59,449

And you said to me that for your

178

00:06:59,450 --> 00:07:01,421

family, it all began

179

00:07:01,670 --> 00:07:03,259

with the exodus from Paris.

180

00:07:03,400 --> 00:07:05,017

Will you say more about what you meant

181

00:07:05,450 --> 00:07:06,239

by that.

182

00:07:06,240 --> 00:07:08,449

Yeah, well, that's when we started

183

00:07:08,450 --> 00:07:10,700

to be struck by tragedy.

184

00:07:11,360 --> 00:07:13,310

My grandmother, who

185

00:07:13,350 --> 00:07:14,350

had gone

186

00:07:15,230 --> 00:07:17,149

to do some shopping to get some

187

00:07:17,150 --> 00:07:18,829

food for us.

188

00:07:19,920 --> 00:07:21,989

She was caught in the bombardment

189

00:07:21,990 --> 00:07:22,990

and she was killed

190

00:07:23,910 --> 00:07:24,910

by strafing.

191

00:07:26,920 --> 00:07:28,610

And, and my mother had

192

00:07:28,810 --> 00:07:33,287

a brother and sister who

193

00:07:33,520 --> 00:07:35,549

My brother, my uncle

194

00:07:36,630 --> 00:07:39,089

had a car and they were driving

195

00:07:39,090 --> 00:07:41,399

south, and they were in Orleans already.

196

00:07:42,550 --> 00:07:43,775

And they were caught in a

197

00:07:43,810 --> 00:07:45,549

bombardment and a bomb fell on their

198

00:07:45,550 --> 00:07:47,709

car and that each

199

00:07:47,710 --> 00:07:49,660

one of them had their son with them

200

00:07:49,990 --> 00:07:52,059

and they both they all of them, four

201

00:07:52,060 --> 00:07:53,579

of them were killed when a bomb

202

00:07:53,920 --> 00:07:54,920

fell on their car.

203

00:07:55,120 --> 00:07:57,069

And that was all happening during

204

00:07:57,070 --> 00:07:58,070

the exodus.

205

00:07:58,150 --> 00:07:59,571

Albert, we don't have

206

00:07:59,980 --> 00:08:01,450

a photograph of the exodus, of

207

00:08:01,660 --> 00:08:03,279

course, but we do have a piece of

208

00:08:03,280 --> 00:08:05,380

art by a survivor,

209

00:08:05,590 --> 00:08:07,689

which shows the mass

210

00:08:07,690 --> 00:08:09,699

of humanity fleeing Paris

211

00:08:09,700 --> 00:08:11,619

on foot, bikes and cars and

212

00:08:11,620 --> 00:08:12,747

wagons. And in my head,

213

00:08:13,480 --> 00:08:15,146

that exodus is like a scene from a

214

00:08:15,220 --> 00:08:17,019

movie with hundreds of thousands of

215

00:08:17,020 --> 00:08:18,999

people running

216

00:08:19,120 --> 00:08:20,835

by any means they can and that that

217

00:08:21,040 --> 00:08:22,420

included you and your family.

218

00:08:23,260 --> 00:08:24,820

Where did you end up

219

00:08:25,510 --> 00:08:27,225

once you left Paris in the midst of

220

00:08:27,430 --> 00:08:29,319

those thousands and thousands

221

00:08:29,320 --> 00:08:30,320

of others?

222

00:08:30,490 --> 00:08:31,960

Well, according to my sisters,

223

00:08:32,080 --> 00:08:33,279

because I have no recollection,

224

00:08:33,280 --> 00:08:34,280

I was a baby,

225

00:08:34,480 --> 00:08:35,480

I was two years old.

226

00:08:35,860 --> 00:08:37,989

We took a train to Orleans.

227

00:08:38,799 --> 00:08:42,256

Orleans is a city on the river Loire.

228

00:08:42,280 --> 00:08:43,946

The River Loire is famous for its beautiful

229

00:08:44,049 --> 00:08:45,809

chateaus all along,

230

00:08:45,880 --> 00:08:47,769

Chenonceau or Chambord,

231

00:08:48,400 --> 00:08:50,409

or Loire and so on.

232

00:08:51,010 --> 00:08:53,200

And we even slept.

233

00:08:53,560 --> 00:08:54,879

I don't know whether it was one

234

00:08:54,880 --> 00:08:56,880

night or several nights in

235

00:08:56,890 --> 00:08:58,499

a chateau called d'AvrillÃ©

236

00:08:58,900 --> 00:09:01,875

Savon there.

237

00:09:02,660 --> 00:09:04,811

It sounds very exciting,

238

00:09:05,150 --> 00:09:06,649

but it was not because we were

239

00:09:06,650 --> 00:09:08,899

sleeping on the floor and

240

00:09:09,230 --> 00:09:11,419

I was crying because my mother

241

00:09:12,380 --> 00:09:13,909

didn't have anything to feed me

242

00:09:14,510 --> 00:09:15,510

and I was

243

00:09:16,340 --> 00:09:18,199

crying and disturbing the peace

244

00:09:18,860 --> 00:09:19,889

in this and

245

00:09:20,690 --> 00:09:22,549

of the other people who

246

00:09:22,550 --> 00:09:24,799

had stayed in that chateau.

247

00:09:25,880 --> 00:09:27,290

And at one point,

248

00:09:28,130 --> 00:09:29,436

there was a soldier

249

00:09:29,960 --> 00:09:31,730

who had escaped, you know,

250

00:09:31,940 --> 00:09:33,807

fled when the French army

251

00:09:33,950 --> 00:09:37,945

was caught by the German army

252

00:09:38,070 --> 00:09:39,785

and he was there, he had a flask of

253

00:09:39,960 --> 00:09:42,009

schnapps and he gave

254

00:09:42,010 --> 00:09:43,799

a shot of schnapps to my mother

255

00:09:43,800 --> 00:09:45,118

and he said, try

256

00:09:45,750 --> 00:09:47,367

to give him that, that maybe that

257

00:09:47,580 --> 00:09:48,600

will calm him down.

258

00:09:48,810 --> 00:09:49,890

And apparently it did.

259

00:09:50,250 --> 00:09:51,659

The schnapps worked.

260

00:09:52,200 --> 00:09:53,200

Albert,

261

00:09:53,880 --> 00:09:55,448

your father wasn't with you when

262

00:09:55,740 --> 00:09:57,659

you fled Paris, was he?

263

00:09:57,660 --> 00:09:59,580

No, my father decided to

264

00:09:59,760 --> 00:10:01,619

stay, to keep on working, to

265

00:10:01,620 --> 00:10:03,419

make to make his living.

266

00:10:04,080 --> 00:10:05,256

You know, if he had left

267

00:10:05,940 --> 00:10:07,799

his job, we would have been

268

00:10:07,800 --> 00:10:08,800

without any money.

269

00:10:08,980 --> 00:10:10,889

Yeah. And is that is

270

00:10:10,890 --> 00:10:13,049

that the reason that after you got

271

00:10:13,770 --> 00:10:15,449

more stay at the chateau, you ended

272

00:10:15,450 --> 00:10:17,009

up returning to Paris?

273

00:10:17,170 --> 00:10:18,787

Yes, we returned to Paris because

274

00:10:19,140 --> 00:10:20,389

we had nowhere else to go.

275

00:10:20,730 --> 00:10:23,070

We had no relatives

276

00:10:23,370 --> 00:10:24,479

anywhere else.

277

00:10:26,840 --> 00:10:28,850

Except maybe in Turkey, but we don't

278

00:10:28,930 --> 00:10:29,930

didn't we didn't

279

00:10:30,980 --> 00:10:31,980

have any relatives.

280

00:10:32,390 --> 00:10:33,979

So the only place to go is back to

281

00:10:33,980 --> 00:10:35,659

Paris, which now, of course, is

282

00:10:35,660 --> 00:10:36,960

occupied by the Germans.

283

00:10:37,250 --> 00:10:38,250

Yes, yeah.

284

00:10:38,690 --> 00:10:39,690

That's what we did.

285

00:10:40,040 --> 00:10:41,040

And that's where we

286

00:10:41,870 --> 00:10:42,948

started to suffer from

287

00:10:43,820 --> 00:10:44,820

the restrictive laws

288

00:10:45,740 --> 00:10:46,769

that were promulgated

289

00:10:47,840 --> 00:10:49,163

by the new collaborationist

290

00:10:49,550 --> 00:10:50,550

government of

291

00:10:51,470 --> 00:10:52,470

Pierre Laval who decided

292

00:10:53,450 --> 00:10:55,489

to collaborate with the

293

00:10:56,000 --> 00:10:57,020

German army.

294

00:10:58,140 --> 00:10:59,365

And then they promulgated

295

00:11:00,690 --> 00:11:02,249

the statute of the Jews

296

00:11:02,520 --> 00:11:04,235

that was depriving the Jews of most

297

00:11:04,620 --> 00:11:05,820

of their basic rights.

298

00:11:06,900 --> 00:11:08,321

We were not allowed in public

299

00:11:08,460 --> 00:11:09,359

transit.

300

00:11:09,360 --> 00:11:10,360

We were another not allowed,

301

00:11:10,450 --> 00:11:11,460

you know, we were

302

00:11:12,630 --> 00:11:13,806

allowed only one hour to

303

00:11:14,580 --> 00:11:15,990

do the grocery shopping

304

00:11:16,680 --> 00:11:18,659

between, I think was four and five

305

00:11:19,050 --> 00:11:20,879

in the afternoon, and that was

306

00:11:20,880 --> 00:11:21,880

it.

307

00:11:22,380 --> 00:11:23,999

So we were,

308

00:11:24,810 --> 00:11:26,639

we're not allowed to go to movies

309

00:11:26,640 --> 00:11:28,919

or to go to socialize

310

00:11:28,920 --> 00:11:29,920

anything.

311

00:11:30,150 --> 00:11:31,380

We had no radio.

312

00:11:32,680 --> 00:11:33,819

Because you weren't allowed to have

313

00:11:33,820 --> 00:11:34,719

radios, right?

314

00:11:34,720 --> 00:11:35,720

We were not allowed.

315

00:11:35,780 --> 00:11:37,250

I think my parents had a radio

316

00:11:37,420 --> 00:11:39,220

before, but it was confiscated.

317

00:11:39,230 --> 00:11:40,230

Right, right.

318

00:11:40,870 --> 00:11:42,340

But anyway, we didn't have any

319

00:11:42,700 --> 00:11:43,700

radio.

320

00:11:43,840 --> 00:11:45,370

And so we

321

00:11:45,730 --> 00:11:46,730

were really deprived

322

00:11:48,130 --> 00:11:50,350

of most of our basic rights.

323

00:11:51,190 --> 00:11:52,562

Albert, before, before you

324

00:11:52,750 --> 00:11:54,073

continue, I'd like to share

325

00:11:54,970 --> 00:11:56,391

with you that we have viewers

326

00:11:56,860 --> 00:11:58,134

watching us from, frankly,

327

00:11:58,990 --> 00:11:59,979

around the globe.

328

00:11:59,980 --> 00:12:01,929

We have viewers watching today

329

00:12:02,110 --> 00:12:03,399

here in the United States from

330

00:12:03,400 --> 00:12:05,200

Minnesota, Florida,

331

00:12:05,590 --> 00:12:06,668

Iowa, Maine and Puerto

332

00:12:07,570 --> 00:12:08,379

Rico.

333

00:12:08,380 --> 00:12:09,699

And then we have international

334

00:12:09,700 --> 00:12:11,268

viewers from places like Canada,

335

00:12:11,590 --> 00:12:13,389

the Philippines, Germany and

336

00:12:13,390 --> 00:12:15,490

Denmark. So, you're

337

00:12:15,560 --> 00:12:17,226

you're being listened to carefully

338

00:12:17,590 --> 00:12:19,158

from many places in this, in this

339

00:12:19,480 --> 00:12:20,480

world of ours.

340

00:12:20,710 --> 00:12:22,659

So Albert, you

341

00:12:22,690 --> 00:12:24,429

you came back to Paris,

342

00:12:24,910 --> 00:12:26,289

the Germans and the

343

00:12:26,290 --> 00:12:27,850

collaborationist French

344

00:12:28,210 --> 00:12:29,889

began imposing all kinds of

345

00:12:29,890 --> 00:12:30,890

restrictions.

346

00:12:31,960 --> 00:12:33,309

But you would stay there for two

347

00:12:33,310 --> 00:12:34,339

years until June 1942.

348

00:12:35,260 --> 00:12:36,880

Tell us

349

00:12:37,510 --> 00:12:39,699

what, what forced your family

350

00:12:39,700 --> 00:12:41,739

to finally flee with those

351

00:12:41,740 --> 00:12:43,269

restrictions that you were having to

352

00:12:43,270 --> 00:12:45,000

live under, like

353

00:12:45,640 --> 00:12:47,139

shop only one hour a day.

354

00:12:47,410 --> 00:12:49,076

What finally forced you to have to

355

00:12:49,240 --> 00:12:51,099

leave your home in June

356

00:12:51,100 --> 00:12:52,350

of 1942?

357

00:12:52,990 --> 00:12:54,909

What happened is that, you

358

00:12:54,910 --> 00:12:56,350

know, we were living in the janitor's

359

00:12:57,010 --> 00:12:58,235

apartment of the factory.

360

00:12:59,080 --> 00:13:00,520

We were like the concierge

361

00:13:01,060 --> 00:13:02,379

of the factory.

362

00:13:03,500 --> 00:13:04,500

And

363

00:13:05,550 --> 00:13:07,190

the factory belonged to a Jew,

364

00:13:08,250 --> 00:13:10,070

Monsieur Thalheimer

365

00:13:10,490 --> 00:13:11,490

that I know.

366

00:13:12,430 --> 00:13:14,096

Which means the inhabitants of the

367

00:13:14,320 --> 00:13:15,320

valley.

368

00:13:17,010 --> 00:13:18,869

And Monsieur

369

00:13:19,090 --> 00:13:20,413

Thalheimer was dispossessed

370

00:13:21,120 --> 00:13:22,120

of his factory

371

00:13:23,370 --> 00:13:24,448

and he had to flee and

372

00:13:25,380 --> 00:13:27,269

we were evicted

373

00:13:27,270 --> 00:13:28,979

from our apartment and we had to

374

00:13:28,980 --> 00:13:30,090

find an apartment

375

00:13:30,900 --> 00:13:31,900

in no time

376

00:13:33,030 --> 00:13:34,030

in July 1942.

377

00:13:34,860 --> 00:13:36,809

July 1942

378

00:13:37,080 --> 00:13:38,940

was one of the worst months

379

00:13:39,120 --> 00:13:41,200

during the French occupation.

380

00:13:41,220 --> 00:13:43,169

That's when the

381

00:13:43,170 --> 00:13:45,059

biggest roundup of

382

00:13:45,060 --> 00:13:47,209

all took place in during

383

00:13:47,220 --> 00:13:48,220

the VÃ©l d'Hiv.

384

00:13:48,820 --> 00:13:50,739

And there, where they rounded up

385

00:13:51,010 --> 00:13:53,079

the Germans and asked

386

00:13:53,080 --> 00:13:55,179

for 20,000 men

387

00:13:55,840 --> 00:13:57,510

to go to war to Germany,

388

00:13:58,180 --> 00:14:00,040

but the French government

389

00:14:00,610 --> 00:14:02,440

could not, you know, if

390

00:14:02,740 --> 00:14:04,360

they managed to send only

391

00:14:05,020 --> 00:14:07,179

13,000, but not men,

392

00:14:07,330 --> 00:14:09,729

men, women, children, elderly

393

00:14:09,730 --> 00:14:10,899

people, everybody.

394

00:14:12,010 --> 00:14:13,725

And all of these people ended up in

395

00:14:14,080 --> 00:14:15,280

concentration camps.

396

00:14:16,030 --> 00:14:17,739

And here, Albert, I think we see, we

397

00:14:17,740 --> 00:14:18,818

have a scene from from

398

00:14:19,570 --> 00:14:20,770

one of the roundups

399

00:14:21,610 --> 00:14:23,469

where Jews are being rounded up

400

00:14:23,470 --> 00:14:24,760

and herded into trucks.

401

00:14:24,970 --> 00:14:26,636

Yes. And you can see is the French

402

00:14:27,130 --> 00:14:29,260

police that is performing this

403

00:14:29,350 --> 00:14:30,350

dirty job.

404

00:14:31,750 --> 00:14:32,779

And as you said to me

405

00:14:33,730 --> 00:14:34,960

on another occasion,

406

00:14:35,650 --> 00:14:36,650

Albert, it was June.

407

00:14:36,940 --> 00:14:38,710

It was July and June of

408

00:14:39,490 --> 00:14:41,139

1942 when the Germans

409

00:14:41,860 --> 00:14:43,179

and the French collaborationist

410

00:14:43,180 --> 00:14:44,829

government really turn the screws

411

00:14:44,830 --> 00:14:46,350

with these massive roundups.

412

00:14:46,720 --> 00:14:47,994

So you had to find another

413

00:14:48,610 --> 00:14:50,080

place as you said. What, what kind

414

00:14:50,590 --> 00:14:52,390

of place were you able to find?

415

00:14:52,780 --> 00:14:54,054

We found a tiny apartment,

416

00:14:54,730 --> 00:14:56,379

two rooms, not two bedrooms, two

417

00:14:56,380 --> 00:14:58,419

rooms and

418

00:14:59,200 --> 00:15:00,572

a tiny kitchen and a toilet.

419

00:15:01,090 --> 00:15:02,090

That was it.

420

00:15:02,350 --> 00:15:03,129

Two rooms.

421

00:15:03,130 --> 00:15:04,130

Five of you.

422

00:15:04,300 --> 00:15:06,669

Yes, cold water.

423

00:15:08,340 --> 00:15:10,169

You know, that was all the comforts

424

00:15:10,170 --> 00:15:11,170

we had.

425

00:15:11,520 --> 00:15:13,409

So at that point, your parents

426

00:15:13,410 --> 00:15:15,299

decided they needed to find

427

00:15:15,300 --> 00:15:16,619

another place for you.

428

00:15:17,010 --> 00:15:19,080

What, what did your parents do then?

429

00:15:19,620 --> 00:15:21,209

Well, you know, it was not so much

430

00:15:21,210 --> 00:15:22,974

because the apartment was too small,

431

00:15:22,980 --> 00:15:25,019

but it was because it was dangerous,

432

00:15:25,020 --> 00:15:26,789

because they were they were rounding

433

00:15:26,790 --> 00:15:29,039

up people like crazy.

434

00:15:30,000 --> 00:15:31,529

Families, you know, the

435

00:15:31,590 --> 00:15:33,570

grandparents, parents, children.

436

00:15:35,430 --> 00:15:37,380

So my parents wanted to,

437

00:15:38,280 --> 00:15:42,114

to spare us the danger

438

00:15:42,120 --> 00:15:43,882

of being rounded up and

439

00:15:44,200 --> 00:15:46,289

they decided to send, to send

440

00:15:46,290 --> 00:15:48,149

us to a farm in Thoiry.

441

00:15:48,150 --> 00:15:49,679

Thoiry, is a

442

00:15:50,610 --> 00:15:52,470

suburb of Paris.

443

00:15:52,950 --> 00:15:54,419

It's so remote.

444

00:15:54,420 --> 00:15:56,299

So actually it

445

00:15:56,310 --> 00:15:57,486

was mostly at that time.

446

00:15:58,110 --> 00:15:59,159

It was mostly

447

00:16:00,760 --> 00:16:02,740

farmland. But today there is

448

00:16:02,750 --> 00:16:04,850

a safari park there.

449

00:16:05,620 --> 00:16:07,549

But in those days was just farmland.

450

00:16:07,990 --> 00:16:10,179

So my sisters would go to

451

00:16:10,180 --> 00:16:12,039

school and

452

00:16:12,040 --> 00:16:13,419

I would stay with the ladies.

453

00:16:13,450 --> 00:16:14,740

It was two ladies were

454

00:16:15,620 --> 00:16:16,649

attending the farm.

455

00:16:16,990 --> 00:16:18,909

So, so there were no men in

456

00:16:19,390 --> 00:16:20,229

attendance?

457

00:16:20,230 --> 00:16:22,000

Probably, probably

458

00:16:22,900 --> 00:16:24,909

the, their husbands

459

00:16:25,210 --> 00:16:26,799

had been taken prisoner with the

460

00:16:26,800 --> 00:16:27,800

French army.

461

00:16:27,840 --> 00:16:28,840

Right. Right.

462

00:16:29,110 --> 00:16:31,169

So, I never saw or met them.

463

00:16:31,330 --> 00:16:33,129

I was too young to ask questions.

464

00:16:34,180 --> 00:16:35,180

So that's just what

465

00:16:36,130 --> 00:16:37,149

I assume now.

466

00:16:38,780 --> 00:16:40,879

And of course, eventually

467

00:16:41,180 --> 00:16:43,289

you had to leave that place as well.

468

00:16:43,310 --> 00:16:44,780

Tell us tell us why you had to

469

00:16:45,170 --> 00:16:46,170

leave that farm.

470

00:16:47,160 --> 00:16:48,600

Yeah, because, you know.

471

00:16:50,510 --> 00:16:52,640

My sisters would go to school

472

00:16:53,120 --> 00:16:55,039

and I would stay with the two ladies

473

00:16:55,490 --> 00:16:57,740

and I would talk and

474

00:16:58,040 --> 00:16:59,100

I was very social.

475

00:16:59,120 --> 00:17:00,789

So I was talking to them.

476

00:17:01,130 --> 00:17:02,779

And one day in the conversation,

477

00:17:02,960 --> 00:17:04,539

I told them that we were Jewish.

478

00:17:04,550 --> 00:17:06,199

My parents had not told them that we

479

00:17:06,200 --> 00:17:07,009

were Jewish.

480

00:17:07,010 --> 00:17:08,449

They just said that we would be

481

00:17:08,450 --> 00:17:10,117

better fed in a farm

482

00:17:10,369 --> 00:17:12,035

than in Paris, where food was very

483

00:17:12,260 --> 00:17:13,260

scarce.

484

00:17:13,550 --> 00:17:15,259

So when they heard that we were

485

00:17:15,260 --> 00:17:16,260

Jewish, they sent us

486

00:17:17,119 --> 00:17:18,559

right back to our parents.

487

00:17:19,310 --> 00:17:21,709

They don't want to take any chances

488

00:17:22,670 --> 00:17:23,780

being exposed

489

00:17:24,530 --> 00:17:26,539

hiding Jewish

490

00:17:26,540 --> 00:17:27,289

children.

491

00:17:27,290 --> 00:17:28,368

Which, which would have been

492

00:17:28,369 --> 00:17:30,179

dangerous for them, I guess, right?

493

00:17:30,870 --> 00:17:31,819

Absolutely.

494

00:17:31,820 --> 00:17:34,069

Yeah. So you returned

495

00:17:34,070 --> 00:17:35,070

to your parents,

496

00:17:35,990 --> 00:17:37,068

your, your sisters, and

497

00:17:37,940 --> 00:17:39,859

you go you go back in

498

00:17:39,860 --> 00:17:41,779

in September of 1943,

499

00:17:41,780 --> 00:17:43,152

your father was taken

500

00:17:43,940 --> 00:17:45,859

for forced labor to the Channel

501

00:17:45,860 --> 00:17:47,869

Islands between England and

502

00:17:47,870 --> 00:17:48,870

France.

503

00:17:49,100 --> 00:17:51,109

Soon after that, your mother,

504

00:17:51,110 --> 00:17:52,819

your sisters and you went into

505

00:17:52,820 --> 00:17:53,809

hiding.

506

00:17:53,810 --> 00:17:55,819

Tell us what you can about

507

00:17:55,820 --> 00:17:57,739

your father being forced to leave,

508

00:17:57,740 --> 00:17:59,210

to go to forced labor and then

509

00:17:59,930 --> 00:18:01,645

your mother finding a place for the

510

00:18:01,670 --> 00:18:03,530

rest of the family to hide.

511

00:18:04,710 --> 00:18:06,030

Well, it was not easy.

512

00:18:07,110 --> 00:18:08,110

My father

513

00:18:09,210 --> 00:18:13,167

was taken away in September 1943,

514

00:18:13,440 --> 00:18:15,339

and my mother was terrified.

515

00:18:15,660 --> 00:18:17,759

This is the card that was

516

00:18:18,210 --> 00:18:20,119

made of me, Garih

517

00:18:20,130 --> 00:18:21,690

Benjamin, that's my father.

518

00:18:22,110 --> 00:18:23,619

And if you read

519

00:18:24,220 --> 00:18:26,249

the document, that means he was

520

00:18:26,250 --> 00:18:28,439

deported in a camp

521

00:18:28,950 --> 00:18:30,779

on the Channel Island

522

00:18:30,780 --> 00:18:33,000

of Alderney.

523

00:18:34,020 --> 00:18:35,020

Which is

524

00:18:37,080 --> 00:18:38,789

in the channel between France and

525

00:18:38,790 --> 00:18:40,670

Britain, actually, and

526

00:18:40,680 --> 00:18:42,510

they were building

527

00:18:43,230 --> 00:18:45,119

what they call the Atlantic Wall,

528

00:18:45,810 --> 00:18:47,609

trying to stop

529

00:18:47,761 --> 00:18:51,430

the, the invasion from

530

00:18:51,670 --> 00:18:53,590

the allies, so they were

531

00:18:53,890 --> 00:18:55,869

building bunkers, block

532

00:18:55,870 --> 00:18:57,500

houses, and

533

00:18:58,600 --> 00:18:59,600

and.

534

00:19:00,100 --> 00:19:01,619

And this was all done by forced

535

00:19:01,690 --> 00:19:03,309

laborers like your father being

536

00:19:03,310 --> 00:19:04,660

forced to do this work?

537

00:19:05,050 --> 00:19:07,050

Yes, under very rough conditions.

538

00:19:07,120 --> 00:19:08,120

Yes.

539

00:19:08,320 --> 00:19:09,790

This, that card you just showed

540

00:19:10,390 --> 00:19:12,309

us, Albert, that

541

00:19:12,310 --> 00:19:13,976

was specifically about your father

542

00:19:14,050 --> 00:19:15,800

being deported to that island.

543

00:19:16,120 --> 00:19:17,950

That's something you actually

544

00:19:18,460 --> 00:19:20,560

came across at the Museum, right?

545

00:19:20,590 --> 00:19:21,229

Exactly.

546

00:19:21,230 --> 00:19:22,406

I, there's a gentleman on

547

00:19:23,140 --> 00:19:24,749

the second floor in the Museum.

548

00:19:25,000 --> 00:19:27,069

I went to see him, he had a computer.

549

00:19:27,280 --> 00:19:29,109

I said can you find something about my

550

00:19:29,110 --> 00:19:29,979

father?

551

00:19:29,980 --> 00:19:32,396

And he checked and he found that, that card.

552

00:19:32,410 --> 00:19:33,410

Wow.

553

00:19:34,731 --> 00:19:38,426

Albert, I know you remember you've told me

554

00:19:38,440 --> 00:19:39,939

that you actually remember your

555

00:19:39,940 --> 00:19:41,559

father leaving you.

556

00:19:43,750 --> 00:19:44,529

Absolutely.

557

00:19:44,530 --> 00:19:46,239

No, actually, you know,

558

00:19:47,110 --> 00:19:48,110

when, when

559

00:19:49,060 --> 00:19:51,369

he left, we had to take the Metro.

560

00:19:51,370 --> 00:19:53,180

The Metro was about a

561

00:19:53,200 --> 00:19:55,239

mile, a little more than a mile away

562

00:19:55,240 --> 00:19:56,459

from our home.

563

00:19:56,650 --> 00:19:57,973

Usually we would take a bus

564

00:19:58,540 --> 00:19:59,949

to go to the metro station.

565

00:20:00,430 --> 00:20:02,409

But that time we walked,

566

00:20:02,830 --> 00:20:04,599

we wanted to spend a little more

567

00:20:04,600 --> 00:20:05,810

time with our father,

568

00:20:07,420 --> 00:20:09,420

with my father and

569

00:20:09,430 --> 00:20:10,430

and,

570

00:20:11,400 --> 00:20:12,869

so we walked all the way to the

571

00:20:12,870 --> 00:20:13,829

metro station.

572

00:20:13,830 --> 00:20:15,630

I remember my father carrying

573

00:20:15,900 --> 00:20:17,609

his gas mask, he had a

574

00:20:18,420 --> 00:20:20,568

box, a cylindrical

575

00:20:20,730 --> 00:20:22,549

box in which he had

576

00:20:22,560 --> 00:20:24,390

his gas mask. They would

577

00:20:24,750 --> 00:20:26,430

provide a gas mask because

578

00:20:27,530 --> 00:20:29,294

they were afraid that there might be

579

00:20:29,520 --> 00:20:30,520

a danger of

580

00:20:31,380 --> 00:20:33,359

gas warfare like there was

581

00:20:33,360 --> 00:20:34,439

during the first World War.

582

00:20:34,440 --> 00:20:35,440

Right.

583

00:20:35,620 --> 00:20:37,530

And you remember that

584

00:20:37,680 --> 00:20:38,849

Albert, if you don't mind.

585

00:20:38,850 --> 00:20:40,565

We have a question from an audience

586

00:20:40,710 --> 00:20:42,479

member who asks,

587

00:20:42,750 --> 00:20:44,760

how did it feel for you

588

00:20:44,940 --> 00:20:46,508

to be separated from your father

589

00:20:47,070 --> 00:20:48,619

at such a young age?

590

00:20:51,540 --> 00:20:53,369

You know, I've been separated from

591

00:20:53,370 --> 00:20:55,380

my parents when we were in Thoiry.

592

00:20:55,410 --> 00:20:57,239

I had some

593

00:20:57,240 --> 00:20:58,740

experience of separation,

594

00:20:59,130 --> 00:21:00,130

so I don't

595

00:21:01,050 --> 00:21:02,220

think I really

596

00:21:03,240 --> 00:21:05,003

realized at that time

597

00:21:05,130 --> 00:21:06,989

that I might not see him

598

00:21:06,990 --> 00:21:07,990

again.

599

00:21:08,910 --> 00:21:10,100

I was just a kid.

600

00:21:10,110 --> 00:21:11,400

I was four years old so

601

00:21:13,550 --> 00:21:15,809

you know, my sisters were much

602

00:21:15,810 --> 00:21:17,789

more traumatized than I was

603

00:21:18,990 --> 00:21:19,739

older.

604

00:21:19,740 --> 00:21:20,850

A little bit older than you.

605

00:21:21,210 --> 00:21:23,159

Albert, before we talk about

606

00:21:23,160 --> 00:21:24,875

what your mother then did with, with

607

00:21:24,990 --> 00:21:26,313

with her children, with you

608

00:21:26,970 --> 00:21:28,440

and your siblings, your father

609

00:21:29,130 --> 00:21:30,698

suffered a terrible injury while

610

00:21:31,050 --> 00:21:32,716

he was doing that forced labor at

611

00:21:32,730 --> 00:21:33,730

Alderney.

612

00:21:34,600 --> 00:21:36,070

Yeah, my father had a terrible

613

00:21:36,250 --> 00:21:38,559

accident. He was working

614

00:21:38,560 --> 00:21:39,910

on the scaffolding,

615

00:21:40,420 --> 00:21:42,369

carrying a trough of cement on

616

00:21:42,370 --> 00:21:44,020

his head, and

617

00:21:44,260 --> 00:21:45,970

he stepped on the loose board

618

00:21:46,120 --> 00:21:47,979

and the board came to hit him on the

619

00:21:48,310 --> 00:21:50,249

head and he fell off

620

00:21:50,260 --> 00:21:51,260

a cliff and he

621

00:21:52,180 --> 00:21:53,699

was losing his blood and he was

622

00:21:53,890 --> 00:21:54,890

picked up

623

00:21:55,350 --> 00:21:56,640

sometime later

624

00:21:57,680 --> 00:21:59,510

By the soup truck.

625

00:21:59,810 --> 00:22:01,789

And he was able to survive

626

00:22:01,790 --> 00:22:03,064

that, how and your mother,

627

00:22:04,010 --> 00:22:05,676

I guess your mother was able to be

628

00:22:05,900 --> 00:22:07,819

in touch with your father to learn

629

00:22:07,820 --> 00:22:08,820

about this?

630

00:22:08,990 --> 00:22:09,990

Yeah, that's the

631

00:22:10,910 --> 00:22:12,037

only thing that I don't

632

00:22:12,890 --> 00:22:14,311

understand is that apparently

633

00:22:14,900 --> 00:22:17,089

they were able to, to exchange

634

00:22:17,090 --> 00:22:19,189

letters and they remember, I remember

635

00:22:19,190 --> 00:22:20,190

vividly

636

00:22:21,280 --> 00:22:23,270

not the letters, but the envelopes.

637

00:22:25,600 --> 00:22:27,390

Because I couldn't read, I was four or five. Right

638

00:22:28,230 --> 00:22:30,660

But I remember the envelope

639

00:22:31,230 --> 00:22:33,509

with the eagle and the swastika

640

00:22:34,080 --> 00:22:35,460

on the postmark.

641

00:22:35,730 --> 00:22:37,410

The Nazi postmark. Yes.

642

00:22:39,720 --> 00:22:41,519

So with your father gone,

643

00:22:41,730 --> 00:22:43,979

your mom has to spring into action.

644

00:22:43,990 --> 00:22:46,049

She's got three children and

645

00:22:46,050 --> 00:22:48,000

herself to find a place to go.

646

00:22:48,300 --> 00:22:49,480

Tell us what she did.

647

00:22:50,010 --> 00:22:51,810

Yes, she was terrified of

648

00:22:51,830 --> 00:22:53,729

the idea that we might be taken

649

00:22:53,730 --> 00:22:54,730

away.

650

00:22:55,370 --> 00:22:56,929

Because, you know, they would come

651

00:22:56,930 --> 00:22:58,639

at night, in the middle of the night,

652

00:22:58,640 --> 00:23:00,769

they would bang on the door house

653

00:23:00,770 --> 00:23:02,869

and they would take people out

654

00:23:03,110 --> 00:23:05,089

and send them to a camp and from

655

00:23:05,600 --> 00:23:07,309

that transit camp

656

00:23:07,760 --> 00:23:09,030

north of Paris in

657

00:23:11,540 --> 00:23:13,400

Anyway, I forgot

658

00:23:13,520 --> 00:23:15,440

the name now, but

659

00:23:16,280 --> 00:23:17,652

they were sent after that to

660

00:23:17,690 --> 00:23:18,690

Auschwitz.

661

00:23:19,700 --> 00:23:21,415

From this transit camp like Drancy,

662

00:23:21,520 --> 00:23:22,930

they would be sent to Auschwitz.

663

00:23:24,380 --> 00:23:26,279

I mean, it's funny, I don't remember

664

00:23:26,280 --> 00:23:28,044

the name of the camp, I visited that

665

00:23:28,230 --> 00:23:30,239

camp four or five

666

00:23:30,240 --> 00:23:31,049

years ago.

667

00:23:31,050 --> 00:23:32,909

Yeah. Albert,

668

00:23:32,910 --> 00:23:35,339

so your mom, she's terrified.

669

00:23:35,350 --> 00:23:36,967

She knows that there's risk every

670

00:23:37,170 --> 00:23:39,089

moment. What, how did she find

671

00:23:39,090 --> 00:23:39,749

shelter?

672

00:23:39,750 --> 00:23:41,220

Yeah, the name of the camp was

673

00:23:41,580 --> 00:23:43,230

Drancy.

674

00:23:43,840 --> 00:23:44,840

I forgot the name.

675

00:23:45,180 --> 00:23:46,260

I'd forgotten the name.

676

00:23:47,820 --> 00:23:49,049

I'm sorry. What did you ask?

677

00:23:49,680 --> 00:23:51,346

How your mom was then able to find

678

00:23:51,660 --> 00:23:53,339

a place to take you for safety at

679

00:23:53,340 --> 00:23:54,340

that time

680

00:23:54,630 --> 00:23:56,480

It was almost

681

00:23:56,490 --> 00:23:57,490

miraculous.

682

00:23:57,720 --> 00:23:59,141

She met this lady, Madam Galop

683

00:23:59,760 --> 00:24:00,810

in the street market.

684

00:24:01,260 --> 00:24:02,730

She had never seen her before.

685

00:24:03,240 --> 00:24:04,829

She had never met her before.

686

00:24:05,940 --> 00:24:07,859

And somehow she felt she

687

00:24:07,860 --> 00:24:09,150

could open up to her.

688

00:24:09,810 --> 00:24:11,309

And she told her that she was

689

00:24:11,310 --> 00:24:12,310

terrified that

690

00:24:13,230 --> 00:24:14,847

at any moment they could come and

691

00:24:14,940 --> 00:24:15,940

take us away.

692

00:24:16,590 --> 00:24:18,650

And this lady, Madam Galop,

693

00:24:19,260 --> 00:24:21,179

went home to her husband

694

00:24:21,180 --> 00:24:23,190

and told her husband this story.

695

00:24:24,010 --> 00:24:26,020

And the next day, her

696

00:24:26,040 --> 00:24:28,059

husband came to us with a cot

697

00:24:28,390 --> 00:24:29,650

and we took whatever

698

00:24:30,560 --> 00:24:32,030

personal effects we could and

699

00:24:32,510 --> 00:24:33,980

we went to live with the Galop

700

00:24:34,730 --> 00:24:36,559

family. The Galop

701

00:24:36,560 --> 00:24:37,489

family.

702

00:24:37,490 --> 00:24:38,568

It was, they had two

703

00:24:39,470 --> 00:24:41,479

daughters that was five

704

00:24:41,480 --> 00:24:43,609

and their two daughters, four

705

00:24:43,610 --> 00:24:44,610

and three.

706

00:24:45,440 --> 00:24:46,440

And you

707

00:24:47,510 --> 00:24:49,970

know hiding a Jewish family

708

00:24:50,360 --> 00:24:51,879

was very dangerous for them,

709

00:24:52,280 --> 00:24:54,109

because if they had been caught

710

00:24:54,440 --> 00:24:56,329

hiding a Jewish family,

711

00:24:56,330 --> 00:24:58,410

they would have been deported

712

00:24:58,430 --> 00:24:59,989

like, just like us,

713

00:25:01,190 --> 00:25:02,210

but they would have gone.

714

00:25:02,570 --> 00:25:04,750

So these people were heroic

715

00:25:04,760 --> 00:25:05,760

to me.

716

00:25:06,030 --> 00:25:07,349

And but, you know, there were

717

00:25:07,350 --> 00:25:08,350

Protestant.

718

00:25:09,540 --> 00:25:11,010

The Catholics, there were some

719

00:25:11,430 --> 00:25:13,400

Catholic people who

720

00:25:13,410 --> 00:25:15,029

had helped also, but

721

00:25:15,540 --> 00:25:17,157

it was mostly a Protestant family

722

00:25:17,730 --> 00:25:19,589

because they had a history of

723

00:25:19,590 --> 00:25:20,913

persecutions with Catholics

724

00:25:21,990 --> 00:25:23,409

precisely in France

725

00:25:23,820 --> 00:25:26,370

that have with the wars of religions

726

00:25:26,850 --> 00:25:28,619

in the 17th century.

727

00:25:29,570 --> 00:25:31,550

And so that stayed with

728

00:25:31,640 --> 00:25:33,319

them and they were very

729

00:25:35,840 --> 00:25:37,040

sympathetic to

730

00:25:37,850 --> 00:25:39,799

actually and they came

731

00:25:39,800 --> 00:25:41,790

to, Monsieur Galop came

732

00:25:42,200 --> 00:25:43,817

with a cart and we took whatever

733

00:25:44,300 --> 00:25:45,917

we could and we went to live with

734

00:25:46,010 --> 00:25:48,109

them and we stayed with them

735

00:25:49,040 --> 00:25:50,660

for about six months I would say.

736

00:25:50,960 --> 00:25:52,626

And before you move on from there,

737

00:25:52,760 --> 00:25:54,379

Albert, I'd like to do two things.

738

00:25:54,380 --> 00:25:55,801

One is remind our audience to

739

00:25:56,210 --> 00:25:57,680

please share any questions you

740

00:25:58,130 --> 00:25:59,420

have for Albert

741

00:26:00,170 --> 00:26:01,395

through the chat feature.

742

00:26:01,400 --> 00:26:02,750

Please share your questions.

743

00:26:02,990 --> 00:26:04,699

And we've got one that has come in.

744

00:26:04,700 --> 00:26:06,229

Albert, I'd like to ask you

745

00:26:06,980 --> 00:26:08,319

from our audience member.

746

00:26:09,470 --> 00:26:10,499

This person asks, how

747

00:26:11,630 --> 00:26:13,051

did your mother know that she

748

00:26:13,580 --> 00:26:15,319

could trust Mrs. Galop?

749

00:26:16,480 --> 00:26:17,480

She didn't know,

750

00:26:17,770 --> 00:26:18,770

she didn't know

751

00:26:19,360 --> 00:26:21,100

she I guess, you know,

752

00:26:21,430 --> 00:26:22,539

because of instinct

753

00:26:23,410 --> 00:26:24,869

probably is she felt that

754

00:26:25,480 --> 00:26:27,519

she you know, she was in front

755

00:26:27,520 --> 00:26:29,499

of a woman who was

756

00:26:29,500 --> 00:26:31,709

really understanding

757

00:26:31,720 --> 00:26:33,579

of the situation and was willing to

758

00:26:33,580 --> 00:26:34,359

help us.

759

00:26:34,360 --> 00:26:35,360

But it was a gamble,

760

00:26:36,580 --> 00:26:37,989

you know. Anyway, what was the

761

00:26:37,990 --> 00:26:39,789

alternative? Staying home and being

762

00:26:40,210 --> 00:26:41,109

taken away?

763

00:26:41,110 --> 00:26:42,110

Right. Right.

764

00:26:42,190 --> 00:26:43,317

So we went to live with

765

00:26:44,020 --> 00:26:45,489

the Galop family

766

00:26:45,880 --> 00:26:47,709

and the Galop family was absolutely

767

00:26:47,710 --> 00:26:48,710

wonderful.

768

00:26:49,030 --> 00:26:50,559

I think we have, we now have a

769

00:26:50,560 --> 00:26:52,779

photograph from that time.

770

00:26:52,930 --> 00:26:54,670

Tell us about this photograph Albert.

771

00:26:54,820 --> 00:26:56,241

This is a picture taken of my

772

00:26:56,740 --> 00:26:58,749

mother, my sisters

773

00:26:58,750 --> 00:27:01,089

and me in January

774

00:27:01,090 --> 00:27:03,020

1944 when my father was

775

00:27:03,100 --> 00:27:04,869

in captivity and

776

00:27:05,260 --> 00:27:07,269

my mother had this picture taken

777

00:27:07,810 --> 00:27:09,133

and she sent it to, to my

778

00:27:09,790 --> 00:27:10,790

father.

779

00:27:12,170 --> 00:27:13,689

Because they were able to write

780

00:27:14,020 --> 00:27:15,970

to each other, as you said.

781

00:27:16,270 --> 00:27:17,380

For what? You know,

782

00:27:18,100 --> 00:27:19,809

that's one of the mysteries, because

783

00:27:20,080 --> 00:27:21,354

people once they were sent

784

00:27:22,000 --> 00:27:23,380

to a camp

785

00:27:24,580 --> 00:27:25,580

in Poland, that was

786

00:27:26,530 --> 00:27:27,819

it, that there was no way to

787

00:27:27,820 --> 00:27:28,809

communicate.

788

00:27:28,810 --> 00:27:30,670

But when he was in that camp

789

00:27:30,690 --> 00:27:32,569

in the Channel Islands, he

790

00:27:32,710 --> 00:27:34,980

was still able to communicate

791

00:27:34,990 --> 00:27:36,264

with us and to, to write to

792

00:27:37,000 --> 00:27:38,000

us. And I remember

793

00:27:39,070 --> 00:27:40,070

vividly the

794

00:27:41,380 --> 00:27:42,997

envelopes, not the letters but the

795

00:27:43,210 --> 00:27:44,579

envelope with a postmark.

796

00:27:44,600 --> 00:27:45,369

Yeah.

797

00:27:45,370 --> 00:27:46,987

And Albert, you've described that

798

00:27:47,170 --> 00:27:48,591

time, that six months with the

799

00:27:48,640 --> 00:27:50,769

Galops is, for you, a pretty

800

00:27:50,770 --> 00:27:51,770

happy time.

801

00:27:52,300 --> 00:27:53,427

Mr. Galop himself was a

802

00:27:54,160 --> 00:27:55,385

sculptor. Tell us, tell us

803

00:27:55,990 --> 00:27:57,430

what he did as a sculptor.

804

00:27:57,730 --> 00:28:00,189

He was working for the movie studios

805

00:28:00,910 --> 00:28:02,829

and he was making sets,

806

00:28:03,500 --> 00:28:04,500

movie sets.

807

00:28:05,400 --> 00:28:07,115

And they had a big warehouse behind

808

00:28:07,410 --> 00:28:09,569

the house where there were storing

809

00:28:09,570 --> 00:28:11,399

all these sets and

810

00:28:11,400 --> 00:28:13,499

we had great hide-and-go-seek games

811

00:28:14,310 --> 00:28:16,011

with Jeannine and Mireille, the two

812

00:28:16,140 --> 00:28:18,209

little girls in

813

00:28:18,210 --> 00:28:20,520

the, in the warehouse.

814

00:28:22,410 --> 00:28:23,586

Albert, I know that as just sort

815

00:28:24,270 --> 00:28:26,099

of an aside, I know that you are a

816

00:28:26,100 --> 00:28:27,100

really serious

817

00:28:27,930 --> 00:28:29,549

movie fan, movie buff.

818

00:28:29,910 --> 00:28:31,739

Do you think that has any connection

819

00:28:31,740 --> 00:28:32,969

back to that time?

820

00:28:34,770 --> 00:28:36,030

I don't think so.

821

00:28:36,510 --> 00:28:38,369

No, it was just, you know,

822

00:28:38,880 --> 00:28:40,289

in those days, there was no

823

00:28:40,290 --> 00:28:41,760

television, there was nothing.

824

00:28:42,030 --> 00:28:43,950

So the only distraction we had,

825

00:28:44,490 --> 00:28:45,490

entertainment was to

826

00:28:46,470 --> 00:28:48,599

go to the movie matinee,

827

00:28:48,650 --> 00:28:50,579

Sunday matinees, to

828

00:28:50,580 --> 00:28:52,469

the movies, and we would

829

00:28:52,470 --> 00:28:54,619

go almost religiously,

830

00:28:55,440 --> 00:28:57,210

the whole family, my father, my

831

00:28:57,660 --> 00:28:59,279

mother, my sisters and me.

832

00:28:59,730 --> 00:29:01,920

And, you know, they were not very

833

00:29:02,280 --> 00:29:04,160

discriminating about the movies.

834

00:29:04,170 --> 00:29:05,849

It was the movie of the day of the

835

00:29:05,850 --> 00:29:06,539

week,

836

00:29:06,540 --> 00:29:07,540

whatever it was.

837

00:29:07,830 --> 00:29:08,910

Whatever it was.

838

00:29:10,500 --> 00:29:12,200

That's where I discovered

839

00:29:12,670 --> 00:29:14,609

Chaplin. That's where I discovered

840

00:29:15,570 --> 00:29:17,039

they were screening Robinhood, who

841

00:29:17,710 --> 00:29:18,710

is, you know, to

842

00:29:19,680 --> 00:29:20,760

me, these

843

00:29:21,860 --> 00:29:22,860

were a cultural

844

00:29:24,110 --> 00:29:25,910

shock to see that.

845

00:29:26,060 --> 00:29:27,089

I can imagine and

846

00:29:28,190 --> 00:29:29,690

Albert, of course,

847

00:29:30,230 --> 00:29:31,849

while you're playing hide and seek

848

00:29:32,120 --> 00:29:33,541

for your mom and perhaps your

849

00:29:33,770 --> 00:29:34,770

sisters as well, it

850

00:29:35,600 --> 00:29:36,920

was a time of fear.

851

00:29:37,730 --> 00:29:39,440

Can you say anything about that?

852

00:29:39,710 --> 00:29:42,289

Yes. My mother was constantly

853

00:29:42,290 --> 00:29:44,329

afraid that might that

854

00:29:44,330 --> 00:29:45,330

somebody might

855

00:29:46,400 --> 00:29:48,289

report us.

856

00:29:48,290 --> 00:29:49,711

Actually, there was a lady in

857

00:29:50,270 --> 00:29:52,369

the street who we'll come to that

858

00:29:52,610 --> 00:29:53,610

in a minute.

859

00:29:53,750 --> 00:29:54,750

But yes, we were in

860

00:29:55,730 --> 00:29:57,770

constant danger of being reported

861

00:29:58,310 --> 00:29:59,990

and, and

862

00:30:00,830 --> 00:30:02,449

it was dangerous for us, but it was

863

00:30:02,450 --> 00:30:03,630

also dangerous for the Galop

864

00:30:03,680 --> 00:30:04,680

family, because if

865

00:30:05,690 --> 00:30:07,099

we had been reported, they would

866

00:30:07,100 --> 00:30:08,227

have taken us away, but

867

00:30:08,990 --> 00:30:10,429

they would have taken the Galop family,

868

00:30:10,430 --> 00:30:12,770

the children, the two daughters

869

00:30:13,720 --> 00:30:15,549

with them. So these

870

00:30:15,550 --> 00:30:17,440

people that I you know, I don't

871

00:30:18,260 --> 00:30:19,681

I very often wondered whether

872

00:30:20,470 --> 00:30:21,842

I would have had the courage

873

00:30:22,450 --> 00:30:24,160

that they showed to,

874

00:30:24,670 --> 00:30:26,619

you know, to take a big gamble,

875

00:30:27,890 --> 00:30:29,989

of hiding the Jewish family during

876

00:30:29,990 --> 00:30:30,990

that period.

877

00:30:31,530 --> 00:30:33,469

And of course, after six

878

00:30:33,470 --> 00:30:34,789

months, you had to leave the

879

00:30:34,790 --> 00:30:36,619

Galops, tell us, tell us

880

00:30:36,620 --> 00:30:38,239

why you had to leave their home,

881

00:30:38,240 --> 00:30:39,619

because that had been quite a

882

00:30:39,620 --> 00:30:40,940

sanctuary for you.

883

00:30:41,860 --> 00:30:43,269

Well, actually, the,

884

00:30:44,610 --> 00:30:46,769

they got away with living

885

00:30:46,780 --> 00:30:48,749

in in a small house,

886

00:30:48,750 --> 00:30:50,579

in a small street, about

887

00:30:50,580 --> 00:30:51,580

10 houses all together.

888

00:30:52,170 --> 00:30:53,738

It was mostly artists, painters,

889

00:30:54,420 --> 00:30:56,849

sculptors and

890

00:30:58,450 --> 00:31:00,369

there was a painter whose wife

891

00:31:00,370 --> 00:31:01,370

was a great admirer

892

00:31:02,890 --> 00:31:03,890

of the Reich,

893

00:31:05,060 --> 00:31:06,130

of the Nazis,

894

00:31:06,670 --> 00:31:08,589

Nazis and the

895

00:31:09,790 --> 00:31:11,560

notorious anti-Semite.

896

00:31:12,720 --> 00:31:13,720

And one day she went

897

00:31:14,610 --> 00:31:16,325

to see Madame Galop because they knew

898

00:31:16,650 --> 00:31:18,019

that we were living with Galop

899

00:31:18,030 --> 00:31:19,679

families, family,

900

00:31:20,070 --> 00:31:21,900

and she went to see her

901

00:31:22,170 --> 00:31:23,885

and said, when are you going to get

902

00:31:24,150 --> 00:31:25,150

rid of that scum?

903

00:31:25,560 --> 00:31:26,940

So we were the scum.

904

00:31:27,910 --> 00:31:30,070

At that point, my

905

00:31:30,460 --> 00:31:31,959

mother and Madame Galop thought

906

00:31:31,960 --> 00:31:33,579

it might be safer for us

907

00:31:34,060 --> 00:31:35,481

to go home because who knows,

908

00:31:36,270 --> 00:31:38,170

she might be tempted to

909

00:31:38,340 --> 00:31:39,359

to report us.

910

00:31:40,060 --> 00:31:41,369

So we went back home.

911

00:31:43,370 --> 00:31:45,380

Which, of course, was a place where

912

00:31:45,590 --> 00:31:47,158

your mom had been so afraid that

913

00:31:47,270 --> 00:31:48,829

there would be a knock on the door.

914

00:31:48,860 --> 00:31:50,299

So what happened?

915

00:31:51,260 --> 00:31:53,190

Sure enough, a few weeks later.

916

00:31:54,340 --> 00:31:56,479

It was around, around

917

00:31:56,650 --> 00:31:58,810

June 1944, around D-Day,

918

00:31:59,500 --> 00:32:01,539

actually, one day, one morning,

919

00:32:02,170 --> 00:32:03,639

seven o'clock in the morning, we

920

00:32:03,640 --> 00:32:05,140

were still in my sister's room and

921

00:32:05,800 --> 00:32:06,890

we were still in bed.

922

00:32:06,910 --> 00:32:07,959

My mother was up.

923

00:32:08,710 --> 00:32:10,299

There was a knock on the door,

924

00:32:11,140 --> 00:32:12,820

two French police inspectors.

925

00:32:13,510 --> 00:32:14,469

Madame Garib?

926

00:32:14,470 --> 00:32:16,470

Yes. We came to take you.

927

00:32:17,890 --> 00:32:18,890

That's what,

928

00:32:19,780 --> 00:32:20,780

that was, what my

929

00:32:21,640 --> 00:32:23,520

mother had been dreading all along.

930

00:32:23,530 --> 00:32:24,804

Right. She started shaking

931

00:32:25,630 --> 00:32:27,579

and they said, calm down,

932

00:32:27,910 --> 00:32:29,674

we're going to report we didn't find

933

00:32:29,710 --> 00:32:30,710

you.

934

00:32:30,970 --> 00:32:32,440

But you must not sleep in your

935

00:32:32,920 --> 00:32:33,920

bed tonight.

936

00:32:33,970 --> 00:32:35,619

You have to find another place.

937

00:32:38,450 --> 00:32:39,559

So anyway.

938

00:32:40,740 --> 00:32:42,569

So she had to find another place.

939

00:32:42,600 --> 00:32:43,600

How did she do that?

940

00:32:43,920 --> 00:32:45,439

Well, she was given the name of

941

00:32:45,750 --> 00:32:47,069

a social worker

942

00:32:47,670 --> 00:32:49,336

Mademoiselle Dejeubert, I still remember

943

00:32:49,710 --> 00:32:50,710

the name.

944

00:32:51,410 --> 00:32:52,410

And.

945

00:32:53,870 --> 00:32:55,438

And she dressed me very quickly,

946

00:32:55,910 --> 00:32:57,410

I was still in bed, you know, when

947

00:32:57,430 --> 00:32:59,079

that happened, and

948

00:33:00,140 --> 00:33:01,369

she dressed me very quickly.

949

00:33:01,380 --> 00:33:02,605

Me and my sisters, we all

950

00:33:03,230 --> 00:33:04,640

went to see

951

00:33:05,090 --> 00:33:06,880

the social worker, Mademoiselle Dejeubert

952

00:33:06,930 --> 00:33:09,109

and to explain

953

00:33:09,110 --> 00:33:10,110

the situation.

954

00:33:10,580 --> 00:33:12,440

And the social worker said,

955

00:33:12,920 --> 00:33:14,419

you know what, you have to allow me

956

00:33:14,420 --> 00:33:16,180

a few days because I cannot find

957

00:33:16,700 --> 00:33:18,589

a hiding place for each one of

958

00:33:18,590 --> 00:33:20,720

you like this

959

00:33:21,110 --> 00:33:22,110

overnight.

960

00:33:22,130 --> 00:33:23,306

So see, in the meantime,

961

00:33:24,380 --> 00:33:26,539

if you can sleep at your neighbor's

962

00:33:26,780 --> 00:33:28,160

not in your apartment,

963

00:33:28,820 --> 00:33:30,799

because if they come back

964

00:33:30,800 --> 00:33:32,599

to your apartment and they bang on

965

00:33:32,600 --> 00:33:33,650

the door and they find you there,

966

00:33:34,540 --> 00:33:35,910

they're going to take you away.

967

00:33:36,680 --> 00:33:38,740

So my mother,

968

00:33:38,900 --> 00:33:40,849

we went back to our neighbors

969

00:33:40,850 --> 00:33:42,559

and the neighbors were

970

00:33:43,370 --> 00:33:44,660

wonderful. And actually

971

00:33:45,320 --> 00:33:47,839

they all offered to

972

00:33:48,230 --> 00:33:49,700

take us and

973

00:33:50,390 --> 00:33:52,160

we stayed. And my mother and I

974

00:33:52,580 --> 00:33:54,519

stayed with our next door neighbors,

975

00:33:54,840 --> 00:33:56,709

a communist couple.

976

00:33:57,410 --> 00:33:59,329

She was working in a print shop

977

00:33:59,660 --> 00:34:00,949

and he was working,

978

00:34:00,950 --> 00:34:03,560

he was making wrought-iron

979

00:34:07,120 --> 00:34:08,120

bannisters.

980

00:34:09,540 --> 00:34:11,039

He made one in the

981

00:34:11,639 --> 00:34:13,207

Palace of Monaco, actually, that

982

00:34:13,590 --> 00:34:14,339

was one of,

983

00:34:14,340 --> 00:34:16,119

Bannisters for stairs, right?

984

00:34:16,469 --> 00:34:17,879

Bannisters,

985

00:34:18,150 --> 00:34:18,959

Yes.

986

00:34:18,960 --> 00:34:20,283

And he made the one for the

987

00:34:20,699 --> 00:34:22,320

staircase at the

988

00:34:23,070 --> 00:34:23,908

Monaco Palace,

989

00:34:24,780 --> 00:34:26,569

Prince Rainier and

990

00:34:28,800 --> 00:34:31,079

so they were working

991

00:34:31,080 --> 00:34:32,099

on night shifts.

992

00:34:34,710 --> 00:34:36,419

His wife, I understand, because she

993

00:34:36,420 --> 00:34:37,919

was working in a print shop,

994

00:34:38,280 --> 00:34:39,809

so maybe they were printing

995

00:34:39,810 --> 00:34:41,309

newspapers, I don't know what

996

00:34:41,670 --> 00:34:43,091

she what they were working on

997

00:34:43,139 --> 00:34:44,069

night shifts.

998

00:34:44,070 --> 00:34:46,019

So we would sleep in their bed at

999

00:34:46,020 --> 00:34:48,030

night and in the morning when

1000

00:34:48,210 --> 00:34:49,729

they would come back we would give

1001

00:34:50,159 --> 00:34:52,320

them the bed and stay in the apartment.

1002

00:34:52,949 --> 00:34:54,988

And we stayed like that for a few

1003

00:34:54,989 --> 00:34:57,000

days until eventually

1004

00:34:57,570 --> 00:34:59,187

the social worker came back to my

1005

00:34:59,460 --> 00:35:01,679

mother and said, I found a place

1006

00:35:01,770 --> 00:35:02,789

for each one of you.

1007

00:35:03,600 --> 00:35:05,021

And my mother was placed as a

1008

00:35:05,400 --> 00:35:07,619

governess with a family

1009

00:35:07,620 --> 00:35:09,689

of eight or 10 children near

1010

00:35:09,690 --> 00:35:10,690

the Eiffel Tower.

1011

00:35:11,770 --> 00:35:13,299

And we were placed in

1012

00:35:14,260 --> 00:35:15,729

Catholic boarding schools

1013

00:35:16,210 --> 00:35:17,439

in the suburb

1014

00:35:18,250 --> 00:35:20,620

east of Paris, Montfermeil,

1015

00:35:21,040 --> 00:35:22,929

which is famous, made

1016

00:35:22,930 --> 00:35:23,930

famous by an episode

1017

00:35:24,880 --> 00:35:26,989

of Les Miserable by Victor Hugo,

1018

00:35:27,340 --> 00:35:29,249

that's where Jean

1019

00:35:29,260 --> 00:35:30,699

Valjean meets Cosette

1020

00:35:31,570 --> 00:35:32,570

in Montfermeil.

1021

00:35:33,070 --> 00:35:34,509

Which is where the boarding school

1022

00:35:34,510 --> 00:35:36,269

was, that you were in. Yes, exactly.

1023

00:35:37,150 --> 00:35:38,199

Before you tell us about the

1024

00:35:38,200 --> 00:35:39,621

boarding school, your, so your

1025

00:35:39,820 --> 00:35:41,059

mother, the

1026

00:35:41,650 --> 00:35:43,690

social worker, somehow found

1027

00:35:43,990 --> 00:35:46,089

basically a job for her

1028

00:35:46,090 --> 00:35:47,090

as a governess.

1029

00:35:47,260 --> 00:35:48,789

Obviously, that family, I'm

1030

00:35:48,790 --> 00:35:50,619

assuming, had no idea

1031

00:35:50,620 --> 00:35:52,119

who your mother really was.

1032

00:35:53,310 --> 00:35:54,630

I suppose so, I don't.

1033

00:35:54,670 --> 00:35:55,670

I have no idea about that.

1034

00:35:56,700 --> 00:35:57,899

That she was caring, she was

1035

00:35:57,900 --> 00:36:00,209

carrying for eight or ten kids.

1036

00:36:00,540 --> 00:36:02,520

Yes, it was a big family

1037

00:36:04,980 --> 00:36:05,980

and that she had no

1038

00:36:06,960 --> 00:36:08,577

way to communicate with us and to

1039

00:36:08,760 --> 00:36:10,524

know exactly where, she knew where we

1040

00:36:10,710 --> 00:36:12,779

were. That's all.

1041

00:36:12,780 --> 00:36:14,699

She knew we were in this boarding

1042

00:36:14,700 --> 00:36:15,700

school in Montefermeil.

1043

00:36:16,280 --> 00:36:17,830

But she had no way.

1044

00:36:17,840 --> 00:36:19,800

First of all there was no transport.

1045

00:36:20,250 --> 00:36:22,139

There was no trains or anything

1046

00:36:22,140 --> 00:36:23,140

like that.

1047

00:36:23,280 --> 00:36:24,599

And it would have been very

1048

00:36:24,600 --> 00:36:26,489

dangerous for her to take a train to

1049

00:36:26,490 --> 00:36:27,490

come to see us.

1050

00:36:27,810 --> 00:36:29,669

So we were completely cut out

1051

00:36:30,030 --> 00:36:31,200

of a mother

1052

00:36:31,980 --> 00:36:33,570

our father was.

1053

00:36:35,170 --> 00:36:36,820

Still away, still away and

1054

00:36:37,960 --> 00:36:39,689

so and and

1055

00:36:39,920 --> 00:36:41,145

I was completely isolated

1056

00:36:41,860 --> 00:36:43,709

because my sisters were in

1057

00:36:43,720 --> 00:36:45,429

a school for girls and I was in the

1058

00:36:45,430 --> 00:36:47,499

school for boys, I would meet

1059

00:36:47,500 --> 00:36:49,599

them every Sunday in church.

1060

00:36:50,080 --> 00:36:50,859

You would meet

1061

00:36:50,860 --> 00:36:51,909

your sisters in church

1062

00:36:51,910 --> 00:36:53,739

every Sunday? Yes, because

1063

00:36:54,460 --> 00:36:55,734

it was a, this was Catholic

1064

00:36:56,560 --> 00:36:58,149

boarding school. So they would take

1065

00:36:58,150 --> 00:37:00,039

us to mass every

1066

00:37:00,040 --> 00:37:01,040

Sunday morning.

1067

00:37:01,300 --> 00:37:02,739

And that's when I would see my

1068

00:37:02,740 --> 00:37:03,740

sisters.

1069

00:37:04,900 --> 00:37:06,517

Albert before we, before I continue

1070

00:37:07,210 --> 00:37:08,239

asking you questions.

1071

00:37:08,260 --> 00:37:10,570

I think we have now a question

1072

00:37:11,260 --> 00:37:13,449

by video from a student,

1073

00:37:13,450 --> 00:37:15,420

Isabella, who is that

1074

00:37:15,430 --> 00:37:16,959

is from Gillespie High School.

1075

00:37:16,970 --> 00:37:18,190

So let's, let's hear

1076

00:37:18,790 --> 00:37:19,869

Isabella's question.

1077

00:37:23,410 --> 00:37:25,260

Hi, I'm Isabelal Wilson and I'm from

1078

00:37:25,310 --> 00:37:27,140

Gillespie High School, and

1079

00:37:27,160 --> 00:37:28,989

I'm here to ask you a question. While

1080

00:37:28,990 --> 00:37:30,705

attending boarding school and being

1081

00:37:30,850 --> 00:37:31,839

away from your family

1082

00:37:31,840 --> 00:37:33,519

how did you feel and what were your

1083

00:37:34,210 --> 00:37:35,631

easiest and your most difficult

1084

00:37:35,710 --> 00:37:36,710

experiences there?

1085

00:37:39,130 --> 00:37:40,539

Isabella asks

1086

00:37:43,340 --> 00:37:44,908

How did you feel, how did you feel

1087

00:37:45,320 --> 00:37:47,359

being in the boarding school and she

1088

00:37:47,360 --> 00:37:49,309

asks, what were your easiest

1089

00:37:49,310 --> 00:37:51,499

and most difficult experiences

1090

00:37:51,500 --> 00:37:52,500

while you were there?

1091

00:37:55,580 --> 00:37:58,010

I don't think there was an easy,

1092

00:37:58,700 --> 00:37:59,700

the easiest thing

1093

00:38:00,530 --> 00:38:02,239

that I can remember about

1094

00:38:02,750 --> 00:38:03,750

is the

1095

00:38:05,000 --> 00:38:07,640

connection with the headmistress.

1096

00:38:07,820 --> 00:38:08,947

She was very protective

1097

00:38:09,650 --> 00:38:10,777

of me. She was probably

1098

00:38:11,510 --> 00:38:13,029

the one who took me into hiding

1099

00:38:13,640 --> 00:38:14,640

in that school.

1100

00:38:15,050 --> 00:38:16,324

And she was very attentive

1101

00:38:17,570 --> 00:38:19,040

to me, actually, all the time,

1102

00:38:19,700 --> 00:38:20,700

all the time.

1103

00:38:21,130 --> 00:38:22,649

She was like a surrogate mother

1104

00:38:23,260 --> 00:38:24,809

for me for the period.

1105

00:38:25,570 --> 00:38:27,070

And you remember that, right?

1106

00:38:27,280 --> 00:38:28,280

Oh, yes. Yes.

1107

00:38:28,510 --> 00:38:30,119

And actually I wanted to have her

1108

00:38:30,130 --> 00:38:31,989

recognized as a Righteous Among the

1109

00:38:31,990 --> 00:38:33,909

Nations, but I never

1110

00:38:33,910 --> 00:38:35,889

knew her name, so I'm not

1111

00:38:35,890 --> 00:38:37,360

able to do that.

1112

00:38:37,480 --> 00:38:39,280

Right. I went back

1113

00:38:39,610 --> 00:38:41,349

years later and

1114

00:38:41,560 --> 00:38:42,760

investigated.

1115

00:38:43,300 --> 00:38:44,620

I couldn't find an answer.

1116

00:38:44,640 --> 00:38:46,689

I couldn't find anyone who could

1117

00:38:46,690 --> 00:38:48,850

give me the name of that person.

1118

00:38:49,900 --> 00:38:50,949

She was wonderful.

1119

00:38:52,210 --> 00:38:53,769

Albert, of course, the other part

1120

00:38:53,770 --> 00:38:55,330

of Isabella's question was

1121

00:38:55,780 --> 00:38:57,579

what was most difficult for you

1122

00:38:57,790 --> 00:38:59,139

while at the boarding school?

1123

00:39:00,020 --> 00:39:01,400

Well, the fact that I was

1124

00:39:01,970 --> 00:39:02,970

beside the

1125

00:39:04,460 --> 00:39:06,739

help and the support from

1126

00:39:07,220 --> 00:39:08,600

the headmistress,

1127

00:39:10,070 --> 00:39:11,344

it was the fact that I was

1128

00:39:11,390 --> 00:39:13,329

completely cut out of my family,

1129

00:39:13,790 --> 00:39:16,040

I would see my sisters

1130

00:39:16,460 --> 00:39:18,619

once a week on Sunday

1131

00:39:18,620 --> 00:39:20,500

in church, and that was it.

1132

00:39:20,600 --> 00:39:22,579

The rest of the time I was on

1133

00:39:22,580 --> 00:39:23,580

my own.

1134

00:39:23,880 --> 00:39:25,909

I was there, you know, I was six

1135

00:39:25,910 --> 00:39:26,910

years old.

1136

00:39:27,110 --> 00:39:29,060

Can you imagine a six year old boy

1137

00:39:29,540 --> 00:39:30,940

cut out of his family.

1138

00:39:30,950 --> 00:39:33,170

But I know it is an experience

1139

00:39:33,530 --> 00:39:34,940

because we had been in that

1140

00:39:37,130 --> 00:39:38,989

inquiry and in that form

1141

00:39:39,140 --> 00:39:40,849

before, so.

1142

00:39:42,620 --> 00:39:44,300

I had to make do with that.

1143

00:39:44,630 --> 00:39:46,160

And Albert,

1144

00:39:47,900 --> 00:39:49,789

you shared with us, the, how

1145

00:39:49,790 --> 00:39:51,829

kind to you the headmistress

1146

00:39:51,830 --> 00:39:53,202

was towards you and took you

1147

00:39:53,750 --> 00:39:54,529

under her wing.

1148

00:39:54,530 --> 00:39:56,539

But conditions were really

1149

00:39:56,540 --> 00:39:58,189

tough for you there for everybody, I

1150

00:39:58,190 --> 00:39:59,611

guess. What what was the food

1151

00:40:00,260 --> 00:40:02,000

circumstances like for you?

1152

00:40:02,730 --> 00:40:03,800

The toughest

1153

00:40:04,970 --> 00:40:06,560

thing in that school

1154

00:40:07,080 --> 00:40:08,599

was the food.

1155

00:40:08,750 --> 00:40:10,820

The food was terrible, but

1156

00:40:10,880 --> 00:40:12,039

of course, it was the war.

1157

00:40:12,530 --> 00:40:14,239

Right. I don't blame it

1158

00:40:14,450 --> 00:40:15,980

particularly on that school.

1159

00:40:16,460 --> 00:40:18,460

But we, we

1160

00:40:18,470 --> 00:40:19,470

were fed.

1161

00:40:21,200 --> 00:40:22,915

It was terrible, and I remember the

1162

00:40:22,920 --> 00:40:24,959

rotten beans, I remember

1163

00:40:24,960 --> 00:40:26,283

that I was constantly sick,

1164

00:40:27,090 --> 00:40:29,190

I was suffering

1165

00:40:29,850 --> 00:40:30,900

from my stomach

1166

00:40:31,800 --> 00:40:32,800

and the,

1167

00:40:33,820 --> 00:40:35,410

I lost a lot of weight,

1168

00:40:35,730 --> 00:40:37,239

I was very skinny.

1169

00:40:38,390 --> 00:40:39,468

So you shared with me,

1170

00:40:40,250 --> 00:40:41,250

Albert, that

1171

00:40:43,490 --> 00:40:44,862

you were actually treated in

1172

00:40:45,320 --> 00:40:47,750

a sense with mashed potatoes?

1173

00:40:47,810 --> 00:40:49,819

Yes, actually,

1174

00:40:50,090 --> 00:40:51,919

the priest was

1175

00:40:51,920 --> 00:40:53,243

suffering from some sort of

1176

00:40:53,840 --> 00:40:54,869

cancer or ulcer, I don't

1177

00:40:55,760 --> 00:40:57,426

know. And they managed to get some

1178

00:40:57,680 --> 00:40:59,620

potatoes, to

1179

00:40:59,930 --> 00:41:01,106

give him mashed potatoes

1180

00:41:02,540 --> 00:41:03,540

with a small

1181

00:41:04,610 --> 00:41:05,610

piece of butter.

1182

00:41:06,170 --> 00:41:08,020

And even that he could not, he

1183

00:41:08,030 --> 00:41:09,030

could not swallow.

1184

00:41:09,320 --> 00:41:11,329

So I was fed the mashed

1185

00:41:11,330 --> 00:41:13,159

potatoes that had been

1186

00:41:13,160 --> 00:41:14,900

made for the, for the priest.

1187

00:41:15,440 --> 00:41:17,219

And that was the best meal.

1188

00:41:17,390 --> 00:41:19,459

The only good meal that I had

1189

00:41:19,460 --> 00:41:20,570

during that period.

1190

00:41:21,510 --> 00:41:22,588

And since then, I love

1191

00:41:23,790 --> 00:41:24,790

mashed potatoes.

1192

00:41:25,170 --> 00:41:26,395

To this day? To this day, to

1193

00:41:27,030 --> 00:41:27,929

this day.

1194

00:41:27,930 --> 00:41:30,540

So this is the summer of 1944,

1195

00:41:30,690 --> 00:41:32,160

It's now August 1944.

1196

00:41:32,850 --> 00:41:34,739

You're six years old,

1197

00:41:35,250 --> 00:41:36,426

separated from your mom.

1198

00:41:36,750 --> 00:41:38,099

And of course, your dad and your

1199

00:41:38,100 --> 00:41:39,689

sisters are in the other boarding

1200

00:41:39,690 --> 00:41:40,690

school.

1201

00:41:40,740 --> 00:41:42,210

While you were there, you were

1202

00:41:42,630 --> 00:41:43,630

liberated.

1203

00:41:44,280 --> 00:41:46,739

Tell us, tell us about the liberation

1204

00:41:47,430 --> 00:41:48,780

that you experienced.

1205

00:41:48,990 --> 00:41:50,909

A memorable experience actually.

1206

00:41:52,600 --> 00:41:54,070

One of the boys from the

1207

00:41:54,360 --> 00:41:56,249

school had left the school and

1208

00:41:56,250 --> 00:41:57,809

he came back saying the allies are

1209

00:41:57,810 --> 00:41:58,769

coming.

1210

00:41:58,770 --> 00:42:00,599

So we all went on the

1211

00:42:00,600 --> 00:42:01,600

main street.

1212

00:42:02,660 --> 00:42:04,440

And we saw that

1213

00:42:04,880 --> 00:42:06,289

this picture, you know,

1214

00:42:06,710 --> 00:42:08,869

soldiers with a different helmet

1215

00:42:09,080 --> 00:42:10,579

was not a German helmet.

1216

00:42:12,130 --> 00:42:14,110

And smiling,

1217

00:42:14,530 --> 00:42:16,210

giving us chocolate,

1218

00:42:17,290 --> 00:42:18,790

cigarettes, chewing gum.

1219

00:42:19,540 --> 00:42:21,010

Cigarettes, you say too right?

1220

00:42:21,400 --> 00:42:22,359

Not to me, but

1221

00:42:22,360 --> 00:42:23,360

OK,

1222

00:42:24,130 --> 00:42:25,460

I was a bit too young for that.

1223

00:42:25,750 --> 00:42:27,849

And anyway, the headmistress was not

1224

00:42:28,870 --> 00:42:30,269

letting go of my hand.

1225

00:42:30,850 --> 00:42:32,369

I was she was always holding my

1226

00:42:32,800 --> 00:42:33,999

hand during that time

1227

00:42:34,630 --> 00:42:35,630

because I had.

1228

00:42:36,830 --> 00:42:38,570

And it was the first time

1229

00:42:39,260 --> 00:42:40,681

in my life that I heard about

1230

00:42:41,270 --> 00:42:42,270

the Americans.

1231

00:42:43,650 --> 00:42:45,119

You heard about them at all, you had

1232

00:42:45,120 --> 00:42:46,570

never heard of Americans?

1233

00:42:46,590 --> 00:42:47,590

No, never.

1234

00:42:48,210 --> 00:42:49,210

Until that day.

1235

00:42:51,030 --> 00:42:53,010

Yeah. You knew who the British were?

1236

00:42:53,250 --> 00:42:55,139

Yeah, we knew everything about the

1237

00:42:55,140 --> 00:42:56,940

Germans, of course, the Italians,

1238

00:42:57,510 --> 00:42:59,429

the British. And

1239

00:43:00,780 --> 00:43:02,110

the Americans,

1240

00:43:02,130 --> 00:43:03,130

where do they come from?

1241

00:43:03,540 --> 00:43:04,540

I had no idea.

1242

00:43:05,410 --> 00:43:07,199

Needless to say that I fell in love.

1243

00:43:08,630 --> 00:43:09,806

Albert, then soon

1244

00:43:10,690 --> 00:43:12,429

after that, of course, you were able

1245

00:43:12,430 --> 00:43:13,998

to reunite with your sisters and

1246

00:43:14,440 --> 00:43:16,130

your and your mother.

1247

00:43:16,660 --> 00:43:18,129

Tell us what you remember about

1248

00:43:18,130 --> 00:43:18,969

that.

1249

00:43:18,970 --> 00:43:20,589

Well, actually, one day

1250

00:43:21,040 --> 00:43:22,640

when, once the

1251

00:43:23,020 --> 00:43:24,879

we were liberated, they restored

1252

00:43:24,880 --> 00:43:26,260

the train service

1253

00:43:26,980 --> 00:43:27,980

and my mother was

1254

00:43:28,960 --> 00:43:30,675

on the first train to come to visit

1255

00:43:30,820 --> 00:43:32,192

us. She was so worried about

1256

00:43:32,800 --> 00:43:34,749

us and she came

1257

00:43:34,750 --> 00:43:36,039

to see us. And one day

1258

00:43:36,610 --> 00:43:37,610

I was hanging

1259

00:43:38,800 --> 00:43:39,976

around in the playground

1260

00:43:40,750 --> 00:43:42,122

with the other kids and they

1261

00:43:42,610 --> 00:43:44,249

see my sisters coming and said,

1262

00:43:44,260 --> 00:43:45,260

Guess who's here?

1263

00:43:47,650 --> 00:43:49,267

Guess who's here? I had no idea, you

1264

00:43:49,340 --> 00:43:50,929

know, a six year old.

1265

00:43:51,530 --> 00:43:52,902

It's amazing how fast we can

1266

00:43:53,570 --> 00:43:55,280

forget about our loved ones

1267

00:43:55,700 --> 00:43:57,699

and who could be there.

1268

00:43:58,010 --> 00:43:59,570

So I pushed my sisters

1269

00:44:00,170 --> 00:44:02,059

and on that day, I

1270

00:44:02,060 --> 00:44:03,679

saw my mother behind them.

1271

00:44:04,010 --> 00:44:05,719

And when I saw my mother, I jumped

1272

00:44:05,720 --> 00:44:06,720

into her arms.

1273

00:44:07,400 --> 00:44:08,400

And I must say

1274

00:44:09,230 --> 00:44:10,760

she was appalled to see how

1275

00:44:11,180 --> 00:44:12,710

skinny I was.

1276

00:44:13,250 --> 00:44:15,229

Yeah. And, you know, she had

1277

00:44:15,230 --> 00:44:17,059

ration tickets

1278

00:44:17,540 --> 00:44:18,949

to buy food.

1279

00:44:19,940 --> 00:44:21,859

She bought a loaf of bread.

1280

00:44:22,850 --> 00:44:23,850

And we swallowed

1281

00:44:25,070 --> 00:44:26,900

the loaf of bread in no time.

1282

00:44:27,410 --> 00:44:28,684

That's how hungry we were.

1283

00:44:29,150 --> 00:44:31,270

We were constantly hungry.

1284

00:44:33,080 --> 00:44:34,619

And the bread was not good.

1285

00:44:34,640 --> 00:44:36,440

It was dark bread

1286

00:44:36,470 --> 00:44:37,969

and we were

1287

00:44:39,640 --> 00:44:40,816

dreaming of white bread,

1288

00:44:41,530 --> 00:44:43,049

but the white bread came after

1289

00:44:43,360 --> 00:44:45,199

the war, and in

1290

00:44:45,250 --> 00:44:47,089

those days it was dark bread and it

1291

00:44:47,110 --> 00:44:48,579

was with a

1292

00:44:49,690 --> 00:44:51,580

bran and I don't know what else

1293

00:44:52,060 --> 00:44:54,079

they say, even sometimes

1294

00:44:54,100 --> 00:44:55,719

with some sawdust

1295

00:44:56,060 --> 00:44:58,169

in the bread.

1296

00:44:58,180 --> 00:44:58,719

And Albert,

1297

00:44:58,720 --> 00:45:00,043

aside from eating that loaf

1298

00:45:00,730 --> 00:45:02,409

of bread very quickly, initially,

1299

00:45:03,250 --> 00:45:05,014

you had to have some sort of special

1300

00:45:05,260 --> 00:45:06,849

treatments, though, because of your

1301

00:45:06,850 --> 00:45:08,173

poor nutrition and how much

1302

00:45:08,710 --> 00:45:09,909

weight you had lost.

1303

00:45:11,160 --> 00:45:12,419

So, yeah,

1304

00:45:12,510 --> 00:45:14,429

that was when we got

1305

00:45:14,430 --> 00:45:15,960

home, actually, and

1306

00:45:16,410 --> 00:45:18,389

then my mother took me

1307

00:45:18,390 --> 00:45:20,069

home the same day and the

1308

00:45:20,730 --> 00:45:22,249

reason I don't know, she had to

1309

00:45:22,620 --> 00:45:24,530

go back and it was far.

1310

00:45:24,870 --> 00:45:25,870

It was very far.

1311

00:45:26,370 --> 00:45:28,469

She had to take the metro

1312

00:45:28,710 --> 00:45:30,809

and a train to come and

1313

00:45:30,810 --> 00:45:32,250

then walk a few miles

1314

00:45:32,880 --> 00:45:34,439

because the train wouldn't go all

1315

00:45:34,440 --> 00:45:35,519

the way to my family.

1316

00:45:36,060 --> 00:45:37,060

It would stop.

1317

00:45:37,650 --> 00:45:39,409

I don't know where exactly.

1318

00:45:39,420 --> 00:45:40,980

But so she

1319

00:45:41,370 --> 00:45:42,840

she went back the next day

1320

00:45:43,650 --> 00:45:45,060

to pick up my sisters

1321

00:45:45,870 --> 00:45:46,870

and she came back in

1322

00:45:47,880 --> 00:45:48,880

the evening.

1323

00:45:49,140 --> 00:45:51,210

And in the meantime, she left me

1324

00:45:51,750 --> 00:45:53,420

under the custody of

1325

00:45:54,030 --> 00:45:55,199

our neighbor,

1326

00:45:55,980 --> 00:45:56,980

Madame Menetrier.

1327

00:45:57,940 --> 00:45:59,589

With the same, the same family that

1328

00:45:59,590 --> 00:46:01,439

you spent a few nights with

1329

00:46:01,900 --> 00:46:02,980

as yep.

1330

00:46:03,880 --> 00:46:04,880

And the.

1331

00:46:06,230 --> 00:46:08,060

And there was a green

1332

00:46:08,080 --> 00:46:09,739

apple in that house that was the

1333

00:46:09,740 --> 00:46:11,719

only thing that I could eat

1334

00:46:11,720 --> 00:46:13,800

there, that they want to be eaten.

1335

00:46:14,060 --> 00:46:15,800

So I grabbed it and I

1336

00:46:16,490 --> 00:46:17,889

swallowed it in no time.

1337

00:46:18,650 --> 00:46:19,650

And as soon

1338

00:46:20,480 --> 00:46:21,480

as I finished.

1339

00:46:22,410 --> 00:46:25,007

I heard the key because Madame Menetrier

1340

00:46:25,110 --> 00:46:26,999

was checking on me, and

1341

00:46:27,000 --> 00:46:28,800

when she saw that I had been

1342

00:46:29,070 --> 00:46:30,070

eating something and

1343

00:46:31,020 --> 00:46:32,789

she found out that it was a green

1344

00:46:32,790 --> 00:46:34,829

apple, she was not happy about

1345

00:46:34,830 --> 00:46:35,729

that.

1346

00:46:35,730 --> 00:46:37,559

And anyway, but that was

1347

00:46:37,800 --> 00:46:39,980

that's all we had in the house.

1348

00:46:41,060 --> 00:46:43,449

And my mother came back the same

1349

00:46:44,030 --> 00:46:45,030

evening

1350

00:46:46,070 --> 00:46:48,379

with my sisters and

1351

00:46:49,420 --> 00:46:50,420

we were at home.

1352

00:46:50,800 --> 00:46:52,989

Meanwhile, my father,

1353

00:46:53,440 --> 00:46:55,449

who had been on the island

1354

00:46:55,450 --> 00:46:57,489

of Alderney in May,

1355

00:46:58,120 --> 00:46:59,679

one month before D-Day,

1356

00:47:00,310 --> 00:47:02,170

the, the Germans,

1357

00:47:02,460 --> 00:47:04,689

the allies were bombarding

1358

00:47:04,930 --> 00:47:06,420

the Straits of Dover.

1359

00:47:07,120 --> 00:47:09,190

And to make

1360

00:47:09,490 --> 00:47:11,349

the Germans believe that if

1361

00:47:11,350 --> 00:47:12,880

there was an invasion due to

1362

00:47:13,390 --> 00:47:15,369

take place in the Straits of

1363

00:47:15,370 --> 00:47:16,742

Dover, which is the shortest

1364

00:47:17,260 --> 00:47:19,119

distance between France and

1365

00:47:19,120 --> 00:47:19,839

Britain.

1366

00:47:19,840 --> 00:47:21,339

Make them think it was there rather

1367

00:47:21,340 --> 00:47:22,340

than Normandy?

1368

00:47:22,750 --> 00:47:23,849

Exactly. Yeah.

1369

00:47:24,040 --> 00:47:25,599

Maybe they thought the

1370

00:47:26,500 --> 00:47:28,569

landing would take place in

1371

00:47:28,570 --> 00:47:29,760

the Straits of Dover.

1372

00:47:29,920 --> 00:47:31,469

So they were bombarding there.

1373

00:47:31,480 --> 00:47:33,309

And so the

1374

00:47:33,310 --> 00:47:34,437

Germans transferred all

1375

00:47:35,200 --> 00:47:36,200

the inmates.

1376

00:47:37,230 --> 00:47:38,250

With my father

1377

00:47:40,050 --> 00:47:41,520

to the Straits of Dover and my

1378

00:47:41,820 --> 00:47:42,996

father was working under

1379

00:47:44,010 --> 00:47:46,079

the bombardment of the allies

1380

00:47:46,560 --> 00:47:48,079

and my father told me one story

1381

00:47:48,420 --> 00:47:50,440

about that he said,

1382

00:47:50,460 --> 00:47:52,349

one day there

1383

00:47:52,350 --> 00:47:53,722

was a bombardment like that.

1384

00:47:53,760 --> 00:47:55,475

And when that happened, they had to

1385

00:47:55,770 --> 00:47:57,539

lay flat on the ground.

1386

00:47:58,290 --> 00:48:00,090

And my father was

1387

00:48:01,890 --> 00:48:03,360

on the ground next to a German

1388

00:48:03,900 --> 00:48:05,729

soldier, and

1389

00:48:06,210 --> 00:48:08,190

when the raid was over, my

1390

00:48:08,200 --> 00:48:10,560

father could stand up and the German

1391

00:48:10,890 --> 00:48:12,219

soldier had been killed.

1392

00:48:13,800 --> 00:48:14,800

So, Albert, you

1393

00:48:15,840 --> 00:48:17,699

shared with me on another time that

1394

00:48:18,570 --> 00:48:20,610

as they were bombed by the allies,

1395

00:48:21,340 --> 00:48:23,309

at these, where they were doing

1396

00:48:23,310 --> 00:48:24,449

the construction work,

1397

00:48:25,140 --> 00:48:26,806

there was no shelter typically for

1398

00:48:27,150 --> 00:48:29,099

for the forced laborers.

1399

00:48:29,100 --> 00:48:30,929

So they had to just lie flat on the

1400

00:48:30,930 --> 00:48:32,106

ground in the hopes that

1401

00:48:32,790 --> 00:48:34,309

they would not get hit by those

1402

00:48:34,410 --> 00:48:35,410

bombs.

1403

00:48:36,010 --> 00:48:37,180

That's what happened in

1404

00:48:37,990 --> 00:48:39,369

which he was

1405

00:48:40,270 --> 00:48:42,219

lying flat on the ground

1406

00:48:42,340 --> 00:48:43,467

when the German soldier

1407

00:48:44,350 --> 00:48:45,679

next to him was killed.

1408

00:48:46,070 --> 00:48:47,049

You know,

1409

00:48:47,050 --> 00:48:48,230

he could have been killed, too.

1410

00:48:48,490 --> 00:48:49,479

Absolutely.

1411

00:48:49,480 --> 00:48:51,519

And obviously

1412

00:48:51,520 --> 00:48:52,749

could have been killed earlier in

1413

00:48:52,750 --> 00:48:54,099

that terrible accident you shared

1414

00:48:54,100 --> 00:48:56,019

with us. So at

1415

00:48:56,020 --> 00:48:57,849

some point after your

1416

00:48:57,850 --> 00:48:59,709

father and the rest of the, I think

1417

00:48:59,710 --> 00:49:01,539

some 800 or 900

1418

00:49:01,940 --> 00:49:03,909

forced laborers, they were they

1419

00:49:03,910 --> 00:49:04,959

were then moved.

1420

00:49:05,740 --> 00:49:07,659

They were taken by train to head

1421

00:49:08,620 --> 00:49:10,749

further inland, tell us about that.

1422

00:49:10,840 --> 00:49:11,840

Yes, when the allies

1423

00:49:12,670 --> 00:49:14,091

were pushing the Germans back

1424

00:49:14,860 --> 00:49:16,810

towards Germany, east.

1425

00:49:21,200 --> 00:49:22,200

At one point,

1426

00:49:24,140 --> 00:49:25,610

the Germans

1427

00:49:26,780 --> 00:49:28,348

transferred, decided to transfer

1428

00:49:28,640 --> 00:49:30,920

all the inmates, they were 900,

1429

00:49:31,580 --> 00:49:33,560

some 900 inmates,

1430

00:49:34,280 --> 00:49:35,899

and they put them on a train bound

1431

00:49:35,900 --> 00:49:36,900

for Germany.

1432

00:49:37,280 --> 00:49:38,869

We don't know what they had in store

1433

00:49:38,870 --> 00:49:40,429

for them. Maybe they wanted to

1434

00:49:41,030 --> 00:49:42,859

send them to a death camp or maybe

1435

00:49:42,860 --> 00:49:44,629

they one wanted to use them

1436

00:49:44,990 --> 00:49:46,019

in a factory as slave

1437

00:49:47,030 --> 00:49:48,100

labor. We don't know.

1438

00:49:48,530 --> 00:49:50,147

But anyway, the train was stopped

1439

00:49:50,420 --> 00:49:51,449

in Belgium by Belgian

1440

00:49:52,610 --> 00:49:54,770

resistance fighters.

1441

00:49:55,800 --> 00:49:56,800

And there was a

1442

00:49:58,200 --> 00:50:00,119

battle between the

1443

00:50:00,330 --> 00:50:01,980

resistance and the German

1444

00:50:02,250 --> 00:50:04,409

soldiers, and

1445

00:50:05,220 --> 00:50:06,940

in the confusion, the Germans

1446

00:50:07,000 --> 00:50:08,000

released the 900

1447

00:50:09,090 --> 00:50:11,189

inmates and my father

1448

00:50:11,220 --> 00:50:14,393

walked all the way from Belgium to

1449

00:50:14,900 --> 00:50:17,090

Paris, it was about

1450

00:50:17,130 --> 00:50:18,380

a 150

1451

00:50:19,280 --> 00:50:20,780

mile trek.

1452

00:50:21,770 --> 00:50:23,191

It took him a few days, maybe

1453

00:50:23,810 --> 00:50:25,219

a couple of weeks, I don't know.

1454

00:50:28,050 --> 00:50:30,059

He came back home and he came

1455

00:50:30,060 --> 00:50:31,949

back home the morning of

1456

00:50:31,950 --> 00:50:34,605

Rosh Hashanah, which is a Jewish New Year.

1457

00:50:34,620 --> 00:50:36,940

And this was September 1944, right?

1458

00:50:37,270 --> 00:50:38,348

Yes. September 22

1459

00:50:39,150 --> 00:50:42,144

or 23, 1944.

1460

00:50:42,560 --> 00:50:44,539

And my mother was raising me

1461

00:50:44,540 --> 00:50:46,108

to go to synagogue for the first

1462

00:50:46,190 --> 00:50:47,190

time.

1463

00:50:47,440 --> 00:50:49,289

Because we have an interest in it,

1464

00:50:49,510 --> 00:50:51,400

of course, for four years.

1465

00:50:52,340 --> 00:50:53,340

And.

1466

00:50:54,750 --> 00:50:56,520

And there was a knock on the door

1467

00:50:56,970 --> 00:50:59,099

and this time it was my father,

1468

00:50:59,100 --> 00:51:00,489

who was coming back.

1469

00:51:01,140 --> 00:51:02,699

We knew that he was coming back

1470

00:51:02,700 --> 00:51:04,500

because he had been

1471

00:51:05,310 --> 00:51:06,540

detained. He was

1472

00:51:07,140 --> 00:51:08,699

deported with

1473

00:51:09,000 --> 00:51:11,249

a cousin, one of his cousins,

1474

00:51:11,610 --> 00:51:13,590

and the cousin came back early.

1475

00:51:14,670 --> 00:51:16,140

And told my mother that he was

1476

00:51:16,530 --> 00:51:18,210

on his way, so

1477

00:51:18,420 --> 00:51:19,792

we knew that we could expect

1478

00:51:20,670 --> 00:51:21,670

him back.

1479

00:51:22,440 --> 00:51:24,389

But we didn't know exactly

1480

00:51:24,390 --> 00:51:26,309

when and he came back the morning

1481

00:51:26,310 --> 00:51:27,310

of Rosh Hashanah.

1482

00:51:27,360 --> 00:51:28,889

And do you remember, you remember

1483

00:51:28,890 --> 00:51:30,299

what that was like to have your

1484

00:51:30,300 --> 00:51:31,320

father come back?

1485

00:51:32,260 --> 00:51:34,539

Of course, yeah, I remember

1486

00:51:34,540 --> 00:51:36,159

when he left, when the

1487

00:51:36,490 --> 00:51:37,870

with his gas mask and

1488

00:51:38,470 --> 00:51:40,650

went to the Metro, took the Metro

1489

00:51:40,660 --> 00:51:42,190

and I remember when he came back.

1490

00:51:43,060 --> 00:51:44,830

Albert, before I

1491

00:51:45,550 --> 00:51:46,779

share with you a comment from

1492

00:51:46,780 --> 00:51:47,919

somebody in the audience,

1493

00:51:48,910 --> 00:51:50,109

your father, of course, he was

1494

00:51:50,110 --> 00:51:51,339

almost killed in a terrible

1495

00:51:51,340 --> 00:51:53,080

accident, almost

1496

00:51:54,820 --> 00:51:56,760

had to flee and worry about bombs.

1497

00:51:57,160 --> 00:51:58,826

He's on a train that gets attacked

1498

00:51:58,840 --> 00:52:00,579

by the resistance and then he walks

1499

00:52:00,670 --> 00:52:02,385

150 or more miles

1500

00:52:02,590 --> 00:52:04,389

to get you. What, what kind of

1501

00:52:04,390 --> 00:52:05,649

condition was your father in?

1502

00:52:05,650 --> 00:52:07,312

My father

1503

00:52:07,540 --> 00:52:09,369

was sort of

1504

00:52:09,370 --> 00:52:10,809

Superman. Very strong.

1505

00:52:11,500 --> 00:52:13,390

I would not have survived

1506

00:52:14,380 --> 00:52:15,840

a tenth of what he went through

1507

00:52:15,860 --> 00:52:17,340

actually, he was very strong.

1508

00:52:17,650 --> 00:52:19,810

So he survived and

1509

00:52:20,920 --> 00:52:21,909

he walked.

1510

00:52:21,910 --> 00:52:23,920

I think he walked and there was no

1511

00:52:24,100 --> 00:52:25,389

transport or anything.

1512

00:52:25,390 --> 00:52:26,560

Maybe sometimes

1513

00:52:28,180 --> 00:52:30,250

the truck would have taken,

1514

00:52:30,300 --> 00:52:31,329

I had no knowledge of

1515

00:52:32,170 --> 00:52:34,000

that. But I think most

1516

00:52:34,180 --> 00:52:35,739

most of the time he was walking

1517

00:52:35,801 --> 00:52:38,080

from Belgium, 150 miles

1518

00:52:38,269 --> 00:52:42,730

away to Paris.

1519

00:52:44,390 --> 00:52:46,249

Albert, we have two pictures

1520

00:52:46,250 --> 00:52:48,349

I'd like for you to tell

1521

00:52:48,350 --> 00:52:50,210

us about them, the first is of you

1522

00:52:50,570 --> 00:52:52,249

and then we have one of your father.

1523

00:52:52,380 --> 00:52:53,629

Maybe we can bring those up.

1524

00:52:55,830 --> 00:52:57,419

That's me in school

1525

00:52:58,350 --> 00:53:00,299

in 1945,

1526

00:53:00,550 --> 00:53:02,429

so that's, that's after your

1527

00:53:02,430 --> 00:53:04,079

liberation, maybe after the war.

1528

00:53:04,440 --> 00:53:05,440

After the war.

1529

00:53:05,610 --> 00:53:06,610

After the war.

1530

00:53:06,760 --> 00:53:08,369

And then we have a photograph of

1531

00:53:08,370 --> 00:53:09,370

your father.

1532

00:53:10,610 --> 00:53:11,610

Mm hmm.

1533

00:53:12,100 --> 00:53:14,260

Yes, and if you can see

1534

00:53:15,160 --> 00:53:17,410

here the scars

1535

00:53:17,710 --> 00:53:18,984

that's from his injuries

1536

00:53:19,810 --> 00:53:21,100

when he fell off a cliff.

1537

00:53:22,060 --> 00:53:24,369

It looks like a major indentation

1538

00:53:24,370 --> 00:53:25,370

in his head.

1539

00:53:25,600 --> 00:53:29,410

Yes, actually it looked like a question mark.

1540

00:53:30,970 --> 00:53:33,099

So, Albert, we

1541

00:53:33,100 --> 00:53:34,840

we have a comment from Donna

1542

00:53:35,140 --> 00:53:37,420

and Donna is from Vernonia,

1543

00:53:37,450 --> 00:53:38,349

Oregon.

1544

00:53:38,350 --> 00:53:39,699

And she just doesn't have a

1545

00:53:39,700 --> 00:53:41,121

question. She just says it is

1546

00:53:41,560 --> 00:53:43,809

so important to share your stories.

1547

00:53:43,840 --> 00:53:44,840

Thank you.

1548

00:53:45,700 --> 00:53:47,170

And then Rozzy says,

1549

00:53:47,530 --> 00:53:49,449

you are brave and compelling

1550

00:53:49,450 --> 00:53:50,530

and generous. Thank you.

1551

00:53:50,540 --> 00:53:51,912

So some really nice comments

1552

00:53:52,420 --> 00:53:53,650

from audience members.

1553

00:53:54,160 --> 00:53:55,659

Here's a question from another

1554

00:53:55,660 --> 00:53:57,469

audience member from

1555

00:53:57,580 --> 00:53:59,650

Brazil, Celine from Brazil.

1556

00:54:00,010 --> 00:54:01,659

Thanks for sharing your story.

1557

00:54:01,660 --> 00:54:03,460

And she says asks,

1558

00:54:03,640 --> 00:54:04,640

as a child, what

1559

00:54:05,500 --> 00:54:06,999

were your thoughts on what you were

1560

00:54:07,000 --> 00:54:08,323

experiencing, experiencing?

1561

00:54:09,280 --> 00:54:10,897

Did your mother make you aware of

1562

00:54:11,380 --> 00:54:12,380

everything

1563

00:54:13,390 --> 00:54:14,909

or did she tried to protect you

1564

00:54:15,040 --> 00:54:16,929

from, you know, why you

1565

00:54:16,930 --> 00:54:18,849

had to move and the fear and

1566

00:54:19,000 --> 00:54:20,289

anti-Semitism?

1567

00:54:21,200 --> 00:54:23,119

It was both actually, she was

1568

00:54:23,120 --> 00:54:24,949

trying to protect me

1569

00:54:24,950 --> 00:54:26,899

from the dangers, from the idea

1570

00:54:28,830 --> 00:54:30,055

of the dangers we were facing,

1571

00:54:30,840 --> 00:54:32,580

but, you know, I was a

1572

00:54:32,730 --> 00:54:33,759

kid, I didn't realize

1573

00:54:34,650 --> 00:54:36,119

what danger meant,

1574

00:54:36,570 --> 00:54:38,219

but I knew that,

1575

00:54:39,150 --> 00:54:41,159

you know, we could have been taken

1576

00:54:41,160 --> 00:54:42,160

away.

1577

00:54:42,570 --> 00:54:43,570

and had so many,

1578

00:54:43,890 --> 00:54:45,870

gone. I don't know what would I do

1579

00:54:45,900 --> 00:54:47,480

that would have been taken to.

1580

00:54:47,500 --> 00:54:49,320

But I knew that

1581

00:54:49,410 --> 00:54:50,410

there was a danger.

1582

00:54:51,200 --> 00:54:52,849

And in fact, as you've described,

1583

00:54:52,850 --> 00:54:54,469

you've had so many close calls,

1584

00:54:54,860 --> 00:54:56,719

Albert, I have one last

1585

00:54:56,720 --> 00:54:58,599

question for you, if that's OK,

1586

00:54:59,600 --> 00:55:01,639

and that is tell us why

1587

00:55:01,640 --> 00:55:03,439

you continue to share

1588

00:55:03,830 --> 00:55:05,659

your firsthand account of what

1589

00:55:05,660 --> 00:55:07,309

you and your family went through

1590

00:55:07,460 --> 00:55:08,750

during the Holocaust.

1591

00:55:10,090 --> 00:55:11,679

Before I answer this question, I

1592

00:55:11,680 --> 00:55:13,329

would like to, to

1593

00:55:13,550 --> 00:55:15,580

tell a story, you know, one

1594

00:55:15,590 --> 00:55:16,590

day

1595

00:55:17,420 --> 00:55:18,910

we were not allowed to go on

1596

00:55:19,510 --> 00:55:20,860

public transportation

1597

00:55:21,340 --> 00:55:23,055

and one day my mother had to run an

1598

00:55:23,290 --> 00:55:25,119

errand in Paris and she

1599

00:55:25,120 --> 00:55:25,989

took me along.

1600

00:55:25,990 --> 00:55:27,760

I was a bit like

1601

00:55:27,910 --> 00:55:28,910

a toddler.

1602

00:55:29,650 --> 00:55:30,650

And when

1603

00:55:31,630 --> 00:55:32,630

we came back

1604

00:55:33,680 --> 00:55:35,199

at the station, there was

1605

00:55:35,680 --> 00:55:37,479

an identity check.

1606

00:55:38,290 --> 00:55:40,090

And that meant, you know,

1607

00:55:40,780 --> 00:55:41,858

my mother had identity

1608

00:55:43,060 --> 00:55:44,679

paper saying,

1609

00:55:45,040 --> 00:55:46,510

Juif, they had a big stamp

1610

00:55:46,960 --> 00:55:48,860

Juif, Jewish on it.

1611

00:55:49,300 --> 00:55:51,159

So that meant that

1612

00:55:51,340 --> 00:55:52,418

if she had shown her identity

1613

00:55:53,260 --> 00:55:55,179

card to one of the police or

1614

00:55:55,180 --> 00:55:56,710

the guards or the militia

1615

00:55:57,780 --> 00:55:59,969

who are doing the identity check,

1616

00:56:00,480 --> 00:56:01,580

I wouldn't be here today.

1617

00:56:02,670 --> 00:56:03,959

My mother took me in her

1618

00:56:05,010 --> 00:56:06,088

arms, she pretended to

1619

00:56:06,900 --> 00:56:08,030

look into her purse.

1620

00:56:08,310 --> 00:56:10,079

She walked between two guards

1621

00:56:10,260 --> 00:56:11,499

and they didn't stop her.

1622

00:56:11,940 --> 00:56:13,679

If one of the guards had said, m'am

1623

00:56:13,690 --> 00:56:15,405

I haven't seen your papers, I wouldn't

1624

00:56:15,660 --> 00:56:16,660

be here today.

1625

00:56:16,740 --> 00:56:18,480

That's just as simple as that.

1626

00:56:19,020 --> 00:56:21,239

So to go back to your question,

1627

00:56:21,240 --> 00:56:22,240

what was the question?

1628

00:56:22,620 --> 00:56:24,449

The question is, tell us why

1629

00:56:24,450 --> 00:56:25,450

you continue to take

1630

00:56:26,550 --> 00:56:27,929

the time to share

1631

00:56:28,680 --> 00:56:30,029

what you experienced with your

1632

00:56:30,030 --> 00:56:31,590

family during the Holocaust.

1633

00:56:32,360 --> 00:56:33,860

I'm not the only one, actually, who

1634

00:56:34,590 --> 00:56:36,260

we are 50 at the Museum,

1635

00:56:36,780 --> 00:56:37,809

50, because we lost a

1636

00:56:38,670 --> 00:56:40,679

lot of them to old age.

1637

00:56:41,400 --> 00:56:42,400

And, but we think

1638

00:56:43,650 --> 00:56:44,650

that we had a

1639

00:56:45,630 --> 00:56:47,609

unique experience that

1640

00:56:47,610 --> 00:56:49,230

is worth telling.

1641

00:56:51,000 --> 00:56:52,510

So that the,

1642

00:56:53,840 --> 00:56:55,261

the kids, the new generations

1643

00:56:55,730 --> 00:56:57,449

and even the, the

1644

00:56:57,560 --> 00:56:58,981

military, actually, sometimes

1645

00:56:59,570 --> 00:57:01,280

we speak to military people,

1646

00:57:02,990 --> 00:57:04,215

they have to be aware to, to

1647

00:57:04,880 --> 00:57:06,650

to hear about our stories.

1648

00:57:07,460 --> 00:57:08,719

It's very important.

1649

00:57:09,140 --> 00:57:11,050

So, you know, if you, if you

1650

00:57:11,060 --> 00:57:12,680

don't want to repeat that kind of

1651

00:57:13,280 --> 00:57:14,280

tragic history, you

1652

00:57:15,260 --> 00:57:16,840

have to be aware of it.

1653

00:57:17,150 --> 00:57:18,150

Right.

1654

00:57:18,380 --> 00:57:19,939

Well, we are so grateful that you

1655

00:57:19,940 --> 00:57:20,940

do.

1656

00:57:22,880 --> 00:57:24,769

So thank you so much, Albert, for

1657

00:57:24,770 --> 00:57:26,839

sharing what you went through

1658

00:57:26,840 --> 00:57:28,550

with us. I know that you couldn't

1659

00:57:28,910 --> 00:57:30,829

even begin to touch the surface

1660

00:57:30,830 --> 00:57:31,830

of everything that happened.

1661

00:57:31,940 --> 00:57:33,679

You just gave that example a moment

1662

00:57:33,680 --> 00:57:35,420

ago of another close call.

1663

00:57:35,720 --> 00:57:37,279

There's no question that there were

1664

00:57:37,280 --> 00:57:38,629

other close calls that you don't

1665

00:57:38,630 --> 00:57:39,630

even know about.

1666

00:57:39,830 --> 00:57:41,719

And I think,

1667

00:57:41,930 --> 00:57:43,547

I'm sure that our fellow audience

1668

00:57:43,760 --> 00:57:44,789

members here not only

1669

00:57:45,890 --> 00:57:47,479

are grateful for you sharing this

1670

00:57:47,480 --> 00:57:48,859

extraordinary account of what you

1671

00:57:48,860 --> 00:57:49,969

went through with your family,

1672

00:57:50,750 --> 00:57:51,750

but are so, so aware

1673

00:57:52,880 --> 00:57:53,880

of the description

1674

00:57:54,770 --> 00:57:56,240

of separation after separation

1675

00:57:56,780 --> 00:57:58,249

from your father, from your mother,

1676

00:57:58,250 --> 00:58:00,199

from your sisters, and how

1677

00:58:00,200 --> 00:58:01,915

you found refuge with strangers and

1678

00:58:02,090 --> 00:58:02,929

neighbors.

1679

00:58:02,930 --> 00:58:04,699

And what really comes across

1680

00:58:04,880 --> 00:58:06,409

in such a profound way

1681

00:58:06,710 --> 00:58:09,079

is your mother's resilience, bravery

1682

00:58:09,080 --> 00:58:10,309

and resourcefulness.

1683

00:58:11,210 --> 00:58:13,159

And so thank you for continuing

1684

00:58:13,370 --> 00:58:15,079

to be willing to share your story

1685

00:58:15,080 --> 00:58:16,080

with us.

1686

00:58:16,250 --> 00:58:17,329

I look forward to another

1687

00:58:17,330 --> 00:58:18,679

opportunity for you to do this.

1688

00:58:18,710 --> 00:58:20,840

Thank you Albert so very much.

1689

00:58:21,170 --> 00:58:22,170

Thank you.

1690

00:58:24,500 --> 00:58:26,570

Before we close our program,

1691

00:58:26,690 --> 00:58:28,111

I want to acknowledge that 12

1692

00:58:28,730 --> 00:58:30,739

years ago tomorrow, we

1693

00:58:30,740 --> 00:58:31,965

lost a valued and beloved

1694

00:58:32,900 --> 00:58:35,059

member of our Museum Family.

1695

00:58:35,360 --> 00:58:36,438

Officer Stephen Tyrone

1696

00:58:37,670 --> 00:58:39,619

Johns, while protecting

1697

00:58:39,620 --> 00:58:40,960

visitors and colleagues,

1698

00:58:41,150 --> 00:58:43,400

Officer Johns was fatally shot

1699

00:58:43,580 --> 00:58:45,860

on June 10th, 2009,

1700

00:58:46,160 --> 00:58:47,960

by an avowed antisemite,

1701

00:58:48,350 --> 00:58:50,500

Holocaust denier and racist.

1702

00:58:50,870 --> 00:58:52,585

Officer Johns' outgoing personality

1703

00:58:53,570 --> 00:58:55,729

and generous spirit endeared

1704

00:58:55,730 --> 00:58:56,808

him to all who entered

1705

00:58:57,590 --> 00:58:58,579

the Museum.

1706

00:58:58,580 --> 00:59:00,099

His memory occupies a permanent

1707

00:59:01,040 --> 00:59:02,780

place in our hearts.

1708

00:59:05,920 --> 00:59:07,569

I would also like to take a moment

1709

00:59:07,570 --> 00:59:09,699

to thank our donors. First

1710

00:59:09,700 --> 00:59:11,230

Person is made possible

1711

00:59:11,740 --> 00:59:13,209

through generous support from the

1712

00:59:13,210 --> 00:59:15,429

Lewis Franklin Smith Foundation

1713

00:59:15,730 --> 00:59:17,559

with additional funding from

1714

00:59:17,560 --> 00:59:19,479

the Arlene and Daniel Fisher

1715

00:59:19,480 --> 00:59:20,480

Foundation.

1716

00:59:21,880 --> 00:59:23,252

Please join us again on July

1717

00:59:24,010 --> 00:59:26,260

7th at 1:00 pm Eastern Time

1718

00:59:26,470 --> 00:59:28,449

for a conversation with Holocaust

1719

00:59:28,450 --> 00:59:30,160

survivor Irene Weiss.

1720

00:59:30,640 --> 00:59:32,829

Irene was just 13 years old

1721

00:59:33,160 --> 00:59:34,532

when she and her family were
1722

00:59:34,540 --> 00:59:36,489

deported to Auschwitz Birkenau.
1723

00:59:36,850 --> 00:59:38,124

Irene and her older sister
1724

00:59:38,680 --> 00:59:40,330

were forced to work at the camp
1725

00:59:40,750 --> 00:59:42,489

while most of the family were sent
1726

00:59:42,490 --> 00:59:43,780

to their immediate deaths.
1727

00:59:44,650 --> 00:59:46,630

Please join us next month to hear
1728

00:59:46,840 --> 00:59:48,829

Irene's Holocaust experiences.
1729

00:59:49,090 --> 00:59:51,249

Thank you all for watching today's
1730

00:59:51,400 --> 00:59:53,199

first person program.