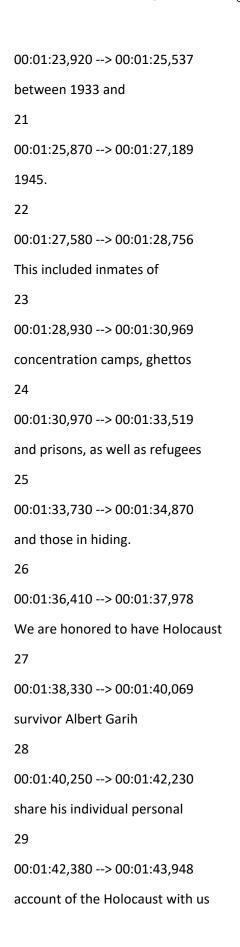
```
1
00:00:46,600 --> 00:00:48,600
Welcome. Thank you for joining us
2
00:00:48,610 --> 00:00:50,080
for first person conversations
3
00:00:50,770 --> 00:00:52,210
with Holocaust survivors.
4
00:00:52,750 --> 00:00:54,159
My name is Bill Benson.
5
00:00:54,460 --> 00:00:56,019
I have hosted the Museum's 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
```

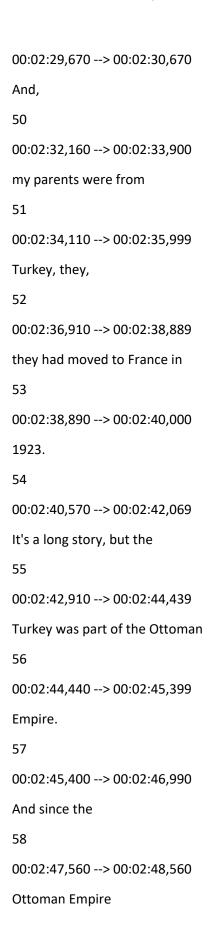
of survival of the Holocaust. 11 00:01:05,740 --> 00:01:07,540 Each of our first person guests 12 00:01:07,720 --> 00:01:10,029 serves as a volunteer at the Museum. 13 00:01:10,840 --> 00:01:12,610 Jewish Holocaust survivors 14 00:01:12,880 --> 00:01:14,409 are those who were displaced, 15 00:01:14,410 --> 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



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



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

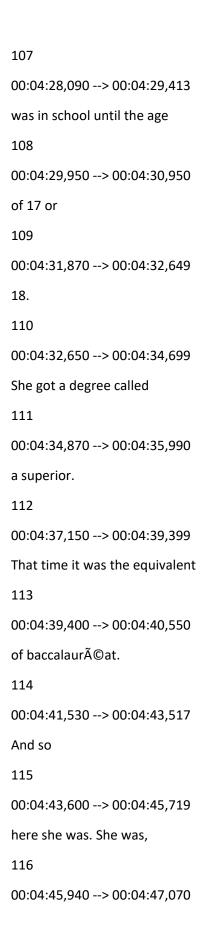
And the Jews started
69
00:03:11,510> 00:03:13,430
to feel uncomfortable.
70
00:03:13,670> 00:03:15,439
They didn't know what was in store
71
00:03:15,830> 00:03:17,420
with this new strongmen
72
00:03:18,200> 00:03:20,659
and a lot of Jews decided
73
00:03:20,660> 00:03:21,660
to emigrate.
74
00:03:22,130> 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

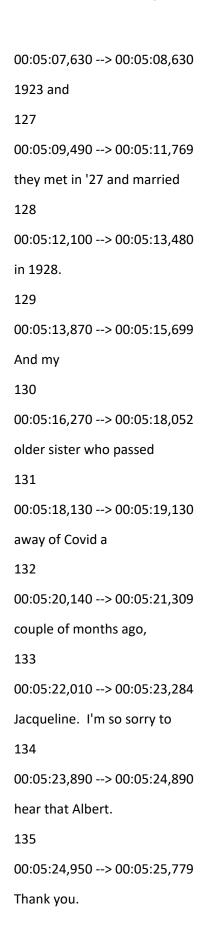
78 00:03:30,370 --> 00:03:31,969 they went, they went to France 79 00:03:31,970 --> 00:03:33,409 because they have been educated 80 00:03:33,860 --> 00:03:35,880 in a school of Alliance israélite 81 00:03:35,900 --> 00:03:37,669 universelle, which was an 82 00:03:37,670 --> 00:03:39,260 international 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

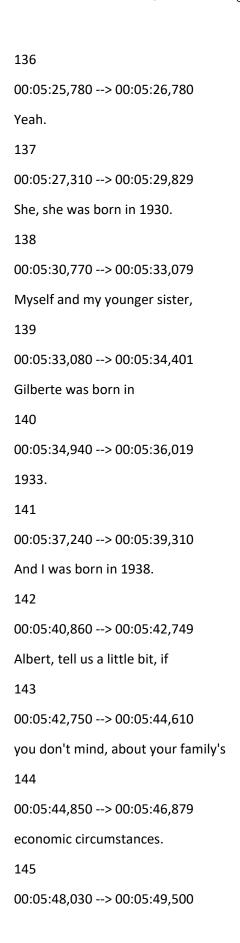
00:03:47,120 --> 00:03:49,219

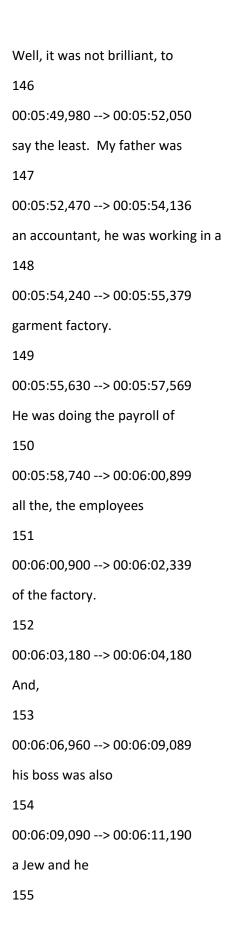
So my parents were perfectly fluent
88
00:03:49,220> 00:03:50,220
in French.
89
00:03:51,870> 00:03:53,487
Albert, apart from being fluent
90
00:03:54,180> 00:03:56,189
in French, you describe
91
00:03:56,190> 00:03:58,079
to me your father as smart
92
00:03:58,080> 00:03:59,780
but self educated.
93
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

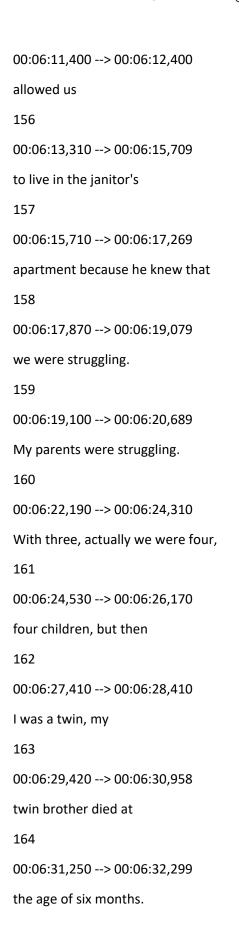
00:04:08,540 --> 00:04:10,189 That was it, that at the age of 10, 98 00:04:10,190 --> 00:04:12,219 he was taken out of school and 99 00:04:12,270 --> 00:04:13,544 he started working to help 100 00:04:14,270 --> 00:04:15,270 his parents. 101 00:04:15,650 --> 00:04:17,839 That's how, you know, they were 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







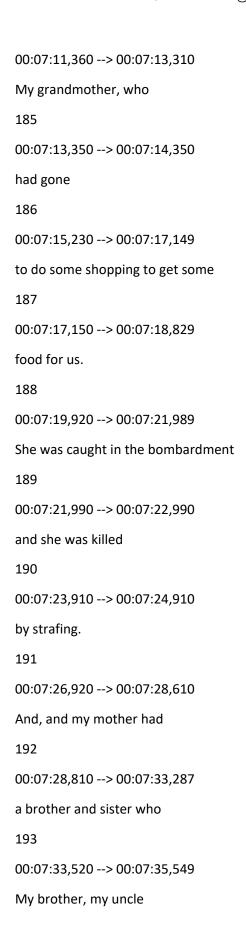




165 00:06:33,710 --> 00:06:35,689 Albert, the year after 166 00:06:35,690 --> 00:06:37,720 you were born, 1939, 167 00:06:38,090 --> 00:06:39,829 that's when World War II began, 168 00:06:39,830 --> 00:06:41,509 when Germany invaded Poland. 169 00:06:42,020 --> 00:06:43,245 But the war really didn't 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

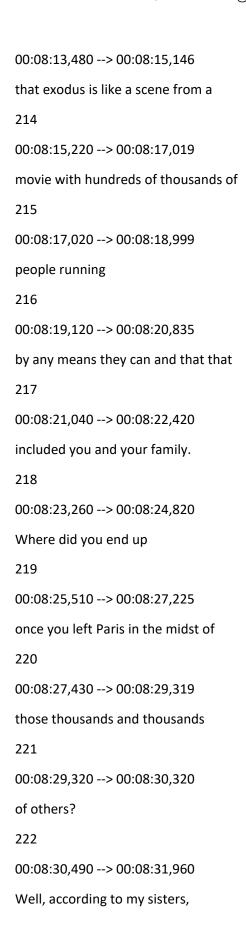
advanced on Paris.
175
00:06:53,570> 00:06:55,789
Nearly 80 percent of Paris'
176
00:06:55,790> 00:06:57,619
population fled the city.
177
00:06:57,920> 00:06:59,449
And you said to me that for your
178
00:06:59,450> 00:07:01,421
family, it all began
179
00:07:01,670> 00:07:03,259
with the exodus from 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

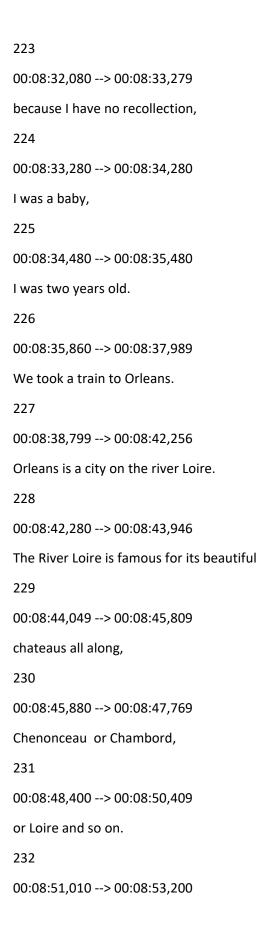


194 00:07:36,630 --> 00:07:39,089 had a car and they were driving 195 00:07:39,090 --> 00:07:41,399 south, and they were in Orleans already. 196 00:07:42,550 --> 00:07:43,775 And they were caught in a 197 00:07:43,810 --> 00:07:45,549 bombardment and a bomb fell on their 198 00:07:45,550 --> 00:07:47,709 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

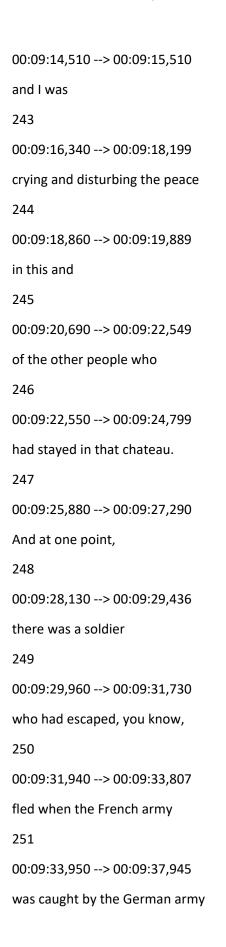
00:07:55,120 --> 00:07:57,069

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





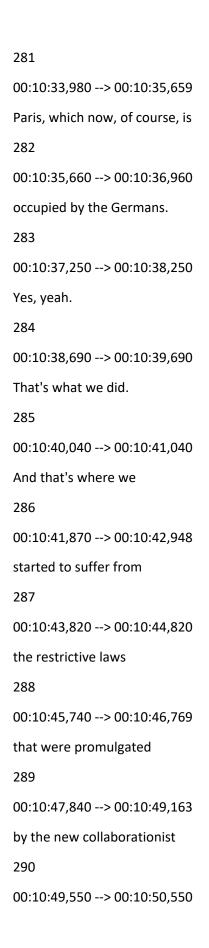
And we even slept.
233
00:08:53,560> 00:08:54,879
I don't know whether it was one
234
00:08:54,880> 00:08:56,880
night or several nights in
235
00:08:56,890> 00:08:58,499
a chateau called d'Avrillé
236
00:08:58,900> 00:09:01,875
Savon there.
237
00:09:02,660> 00:09:04,811
It sounds very exciting,
238
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

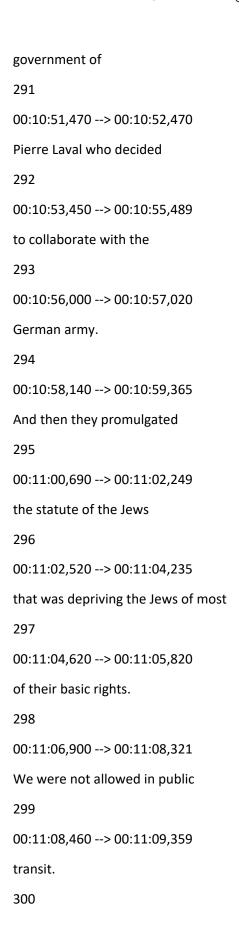


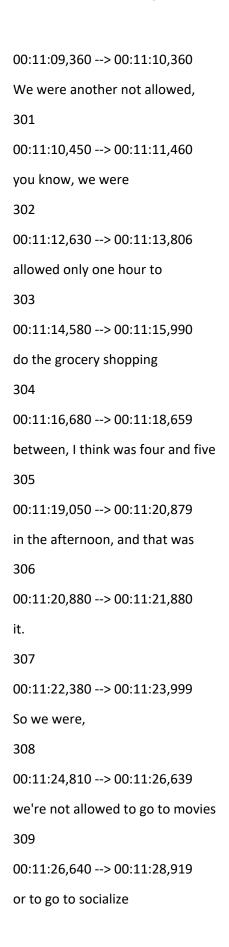
252 00:09:38,070 --> 00:09:39,785 and he was there, he had a flask of 253 00:09:39,960 --> 00:09:42,009 schnapps and he gave 254 00:09:42,010 --> 00:09:43,799 a shot of schnapps to my mother 255 00:09:43,800 --> 00:09:45,118 and he said, try 256 00:09:45,750 --> 00:09:47,367 to give him that, that maybe 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







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

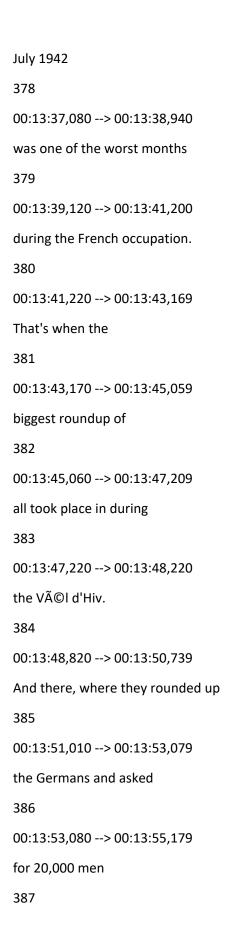
00:12:02,110 --> 00:12:03,399 here in the United States from 330 00:12:03,400 --> 00:12:05,200 Minnesota, Florida, 331 00:12:05,590 --> 00:12:06,668 Iowa, Maine and Puerto 332 00:12:07,570 --> 00:12:08,379 Rico. 333 00:12:08,380 --> 00:12:09,699 And then we have international 334 00:12:09,700 --> 00:12:11,268 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

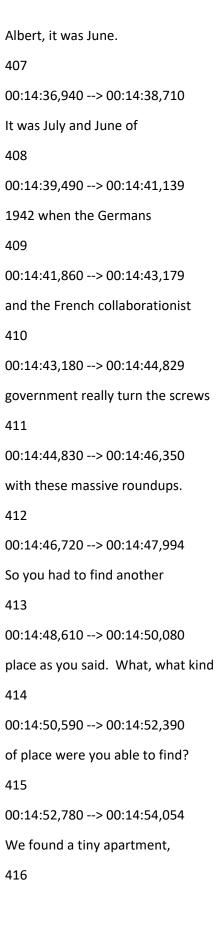
00:12:54,910 --> 00:12:56,350 know, we were living in the janitor's 359 00:12:57,010 --> 00:12:58,235 apartment of the factory. 360 00:12:59,080 --> 00:13:00,520 We were like the concierge 361 00:13:01,060 --> 00:13:02,379 of the factory. 362 00:13:03,500 --> 00:13:04,500 And 363 00:13:05,550 --> 00:13:07,190 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.

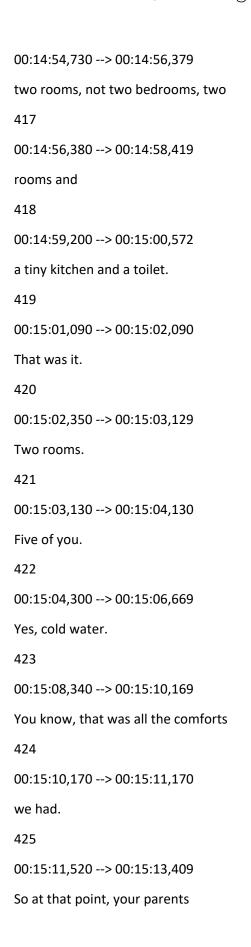
368 00:13:17,010 --> 00:13:18,869 **And Monsieur** 369 00:13:19,090 --> 00:13:20,413 Thalheimer was dispossesed 370 00:13:21,120 --> 00:13:22,120 of his factory 371 00:13:23,370 --> 00:13:24,448 and he had to flee and 372 00:13:25,380 --> 00:13:27,269 we were evicted 373 00:13:27,270 --> 00:13:28,979 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



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

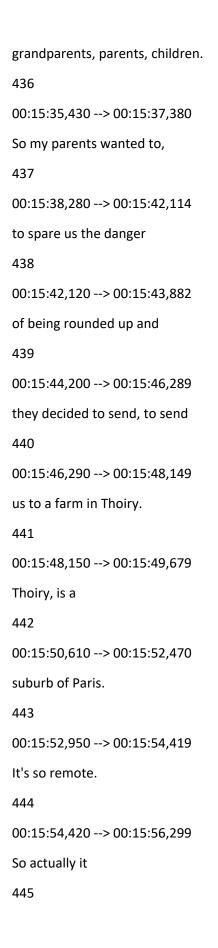
00:14:35,650 --> 00:14:36,650

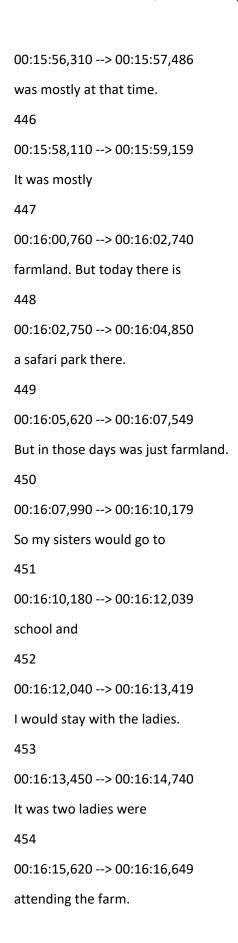




426 00:15:13,410 --> 00:15:15,299 decided they needed to find 427 00:15:15,300 --> 00:15:16,619 another place for you. 428 00:15:17,010 --> 00:15:19,080 What, what did your parents do then? 429 00:15:19,620 --> 00:15:21,209 Well, you know, it was not so much 430 00:15:21,210 --> 00:15:22,974 because 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

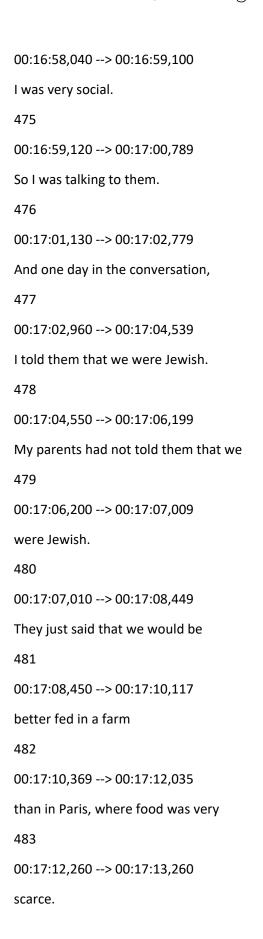
00:15:31,590 --> 00:15:33,570





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

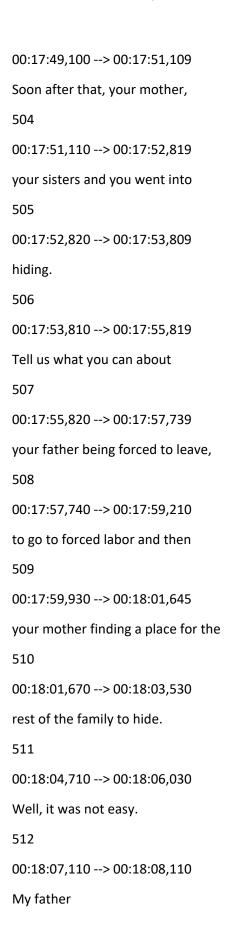
So that's just what
465
00:16:36,130> 00:16:37,149
I assume now.
466
00:16:38,780> 00:16:40,879
And of course, eventually
467
00:16:41,180> 00:16:43,289
you had to leave that place as well.
468
00:16:43,310> 00:16:44,780
Tell us tell us why you had to
469
00:16:45,170> 00:16:46,170
leave that farm.
470
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



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

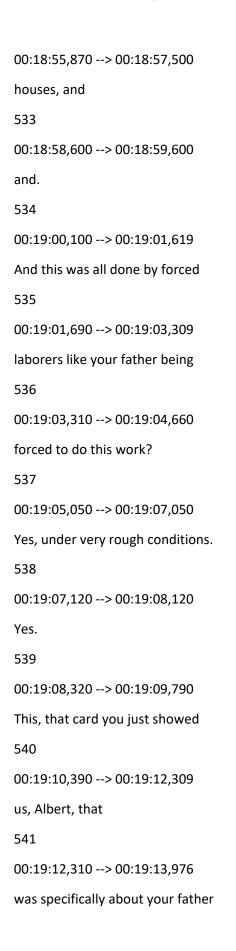
Absolutely.
494
00:17:31,820> 00:17:34,069
Yeah. So you returned
495
00:17:34,070> 00:17:35,070
to your parents,
496
00:17:35,990> 00:17:37,068
your, your sisters, and
497
00:17:37,940> 00:17:39,859
you go you go back in
498
00:17:39,860> 00:17:41,779
in September of 1943,
499
00:17:41,780> 00:17:43,152
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

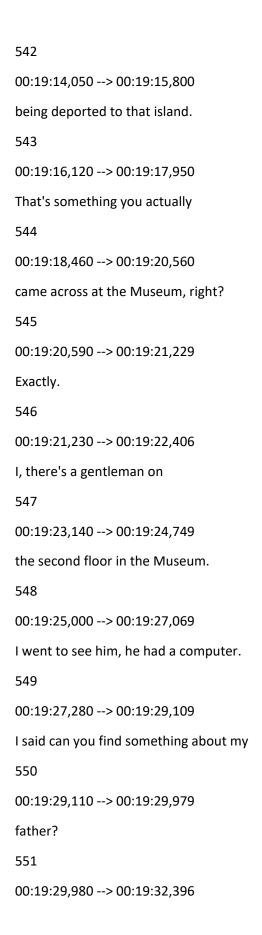


513 00:18:09,210 --> 00:18:13,167 was taken away in September 1943, 514 00:18:13,440 --> 00:18:15,339 and my mother was terrified. 515 00:18:15,660 --> 00:18:17,759 This is the card that was 516 00:18:18,210 --> 00:18:20,119 made of me, Garih 517 00:18:20,130 --> 00:18:21,690 Benjamin, that's my father. 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

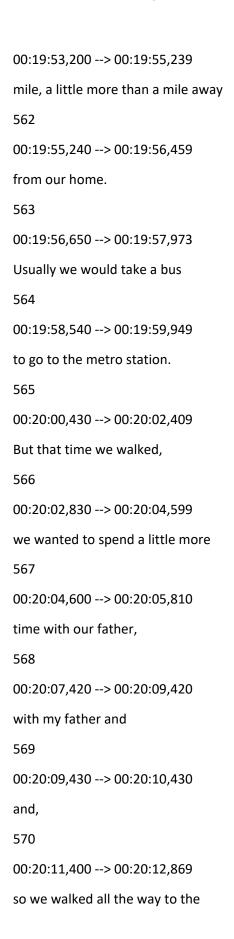
00:18:30,780 --> 00:18:33,000

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





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



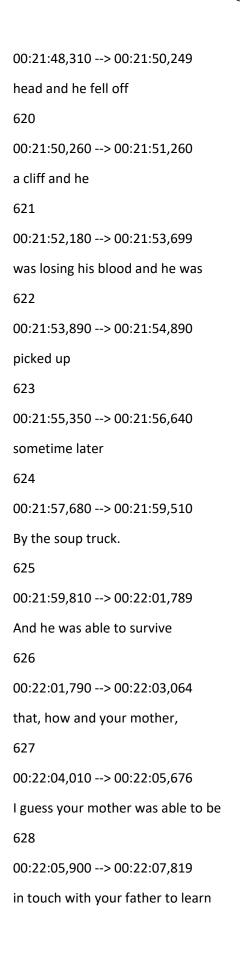
571 00:20:12,870 --> 00:20:13,829 metro station. 572 00:20:13,830 --> 00:20:15,630 I remember my father carrying 573 00:20:15,900 --> 00:20:17,609 his gas mask, he had a 574 00:20:18,420 --> 00:20:20,568 box, a cylindrical 575 00:20:20,730 --> 00:20:22,549 box in which he had 576 00:20:22,560 --> 00:20:24,390 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.

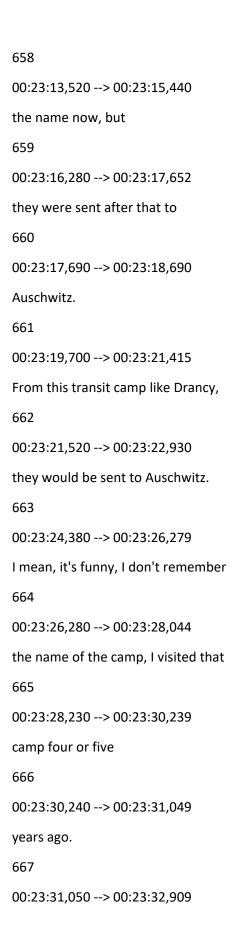
600 00:21:10,110 --> 00:21:11,400 I was four years old so 601 00:21:13,550 --> 00:21:15,809 you know, my sisters were much 602 00:21:15,810 --> 00:21:17,789 more traumatized than I was 603 00:21:18,990 --> 00:21:19,739 older. 604 00:21:19,740 --> 00:21:20,850 A little bit older than you. 605 00:21:21,210 --> 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



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

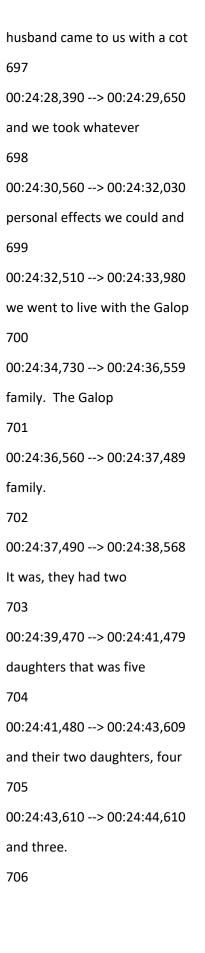
00:22:51,830 --> 00:22:53,729 the idea that we might be taken 649 00:22:53,730 --> 00:22:54,730 away. 650 00:22:55,370 --> 00:22:56,929 Because, you know, they would come 651 00:22:56,930 --> 00:22:58,639 at night, in the middle of the night, 652 00:22:58,640 --> 00:23:00,769 they would bang on the door 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

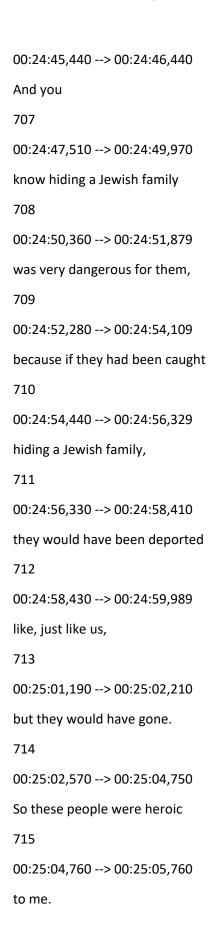


Yeah. Albert,
668
00:23:32,910> 00:23:35,339
so your mom, she's terrified.
669
00:23:35,350> 00:23:36,967
She knows that there's risk every
670
00:23:37,170> 00:23:39,089
moment. What, how did she find
671
00:23:39,090> 00:23:39,749
shelter?
672
00:23:39,750> 00:23:41,220
Yeah, the name of the camp was
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

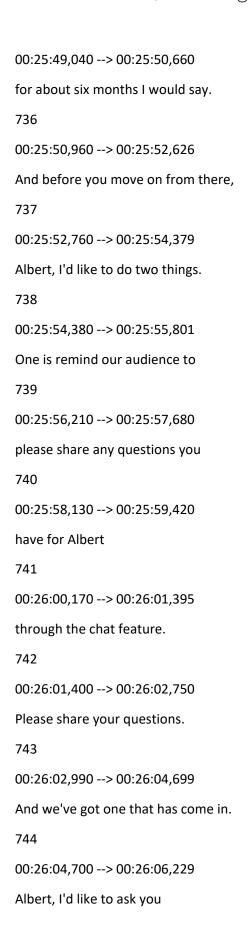




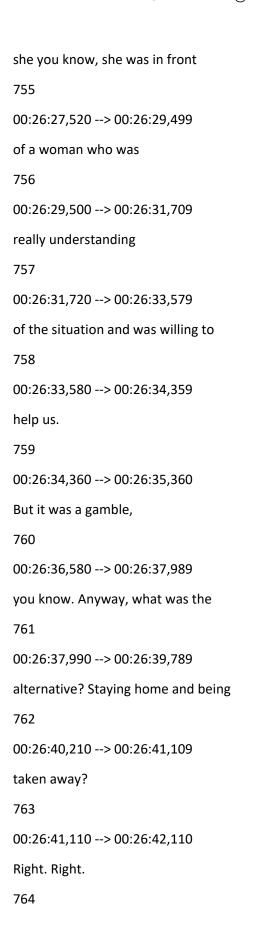
716 00:25:06,030 --> 00:25:07,349 And but, you know, there were 717 00:25:07,350 --> 00:25:08,350 Protestant. 718 00:25:09,540 --> 00:25:11,010 The Catholics, there were some 719 00:25:11,430 --> 00:25:13,400 Catholic people who 720 00:25:13,410 --> 00:25:15,029 had helped also, but 721 00:25:15,540 --> 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

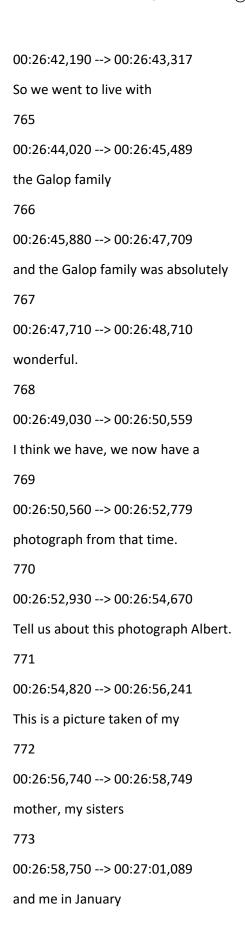
that have then the hard or rendicine
726
00:25:26,850> 00:25:28,619
in the 17th century.
727
00:25:29,570> 00:25:31,550
And so that stayed with
728
00:25:31,640> 00:25:33,319
them and they were very
729
00:25:35,840> 00:25:37,040
sympathetic to
730
00:25:37,850> 00:25:39,799
actually and they came
731
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

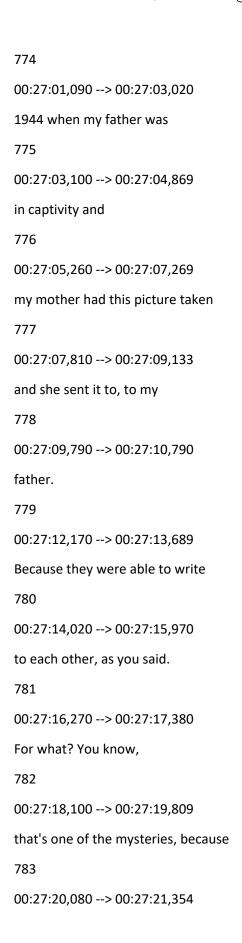
that have with the wars of religions



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







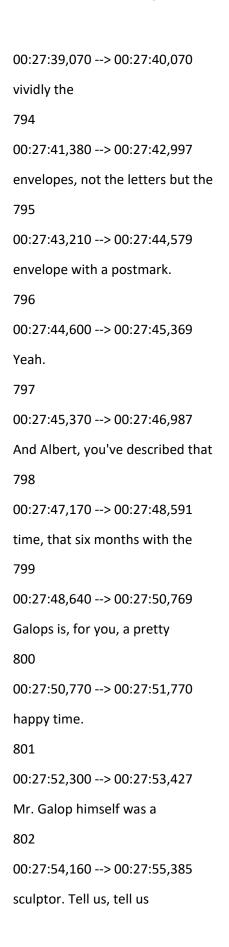
785
00:27:24,580> 00:27:25,580
in Poland, that was
786
00:27:26,530> 00:27:27,819
it, that there was no way to
787
00:27:27,820> 00:27:28,809
communicate.
788
00:27:28,810> 00:27:30,670
But when he was in that camp
789
00:27:30,690> 00:27:32,569
in the Channel Islands, he
790
00:27:32,710> 00:27:34,980
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

people once they were sent

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

784

to a camp



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

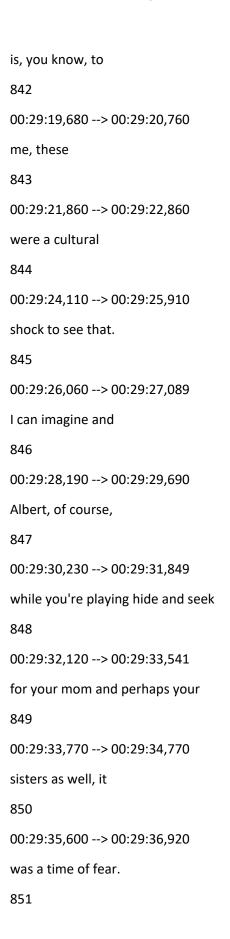
00:28:16,140 --> 00:28:18,209

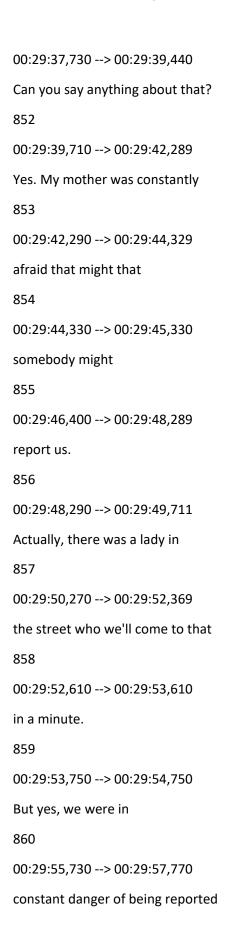
little girls in
813
00:28:18,210> 00:28:20,520
the, in the warehouse.
814
00:28:22,410> 00:28:23,586
Albert, I know that as just sort
815
00:28:24,270> 00:28:26,099
of an aside, I know that you are a
816
00:28:26,100> 00:28:27,100
really serious
817
00:28:27,930> 00:28:29,549
movie fan, movie buff.
818
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

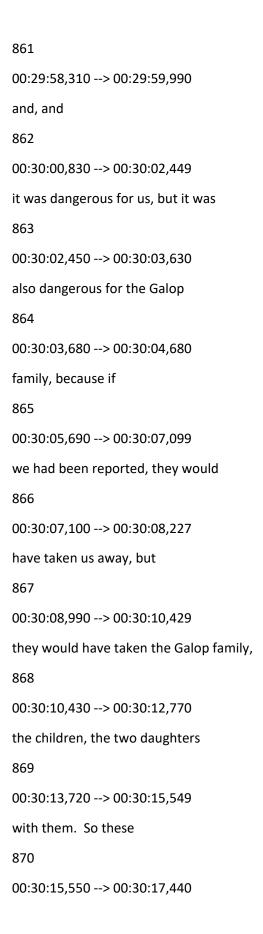
00:28:38,880 --> 00:28:40,289 in those days, there was no 823 00:28:40,290 --> 00:28:41,760 television, there was nothing. 824 00:28:42,030 --> 00:28:43,950 So the only distraction we had, 825 00:28:44,490 --> 00:28:45,490 entertainment was to 826 00:28:46,470 --> 00:28:48,599 go to the movie matinee, 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.

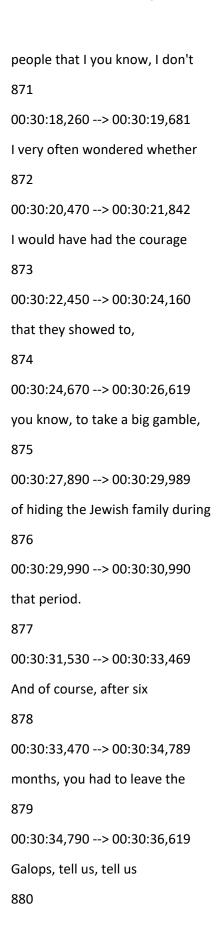
832 00:28:59,730 --> 00:29:01,920 And, you know, they were not very 833 00:29:02,280 --> 00:29:04,160 discriminating about the movies. 834 00:29:04,170 --> 00:29:05,849 It was the movie of the day of the 835 00:29:05,850 --> 00:29:06,539 week, 836 00:29:06,540 --> 00:29:07,540 whatever it was. 837 00:29:07,830 --> 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

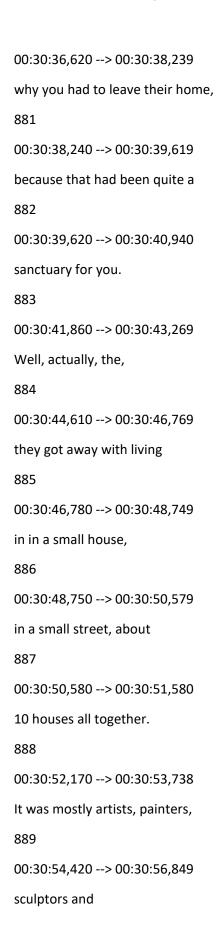
00:29:17,710 --> 00:29:18,710





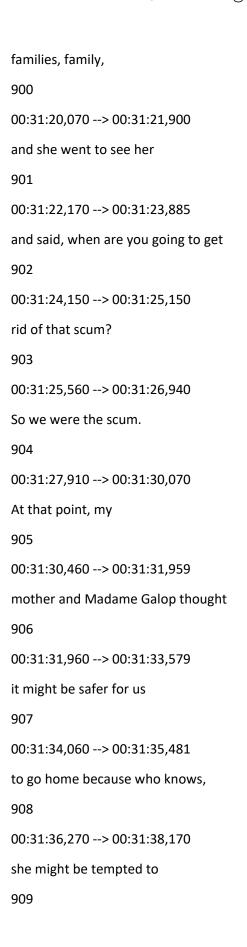


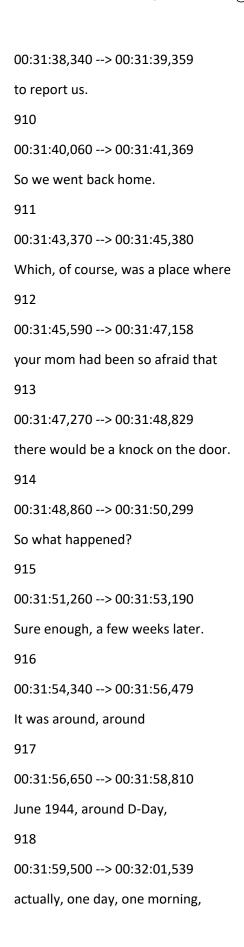




890 00:30:58,450 --> 00:31:00,369 there was a painter whose wife 891 00:31:00,370 --> 00:31:01,370 was a great admirer 892 00:31:02,890 --> 00:31:03,890 of the Reich, 893 00:31:05,060 --> 00:31:06,130 of the Nazis, 894 00:31:06,670 --> 00:31:08,589 Nazis and the 895 00:31:09,790 --> 00:31:11,560 notorious 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

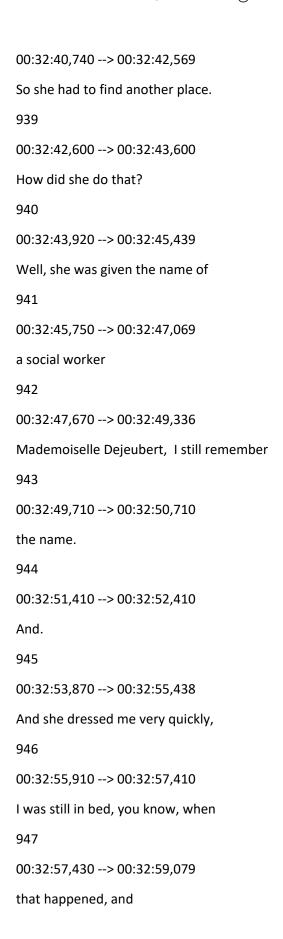




919 00:32:02,170 --> 00:32:03,639 seven o'clock in the morning, we 920 00:32:03,640 --> 00:32:05,140 were still in my sister's room and 921 00:32:05,800 --> 00:32:06,890 we were still in bed. 922 00:32:06,910 --> 00:32:07,959 My mother was up. 923 00:32:08,710 --> 00:32:10,299 There was a knock on the door, 924 00:32:11,140 --> 00:32:12,820 two French police inspectors. 925 00:32:13,510 --> 00:32:14,469 Madame Garih? 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

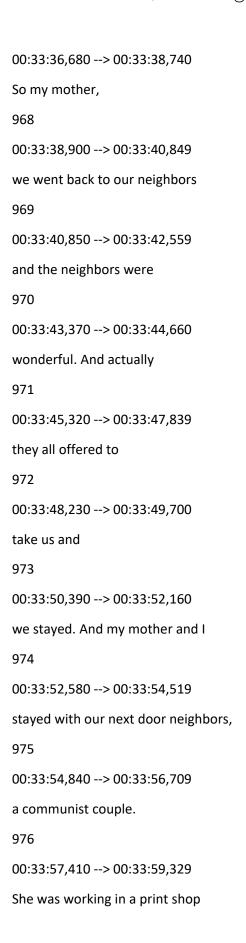
00:32:19,780 --> 00:32:20,780

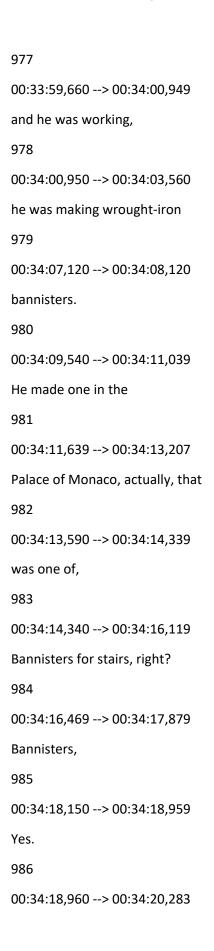
that was, what my
929
00:32:21,640> 00:32:23,520
mother had been dreading all along.
930
00:32:23,530> 00:32:24,804
Right. She started shaking
931
00:32:25,630> 00:32:27,579
and they said, calm down,
932
00:32:27,910> 00:32:29,674
we're going to report we didn't find
933
00:32:29,710> 00:32:30,710
you.
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



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

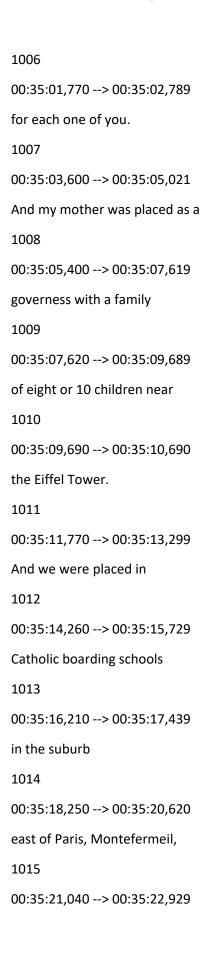




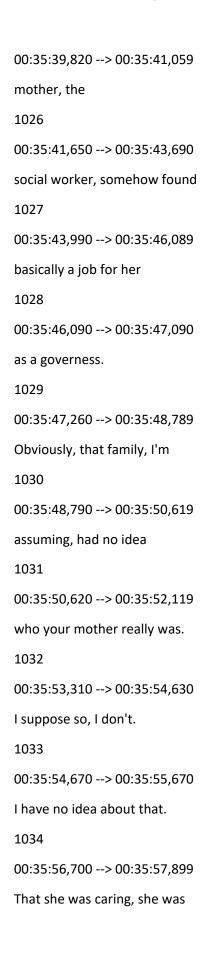
987
00:34:20,699> 00:34:22,320
staircase at the
988
00:34:23,070> 00:34:23,908
Monaco Palace,
989
00:34:24,780> 00:34:26,569
Prince Rainier and
990
00:34:28,800> 00:34:31,079
so they were working
991
00:34:31,080> 00:34:32,099
on night shifts.
992
00:34:34,710> 00:34:36,419
His wife, I understand, because 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

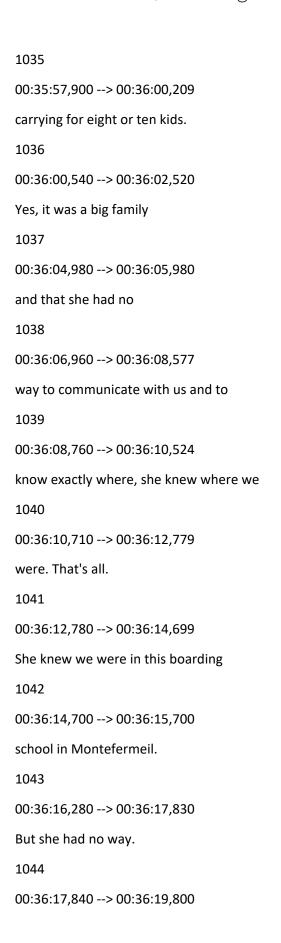
And he made the one for the

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

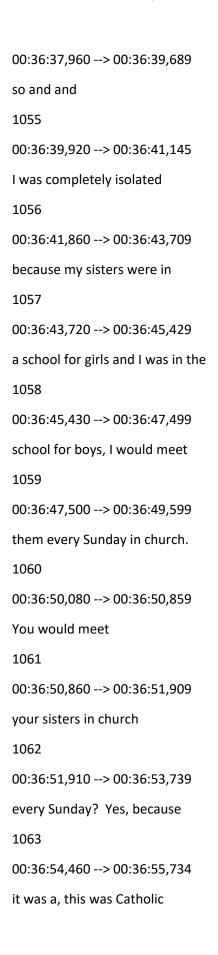


which is famous, made
1016
00:35:22,930> 00:35:23,930
famous by an episode
1017
00:35:24,880> 00:35:26,989
of Les Miserable by Victor Hugo,
1018
00:35:27,340> 00:35:29,249
that's where Jean
1019
00:35:29,260> 00:35:30,699
Valjean meets Cosette
1020
00:35:31,570> 00:35:32,570
in Montefermeil.
1021
00:35:33,070> 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



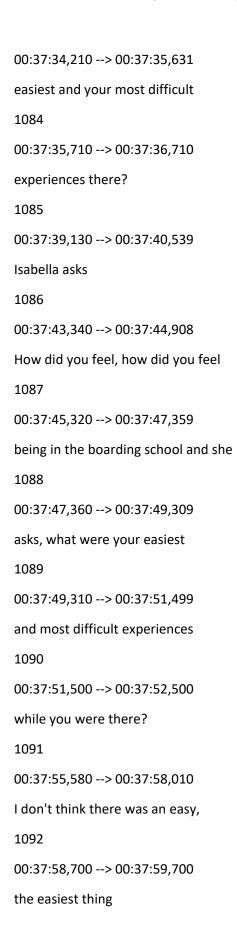


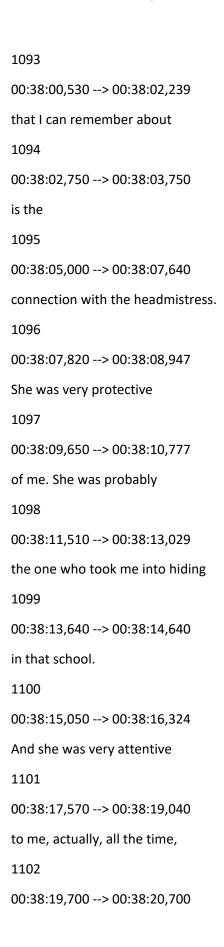
First of all there was no transport.
1045
00:36:20,250> 00:36:22,139
There was no trains or anything
1046
00:36:22,140> 00:36:23,140
like that.
1047
00:36:23,280> 00:36:24,599
And it would have been very
1048
00:36:24,600> 00:36:26,489
dangerous for her to take a train to
1049
00:36:26,490> 00:36:27,490
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



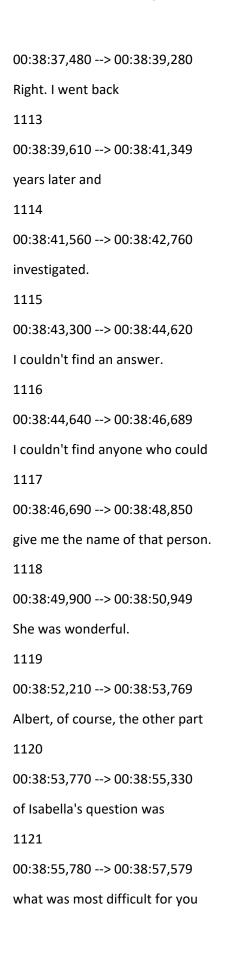
1064 00:36:56,560 --> 00:36:58,149 boarding school. So they would take 1065 00:36:58,150 --> 00:37:00,039 us to mass every 1066 00:37:00,040 --> 00:37:01,040 Sunday morning. 1067 00:37:01,300 --> 00:37:02,739 And that's when I would see my 1068 00:37:02,740 --> 00:37:03,740 sisters. 1069 00:37:04,900 --> 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



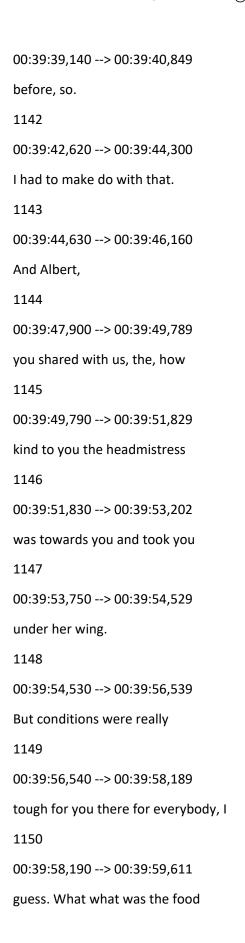


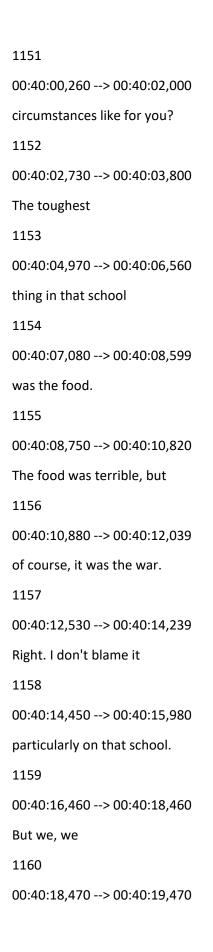
all the time.
1103
00:38:21,130> 00:38:22,649
She was like a surrogate mother
1104
00:38:23,260> 00:38:24,809
for me for the period.
1105
00:38:25,570> 00:38:27,070
And you remember that, right?
1106
00:38:27,280> 00:38:28,280
Oh, yes. Yes.
1107
00:38:28,510> 00:38:30,119
And actually I wanted to have 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



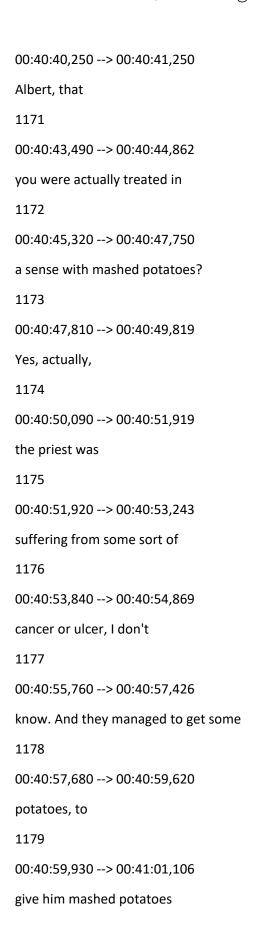
1122 00:38:57,790 --> 00:38:59,139 while at the boarding school? 1123 00:39:00,020 --> 00:39:01,400 Well, the fact that I was 1124 00:39:01,970 --> 00:39:02,970 beside the 1125 00:39:04,460 --> 00:39:06,739 help and the support from 1126 00:39:07,220 --> 00:39:08,600 the headmistress, 1127 00:39:10,070 --> 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

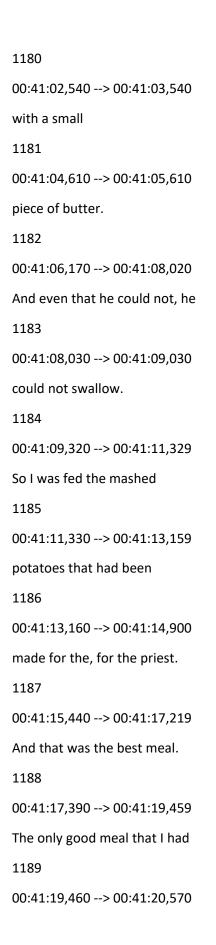
in church, and that was it.
1132
00:39:20,600> 00:39:22,579
The rest of the time I was on
1133
00:39:22,580> 00:39:23,580
my own.
1134
00:39:23,880> 00:39:25,909
I was there, you know, I was six
1135
00:39:25,910> 00:39:26,910
years old.
1136
00:39:27,110> 00:39:29,060
Can you imagine a six year old 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



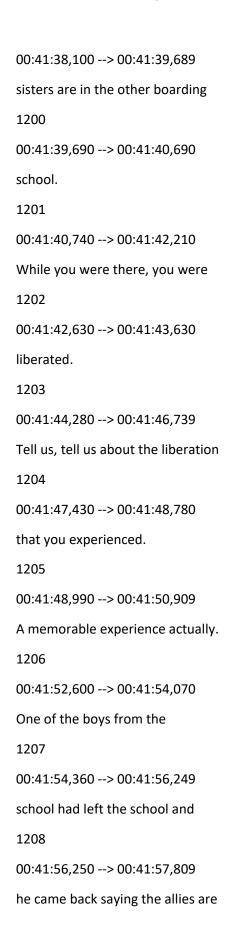


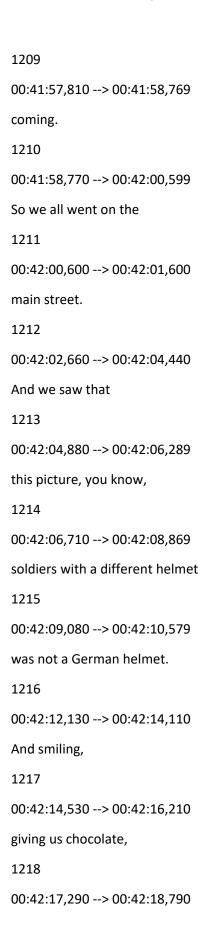
were fed.
1161
00:40:21,200> 00:40:22,915
It was terrible, and I remember the
1162
00:40:22,920> 00:40:24,959
rotten beans, I remember
1163
00:40:24,960> 00:40:26,283
that I was constantly sick,
1164
00:40:27,090> 00:40:29,190
I was suffering
1165
00:40:29,850> 00:40:30,900
from my stomach
1166
00:40:31,800> 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



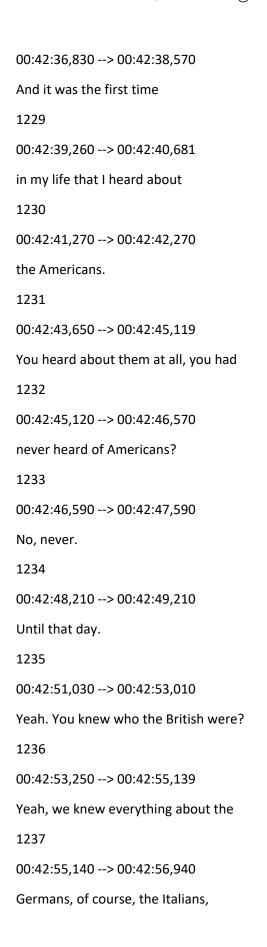


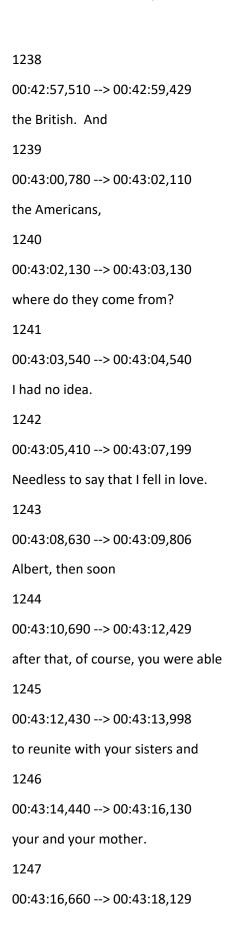
during that period.
1190
00:41:21,510> 00:41:22,588
And since then, I love
1191
00:41:23,790> 00:41:24,790
mashed potatoes.
1192
00:41:25,170> 00:41:26,395
To this day? To this day, to
1193
00:41:27,030> 00:41:27,929
this day.
1194
00:41:27,930> 00:41:30,540
So this is the summer of 1944,
1195
00:41:30,690> 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



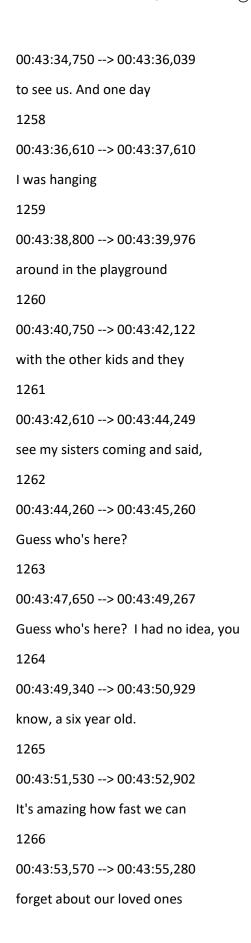


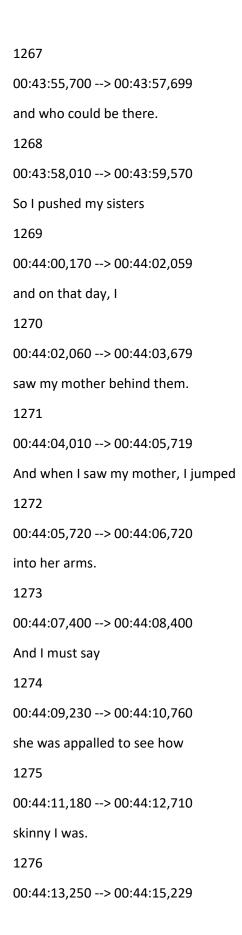
cigarettes, chewing gum.
1219
00:42:19,540> 00:42:21,010
Cigarettes, you say too right?
1220
00:42:21,400> 00:42:22,359
Not to me, but
1221
00:42:22,360> 00:42:23,360
OK,
1222
00:42:24,130> 00:42:25,460
I was a bit too young for that.
1223
00:42:25,750> 00:42:27,849
And anyway, the headmistress was not
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

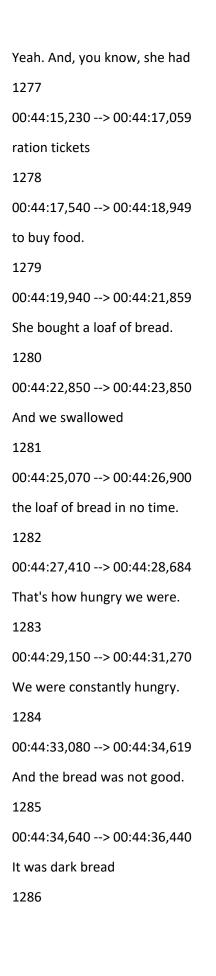


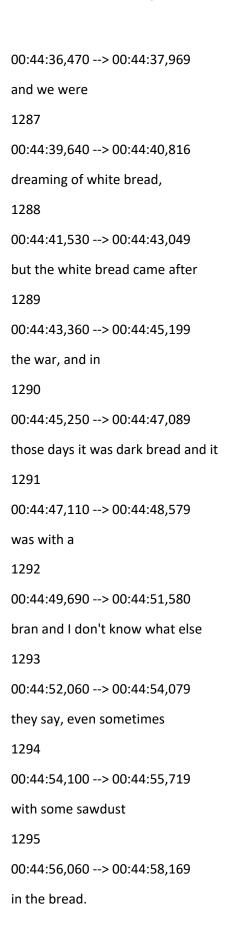


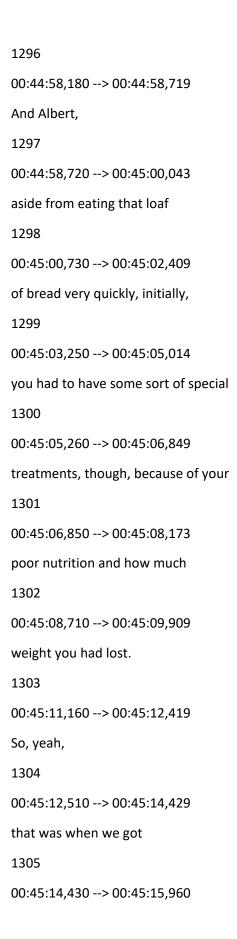
Tell us what you remember about
1248
00:43:18,130> 00:43:18,969
that.
1249
00:43:18,970> 00:43:20,589
Well, actually, one day
1250
00:43:21,040> 00:43:22,640
when, once the
1251
00:43:23,020> 00:43:24,879
we were liberated, they restored
1252
00:43:24,880> 00:43:26,260
the train service
1253
00:43:26,980> 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



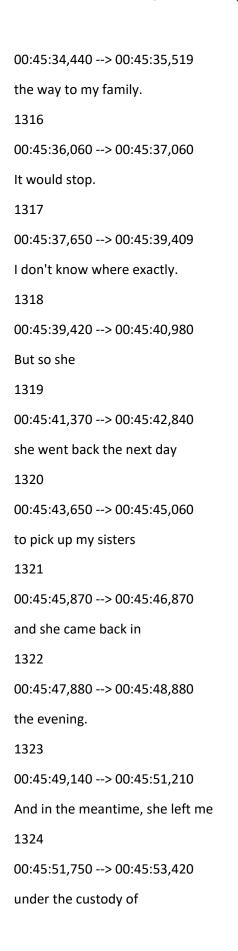


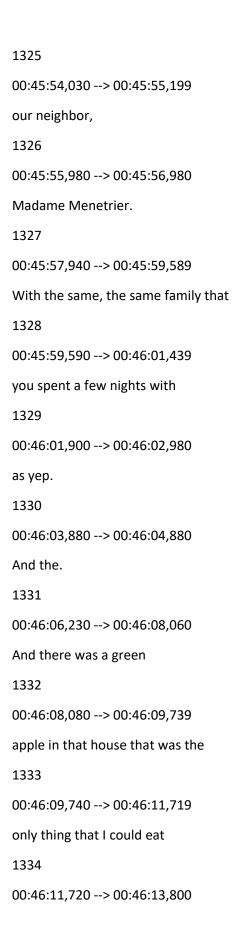




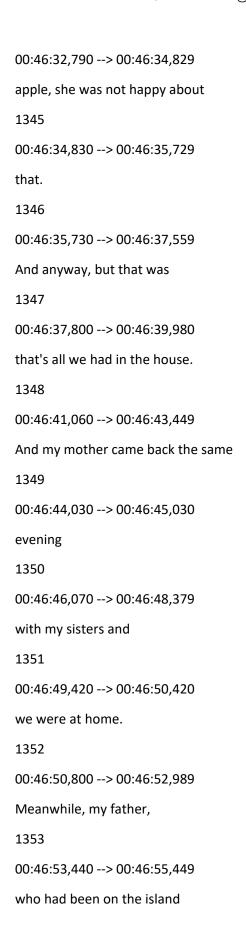


home, actually, and
1306
00:45:16,410> 00:45:18,389
then my mother took me
1307
00:45:18,390> 00:45:20,069
home the same day and the
1308
00:45:20,730> 00:45:22,249
reason I don't know, she had to
1309
00:45:22,620> 00:45:24,530
go back and it was far.
1310
00:45:24,870> 00:45:25,870
It was very far.
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





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



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

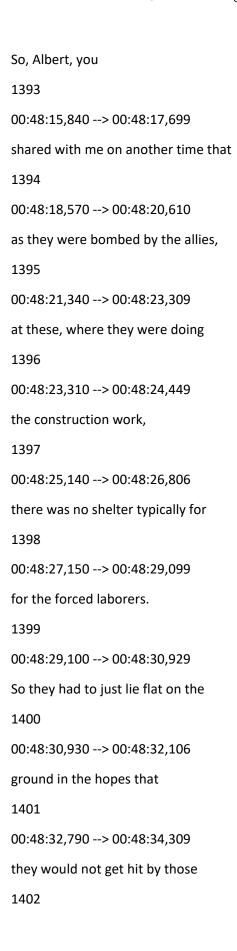
00:47:17,260> 00:47:19,119
distance between France and
1365
00:47:19,120> 00:47:19,839
Britain.
1366
00:47:19,840> 00:47:21,339
Make them think it was there rather
1367
00:47:21,340> 00:47:22,340
than Normandy?
1368
00:47:22,750> 00:47:23,849
Exactly. Yeah.
1369
00:47:24,040> 00:47:25,599
Maybe they 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

Dover, which is the shortest

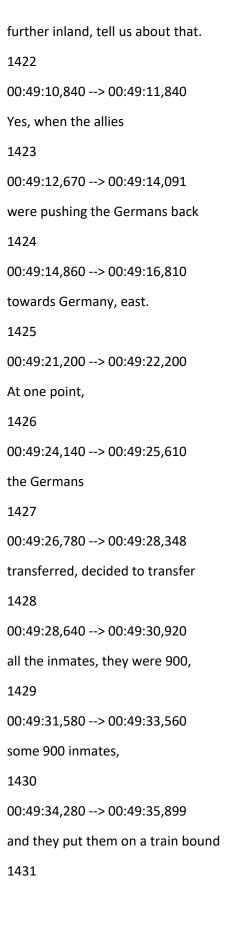
1364

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

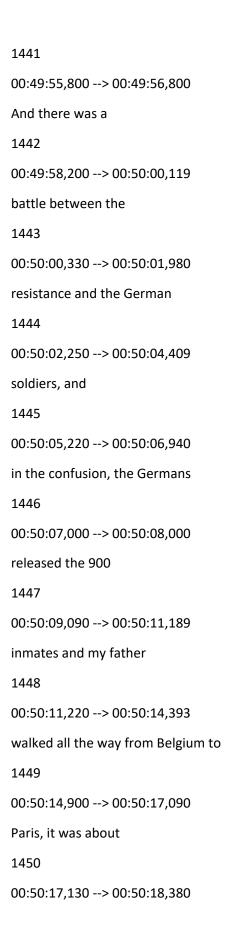
1383 00:47:52,350 --> 00:47:53,722 was a bombardment like that. 1384 00:47:53,760 --> 00:47:55,475 And when that happened, they had to 1385 00:47:55,770 --> 00:47:57,539 lay flat on the ground. 1386 00:47:58,290 --> 00:48:00,090 And my father was 1387 00:48:01,890 --> 00:48:03,360 on the ground next 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



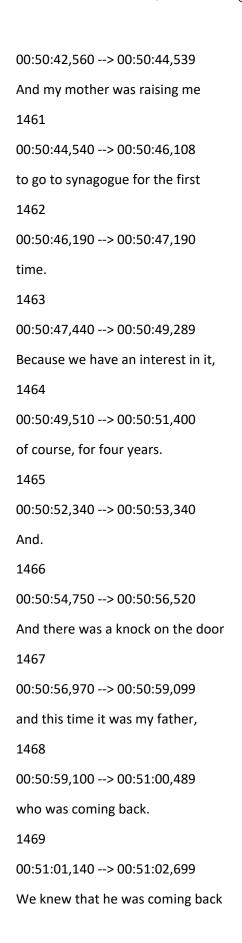
1412 00:48:51,520 --> 00:48:52,749 could have been killed earlier in 1413 00:48:52,750 --> 00:48:54,099 that terrible accident you shared 1414 00:48:54,100 --> 00:48:56,019 with us. So at 1415 00:48:56,020 --> 00:48:57,849 some point after your 1416 00:48:57,850 --> 00:48:59,709 father and the rest of 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



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.



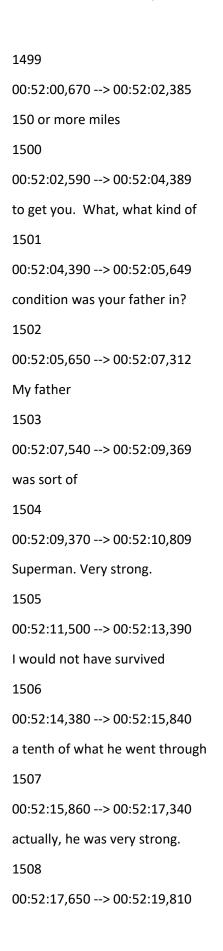
a 150
1451
00:50:19,280> 00:50:20,780
mile trek.
1452
00:50:21,770> 00:50:23,191
It took him a few days, maybe
1453
00:50:23,810> 00:50:25,219
a couple of weeks, I don't know.
1454
00:50:28,050> 00:50:30,059
He came back home and he came
1455
00:50:30,060> 00:50:31,949
back home the morning of
1456
00:50:31,950> 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



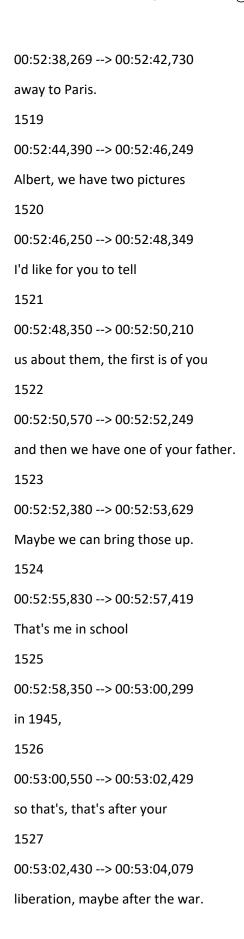
1470 00:51:02,700 --> 00:51:04,500 because he had been 1471 00:51:05,310 --> 00:51:06,540 detained. He was 1472 00:51:07,140 --> 00:51:08,699 deported with 1473 00:51:09,000 --> 00:51:11,249 a cousin, one of his cousins, 1474 00:51:11,610 --> 00:51:13,590 and the cousin came back early. 1475 00:51:14,670 --> 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

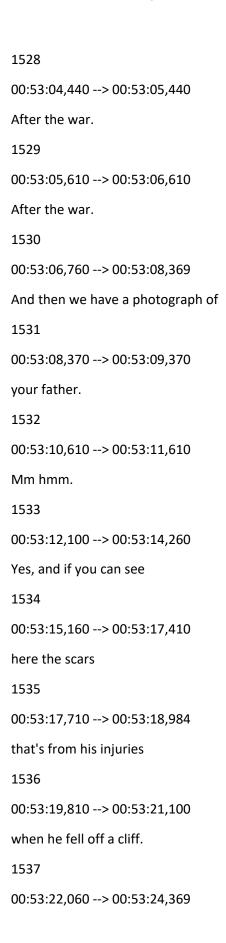
00:51:40,660 --> 00:51:42,190 and I remember when he came back. 1490 00:51:43,060 --> 00:51:44,830 Albert, before I 1491 00:51:45,550 --> 00:51:46,779 share with you a comment from 1492 00:51:46,780 --> 00:51:47,919 somebody in the audience, 1493 00:51:48,910 --> 00:51:50,109 your father, of course, 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



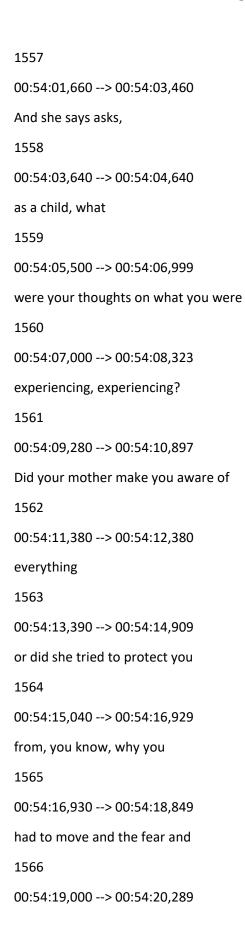
So he survived and
1509
00:52:20,920> 00:52:21,909
he walked.
1510
00:52:21,910> 00:52:23,920
I think he walked and there was no
1511
00:52:24,100> 00:52:25,389
transport or anything.
1512
00:52:25,390> 00:52:26,560
Maybe sometimes
1513
00:52:28,180> 00:52:30,250
the truck would have taken,
1514
00:52:30,300> 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



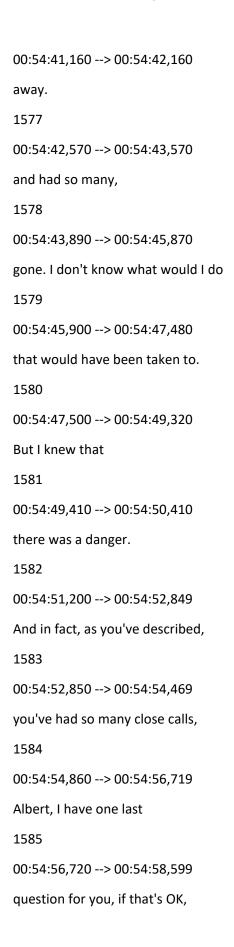


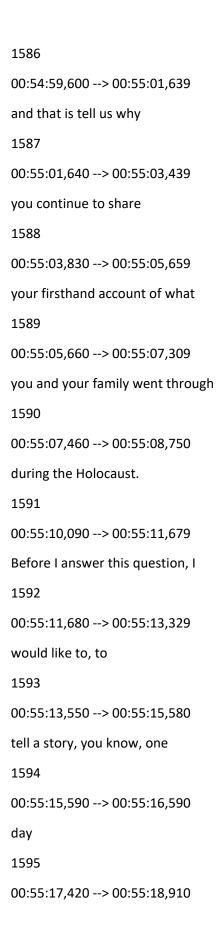
It looks like a major indentation
1538
00:53:24,370> 00:53:25,370
in his head.
1539
00:53:25,600> 00:53:29,410
Yes, actually it looked like a question mark.
1540
00:53:30,970> 00:53:33,099
So, Albert, we
1541
00:53:33,100> 00:53:34,840
we have a comment from Donna
1542
00:53:35,140> 00:53:37,420
and 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.

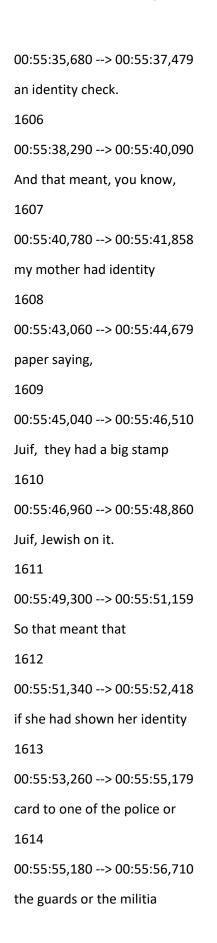


anti-Semitism?
1567
00:54:21,200> 00:54:23,119
It was both actually, she was
1568
00:54:23,120> 00:54:24,949
trying to protect me
1569
00:54:24,950> 00:54:26,899
from the dangers, from the idea
1570
00:54:28,830> 00:54:30,055
of the dangers we were facing,
1571
00:54:30,840> 00:54:32,580
but, you know, 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



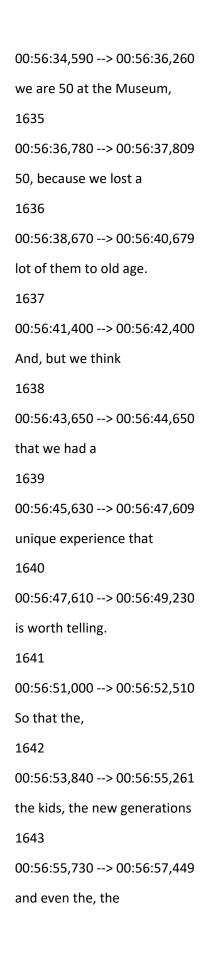


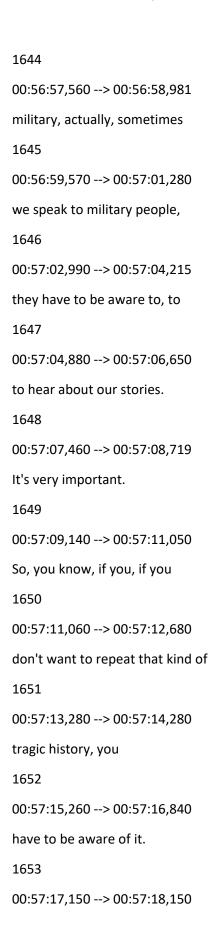
we were not allowed to go on
1596
00:55:19,510> 00:55:20,860
public transportation
1597
00:55:21,340> 00:55:23,055
and one day my mother had to run an
1598
00:55:23,290> 00:55:25,119
errand in Paris and she
1599
00:55:25,120> 00:55:25,989
took me along.
1600
00:55:25,990> 00:55:27,760
I was a bit like
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



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



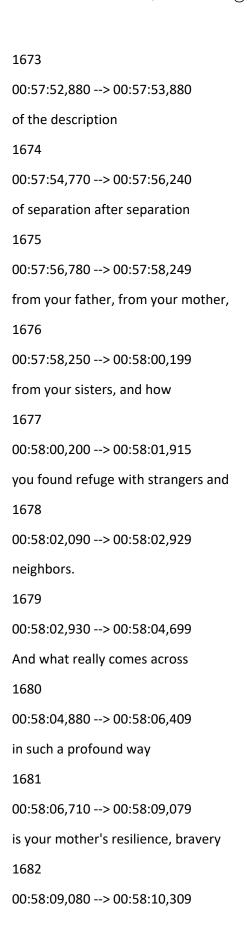


Right.
1654
00:57:18,380> 00:57:19,939
Well, we are so grateful that you
1655
00:57:19,940> 00:57:20,940
do.
1656
00:57:22,880> 00:57:24,769
So thank you so much, Albert, for
1657
00:57:24,770> 00:57:26,839
sharing what you went through
1658
00:57:26,840> 00:57:28,550
with us. I know that you couldn't
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

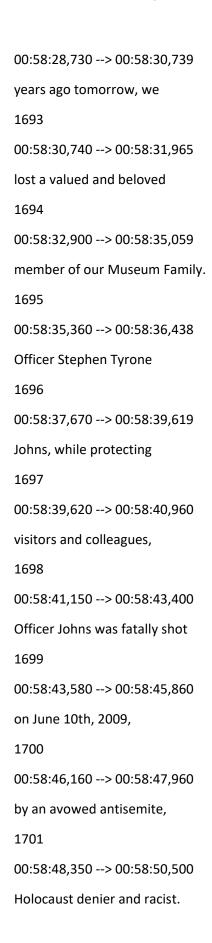
00:57:35,720 --> 00:57:37,279 There's no question that there were 1664 00:57:37,280 --> 00:57:38,629 other close calls that you don't 1665 00:57:38,630 --> 00:57:39,630 even know about. 1666 00:57:39,830 --> 00:57:41,719 And I think, 1667 00:57:41,930 --> 00:57:43,547 I'm sure that our fellow audience 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

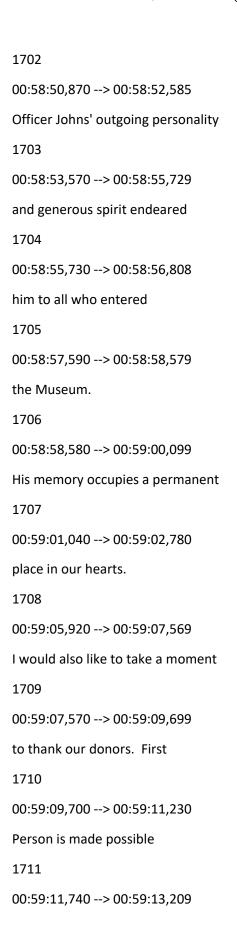
00:57:50,750 --> 00:57:51,750

but are so, so aware



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





00:59:33,160 --> 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.