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Video Transcripts

Video 1: Hitler

At that time, there were already many scary moments which suddenly came upon us and one day my mother and I were walking Unter die Linden which is a famous boulevard in Berlin. And all of a sudden we hear ‘Hitler’s coming! Hitler’s coming!’

And of course everybody had to give the Hitler salute, except Jews to whom it was forbidden. And so she said ‘turn around’. And we quickly turned around toward a jewelry shop and watched the reflection of Hitler passing by. A scary moment.

Video 2: Discrimination

My father was a highly respected music and drama critic in Berlin at the time. And very early on, in 1933 when Hitler took over, he was let go from the newspaper on which he worked at the time.

At the time, I was going to this particular place – Boulevard Platz – and there you see these yellow benches ‘For Juden’ in big bold letters.

And then was another incident: namely on the nearby Kurfurstendamm which was a very elegant street in Berlin - um - glass encased billboard with great big things – caricatures of what the Jews are supposed to look like. And on Der Sturmer – the Nazi newspaper – came upon these great big things

Horror, really at something so gross. I couldn’t name it as yet. But just seeing it one more manifestation. But again, I was so young I couldn’t it really quite together and ran away from that – sort of.

Video 3: Kristallnacht

I was on a bus on Kristallnacht and that was another very fearful kind of moment when I went up on the top floor of the double-decker bus. And I’m looking and all of a sudden I’m looking down and there’s nothing but a sea of glass – broken glass all over from these jagged shop windows, you know? And all of a sudden, there were broken chairs and tables from the restaurants strewn all over. And clothes from the boutiques and piles of books burning. And I ran from the bus all the way home. And of course, mother was – as always at this time I’m sure I couldn’t quite understand what she felt. But as a mother, I can certainly understand how fearful these moments were, you know.