

CD-1100 Transcription

Max Siger interview [1]. 3 March 1980.

A: [00:00] (inaudible).

Q: OK, I think what we're going to do -- I'd rather use this microphone, because if we use this microphone then I can hold it right up against your mouth and it'll be much clearer. OK? All right, why don't you start the way you started, the way you said you would've started?

A: My name is Max Siger. I'm 77 years old come the 15th of March, 1980. I was born in the little shtetl Olyka to [Ida?] and [Arthur Baumtziger?]. Olyka was a small town (inaudible) [Karl Radziwill?]. He had this home up there.

Q: Say that again.

A: Karl Radziwill.

Q: Well, is that...? Oh, that's Radziwill. That's the prince.

A: [01:00] That's the way we called him, Karl Radziwill. Radziwill. He had his home up there, and many, many, many acres and acres, thousands of acres of land. And he had people working for him, from the father, the grandfather, the great-grandfather, and the grandchildren. Everybody worked for him.

Q: Well, how about the people in Olyka, the Jewish people in Olyka? Did you work for him, too?

A: The Jewish people in Olyka was a community of Jewish people. We had about seven synagogues. We had the [Threeske Shul, Basira, the Shneitl Shul, the Boyko?]. The Boyko was a shul but we used to go to say tehilim early in the morning. We had a member named (inaudible) and he used to go around in the morning to wake people for tehilim, that's what they used to say. [02:00] [Yisrael am kedoshim. Yisrael am kedoshim. Shtayn oyf. Shtayn oyf l'avodat haborei.

Q: And did he do this in the street?

A: Yeah. [Adnoi srayitu yushu vadrushku voi. Adnoi srayitu yushu vadrushku voi.

Shtayn oyf. Shtayn oyf l'avodat haborei.

Kir leikakh moitzauta.?)

In the meantime the drunks would follow him and they would holler pershow?, pershow? in Russian. And he used to come early, about five o'clock in the morning. He would go around through the town waking people to go to tehilim. And

--

Q: What was -- you said there were seven shuls in Olyka.

A: Seven shuls.

Q: What was the population of Olyka?

A: The population of Olyka would be about 100,000.

Q: A hundred thousand--all Jews?

A: Yes. And [03:00] that was (inaudible) on the other side the river was goyim. But we had a few Jews live on the other side there among the goyim.

Q: So those shuls must have been very big shuls if you had 100,000 Jews.

A: (inaudible) side of the bridge.

Q: With the goyim.

A: With the goyim, among the goyim. But they had -- they used to have -- make a minyan up there in one of the houses up there. And very observant Jews lived up there.

Q: Let's try to place Olyka first. Exactly where was Olyka in -- it was Russia then, wasn't it?

A: Olyka was Russia when I was there. But then during World War I the Austrians would come in and chase the Russians out because they won the war. And then the Russians would come back and chase the Austrians out. [04:00] And it was a matter of (inaudible) Bolsheviks, Poles [Danikin, Polchatkin, all kinds of devils?]. They would go around with [pens written on them?], kill the Jews. Save Russia. But [we were live up there?]. Everybody wanted to [be barsk. Ransk?] took over. Then the communists came and threw him out and they took over.

Q: How old were you?

A: (inaudible) Olyka. When I was three years old my father left for America.

Q: What year was that?

A: Well, I was born in 1903, so it must have been in 1906.

Q: Right.

A: And my mother was left there with the children there from previous marriage. [05:00] [Was Radfil, Rushel, Maran, and Mindl?]. Mindl is now in Israel. I don't know. I haven't got no letters from her lately. She used to send me letters every week. And now I haven't got letters from her for a long time. I'm trying to find out what happened to her. And all the others must have perished with Hitler. When I became bar mitzvah, you know how I came bar mitzvah? We had a rebbitzer who couldn't see, he was blind, but a very learned man. He came over to me and read [the khmerish?]. And he put on the tefilin on me and he showed me how to put -- he directed me how to put on the tefilin. And he told me (inaudible) three days. And that was the bar mitzvah.

[06:00] I went to cheder starting at five years old with Yeruham der krimen. He was the one that used to take the five-year-olds most. Then we were --

Q: What does his name mean?

A: Yeruham. He was a cripple, on one foot. He was Yeruham der krimen.

Q: Yeah. Krimen means --

A: Krimen means a cripple. Yeruham was his name. Then we were promoted to [Biri Tivitz?]. He [already?] taught us Chumash. A little bit Chumash. Then went on to [Moishe Lukas?]. He was a wonderful rabbi. Whatever I learned I learned from him.

Q: Say his name again.

A: Moishe Lukas. That was [Nathan Kramer?] here in Baltimore. He went to Israel in the late years and he died up there. Nathan Kramer was the son of Moishe Lukas. [07:00] He was also a learned man. And he was teaching here in America.

Q: OK.

A: Moishe Lukas was teaching Chumash, [Vatcha?], to write Hebrew. And whatever he put into his pupil, they knew. Then my mother took me to Rovno, the big city 30 miles from Olyka. And there she put me in yeshiva. And [got me various?] food. One day I eat in one place. The next day in another place. Each day I eat in a different place and go to yeshiva. Well, the yeshiva had all the beds taken up but they had room on the floor. [08:00] So they spread out straw and we sleep on the straw.

Q: How old were you?

A: I was 13 going on 14. And that didn't suit me. Because at night the boys would want to go out in the yard to do

something. So they'd open the door. When they did it would blow the snow right on top of us. And that didn't suit me. I stayed a couple weeks and came back home and gosh, my mother was hysterical because all the rabbis had the [kedurim?] set up already. And here I came back from yeshiva. She thought she going to make a [lampen?] out of me. And I came back.

Q: All right. Now hold it just a second. You were 14 years old. And our mother came to America when she was 14 years old. Right? So --

A: [09:00] America already, your mother.

Q: Yeah. Well, the thing I'd like to see if you can remember is what happened in your house when Harry left for America and she left for America.

A: [Ara?] worked a clerk in a general merchandise store.

Q: This is in Olyka?

A: Yeah. And he went to roll down barrels of oil into the basement cellar. One of them, I don't know, somehow or another he got hurt doing it. And he thought -- my mother thought it wasn't for him. And he started writing for my father and he sent an affidavit and he got over to America.

Q: How did --

A: Then Saide (inaudible) [Chaim Goldblatt's?] [10:00] father was getting ready to go to America and Saide was pleased to go along with him.

Q: Did she?

A: My sister, Saide.

Q: Did she go?

A: Yes, she did.

Q: So she came over with Chaim Grossman (inaudible).

A: Who was related to us. Haim was a cousin, a relative of ours.

Q: OK. So let's back to -- you're back home now after two weeks in yeshiva.

A: After yeshiva my mother got me another rabbi, [Moishe Zairus?]. He was teaching [Meyer?] already Gemara, Tanach, and things that a Jew should learn. And then the war came along. And the war came (inaudible) about that time the war came to us. [11:00] And we went through that war. We suffered. My brother Rushel, he was rejected from the service, military service.

Q: Is this the Russian army?

A: Yeah. He was rejected. You're 21, you have to go to be examined for the army. If they accepted you. If not they gave you either a white ticket or a blue ticket. A white ticket, you were done, they never called you back. But if

you got a blue ticket you were subject to another examination. And when the war was on and they needed more men they called in the ones with the blue ticket. And my brother didn't want to go. My mother didn't want to let him go. So that was about five, six of them. [12:00] They dug up a hole in the synagogue in [Vatzira?]. And made a cover. It was a wooden floor. So there was a cover made on the floor from the floor from the same floor. And I was the watchman. If I seen a policeman or somebody I thought might raid the place I used to go and tell them and they would go down and I'd close up the hole and I'd put a bench on top of it.

Q: Did the police ever come to look for them?

A: It happened so that on Yom Kippur Eve, Erev Yom Kippur, they raided every synagogue, and they took everyone of them out. And my brother went in the service. And they were sent to the front to fight. And he came out all right. He came home for eight days' leave. [13:00] And my mother baked all kind of stuff and got him fixed up. Baked and cooked and prepared (inaudible) he was supposed to go back to the army. And he got sick. And we got the doctor from the army. And he tried to help him but he couldn't help. Died from the sick eight days. He died from the typhus. My mother took sick and she died eight days later. And I was --

Q: What year was this?

A: 1915, around that time. I can't remember exactly the date. Then I was all by myself. There was a stepbrother there [[Haim Yechiel] who took me and Mindl, we got sick too from the same typhus. And Yechiel took us on a wagon, horse and wagon he had. [14:00] He took us to Rovno to hospital and there we recovered. We came back to Olyka. A family took us in. And Mindl, somebody recommended a man to her and she married that man from [Brestitchka?], a shtetl that they used to call it the border of Russia. Used to? Still the border from Russia to Austria. Galicia. And she married this man. Of course he married my sister, he didn't marry me in the bargain, so I was left by myself. I worked (inaudible) I used to go in and see the [lamp?] and oil [factories?] where I could get something to eat by helping, trying to help a little. Get something to eat. [15:00] And worked myself in. I became one of the workers in the oil factories. I worked for my present wife's father. I worked for him in the factory. When the men left and went home from a day's work I sat around to see that -- to grind the grain for the next day's work. You have to grind it, then warm it and then try to get the [oil?] out of it. But we had a system how to do it. And I worked in other oil factories for other people in town. There were several of

them. One was (inaudible) one was (Yossel? inaudible) father. And one of them was [Nahum]. Nahum. One was right near the -- [16:00] where you come in from the station, the railway station. The railway station was 10 miles from the city. And I got in with some, to live with some people. And they got me a neat job. They (inaudible) with a gallon of whiskey to carry a crate (inaudible) to Rovno. There I unloaded it and I buy 60 pounds of food (inaudible) 60 pounds of soap. Bring it to Olyka and make double profit, one profit going, one profit coming back. That's how I worked my way until the Bolsheviks. [17:00] Then they had the Russian Revolution. People came into the marketplace in Olyka. They had a big marketplace where they used to have the marketplace. The peasants used to come in to sell their goods and buy from the storekeepers, the Jewish storekeepers, what they needed. And that marketplace was (inaudible) nothing like it but people, was just one mass of people (inaudible) build a stage. And they made speeches and the Jewish people from Olyka came out (inaudible) they thought (inaudible) big league. But it turned out (inaudible) the [krenskan?] became the [widow walter?] and he was thrown out by the communists. And then they were fighting with the -- [18:00] the communists were fighting with the Poles. And the communists advanced and the Poles

were going back. And on their way back they were taking away the cattle from the people. And the (inaudible) just started evening. And about 30 head of cattle. And me they didn't bother. But the other men up on the way soon as they left town, they gave them a good beating. I was afraid they were going to kill him because when they called them he ran away. And he hid himself. And they pulled him out of there. One was a soldier, and one was a civilian Polack, also with a gun on him. They were riding on horses and we were walking with the cattle. Chase the cattle.

Q: Now you were chasing the cattle toward Poland?

A: Towards Lutsk, [19:00] from Olyka to Lutsk was also about 30 miles. One way to Rovno, one way to Lutsk. And --

Q: They wanted the cattle for the Polish soldiers?

A: They want the cattle to take away the cattle. Take it for the Polish army. Whatever they want to do. Whatever. I don't know what they were planning to do with them. But they took it away from the population. So (inaudible) night fell and one of them ran ahead of us. And he hollered for us to come that way. They came that way. Had a barn prepared to chase in the cattle in the barn. Gave them some hay. And they put hay in front of the door and that's where we lay down. We went into the house and [it remembered?]. Bread, sour cream [go little big deal with?] everybody

scattered. They put milk out and make sour cream. [20:00]
Then they make their own butter. And then they gave -- the
men [call in the big veb and the dzas?]. Everything was
taken away. But they went to search, didn't find. Whatever
they find they took. They threw me a piece of bread. And
they shouldn't see. I gave the man half of it. They
shouldn't see. They gave (inaudible) anything. The
(inaudible) I don't know. But -- because he ran away. Tried
to run away from them. Then (inaudible) daybreak we start
going again. And in Europe through the small communities
they have wells where they had rope and one bucket goes
down and another one comes up. But you have to turn the
handle. And they were trying for us to water all these
cattle. It was impossible [21:00] and they see it was
impossible. So they told us to go on. Then we passed by a
brook, a river, and that's where the cattle went in to
drink. And it was summertime. And while drinking they
thought they could lay down and get themselves cooled off a
little. We had to go in and chase them out. The hay that
was grown in that water would cut you. The hay that would
cut you. And I was (inaudible) after we got them out of
there and we were driving them on the soft road, the dirt
would go in there. And by the time we got to Lutsk I had
blisters on my feet. I could hardly walk. And they took us.

There's a cemetery. Jewish cemetery soon as you get to Lutsck. And they stopped us right there and they went and got two other men. [22:00] No, two or three other men. And they let us stay there. Well, they were going around (inaudible) I don't know what they were doing up there, the Poles, the soldiers. We heard people holler, scream, cry. And we stayed there. We didn't know where to turn or where to go. Finally it quieted down. It quieted down. We ran over across the way. And we got into a garden. We were laying there in the garden. We heard people talk Jewish next door. So we got over the fence. We got into the house. There was two girls in that house. They gave us some bread. And we laid on the floor. Till the evening. The mother came in. They got back. The mother came in. She was away trying to save those cows from being taken away from her. The risk she took of her life to do that. In a time like that. When two [23:00] armies are fighting (inaudible) but anyhow she said, "What are they doing here? Who's that?" And we told her, "They took us to chase the cattle. And we don't know what to do." She said, "I can't keep you here. They're going to come in and find you. They'll say you're spies. They'll kill all of us." "So where can we go?" She said, "Go in the cemetery, that's a good place to hide." So she took us (inaudible) we went over there in the cemetery

there was a woman caretaker. Her husband died and she had the privilege of being the caretaker of the cemetery. And I couldn't walk. I was walking on my knees. My feet were swollen. I walked on my knees. And we took -- I wrote a note and sent it to a woman that was from Olyka but she married into Lutsk. And also (inaudible) so I sent a note with one of the [24:00] kids from the cemetery to that woman (inaudible) the woman came running. She wanted to know if I've seen her parents (inaudible) I told her I'd seen them when they were chasing us. I'd seen them [stay watching?]. So she came back and brought us some oil and bread. After several days I noticed people got running and carrying things. So I got up on my blisters and ran up there (inaudible) also. When I got up there everything was taken. The Poles led a troop up there. And people (inaudible) went up there to grab some. Well, when I came up there everything was taken except rotten potatoes. I took some rotten potatoes in my bag. And I brought it up there (inaudible) make potato latkes out of it. The woman brought us a little oil, [25:00] so we made potato latkes out of them.

Q: You ate these in a cemetery?

A: Yeah. The caretaker, the [mo?] would allow (inaudible) so after I was able to walk on my feet, I went up to camp. The

-- Lutsk was a no-man's town. The Russians on one side, the Poles on the other side. They'd come in and shoot at each other and go back. I guess they had to fight in different places in order to put a ring around the city or something, in order to take it. See, I knew of some people. Was Chaim Goldblatt's father-in-law. My sister-in-law (inaudible) I didn't know she was my sister-in-law then. Her grandfather. And I got to them. [26:00] When I got to them they didn't have nothing there themselves. But they had affidavit for me to go to America.

Q: How did they get the affidavit?

A: My father sent it to them, maybe they locate me. So I took the affidavit.

Q: Did you think that was a miracle?

A: Well, it was something. But no money, no. No. And there I'm in no-man's land. I can't get out this way or that way. Either way I can't get out. Well, they didn't have nothing themselves. So I tied up my shirt and I went into a [budjet?] and I took some [pears?] and filled up my shirt inside my shirt (inaudible) I had something to eat. And I asked them, "Where can I go to work or do something in order to feed myself?" [27:00] She told me to go to [Chaya Vechele's?] Yeshiva. There was a yeshiva in Lutsk under the name of woman by name Chaya Vechele (inaudible Yiddish)

[dortn iz sheva kuchen, a billige kich]. A few pennies, a couple of pennies, you could get a meal. But I didn't have any pennies (inaudible) and I told the man, "I'll work, I'll do anything." So he put me to work. I became a cook. I was cooking lima beans, soup, with rice. It came through, the post letter came through with a line from America they sent. And I had plenty food then. I had plenty to eat. I was sleeping up there on the floor. On hay. And I could help others that I knew with food. [28:00] But I didn't have my clothes. My clothes were still (inaudible) my clothes was you know like (inaudible) winter underwear (inaudible) pants and a shirt. That was my clothes (and belt?).

Q: How old were you at this time?

A: At this time I was about 16 then or 17. And then the Russians did come in. When the Russians came in I find a friend who we knew from Olyka. Because they took him to carry supplies. And he took me back to Olyka. I came back to Olyka, I went to work for the communists. They took up the grains (inaudible) make spirits. And they were getting the [29:00] grain out of it. So I went to work for them.

Q: What happened to [Karl?] Radziwill?

A: He was -- he didn't get caught. He must have gone on. But people came up and robbed his place. They broke the

windows. They smashed. It was a palace. It had -- you ever seen the movies something like he had up there in Olyka. It's -- I can't describe exactly. He made a [program?] with some bells for amusement. It was a palace up there. Below was all these workers on the bottom. And the upper floor was his living. Beautiful living quarters.

Q: Were you ever in the living quarters?

A: Yes, I ran with the rest of them. We went to grab things. I went with the rest of them. [30:00] He came the first one to Olyka with automobile. And all us kids we took off our shoes. We would run after him to see if we could outrun him. The first time we've seen automobile. All the horses in the marketplace got scared and started running. He used to come up. Radziwill used to come up with the cart. And he had one guy stand in the back and one of them behind the horses. Six in line. Six pair of horses in line. He looked like a king.

Q: He was the king of Olyka, wasn't he?

A: Yeah, yeah. So I worked. I saved up a sack full, 100 pounds of grain. [31:00] But they paid me with grain for my work, the communists. And I hid them, all of my stepbrothers (in the attic?) when the Poles come back, I sell it and I go to Warshe (Warsaw) to go to America. But the Poles did come

back. And the communists left. When they left, they took my brother's hay and my grain too.

Q: Oh my.

A: So a woman that (inaudible) used to go around waiting to (inaudible) his wife (inaudible) she gave me four loaves of bread in a bag. I put it across my back and I walked 10 miles to the railway station. And I had a [kiddel?]. In Russia in all these railway stations they have hot water. And I traveled from place to place, from freight car to freight car until I got to Warsaw.

Q: So you didn't [32:00] actually have money to buy a ticket to go to Warsaw.

A: No. I went on freight. On ladders and freight, whatever way, any way I could.

Q: How far was Olyka from Warsaw?

A: Oh, well, like from here to California.

Q: Oh no, that's 3,000 miles.

A: Yes, that's right. That's right.

Q: Well, is Olyka down in the --

A: Ukraine, and that's Poland, deep Poland.

Q: How long did it take you to make that trip?

A: Took me several days.

Q: Do you remember some of the things that happened to you while on that trip?

A: Well, one time I got in a freight car with some Polish soldiers and they trapped me and threw me out.

Q: Did they know you were Jewish?

A: No. No. I had a soldier coat on and I get to Warsaw.

[33:00] When I got to Warsaw I had address for a man.

Q: This whole time you were traveling alone.

A: Alone. When I came to Warsaw I had a address to a man who was from Olyka. And he lived in Warsaw. And they told me that I could stay in this place (inaudible) find this place. And when I find this place, I came in, and I told him who I was. He said he got no place for me. I got immigrants all over the place. They're sleeping floor, everywhere. There isn't a place where I can take you in. So I asked him, "Where can I go?" He said, "There's a shoemaker across the street. He takes new immigrant. Go see (inaudible)."

Q: You still didn't have any money.

A: It was during the evening. It was like evening. And the streetcars were going and throwing the sparks. It was [34:00] snowing (inaudible) snow and the sparks were coming from the wires from the streetcar. And I got over there and Warsaw, the places are built straight but inside they're built round. And there is a yard, a big yard, for all the tenants. Many tenants living in one. Like a tenement house.

But it's round. And before you go in you have to pull up the bell. And then the watchman comes and you have to tell him what you come there for. Before he let you in. And I told him, "I'm looking for the shoemaker." He let me in. I went up, straight up the dark hallway, dark steps. I called up. I see a crack, a light through a crack, a door. And I knocked on the door. Opened the door for me. I came in. [35:00] She says what do I want. I told them, "I'm going to America, going for -- looking for a place to stay." She says she ain't got no place for me. She don't have any room. And I didn't -- I told her, "I have no alternative." (inaudible) And tears were coming from my eyes. Without crying tears would come down my cheeks. And all of a sudden I hear somebody yell, "[in Yiddish: Kum aher. Kum tzurik], come back come back. If your mother would get up from her grave she'd die again looking at you." She recognized the family voice. She was from Olyka but she lived in Lutsk for a long time. But she knew the family. And through the family voice she recognized me. [36:00] She says to the woman, "I'll take him in in my room." She has already got the money from America, she had a room to herself. I'll take him in my room. He don't go no farther, he stays right here (inaudible) so I took off my (inaudible) and I rested up for the night. Tomorrow morning I went to look for

(rich?) relative. [Khat and Sojek?], who was [mamitle's?] son-in-law.

Q: And right now you didn't have any money?

A: No, not a penny. He ran away with the Austrians. He was a big businessman in Olyka too. But he ran away with the Austrians and became a big businessman there too in Warsaw. He was a very welcome man in Warsaw. When I find his place I went around [37:00] asking and asking and asking. And I find it. And when I find his place I came in. She looked at me and she says, "[Wus tust hier du?] What you doing here?" I told her, "I'm going to America." She says, "How?" "Well, I came here to ask you to give me enough money to send a telegram to my father." First of all she tells one of her servants to take me in and feed me. They took me into a dining room and gave me a good meal. She -- so then she came in and she says, "You come tomorrow. I'll tell my husband." Tomorrow I came. She had a zloty for me to send a telegram. I went to HIAS, the Hebrew Aid Society. And I gave them the -- what she gave me, the money. And they sent away the telegram. And I (inaudible) six months. I asked for \$250 [38:00] I needed. And I sat up there and waited and waited. My father remarried. My brother just got married. And my (inaudible).

Q: (inaudible).

A: But we all got together and whether they borrowed or what they did, they sent me the \$250. I waited six months.

Q: Where did you wait six months?

A: I made all my papers. I had to make my passport up there in Warshe (Warsaw) because I had my birth certificate and I had the affidavit. So I went and I made. In the meantime I made all my papers and everything prepared. And when the money came the first thing I did is bought my ticket. And the second thing, I paid off the woman that I stayed. And the time came. We went to Danzig. They took us to Danzig and --

Q: How did you go to Danzig?

A: [39:00] They took us by train. And from there we went. We got a boat. We came to America. And --

Q: Now is Danzig in Poland or Germany?

A: Poland. It was I believe a neutral place. It was neutral, it was. Somehow or another with some arrangement it's neutral. The Germans had control over it. Because I started to yell that I want a boat with four chimneys. This one only got one chimney. See, the Germans (inaudible) trained me quick.

Q: Why did you want four chimneys?

A: Well, I thought four chimneys was a better boat. There was a freight boat that they captured, that the Germans

captured from the Russians. [40:00] And then America captured it during the war. Well, I came to --

Q: Wait a minute. Wait a minute. I want to know about the trip.

A: I came to Boston.

Q: I don't want to know about that yet. Let's save that. I want to know about the trip across on the boat. Do you remember the name of the boat?

A: The name of the boat was *Manchuria*.

Q: *Manchuria*.

A: *Manchuria*. And they took us to Deer Island near Boston.

Q: Now wait a minute, Max. Hold it just a second. I think we're almost -- yeah, we still have a little bit more. Actually I'm going to turn the tape. Hold it just a second. Now talk about the trip on the *Manchuria*.

A: Well (inaudible) the boat. The boat was rocking up and down.

Q: Where did you sleep?

A: We slept in the below.

Q: [41:00] Did you have a bed or a bunk or what?

A: (inaudible) bunk. It was (inaudible) and they fed us in the boat.

Q: Was it a good trip?

A: (inaudible) it was the best week that -- it was that week I came to America.

Q: Was the boat crowded?

A: Yes. There's a lot of people came, lot of people. Then we came to Deer Island near Boston. And they (inaudible) the boat. And they stayed in there a week in the island. And I sent a telegram to my father that I need enough money to go from Boston to Baltimore. And I got enough money to (inaudible).

Q: Well, did you land in Boston?

A: I landed in the Deer Island near Boston. Then they took us in a (inaudible) from the Deer Island to the [42:00] tugboat to Boston. The name of the tugboat was [Money Talks?]. I learned right away money talks. When I came in the railroad station the first time (inaudible).

Q: In Boston.

A: In Boston.

Q: How did you feel about that?

A: (inaudible).

Q: You took a train.

A: (inaudible) and then they took us. We took a train (inaudible) bananas (inaudible) in the train (inaudible) I was very sick. And --

Q: Was that your first banana?

A: [43:00] Yes. I never (inaudible) bananas (inaudible) my life. And after that (inaudible) Baltimore. And (inaudible) came back to Union Station. And as soon as (inaudible) my father (inaudible) I recognized my brother. My father I didn't know. And (inaudible) recognized (inaudible).

[43:35]

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