

Stanley Kiersnowski

Tape 1

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Abstract

Stanley Kiersnowski was born in Vilno, Poland on August 17, 1926 and had a sister, Charkas (?) who was seven years older. The family had been wealthy until World War I. His mother was born in Minsk, Russia which she kept secret so it was difficult for her to get a visa. He attended public and private school but was a sickly child so sometimes was tutored at home. He enjoyed the forests and rabbits around him. When he was 10 or 12, the family was arrested and were put on trucks. The trucks took them to a small railroad station and his father was taken to prison for stealing. The remaining three were deported to Siberia by train which was crowded and they had to cut a hole in the floor for a toilet. The train took three weeks to a village in southern Russia. There the three of them worked in the forest. They were starving so they joined the Polish Army and went south. Due to Polish negotiations with Russia, they were free to do so. He went to Tehran, Iran where he had to burn all his clothes due to lice and bedbugs. From there he went to Bagdad and then to a camp in Palestine where he received a letter from his mother in Tehran that his father had died in Russia. He was discharged to Tehran where he rejoined his mother and they went to the American Consul in Karachi to apply for a visa for the US. He attended school in Karachi and Bombay and his sister worked. He was sent to Africa in '47 to Uganda as India and Kenya became independent. When they were in Tanganyika so took a bus to Nairobi. India, he was sent to Uganda to a Polish refugee camp. His sister gave them \$1200 for the ship to America but they were sent to Venice where they had to pay \$600 for the visa. Stanley went to Milano to see the British commander. He was sent to Genoa where he boarded an Italian ship on December 28, 1948. Stanley's sister and a cousin met them when they arrived in New York harbor. His sister was working making bed jackets and had married an Irishman. Stanley studied radio and TV and did not finish as was drafted into the US Army. He was sent to Korea as it was during the Korean War. He attended NYU at night for six years. He believes that you can always learn something from others.

Summary

00:00` Stanley Kiersnowski was born in Vilno, Poland on August 17, 1926 and had a sister, Charkas (?) who was seven years older. He found out that his mother had a miscarriage when he was in India and a Colonel looked at his hand and knew she had lost a boy His mother was intelligent and from a wealthy family. They had governesses from France and Germany. The boys learned Russian but not the girls and they could not speak it at home. His mother understood Spanish and Italian. She was asked to be a translator at a hospital in the US. Stanley's mother was from Miscotoburner (?) where her family had a large estate of 12,000 hectares. His grandfather met a girl from Hungary and they lived

in a palace with carved furniture but it was all destroyed. His mother was gentry. They had an apartment house in Kiev and another home in Minsk. Everyone danced with his mother as knew that she had money. She had a dowry in Kiev but the Russians came and that was the end of the gold.

- 05:00 World War I and the revolution ended the wealthy life. They owned a car they called, "Minerva." It was made in Switzerland and cost \$25,000 before World War I. Stanley was never there but saw pictures of their home. He was told not to brag but to be helpful to people and be polite. He learned to keep his own ground and don't let people step on you. A crazy man came to their house and ate in their kitchen and his father spoke to him and later the man was killed by a car. The revolution took place before Stanley was born. His parents were already married and lived in Rodoko (?) where the German Army was stationed during World War I. When the German Army met the Communists, they all dropped their rifles. The German soldiers evacuated his parents as the bourgeois were being killed. The Russians were shooting at their train which his father drove to Poland as no one knew how to operate it. They were stopped at the Polish border but the guard knew Stanley's father. His mother's estate was in Bylo-Russia in Minsk. She was born there and could have gotten a Russian visa but did not wish people to learn of her birthplace. She preferred they believe she was born in Rodoko (?), Poland. Russia was looked at as being an inhuman land across the Urals and the land is empty for days until you see coal. You see people walking with mosquito netting on their faces.
- 10:00 The Russians never saw a plane and did not know the world. They knew trains to Siberia. The Gulag was building the Trans-Siberia railroad and buried civilians in Yalta in the 1890s. His father was young when his father's father died. The grandfather was a banker, shipbuilder and land owner organizer. The Jews were welcome in Poland as they owned trades. Even in Vilno, they said, "You own the street and we own the houses." The stores were mostly owned by Jews. Now everything is mixed up like the US. His grandfather was banished by the Tsar and sent to a mine for twenty years and released. He could not return to Poland. He married a Tatar princess and then was able to return.
- 15:00 Stanley's complexion is dark and people call him, "Tojo" because his eyes are slanted like Tojos. In the Army he was sent to a Japanese store and he was given tea and a chair as they thought him Japanese so treated him differently. He told them he was Polish and they still loved him. The Japanese were petrified that the Russians who they hated would take over their country. Stanley knew his mother's father. The family was not as wealthy as his father's family. They sent people to Oxford if they were in trouble and had land. He did not want to see the land but permitted his siblings to sell it. It was the same like he did not wish to go to Vilno to see his house. It was like a large barn and he had to build a new roof and the Polish government charged him a larger tax. His father was not permitted to attend school as he lived on the Russian border of Poland. It was called a wounded ticket and he had to go overseas to study. His father and grandfather

built the Trans-Siberia Railroad and hunted for polar bears. After his father shot a bear between the eyes, he decided never to shoot a bear again.

- 20:00 They attended operas and the father met his future wife. His father had a beautiful voice. They wanted his father to go to the US with a Polish actor whose voice he could imitate. His father worked in a village in northeast Poland on the border of Poland where he helped the farmers to square-off their land. They gave them bags of gold and his mother would not take them. It was the time of the Polish land reform. They rented their property out and it was a disaster so they returned to their farm. There were forests with woods and deer. He was walking in the late evening and saw eyes in the woods and screamed and the dogs howled and the wolves ran away. He went to school in Poland. He had his lungs x-rayed and they found his heart was in the wrong location and would correct itself by age 21. Meanwhile he had to limit his exercise and should not join the Army. He was able to do cross-skiing behind the houses. He was small until age 16 or 17.
- 25:00 When he was in school, the children would carry him on a chair, like a king so his mother placed him in private school. He was told that he had large lungs so would not get TB. He had an appendicitis operation. He was clannish so people did not like him. He was accused when he was ten and was hit with an iron so his mother took him out of school. The private school was all boys. Vilno had Jewish schools and universities so few Jews were in public schools. About 10% of the Poles were Jews. There was a pogrom where the Cossacks beat the Jews. The Tsars used Jews as tax collectors so the people would not like Jews. If a child from one courtyard went to another courtyard, they were chased away as they were territorial. From India, he was sent to Uganda to a Polish refugee camp. The Indian boys told him that the Uganda Poles would not accept him. In India he met boys and girls and learned to fight and dance. All the Poles were from Russia and were divided between India and Uganda.
- 30:00 They drafted five Jews and three Ukrainians, all friends, into the US Army. One man who was drafted had been in a concentration camp in World War II and he would scream at night. Stanley went to the Rabbi and the man was placed in charge of hot water instead of military training. Some people are mean and others are helpful. Vilno was a Lithuanian city. The King married a Pole because he had trouble with the crusaders so became Polarized. Lithuanian names end with "wich." The streets were part Polish and part Jewish. There were many Hasidim and few Lithuanians.
- 35:00 They interacted with Jews. There was a kosher butcher near him. The children would tie a cattail and play together. They spoke Yiddish which he did not understand. He read the Jewish writer Singer's books which were translated from Yiddish into Polish and were very funny. Singer is now in Israel. He brought the beauty of Yiddish into Polish. In Palestine everyone spoke Polish at the collective farms and elsewhere. He was born

into a well-to-do family who lost a lot. His mother, born in 1919, went to Poznan (?) to stay with her sister. When they returned home, they had no doors and no windows. He was sickly as a child so was taught at home by a private teacher. He picked up snails from the ground and got blisters so his mother took him to a hospital. There they punctured the 100 blisters. Then he went on vacation and saw a doctor because he was getting gangrene so got medication rather than puncture. For several weeks, he had to use heat and keep his legs up. He also had throat problems.

40:00 He was happy as had rabbits and trees. He made friends with a boy who lived near the railroad but he was not allowed to play with him. His father's best friend's keys were stolen. Stanley fished at a nearby river that had snakes. He loved fried fish. There was a drugstore in Vilno. He saw his grandfather driving around in a carriage. There was a Scout camp of 100 children. Two of the Polish children came for straws and food and they gave it to them. They made a big campfire and tried to kidnap them. They were across his grandfather's forest. They picked mushrooms. The forester caught them and Stanley told him that it was his grandfather's forest and he gave them permission. Later his grandfather said that Stanley was pulling his authority. He had a beautiful childhood until the Russians walked in and he realized that his parents could not protect him. Some of the authority could do them harm. The Russians asked for a gun and his father gave it to them. Otherwise, they would be taken to Siberia.

45:00 He was 10 and small and suddenly realized that nothing was his, all was gone. Their land was taken away. His father lost his land. His sister milked the cows and he had to find the cows. There were seven sons and war broke out and there were bandits. There was no Russian or Polish police. He played with the youngest son and a brother was playing with a gun and ripped out his brother's stomach. Suddenly, all was going wrong. The family talked all the time as they heard Hitler screaming on the radio. They were afraid of the Russians as there were many Jewish and Polish Communists. Suddenly some of the people had money so they knew they were Communists. They had trouble with the police so his mother went to prison. For ten million dollars in the US you do not go to jail. That time period went by quickly. In Vilno, they opened a nightclub and they had freedom.

50:00 His wife had a hard time crossing the river from Warsaw. There was a famous Jewish Polish singer who got permission to go to Vladivostok to Japan. Stanley met the singer's father when he arrived in the US. They had a good life and suddenly they were arrested and the people kneeled down when they saw his family. Polish Communists, Jewish officers and two Russians came and told them to pack their belongings. His sister was already packed as she had dreamed this would happen.

55:00 They were taken to the station. His mother's sister and her two daughters and the grandmother came and begged to remain in Poland and were granted permission. They

were put in trucks and separated the men from the women. It was July and he was 10 or 12. His father died and others were thrown from the train. The truck took them to a small railroad station and his father was taken away. His father told him he would die so Stanley was responsible for his mother and sister and told him not to cry. He was in prison for stealing.

60:00 June 14, 1941 was the last time that Stanley saw his father. They were locked up in the train. It had four little windows and walls were put up. He could not lie on his back as there was no room. They cut a hole in the floor to use as a toilet and placed a blanket around it. When the train stopped, everyone ran out to the fields as a toilet. When they were arrested, people prayed for them. They knew that if they were deported to Siberia, they could be exterminated. They were taken as they were Polish and rich. There were some Jews with them. One was a nurse. He got mumps and was given medication in a glass and an injection. They also had prostitutes with them. The Russians took people with property and destroy them.

65:00 The Poles knew the railroad stations. Once a day the doors were opened and food was given. They brought along some food. Along the rails were people begging for food. They did not have sufficient water. When they requested water from the Russian soldiers, they would not give any but if only one soldier was there, he gave out water. They had a friend who was a German tank officer before the war who was required to return to his unit as they were expecting war. He did not want to return to Germany and later they learned that he was killed in the last days of the war. Stanley was 13 or 14 and did not know much. His uncle was a senator so knew about politics. The family did not like Kazuski (?) as he sold a train which was just like stealing. He had advisors and got special news to read. There is a famous building in Warsaw that does not have a corner. Some Russians are very nice. The area south of Siberia had it worse as the people were hungry. They were never told on the train where they were going.

70:00 He saw many kinds of people including Germans and Tartars. The Russians were always sending people to Siberia as it was an empty land. A small station might have water though there was nothing in the area. He never saw any animals along the route. Perhaps the people ate them as they were starving in the territories. Later he was in India with a friend who had a hole in his arm and could not be in the Army. He thought the Americans were stupid. The gold mines were worse than the concentration camps in Russia. They were opened with Americans' help. The Russians were starving and trying to get everything from the Americans. The Americans did not care if they were starving as long as the Americans could make money. If you look at America's history, you will find that people with corporations can steal. He was three weeks on the train. They reached the middle of Siberia and then the train went south and then they took a carriage to a village. They were lucky that they were not sent to a collective farm, a mine or

bricklaying. People were nice to them and the family went to live in their house. His sister hid all their pictures in paper and also took copybooks.

- 75:00 People saw watermarks and thought them German spies who send messages. The Russians had never seen anything like that before. They thought oranges were made in factories. The Russians had never seen sugar before. Life was inhuman there and still is today. There were no roads to drive to the village. He was petrified as he never saw such a large station and loudspeaker in Siberia and then went south. They were on the same train all the way. They took a horse and carriage and walked the rest of the way with their suitcases. They got an empty house with two rooms, and a wood stove. They could not get wood from the forest as it was owned by the government. Stanley picked up pine combs from the forest and the forest man asked where he is from and why didn't he run away as stealing pine combs was stealing government property. The park man told him to run next time or he will be arrested. The man wanted to know about life in Poland.
- 80:00 A Russian woman and her daughter came to their house to find out if his sister has a dress to sell as the daughter was getting married. The neighbor warned them to watch out as the mother was a top Communist. Later they took the dress to the mother's house which had bars on the windows. The owner suggested they join the party and become a Communist so they would protect them when the Germans come. Stanley worked with the tractors and combines and soon he attended school. Kerosene was owned by the government and they needed it. They heard the US had strikes but if they were held in Russia, the people would die. They had two newspapers in Russia: Pravda (?) and Avista (?). His mother and sister first dug cellars and later worked in the forest. The Poles did not know how to cut the trees but Stanley had seen his workers do it so taught the others. The Germans had given them big shoes.
- 85:00 They had good steel axes that were two meters long, a meter high and cut the wood into small pieces. They were cheating when they put the logs on top but the Russians counted their work and said it was fine. People gave them cucumbers. No one was cruel. They were not hungry. His sister told fortunes and he thought it was funny. She laid down cards and looked at them. A woman said her husband was in jail and wanted to know when he would get out. The sister told her that the husband was now a pilot. Another Russian woman opened their window and spit three times and his sister got an abscess in her throat. When it happened a second time, she said she got the Russian curse and a Russian woman gave her ashes dipped in sunflower oil and told her to rub her neck with it for an hour. The next morning the abscess was gone. A lady had a son in the Army and his sister was upset as she knew that he was dead and told her friends but not the lady. The lady said the government told her that her son died and her friends knew it and the sister should have told her. Jewish women from a resort selling mountain water came to them and told fortunes. A policeman came to the sister and she told him that he was getting married tomorrow and today have a party with no fighting or drinking or you will

go to jail. The Russians trusted them and gave them eggs, milk and other food for the fortunes.

- 90:00 The sister got sick so the Russians told her not to work. They found out about the father when they got to Palestine. His mother met a priest who asked if she had a husband without a hand and said he buried him. A half-brother in Poland in the Army had a photo of the father's grave. Two years after he died, the family learned about it. The Russians told them not to go south with the Polish troops but they went as they were starving. His sister was sick and a woman helped. He found a turtle to eat. He slept by the river on stones on his way to Iran. He was sick and was sent to a train for bread which he stashed. He found out that his mother and sister were alive and they took a tank train to the Caspian Sea and were put on an oil train. They were several months in the village before they went to a collective farm. They had water and flour to make bread so had something to eat. He thought the Russian girls crazy as they asked for his company because all the Russian men were in the army and they were desperate.
- 95:00 They offered to give him more bread if he stayed overnight. He was small and afraid of the women. He was told to take a carriage to Cavodet (?) They had a contract with Stalin and the Polish Army and if they took a train south, they would get food. On their way to Siberia, every station had a picture of Germany so they knew that war had broken out. The Germans settled in Siberia during Catherine the Great. The biggest problem was America. Would they be on the side of the Russians, English and French or on the side of the Germans? They heard that Japan bombed Pearl Harbor so they knew that the Americans would go to war. Kennedy's father was on the side of the Germans. America started selling weapons and the depression ended. There was starvation in America. The NKVD Secret Officer said he was free. There was a Polish contract with the Russian government so they knew that something was going on. The secret police told them not to leave Novolevolika (?). They took all their photos and documents—only trouble. In the south there was starvation. The three of them left by train with the Polish soldiers to move south. They were taken to a river with other Polish citizens. All the citizens with Polish citizenship and Jewish Poles were released. They were given white houses and the Russians backed out of the fight. The men were drafted.
- 100:00 They were given white houses and the Russians backed out of the fight. The men were drafted. The military men separated from the women and got to Palestine where they were trained to fight. Stanley was with the citizens. The Russians wanted to put them on boats down river to the desert to be killed or starved. Pitchek (?) in the Polish Army had an officer's coat and 80 men and scared the Russians into giving them food.
- 105:00 Stanley was starving and had double pneumonia in Forabra (?). There was a huge river but no fishing. The people were covered with lice. When you are starving you are weak and, easily, get lice. They took Stanley to a hospital in Forabra. There Jewish women

got food from the commander and they fed Stanley though he was covered with bedbugs as it was filthy. There was mice but no food. Sometimes he got onions. Someone caught a dog and they ate it and Stanley regained his strength. It was a nightmare. People were dying. Ten kids died one night in the hospital. Stanley's mother said he should go to the Polish Army and the Russian transport would give them food. The Russian train stopped and they got out and got a tray of food as it was organized. He went to the collective farm with superstitious Moslems and Tatars who kept him alive. He met with the Polish Army.

110:00 He was in the valley and told to go to Tehran, Iran. Stanley stuffed bread in his pants so he would have something to eat. Before he had pneumonia, he dreamt that he had bread in his mouth but he could not eat it. In Tehran, a friend had a dream. Later he got typhoid and after that went to Palestine and told his friends about his dream. The next day he got dysentery. He was unconscious with pneumonia but conscious with other illnesses. He was in trouble and could have had more trouble. In Forabra (?) he did not have coal for heat. There was coal powder next to the railroad so he dug into it to get coal as his sister was sick. There was a Russian boy and a Mongol woman. The police came so he threw the coal on the ground. At the police station, he stood at the wall and requested magazines. Then he asked to sit and the policeman screamed, "Where does he live?" He replied, "At home" and said that he needs heat, does not know where his father is, his sister is sick, so shoot me. The policeman directed him to go home.

115:00 Stanley was 14 years old at the time. His father remembered that when Khrushchev came, his desk had newspapers like in research. His partners came and he said he sees that American millionaires are afraid of Russian peasants. Khrushchev and Eisenhower got along as both are grandparents. They were supposed to meet in Paris but Eisenhower ordered the Army not to fly over Russia. Eisenhower was told that Russia would shoot the Americans. They broke off talking as Russia did not want peace and the Americans sent a U-2. You cannot trust anyone. America threw bombs from Turkey and Russia threw bombs from Cuba and all was settled. The police arrested Stanley for stealing government coal in Forabra (?) and let him go as they saw that he was not afraid. Later he was traveling with 80 Polish soldiers and a so-called officer who backed down as they were afraid.

120:00 His mother gave him up to the Army as they promised to feed him. She tried to save her children and they gave her food. From Faraba (?) there were no more people were sent on boats and the Poles arrested the fake Polish officer. They told Stanley that if he is not sick, he should go to Tehran so he took bread and got on a train. He stopped at times for water and could get vodka. If found with Russian money, he would be sent back to Russia instead of taking the ship to Iran. The Persians knew Russian and sold boiled eggs which he bought and threw away the white and ate the yellow to stop the diarrhea. In the front of the ship were Polish Jews and they were given herring and he gave them

water. He ate many dates and was taken to Baklevy where he sold stores that sold meat and other food. Their heads were shaved and they were placed in trucks and taken to Tehran. The Poles and British tried to remove their lice so shaved their heads.

125:00 At Tehran, they went to camp where they removed their clothes and burned their shoes and blankets. They sold them to Persians and got money. He asked the Polish officer to get fruit for their money. The next day he was placed in a hospital as he was sick and had no papers or money. He was asked for documents but they had been taken away. They cursed him and the Poles cursed the Russians. He did not get any documents when he was released. In Karachi he went to the American consulate and created a birth certificate and applied for a visa for the US. His mother took them as she could communicate with anyone. She made a bible for them and his sister corrected it. The British had gardens, servants and lived like kings. His mother requested that he be placed in school and study English. In Baklevy (?) he had a dream and got sick. He was in the mountains traveling from Baklevy with the windows closed because as you look down you see buses, cars and trucks that were destroyed and fell down. It was scary.

130:00 The Persian driver was driving a military truck and smoked hashish and drove with his legs. He blew his horn at the train instead of slowing down. They stopped at a place that sold coffee, beautiful carpets, donkeys and horses. Tea was sold but most of them had no money. On the way to Tehran, he came down with typhoid. When he became conscious, he saw someone get money by joining the Polish Army School for children so he joined, too. They were loaded with boys headed for Palestine. His mother arrived and could not find him. They left Iran and got to the desert and the Polish Army surrounded them. They were told that they were not going anywhere as Iraq is very dangerous and soldiers guarded them. They went to Bagdad and then to Jerusalem where the Jews threw oranges and grapefruits to them. They arrived at Camp Baksheesh (?) near Gadara (?). The British built showers on one hill and they guarded the property with a stick. An Arab came on a donkey and he tried to stop him with the stick and screamed. There were 1200 men from the camp and they grabbed stones and ran toward the Arabs and they ran. From Gadara (?) were open tanks with machine guns against the Arabs. It was a dangerous place.

135:00 You had to jump on the trucks without letting go so they were free to empty your pockets. It was nice that everyone spoke Polish. He attended school and had wonderful Polish professors who had been deported to Russia. It was a gymnasium. Sikorski had made an agreement in '41 with Stalin that deportees were released through the Gulag but everyone was allowed to leave Russia. The Germans reacted and Stalin closed exports to Iran. The Communist Army fought in Poland and went to Berlin. The Poles were in the battle of Lenin in Russia and slaughtered General Jermerski (?) and 140 from the Gulag.

140:00 They were given the choice of getting Russian citizenship or returning to the Gulag. The rest were placed in the army, most preferred the Polish Army. The Americans were afraid of losing Russia who fought the Germans. Poland had the 5th largest army in the Second World War. Stanley left early and his mother and sister left later to Tehran where the mother was able to use her English. His mother was able to send a man to a house. They traveled to Tehran through the mountains with guns and a Persian general helped them return. His mother returned to Tehran and took passports for Africa and Australia. Meanwhile he was in Palestine writing letters to all the camps for Poles as he was looking for his mother. He received a reply from Tehran as his mother wrote to the camp commander that his father had died in Russia. The officer who was with his father said he was singing and joking and made the night watchman as he had no hand. His father's commander had removed his rations as he said if you don't work, you don't eat.

145:00 The father got potatoes and bread. He was like a beggar. Stanley does not know if his father died from typhus or he got poisoned. His father could not eat lamb as he was allergic and he died quickly. His mother was a translator at a conference in Tehran. An intelligence officer there said that she cannot go to Poland due to negotiations. In Karachi (?) his mother went to the camp and told the British commander to put his feet down and he was polite to her. Everyone talked about democracy. An old woman had a bench, table and a bed and his mother asked for an easy chair for her. Other Polish people asked why should you get an easy chair as this is democracy. Since his mother was an interpreter, she traveled first class on the ship. In Karachi she asked why were they in the British Army and was told they would teach them to fight. His mother knew General Ansley (?), Commander of the Polish Army in the Middle East as he had visited her farm.

150:00 Stanley had to decide whether to live in Palestine or become a civilian. He was discharged to Tehran where he met his mother and was shocked as now he was taller than her. He had grown taller in the one and one-half or two years since he last saw her. They went to Karachi, India as not accepted by the Americans. The British sent people to Australia, New Zealand, Canada and Mexico but the Americans did not accept any Poles or Jews. A Jewish ship, the St. Louis, went to Cuba and the Dominican Republic but it returned. He had to get a quota number in '43 so in Karachi he applied for the US. He went to school to learn English. He asked the British, American Red Cross and police for magazines that he sold to Indian storekeepers. With the money he made, he rented a bike and bought food. He had an unpleasant experience. Outside the Red Cross was a group of American officers with Indians telling their fortunes. One officer asked for his fortune and the fortune teller did not want to respond. Finally, he responded and said that if he was going to Brussels today, he was a pilot and would be killed tomorrow. In India, never be mean to a beggar.

155:00 They can curse you as they have powers like a yoga. He saw a yoga who could not breathe and the doctor pronounced him dead. The next day, they dug out his coffin and he woke up. They took a stick and an umbrella and placed a ball on each end and spun them. It showed amazing concentration. They placed a metal stick on the table and tied his eyes so he could not see and spun him around. It was a different world. He went to school with the Franciscan Fathers who were mostly Belgium teachers. He could not communicate with them. They had a Russian Cossack who taught French. He had run away during the Russian Revolution to Burma and India. Quite a few Russians had run away to live in Kazakhstan. Stanley communicated through him at the school. The Cossack could not go to a Moslem restaurant but he took them anyway as he was friendly with Moslems. A cousin in the US found out they were in Russia and Stanley responded that they had been deported there. His Cousin Hanja (?) went to Madeira School for rich girls in America. Their house was next to Edisons. They lived in a fenced-in park. His daughter was beautiful but there was something wrong with her. She made bed jackets and met a girl from Madeira whose father is in Karachi and she said she has family in Karachi. She asked Stanley's sister to work for the American military camp and placed his mother in airplane assembly.

160:00 The hangar was tremendous and held a German zeppelin. His mother worked in the secret section and thought they were dumb as they left top secret papers on the floor. A cousin said that the Americans were bombing so friendly fire was blowing them up. The Americans were bombing Polish positions instead of German ones. He got a rifle but did not pull the trigger. The American soldiers were playing cowboy and pulling triggers and sometimes a bullet came out. Stanley was petrified so he hid at the barracks. Sometimes the rifle had a bullet and they were playing around and the bullet came out. Stanley was drafted into the US Army during the Korean War. Soldiers were crying who were on their way to Korea. He felt there was no morale. He was placed in a barracks made for cars with barbed wire all around and it smelled badly from the fuel. A Black guy had gunpowder on his face and said we will all die like brothers. Someone from Texas entered the barracks and said he was happy to meet other Texans. The soldiers were 18 and 19 and not prepared. The Abyssinian and Indian soldiers were 30 and 40 and wanted to die. They were professional army but the American army were young draftees. He wound up in Korea as first thought going to war with Russia or China going to Japan.

165:00 Daniel Pearl was killed. He should not have been there. He did not walk into town as he might have been shot. They threw everything out of the windows of the tall apartment houses. The Americans had no work for him in Karachi so his sister worked as a cashier at the Kowalski (?) Restaurant. People gave her different currency as they came from other countries but she was honest. Her clothes were burned by kerosene. No one gave her money. She was going out. A soldier with a burnt face and lips from a fire fight walked in and took Stanley's mother and they went on a date to karaoke to cheer him up.

He was in Karachi in '43 or '44. He went to school to study English for three months and then went to Bombay. He had poor grades. He passed the 8th grade exam. It took him three months to go from 7th to 8th grade. He went to the priest and told him he was Catholic and does not want to be in the Protestant School in Bombay so was transferred to a Jesuit School. He wanted to enter 9th grade. He asked for help in learning math. The priest got a book and told him to write and memorize all the words.

170:00 He got pass/fail in English, got 2nd place in geography, religion and math and almost failed drawing. Instead of painting a design in a circle, he subdivided the circle. He lost his certificate when the ship sank but Cambridge gave him a certificate. Father Beech (?) was badly sunburned and he went to see him and was shocked to see nude women tattooed all over him. The Father had been in the Merchant Marines in India and was engaged to be married. He went to England and when he returned, his fiancée was married so he became a priest. He influenced his life by sacrificing. The students slept on the 3rd floor, the priests on the 2nd and the bathroom was on the 1st floor. A monk was always watching them in the corridors so they had to behave. One day Father Beech asked Stanley if he wanted a drink so they drank and talked about Africa. He wrote Stanley that they were progressing with a new principal and whipping themselves. It is one of the best schools in India. He wrote him in Bombay but it was dangerous. It had beautiful hanging gardens and swimming pools. His mother and sister were in southern India at the time. His mother was teaching and his sister was sick with asthma. In '76 she got a visa and came to the US.

175:00 They were told they would have to wait seven years if they lost their visas. He had lost both his and his mother's applications for visas. His sister came to the US. Both Catholic Relief and the Polish office wrote to immigration and explained that he and sister were together and applied for visas together. One day his sister got a call from the immigration authorities that they are sending to Nairobi a non-preference visa in '48 for his mother and sister. He was sent to Africa in '47 to Uganda as India and Kenya got independent. He would have to wait seven years for a quota number as his mother refused to admit she was born in Russia. She indicated that she was born in Poland though there was no Poland at that time. When they were in Tanganyika so took a bus to Nairobi. He and his mother sat with the driver in the front and the rest of the riders were Black. On Indian trains, the whites are in one car and the blacks are segregated in another. The bus stopped and the natives went to eat but they, the whites, were not permitted. Part of the road was very hot. There were cages with tropical birds. They were told to take a shower and refresh themselves. The natives, dressed in fancy hats, brought them food. The bus blew its horn for them to leave but the restaurant said they should not pay attention because the Mau Mau in Nairobi are very dangerous. They said that white women during the day need a male guard for protection.

180:00 They went to the American Embassy to get their visas. Many of the visas were sold to Jews for payment as the American officials were actually selling them. In Israel they sold Arab visas. If a visa was available, they would not give it to them but gave it to a Jewish refugee organization. His sister gave them \$1200 for the ship to America but they were sent to Venice where they had to pay \$600 for the visa. Stanley went to Milano and the British commander asked why he came as he is not a refugee. There was monkey business going on as a visa should be free but they accepted payment. They wanted to book passage for America like the sister did from Bombay to San Francisco. Stanley was sent with refugees from Milano and the Camp Commander booked them a cheap hotel in Genoa and an Italian ship which came to \$30. This was December 28, 1948 and it was very cold. His mother's paper indicated that the doctor recorded she had TB so she had to go to Ellis Island. Her lungs were checked and another doctor said she had scars from pneumonia and she passes medically.

185:00 On the African ship their clothes were in baggage. In Venice they took their suitcases and asked if they had cigarettes or alcohol and they replied they did not. A Jew said his son was an opera singer and they found cigarettes and sealed all the suitcases and will get them later in NY. Therefore, they had no warm clothes from Africa. Stanley's sister and a cousin met them when they arrived in New York harbor. His sister was working making bed jackets and had married an Irishman. It was hard for her to get material. Jews had material and she was sunburnt so they thought she was Jewish and gave her lots of material. She made a lot of money. A Hungarian cousin married with Horvath (?) and had a big estate. His daughter got married during the war when they were in Tehran. The uncle's neighbor was folkdeutsch and wanted the property. They were in the Underground and the wedding party were all killed except for the young couple and the priest taking the picture. Stanley was in Tehran when they announced on BBC about the murder. He was in the hospital with malaria and his sister was in the hospital. They ran to get a British newspaper and did not want his mother to see the news.

190:00 His mother's brother's wife was killed by the Polish army. Later the groom was killed in the Warsaw Uprising. They must have known about the extermination camps if they knew about the murder incident. The Polish Army had a trial for the neighbors. They killed the wife and two children and later the Germans. The Home Army killed for revenge. His relative Veronica went to Germany and he met him in Africa and called his uncle but does not know who he married. He was old when they met and was tried in Krakow. Hitler sent Schmidt, an interpreter, who was sentenced to death. Many Germans were killed in Poland. They were all in the Army awaiting execution. The Germans came in elegant uniforms and white gloves and thought they would be executed but were put in a car. At the table, the German General sent him to Warsaw and asked the Underground not to have the Uprising as that would devastate all of them and all would be killed.

195:00 Then they had to contact the Polish Army in London. They flew to Portugal where they would be picked up by the British. They refused to see him in London due to Yalta. He was saving people in Poland so was sentenced. Orphanages had no food nor was there food in the Army. You had to go to villages to look for food for the children. President Hoover gave money to Stanley's Polish organization in the early 30s after World War I. Mr. Veronim (?), a pre-war Polish diplomat to Germany held the position because of President Hoover. Germans respect class. Hoover sent money to newly resurrected Poland after World War I. Stanley's money got money to distribute to people who needed it. His father went to the Rabbi and asked for names of people who needed financial help and the Rabbi said to give the money to the sick as the healthy would stop working.

200:00 The Americans wanted to give Poland the Marshall Plan later. After World War I, there was help. After the Marshall Plan, he got help to go to NYU and told them of the plan for French and German trade. During World War II, Veronim was in a position of authority in Poland and traveled. The Underground would shoot Germans and Poles got killed. No one wanted to kill the person who started the Warsaw Uprising. Some think the Russians had something to do with it. The Hungarian Revolution was funded by the Russians. After the war, he Polish women thought they should start kissing as the Poles lined up to be killed. Veronica influenced the Germans not to do any more killing. Hitler would not send his interpreter Schmidt to his trial. The Russians sentenced him to death.

205:00 He ran away from Poland to America. Many things were going on but the people did not stop killing one another, like the African tribes. The British divided up the country differently. Chechen (?) drew a line after World War I and crossed it. It showed where "No Man's Land" was and where "Kuwait" was (Iraq and Saudi-Arabia). The English designed the state. All the countries that were fighting in Africa were placed in different tribes. They all hate each other and are fighting. The Spanish did this in South Africa and made slaves. You always expect something better will happen. Stanley attended NYU for six years at night and felt he would get somewhere. He had a girl friend who motivated him and he wanted to finish what he started. His big objective was that his father told him to care for his mother and sister who died in 2001. He took care of them and, also, took care of a cousin. In life, one must care for others. A Ukrainian was sleeping above him in the Army and thought he had appendicitis and would need an operation so requested an ambulance. They thought it unnecessary so Stanley said that he would sue them if the Ukrainian died. They called an ambulance and it was appendicitis. In Korea a soldier was depressed as he burned his legs. He had glasses and they crushed them.

210:00 The doctors did not pay attention and he was sent to Japan and back home. Stanley gave CPR to his wife's colleague and he is alive. Stanley likes to give help but not everyone likes to receive it. He feels he has more knowledge on some things than others and

eventually they accept it. Many people give up. Jews break down very fast in Russia. He saw them covered in ice and they did not try to get it off though he got his off. The doctor with the student doctors asked who is the sickest and looked at the face of the one who gave up. His mother helped him in many ways. He knew English and she got him into school. He went sailing with his friend in India and they stole cookies. They liked him in the Polish School as he had attended the English school. Guys came with him and they swam as he knew people. In the Red Cross, he met soldiers. He made money with photography. Stanley arrived in the US with no money but studied radio and TV and did not finish as went to Korea. One must talk to others as you learn from people. If you are sick and you speak to others, you might learn something helpful. The more you learn in life, the better.