

Survivor Voices

Steve Adler- Transcript

Arrival in London

I landed in London on a train, along with hundreds of other children. And we were taken to a reception center. And at that reception center, all the kids were met by relatives, friends, uncles, aunts, you name it. And they were all whisked away to safety in the arms of other people until eventually there were only two people left: a young boy about my age from Prague, and I. My great-uncle had stood me up.

Well, I was abandoned, I was in a foreign country, I didn't know the language, I didn't know anything, I didn't know where I was supposed to go, and a chauffeur came, looked at the two of us and with the help of an official. They told us we should get into this guy's limousine. And he whisked us away from the center, took us to a beautiful home in a very well-to-do part of London near Hampstead Heath and that's the house on the – right backing up onto Hampstead Heath – is where the two of us stayed. And of course my great-uncle arrived that afternoon with a bag of chocolates, postcards, and a fountain pen to write with, postage stamps – and a ten pound note so that I could buy more chocolate bars – as to presumably to atone for his sin of abandoning me at the train station.