

Denis Adam
Born 1 February 1924, Berlin, Germany

I was a school boy in Berlin when Hitler came to power.

Students and teachers would often come to school in Nazi uniforms.

Each day would begin with Heil Hitler and the Nazi salute.

My father and uncle opened a sports store in Berlin.

On the very same day Hitler declared a boycott of Jewish businesses.

The Brown Shirts barricaded the store.

It closed down within a month of being opened.

My brother was studying in Paris at this time.

He had a better understanding of where things were heading.

The German press was controlled so our knowledge was limited.

My brother warned us.

"You've got to get out", he said.

Father was a very "German" German and was reluctant to leave.

Shortly after the Nazis came to power father was arrested.

He was charged with smuggling money out of Germany.

No proof could be found so he was released.

That experience opened my father's eyes.

He realized the Jews of Germany would not be safe.

My brother and I were sent to school in Scotland and then England.

The rest of the family soon followed.

It may have been my father's arrest that saved us.