

Turkish transcript:

Nadide: Baba sen kaç yılında gittin askere?

Ali: 1948 yılında.

Nadide: Nereye direk nereye gittin sen?

Ali: Balıkesir'e

Nadide: Neydi? Sınıfın neydi?

Ali: Sınıfım hava.

Nadide: Havacı mıydın?

Ali: Heye

Nadide: Nasıl gittin baba? Neyle gidiyordunuz? Ulaşım nasıldı o zaman?

Ali: Şimdi anlatayım mı hep?

Nadide: Heye

Hediye: Anlat.

Ali: 1948 senesinin 16 Nisan'ında Tarsus'tan hareket ettim. O zaman, bizim zamanımızda kara vagonlarla askeriye kışlasına giderdik. Dört günde, yollarda kala kala, dört günde, Balıkesir'e vardık. Balıkesir'de toplandık. Bizleri isim okuyarak ayırdılar. Benim sanatım tornacıydı. Tornacı olunca beni oto bölüğüne ayırdılar. Oto bölüğünde kaldım. Oto bölüğünde de berber yoktu, alayda. Benim sanatımda berberdi. bölük komutanıma söylediler. Ali Güncan berberdir efendim dediler. Beni çağırdı komutanım. Çağırınca, o zaman bizim gittiğimizde alay değildi, birlikti. Biz varınca alay oldu. Alay olunca 31 kuruş askeriye maaş alıyorduk. Bu 31 kuruşla çocukların, asker arkadaşların, ayakkabı boyama parası, traş parası yetişmiyordu. Berberde 5 kuruşa traş ediyordum askerleri. Ondan sonra malzeme yoktu traş etmek için. Bölükte de para da yok. Ben bölük komutanıma anlattım. Dedim efendim benim memlekette dükkanım var kurulu. Ben bunları alayım, geleyim bölüğe hibe edeyim. Tamam dedi. Bana bölük komutanım bir hafta vazife izini verdi. Memleketime geldim. Takımlarımı topladım. Götürdüm orada otuz ay berberlik yaptım.

English translation:

Nadide: Dad, when did you go to perform your military service?

Ali: In 1948.

Nadide: Where? Where did you go directly?

Ali: To Balikesir.

Nadide: What was it [like]? What was your group?

Ali: I was in the air force.

Nadide: You were in the air force.

Ali: Yes.

Nadide: How did you get there, Dad? What did you get there with? What was transportation like then?

Ali: Do you want me to tell you now?

Nadide: Yes.

Hediye: Tell us.

Ali: On the 16th of April in the year 1948, I left Tarsus. Then, in our time, we used to take black train carriages to go to the military barracks. In four days, stopping and waiting on the road, we arrived in Balikesir. So we gathered in Balikesir. They grouped us by reading out our names. My skill was lathering, so they put me in the automobile squad. I was left in the automobile squad. But there was no barber in the automobile squad, or in the troops. And my skill was shaving [and] hairdressing. They told my commander. They said, "Ali Günçan is a hairdresser." My commander requested me. When he called me, there was no regiment; there was a unit. When we got there, it became a regiment. We got [a] 31 kuruş military wage when it became a regiment. This 31 kuruş was not enough for the kids, [not enough] for my soldier friends to get their shoes cleaned and get shaved. I used to shave them for five 5 kuruş at the hairdresser. But then the necessary equipment for shaving was not there, and the unit did not have the money. I told my field officer. I said, "Sir, I have a shop in my town, ready. Let me go get them [the equipment] and donate them to the unit." He said okay. My field officer gave [me] a week of vacation-on-duty. I came home, collected my equipment. I took them [back] there and worked as a hairdresser for thirty months.

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