

IMPORTANT

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AJR Refugee Voices Testimony Archive

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Interview Transcript Title Page

Collection title:	AJR Refugee Voices Testimony Archive
Ref. no:	17

Interviewee Surname:	Klein
Forename:	Erna
Interviewee Sex:	Female
Interviewee DOB:	16 September 1919
Interviewee POB:	Oels, Germany

Date of Interview:	22 May 2003
Location of Interview:	Liverpool
Name of Interviewer:	Rosalyn Livshin
Total Duration (HH:MM):	4 hours 7 minutes

**REFUGEE VOICES:
THE AJR AUDIO-VISUAL TESTIMONY ARCHIVE**

INTERVIEW: 17

NAME: ERNA KLEIN

DATE: 22 MAY 2003

LOCATION: LIVERPOOL

INTERVIEWER: ROSALYN LIVSHIN

TAPE 1

Tape 1: 0 minutes 36 seconds

RL: I'm interviewing Mrs. Erna Klein, and the interview is taking place in Liverpool, England. The date is Thursday the 22nd of May 2003 and the interviewer is Rosalyn Livshin.

RL: So if you can tell me first your name?

EK: My name is Erna Klein, and my maiden name was Dannemann.

RL: Did you have any nicknames or any other names?

EK: Not that I can remember, no.

RL: And a Hebrew name?

EK: In my passport was written Sarah, as with everybody else. I cannot, I cannot remember that I had a Hebrew name.

RL: When were you born?

EK: I was born on the 16th of September 1919 in Öls, Silesia, at the time it was a department of Germany.

RL: And how old are you now?

EK: I'm 83, approaching 84.

RL: Can you tell me where and if you know when your parents were born?

EK: My father's parents came from Latvia and settled in Stettin in Pomerania. It was a large family, I think 11 children and my father was one of the younger ones who were

Tape 1: 2 minutes 35 seconds

born in Germany. At least one or two were born in Latvia before my grandparents emigrated to Germany. My mother was born in Eastern Prussia in a small town called Zollschau. And she was one of my mother was born in '86, in 1886, yes, my father was two years older than my mother. And she was one of several children. Her father died when my mother was just a few months old and my grandmother remarried a widower who brought also a lot of children into the house and my father became, oh do you want to hear something about my grandparents?

RL: Yes I do.

EK: Right. My grandparents in Latvia, my great-grandfather made shoes, I think it was quite a Jewish profession there to make shoes at that time, and my grandfather came to my great-grandfather as an apprentice, and he went, he fell in love with the daughter of his employer and asked my great-grandfather whether he could marry her. And my great-grandfather said "Yes, but if you want to marry my daughter you have to show me that you can make a particularly beautiful pair of shoes." And my grandfather did that and they got married. And then as it was Latvia I think was part of Russia or at least people had to wear, had to go into the Tsarist army. And you know that was really quite a verdict for death for people who were. My great-grandpa and grandparents were strictly kosher and they couldn't get any kosher meals in the Russian army. And therefore my great-grandparents decided to emigrate to Germany.

RL: Do you know what part of Latvia they were?

EK: From Hasenput. It was not very far from Riga I believe. And they settled in Stettin in Pomerania. My grandfather went on making shoes but also sold men's clothes and I know that he had a horse and carriage and he took the wares into the villages and sold his them there. But they also had some apprentices at home who lived in and my grandparents had 11 children plus apprentices at home and my grandmother cooked and baked for all of them. I think there was no water inside and she had to fetch water from outside. And she knitted socks and gloves for all of them children and apprentices I imagine and it was a very hard life. They did not become very old before they died.

My mother's family was different. They had a shop where they sold textiles and they were I think at that period fairly well off. My mother was the one who worked in the shop. It was just across from the Polish border and Polish workmen came across for at harvest time and that was the main business I believe, and my mother picked up a few bits and pieces of the Polish language and she as some of the other sisters were at home doing cooking and cleaning, when my father met my mother, my mother's date with a sister of hers who was married in Insterburg in Eastern Prussia and my father had with his older sister who was married also in Insterburg. So my father got to know my mother and

they married and moved to Öls and started a shoe shop there. Öls was a Kreisstadt in German, it meant it was a town of 16 or 17,000 inhabitants.

Tape 1: 8minutes 39 seconds

But there was a whole district belonging to this town and it was quite a well, I thought it was a nice town, a pretty town. It was surrounded by large woods and we had mountains, the Riesengebirge not very far away. There were very large farms belonging to the German gentry, and they came into the town and bought their shoes and riding boots from my father's shops. My father also had a workshop in the same building where he, where they made shoes bespoke shoes, riding boots and so on. And he was, it was the largest shoe shop in town. My mother looked after it while my father was a soldier during the First World War in the German army. He was a despatch rider and he told me lots of stories when I was little about his white horse who found his way back to the stables from the enemy lines and I think it was a very hard time, but my father loved sport and while he was a soldier he was very good at physical exercise. He was top of the pyramid in climbing and jumping down and I think I was a great disappointment to him first of all because I was a girl, but secondly also because except for swimming I didn't take very much to physical training.

RL: What kind of education had your father had?

EK: Not very much. As there was a large family and at that time school fees had to be paid so the older of the children had a good education but then there was not enough money left for the younger ones. And my father was one of the younger ones so he had to leave school and go into an apprenticeship into a shop in Dresden. He took me on holidays once to Dresden to show me. As you know it was a very beautiful town, all sort of art treasures and very interesting buildings. And then he opened his own shop. He was very popular; he was a very good man. When people in town came in and said to him and said 'Oh Mr. Dannemann I'm afraid, I need a pair of shoes for my children but I'm afraid I haven't any money' He said 'You take them and you pay me when you can.' And he was a very inventive, he I remember we there was in the local paper, was the first page, there was always on top of the name of the local paper 'Zieh Schuhe an von Dannemann' which was which rhymed in German and just means 'Put on shoes from Dannemann.' And also once I remember there was a pilot in town with a little aeroplane having the slogan in the sky the same 'Zieh Schuhe an von Dannemann' that one could read it. It was something quite novel then, but my father enjoyed that.

RL: Did he belong to any clubs or committees?

EK: Oh yes. He was very fond of football and there was a local club, they were not these lovely football grounds as we have here but it was just a meadow, but I had to go each Sunday with my father to this football ground and watch my father always follow the ball from one side of the field to the other. And I in the end I became to really dislike football. I could have done something so much better with my time. Yes he also belonged to the

Kegelklub which was, I'm afraid I can't remember what it's called in English. One rolls a ball and tries to pull down ... what is it now?

RL: It's not bowls, is it?

Tape 1: 14minutes 44 seconds

EK: Bowls, that's right. That's right. He also belonged to this kind of amateur theatre group. I think that was about all. Of course he was one of the members of the congregation. There was not a very large Jewish community and he attended the synagogue regularly and I remember that at high holidays people were not allowed to wear any leather shoes in the synagogue so my father gave to the Rabbi and the Chazan and whoever was there some shoes that they were able to wear at the synagogue. That's as far as I can remember.

RL: The amateur theatre group, was that a Jewish group or a non-Jewish group?

EK: It was non-Jewish group. The congregation was not large enough to allow for any particular clubs or yes.

RL: How big a community was it there, the Jewish community?

EK: You know I tried to remember, it was not very large, but I could not put a number on it. I still have two friends alive who were girls with me in the same town and who attended synagogue, the same synagogue, one of them lives in Australia and the other one lives in this country but she is married out, she lost her parents in a concentration camp and her sister. But they are still two people alive of whom I know, whom I know, but I think most of the other people have perished.

RL: Who was the Rabbi of the Synagogue; do you remember his name, the Rabbi?

EK: Oh yes. His name was Dr. Wahrmann, it was a very orthodox congregation, but he was the Rabbi of the whole district. And I cannot remember having had very many Hebrew classes because he was not always there. The Rabbi before him was a Dr. Kudowski, also I cannot remember him but one of his daughters was my maths teacher when I went to primary school to some it was a Lycee for girls. She came and taught here in England and I met her here again. And her sister who was one of her sisters who was ill all her life, survived her, and I looked after her, well I visited her each week till she died and I saw to it that she was looked after.

RL: What kind of Hebrew education did your father have?

EK: I know he was bar mitzvahed, I don't know how much Hebrew education he had, that I cannot tell you. I'm sure my mother had very little despite the fact that they were that they had a very kosher household, but my mother was brought up in a very small

place and I don't think it had a synagogue or whether there were any other Jewish people living there, I don't know. She never told me about that.

RL: What kind of secular education did your mother have? What kind of schooling?

EK: I started to go to a little private...

Tape 1: 19 minutes 25 seconds

RL: I was just saying about your mother first, your mother can we talk about what kind of secular education your mother had, before we come on to you?

EK: She went to a village school. That is I don't think her education went very far.

RL: Ok, so we'll move on to you then. So your education, yes.

EK: I started in a Lycee for girls, it was a very small private school, it closed down and then all the pupils, most of the pupils were taken over by the 'Deutsche Logau Oberschule'. It was called after Logau, it was called after a Silesian poet. I went there 'til I did my what you would call GCSE it was called 'Obersekundareife' and the headmaster asked, I was the only Jewish girl at this school and the headmaster asked my father then to take me out because it was during the Hitler time. But really during the time of the Nazis I did not get very much tuition, I was never asked any questions, I was... my friends, my friends until then did not want to sit next to me at school. They thought it was they would be very unpopular. I think the only time they really wanted me at school was to give Rassenkunde. It was science of races and I had to come to the front and the class teacher did show the other children that the form of the back of my head was shaped differently from theirs. Well that is as far as my education went.

RL: Can I just ask how did you get on with the other children before the rise of Nazism? How did you get on with the other children?

EK: Extremely well. Extremely well I had very good friends in whose houses I was each day or they came each day to our house, school went, school closed at one o'clock, started early in the morning at eight o'clock, finished at one, from lunchtime we were at home. There was schoolwork to be done but afterwards we went swimming together in summer, went skiing or sledging or ice-skating in winter, I had very good friends until then. I, some of the mothers came from outlying districts from farms, and we cycled to the farms of the relations of my friends, and until the Nazis came it was a very enjoyable life in this very small town. My father was well-considered there, he had one of the largest shops in town and well we were happy there.

RL: How did you notice the change taking place? How quickly or slowly did that change occur?

EK: It is very difficult for me to remember that. It seemed to be quite sudden to me. Suddenly boys, well it was a small town, so the few Jewish people there were known to be Jewish, to be different. So suddenly boys would throw stones at me or come and try and hit me. And perhaps it was not a very wise thing to do, but my father having been in the first World War, having been a soldier, always brought me up 'You are a soldier's daughter, you must not be a coward', so I hit back. And I was not always the one who fell to the ground. I was my father got me a boxing ball which was fitted between doors and I had to learn how to box. When there was ice on the river, even if it wasn't very thick, my

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father would say 'You must go on the ice.' And I said 'Oh no, no, no, no.' And I remember him sending me on the ice and I broke in, but I must, must never was allowed to show that I was a coward. There was another way a bridge across, but not far in a little distance from there, there was a board lying across the river. I was not allowed to cross on the bridge, I always had to balance on the board from one side to the other. So I was brought up to show that I wasn't frightened. And perhaps it helped me a lot later on, also it could have been very unwise thinking back. But I'm sure it did help, yes.

RL: And your close friends at school. Did they show any regrets at not being able or not wanting to sit next to you? Was there anything ever said to you that showed you that they were maybe not so happy?

EK: I think they looked frightened what they really thought of it. They did not tell me, perhaps they did not dare to tell me. But we were all children; we were children, so children believe what their parents tell them. They do what their parents tell them to do or what their parents tell them not to do. They knew it was not in their interest to keep on being friendly with me. One of the teachers whom I had when I was very little when I started school, she was the daughter of a Lutheran clergyman, and she was an extremely nice lady and she told at her own danger and she told other girls 'How dare you behave towards Erna in such and such a way.' But she really put her, I mean she had a lot of courage to speak up. I hope it never went against her, I wouldn't, I mean she wouldn't be alive now in any case.

RL: Did the...you know with the rise of Nazism, who did you mix with once your non-Jewish friends had distanced..?

EK: When I had to leave school I was sent to Breslau, now it's called Wroclaw. It was a very large town. First of all I was sent to the commercial college. But it was very much a reproduction of my school life and I think psychologically also I had suffered a great deal from life in town from seeing the way the SA was in front of our shop was written across our shop windows, then my father had to disappear from the town for nights on end because some of the old customers told them that he that they would go into Jewish homes and he would be beaten up and taken away. So I was psychologically really not ready to study anymore. Then my parents took me away from there and I went to the Paula Ollendorf Schule which was a Jewish housekeeping school in Breslau where one

lived in. And it was they were all Jewish girls there and it really was therapeutic. I was able to live again, and I became a member of the Habonim and I enjoyed my time there. Yes, I could breathe again.

RL: Can you tell me, you just mentioned in passing there what had happened to your father's shop. Can you tell me more about that and what happened with the coming of Hitler and the Nazis?

Tape 1: 29 minutes 58 seconds

EK: Yes, my father had a shop and a house in the marketplace, he was dispossessed, he had to sell his house, he never received anything for it, he had to sell his shop, and both my parents moved to Breslau which was a larger town. My father well by that time I had left Germany already.

RL: When did he have to sell his shop and home, when was that?

EK: In '36 I believe, yes.

RL: How had he suffered, or had the business suffered before that?

EK: Yes. Because as the SA in uniform or the SS stood before the shop and did not let any customers come in. Some of the customers, very few, came in the back way, but it was, they showed a tremendous amount of courage doing that and it was not really worthwhile to keep the shop open, there were about 8 sales ladies and some other assistants, their bookkeeper and the cobblers making and repairing shoes and my father couldn't keep that open any more. Besides they lived in a small town not knowing whether someone would come and take them out of their flat at night time. So they had to move. But that was not during the time when I was in Germany; that was afterwards.

RL: Who did your parents mix with socially in that small town, who were their friends?

EK: Their friends were mainly Jewish couples, but they were also very friendly with non-Jewish Germans.

RL: And did they keep in touch with the non-Jewish friends at all?

EK: I think one of the lawyers my father was friends with wrote to them afterwards. But being away from home I did not really know so much about it you know. Of course I corresponded with my parents, but.

RL: Can you describe where you were living? Can you describe your home in the little town, can you describe the home?

EK: Yes. There it was a flat, in an apartment house; we lived on the 2nd floor. We had a room for a cook who slept there, a room for a governess or nursemaid who looked after

me, there was a bathroom, a kitchen, my parents' room, my room, a dining room, it was a fairly large flat in an apartment house. It was not very far from the shop so my parents did not have a long walk. They lived somewhere else before in a smaller street, but that was quite some distance away, so they moved to this other flat.

RL: Were there other Jewish families in that apartment block?

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EK: Not in the same house, but quite a few living in the same street. There was this shop, which, there was a shop underneath which actually belonged to the parents of my friend who still lives here in this country in Bishop's Stortford, but they moved to a smaller premises later on.

RL: Did you used to go on holiday with your parents? Would you take holidays?

EK: Oh yes, my parents couldn't go on holidays very often together because of the business, but I went with my mother in summer usually to the Baltic Sea, and that was I really enjoyed that a great deal. We went with friends, with some Jewish friends from Breslau. Or with relations of my mothers, or my father had relations in Stettin, which was not far from the Baltic Sea. They took us sometimes by boat to the holiday resort where we stayed. And in winter I took holidays with both my parents or with my father in the Riesengebirge which are the giant mountains which was there on the border between Germany, Poland and Czechoslovakia. And actually some of the buildings which were on top of the mountains had a back entrance to Poland and a front entrance to Germany. It was, they were lovely mountains. In winter when I was a little bit older, I was sent to a... spent my winter holidays in a Jewish boarding school kept by three Jewish sisters. Die Schwestern Honigen. And lots of Jewish children were sent there for skiing and sledging, and they also had a cow in the stables. I remember I loved getting up at 4 o'clock in the morning and milk the cow. I think it was I thought it was wonderful. And there were boarding pupils there from Poland and Czechoslovakia not just from Germany who had... were taught there all year round. But it was lovely it was a very enjoyable time. In the same village, it was called Agnetendorf, a very famous German writer lived, he was called Gerhart Hauptmann, so we all went and tried to get his autograph. So it was a very enjoyable time, yes.

RL: Did you see much of your parents' brothers and sisters, your aunts and uncles? Did you see much of the wider family and your first cousins?

EK: I used to go with my mother from time to time to Eastern Prussia because I remember we had to cross a the Polnischer Korridor, it was a strip of Polish territory between Germany and Eastern Prussia, I remember the windows of the trains being blinds putting on I don't know why it was something completely obscure to me and there was a lot of hammering on the trains because I believe the line on the Polish strip there was a different gauge or something like that, anyway we went there to Eastern Prussia quite a few times to see sisters and brothers of my mother and I saw cousins there, there

was one cousin who was my age, he was a boy, and there were older cousins who were girls. I also went to see uncles and cousins in Stettin who were relations to my father, one of the uncles had a boy and a girl who were about my age, these cousins are still alive they are in the States, two. One of these cousins Ernst, a boy, I ought to have been able to have come to this country because he was during the war he was in the intelligence corps of the American army, he was one of those who liberated the concentration camps. And I tried, I hadn't seen my parents for very, very many years, I tried to come to this country

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and finally at the end of the war in '45, I don't know how my father managed it, I got an invitation to go to the English embassy in Oran, that was in Algeria where I lived then, and to send them or bring them any identity papers. Well I did not have any valid identity papers, but I had to show who I was, so I brought a German passport which was not valid anymore which was letters my father, my parents had come to England in the meantime with the penultimate boat from Hamburg, but the letter my father got then from the government, or home office, I'm not sure, saying 'Your daughter has presented herself with a German passport, had we known the situation that she's still German, we would not have asked her to come and work in this country.' Well it was just, I was naïve I didn't know, I had no other papers to show. It was....my cousin who was in the American army then, arranged for me, went to the home office and saw a few people who he knew and after that I got the permission to come here to do midwifery in '45.

RL: We'll come onto that at a later date, but that was how your cousin was instrumental in helping you?

EK: For me to come away from Algeria to come to England yes.

RL: Did the family ever get together; were there ever family gatherings for any occasion?

EK: We got visitors, my family visited my parents very often, one brother or wife, or another brother or we went there, but that we get together, I cannot remember. They were all such very large families from my mother's side as well as my father's side; it would have been very, very difficult I think. It's not so difficult now anymore, but then for example in the small town where I lived there was just one hotel, and we wouldn't have been able to put up such large families, it just wasn't practical then.

RL: What kind of religious upbringing did you have as a child?

EK: Well I did have Hebrew classes but very little, I was never Bat chayil, I don't think it was done at that time for girls anyway. I cannot really say any more than that.

RL: What about religious observance in the home?

EK: While my grandmother was alive and stayed with us, everything was very strict, it was not only that we had a different crockery for milk and for meat and all that, but also

for Passover there was special crockery the same. I think that lapsed a little later on it also was very difficult in a small town to get kosher meat, there was no butcher, we had to travel for very many hours to get that. And otherwise it was a Jewish upbringing; we had our synagogue which we attended regularly.

RL: You say your grandmother lived with you? Your grandmother lived with you?

Tape 1: 45 minutes 27 seconds

EK: At times, yes. My mother's mother came and stayed with us at times, but then she felt that she wanted to be buried in Eastern Prussia where she lived, and before she died she moved to one of her daughters who lived in Eastern Prussia to be buried there.

RL: What was her name? What was your mother's maiden name?

EK: My mother's maiden name was Moses, Anna Moses. My grandmother married again, she was then Libbe Daniels.

RL: Do you have any memories of Jewish festivals or festivals being celebrated in any particular way?

EK: At the synagogue?

RL: Or at home, any particular...

EK: We celebrated Passover, we had seder night, and at the synagogue I mean we had all the other festivals there...and I went to synagogue at Shabbat, I remember my father wearing one of those Zylinderhut, you know those very high top hats to go to synagogue. I really can't remember very much more than that.

RL: And did you belong as a child to any clubs? Any clubs or youth groups? Were there any kind of youth activities?

EK: Yes to the event of Hitler, I belonged to the SSC, the Schüler Sport Club which was 'Scholars Sport Club' and I played tennis, and I swam, later on when I went to the Paula Ollendorf school, I belonged to the Habonim which did not exist in the small town where I was born.

RL: So where you were sent to Breslau, your parents still lived in Öls. And how long were you in Breslau for?

EK: For a year. I finished the Paula Ollendorf Schule and then my parents thought it would be wise for me to go abroad. I wanted very much to go to Israel, it was Palestine then, my parents for some reason, I was an only child, thought it was not....., perhaps risky for me to go there I don't know, I would have enjoyed it, I would have loved it, but

as things turned out I went to places which were more dangerous for me to be in than it would have been for me to go to Israel.

RL: But how was it arranged that you would? Where was it arranged and how was it arranged that you would you go there?

Tape 1: 49 minutes 22 seconds

EK: I don't know how my father got to know but went to Switzerland from Germany to do training in children's nursing. And that was at Geneva. A few of other Jewish girls from Breslau were there as well, and I was under age so I had to stay and my training could not finish until I was 18.

RL: Do you know why Switzerland and why that was chosen? Did you have any say in where you were going?

EK: I had no say, no. My parents thought they did the best for me in my interest. I mean I tried for while I was in Germany I tried to go to an art school. Originally I wanted to study medicine but I had to stop going to school so that was out. I tried to go to art school but they would not accept me because I was Jewish. No, then I went, I went to Switzerland and it was I didn't speak French. I had learned English at school I forgot afterwards all the English. And at Geneva as you know one doesn't talk French I had to do my examination in French, I somehow managed it, I learnt it little by little, not tremendously well, but afterwards when I went to work I picked it up, there wasn't anybody to talk any other language with.

RL: Where did...First of all I'm interested to find how he found somewhere in Geneva? I mean how did that come about?

EK: I imagine there were some other Jewish girls from Breslau going to Geneva as well then my parents must have heard somehow by somebody that it was a way for me to be able to get, go abroad. And when my father brought me there, Switzerland was thought to be a very safe country. My father at that time was able to pay for my training, it was the place where we had to work from 6 o'clock in the morning until 10 o'clock at night and we had our lectures afterwards. But it didn't do me any harm. I was sent on different stages from there. It was essentially children's training but we also had an obstetrical department there, maternity department. And there were sick children there and there were children who were quite simply abandoned. Or there were children of people who worked for the United Nations and who let their children, because they were not able to look after them all day, so they stayed there day and night. There were sick children, there were children who were termed to be 'enfants difficile', which were abnormal children, and we were sent to stages. One stage was 'hôpital cantonal', which was the children's hospital, I worked in the infectious disease section, had night duty there, in one pavilion there were children with meningitis and polio, and other pavilions where there were children with whooping cough and measles and I had to go from one pavilion to another at night as there was just one other nurse, or when I was on day duty I had to

take the children who were paralysed with polio to the county hospital to get physiotherapy and it was quite interesting. Also I must say that I did not understand very much French so how good I was for the children then I hate to... I really wouldn't like to remember that. But somehow I went through this time.

Tape 1: 55 minutes 5 seconds

At another time I was sent to a sanatorium in France, at Chamonix, just below Mont Blanc, it was a private small place, and children were sent there from the French public assistants, they were all suffering with TB, I was only about 17 or not even that, I had a whole floor of 32 children to look after from two o'clock, from two years onwards to my age. I had to sleep in the same dormitory as the sick children, those who were the most sick to be in place to give them injections during the night and during the daytime those who were up I had to take them for walks and away from other people because they were infectious. And I wanted to take them for walks in the mountains, but I couldn't tell them very well and I didn't have much authority so they all turned round and went into the village to buy sweets so I had to run after them.

RL: Were there other Jewish girls there with you all the time? Were there other Jewish girls with you?

EK: There was another girl, Lisa Duprine, I think she came to this country and married a Yorkshire man, his father heard but I have never been in touch, when I came to England she had, I mean she was once in touch with my parents when they were here when they came here just before the war but I notice they didn't hear from her any more. But we were there together. She was on a different floor and worked with another nurse and I was alone on another floor. Yes we were there together. At the beginning before I was made to sleep in the dormitory with the children who were very sick, we had I had a room together with Lisa above a garage. It was unheated and in Chamonix you know it was very, very cold in winter and the water in the taps was frozen. There were icicles coming out of the taps and no water, I think we dressed at night, we didn't undress, yes.

RL: How long were you in Geneva for? How long were you in Geneva for?

EK: From '36 to '38.

RL: And did you go back to visit your parents? And I was told that I should not go by train because I was Jewish and at the border they would look at my identity, I should rather fly. So I did fly and that was ...

RL: Did you notice a difference when you went back to Germany. Did you notice a difference in the situation there from when you had left?

EK: Yes my parents had moved to Breslau then and I only stayed for very, very few days, I had to go back to Geneva. I was not allowed to work in Switzerland. I mean while my father was paying for my training that seemed to be alright, but when I had done my

diploma I was not allowed to work there, but they had a kind of placement bureau and I was offered either a place in Bulgaria or one in Algeria. It was fortunate that I plumped for the one in Algeria because Bulgaria was immediately after the war started, the Germans moved in there.

Tape 1: 59 minutes 59 seconds

RL: The tape is about to....

TAPE 2

Tape 2: 0 minute 34 seconds

RL: The place that you were sent to in Geneva, what was it called?

EK: It was called 'Oeuvre des Amis des Enfants' And it was created by a Swiss lady during the time where there was this 'flu epidemic and lots of the parents, well people died and she went and collected the little children, the babies who were left father and motherless and put them in some place in orange boxes and looked after them. I think she was very prominent in the Catholic Church. And the Catholic Church donated, so did people I imagine, towards the creation of this pouponnière and it was, I think I've got some pictures of it, it was a beautiful place for children to come with babies and to grow and we had them to school age.

RL: How many children did it cater for?

EK: Oh over a hundred children. There were two different floors, one was called the pouponnière, and the other was called 'clinic'. The clinic there was a matron who was a sister, Schwester Leni and she came from Germany, I think she was not very keen on Jewish girls being there, and the other was Mademoiselle Arneau, she was a French-speaking lady, I preferred working under her. But it was really an exemplary place for that time for '36 and I'm sure ideas about pericultures have changed since a great deal but it was we had children who were taken away from their mothers straight away because their mothers suffered from open TB, and they were put in very in places where the rays of the sun it did not let the violet, no it did not let the infra-red light in only the ultra-violet, and I mean everything was done to perfection for that time.

RL: What were the working conditions like in the home?

EK: The working conditions were.., it was very hard for girls who had just come from home where they were looked after and protected to a certain degree. We had to change the children before 6 o'clock when the first bottles came, and we had to feed them, then we had to clean the wards, which means to take the polish off with iron wadding and scrub the floors and then put polish on and then we polish them, and if they didn't have a wonderful shine, Sister Leni, the German sister would come and say 'Now you start the

Tape 2: 4 minutes 37 seconds

whole thing all over again.’ And she put her fingers on all the surfaces to see if everything was well dusted, and it was really done to perfection. Everything was done to perfection. We only had half a day off each fortnight, we also had to do the washing..., not... there were always two on washing duties. We had to wash for over a hundred children which meant nappy washing, plus all the clothes and sheets and so on. There were no disposable nappies then so we had to get up and get the boiler going at 4 o’clock in the morning, then hand washed and boiled, and hung up and folded and so on. And if Sister Leni found a little spot on something, we had to do another two week punishment washing duty. I think that was the worst, it was a lot. Otherwise we were responsible for the children, for the cleanliness, for cleaning the children, for their medical care, for their health care and we were sent in stages to the different departments I talked about the hospital cantonale, hôpital cantonale, the children’s clinic, I was also sent to a place called Gudelai, which was where the feeds for the children of Geneva, bottle feeds were prepared and distributed by the milkman each morning. That means children came in, had a medical check up, each week, were weighed and their health discussed with a doctor, and then we had to prepare their feeds. There were all colour charts of different feeds with the names behind and we had to prepare it and that was quite interesting, I thought it was a very good service because Geneva did not only just have great hospital districts but also districts where children needed properly prepared food and the parents were not always able, capable or willing to cater for that. So the children were well cared for. I was also sent to a day nursery run by nuns where various children in the pouponnière there running in different stages of dress or undress to let sun come and fresh air come to their bodies. At the day nursery where I worked for the nuns I found it very strange that I had to give a bath to the children with their vests on. And I had to wrap them in a towel and take their vests off, and when I pottied them I put their nappies in front you know tied them round the babies, and I didn’t, just couldn’t run to it right at the beginning. And I was told by the sisters ‘But you mustn’t do that, you must do that’, and I didn’t know my French was so very poor and I remember them putting their heads over the large cots and saying ‘Mon Dieu, mon Dieu, elle ne comprend rien du tout.’ And yes but it was an experience. And then I was sent to France again to look after a child who was severely ill with a streptococcal infection and that was long before the advent of antibiotics and anything like that. I had to look after the child but he was so ill that we had to bring him back to Switzerland to be looked after at hospital, no at the clinic actually where I worked..

RL: Were you trained to give injections and to do medical procedures?

EK: Not at that time. I learned that later and it was very sad and very embarrassing because I had to give injections to this child whose mother was a trained nurse who was not able to look after the child herself because she had a young baby to feed and who could not and therefore she did not want to bring the injection from this toddler to her newly born baby. But I learned all that afterwards, mainly through experience rather than being taught at the pouponnière. Also on my way to France I was asked by the matron, who was the owner of the pouponnière to sit on a large wad of banknotes while crossing

Tape 2: 11 minutes 13 seconds

the border between Switzerland and France and I was so frightened to say no that I would be sent back to Germany that I just sat on them and crossed the border. Being brought up by my father to be always brave in life I thought very little of myself afterwards for having assented to such a thing, but there it was.

RL: Was the matron, did she treat all the staff the same, or did she differentiate between the Jewish girls and the rest of the staff?

EK: She the matron really had very little to do with us in normal time directly. She was aloof except that I think her intention of starting this pouponnière there was directed by a good heart and humanity because she started all that during the influenza which was in all of Europe and where many of the children were left father and motherless and she collected them and she did not have any cots and she put them into orange boxes, and she looked after them and then with the help of wealthy Swiss citizens and the Catholic Church she created this pouponnière and she did wonderful work doing that.

RL: I was just asking about the treatment of the staff and the treatment of the girls working there.

EK: She did not usually have anything to do directly with the staff, yes.

RL: You were telling me that there were some stories that you had some were funny stories; some were sad stories of incidents that happened whilst you were working at the place? You mentioned a washerwoman giving out washing...?

EK: Oh yes, this was while I was at Chamonix I was at this sanatorium first of all we had our own generator there was no electricity from the town or the village towards us and I had to see to it that all the children on my floor had a regular bath. The trouble was that as soon as it became dark and the children were put to bed, it was time to go to have their bath and go to bed, the generator set out. There was no electricity and no light, and the poor children had very little baths. Also I was responsible for the children's laundry, and I had to make a list of what I sent for each child to the laundrywoman who lived in the village. And I never got the amount of clothes back that I sent to the laundry. And when I went down to the village I saw her grandchildren dancing about in the little dresses I sent her. And there was very little I could do because I was so young I had no authority and my French language abilities were so very insufficient. When I left there these poor children had very little to wear.

RL: What were the working conditions like there?

EK: It was a private place, I do not think that the doctor owning it got a great deal of money from the French public assistance but I wouldn't really know about that. But I know that I had my meals with the childrenwho didn't have to stay in bed all day and I was very upset because they were all undernourished children and children

Tape 2: 16 minutes 48 seconds

who needed their food so badly and I was put they put three pats of butter on my plate and each of the children got one pat of butter. And as I was sitting with so many children, I it was very difficult for me to distribute my butter between them. It was, that was....I also had to give little shows at Christmas time. That means singing and acting little French nursery songs. I did my very best but as I said before my French abilities were not so very good, but anyway we got a lot of applause. But I was very pleased when I left there after all. And then I was sent to a children's home in the Canton Vaud in Switzerland. That was very different. It was run by two nurses and it was a chalet, and it was for children who came from very wealthy families. Ah there were princesses amongst them from minor Austrian and there were children from the Peugeot family who did the cars and there were the children of mine owners and they were in really lovely surroundings and...And they were educated there all year round. They had their teachers coming in and we took them to the theatre and skiing and they had sports there and...I stayed there for about three months and then I went back to Geneva and somebody else came for their stage.

RL: How long did the training last altogether?

EK: Between '36 and '38, approximately 2 years.

RL: And when in '38 did you have to leave? When in '38?

EK: I had to leave. Despite the fact that I was sent by the pouponnière to mothers who had just had their babies and stayed with them for a few weeks as a kind of maternity nurse plus looking after newly born children and for all the stages I worked for the pouponnière received my salary. But once I had finished my training and would have liked to stay in Switzerland to work on my own behalf, I wasn't allowed to do so. But they did offer me two different places, one in Bulgaria and one in Algeria, and I chose to go to Algeria. And that was to go to a Jewish family, the husband was conseiller, a conseiller général and was a councillor for the town of Algiers. And they were expecting their second baby and I was supposed to look after the baby from day one. And I went there.

RL: Do you remember the journey to Algeria?

EK: Yes, I went by train to Marseilles, and I had to stay the night in Marseilles and then I crossed with a boat called 'La ville d'Alger', we passed the Balearic Islands and I think the Spanish civil war must still have been on because we were shot at from the islands. But we ...they shot cannon balls at us but we were not, we were not hit. We arrived in Algiers quite safely.

RL: What month was this, do you remember? When in 1938?

EK: In Summer. I think it was July but I'm not positive anymore.

Tape 2: 22 minutes 19 seconds

RL: And what happened on your arrival, how did you get on when you arrived?

EK: Well Monsieur Belaiche, that was my employer, the husband of my employer, waited for me at the harbour and took me home. And I met his family which consisted of his wife and little daughter, the baby had not been born then I believe. And his parents lived in the same very large flat. They were, it was all very confusing because of my difficulty of the language but also there was suddenly people of very many different nationalities living in Algeria at that time. The driver was Italian, the chambermaid was Spanish and the cook was Italian too I believe, and the people who cleaned and gave the old Monsieur Belaiche his bath were Arabs and it was for somebody very young and who came just from very troubled surrounding, it was very much to come to grasp with which I eventually did. And the baby was born and he was a little boy and I absolutely adored him. The first summer when I, in the summer, next summer all the Jewish families who lived there who could afford it went to Europe because the summers there were very hot, so I, we went to the Cote d'Azur, to Juan les Pins, we went to Vichy, we went to Paris and went back again. In the meantime my father had been put in a concentration camp and could not get from his brother the affidavit for to go to the States, my uncle in the States had already given very many affidavits and found it was not possible for him to give any more. He had a cousin who lived in London and this cousin made it possible for my parents to come to England. And I wanted very much to join them; I hadn't seen them for such a long time. And they were old and my mother wasn't well, she had, my father wasn't too well because he had been in a concentration camp also.

RL: How had he come to go into a concentration camp? How had that come about that he was put in to a concentration camp? How did that happen?

EK: That I mean he was arrested as a Jew and put into the concentration camp. But my mother with the help of the brother of the wife of my uncle who was German went to the SS headquarters each morning and cried 'Let my husband out!' At that time it was still possible when you had the proper papers to go abroad to be let out of the concentration camp and that my aunt Sarah who lived in London got the papers for my parents and they came out with the penultimate boat. At that time it was possible to come out if you had papers to go abroad.

RL: Which camp was he in?

EK: Sachsenhausen.

RL: And what had happened to your parents at the time of Kristallnacht? Do you know what had happened to them?

EK: No, my parents when they wrote to me I don't know whether they never wanted to worry me, they did not write to me really, 'We are well, I hope you are fine', and they did not want to worry me. They never wrote to me about it. The little I knew was afterwards

Tape 2: 27 minutes 54 seconds

when I joined them after the war in London. And even at that time I must say I learned very little because my parents were so glad to be alive, to be together, to be of the very few lucky ones. Perhaps they and I even felt a little bit of guilt that, why were we chosen amongst so many of our family to be spared? We somehow it was instinctive we did not want to think or go too deeply into the past. Also both of my parents were not well by that time. My father being in the concentration camp and he was also sent then to the Isle of Man and my mother having her coronary condition, we tried not to talk about unhappy things once I came back. And I also came back I was very little with my parents because I came here to do midwifery which meant I was quite a long way away from my parents and I did not have the money to travel on my day off to see them each week.

RL: What kind of permit or visa did they get for England? Do you know how they managed to enter England?

EK: Yes, through a permit that my aunt, Sarah Brenner a cousin of my father gave them. My father, I don't know what the different kinds of permits were.

RL: Was he allowed to work?

EK: Yes. My father worked as an underpresser in a factory making coats, it wasn't easy for him as it was the first manual work he had done, and my mother was sewing buttons on army uniforms and later on she worked for another Jewish refugee family making belts.

RL: And where were they living?

EK: Where they lived? They lived in Willesden Green in Blenheim Gardens. My aunt who made them come here she came directly from Latvia as a young girl and she was a corset maker in Her Majesty's service. And she had large premises in [?] street which I believe became the Ministry of Air afterwards. And she moved to Bath during the war, and then to Israel.

RL: You mentioned before that your father...and first of all let me just ask you what they were able to bring out with them? Do you know what your parents were able to bring to England with them? Were they able to bring anything?

EK: Not really, very little. They brought bits and pieces of furniture, but very little. I mean these were kind of couches made especially which could be turned into beds and a packing case which could be made into cupboards. They would have had the cupboard and a few bits and pieces were put in that was all. They lived in a flat in Blenheim

Gardens with an outer toilet and a bathroom which was shared between tenants but my parents were such happy, they were so happy to be together, they were a devoted couple and they were so happy to be in England, it didn't seem to be any hardship to them at all.

Tape 2: 33 minutes 10 seconds

RL: What happened to your fathers' belongings from the First World War? What did your father have from the First World War that he wasn't able to bring?

EK: Well, I don't think I ever saw the Iron Cross and I know he had a sword which he was not allowed to have any arms being Jewish and so the Crown Prince's castle where it was in Öls, he threw it into the water of the Crown Prince's castle, he could not bring it to a police station or anything because they would have said 'Oh you've got an armament and they would have, at that special time, they would have put it not thought that it was something in his favour that he came and brought it to them. So he went at night and threw it into the Crown Prince's castle's water. He didn't bring anything really.

RL: Where did he keep the sword and the Iron Cross when he was living in Öls?

EK: In Germany? His Iron Cross was displayed sometimes into his in the shop window during the Hitler time; he thought it was hung as a display against the wall I believe.

RL: The Iron Cross was actually in the shop window?

EK: It was in the shop window because it was said that Jewish people were not very patriotic and were very cowardly and stayed during the war at home making money, and all and my father wanted to show that that was just the opposite.

RL: Do you know how he came to win the Iron Cross, did he ever tell you, you know for what in specific, anything specific that he did that won him that?

EK: I cannot remember that he told me that he did anything specific, I know he was a despatch rider, riding a white horse and he was made a sergeant and he was also head of division of artillery under him, he told me about the cannon that they pulled with the horse I believe, but I cannot remember anything else, no.

RL: But he had to leave all of that behind?

EK: He had to leave all of it behind, yes.

RL: If we can come back to you, and Algeria and what happened to you with the outbreak of war?

EK: My parents wrote to me that they were going to England, that they had got their papers, and of course I wanted to go and join them in England, but Monsieur and Madame Belaiche wanted to make another contract of one year, which he was a lawyer

and he wouldn't have allowed me to break the contract. So I said that I would stay without a contract but I couldn't make another contract as I wanted to join my parents.

Tape 2: 37 minutes 22 seconds

And I looked for different work. And I got work in a French family, Monsieur and Madame Dermay, who had a huge farm. It was almost a zoo in the farm as well. They were, they had two children, they came to see her father in Algiers, her father was a lawyer as well, he had probably an Alsatian name, Krieger, and I was engaged there and went with them to Mostaganem. We stayed at their villa at the seaside when war broke out and they told me from one day to the next that they could not have in their services somebody of German nationality, so I had to leave from one day to the next and I had to go to Mostaganem, where I had a small room and no permission to work and nothing really, nobody whom I knew who would help me anyway. I went to some of the Jewish families there who were and they looked at me with a lot of mistrust because I came from Germany. I cannot blame them, it was such a very different type of life there as it is here, it was a small town, and I was the only German refugee there, it was something, I was something which was to them completely strange and unknown to them. They themselves also they lived there for generations, also felt at times when there were probably just tolerated, I don't know whether. There was one department of Algeria, Constantine, this was before I went there, where there was a pogrom and 700 Jews were killed there in one single town. I think it was mainly my nationality then, which was against me. Also my German passport had run out and I had given to them Swedish embassy which had the German interests and papers already in their hands as France and Germany were at war, asking for papers and I was without papers and I was still hoping to get an affidavit to go to America but I needed valid papers at that time.

And they wrote back to me I have the letter here somewhere, that they could not give me, they were not allowed to give me any, renew my passport or anything if I did not have papers and a passage booked for overseas and well I didn't have any papers and I wouldn't have had any money to book any passage in any case. In the meantime I cannot remember how I got or from whom I got to know...I met a midwife who was half Arab and half Italian. She said therefore I am French. She was not in very good health and she needed somebody to help her. And she, I did not have any valid papers to give her, but she engaged me for a very small salary, and I stayed with her for two years. She has diabetes and she did not always turn out sometimes, I did at night time, I did the deliveries. At that time during the war most of the doctors in Algeria were in the French army and that was very few there left. The hospital was very unpopular, it was not what you would, how you would look at a hospital here, there were beds, and in between two beds there was a bucket, which was emptied once a day, and it was, I mean well it was a colony. There were very few midwives, about two, I must say that Paulette Ali was a very capable midwife, she did deliveries; there was no possibility for her to say no, there was no doctor to appeal to. There was no place to go to for Caesarean sections, she did I do not know if I should, placenta praevias on a table where there was a danger of the mother haemorrhaging to death and the baby not being alive. She did it with her bare hands. Nobody would do anything like that and it was partly because she was so capable

and a lot of it was a bit of luck too. I learned a great deal from her. It was a very interesting time. Finally ...

Tape 2: 45 minutes 27 seconds

RL: Did the authorities know that you were working or were you, how was it organised, how was your work organised?

EK: There was nothing was organised. I think in a way they were glad that somebody looked after sick people there because there was nobody look after. But there was at the same time there was police commissar there who called me to the police station each day nearly asking 'Who was the lady in the red hat you met last night on the bridge there and there?' And I wasn't on any bridge and I hadn't seen a lady in a red hat and I was absolutely hounded by him. And I had a room then where there were policemen with their wives living in the same premises, and they told me that was after he was made to go, they told me that 'if you had given him something, if you had given him a gold bracelet or something like that, he would have left you alone. But I didn't have anything to give and to my great luck I don't know how, it was found afterwards, that he had some houses of ill-repute in different towns and he was deposited as Police Commissar and then there was another one, who also although I never met him was very good to me because after France fell to the Germans, he had a Jewish wife by the way, after France fell to the Germans, there was a German commission in Algeria and I was very ill in hospital at that time after a very bad operation and they came to this Police Commissar and said 'We want to take her back to Germany.' And he said 'You can't, she's too ill.' So I really owe him my life to this second commissar of the police. And during my stay there in Algeria I was interned three times, because of my nationality also I didn't have any more nationality, the first time was immediately after the outbreak of war, I was sent to Sidi Bel Abbès, where the Foreign Legion was, I was the only woman interned there, the men of German and Austrian nationality were also very few, were interned, but I was, Italians, there were quite a few Italians there, I was put into the hall where PE was, where there was PE for the children it was a school, on a sack with straw and watched over by an Arab Tireurs soldier, a bayonet with a, ... I asked the French officer could I please have the key to lock myself in, and he was kind enough to give me the key, and after a few days I caught gastroenteritis and the porters, the caretakers of the school were so very, very kind, they asked the French officers could they give me a room in their flat in the school and a bed, and look after me, and that was granted. And after I got better I was sent back to Mostaganem.

The second time I was interned for three months or...high up in the Atlas mountains in a place, a very small place called Ben Chicao. And that was an ancient orphanage and there were people from Germany, Italy, Austria, Poland, Russia, I was given the infirmary to look after and I looked after the sick people there, I had to distribute, there were mothers with babies there and I had to distribute the milk, to the babies and the leftover of the milk I had to bring, there was outside the walls of this orphanage they kept some pigs or something, a sow had lots of piglets and couldn't feed them all so I had to bring them the leftover of the milk. Accompanied by an Arab carrying bayonet and he thought that

would, you know, he wanted to be fresh and fortunately before I had a room in Mostaganem the manageress of this place was a Spanish lady who could not write, and she asked me to keep the hotel register for her, which I did each night, and she was very

Tape 2: 52 minutes 52 seconds

kind to me in other ways, she washed my things while I was in hospital, but she also taught me a smattering of Arabic, so when this Tireur went and was not very respectful, I knew that there was one Arab sentence I had learned which helped me a lot at the time which was [Arabic sentence] which means 'Are you drunk or whatever is the matter with you?' And that helped me out of a few difficult situations. Therefore it's a sentence I won't forget. And I was there while the in Ben Chicao when the Germans took over Paris and the Germans there who were Germans who some of them worked in the administrator's flat to clean and they heard the radio there and knew and they celebrated and it was all very sad, they were a few Jewish girls as well. They did not live in Algeria, but some of them I don't think they did, but one of them just was arrested because she was in the troupe of Mistinguette, I don't know if you ever heard she was a famous French dancer and they came from South America and their ship landed in Algiers and she was arrested from the ship and there were a few entertainers strangely enough, but we all kind of tried to sleep in the same dormitory not to be with the Germans who were anti-Semitic. And then I was liberated again.

And then the last time, I was arrested and brought to Oran in a hotel by the American army with some Italians and with the German again of course but that was pretty wonderful because for years we had been cut off from France and there was in Algeria except for the grapes and the melons and the figs, there was scarcely anything to eat, so while we were interned by the Americans we had proper food, even chocolate! And then I did show them some letters I got from my parents from England and so they told me that I could go, but I had, I still had to go back to Mostaganem which was a very long way away from Oran and again I was arrested and I had no money, I don't even know whether there was any public transport to Mostaganem, but fortunately when arrested there we were arrested in this hotel where we had to sleep three in a bed, I said 'How am I going to go to Mostaganem?', and there was an Arab wholesaler of vegetables who had come with his lorry to buy his wholesale vegetables or food or whatever in Oran, and he said 'Alright I'll give you a lift back on my lorry.' And so I got back to where I had my home. In the meantime before, a long time before I had left the midwife with whom I was working because I needed to really needed to earn my living and in the meantime people got to know me, all the Jewish families, and I a few Jewish doctors had come back from the army and I was given their patients to nurse, and injections to make, and to look after people who had diabetes, and there was a typhoid epidemic and so on, and I found that it was not in the interest of the newly new mothers and babies to bring them any infections, so I did the private work for the doctors which were mainly involved infectious diseases, because nobody there wanted to go to this hospital, they all wanted rather to be nursed at home even if they had typhoid or typhus or smallpox or...

RL: Whilst you were working with the midwife you know in the hospital, were you getting paid at all? Did she pay you anything?

EK: It was not in a hospital, it was all in the district.

Tape 2: 58 minutes 49 seconds

RL: All over the district, yes.

EK: All over the district, and there were also very funny little bits you know I mean inland a great deal but very often we had to go to little villages very far away outside and we were called when the Arab midwife was not able to deliver and I remember once we were called by somebody who said 'Now you go to this village and this village and when there is no more road and you can't drive anymore, then somebody will wait for you and bring you to the house.' And there was when we had to stop driving somebody waited there really and he said 'oh its just over this mountain' and we walked and the midwife with whom I worked she was not young and she was a portly lady like me and she said 'Oh just over the next mountain', she said 'I can't walk anymore' well then he said 'You wait here', his wife had been in labour for two days and two nights and then he came with a little donkey and between him and I we had to try to pull it the midwife with the little donkey and bring her over the next mountain again, everything went off very well.

RL: This film's just about to...

TAPE 3

Tape 3: 0 minute 36 seconds

RL: Ok, so you were going to tell me about the midwife.

EK: Yes, she was a very capable lady, she was also very flamboyant. She knew that she was a good midwife and she tried to do other things as well. She had premature babies in a cuveuse, which was a heated little glass cabinet in her consulting room, which had to be fed by drip as they were, so tiny every two hours day and night, and it was a kind of public relations exercise with her I believe, she also looked after ladies who could not have any children, any babies, who were not fecund, sometimes she succeeded and sometimes she didn't. She took the same as what some lawyers do nowadays, she was paid if she was successful and I remember there was a Sheik that was an Arab, he was always considered to be a saint, when there was a dispute between two, he said 'To whom does this belong, to whom does that belong', he said 'Well you have to give me so many sheep and so many, and so much of that and that and so many camels' and then he gave his judgement. And he had I believe 5 fives and Paulette Ali looked after one or other of them occasionally and the first wife could not have any babies. And so she came to Paulette Ali and she said 'Well I look after you and you pay me in case you become pregnant.' She I do not know what really was wrong with her, perhaps she had an infection of some sort but anyway, one of their other wives, they didn't live in town, they

Tape 3: 3 minutes 2 seconds

lived very far away from town, one of the other wives came in for another reason, said 'You know Fatima had a baby!' And Paulette Ali said 'Oh no, well then her husband will have to pay me for nursing her for becoming pregnant.' And he had a house in town and gave his judgements there, and he so she gave me a bill to present there and I went and before I was let into the house I had to take off my shoes, I was told by a servant 'You take off your shoes and you come in there' and I was greeted, I had to wait and then he came in and sat down, he never asked me to sit down, all my Arab patients usually when I came there and I, it was kind of a feast day with tea and sweetmeats and all that, they all treated me very well. But well he said, 'What do you want?' and I said 'I bring you the bill' and he looked me up and down and then he took one of the servants and then first of all I think he said that he didn't want to pay it, I said 'But your wife has had a baby,' so he asked one of the servants to bring some money and he brought the money and he took it and he threw it at my feet.

And I thought well it's not very polite, but it's not my money so I'd better pick it up. So I did and I put it in my nurse's uniform and I had very deep pockets there and I put it in and I went out and put on my shoes, I said 'Thank you Shah', I mean I could say a few words in Arabic I wanted to be polite in case he had some more wives to be treated, but I went out and there was an Arab policeman behind me who called me 'Mademoiselle Erna, Mademoiselle Erna!' and said 'You have just lost money there' and I, you know I still to this day I don't believe in sorcery, but to this day I really don't know how this money could have come out of this very, very deep pocket and land on the street. He must have fished it out in some way. But anyway I brought it to the midwife and everything was well, but it was very curious, very curious because it was an extremely deep pocket in which I lodged it, and I was very careful because it was not my money, but that was one of the things.

RL: Can I just ask you, you know you said that you worked for, first of all you worked for a Jewish doctor,

EK: That was afterwards, yes.

RL: Oh was that...when you first got to Algeria, can we just go through the chronology of the different things you did, so if you sort of, the first thing that you did when you came, you were working for a family, after that,

EK: After the year and they wanted to renew the contract of one year and I thought I might be able to go and join my parents in England,

RL: Yes, yes.

EK: I worked for a family called Dermey in Mostaganem, well I didn't live with them in Mostaganem, we lived in a villa by the seaside, and war started almost immediately and they said 'We can't have a German working for us' and I went back to Mostaganem and I

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was then asked by the Commissar of police, I was told that I would have to go into 'residence forcée', that was a forced, where I had to live in the interior of the country, but for some reason they never enforced it, then an Arab told me that I could pack oranges for him, and that was night work and there were mainly Spanish girls and Arab men who did that, it was packing oranges in a cellar which smelt so strongly of oranges I couldn't face them for years afterwards. And I had to put them in, it was like a board with lots of different holes, from very small to very large, and boxes standing underneath each hole, and I had to grade them putting them through different holes. I can't remember ever having been paid for it, I was told I was given a cauliflower as payment, which was wonderful then, I hadn't seen any vegetables for a long time, nothing really, I had a small paraffin stove I had to blow, and it was the first thing I must have cooked for ages was this cauliflower.

RL: Where were you living?

EK: I lived in a very third class hotel, I had a small room, a very small dark room and there was this lady for whom I did the register, yes. And then I heard of Paulette Ali and she gave me some work.

RL: When you worked with her, how were you received by the families that you helped?

EK: Extremely well, very well indeed, I did not always go there with a very...the fact is that she sent me very often to do deliveries for her, I was not a certified midwife then although I had worked in the obstetrician department, but as there were Arab midwives who had never been any midwives it didn't seem to matter so much, but I always felt rather not entirely happy about it because I knew there could be difficulties, and there was very little to be had, there was very little, no help to be had and I did my best. I remember one instance for example I went to a village with Paulette Ali just to help her. We went to a patient and somebody came and said that the sister of the patient also started to be in labour so Paulette Ali sent me to the sister and I finished my delivery before she finished hers. And I was sent a lot during the night to deliver patients when she didn't want to turn out. She was diabetic; she was not a well lady. Sometimes I remember one delivery where it was an elderly [...] and she didn't know what to do, it was very slow the first stage and I said 'Oh I come back tomorrow morning'. And when I came the neighbour came running, it was an old lady and she said "'Till you arrive, he will already be going to school!" And I went and there was a baby and I wrapped it in a towel, and I looked after the afterbirth, because it was the most important thing to see that the patient was well. In the meantime Paulette Ali came and gave a bath to the baby, and when I came back the next day they said "Oh, we have sent a telegram to the husband," it was a huge family to say he has had, you have had a little boy and all the wonderful thing and they informed the rabbi, and when I unwrapped the baby I couldn't believe my eyes I put a nappy on and it was a girl and I had never seen before I mean that was, we never went back to that patient. She obviously wanted a different midwife then for her next one.

Tape 3: 13 minutes 27 seconds

RL: Did you have much contact with the Jewish community there?

EK: In the end, yes. In the end I was given work by Jewish doctors, I had lots Jewish patients who came even from different villages to be looked after by me. At the beginning when it was Passover I went to the Jewish community and asked could I have matzos, I was refused. Then when they got to know me it was all very different. But by then I was called.., you know, all the work, when we were separated from France there all the work during the war for their husbands had stopped for those who were Dockers, or who went fishing or as if it was nothing, there were just farms and some of them could not work because there was no petrol, or there was nothing, some families very, very poor, and I went into I was called to do deliveries into Arab gobies, little places put together with corrugated iron and where the patient was lying just on the floor on a sack because they had no money to pay to Paulette Ali or somebody else and the Arab midwife could not manage it. Very often it was just a simple thing like a very tough bag of membranes which had to be pierced or something like that, but I had a few deliveries that way and I could never refuse them. I never got anything for them but I got a lot of popularity through them. And I must say that I had also very good experiences with it. And I learned a lot about how to treat people.

For example I went to one of these very poor patients and I wanted to say something nice, and I said 'Oh what a lovely little dog you've got', 'You have him' and it would have been an absolute terrible if I had refused. And I was, I can't say I was lumbered as I loved her really afterwards, and I was heartbroken when I came to England and I had to leave her behind, but I had this little dog for many years. I never said any more when I went into an Arab house 'Isn't that lovely' because I would have had to take it home with me. So yes.

RL: Did they know that you were Jewish?

EK: No. I went to another Arab Sheik, I had to nurse him because he had diabetes, and that was he had a big farm, it was called the Zaouia, and all the Arabs went there when they had nowhere when they came from other towns, when they had nowhere to stay they could stay at the Zaouia, but they had to give a days work in the farm for it. And I treated this Sheik for his diabetes, I gave him injections, it was very difficult to get medication as well because usually the producers were in France and we were cut off from France. Later when the Americans came they gave me very often for my typhoid patients glucose and saline drips but it was very difficult to get any medication. I came to give him injections and he was they collected me from my from the house where I had a room in a horse drawn carriage which all the other village knew belonged to the Zaouia, and the back was made for the wives of the Sheik to sit and they had curtains there was a curtain drawn across the window. Now when we drove through the Arab village I opened the curtain and looked out. And they said 'Oh wonderful, if she comes to treat the Sheik or somebody in the Zaouia she must be a really good nurse.' So I so they all flocked to me

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that was the best public relations I ever did, I was never had such a good idea afterwards in my life.

RL: But you said they didn't know that you were Jewish.

EK: No. Perhaps a few did, I don't think, I can't remember anyone who really did.

RL: Now in the chronology, you were telling me about your working for the midwife. What happened next?

EK: Next I had the several doctors who gave me their patients to go and do intravenous injections, to order the injections, do intestinal washouts, and bladder washouts and whatever there was, something dreadful I learned to do there which fortunately one doesn't do anymore that was called [...] which was if somebody had a chest complaint, something like emphysema or something there was one put little glasses on his back and one had a stick with some cotton wool one put into spirit and lit it and put it through the glass and put it on this person's back and then one took the glasses off again and then one took a razor blade or very sharp knife and slit the skin and then put the glasses on again. It did not hurt actually because putting the glasses on for the first time seemed to cut the nerves, the nerves couldn't feel anything, yes? It was already so congested there. And then one took the glasses off and then the glasses filled with blood and one took them off again so people who had emphysema, pulmonary emphysema or something like that had a few months when they could breathe freely 'til they came back again and wanted another of that. It was horrible to see and I thought I could never do it but I did in the end. And I'm glad for the patients that one doesn't do that anymore.

RL: How long did you work for these doctors?

EK: Well I came here in '45 so you can see it was quite a few years.

RL: So you went from working for Paulette Ali you went to work for doctors?

EK: For doctors, yes.

RL: And when did the internment periods come?

EK: In-between. Well the last came towards the end of the war. And the one in Ben Chicao came, did I work for Paulette Ali, I must have worked for Paulette Ali? Yes, the first one I hadn't started working at all. In the I also at the end in '44 I felt that I ought to do something against for France were giving me, I had been living there for years, with or without permission to work, but I thought that I was owing something. I was alive, so I volunteered for the Free French Army, I have a certificate that I volunteered and I also had to pass a medical, and I also had to do a kind of the refresher course in a clinic belonging to one of the captains, captain who was a doctor. And I have a certificate

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showing that. But it never came to anything, I was never called up. Had I been a man I would have gone into the Foreign Legion, but that wasn't open to me.

RL: What kind of training did you do? Did you do training when you joined the Free French Army, did you?

EK: I worked in a clinic, in a surgical clinic, it was just to do..... bandages, well to do everything that one would do yes. Even the anaesthetic at that time was given by nurses, it was just put some chloroform onto a pad or something and put it over the patient's... it was very different, yes.

RL: You know you mentioned you were in hospital very early on, what was the matter with you? How what had happened?

EK: I had appendicitis and I went into hospital and there was only one surgeon left in town and it was a colony, oh that wasn't the term, it was a French possession, but it was a colony, with a surgeon who at his own clinic was not sober for three days and could not operate on me. When he operated on me then I had my appendix was had detached itself it was swimming and I had gangrene and fistules and distense and peritonitis and I he just opened me up and a nurse gave me the anaesthetic, you know just as I told you with a pad of chloroform over my face and I still remember saying, 'Oh doctor, elle m'étouffe' and but this nurse was extremely kind and good to me. I remember she came from Corsica and she came on a day off days off to wash out my wound and put a new dressing on and you know being in Africa I was brought into the operating theatre for this procedure they flamed, there were no autoclaves, they flamed the instruments, no, I

RL: Ok, so you were just saying...?

EK: I felt very much protected by my nurse's uniform. I was sometimes called to the Arab village in the middle of the night to do a delivery, or if somebody had an asthma attack, or for one reason or another. The husbands who came to call me, knocked at my door, left quickly to be again, to go home again because their wives were alone, and to go to the Arab village I had to cross the red light district, then go down very deep iron, it was more like ladders than stairs, very deep down into a gorge, where there was a river called the [?] and a boat which from time to time flooded, other times there was barely any water in it, but the poorest of the Arabs lived there in bidonvilles in crooked iron huts, then I had to go back up the other side of the mountain again on a ladder and past it was dark except for the moon shining, and there were lots of ponds dug into the mountainside by the path and on the path where the Arabs used to soak their sheepskin in it to, I don't know what they did with them afterwards, but it was, it didn't smell very nice, but there were jackals roaming there, there were snakes there, I once nearly trod on one, and there were, then I went up the other side and then the Arab village started and I walked all along the street without lighting, just there were no doors in these houses, not towards this side, and just in between walls 'til I found the right place where to go to

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patients. But I never say that I felt threatened because people there they were kind to me. You know once they knew me they respected me and they greeted me when they saw me. At night there wasn't anybody about there but I felt never really in danger there.

RL: And then with the Americans, can you tell me sort of what happened when the Americans came and again in that period?

EK: When the Americans came there was just, I just had very many patients, mainly children who were suffering from typhoid and as you know they can't be fed orally one had to give them intravenous drips and I couldn't, there was nothing to be had there in the pharmacies or anywhere and I went to the medical centre of the American army and they were good enough to let me have glucose and saline drips and I was able to save a good many children that way. I also when I came home from seeing some of the patients, a neighbour told me 'Your cousin has just been and wanted to see you.' And that was a cousin who was in the American army, Bodo Mariksson his name was, he died in Israel later, he came to see me but he could not wait for me as he had to go on with his jeep with his army colleagues to wherever they went. So I it would have been it was very exciting it was a wonderful thought that I might see somebody of my family. But it never materialised.

RL: Were you in contact at all with your family during the war?

EK: I had an uncle in Brazil with, who lived there with his son, and who, he wrote to me very rarely, he was very ill he died and left his son. His son's story is a very interesting one but I cannot tell it to you. He wrote to me occasionally, he died. I also had another uncle he was he had emigrated to Belgium but in front of the German advancing army he went to France and he was caught there and brought to a concentration camp in the south of France called 'Le camp, le camp des Milles.' And he and a friend of his wrote to me that they were starving and we were starving as well but on two occasions I managed to save my bread ration, cut it and asked the lady who was whose hotel register I kept to toast it for me on her stove because I didn't have one and I bought some dates and I made a parcel and sent it to him in the camp. Then he died or was killed. I wasn't, I wrote to my parents in England, how did they get my letters then? Ah yes they did get my letters but I can't remember how my parents got my letters after the Americans. Occasionally my parents got my letters, yes.

RL: Did you experience any fighting or any bombing; did you experience war, the war?

EK: Oh yes we were bombed by the Germans, nothing much happened there in town all the bombs were falling, you, you probably did hear of what happened quite near where I lived, not that I was concerned in any way about Mers-El-Kebir, where the quite near where the French navy was, where all the French warships were and that the French sunk them before they could be captured, that was quite near where I lived but obviously I was never directly concerned with all that.

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RL: And then with the Americans coming?

EK: When the Americans came I believe I already talked about when that I was interned in a hotel in Oran.

RL: How did the local population react to you being interned?

EK: To my being interned? Yes the Arab women who saw me being accompanied to the police to the police station they there was a crowd of them outside tearing their skin and wailing, as if somebody had died. It was really very emotional experience, I knew they liked me, but I never knew they liked me to that point. Yes. Also I had some of the patients, Arab patients to whom I made injections when they had TB, and they knew that it was difficult to get anything to eat and I remember he brought me homemade bread and his wife sent me homemade bread. I wasn't too happy to eat it I must admit because he was suffering from open TB, but it was so heart warming to be welcomed. They also liked me because they could laugh about me. Because I tried to converse with them, but my Arabic was to say poor is to say too little, I could say a few snatches 'Go to bed' and 'where does it hurt' and things like that, but for example I was offered dates, and I am not too particularly fond of dates, because sometimes they have got little maggots in it, that was also told what I wouldn't be able to say in Arabic at all, that they ripen them in horse's urine, which I don't know whether it was true or not. But anyway I was offered dates and I refused and I didn't and they asked me 'Why?' in Arabic and I said what I thought was 'Because they sometimes have maggots' but what I really said was 'Because they have' I don't know what you call these long intestinal worms which are in sections, the name escapes me, but I said that and of course everybody laughed very much about that. And I also was invited to lots of weddings where the women dance separately, but of course my rock dancing is wonderful, but they all laughed so much the newlyweds get usually some money pinned to their frocks, to the frocks of those who dance, now I got more money pinned on my frock for the newlyweds than the others. Not only because they thought it was so funny the way I dance. Yes I think that was all.

RL: Is there anything about your time in Algeria that we've not touched upon before we come on to leaving there? Is there anything else that you haven't spoken about?

EK: I have to be pointed in the right direction, I'm afraid, what can I say about my time? I mean it was a very difficult time, especially as I was a young girl over there, it was at the beginning when I arrived and I was all by myself and I heard the tom tom of weddings or something like in the distance in the dark and all that, I sort of was transported to a different planet and I would never be alive again to see my parents, but I got used to it and I became to like the country, I also went to very interesting, I saw very interesting things, I went to big farms, belonging to French owners who had large vineyards at the same time as having big wine firms in Bordeaux and they transported

their grapes over to France, that was when they could. The country is very beautiful. I was looking forward and I wanted to see my parents again, but I must had it not been for

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This I could have, would have stayed there. Now of course it's very different, it doesn't belong to France anymore and I think it's a very dangerous place to be in now. But then I did not it wasn't the same, its different, it's changed now.

RL: But when did you leave, what was the date when you left?

EK: I left in December '45.

RL: And how did you organise that in the end? How was that?

EK: I had to go to Algiers, where my papers were ready, thanks to my cousin who came who was in the American army. I had to find a plane to come to England and to arrange all that I had to go to Algiers and I stayed in the flat of my former employers, Monsieur and Madame Belaiche, who had in the meantime moved to a safer place in the mountains above Algiers because of the war. I arranged for my ticket and I had to come to England in a, oh I had to wait for a few days at the airport, 'til there was a plane going to England, I stayed in the same room as a missionary who had been in Algeria, I can't remember any of the other passengers, but it was a military plane, there were benches along each side, there were no seats, and everybody else, I don't know they were all airsick, if these were still these little paper bags they hung there I don't think one has that anymore on planes now, and they were all airsick, I wasn't, and we landed in Bristol. And in Bristol there was a big tables there with cakes and all kind of things, things I hadn't seen for years and years at the airport. So from Bristol we were transported with bus to London to Victoria station. I could not let my parents know when I was arriving because first of all it letters took a long time to arrive, and then I did not know when my plane would be leaving, my parents had no telephone either, I could not ring them once I had arrived in London. When we arrived in Victoria station there was still a blackout on, and I took a taxi, I had the address, and it was a taxi with next to the driver was an open space, I don't know whether you know what these old taxis looked like, but there was an open space, without a door and the driver put my, I couldn't talk any English, I didn't dare to talk any German because they did not, and my French wasn't unless I mean they didn't understand French, but anyway I was able to give him the address. He put my case in the front next to him. It was all black in the blackout and the first turning he took on the street my case fell out of his taxi with all my worldly possessions, what little I had. Anyway he stopped and picked it up and the only thing about London I knew was from reading those detective stories and I said 'Where did I come to?' when I saw it and it then we stopped in front of the house and I got out and there was in my parents names there and I rang the bell and my mother came out and

RL: Had she changed a lot?

EK: Oh yes. But that was simply wonderful. And my parents worked very hard and they had a flat which was not very, well what they were used to but they were such happy

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people and they were so. They had nothing, absolutely nothing when they came here yet other people there were other refugees who were living here I remember one lady telling me 'When I come to your mother she always asks me 'Hannah have you eaten today?'' and she has nothing, there was always a plate of soup for me or there was always a...' And my parents were fairly good and kind people.

RL: What kind of health were they in?

EK: It was a very run down house, they lived on the ground floor and they had a little garden at the back. They didn't know anything about gardening, I think the first time in their lives they had a garden, they were proud of this one apple tree growing there. There was Welsh people I believe living on top and then on the second floor were Polish people and right on top was an English lady, who an elderly widow and my father used to bring she had daughters distributed all over London, several daughters, but she was alone and my father used to bring her the coal from the cellar up to the top floor flat. And she had I remember Mrs. Dot, she had a stroke and as they at that time the doctors were not encouraged to put people into hospital, there were very few hospital places. And I went to visit my parents and I stayed with Mrs. Dot all night 'til next morning one of her daughters could be called or my parents were able to travel to get one of her daughters back and she died then the following day. She was a very nice old lady. But there was only one bathroom in the whole house and they all had to take their turns.

RL: How was your parents' health?

EK: Well my mother, my mother's heart was very bad already since my father had been in the concentration camp her health had suffered a lot. So had my father's but my father had a lot of courage and he did not let anything get him down and he went and he worked as an under presser in a factory and my mother went to sew on buttons on military uniforms and loops for on dresses and....my mother was a wonderful needlewoman I've still got some of the tablecloths she had done, put out some of the material and embroidered and... she did wonderful things with her hands. So that was the obvious thing for her to do some sewing. But they were such contented people. I mean the house was absolutely awful but they were so contented and they were so grateful for everything. Yes I went to Woolwich to do my midwifery training, which was in South East London and my parents lived in North West London and again not talking English also I had learned it at school for a few years, but I'd completely forgotten about it, even my German wasn't good when I came back from North Africa. Well I was quite handicapped for my lectures and conversations with my patients, but as I had more obstetrical experience than any of the others there who just started, I was even sent on the district during part one doing deliveries by myself and at that time nurses here were not taught to do intravenous injections, and it was just, only just brought out about the

Rhesus factor, about Rhesus positive and Rhesus negative, so all the backlog of antenatal patients had to be done to test for Rhesus negative and Rhesus positive.

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So the whole time I really spent taking, taking, taking blood but bringing it to the laboratory by tram to Greenwich. I also was sent to the Poplar hospital to work on night duty there. All the hospitals I worked in have closed down or been pulled down, and since. I was also working in a hospital in Kent which was had been, which was a beautiful moated manor house, which was opened as an emergency hospital for the one in Woolwich, because South East London was bombed so much, so many houses were destroyed. And I loved it there, I love the English countryside. And after seeing you know the sheep and the cows, whatever there was, they starved in summer, not a blade of green grass, seeing in the country all these fat, healthy looking animals, I thought it was wonderful.

RL: Was this all part of your training, the different hospitals that you went to?

EK: Yes, my part one was all done for the British Hospital for Mothers and Babies in Woolwich and the emergency hospital in Paddock Wood in Kent. And as I did not have any as I was not an English state-registered nurse, I had to do a long Part one which was 18 months of training, and I was sent on the District by myself even during part one, and I even remember doing a...I don't know where it was, don't know where, was sent in winter at night-time, to a house where somebody was in labour, and she was fortunately already mother of four children, and I did a breach delivery on the district, you know being just after the war, and there was, it would have been very difficult to get this patient into a hospital but it was managed according to the books, because the consultant who gave the lectures, he was a specialist on breach deliveries and he wrote several books about it. And I must have read his books very well, because I managed it. And that was lucky. And I went to other also premature deliveries and I had to bring back premature babies to the hospital plus their mothers and I went to places, you know South East London, I don't know whether it still is, but it was a very poor district then I remember for this one premature delivery in winter I went to a completely cold place, there was nothing, no nothing for the baby to wear, no cot to put it in, I had to take a drawer out of the chest of drawers and put something into it, and I brought the baby and the mother to hospital afterwards. Well, and for my Part two, I went to the Bexleyheath Corporation Maternity Hospital which doesn't exist anymore either, and I did six months there, and then I did my and then I did my last examination and I passed as a midwife. But at the beginning when I came to Woolwich, my English was so poor and non-existent, it was very funny too, it was just like a North African because I couldn't talk Arabic yet. I think the first day I arrived, there was a consultant round and I was given another nurse's patients, the other nurse was off, and I had to read the case notes and talk to the doctor about my patient, something I was completely incapable of doing and I remember he said, 'Well doctor, how's...?', 'Well nurse, how's your patient?' And I just read, said she had a placenta velamentosa which means she did not have the usual stamp layer between placenta and the uterus lining, the uterine lining. So when he asked me 'how was your

patient?, I said 'Yes velamentosa.' And that was it. So everybody was laughing about me, and laughing about me all the time, because when I said 'Isn't it time now to feed the babies' I said 'Isn't it time to nourish the babies', things like that, silly

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things, and I don't think that anybody looked at me as completely in the right place, or that, but it was very interesting for something so completely different.

RL: This film's just ending.

TAPE 4

Tape 4: 0 minute 32 seconds

RL: So if you can just tell me what were your first impressions of England when you arrived here, what did you think of the place?

EK: When I came here despite the fact that's what struck me first, it might not be the most important thing, but when I came here, despite the fact that rationing was still on, after all these years in North Africa and being cut off from the Continent, it looked to me like the land of plenty. I thought it was simply wonderful and I loved it right from the beginning because my parents were here, they were alive, and I was happy. And it was the only country I knew where one could talk, say what one liked, without being sent to prison or even worse. I thought it was wonderful, a country where one could be free to talk, have ones own mind. Well I'm very happy here and my first impression was an excellent one, except for the first night when the taxi driver took me through the black streets of London and I sort of thought of all the detective Romans I had been reading and I didn't know anything else about England. But I'm happy, I was happy right from the beginning and I'm very happy here. I wouldn't like to live anywhere else now.

RL: How did you get on with the other people when you were doing your training in England? How did you get on with the others?

EK: Very well, except I don't know whether they were all so kind because they felt a bit sorry for me, but they were all very pleasant. My training was done in a very high Church of England hospital and the sister-tutor, the old sister-tutor, the one who was there when I started, was a very kind and very charitable person who loved lame ducklings and she was always ready to help. When I started and I had to go on the District, I obviously didn't have the right uniform coat. Neither did I have the money to buy any, because my parents didn't have any, and I think I earned seven pounds a month, and a lot of it went on fares to go and see my parents on my days off. And she gave me her old uniform coat and she was helpful in every way. Just to set an example, I was once on duty in the evening, the meals were very bad at that hospital, for the patients as well as for the nurses, and we had some girls working there to do the cleaning and help in the kitchen who had Down's Syndrome or something similar. And one evening it was my duty to go

Tape 4: 4 minutes 46 seconds

and give out the meals to all the patients, and they all refused their meals. And one of them said, 'Oh Josie', that was one of the girls who helped, 'went round and told each of us don't have any soup, it's very bad tonight', because she wanted to go out in the evening. So I told Sr. Neill the sister-tutor, I said it's, not I mean, and we were very keen for the mothers to breastfeed the babies, and their husbands, Woolwich was a very poor district, they did not have any, they didn't bring in any food for them, so I really wanted them to have their meals. So I told Sr. Neill what can one do about it. 'Oh don't worry about Josie, you know she was a very bad forceps delivery, so don't, don't, she has to be forgiven.' That was just the kind of person she was. So right from the beginning I was very happy. Also it's an emergency hospital, where the cook ruled us really, because when we were off, we had an hour off at lunchtime, not everybody, but some of them were on duty, some off duty. 'You must go and finish blackberrying now, because I want to make a blackberry pie.' And we all, we all did exactly what she told us to do. But I just loved it altogether; I really liked it, yes.

RL: And what happened after you finished your training?

EK: Well just before I finished my training, I met my husband and got engaged, and my husband wanted me to finish my training and so did I. We got married actually a week before I sat for my examination, and I did, and I passed afterwards, but I did not really go back into midwifery unfortunately because my husband had opened his own premises and wanted me to help him. He did something which was not very much to my liking, I would have preferred doing midwifery, he was a furrier, it's not I haven't got anything against furs, but it didn't give me really any happiness to work on furs, and I was never very good at handiwork in any case, my sewing, it wasn't, I preferred working with people and for people. But I did not have the opportunity until my son went to university and my husband wasn't so well and couldn't work so much anymore, that I returned to do something which was a bit more to my liking.

RL: How did you meet your husband?

EK: That was a funny thing. There were people selling, people hunting for wild foxes and jackals in the south of Algeria and they were and one could buy those pelts for very little money, and I said 'A fur coat, wonderful, I always wanted a fur coat.' So I bought some jackal pelts, and there was a Viennese there who was a milliner, but she said that she between her and her husband who was in the French army, they would be able to seam the skins and the skins on the pelts, and she would be able to make me a wonderful coat, and I said 'Lovely.' Well the result didn't turn out quite to my liking, and when I went was here I heard about my husband being a furrier and he lived only in the next street from where my parents lived, and I went and said 'Could you do some alterations to this fur coat' and he said 'Oh you can't wear this awful thing', and that's how I got to know him.

RL: Where was he from?

Tape 4: 10 minutes 16 seconds

EK: Berlin.

RL: And when had he come over?

EK: He came over before the war. He was interned for a short time on the Isle of Man and volunteered for the army and on the way from the Isle of Man to wherever he was, he fell between train and platform and had a multiple fracture on his thigh. And he had to be in hospital for a good many months. He was never good enough then to go into the army, and he worked for other people then in their workshops.

RL: What was his name?

EK: Friedrich Klein.

RL: And when did you marry?

EK: In '48.

RL: And where did you marry?

EK: At the Belsize Square Synagogue, only in wasn't in Belsize Square then, it was in a little road leading to Belsize square, I don't remember, and Rabbi Dr. Salzberger married us, I don't know whether you have heard about him, he's he was a very old, very wise man. He very nice.

RL: And where did you go to live?

EK: Well we continued to live in his house in Walm Lane.

RL: And where was the shop?

EK: Well, he didn't, he started in a workshop in a house in New Bond street, but that was the back of New Bond street, but there was a robbery there and that didn't work out for very long, and I couldn't go and help him full time because then I was expecting my son, and he was born, and I was and my husband moved back home and had his workshop at home, and I helped him there, by looking after this then younger man.

RL: When was your son born?

EK: In '49, September '49.

RL: And he's called? What's his name?

EK: He's called Max David.

Tape 4: 12 minutes 57 seconds

RL: Was that after anybody? Was he named after anyone?

EK: Max after my father-in-law, who had died before, and David just because I liked it.

RL: How long did you stay in that house?

EK: 'Till after my husband died.

RL: Which was when?

EK: In '80, 1980.

RL: So you were in London?

EK: In London, in Willesden Green.

RL: Up until 1980.

EK: Yes.

RL: Where did you sent Max to school? Was Max your only child?

EK: He was my only; he was and is my only child.

RL: And what schooling did he have?

EK: Max went to the City of London School. He won a scholarship in an exhibition and he studied at the University of East Anglia and afterwards he did his postgraduate training at Insead, that's a university for business studies in Fontainebleau, near Paris.

RL: And do you know why he chose to go to there for his? Why did he choose to go there do you know?

EK: Max was very good at languages at school, and he thought he might get some international work with doing international business studies, he had lectures there. One is able to take lectures there in three languages, French, English and German. I believe some Italian as well, I'm not sure.

RL: And what kind of Jewish education did he have?

EK: Max had his Hebrew lessons at, he started at the synagogue, in Bromley, but because it was just on the corner, but then we brought him to the Belsize Square Synagogue, where he continued with his Hebrew lessons and there he was bar mitzvahed.

Tape 4: 15 minutes 44 seconds

RL: Did he belong to any clubs or youth groups or societies?

EK: He went for a very long time to the Jewish scouts, and he always played chess, he also played rugby, he was a member of a rugby club before he got married, I think I can't remember anything else.

RL: Did you and your husband belong to any clubs or societies?

EK: No. My husband had suffered what I thought psychologically through being beaten up by Nazi Jews in Berlin before he emigrated and then he was never in very good health, actually we only really we always, actually his doctor always treated him for spondilitis, we only really knew just before died of an aggravated stroke that there was something much more the matter with him, that he had a big tumour on a kidney and that is why he always complained about backache and wasn't feeling too well at any time.

RL: Right, so he didn't belong to any..?

EK: No.

RL: And you yourself, did you belong to any organization?

EK: For a time, but that was, for a time I went to the university of the third age, and I studied art, history of art, literature, I had some French lessons again, I think that was about all.

RL: Was this when you were in London?

EK: This was while I was in London yes. But when my grandson was born I gave that up and I looked after him to make it possible for Juliet, my daughter-in-law to go to university.

RL: Who did your son marry? Who did your son marry?

EK: My son married a young lady called, who was called Juliet Cohen. She comes from Edgware. She worked at the Royal Free Hospital, in the kidney department, but on the administrative side, but then she wanted something different, and she studied Home Economics and now she works for the food trade; for the food production trade.

RL: And what children do they have?

EK: There was a, there is a son Bernard, who was born in '82, and who is at present at Cambridge University studying chemical engineering, and there's Anna who will just go up into senior school in September.

Tape 4: 19 minutes 39 seconds

RL: And where did your son live at that point, where was he living with his wife and family?

EK: My son lived in Wembley, and after my husband died, I was going to sell, it was a very large old house, not very convenient, I was going to buy a flat, but Max insisted that I should live with them. Which worked out very well because it gives Juliet the possibility to follow her own profession at the same time as having her children, and now a child only in the evening, and I am there, I was there for them when they came from school, and do their meals, and helped them to do their homework, while I was still able to, no longer now.

RL: So was that in London?

EK: Well in London we moved to Pinner because the house my son bought before he was married was in Wembley and it was a very small house which was not really suitable for a family.

RL: So that when you moved in with them, they were living in Pinner?

EK: Yes.

RL: And when did you move up to Liverpool?

EK: In '89.

RL: And why the move?

EK: Because Max found some work here in the Wirral actually, and we bought the house here in Liverpool to stay in. We were looking for somewhere to stay not too far away from King David School that was because of Bernard, we didn't think, nobody thought of Anna then, she was born so much later, and that's how we landed here.

RL: When you came over to this country, did you meet up with any other refugees, or any other people that, besides your husband obviously, did you get to know others like yourself?

EK: Yes I had a few more distant relations in London, a cousin who lost her first husband and moved to Israel and got married again, and another cousin of my father's who was a professor at London University, and who's died since, and his wife and children were

some of them were the same age as Max. And my parents had friends whom I met actually, some of them lived in the same district and we saw each other.

RL: Was there any kind of get together for special occasions; was there any kind of organization amongst them?

Tape 4: 23 minutes 22 seconds

EK: For the usual occasions, when there was a wedding, or a bar mitzvah, or something of this kind, yes there was a get together.

RL: Would they meet in any particular place, was there any kind of club or...?

EK: No, I think they were all people who had lost everything and who had worked very hard to be able to make ends meet. There wasn't so much leisure. And also now I just consider my mother, my mother always had help at home but that wasn't nobody seemed to have help at home then. They were all had to go out to work, come home, do their own housework, their own washing, their own cooking and shopping, so there was not so much leisure time for going out to clubs, or that was only afterwards with younger people who did not have the same duties or responsibilities who do that kind of thing.

RL: Now who would you socialize with as a young married couple, who was your social circle?

EK: We did not have very much of a social circle, because my husband was never very well. He worked very long hours, as long as he could, and then he needed his rest. He had two ways of resting, which was one of them was doing some gardening, which he liked, oh it wasn't a big garden like here, but he liked it. He had a kind of smallholding in Berlin before where he felled trees, where he even built his own house. And he loved nature, and later on, he bought an old taxi, when it was then, and we drove out into the country, we had a dog and we went for walks with the dog outside and that seemed to be good for his nerves and made him happy.

RL: And which synagogue did you belong to?

EK: To the Belsize Square Synagogue. That is the synagogue which started really all these refugees, the first rabbis there were rabbis who came like Dr. Salzberger from the Continent, and Leo Baeck came from the Continent, and the Rabbi with whom Max was bar mitzvahed Dr. Kokotek, came from a town not very far from Breslau. Waldenburg, that's not far from Breslau. I think it's still mainly composed of people who originally came, or their parents came as refugees from the Continent.

RL: How often would you attend the synagogue?

EK: Oh my husband liked to go each Shabbat.

RL: I suppose you sort of had the social mixing most probably took place on a Shabbat? What level of observance did you keep as a couple in the home?

EK: Sorry I didn't...

RL: What level of observance did you keep?

Tape 4: 27 minutes 35 seconds

EK: I cannot say that it was, that we, we were not strictly observant, no. But it was a Jewish house.

RL: Did your husband work on a Saturday?

EK: I would, I can't remember whether my husband did. No he went to the synagogue then.

RL: And when did you become connected with the AJR, the Association of Jewish refugees?

EK: My husband was a member when I came to this country already. So were my parents. My parents went to live in the Otto Schiff House, one of the AJR houses which is not the same type of home any longer, in Netherhall Gardens, when after my mother became very ill and my father could not look after her, he was too old and ill as well, to look after her and I cooked for them and put things into the fridge, but my parents forgot there was something in the fridge. When they were not able to look after them any more and there was no space for me to have my parents at home I, they went into the AJR home. And they were and my mother only lived for about nine months after they went there. But they were very happy there, my father was there a good many years and he was very popular. He, old people are sometimes a little bit difficult, but my father was such a diplomat. I remember when the cook was on holiday at the Otto Schiff House, and there was another cook, who came to replace her, and she did something the other people did not like, and my father who loved, was a great speaker for all occasions, he got he heard what they were saying and he got up after the meal and he knocked his spoon against the glass and said 'And now I want to remember the cook, she has cooked us a most wonderful meal we ever had, please all applaud,' so they all like my father, they all applauded, so the situation was already finished. He was very popular. My father was dead for quite a few years when I went to see Miss [?] who was a matron there and she still had my father's picture on her desk. The other inhabitants they all, he liked to be useful too, he was still mobile and he could also he had very bad arthritis for the last year when he lived there, but before he was mobile and he went down to Finchley Road and if anybody wanted something he went in for their shopping, and he was always in demand of doing poems, or speeches for birthdays and all that and Miss [?] was so very good in celebrating all these little events, or and that they were glad when my father wanted to make a speech because not all the old people are very keen on doing that, so he did that. He was extremely popular; I know that some of the former friends or former people my

parents knew moved there just because my father was there. Mrs. Feuerstein, after her husband died, she moved to the Otto Schiff House, then my father started the last few weeks to become so very ill and she came and cried and said 'I moved here only because of your father.' Yes I think he was still being remembered for very many years after he wasn't alive any longer.

Tape 4: 32 minutes 34 seconds

RL: When did he die?

EK: My father died in '79.

RL: You mentioned that when your son went to university you started working again. What were you doing?

EK: I worked as a receptionist nurse for a GP who had his surgery not very far from where we lived, on the same street actually.

RL: And how long did you work there?

EK: For quite a few years.

RL: Until you moved up to Liverpool?

EK: Oh no, no, no. I worked as a receptionist in a clinic afterwards.

RL: But you didn't work as the actual nurse?

EK: Occasionally, yes.

RL: So you didn't really use your midwifery training in this country?

EK: No, unfortunately not.

RL: Did you take out British nationality?

EK: Yes.

RL: When did you do that?

EK: It was very easy for me because at the time when we married it was still quite automatic that if you married a British citizen, my husband had become British, then one became British as well. So I became British just by having married my husband.

RL: So have you visited Israel?

EK: Yes.

RL: So when did you go for the first time?

EK: For the first time when Bernard was very little we went there with my children and Bernard was still pushed about in a pushchair, and the next time he was bar mitzvahed at

Tape 4: 34 minutes 52 seconds

the Western Wall.

RL: And how did you feel visiting Israel?

EK: Very happy and if I would have been possible for me I would have lived there, would have gone there as a very young girl. I felt a feeling of homecoming. Unfortunately it was not to be.

RL: Are you involved in any charities that raise money for Israel, or any Zionist organizations?

EK: Well not since I was a member of the Habonim, but yes otherwise, if there is anything to give for charity to give to Israel, it will always be Israel number one.

RL: How would you describe yourself in terms of nationality?

EK: That's a very difficult one to answer. I don't have a strong feeling of belonging to any special nation. I feel there are decent people and not so decent people in all the countries in the world and having had come from one family who had already emigrated from one country to another to another country and then again to another country, if I am grateful to the country where I am living, I would ...I feel to belong to the country where I am living, but I think it is probably not as pronounced as if you are born in a country and lived there all through your life. Because you have seen and lived in other countries and got to know and like people in other countries as well, and having a very strong sense of nationality can bring, I can't express it very well, does not necessarily mean that you are friends with everybody else in the world, rather to the contrary. I never thought too much about it I must admit. I wouldn't call myself a citizen of the world, but it just is I am grateful to the country where I am living, I would like to do things for the country where I am living, I would like to show myself grateful, I am proud of the achievements of the country where I am living, I guess that's it.

RL: Do you think there is such a thing as a continental identity, a continental maybe Jewish identity even?

EK: A Jewish identity? It's not so much here, as a Jewish identity of a different country, of a different, I found that mainly when I went to North Africa I found Jewish people there very different from the Jewish people I was used to. There's a Jewish people here

are different from the Jewish people I was brought up with in Germany. I cannot say so much about it because I was so young when I left Germany.

RL: How is the Jewish community here different to the Jewish community in Germany where you were brought up? What can you sort of pinpoint the differences? What's different?

Tape 4: 40 minutes 6 seconds

EK: You mean, do you mean the Liverpool one in general? I've found, what I feel, and I'm extremely happy about, is that first Bernard and now Anna, Anna is going to a Jewish school, she's going to King David School, and for the first time in my life I thought about it when Bernard went there first, but its an advantage to be Jewish, isn't it lovely? I mean you would be taken into King David School whereas otherwise you might be refused the entry. It was and you have a feeling when you go there you have a feeling of belonging, and all these things I haven't known. You know I'd never felt in my life. I thought it was wonderful, in Harold House here where all the different communities and all the different interests are meeting, I've never known that before.

RL: Did you not experience that in London at all?

EK: Perhaps London was too large a town, too widespread. You know there was not a kind of, like this community house in Harold House, it would not have been able to exist in London because it is too widespread a city, whereas here all the people who live in Liverpool have the possibility to go and meet there for one reason or another.

RL: Do you go to Harold House yourself?

EK: Well, I went there for lectures once, I go when there's an AJR meeting, I went and collected my grandchildren from nursery school there, I know there are luncheon clubs for old people there but I never have enough time, I did not have enough time, having to be here for the children when they came in from school, having to cook something for them, looking after the garden, and the washing and one thing or another, chopping, now my hearing is bad, and I don't see very much, and my knees are bad, so there are other reasons why I don't go to these meetings.

RL: Do you feel different to English Jews in any way? Do you feel there is a difference?

EK: I don't know. I don't know if there's a reason. I do feel in some ways different is because I was born in Germany, where my mother also she did not have to, was, did make do with lots of things, did turn sheets, or different things, it has probably got to do with a different generation I imagine. Now one does not have a whole cupboard full of sheets or things like that, one had little one. I think in older time what one tried to buy the best things and make do with them for a longer time, and now I think younger people buy things because they are just fashionable and throw them away tomorrow when they are not quite so fashionable. It might have something to do with that, but it might also have

to do with spending the war years in North Africa when there was absolutely nothing and people I don't talk about, well yes about myself I had to if I wanted a bar of soap I couldn't buy it, I had to make it with some mutton grease and some resin and sand and things like that, and it smelt awful, but one did not throw empty a tin can away, one kept it as a container. Living through these war years in Algeria where there was nothing, perhaps when I come to this country and see most Jewish people, I find people are not tempted to make do anymore so much, well that's good for them.

Tape 4: 45 minutes 58 seconds

RL: Who do you feel most comfortable with?

EK: Oh my son obviously, because well he's my only child, he knows about my past, he spent. He was a good grandson to his grandparents, he was something I find quite rare with young people now, he was very interested in their past, in their lives, and I find that lots of young people just haven't got the time for that now. But he is as far as I'm concerned he has got the heart in the right place.

RL: Did you ever revisit Germany?

EK: Only once for one day, and that was because, that was two years ago, because I have a cousin who returned there, is married to an American but lives in Germany, he was, he is a musician and he, after he retired, he was the only Jewish musician in the Vatican, in the Pope's orchestra, he played the viola. Because Brasil was an orphan, and Brasil sent him to study in Italy, to study music in Italy because he was so gifted, but that's not the only thing he's gifted for, he wanted after having some professorships in America in some universities, he wanted to play in a certain orchestra in Germany, so he returned, in a certain theatre, orchestra yes, and he returned to Germany with his American wife, and he had very late in life a son, and the son was bar mitzvahed, and I went there for a day, just for the son's bar mitzvah.

RL: How did you feel, going back there?

EK: Very strange, I never wanted to go back, I mean I don't mind individual Germans when I talk to them, I know some of them are extremely nice, are really nice, but the whole atmosphere and all the things I remember just crowd back on me and I suddenly hear when I talk, also I might talk nonsense, but I it doesn't matter so much, but there I'm suddenly on the TV, should I say that, or...I couldn't care here what impression people have of me but there I still see myself as when I was a little girl, as when I was considered the Jew, and I was most surprised when after the bar mitzvah in front of the synagogue there was a police car, but the policemen say they were guarding us, whereas when I was in Germany, it was just the opposite. I don't think I would like to live there anymore, it's just that I can't shake all of these, I know all of the people who live there now, it's none of their fault and they haven't done anything but I can't shake these remembrances off, they will stay with me till my last day.

RL: Did you revisit any of the places that you lived in?

EK: No. First of all they are Poland now, secondly I wanted to go and Max wanted to take me there, I know it would have, I would have gone there with very mixed feelings, the things I wanted to find I know I wouldn't find anymore, but then Max's partner became ill and had a kidney operation and Max she has been on and off work since and Max was not able to take me there anymore. I would not like to go there by myself, so no.

Tape 4: 51 minutes 10 seconds

RL: Do you miss anything about German culture or German food, is there anything you actually miss about you know that society?

EK: Oh from time to time yes, there are a few things I particularly liked as a child and as I say I wished I could, but it's not essential.

RL: What kinds of things?

EK: Oh something I get at Sainsbury's now, Sauerkraut. Do you know it?

RL: What about culturally, is there anything that you miss about the way things were done there?

EK: Well I loved German literature, and you know German music wonderful, perhaps, perhaps at that time my mind was so much so open and I could take in and learn more about the literature and all that. When I came here, no later on, I was too busy, did not have so much possibility or perhaps or did I become too indifferent because life was hard? I don't know. But I think I was able to make more out of German literature than I was of any other of the things we talked about.

RL: Do you think there is a German Jewish heritage here today? Is there a German Jewish heritage today in this country?

EK: Can you explain to me what you mean by heritage or is it what I think you mean? A custom which went down from...? No I don't think there's anything very different now about Jewish about the religion, or about the services. In Belsize Square in the synagogue, the services were until a few years ago, the liturgies, the songs and all that were different, they were the way they were sung in Germany, that's the way they were read in Germany, but I think it has changed since.

RL: Have you ever experienced any anti-Semitism in this country, any hostility?

EK: Not towards me personally, well not as far as I noticed. I know that our synagogue here the windows have been smashed quite recently, fires have been started in the forecourt there, so there must be some kind of anti-Semitism going on.

RL: Do you think this is a more recent thing, or do you think it's always been there?

EK: I do not know. I do not know. I mean there was some anti-Semitism in London during Mosley's time or so, but whether that has just continued or died away and that is a recent time because of the situation in Israel I'm not able to say that.

RL: Do you feel at home in England?

Tape 4: 56 minutes 1 second

EK: Oh yes, I do. I mean, particularly as I'm with my family. Wherever my son is, I am at home.

RL: What, you mentioned your grandchildren, what are they doing at the moment? Did you say, yes I think you said that one went, that Bernard's at university at the moment?

EK: Yes, and he's very happy there. He's in his second year, and he did a first in his first year, but he always was a very bright boy. He was a, he won, he was a member of the chemist, English chemistry Olympic team, he played chess for England. He jumped a class from primary to secondary school, seems to have got most of the prizes on leaving, he is always, he is an exceptionally bright boy. Anna is bright girl, but they are very different children.

RL: And what is your son doing today, what is his work now, what is he doing in Liverpool?

EK: My son? My son has his own marketing firm, but as it is has something to do with computers, I don't know anything about that. I cannot tell you much about it.

RL: Is there anything else you would like to add, anything else that you would like to say about you know your life in this country or any message you would like to give as we get to the end now?

EK: No I, I don't know, I consider myself to be a very lucky woman. I have seen out a very troubled childhood, I've seen my parents again, my parents died here in my arms, I'm able when I am in London to go to their graves, I have buried my husband here, I have my son here and my daughter-in-law and my grandchildren, I am a very lucky woman. And I am very old, I never thought I would grow so old that come to that ripe old age and I have that to be grateful for, and I am grateful.

RL: Thank you very much.

Tape 4: 59 minutes 0 second

[End of interview]

[Black and white drawing]

EK: That was the interior of the synagogue in Öls, in Silesia that was burnt down by the Nazis. This was drawn by an artist called Labouchine and given to my father as a prize in a raffle by the Jewish congregation.

Tape 4: 59 minutes 40 seconds

[Black and white photograph of group]

EK: This photograph must have been taken in about 1902. 1904 when my mother who is on the right hand side, was a very young girl. Next to her is one of her brothers and their two sisters, one called Rosa, the other Zelma, and my grandmother, Libbe Daniels, is sitting in the middle. That must have been taken in Friedrichshof in Eastern Prussia.

[Sepia coloured photograph of group]

EK: This picture was taken in Insterburg, Eastern Prussia, round 1908 or 1910, it is my grandmother, on the right hand side is Aunt Betty, the wife of Uncle Albert, a brother of my mother, in the middle at the back is my mother, and on the other side is my aunt Zelma.

TAPE 5

Tape 5: 0 minute 31 seconds

[Black and white photograph of soldier]

EK: This picture was taken in Stettin sometime after 1904 while my father was doing his national service.

[Black and white photograph of woman]

EK: That is a picture taken of my mother taken in 1904, 1905, when she was a young girl. It was taken in Eastern Prussia.

[Sepia picture]

EK: This picture was taken on the marketplace in Öls, just prior to the First World War. It was a march by the district military organization and the men one of the gentlemen in the foreground is the German Crown Prince.

[Passport]

EK: That is my mother's identity card, my mother's name was Anna Dannemann, nee Moses. It was given to her in May 1939, on the first page is a 'J' for 'Jude'.

Tape 5: 01 minutes 59 seconds

[Certificate]

EK: That was a documentation for my father's iron cross, given to him in 1918. My father's name, Bernhard Dannemann.

[Certificate]

EK: That is a certificate that the cross of honour was given to people who fought in the First World War in 1934 by Hindenburg to my father, Bernhard Dannemann.

[Sepia photograph of little girl]

EK: That is a picture of me, then Erna Dannemann, the day I started school at the age of five, in Öls, Silesia.

[Black and white photograph of children]

EK: That is my first school class, I Erna Dannemann at the back row, second left. That was when I was in 1924.

[Black and white photograph]

EK: That was in Algiers, in 1938, I Erna Dannemann was there with a baby I went over to look after, I went over to Algeria to look after.

[Black and white photograph of group]

EK: That was at the maternity hospital at Paddock Wood Kent, in 1946, doing my midwifery training, I was in the back row, second from the right.

[Sepia photograph of wedding]

EK: That was taken after my wedding to my husband Friedrich Klein, in June 1948, oh I'm sorry, that was taken after my wedding in Belsize Square to my husband Friedrich Klein, in 1948.

[Colour photograph of couple]

EK: This picture of my parents Bernhard and Anna Dannemann was taken in 1964 at the Otto Schiff House, at the occasion of the 80th birthday of my father.

[Picture of soldiers, black and white]

Tape 5: 4 minutes 32 seconds

EK: This picture of my son, Max David Klein, third from the left, was taken when he was in the cadet corps at the City of London School.

[Colour photograph of couple]

EK: This picture of my son Max and his wife Juliet Klein was taken after their wedding in 1980 in Wembley.

[Colour photograph of children]

EK: This picture was taken in 1999 at home of my grandchildren Anna and Bernard Klein. In 1999 at home in Liverpool.

[Red embossed material]

EK: This was a Challah cloth of the former rabbi of Öls in Silesia, it was given, Rabbi Kudowski, it was given to me by his daughter, a former teacher of mine, Clara Kudowski.

Tape 5: 6 minutes 2 seconds

END OF INTERVIEW