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We're ready to record now, and this will be a bit of oral history. First of all, I would like to know some things about our families in Germany, and would like to get names and spellings of people and their relationship to us, and then we'd like to talk about your early recollections in Germany and Kiel, and then from there, I'm particularly interested in the time of 1918 through 1924, the last years that you and Dad spent in Germany. These were rather hectic times in Germany, and we'd like to get your recollections.

So first of all, would you tell me the names of your parents, and as far back as you can, with maiden names, wherever you can along that line. Your grandfather's name was Gustav Heinrich, and your grandmother's name was Amanda Evelina and I was born late in my parents' life, and don't remember my grandparents very much. My grandmother lived the last few years with us, and I think her name was Evelina Kruse, and my grandfather was dead.

They used to live in Königsförde. It's close to the canal that connects the North Sea with the Baltic Sea. It was a country, and they lived in the middle of the woods.

Do you know what your grandfather did for a living? No, I think he farmed. It was farmland in the woods. I don't really know.

He had been dead so long. You don't know any names beyond that? No, but I have them written down. What about your father's family? My father's family was, I think his father, my father's name was Heinz Mart, and he, Your father's name? My father's, father's name, my grandfather's name, and my grandmother's name was, she was, I just don't remember her name, but her maiden name was Andresen, A-N-D-R-E-S-E-N, and they lived in Arnes, on the Schlei, a river Schlei, and it's in Schleswig-Holstein, and it's a pretty little town.

At the time my father was little, it was an island. Now it's connected with the mainland. It's just one long street, and it's still the way it used to be.

My grandfather's house stood across the mill that we have a picture of, a painting of, and his initial M is still in that big iron, big oak front door. Do you remember that? No, I didn't know my grandfather. He was dead when I was born.

My grandmother was real very old. My grandfather died, well, he died in Kiel. He had his sailboats and sailed between Arnes and Denmark, Norway, and Sweden.

They hauled freight, and one day they had a very bad storm, and he lost his ships at the Skagerrak. Was he the one that saw Stockholm burn? Yes, my father was with him on this trip, and he saw the city burn from the sea. I heard my father talk about it.

How about Stockholm? Date-wise? No, but we could look that up. We have it all written down. Arnes, I wish I could see it once more.

We went to the cemetery and saw their graves when we were there several years ago. What about your father's family now? No, my father had two brothers. He had also a sister.

She was a twin of one of his brothers. The sister died when she was 12 years old, but the brother, my father's brother Carl, Christian was the oldest, and then Carl, and then my father, and then John, Johannes, Johannes Jürgen. He was quite a bit younger.

Christian left the country, and he was a sailor, and he was never heard from. Do you know why he left the country? Yes, he was in the Navy, and he couldn't get along with an officer, and he deserted. He did come back once to Kiel to my father, and my father and my step-grandfather, my grandmother married again after my great-grandfather was dead a long time.

They took him to Hamburg so he could ship out of the country. If he had stayed, and if he had been caught, he would have been shot. Was this during wartime? No, this was all way before I was born.

You were born at 19? Well, now wait a minute. Mother used to tell me that they heard once from people in Flensburg that they had seen my uncle in some foreign country, but they never heard from him anymore. And then Uncle Hannes went to America.

He tried to contact him. He advertised, but we never heard from him. We never heard what happened.

And Carl, my uncle Carl, the second brother, he was a seaman, and during the First World War, he was interned in England on the Isle of Man. And when the World War, we used to send packages even during the war to him, and my uncle from here sent packages because they were hungry and cold. Do you know how he was captured? Yeah, on a boat, on a neutral boat besides, on which he was working.

He came home after the war, and he stayed with us for a while until he got a patient and went back to sea. But we are way ahead of us now because I was, that was in 1918 when he got home. I imagine that's when it was.

Whatever became of him, do you know? Yes, I think he drowned. I think my aunt on the red line, she used to say he probably was drunk. And he drowned in Kiel while I was here in this country already.

He didn't, I don't remember seeing him much. Of course he might have stabbed him and murdered, but I was probably at work. You mentioned while we were recording that you remember the name of the young sister of my aunt that died.

Yes, and I remember of course my grandfather's name. It was Christian. And the sister died at 12 years of age, and her name was Sophia.

And, but coming back... What did Uncle Hannes' father do? He lived in Ireland. He was the one

who took care of her. Yeah, well, when his ships were lost, he didn't go back to sea.

My grandfather bought a store in Kiel, and they moved to Kiel, and it wasn't long after that he died. And then my grandmother, I think they still run this store, was on Safinblatt, and she married again. But all I remember, that was of course before I was born, all I remember of her was that she was very ill, and I saw her in the hospital as a small child.

And I did, we did go and see my step-grandfather once in a while, and I remember we'd stop in. We'd, usually, that one time I remember when we went to market. They had a market twice a year.

Now I don't mean a real market, but they called it market. Was it around Christmas? No, it was, well, this wasn't around Christmas, and I remember that twice a year they'd come, the cigoiner, and gypsies, and oh, they had carousels, and all that thing. Well, Mother would take me, and my step-grandfather would give me money to spend, just like any grandfather would charge.

Well, I don't remember much, because I was very little then, and he died. I was born. You don't remember his name? I know his daughter's name, because her name was Bartels, but I don't know.

How do you spell that? B-A-R-T-E-L-S. Now that would be her married name. Yeah, that was her married name, so it wasn't my grandfather's name.

I just don't know what his name was. It may be in some of Uncle Hannes' letters that I still hear. What do you want me to tell about the time I was? Well, all right, now, are there any other members of the family, before we start with your immediate family, your parents and so on, were there any other people that you think of, or names that you think of, that were connected to that time? You mentioned Uncle Hannes' family and his father, but you haven't said anything about your mother's side.

Well, my mother, she came from Königsförde, and as I said, it was on the canal, not too far from the canal. Well, my grandfather was dead by the time I was little and remember anything, but I remember visiting friends of theirs. It was country.

They lived in the woods, and the house was burned down by that time, but my sisters took me there, and it was beautiful. I always liked the woods. Where was it near? Königsförde, Getoff.

It was Getoff and Königsförde. And I used to visit with these friends in summer and spend some time, school time, there, and their name was Heitmann. Well, I don't... Well, what was, again, what was your mother's name? Kruse.

But do you know anything more? I mean, what... Well, she had a brother. She had a brother who lived close to, not too far from Kiel, and we visited there once in a while. Heinz Detlef told us when we passed, and he had a schmiede.

Well, you know what a schmiede is for where they fix horses' hooves and where they make iron work? Blacksmith. That's what he had there. Then my mother had a brother who went to Russia to live, and... Do you know why he went to Russia? I have no idea.

Did you ever meet him? No, he was dead by that time, but I met his son. His son, he became a Russian, I believe, but his son, he sent his son to Germany to serve in the army, and he was an officer in the army. He must have been pretty well-to-do because he had a good education, and after the war, then during the First World War, this boy was interned in Russia because he went back to Russia, of course, and because he had served in the German army.

They were sent to Siberia, and he was married, and he had quite a few children. One of the children even was born in a prison camp in Siberia. I don't know if it was a prison camp, but he was interned.

And so after the war, he wanted to come back to Germany. Well, it was terrible in Germany because the war was lost. Now we are ahead of all.

And he came. I know we didn't have enough room for the whole family to stay. There were about four or five children, I believe, so we took them to my mother's brother, the one that had lived in the country, and he had plenty of room, and he kept them.

And I remember my mother helping. She used to sew, and I think he just got any kind of work he could there to make a living. This cousin of mine, I don't even remember his name, but he used to ride to America, yes.

What was his name? I can't remember. Anyway, he couldn't find any work, and he went back to Russia with his family, and he wrote from Russia several times here to me. So that's my mother's family then.

Mother had a sister, and she lived north of Kiel in the country, and they owned a fruit orchard. And I remember going in fall. We always would go in fall when the fruit was ripe and bring lots of fruit home.

And I don't remember. I remember the cousins, but don't remember the names because they were so much older than I. No, I don't. Were there any other uncles on your mother's side, or do you remember? Just one uncle, two, of course, and this aunt, that was all.

Well, my father, of course. Well, now, before, there isn't anyone else that you can think of? Out of my family. Out of your family? Well, Tandemina.

She was a cousin of my father's, and uncle's, of course, and she lived in Arnas, just a corner from where my grandfather used to live. And all I remember always was she was very wealthy, and she was my godmother. Tandemina, how do you know that? Tandemina, Tandemina Wilhelmina was her name.

Wilhelmina, what was her last name? Wehle, W-E-I-W-E-H-L-E, Wehle. And she was a born Mart. Now, she was then related to Uncle Hannes, then, as a cousin? No.

Yeah. She was Uncle Hannes' cousin, my father's cousin. All right.

Now, what branch of the Mart family did she come from? Well, she must have come from my grandfather, because her maiden name was Mart. Well, your grand... My grandmother's maiden name was Andresen. And she was born a Mart, and so... She married a Wehle.

Yes. And she adopted a girl across the street just my age, exactly my age. She used to come and visit once in a while.

And this girl lived with her till she died, and she inherited the house. It's a beautiful house, isn't it? And she has still got the old, old thing. And this is Ellie Pausen.

Ellie Pausen. And she treasured it, and her furniture is still beautiful. So, that's what... Well, I'm so glad we got to visit them.

Yeah, I'm glad, too, that she made these people heard about them. Well, now, let's look at your parents. Well, my father, of course, well, grew up in Arnes, but he did go to a... Gustav.

Gustav, Heinrich. And he did go to a school away, I don't... I think it was, I don't remember, but it was a special school, a higher school. They called it a higher school for higher education.

You know that the school system is different there. The public schools are all supported by the government, and the private schools are partly supported. That's where I went.

And so, then he was... Of course, everybody had to serve in the army, and he was tall and very stately, very good-looking, and red hair, curly. And he was in the Hussar, and that was the one on horseback, in a special group for special occasions, because they had to all be... Yeah. And then, after that, he went, as was the way of people, he went from town to town all over Europe, Germany, I suppose, or I don't know, to learn.

He learned to be a machinist. And then, when he came back, he married my mother. I don't know where they met.

She dances, I guess, in the country. What was her name? It was Amanda Eveline Christine Kruse, before they were married. And I told you where she lived.

And, well, Agnes was the oldest child, Agnes. And then Willy, Wilhelm, was the second, and Frieda the third. And they were all two years apart, the three.

And then for 14 years, after 14 years, I was born. So my oldest sister was 18, my brother 16. And, of course, I was born.

So when it was time to go to school, I went to the school in Garden. We had to walk quite a bit

to go to this private school. And when I graduated, I went to business school.

And went to work. Well, as you were growing up... Now, when I was 14, when the war broke out, all our school was beautiful, high up on the hill, and just a new school. What was the name of the school? Well, there is no name to it.

It was Peter IV Mädchen Mittelschule, Girls' Middle School. And it was a building, a high tower, with two wings, one wing on each side. Now the girls had the one wing, the boys had the other wing.

But the middle wing was... Well, I think nowadays the schools are not just coming up to that. We had a great big music hall. And we had a gym that was just out of this world.

And on the top floor, a room where we had physics and chemistry. Yeah, but it was elevated seats in the round, so we could see the experiments. And of course we shared that with the boys.

We had them some days and the boys had them the other day. Well, when the war broke out in 1914... Well, why don't you tell us a little bit more about life before you get to the war? We'll save that for another time. Just talk about your young, your youth, the things that you did and the places that you went and the people that you got to know.

I didn't go very many places. I visited in Arnes and I visited in Königsförde. And of course my sisters were old.

My Brida was working in a toy store that we visited. That was Giesiges. And she worked there for ten years.

She was a buyer and in charge of it. And Agnes was a governess. She worked all over Germany and Switzerland.

She worked there a couple of years in Switzerland. She used to write pretty cards to her little sister. And when she was home, she was a beautiful seamstress.

She made all my clothes. And when we went to school, we had so far to go, half an hour to walk. Anyway, maybe longer.

And then we went on outings, which the school did twice a year. We went walking. What do you call walking? Not walking.

Hiking. Agnes would go with us. She loved nature.

And, well, school was nice. We had fun. Dad wanted me to be a teacher, but I just couldn't see it.

So then after that... Well, what about how often were you able to see it? Well, I don't know that I

really ought to tell that. I think you should. Well, I always liked to have lots of fun.

And I loved arithmetic. That was my favorite subject in school. And I liked my teacher.

I liked him very well. And I was said we could always sit where we wanted to before the semester started. And I would sit in the front row in arithmetic.

And across from me was a little smaller girl. I was always pretty tall. About a third in height in our class.

And the teacher was working on the blackboard. And I just was kind of bored. I knew all he had to say.

So I took a needle and stuck the girl in the armpit. Oh, she just screamed. And he just flew around.

And he said, who was that? And she said, Wilhelmina Maat hat mich gestocht. And he just had to look at me. And oh, I felt so bad.

I never did that again. Well, she told another thing. I don't remember.

About the time you pulled the chair out. Oh, that was when I was big. Oh, you were old enough to know then.

Yeah, I was old enough to know then. But all in all, I didn't do any harm. We had a lot of fun.

I had friends I walked to school with. Do you still correspond with anyone that you went to school with? Yes. Marta Muller, I went to school with her.

And then we went to gym classes at home. I mean, since I was five years old. Because my brother, he was quite a gymnast.

He traveled all over the country. And so he insisted I must go to gym classes. So I went to gym classes when I was little.

And I had a lot of friends there. Some of them did go to other schools. Now, was this a special school for you? Yeah, well, they had the gym classes in the schools in the evening or late afternoon, depending on the age of the children.

We had school usually until two o'clock in the afternoon, including Saturdays. But then we had, in summer we only had four weeks vacation. But we did have two weeks in spring, two weeks at Christmas time.

Do you remember any particular parties or events that occurred? Just our birthday parties. Our birthday parties were always celebrated. Every one of us.

When we came down, there was a birthday cake with candles, and the birthday table set with

gifts. And that's the way we celebrated the birthday. In the afternoon, the friends were coming, and so we celebrated.

And Marta Müller, with whom I still correspond, she lives in Hamburg now, she and I went to school together. And off and on there were other girls. I used to write from here several, but I hadn't heard since the Second World War what happened to them.

And I never got a chance to go to any of the school meetings. They have dissolved now the last few years. So many of them have died.

What about where you lived? We lived in the suburb of Kiel. Had to cross the harbor. And I was a year old when my parents bought this house.

It was really a double house, but you just bought one side of the house. All the houses are bricked. And we had a long garden.

Father had beautiful fruit trees. They are still bearing fruit. And mother had a beautiful flower garden, a rose garden.

And on the back of the house we had what we called a yard, but it was just like a patio where we celebrated in summer. And the weather was nice. We always were outside, table and benches.

And when I was little, Dad had a swing there and a sand pile. And the neighbor children would come and we would play, and he made me a playhouse, which later on when I grew it, we had raised our geese in. That's our little geeseling.

We always had geese. Yeah, you know, I don't even remember. They killed the geese, but I don't think I ever could eat them.

But the goose breast was smoked. Down the street was a smokehouse where we would take our goose breast and have it smoked. And that's one of the most delicious things I think I've ever eaten.

Well, now what about when you were living there, how did you celebrate Christmas? Well, you remember how we celebrated Christmas. You were there in Hamburg with Lise Lothar. Well, it's just a great big celebration.

We always had a tree with candles trimmed before Christmas, but it was in the Gute Stube. That was way before Christmas. It was locked.

I could never go in. And my brother, he was a little devil. A big one.

He would say, oh, maybe go in the living room and get me a tie or get me something out of the drawer. And I would try to go in and Mother would scold him. I wasn't allowed because all the Christmas gifts were in the living room around the Christmas tree.

Way before Christmas, several days before Christmas. And my father was very particular about his tree. It had to go from the floor to the ceiling and it had to be perfect.

I remember one day Mother bought a Christmas tree and he said no, it wouldn't do. It wouldn't do at all. So he went and bought another one.

And if it wasn't just perfect, symmetrical, he would bore holes in it and put new limbs in it. And the Christmas tree was beautiful. And it was always trimmed with marzipan and chocolate wrapped in foil.

You bought it that way. And the marzipan, of course, wasn't beautiful. Or like sausages or apples or you know how they are.

But anyway, when Christmas Eve was there, I would knock at the door, knock at the kitchen wall, and my friend next door would knock. And that would mean that they had had their Bescherung. That means that they had had their Christmas.

And I would go over there and see what all they got. And then when we had our Christmas, we usually had later, because my sister working in a toy store was obviously coming home. Then we had our Christmas.

What was her name? Erna Dittmann. They lived there as long as we... Yeah. Well, what did you remember in particular at Christmas? Oh, I would have to say, of course, when I was little, I would have to say a verse.

Every Christmas and every birthday of my mother, I would have to learn a verse. My older sister would bring it and I would have to learn it and recite it. And yeah, well, I have the book with several in it, yeah.

I saw it the other day. Once I got a Puppenstube, a toy dollhouse. And it was, of course, I had such beautiful toys because three dolls were for the... And father had made it and it was just beautiful.

It had twin beds with a man and a wife doll. And it had the living room. And in the middle of my poem I had to repeat, recite, I said, Oh, eine Uhr ist auch darin.

Oh, a clock also is in the Puppenstube. I don't know. And my dad, he'd made me a beautiful stove.

I wish I had that with copper handles and copper chimney. And I could really cook and bake in it. I often wonder what happened to it.

So it was a real happy, happy childhood. I had a lot of friends. And nothing really tragic happened while I was little till I was big.

Well, my brother married rather young. And he lived in Kiel first. He was a tailor.

Later on had his own tailor shop. Who did he marry? He married Lena Nielsen. N-E-E-L-S-E-N
And she had twin sisters, just my age.

And they lived in Wellingdorf. And her parents were fishermen. Lots of fishermen lived in Wellingdorf.

And I remember my grandmother, my mother's mother, was still living when Willi got engaged and was engaged. And Lena's parents and sisters came for an evening meal. And my grandmother wasn't feeling very well.

So mother decided she must stay in bed. It would be too exciting for her. But she couldn't stay in bed.

And that's the only thing I remember about that, that all at once we heard a crash. And she had tried to come down the steps and fall. We had to get the doctor and she had to be sewed up.

But she got well then. But she was pretty fevered by that time. And she finally died.

What about your other sisters then? Well, that was after the war. They were married. Now, Freda was engaged to, when I was about, oh, I must have been about 12, 13 when she got in, oh, anyway, 12, when she got engaged to Dietrich Redlein from Itzehoe.

And he was in the Navy. But he was stationed, soon afterwards he was stationed in China. He was stationed in China for three years.

And he just came back in time. I guess they were ordered coming back before the war started. So you wanted me to leave that gold, didn't you? Well, he came back to Bremerhaven.

And he wired Freda to come after the war broke out. And they'd get married. And she had already her white dress.

And nothing came of it, of course. She wanted a church wedding, a big wedding. So she had to take the train and go out there and get married.

And stayed a few days. And then he had to leave. His boat was leaving.

She was then the second one to get married. Well, Agnes, she married soon afterwards. She was going out.

She was home then, of course. She was always traveling on her job. So she was home then.

And she met Niklaus Klein. His parents were fishermen. And he was an engineer working in the ship's yard.

And he had one brother, an older brother. There were just the two of them. And he was teaching in college, I believe.

Or university. Or in one of the private schools. I don't remember.

But he was a teacher. Are those the two that you always had thought with? Yeah. Well, now, when Agnes got married, her parents, they had a great big house, a nice house.

They converted it in an apartment for upstairs. And they lived upstairs. And Niklaus and Agnes lived downstairs.

And that was in Wellendorf. And so ... Do you know what the Reitlein family did? Yes. Didi's parents had a restaurant, a Barmhofz restaurant.

It was across from the station, the train station in Itzehoe. It's a beautiful little town. You must go see Itzehoe.

It's surrounded by woods. It's very wooded in there, and it's beautiful. Well, they had this restaurant, and I visited there a lot.

Yeah, when you were young? Yeah, when I was old, during the war, and afterwards. Well, Tante Reitlein was a Dane. She came from Denmark, and she took Frieda to Denmark.

And when Didi was in China one summer for a vacation, and she said, Mommy, in the next year, I will take you. And the next year, there was war. And I never got to go to Denmark as a child anymore.

I just went from here. Then Frieda came back when Didi went to sea. She came home, and she kept her job, and she lived at home.

And I don't know when she got her apartment. You couldn't, I guess at that time she couldn't, but she wanted to stay home. And Karl Heinz was born at home.

And I remember my dad, he used to take him on his shoulder and walk through the house and sing. He had a beautiful voice. And so had Frieda.

Frieda had a nice voice. Do you remember any other songs and things? Yeah, I used to sing some of those songs. I don't remember just now which one he used to sing.

Yeah, but I hope I can think of it right now. Mussi den, mussi den, zum Städteleiner. No, he didn't sing that.

I knew that as a child. There were several songs. They sang all over the country when he was young.

And he would sing that song. Well, there was one about the Rhine River. And then, oh, what was it? Then I woke up there in Vienna.

And I sang that one. Am Brunnen vor dem Tore. Am Brunnen vor dem Tore, da steht ein Lindenbaum.

Ich träumt in seinem Schatten so manchen süßen Traum. Ich schnitt in seiner Rinde so manches Liebewort. Yeah, I remember when we were in Vienna and that bus driver started singing that song.

And you had been dozing. I was sound asleep. You started singing that, and you just joined in.

It was as if that was how it was supposed to be. Well, when I was wide awake enough, I had already started, so I couldn't stop. Oh, it was kind of duet.

Yeah. You can kick out of that. Well, do you think of anything else when you were young? I thought we would do all of that first, and then use another tape for work.

Well, I just remember if you wanted to know about the tricks. Now, of course, I wouldn't tell that to any little children and let them hear. When we went to our gym classes, my teacher was my teacher also in school and gym, and we were just fooling around.

She was sitting and putting on her shoes and getting dressed to go home. The hour was over, and I turned out the light. Wer war das? Who was? Well, I had to say it was I. And she said, What did you say? No.

No. I was fired. But you can come again.

There's a work for you. Well, now, that was an uproar. Then the whole league, I was four-turner.

I was four-turner. You have to do it first, and then the others follow. Leader.

Leader, yeah. They told her, Well, I'm sorry, then we all quit, and so it was all forgiven. And I was in several plays.

Oh, we had a Schauturn. They called it Schauturn. That was exhibition.

The parents would come, you know, and Karl Heinz was little. He was a baby, and I was, what, what is it in English? No, these things. They have lights in it now.

No, it isn't a baton. It's like a I can't think of it. Or you have to swing it, the whole, and you have to be in unison.

Unison? Unison with a whole group of them. And you know, they do that, and No, it's not good. They look like like those things you bowl, those in bowling, the pins.

They look like pins. Oh, they use those in gymnastics. Yes.

I don't know what they're called. Yeah, well, that's what it was. And I was practicing, and Mother had said, it was winter, and I had to get it right.

And I was practicing in the kitchen. We had a big light in the kitchen that we pulled down, and it had a glass shade. And I had been practicing in the living room, but my sister sent me out,

because Karl-Heinz was just in a baby buggy, and she was afraid I'd hit him.

So I go out in the kitchen doing bang, where I hit that that lamp. And that was the end of that practice that night. Not bad.

Oh, yeah, that was heartbreaking, of course, because I couldn't help it. But we did well, and the light was off again. And well, that's that.

Gym classes, and by the time I was ten to fourteen, we were just very much occupied. At night, we would, in the evening, late afternoon, we would play hide-and-seek when we were little, you know, with the whole street. You just played with the children in the street in the afternoon.

You didn't go away. And in summer, they had lanterns. We would, they would all, all the line of children would line up with a lantern, all pretty, beautiful lanterns, and they would sing songs along the street, and all the people would stand in their yards and watch them.

And so it was really a pleasant night, a pleasant childhood. I don't think it's as nice now. You just go in the car and go away.

Do you remember the first automobile? Yes. Our doctor had the first automobile. And he had a crank.

But when he was called home, he would come in the automobile. He used to come on a bicycle. There's still lots of bicycles there, but the way the traffic is in Europe, it's no fun to bicycle anymore.

Unless they have the walks for bicycles where they can. I used the bicycle to work. And I got in trouble there, too.

Well, they honked it. No, we were walking and the bicycles in back of us honked to make room for them. And I realized it wasn't my fault I didn't hear it.

And so whoever was on the bicycle really scolded us all. I got in trouble several times, but nothing bad. And by the way, in my report cards, the only subject I always got a 1 in was in citizenship.

So I wasn't that bad. What's the best? You couldn't get any better than 1. I was the only one I got 1's in. You didn't get any 1's in anything else.

2 was the best. Well, I tell you, we'll stop for tonight. Laterne, Laterne, Sonne, Mond und Sterne, Blende auf mein Licht, Blende auf mein Licht, Aber nur meine liebe Laterne nicht.

That means land and land and sun, moon and stars. Light burn, light burn, but not my lantern. Now that's the song you sang then when you were a youngster when you had that phrase.

Was this a holiday? No, any nice evening. You don't have too many nice evenings. It gets rather

cool that night.

But any nice evening all the children would, it wasn't anything special, they would just come, one starts and the rest comes and they light their lanterns and they walk. Of course, my father belonged to several organizations and in summer they always would have a festival and when they had a festival the older children would make an arch out of flowers. The flowers, as you know, are beautiful there.

They would make an arch and then one smaller child would go in the middle. I remember I was always in the middle because I didn't have sisters that made me small enough to make an arch. And then we would walk to, you know, where Heinz Mark lives.

Well, there was a park just a little bit farther. It was a great big park and they had a nice clubhouse and we would go there. Yeah.

A clubhouse. Well, it was like a park here. Anybody could go in that park, but on this special occasion, well, we would all meet there, but that's the way they would go through the town or suburb and the parents would be there and then we'd have games like oh, you know, put in the sack and run and put a potato on your all those games and you'd get prizes and that was always a high point of the summer for the children.

All right, now what we want to do is go back. You heard the tape and see if there's anything that you want to correct or anything else that you remember. We have just a little bit of tape left for this reel on the early years.

Well, my my father's stepfather's name I couldn't remember was Rix R-I-X and my mother's parents lived in or near Schinkel. I couldn't remember that name. S-C-H I-N-K-E-L Schinkel.

It must be, it is close to Königswaldi because I walked there. That's all I remember. Are there any other events or any other people that you remember from hearing the tape or anything else? No, my, during the war my brother was caught into the army but he never got to fight.

That's during the war, of course, and he was stationed in Flensburg. He was sewing for the army and later on they moved to Flensburg after the war. He got a position there and later on moved back to Kiel and he had his store.

Well, I don't think of anything. This one covers the early years of your ancestors and the growing up years. In the next tape then we'll look at the war years, your teenage years and the beginning of working and the years in during World War I and just prior to coming over to America.

Yeah, well, we'll get into that in the next reel. I don't think of anything else that I can think of offhand that I remember you talking about or hearing. So I guess that'll be it.

There were no other corrections that you wanted to make on the tape. Any other things that

you thought of, events that you did or things that you participated in that we sort of get in? We visited. My father and mother and I visited in Itzehoe with Freda's parents-in-law alive.

Dad liked to go there and it is a beautiful little town surrounded by woods and we used to get hired a buggy and drove it with horses and we would drive around the nice places, pretty places and had coffee in an outside restaurant and came back. It was real pleasant and a nice thing to do in the summer months. Did you take the train out there? We would take the train.

We would go over Heide, Itzehoe, it's on the way to Hamburg. It's quite in the middle of Schleswig-Holstein between the North Sea and the Baltic Sea. That's all I remember doing.

What was the other town? How many woods did you visit? Holstein, Stanische Schweiz. That was beautiful. You've never been there.

We should go if we ever go again. Whenever we wanted to go to a beautiful place like you go to Brown County here, we would go to the Holsteinische Schweiz. It's close to Eytien.

It's just a beautiful country. They had out in the open restaurants like they have there. They always had concerts there.

They always had musicians. We would have our lunch there or coffee and tartar and then take the train back. We hiked a lot there.

Eytien, I see. It's very pretty. Was there any food you would like to eat? Oh, lots of food I didn't like.

I just didn't like a lot of things. My sister, my oldest sister was home. She would make me eat.

You know, she was a governess. She just held my nose and I had to open my mouth and there it went. Frida, she worked in a toy store so I had all the toys in the world.

I loved to go. Sometimes they were open on Sunday and she had to work Sunday mornings and she would take me along. Then I could play with all the toys in the store and usually she let me pick out one that I might take home.

She'd buy it for me. That was always a high point when I could go with her once a month or so and she had to work. Any other parts of the history that you remember? Oh, I just don't know because my parents went when I was young.

Mother was 40 when I was born. Dad was 43. And I know we went to Flensburg as I said and Arnis and Königswerde.

That's about all in our vacation time. Dad usually had four weeks vacation. They had lots to do at home too.

We had a great big garden and outside our suburbs we had another land that Dad bought and

he put a lot of fruit trees in the Blenner and really got the good out of it after Mother died. We still got it.