

# Parent's TimeLine Until 1980's

by Helga von Schweinitz

## Introduction Hans

Hans Ludwig von Schweinitz was born on 16 October 1934 in Silesia Germany.

In January 1945 the family had to leave Alt Raudten because of the advancement of the Russian Army. This time was called the “flight” and this began a new 2<sup>nd</sup> chapter in Hans’ life.

On August 25<sup>th</sup>, 1945 Hans and his family became refugees and joined the 6 million German citizens on the move. This began the 3<sup>rd</sup> chapter of Hans’ life.

Eventually the family settled in and around Wiesbaden Germany. There Hans began the 4<sup>th</sup> chapter.

Hans stayed in the Wiesbaden area until March of 1957. Hans emigrated to Chicago Illinois USA. There Hans began his 5<sup>th</sup> chapter, where he learned a new culture, was drafted, had to join the military (choose the Air Force) and Hans marries Helga Pörtner on 1 November 1958.

## Introduction Helga

Helga Hildegard Pörtner was born 9 March 1937 in Herford Germany.

Helga grew up in Herford. When Herford started to being bomb in late 1944, the family house was damaged and the family had to leave and live with relatives in Bad Salzuflen. By 20 May 1945, the family was again in Herford when the American and British liberators arrived. After the war, Herford was in the British occupied zone.

Life continued and Helga graduated from Gymnasium with her Abitur on 9 March 1957. Helga takes class in the University of Beidfeld, but she has already begun the process of getting a Quota number and Visa to live with relatives in Wisconsin USA.

On 1 November 1957, Helga boards the “Italia” ship and travels to New York City, USA. She then travels to Milwaukee Wisconsin and stays with relatives while she finds work. She meets Hans von Schweinitz and on 1 November 1958 they are married.

## Contents

Introduction Hans.....	2
Introduction Helga .....	2
HANS Time Line 1934-1958.....	4
HELGA Time Line 1937-1958.....	8
Events and History pre 1958.....	17
Hans Tales pre 1958.....	42
Hans and Helga TOGETHER after 1Nov1957.....	75
USA Wisconsin March 1957 to December 1958 .....	75

Germany Dec 1958-1962 Nov .....	75
Roswell New Mexico Dec 1962 - Dec 1966/Jan1967 .....	77
England 50 Pinhill Road, Banbury, Oxon, Great Britain.....	81
Thailand Dec1969-Dec1970 .....	82
Shaw AFB Sumter South Carolina Dec1970-Aug1972.....	83
Montgomery, Maxwell AFB, Prattville Alabama Aug1972-Dec1974 .....	85
Del Valley and Austin, Bergstrom AFB Texas Dec1974/Jan1975-Nov/Dec1977 (SA) .....	86
Saudi Arabia Nov(Hans) Dec(Helga/Chris) 1977 - Feb 1980 .....	89
Austin Texas Mar1980+.....	90
Hans' Passport Entry dates .....	91
Helga's Passport Entry dates .....	93
The End.....	96

**HANS Time Line 1934-1958**

- 1871: Hans' Opa Hans „Hermann“ Heinrich Wilhelm von Schweinitz born 1871 died 1947 Wiesbaden
- 1875: Hans' Oma Gabriele von Tresckow born 1875 died 1962 Wiesbaden
- 1899: Hans Aunt (Sister of his Vater) Sigrid Melitta born 19 September 1899 in Alt Raudten, died 10 October 1975 in Wiesbaden
- 1901: Hans' Vati = Hans "Wilhelm" Hermann Egon Tassilo von Schweinitz Born 21dec1901 died 18jan1969 in Wiesbaden
- 1901-1969 Wilhelm Hans von Schweinitz (Opa), Married to Sigrid Frelin von Zedlitz und Leipe, Ursula von Frankenberg-Lüttwitz, Veronica Oehmichen
- 1902: Hans' Mutti = Sigrid Freiin von Zedlitz und Leipe born 2dec1902, died 3sep1942. Buried in park on the so-called "temple mount".
- 1908: Hans' aunt (Sister of his Vater) Gabriele Annie Sophie Helene born 25 April 1908 at Alt Raudten. Died 1992
- 1927: Hans' Vater married Sigrid on 7 July 1927 in Könitz.. Wilhelm Hans von Schweinitz (Opa) Married to Sigrid Freiin von Zedlitz und Leipe
- 1928: Hans' sister Ingrid Sigrid von Schweinitz born 3April1928 died 2018
- 1933: Hans Grand Oma Gabriele von Tresckow 1875-1962
- 1933: Hans Grand Opa Hans Hermann Heinrich Wilhelm von Schweinitz 1871 to 1947
- 1933: Hans Oma Sigrid von Zedlitz und Leipe 1902-1942
- 1933: Hans Opa Hans Wilhelm Hermann Egon Tassilovon Schweinitz (Opa) 1901-1969
- 1933: Hans Opa's Sister Gabriele Annie Sophie Helene 1908-1992
- 1933: Hans Opa's Sister Sigrid Melitta 1899-1975
- 1934: Hans Baptism 31 Oct 1934
- 1934: Hans Birth Certificate 26 October 1934, copy verified on 4 May 1944
- 1934: Hans Born in Liegnitz 26 October 1934 Hans Ludwig
- 1939: Hans. In 1939, five years after Hans Ludwig was born (1934) Alt Raudten estate had 91 households (families) with 297 residents.
- 1940: Hans Appendix in 1940 at age 6
- 194005: School May1940 to Jan 1945, Volksschule Alt Raudten
- 1942: Hans gets diphtheria. Mutti dies of diphtheria on 3 Sep 1942
- 1942: Hans Ursula was Nanny in 1942 Ursula von Frankenberg-Lüttwitz born 26mar1924
- 1942: Hans' Mutti Sigrid Freiin von Zedlitz und Leipe born 2dec1902, died 3sep1942. Buried in park on the so-called "temple mount". of Diphtheria
- 1944: Hans' Vati (age 43) married Ursula von Frankenberg-Luttwitz (age 20) on 15 October 1944. They divorced in 1950. Ursula was born 26 March 1924. Ursula gave birth to one girl (Heizi) and two boys (Hemmi, Michael)
- 19440329: Großvati or Großvater Franz Adolf Eduard Benjamin Freiherr von Zedlit und von Leipe: (born 21Apr1976, died 29/3/1944) husband of Großmutti Else, and Father of Mutti. Grandfather of Inni and Hans-Ludwig on mother's side.
- 1945: Curt (Kurt) von Schweinitz died (born 1877) younger brother of Opa Hans Wilhelm. Married to Tante Frieda.
- 1945: Elizabeth von Schweinitz died (born 1873) younger sister of Opa Hans Wilhelm.
- 19450115: Hans January family fled towards Berlin from Wikipedia

- 19450115: Hans. Size of estate Alt Raudten area of 377.45 ha = 931.56 acres
- 19450115: Jan Fleeing from Russians to Austria, than to Wiesbaden
- 194501-194607: on flight or refugee
- 19450120: Hans Turned south to Dresden
- 19450213: Bombing of Dresden in World War II Feb 13, 1945 – Feb 15, 1945
- 19450215: In Saalfeld Thür county in hotel
- 19450223-19450330: Schooling Wickersdorf Thür county neer Saalfeld
- 19450319: Meine Liebe Tante Lotte letter from Ulla
- 19450402 traveled from Saalfeld to Salzburg Austria
- 19450714 expulsion from Salzburg Austria, went to Munich
- 19450731: Brother Kurt Balthasar (Hemmi) born during flight in 31 July 1945 Kurt Balthasar to Ursula in Muenchen
- 19450801: Aug Hans Refugee ID Aug 1945 to 5 June 1956
- 194508-194605: schooling Niederseeon Bayern German near Munichen 1945 Aug to May 1946
- 19450825: Hans 25 August 1945 poster and expulsion
- 19450901: Hans Went north to Wiesbaden or was it in 1946
- 1945-1949: in various boarding schools, qty 22
- 1946: Hans Fischzucht Wiesbaden, first homestead after flight, photo with lawn chairs-restaurant
- 19460209: Letter from Großmutter (mother of Mutter Sigrid) to Ini
- 194605-194607: schooling May 1946-July 1946, Kindelang Allgäu
- 194607: Left Munich area for Weisbaden
- 194607-194809: Fischzucht Wiesbaden, first homestead after flight lived there until Apprenticeship, Then Apr 1949-June 1954
- 194607-194809: schooling 1946 Jul – 1948 Sep, Real Gymnasium Wiesbaden
- 19460901: Hans Fischzucht Wiesbaden, first homestead after flight
- 19461215: Hans' sister Therese Maria (Heise) born 15 December 1946 Wiesbaden to Ursula
- 1947: Großmutter Baronin v. Zedlitz: Mother of Mutter: Baroness Elsa Margarethe Freiin von Zedlitz und von Leipe (née Böttcher, born 21 Apr 1876 died 1947 in Eichich).  
Grandmother of Ini and Hans-Ludwig on their mother's side.
- 19470101: Hans Settled in Wiesbaden Germany
- 19470622: Hans' Opa Hans „Hermann“ Heinrich Wilhelm died in Wiesbaden 22 June 1947. Born 1871.
- 19480227: Hans Brother Michael born to Ursula on 27 Feb 1948 in Wiesbaden
- 194809-194903: schooling Sep 1948 to March 1949, Volksschule Söbernheim Thurtgrach (near Wiesbaden)
- 194809-195904: Diaconissen Heim, Sobern Heim, West Germany Sep 48-Apr 49
- 19500101: Hans My father married a third time, after his second wife had left him to join her father who had a farm in South-west Africa.
- 19500101: Hans Opa's 2nd wife Ursula took Hemmi to South Africa (city Karibib in later called Namibia) and was divorced in 1950, left Heisi and Misch.
- 19500101: Hans' Vati married Ursula von Frankenberg-Luttwitz on 15 October 1944. They divorced in 1950. Ursula was born 26 March 1924.
- 19500501: Hans Fotolaborant ID 1950 Apprenticeship began 1 May 1950  
On May 1st, 1950 I started my apprenticeship at Strauch, owner Kurt Lohmann, Wiesbaden, Bahnhofstrasse 12, as a photo laboratory technician.

- 195005-195205: schooling 1 May1950-May1952 Berufsschule Wiesbaden (photo apprenticeship).  
Apprentice, Still photographer and Darkroom man
- 1951: With Otto Wagenpfeil nach Würzburg und Regensburg in 1951
- 1952: Hans May, Heizi goes on trip to Schweiz
- 1952: He passed his exams in 1952 and became a professional Photographer. He worked at AGFA Color Photo Laboratory in Wiesbaden for four months (1952-1953) then Central Exchange Photo Finishing plant (1953-1957) in Grünstadt south of Frankfurt,
- 1952: Model Portfolio Börsch payment 17,000 DM for performance on Film by Luther-Film-Gmbh paid 11 August 1952
- 19520501: Hans Passed examination as Photographer, probably just after 1 May 1952.
- 1952-1953: job Agfa Color Wiesbaden Germany, Custom Color Printer. AGFA Color Photo Laboratory in Wiesbaden for four months (1952-1953).
- 1952-1953: OpelHaus
- 1953: Hans German Driver's License 1953-68
- 1953-1957: Hans Photographer in Germany, Central Exchange Photo Finishing plant (1953-1957) in Grünstadt south of Frankfurt, Custom printer and copier, later in Full Charge of film processing
- 19540604: Hans' sister Ingrid married Gunter Wolf on 4 June 1954. Both were into Photography
- 195406-195702: Lived Schlesinger st 28, Gunstadt, west Germany
- 1954-57: Cleaning bricks to build Herr Hubachs house
- 1955: 1-4 October Wine Fest in Grünstadt Neuleiningen
- 1955: Als Leberknödel durch die Räume flogen. Payment for damages caused by Liver Dumpling flying through the sublet room. Carpet replacement and table cloth replacement. Rented room from Hubachs.
- 1955: Hans Reisepass 1955-65
- 1955: Hans Wandergewerbeschein 1955
- 1955: Summer trip to Italy.
- 19550527: Vati's application for compensation for loose of Alt Raudten.
- 19550723 Vati married Veronika (Vera) Oehmichen in Wiesbaden on 23 July 1955, age 42. Vera Born 10 November 1913, Died 31 July 1995.
- 1956: Hotel Tamara Wiesbaden, SchumannStraße 16
- 195608: Auerback Keller Leipzig
- 195608: Sportfest in Leipzig.
- 195609: trip to Usedom Insel.
- 19561215: Hans Sister Theresa Maria (Heise) born to Ursula on 15Dec1956 in Wiesbaden
- 19561291 Hans to Hamburg
- 1957: job Keuffler and Eusser, Chicago Ill, Precision Photo copier
- 19570301 Hans arrives in NY city from Germany. Came via TWA Plane
- 19570301 Hans Immigration visa to United States 1957
- 19570301 In March 1957, Hans emigrated out of Germany to USA. He went by TWA plane, landing in Iceland for refueling, and finally landing in the USA in New York.
- 19570301: Hans Immigration visa to United States 1957 March
- 19570301: Hans March arrived in Chicago and worked in various jobs including commercial photographer. Huey Company Chicago Illinois. Coating photographic emulsions.

- Reason for leaving: financial betterment and difficult working conditions. Keuffler Eusser, Chicago Illinois. Precision photo copying. Reason for leaving: no opportunity of advancement. Williams Meyer Company Chicago Illinois. Advertising and Industrial Photography. Reason for leaving: drafted into the Armed Forces.
- 19570302 Hans takes train from NY city to Chicago IL. His sponsor was Mr Mathew Bastian, of Chicago Illinois
- 19570302 His sponsor was Mr Mathew Bastian, of Chicago Illinois. So, from New York, Hans traveled via train to Chicago. ticket 2 march 1957
- 19570303 Hans with Mr & Mrs Schott in Chicago 1957 Summer
- 19570401 Hans received a temporary Drivers License, and began to travel around the USA. He visited Tennessee, and Pennsylvania, and finally went to Daytona Florida. There he stayed with Mr and Mrs Westkamp. Hans became their chauffer and general helper, while he learned English.
- 19570401 Hans receives temporary Driver's license
- 19570501 Hans on beach in Chicago along Lake Eire
- 19570601 Hans travels around US, including PA, Tenn, FL Daytona Florida. There he stayed with Mr and Mrs Westkamp. Hans became their chauffer and general helper, while he learned English
- 19571001: Hans Oct began basic training for Air Force , Lackland AFB
- 19571018 18Oct-Nov1957 By November 1957, Hans was in AF basic training at Lackland AFB in San Antonio, Texas. He military number was 16589642 and he was in Squadron 375, Flight 1309.
- 19571018 -196211xx: Hans Aviation Fuels Specialist
- 19571018 Hans 18Oct-Nov1957 By November 1957, Hans was in AF basic training at Lackland AFB in San Antonio, Texas. He military number was 16589642 and he was in Squadron 375, Flight 1309.
- 19571018 Hans AF first performance report 18 October 1957
- 19571018 Hans at Lackland AFB San Antonio for Basic training, He military number was 16589642 and he was in Squadron 375, Flight 1309
- 19571018 Hans Date of Entry in United States Air Force Service: 18 October 1957
- 19571018 Hans Entered USAF Grade E1 fast track to E3 (Airman Basic, Airman, Airman First Class) signed up for 4 years
- 19571018 Hans Oct 1957-Aug 1962 Location: Lackland AFB, Mitchell Field and 7310th
- 19571116: Hans Brother Alexander born to Veronika 16Nov1957 Wiesbaden
- 1957-Oct1957: job William Meyer Co, Chicago Ill, Advertising/Industrial Photographer and precessor.
- 19580101 After Basic training Hans was assigned to 128th Air Refueling Wing, General Mitchell Air National Guard Base, Milwaukee Wisconsin. Squadron 2473D ARFC
- 19580124-19580527. YMCA 633 4<sup>th</sup> str, milwaukee, wisconsin, 24Jan58-27May58
- 19580218: Hans received his GED on 18 February 1958.
- 19580301: Helga Meet Hans and courting, Dance march 1958 at YWCA, Milwaukee Wisc
- 19580424 April, 24 1958 Hans bought a used Pontiac. Hans and Helga, together, began to explore the open road. In one trip they went to Niagara Falls and Montreal Canada.
- 19580527-19581128: 2473 ARFC 400E College AVE, Pol, or 518N 19<sup>th</sup> st, Milwaukee, Wisconsin. 17May1958-18Nov1958
- 19580701 Hans at Milwaukee Wisc AFB

19580901 Hans Date of Grade: Hans Airman first class AIC  
 19580901 Hans moved in with Helga into Apt in Milwaukee, 518 North 19th Street, Milwaukee Wisc  
 19580930 Hans bought Hunting license instead of Marriage License  
 19580930 Hans On 30 September 1958, Hans went to the Milwaukee County Clerk, with the intent of registering for a wedding..  
 19581001 Hans and Helga travel to Canada to visit By-By and go to Niagara falls  
 19581001: Hans and Helga Vacation Montreal Canada, Niagara Falls, Bye-Bye  
 19581101 Hans and Helga are married  
 19581101 Hans and Helga Marriage Certificate 1 November 1958  
 19581101 Hans and Helga Marriage Certificate 1 November 1958  
 19581101: Hans married Helge on 1 November 1958 in Milwaukee Wisconsin USA  
 19581121 Hans GE - Germany FR for 36 months 1958Nov21 to 1962Nov20  
 19581121 Hans GE - Germany FR for 36 months 1958Nov21 to 1962Nov20  
 19581121 Hans receives order to move to Rheine Mein AFB, Wiesbaden, West Germany  
 19581121 Hans receives order to move to Rheine Mein AFB, Wiesbaden, West Germany  
 19581121 Hans Return to Germany in 1958  
 19581121 Hans Return to Germany in 1958  
 19581130 Hans leaves US through McQuire AFB NJ to Germany Rhein Main  
 19581130 Hans leaves US through McQuire AFB NJ to Germany Rhein Main  
 19581201 Helga Return to Germany in 1958  
 19581215 Helga leaves for West Germany  
 19581220-19610630: Wiesbaden Parkstr 13 20Dec1958-30Jun1961  
 1959: Hans Assignment Wiesbaden Germany  
 1961: Berlin wall and other sections are erected to define the Iron Curtain.  
 1961: Hans became US citizen  
 1962: Hans' Oma Gabriele v. Tresckow died 11 November 1962 in Wiesbaden Born 1875.  
 1969: Hans' Vater Hans Wilhelm Hermann Egon Tassilo died 18 January 1969 in Wiesbaden.  
 1972: Ernst von Schweinitz died (born 1881), youngest brother of Opa Hans-Wilhelm. Help Vati in running Alt Raudten and during the flight/refugee  
 1992: Hans' aunt (Sister of his Vater) Gabriele Annie Sophie Helene died 11 December 1992 in Bad Reichenhall.

## HELGA Time Line 1937-1958

1879: Gustav Goessling is born  
 1903 Gustav Goessling and Johanne Stranghöner married on 20<sup>th</sup> of November. Gustav owned a construction company and build a number of houses in the Herford area. Johanne was 22 years old.  
 1903: 21 January 1903: Hermann Heinrich Rudolf (Rudi) Pörtner was born in Herford Germany  
 1904: Helga Mother was born, Anna Hildegard Gößling, but everybody called her Ella. 12June. Nine months after the September harvest time and seven months after their wedding. After Volksschule, Ella went on to "Mittle Schule" or secondary school and received the "Einjähriger" diploma. Ella learned secretarial skills, English, and special home



- economy skills. Ella was 21 years old when the family moved into the house on Fürstenaustraße 10 in 1922.
- 1913: Rudolf Pörtner completed Volksschule and went to the Realschule (secondary school) and received his Reifezeugnis (School Diploma) after the Fifth grade specializing in Landwirtschafts (agriculture) in 1919
- 1920: 4 February 1920 German Worker's Party changes its name to NSDAP [National Sozialistische Deutsche Arbeiter Partei = Nazi]
- 1920: Gustav built house on Fürstenaustraße. 10. Moved in 1922.
- 1922: Fürstenaustraße. Part of the back yard was leased out to Johanne's brother-in-law Paul Reuter. He had a plumbing shop there; he also fixed leaks in pots and pans, sharpened scissors and was very much in demand, so that the place was constantly busy with people coming and going.
- 1922: Gustav and Johanne goesling moved to Fürstenaustraße.
- 1923: Gustav Goesling immigrated to America, he is 44 years old.
- 1924: Johanne profession listed as "Ehefrau", meaning wife. Their daughter Ella was by then 21 years old and was also listed as living at that address; Her profession was "Bankangestellte", bank employee, which showed that she had some higher education.
- 1924: There was a lot of political turmoil, social unrest, famine and an insanely fast growing inflation making life difficult in those years.
- 1927: 23 September 1927. Rudolf Pörtner marries Anna Ella Hildegard Gößling and live in Ella's family home, Fürstenaustraße 10, Herford, Germany, the family home of Ella. They were married for about 277 days before their first child was born. The honeymoon must have been real productive.
- 1928 Johanne Goesling (nee Stranghöner) and three of their children (Grete 1908, Otto 1909, and Paul 1912) follow Gustav to US. The two older girls (Ella 1904 and Hilde 1907) stayed in Germany.
- 1928: 26 June 1928: Son Rolf is born in Herford. Just before his eighth birthday in 1936, Rolf went into the backyard and ate gooseberries.
- 1928: In 1928, the Gößling children were between 16 (Paul) and 24 (Ella) years old. Life in Germany was no longer just a struggle for survival. The economy was picking up in spite of the stringent obstacles that the Treaty of Versailles had created to keep Germany impotent. There were still reparation payments to be made to the victors of WW I (the Great War), draining capital from the German economy. Adolf Hitler made his voice heard promising to find a way of bringing relief from all the burdens placed on the country by the Treaty of Versailles, but he was only one voice, he did not come to power until 1933. He was not even a German citizen at that time, he was Austrian. The government, known as the "Weimarer Republik", was not functioning well, communism seemed attractive to some, nationalism to others. The population in general was becoming optimistic about the future, art and literature blossomed.
- 1929: Gustav and Johanne in USA. the American economy would crash and many years of depression were ahead of them
- 1930 Gustav US citizenship 13 May 1930
- 1930: Helga, Margret (oldest sister) born 10 Sept. Margret was born with poor eyesight, and this handicap defined her character. Eyesight was later partially corrected by neighbor's son, Hartmut. But Hartmut could not help Margret until they were both adults. All during my childhood, Margret had poor eyesight. Margret was over six years older than me, so we

were never really playmates. Instead, to me she was a source of hand-me-down cloths, and of older boys that I could tease.

1931: Rudolf 1 January 1931 Employed as Herford City Secretary

1933: 30 January 1933 Hitler is appointed Chancellor and NSDAP assumes control

1933: We shared our house with Tante Hilde (my Mother's sister) and her husband Hermann Rottmann and their son Paul. Paul was born 28 January 1933 and was four years older than me

1934: 2 August 1934 Hitler changes Loyalty Oath for both Army and Civil Servants from Loyalty to the people and country to Loyalty to Hitler.

1935: July 1935 Civil Servant Loyalty Oath to Adolf Hitler became law

1936: 8 June 1936: Son Rolf dies. Just before his eighth birthday in 1936, Rolf went into the backyard and ate gooseberries. at the age of eight during an operation for blocked intestines. Johanne had never held this first grandchild of hers in her arms.

**1937: 1 May 1937 Rudolf entered the NSDAP (Nazi Party) and took Civilian Oath** due more to his position in city government as Stadtinspektor.

1937: 9 March 1937: Daughter Helga was born in Herford. My birth name is Helga Johanne Hildegard Pörtner, but everybody calls me Helga. After I was born, mother and I spent 10 days in the hospital. Not because anything was wrong but because this was normal and typical for hospital births. . Soon after we left the hospital I was Baptized. . Had my Mother become pregnant just to replace Rolf? I sometimes mull over this belief. Rolf died on 8 Jun 1936 and I was born 274 days later on 9 March 1937. Normal gestation is 280 days. I would sometime feel that my parents really wanted a boy to replace Rolf. This suspicion was enforced by the fact that my Mother immediately got pregnant again and they had my brother Diethard 461 days later on 13 June 1938.

**1937: Rudolf 30 January 1937 Employed as Herford City Inspector**

1938: 1 January 1938 Rudolf became a member of the "Corps of Politische Leiter" which meant he was the block representative for the Nazi party

1938: 13 June 1938: Son Diethard was born in Herford. Diethard was born on 13 June 1938 only 15 months after I was born. But finally my parents had a boy again. From birth, Diethard, was a weak and sickly child. But the doctors told my Mother and father that Diethard had this affliction because the womb had not had enough time to recover from the prior baby (me, Helga).

1938: 9 November 1938 Crystal Night "Reichskristallnacht" began, over several days and nights

1938: Helga and "Wanderlust" tendencies

1939: 1 September 1939 WWII started in Europe. England declared war on Germany

1939: Helga Oma Johanne Gößling came in July 1939 from American. Stayed until 1947.

1939: Johanne did not return to Germany until July 14, 1939, when she landed in Cuxhaven and proceeded by train to Herford. Barely two months after her arrival and to the surprise of many Germans, a war which later became known as WW II, began in September of 1939 when German troops marched into Poland to reclaim some of the previously German territory. Johanne was carrying a German passport with a re-entry permit for the United States which would expire within a few months. She tried twice to get on a ship for the return trip, once from Bremen, once from Italy, but for reasons I don't yet know, the boats never left to cross the Atlantic. I heard that the reason for cancelling the journey was that there were too many Jewish people on board, which were not welcome in the US This was the case with the MS St. Louis which carried almost a thousand Jewish refugees

- aboard in 1939 and was refused entry by Cuba, Canada and the United States and had to return to Europe.
- 1941: On 6 December St Nicklaus Day is when in Germany children put out their shoes or boots for St Nicklaus to fill with candy, nuts, and fruit. One year on 6 December, St Nicklaus showed up to our house and I noticed that the boots of St Nicklaus belonged to a neighbor Herr Paul (This Herr Paul was not Paul Reuter, the plumber in the back yard, but another neighbor).
- 1941: 11 December 1941 US entered into WWII, Germany declared war on US
- 1941: a common threat that adults made to misbehaving children in Germany. "The black man will get you in there! Just wait till the black man comes. He'll get you!" As children we heard this threat often from other parents, relatives, and our own parents. After the war, American troops marched into town, and there were several black soldiers. But I never associated the American black soldiers to the "threatening black man" that was supposed to get me, mostly because the American black soldiers had brown skin.
- 1941: Helga Started of Kindergarten when she was four.
- 1941: on 11 December 1941. The escalation of the war had no direct effect in my world, except that my Father received a special assignment. My Father belonged to the Nazi party and was the Nazi party representative or leader for our block. In this position he had to fit everybody with a gas mask. I remember that he had issues with one gentleman. I don't remember who it was, but this man had a long face, which made it hard to find a gas mask that would fit. Somehow my Father found the right mask. Everybody was safe, thanks to my Father.
- 1941: There were also parades with older boys and girls, I think on Sunday mornings. I loved the music and the uniforms. The boys and girls were members of the Hitler Youth groups and you had to be at least 10 years old to join. I couldn't wait to grow up and join them.
- 1942: Helga Vacation at Steinhuder Meer near Hannover, rented cottage
- 1943: 11 March 1943 Rudolf Pörtner drafted into the Army. Father left for basic training Military Service 11Mar. First he went to Hasenheide near Osnabrück for basic training. During the war my Father was first stationed in France (April 1943-Aug1943), and then later went to Italy (September1943-April1945). In France, he was stationed with a "Das Geschütz" weapon. Which was a gigantic artillery gun pointed toward England. While in Italy, he somehow ended up in the countryside of Yugoslavia.
- 1943: Helga start Volksschule right after Easter Sunday. spring in 1943, I entered the Bürgerschule Wilhelmsplatz Volksschule at age 6. This was the normal age for children to start their formal education. Volksschule is for five years. For the first three years of Volksschule, my Father was away at war. My Mother found work in a county office, so Oma Johanne took care of me and Diethard and the house. We were still sharing the house with Tante Hilde and Onkel Hermann. I was lucky, my Father eventually did come home.
- 1943: In fall of 1943 the "Bomber's Baedeker - Target Book Strategic Bombing in the Economic Warfare against German Towns" was released and the bombing policy changed from focusing on destroying targets important for war economy to demoralizing the German civilian population by means of 'de-housing' through area bombing. In 1944 there was a second revision which included 'indiscriminate' area bombing to demoralize the civilian population. The bombing started and now our family really felt the effects of the war.

1944: October 1944 air raids begin on Herford

194410: Gustav dies 15 Oct 1944 in USA.

194410: Helga Lived in Onkel August's house with family, late Fall

194410: Helga Oma Johanne stayed in basement, instead of going to bunker, 15 October

194410: Helga Went to live with Tante Hanna in Shotmar/Bad Salzuflen, Summer

194411: Helga 7 November photo taken of Rennstraße Herford in ruins.

194411: In November 1944 the bombing started in Herford. I was already living with my Father's sister, Tante Hanne's in Bad Salzuflen-Schotmar. Later we temporarily moved to Onkel August's house which was part way between Herford and Bad Salzuflen. From the upstairs window we could see Herford burning. I remember that Onkel August's sister got so scared that her feet bleed. There is actually a medical term for this phenomena, Hematidrosis. But the indiscriminate bombing began in earnest on 2 November 1944. The US Eighth Air Force used 1,100 heavy bombers in one day to bomb "targets of opportunity" around Bielefeld. Supposedly over 160 German fighter planes were claimed to be destroyed. US lost 40 heavy bombers. Herford is only about 16 km from Bielefeld and we were definitely a "target of opportunity". On 6 November 1944, US Eighth Air Force used 1,000 heavy bombers to bombed "targets of opportunity" in northwest Germany. Sixteen fighter groups afford close escort and later strafe ground targets in northwest Germany. Streets in Herford were now in ruins. I cannot find any pictures in our family albums of the devastation on our street, but in a book that I bought years later shows a 7 November 1944 photo taken of Rennstraße Herford completely in ruins. On 26 November 1944, US Eighth Air Force used 1,000 B-17 and B-24 bombers and 25 fighter groups attacked 7 "Targets of opportunity" which included Herford. US lost over 35 bombers, but US fighters claimed over 100 air victories. On 26 November 1944, our house on Fürstenaustraße was seriously damaged in spectacular fashion. Not that we knew at that time on 31Mar1945 was the last time sirens were used for Air Raid. In Herford the bombings had completely destroyed 480 buildings, partially destroyed 2,380 buildings, and worst 137 people dead.

194411: The locomotive had destroyed in the house on 26 November 1944. We moved back into rebuilt Fürstenaustraße 10 before the re-build was completed. The re-build would not be completed until December 1945. The locomotive had destroyed in the house on 26 November 1944, and by 6 December 1945 the last finishing touches were completed. Not bad for rebuilding during a war.

194412: Helga Father came home for Christmas

1945: Not only did relatives and friends come to the house, we also had a cleaning lady, a seamstress, a laundry lady, and a cook. To have so many helpers was normal for a middle class family. We did not need a handyman, because my Mother's family consisted of men that worked in various construction trades.

1945: The definition of "stealing" has different meanings in German society. Children "stealing" fruit to eat was not really considered stealing, but was an allowable custom. Green Grocers would have open boxes in front of the store, and children were allowed to take a fruit only if they were going to eat the fruit. When we were "stealing" apples from over the wall, we were taking more than we could eat, and that was a problem. But another German society custom came to our rescue. Children were pampered over the simple items in life, if a child wanted something, any adult would try to get it for them. This applied especially towards food and items required to survive. This was a custom, not a

result of the war.

194501: Helga 22Jan1945: Official correspondence to Ella Portner from Reigierungspräsident

194503: Helga 31March last time sirens were used for Air Raid in Herford. 480 buildings completely destroyed, 2,380 buildings partially destroyed, 137 people dead.

194503: Spring 1945 Rudolf was taken Prisoner while in the Italian Alps and put into an "Eisenhower POW Camp" somewhere in the German Alps.

19450303: 3 March 1945 heaviest air raid on Herford

194504: Helga 20April 1945: Certification that house owned by American Gustav by Obergürgermeister

194504: Helga 3 & 4 April: American Liberation. American tanks come into Herford and the neighboring town of Bielefeld

194504: Helga American liberators and British Occupying forces arrived April-May in Herford

19450402: 2April to May, American liberators, 8 may control went to the British.

19450406: 6 April 1945: Herford is occupied (Liberated) by US Troops

194505 Helga Gustav Gößling: It was not until this time after the war that we learned of Gustav's death 1944. Probably from the Red Cross.

194505: Helga Bomb went off in manure pile, spring

194505: Helga 16 to 20 May 1945 in the Herford area the American Liberators were replaced by British troops and the "der Britischen Besatzungszone" (British Occupation Zone) began.

194505: Summer 1945: Rudolf escaped the camp and walked back to Herford

194505: World War II official ended 8May 1945 in Europe when I was nine years old.

19450508: 8 May 1945 Official End of WWII in Europe

19450516: 16 May 1945 British occupying forces take over the military government from the US forces.

19450516: By 16 to 20 May 1945 in the Herford area the American Liberators were replaced by British troops and the "der Britischen Besatzungszone" (British Occupation Zone) began. Nationalsozialismus for Herford was over, it had existed from 1933 to 1945.

19450516: May to 2 Sept 1945, British occupation British occupation continued until May 1949. We called the British soldiers "Tommy". I do not know how they got this nickname.

194505-1949: Helga In der Britischen Besatzungszone May 1945-May1949 Herford

194507: Helga Father walked into back yard and came home, July

194507: Summer father came home. . He was taken prisoner and put into one of 19 camps under the Rheinwiesenlager (Rhine Meadow Camps) program per General Dwight D Eisenhower's directive. These prisoners were not POWs (Prisoners of War) but classified as Disarmed Enemy Forces (DEFs) and the camps were called Prisoner Of War Temporary Enclosures (PWTE). These camps were controlled by the American Army. Enclosures is correct. They were in an open field surrounded by barb wire fence and there was no attempt to shelter or feed the prisoners. Daily the dead would be loaded onto a wagon and taken away. My Father had become so thin and weak, that the Americans thought he was dead. So they loaded him onto the wagon. Turned out he was not dead.

19450711: 11 July 1945 Rudolf Released from the Army

19450713: 13 July 1945 Re-Employed as Herford City Inspector

19450719: 19 July 1945 Rudolf Pörtner filled in a Personnel Questionnaire at the requirement by

- the US occupying Military Government of Germany.
- 19450902: 2 September 1945 Official end of WWII in Pacific (official end of all hostilities)
- 19450904: 4 September 1945 Rudolf Lost all rights to work** until resolution by De-Nazification committee [main reason he gave to a bank in a later document – he had been a Block Leader]
- 194511: In November of 1944, there were several bombing attacks on the area around the Herford railroad station. On November 26, 1945, the house was heavily damaged by bombs exploding nearby and launching - among other things - half a locomotive through the roof and down to the ground floor. Nobody was in the house. We had already moved out as a precaution, so the family survived. I could not find any photos of this damage to Fürstenaustraße 10.
- 19451108: 8 November 1945 All family bank accounts are block** by order of Law No 52 of the Military Government.
- 19451124: 24 November 1945 **Rudolf** Filled in and submitted Military Government form to report all blocked property including bank accounts.
- 1946: Mother participated in "stealing" coal from supply trains This activity was so common that it was given a name "Kohlen Klau".
- 19460119: **Rudolf** 19 January 1946 One bank account is being opened but the amount that can be withdrawn monthly is limited.
- 19460138: Helga Father filling in forms. Had received letter (13Aug1946) where "They" were going to investigate his Nazi Party past. On 28Nov1946 received letter where "they" explained their findings (matched what Father had filled in on form) and also included that he had purchased material zzzzzzz look at pink letter more.
- 19460206: **Rudolf** 6 February 1946 Again, all family bank accounts are block [might have been due to confusion because of the number of bank accounts involved]
- 19460209: One year the basement flooded, not because of the war, but because the river Werre over flowed its banks. It was on 9 February 1946. The heavy January rains had put too much pressure on a dam and the dam broke. All that water came down the Werre and into the downtown Herford. There was over a meter of standing water in the streets. The other effect of this much water was that the ground water came up and sewer systems did not drain. Many basements flooded with ground water and sewage. What a mess.
- 19460226: Helga 26Feb1946: Denied war related damage retribution because house owned by Gustav in Milwaukee by Stadtkämmerer.
- 19460226: Helga 26Feb1946: Official correspondence to Ruldof Portner from Reigierungspräsident
- 19460318: **Rudolf** 18 March 1946-25 April 1946 Filled in Questionnaires to Military Government of Germany, collected Character References and submitted all documents to the Herford City Mayor to be forwarded to the German De-Nazification Chamber.
- 19460425: Helga 25April1946 Certification that house owned by American Gustav again by Obergürmeister
- 19460501: **Rudolf** May 1946 Filled in and submitted form Military Government form to apply for special license to release some money in accounts to pay for rebuild of homestead that had been damaged during the bombing.
- 19460813: **Rudolf** 13 August 1946: From the German De-Nazification Chamber, received a request for more proof of employment history.
- 19461111: **Rudolf** 11 November 1946 Received a letter from the City of Herford notifying him

- that his bank accounts blocked (frozen) and he cannot be employed by the City due to the results of the Military Reaction Report on 5 November 1946.
- 19461118: **Rudolf** 18 November 1946 His Lawyer submitted his appeal to the De-Nazification Committee in Minden
- 19470130: Rudolf 30 January 1947** received letter from the Appeal Chamber for Denazification Minden. **His appeal has been approved** but still needs to be confirmed by the military government.
- 194704: Helga Oma Johanne Gößling went back in to America April 1947
- 194704: In April 1947, Oma Johanne final made it back to her husband and family in Milwaukee Michigan. Oma Johanne would frequently send us a care package. We were very grateful for every item.
- 19470626: Rudolf 26 June 1947 Military Government Germany (British Control Area) sent the official Classification Notice that Rudolf Pörtner is Categorized IV by de-Nazification committee. He can work again,** and his accounts are not blocked
- 194707: Helga Espelkamp children summer camp, meet Christel Schuppener
- 194710: Helga Teacher Miss Düwel convinced parents about Gymnasium
- 19471001: 1 October 1947: Rudolf Pörtner sent letter to administrative committee of the city of Herford asking for his old job or any job.
- 19471001: In late 1947, my teacher at that time, Miss Düwel, however, has other visions for me and the future role of women. She explained to my parents that if God gave a child good health, intelligence and some talent, that child's parents owed it to God and society to develop those gifts for everybody's benefit. And that child would later have the duty to use the education gained to be useful to society. My parents were easily persuaded, I passed the test to the Gymnasium, and I became the most expensive child my Father ever had (the others did not attend tuition charging schools) by entering the Gymnasium in spring of 1948.
- 19471022: **Rudolf** 22 October 1947: Received reply from Municipality of Herford, he is rehired by the City of Herford [job still unknown] and to report on 1 November 1947. Signed by the City Director.
- 19471101: Rudolf 1 November 1947 re-employed by City of Herford**
- 19480128: Rudolf 28 January 1948 All Banks accounts are un-block (unfrozen)**
- 194803 Helga Spring first year of Gymn is "Sexta B" photo
- 194803: Helga enter Gymnasium school time Spring
- 194806: Helga Aug "Spielgemeinschaft" play group would put on plays, skits, and also just paly together.
- 194905: May 1949 End of Military Government Germany (British Control Area) British Occupy Zone
- 194907: Helga "Kinderheim" vacation summer health camp in Langeoog Island in North Sea
- 195008: Helga Renate (youngest sister) born 7 August
- 1951: Helga Confirmation in church
- 1951: Helga School day trip to Porta Westfalica
- 1951: Helga With Otto Wagenpfeil nach Würzburg und Regensburg in 1951
- 1952 Enterance ticket to Landestheater Detmold 2.4.1952
- 1952 Helga Priwall camp on Baltic See
- 1952/1953: Helga Youth hostel pass
- 195204 Helga Enterance ticket to Landestheater Detmold 2.4.1952

1953: Helga Bicycle trip through the Lüneburg Heath with Hella, AnneMarthe, Gisela  
 1953: Mother dying on 1 July 1953 in Herford  
 195306 Helga June Gymnasium class photo UIIb  
 195307: Helga Mother dying on 1 July 1953 in Herford  
 195308: Helga traffic ticket for crossing at red light in Hamburg 19Aug1953  
 1954/1955: Helga Hitchhiking trip with Ilse Peemüller  
 1954/1955: Hitchhiking trip with Ilse Peemüller  
 195412: Helga Margret gets married to Hans-Gerd Bruhn 3 Dec  
 1955 Helga Summer, Anne-Marthe Schröder, Wolf-Dieter and I were heavily into camp fire poetry.  
 1955: Helga school trip to Marburg  
 1956 Helga Excuse from Dr Werner for back injury from basketball  
 1956 Helga Took evening courses to add knowledge not taught in school, on currency stability.  
 1956 Helga Trip to Bonn. As president of Student Council took trip to Bonn with other student presidents to protest against what Minister Kaiser had said.  
 1956: Helga June Trip to Sportsfestival in Leipzig in "east" Germany  
 1956: Helga Margret has Andreas  
 1957 Helga Tarquinia Italy, Villa with group of British artists  
 1957 Arbitursball, escort was Herr Huber  
 1957 Helga Youth Hostel pass  
 1957 Last Gymn class photo OIb  
 1957 on 1Feb1957 wrote to Amerikanische Konsulat requesting forms to emigrate to USA.  
 1957 on 22Mar1957 Father wrote a letter of reference agreeing to Helga emigrating to USA.  
 1957 took ship "Italia" to America  
 1957 Youth Hostel pass  
 1957: Letter admitting Helga in to the Arbitur, final exam for Gymn dated 7Feb1957  
 1957: by Oct/Nov was in Milwaukee  
 1957: Helga Meet Hans and courting  
 1957: University  
 195702: Helga Letter admitting Helga in to the Arbitur, final exam for Gymn dated 7Feb1957  
 19570201 Helga on 1Feb1957 wrote to Amerikanische Konsulat requesting forms to emigrate to USA.  
 195703 Helga Last Gymn class photo OIb  
 19570308 Helga Abitur 8 March 1957  
 19570308 Helga graduates from Gymnasium with Abitur, Herford West Germany  
 19570322 Helga on 22Mar1957 Father wrote a letter of reference agreeing to Helga emigrating to USA.  
 19570322 Helga's father writes letter of reference agreeing that Helga has his permission to emigrate to USA.  
 19570401 Helga enters University Bedefeld  
 195711 Helga took ship "Italia" to America  
 195711: Helga by Oct/Nov was in Milwaukee  
 19571101 Helga boards liner "Italia" from Bremerhaven West Germany for New York City US  
 19571107 Helga emigrates to US, and enters New York City, then takes train to Milwaukee  
 Wisce to stay with relatives  
 19571107 Helga Immigration documents to United States 7 November 1957



19571108 Helga by mid Nov was in Milwaukee  
 1958: Wedding  
 19580101 Helga moves to YWCA in Milwaukee Wisc, and takes on various jobs. 626 North Fashion Street, YWCA Residence, Milwaukee Wisc.  
 19580301 Helga attends YWCA dance and meets Hans  
 19580301: Helga Meet Hans and courting, Dance march 1958 at YWCA, Milwaukee Wisc  
 19581001 Hans and Helga travel to Canada to visit By-By and go to Niagara falls  
 19581001: Hans and Helga Vacation Montreal Canada, Niagara Falls, Bye-Bye  
 19581101 Hans and Helga Marriage Certificate 1 November 1958  
 19581201 Helga Return to Germany in 1958  
 19581215 Helga leaves for West Germany  
 19581101 Hans and Helga are married  
 19581101 Hans and Helga Marriage Certificate 1 November 1958  
 19581121 Hans GE - Germany FR for 36 months 1958Nov21 to 1962Nov20  
 19581121 Hans receives order to move to Rheine Mein AFB, Wiesbaden, West Germany  
 19581121 Hans Return to Germany in 1958  
 19581130 Hans leaves US through McQuire AFB NJ to Germany Rhein Main  
 19581201 Helga Return to Germany in 1958  
 19581215 Helga leaves for West Germany  
 1959: Assignment Wiesbaden Germany

## Events and History pre 1958

1340: Black Plague, In 1340, the total population of Europe was 54 million; by 1450, it would be 37 million, a 31% drop in only a century. [24] In addition to the earlier social and economic decline, the Black Plague is identified as the superficial cause, which struck Europe and wiped out a full third of the population in short space of 1348–1350. [2] [24] It has been described as "a pandemic of plagues such as the world had not seen since the sixth century and was not destined to see again till the 1890s ." [62] It was actually three related diseases: bubonic plague and septicemic plague , carried by fleas hosted by the black rat , and pneumonic plague , the especially fast and lethal airborne variant. [62] The few areas that escaped included Poland , [63] Hungary , [64] Rouergue in France, [64] Liège in Belgium , [63] and the county of Béarn in the Pyrenees . [63] It has been suggested that these areas were spared due to the predominance of O- Blood type , which had only recently taken root in the heartlands of Europe, although this hypothesis has yet to be proven. [64]

1800: Manifest destiny was a settler-colonial belief in the 19th-century United States that White American settlers were destined to expand across North America. It was an early expression of American imperialism in the United States of America. [3] [4] [5] There were three basic tenets to the concept: [6] [7] The inherent superiority of white Americans and their institutions The mission of the United States to redeem and remake the West in the image of the agrarian East An irresistible destiny to accomplish this essential duty

191906 June 28, in the final version of the Treaty of Versailles, Germany was required to give up

all its colonies. With the exception of German Southwest Africa, where some descendants of German settlers still live today (the German Namibians), all Germans were required to leave the colonies.

191908: In August 1919, at the beginning of the Weimar Republic (1919–1933), Germany's first democratic constitution officially abolished royalty and nobility, and the respective legal privileges and immunities appertaining to an individual, a family or any heirs, but most were able to keep at least some of their estates, including castles, forests and large stretches of agricultural land. Former hereditary titles are permitted as part of the surname (e.g., the aristocratic particles von and zu), and these surnames can then be inherited by a person's children.

1919-1933: German had the Weinmar Republic, in 1933 Hitler came into power

1928: Following Germany's defeat in World War I, the Weimar Republic passed very strict gun control laws in an attempt both to stabilize the country and to comply with the Versailles Treaty of 1919 – laws that in fact required the surrender of all guns to the government. These laws remained in effect until 1928, when the German parliament relaxed gun restrictions and put into effect a strict firearm-licensing scheme. All firearms had to be registered. These strict licensing regulations foreshadowed Hitler's rise to power. These policies were promulgated in every country conquered by Hitler.

1932: On 1932 February 25 Adolf Hitler became a German Citizen. He had been born in Austria and immigrated to Germany in 1913 but did not renounce his Austrian citizenship until 1925.

193301 January 30 Adolf Hitler becomes Chancellor in the Weimar Republic.

193303 March 23 the Weimar Republic (1919-1933) of was replaced by German Reich.

1933-1945 : Nationalsozialismus

1933-1945: Germany Nazi period Chancellor Adolf Hitler.

1933-45: The ideologies found at the root of Hitler's implementation of Lebensraum modeled that of German colonialism of the New Imperialism period as well as the American ideology of manifest destiny . Hitler had great admiration for the United States' territorial expansion and saw the destruction of Native American peoples and their cultures that took place during the United States' westward expansion as a template for German expansion.

1934 shortly after Adolf Hitler rose to power in 1933, he established the Ministry of Propaganda with the goal that this agency would control all forms of mass communication in Germany. At its peak of influence, the Ministry employed 1,500 employees spanning 17 departments. Censorship policy was produced and implemented by the Reich Minister of Propaganda, Joseph Goebbels. As such, Goebbels oversaw the publication of all media that was to be widely distributed — literature, music, newspapers, and public events. Any material that threatened the reputation of Hitler's government or spoke ill of the regime was immediately censored and retracted. Nazi bureaucrats saw their work and information control as necessary. It was, in their minds their duty to protect the German public from the harms of "undesirable books". [from Wikipedia]

1934, the ideologies found at the root of Hitler's implementation of Lebensraum modeled that of German colonialism of the New Imperialism period as well as the American ideology of manifest destiny. Hitler had great admiration for the United States' territorial expansion and saw the destruction of Native American peoples and their cultures that took place during the United States' westward expansion as a template for German expansion. But Hitler limited his German expansion to central Europe, he never pursued reclaiming the

- German colonies in Africa or the Pacific that were lost due to the Treaty of Versailles in 1919.
- 193401 January 26 A 10-year German–Polish declaration of non-aggression is signed by Nazi Germany and the Second Polish Republic
- 193401 January 30. In Nazi Germany, the political power of federal states such as Prussia is substantially abolished by the "Law on the Reconstruction of the Reich" (Gesetz über den Neuaufbaudes Reiches). This is important because all power is now only in the federal government.
- 193401: On 1934 January 26 A 10-year German–Polish declaration of non-aggression is signed by Nazi Germany and the Second Polish Republic
- 193401: On 1934 January 30. In Nazi Germany, the political power of federal states such as Prussia is substantially abolished by the "Law on the Reconstruction of the Reich" (Gesetz über den Neuaufbaudes Reiches). This is important because all power is now only in the federal government.
- 193406 June 30–July 2 – Night of the Long Knives in Germany: Nazis purge the Sturmabteilung (SA), the left-wing Strasserist faction of the Nazi Party, and prominent conservative anti-Nazis, in a series of political murders. Many of those murdered were from Noble families which had ties to the von Schweinitz families or were members of the von Schweinitz family.
- 193406: On 1934 June 30–July 2 – Night of the Long Knives in Germany: Nazis purge the Sturmabteilung (SA), the left-wing Strasserist faction of the Nazi Party, and prominent conservative anti-Nazis, in a series of political murders. Many of those murdered were from Noble families which had ties to the von Schweinitz families or were members of the von Schweinitz family.
- 193408 August 2 – Adolf Hitler becomes *Führer* of Germany, or head of state combined with that of Chancellor, following the death of President Paul von Hindenburg. All officers of the Army had to take an oath of allegiance and bind loyalty to Adolf Hitler himself. The difference is important: The officers were swearing allegiance to Hitler instead of the people, country, or constitution. If any officer made a statement in opposition to Hitler, that statement was treason. Any act that could be construed by Hitler as against his wishes, was treason.
- 193408: Hans On 2 August 1934 Hitler declared himself "Führer and Reichskanzler" and required all the military officers to resign. The Officers then joined the Wehrmacht and took the "Führereid (Hitler oath) where they swore an oath of allegiance and binding loyalty to Adolf Hitler himself.
- "I swear to God this holy oath  
that I shall render unconditional obedience  
to the Leader of the German Reich and people,  
Adolf Hitler, supreme commander of the armed forces,  
and that as a brave soldier I shall at all times be prepared  
to give my life for this oath."
- The difference is important: The officers were swearing allegiance to Hitler instead of the people, country, or constitution. If any officer made a statement in opposition to Hitler, that statement was treason. Any act that could be construed by Hitler as against his

- wishes, was treason.
- 193408: On 1934 August 2 – Adolf Hitler becomes *Führer* of Germany, or head of state combined with that of Chancellor, following the death of President Paul von Hindenburg.
- 193611 November 25, Germany signed pact with Japan. Nazi Germany, which was an anti-communist régime, formalized its ideological position on 25 November 1936 by signing the Anti-Comintern Pact with Imperial Japan. Fascist Italy joined the Pact in 1937
- 193811 November 9-10 Reichskristallnacht (Crystal night) occurred through Germany. Ironically November 9 1989 is when the Berlin wall fell.
- 193908 August 23, Nazi Germany (Hitler) had signed a non-aggression agreement with Soviet Union, Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact.
- 193909 September 1 All communication in Nazi controlled areas were censored or banned. This was an attempt to control what information Germans hear about the war. Germans were banned from Listening to Foreign Radio. Later in the war, the regime even sentences people to death for listening to foreign radio stations. Newspapers were heavily censored. Mail delivery/acceptance from not controlled by Nazi (Hitler) was stopped. The effect was that normal citizen were completely cut off from any news about world events outside what the Nazi Party wanted them to read or hear about. Citizens could not even communicate with family members in other countries, such England or USA. A complete information black-out.
- 193909 September 1, Germany invaded Poland, starting World War II. On 17 September, the Soviet Union invaded Eastern Poland, and, as a result, Poland was partitioned among Germany, the Soviet Union and Lithuania.
- 193909 September 3, Great Britain declares war on Germany for invading East Poland, beginning WWII. Great Britain did not declare war on the Soviet Union for invading West Poland. USA did not declare war on Germany until 1941 December 11. WWII ended in Europe on 1945 May 8 and in the Pacific on 1945 September 2.
- 193909: WW II started for Germany 1 September 1939
- 193909: Germany (Hitler) signed a non-aggression agreement with Soviet Union, Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact. On 1 September 1939 Germany invaded Poland , starting World War II . On 17 September, the Soviet Union invaded Eastern Poland , and, as a result, Poland was partitioned among Germany, the Soviet Union and Lithuania.
- 193909: WWII from 1 September 1939- 2 September 1945
- 193910 20 October 1939, Hitler told General Wilhelm Keitel that the war would be a difficult "racial struggle" and that the General Government was to "purify the Reich territory from Jews and Poles, too." [60] Likewise, in October 1939, Nazi propaganda instructed Germans to view Poles, Jews, and Gypsies as Untermenschen
- 194003 16 March 1940: 16 March 1940 German air raid on Scapa Flow causes the first British civilian casualties.
- 194003 8 March 1940: With the Polish decrees (8 March 1940), the Nazis ensured that the racial inferiority of the Poles was legally recognized in the German Reich, and regulated the working and living conditions of Polish laborers (Zivilarbeiter). The Polish decrees also established that any Pole "who has sexual relations with a German man or woman, or approaches them in any other improper manner, will be punished by death."
- 194004 3 April 1940: 3 April 1940, 22,000 Polish officers are massacred by the Soviet in the Katyn Massacre.
- 194005 10 May 1940: 10 May 1940 Germany invades France. By 14 June 1940, German troop

- occupy Paris.
- 194006 18 June 1940: 18 June 1940 the Soviet Union now controls Norway, Latvia, Estonia, Lithuania and more. Areas north of Poland on the Baltic Sea.
- 194007 1940: 10 July 1940 Battle of Britain begins with Luftwaffe raids on channel shipping
- 194007 2 July 1940: 2 July 1940 Hitler order preparation of plans for invasion of Britain, code named Operation Sea Lion. It began on 15 September 1940
- 194007 3 July 1940: 3 July 1940 The British Royal Navy destroys the French Fleet, fearing that it would fall into German hands.
- 194008 26 August 1940: 26 August 1940 Berlin is bombed by RAF for first time. Germany retaliates against the Berlin raid by changing bombing targets from RAF Airfields to London with "The Blitz".
- 194009 15 September 1940: 15 September 1940 Germany's Operation Sea Lion begins, the invasion of Britain. Does not go well due to British having RADAR and German poor aircraft range.
- 194074: Most World War II historians recognize the name Henning Von Tresckow. Henning was a Lieutenant Colonel in the German Army and after he witnessed the killings of captured soldiers in the Red Arm in 1941, he decided at that time Hitler had to be stopped. Henning later became an officer in the Army Group Centre. While there Henning recruited senior army officers to help him overthrow Hitler's government. In 1943 a makeshift bomb was placed on an airplane carrying Hitler, but the bomb failed to explode. Hitler was to attend another meeting on July 20th, 1944 and a recruitment of Henning, Claus von Stauffenberg, carried a briefcase bomb into the meeting. The bomb exploded while Hitler was inside, killing four men and only injuring Hitler's right arm. This plot was famously named Valkyrie. Henning lived during the same generation as Hans' father and was the son of a brother of Hans' paternal grandmother.<sup>25,26</sup>
- 1941: Most World War II historians recognize the name Henning Von Tresckow. Henning was a Lieutenant Colonel in the German Army and after he witnessed the killings of captured soldiers in the Red Arm in 1941, he decided at that time Hitler had to be stopped. Henning later became an officer in the Army Group Centre. While there Henning recruited senior army officers to help him overthrow Hitler's government. In 1943 a makeshift bomb was placed on an airplane carrying Hitler, but the bomb failed to explode. Hitler was to attend another meeting on July 20th, 1944 and a recruitment of Henning, Claus von Stauffenberg, carried a briefcase bomb into the meeting. The bomb exploded while Hitler was inside, killing four men and only injuring Hitler's right arm. This plot was famously named Valkyrie. Henning lived during the same generation as Hans' father and was the son of a brother of Hans' paternal grandmother.<sup>25,26</sup>
- 1941: Silesia population was 2,632,630 made up of 2,404,670 poles, 98,204 Germans, 124,877 Jews, 1,202 Ukrainians, 3,677 others
- 194101 23 January 1941 Charles Lindbergh testifies before the U.S. Congress and recommends that the United States negotiate a neutrality pact with Adolf Hitler
- 194103 11 March 1941: Lend-Lease Act was enacted, policy under which the United States supplied the United Kingdom, the Soviet Union, France, Republic of China, and other Allied nations of the Second World War with food, oil, and materiel between 1941 and 1945. The aid was given free of charge on the basis that such help was essential for the

defense of the United States. Materiel delivered under the act was supplied at no cost, to be used until returned or destroyed. [2]

- 194106 22 June 1941 Nazi Germany began Operations Barbarossa against the Soviet Union, in violation to the non-aggression Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact that Germany and the Soviet Union had signed on 23 August 1939. The attack against the Soviet Union was a three-pronged operation aimed at Leningrad, Moscow, and the southern oil fields of the Caucasus. All three of these areas were well away from Silesia and Alt Raudten. Again, it did not have any direct effect except that the young men were still being called away in support of the German war.
- 194106 22 June 1941: Nazi Germany (Hitler) had signed a non-aggression agreement with Soviet Union, Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact on 23 August 1939. But on 22 June 1941, Operations Barbarossa a three-pronged operation aimed at Leningrad, Moscow, and the southern oil fields of the Caucasus, Hitler invaded Soviet Union in violation of pact. From 1941 to 1943, the eastern front was centered on Belgorod in the Ukraine with German movement toward Stalingrad. The war ended on 9 May 1945, when Germany's armed forces surrendered unconditionally following the Battle of Berlin (also known as the Berlin Offensive), a strategic operation executed by the Red Army. Some historians say Stalin was fearful of war with Germany, or just did not expect Germany to start a two-front war and was reluctant to do anything to provoke Hitler. Others say that Stalin was eager for Germany to be at war with capitalist countries. Another viewpoint is that Stalin expected war in 1942 (the time when all his preparations would be complete) and stubbornly refused to believe it would come early
- 194106: Germany began war with Soviet Union, Operation Barbarossa on 22 June 1941. The war was fought between Germany, its allies and Finland , against the Soviet Union and its allies. The conflict began on 22 June 1941 with the Operation Barbarossa offensive, when Axis forces crossed the borders described in the German–Soviet Nonaggression Pact , thereby invading the Soviet Union. The war ended on 9 May 1945, when Germany's armed forces surrendered unconditionally following the Battle of Berlin (also known as the Berlin Offensive ), a strategic operation executed by the Red Army. Some historians say Stalin was fearful of war with Germany, or just did not expect Germany to start a two-front war , and was reluctant to do anything to provoke Hitler. Others say that Stalin was eager for Germany to be at war with capitalist countries. Another viewpoint is that Stalin expected war in 1942 (the time when all his preparations would be complete) and stubbornly refused to believe it would come early.
- 194109 30 September 1941 US Navy Oiler USS Salinas was torpedoed off Newfoundland by German U-Boat
- 194109 8 September 1941: Hitler ordered the Siege of Leningrad (8 September 1941 – January 1944), to raze the city and destroy the native Russian population. [84]
- 194110 17 October 1941 Destroyer USS Kearny was hit by a German torpedo while escorting a convoy in the North Atlantic.
- 194112 11 December 1941: Germany declares war on US 11 December 1941
- 194112 19 December 1941 Hitler becomes Supreme Commander-in-Chief of the German Army.
- 194112 7 December 1941: WW2 started for US 7 December 1941 with Pearl Harbor. On 8 December 1941 US, UK, Netherlands and New Zealand declare war on Japan. On 11 December 1941 Germany and Italy declare war on US, the US reciprocates and declares war on Germany and Italy.

- 194112 December 1941: Most World War II historians recognize the name Henning Von Tresckow. Henning was a Lieutenant Colonel in the German Army and after he witnessed the killings of captured soldiers of the Red Army in by December 1941 while in German POW camps, he decided at that time Hitler had to be stopped. Henning later became an officer in the Army Group Centre. While there Henning recruited senior army officers to help him overthrow Hitler's government. In 1943 a makeshift bomb was placed on an airplane carrying Hitler, but the bomb failed to explode. Hitler was to attend another meeting on July 20th, 1944 and a recruitment of Henning, Claus von Stauffenberg, carried a briefcase bomb into the meeting. The bomb exploded while Hitler was inside, killing four men and only injuring Hitler's right arm. This plot was famously named Valkyrie. Henning lived during the same generation as Hans' father and was the son of a brother of Hans' paternal grandmother.
- 194112: Germany declares war on US 11 December 1941
- 194112: started for US 7 December 1941 with Pearl Harbor
- 1942: Civilian correspondence between Germany and USA stopped.
- 1942: The monument Wittekind auf dem Wilhelmsplatz was taken down to be melted for its metal to support the war effort. In 1959 it was another monument was put in its place.
- 1942: Diphtheria The most interesting changes occurred in Germany, where diphtheria was endemic before World War II and where an alarming rise in the incidence of diphtheria was seen beginning in 1941. Frequent references were made to the spread of malignant diphtheria in Germany in the early 1940s, the course of which was so rapid that 1942 serum therapy, even at a very early stage of disease development, had no effect [53,58]. Unexpectedly, the proportion of adult patients rose concomitantly with the overall rise in diphtheria incidence (table 3). In 1942, about 237,037 died. Furthermore, among all diphtheria deaths reported, those involving adults also increased (from 12% in 1939 to 48% in 1943) [19460]. On the other hand, increasing enrollment in schools, summer camps, and meetings of children, adolescents, and adults from different neighborhoods and social backgrounds probably contributed to wider circulation of *C. diphtheriae* within these age groups. Likewise, migration and displacement of many people during World War II probably enhanced the circulation of diphtheria organisms and contributed to the shift toward more adult cases [15]. In many areas of Germany late in World War II, conditions were far from normal. People were at work during the day and in overcrowded bomb shelters at night. They were under constant stress, which was reinforced by shortages of food, water, and electricity. Some of these conditions enhanced the transmission of infection.
- 1942: first ground operations in European continent 8 November 1942
- 194201 26 January 1942: First American forces arrive in Europe landing in Northern Ireland. Through the Lend-Lease program, USA had been producing and sending military equipment to England and Soviet Union, since March 1941, but not troops.
- 194201 7 January 1942: German 'Operation Barbarossa' against Soviet Union in Moscow had failed and German Army is pushed back from 62-155 miles from Moscow. German Army is exhausted and freezing.
- 194201 January 1942: The first U.S. troops arrived in the British Isles in January 1942, but nearly a year passed before they went into action against the Axis. Meanwhile, air power provided virtually the only means for the Allies to strike at Germany. The Royal Air

- Force began its air offensive against Germany in May 1942, and on 4 July the first American crews participated in air raids against the Continent.
- 194201 January and February 1942: The winter of 1941–42 is known as the coldest European winter of the 20th Century. The temperature was much below normal from the beginning of January until the end of March 1942. Blockings and cut-off lows were frequent, particularly during January and February 1942.
- 194202 21 February 1942: American Air Corps established at bases in the UK.
- 194204 April 1942: Germany and the British RAF begin to bomb touristy and historic sites. Essen and Lübeck in Germany by the RAF. Germany used maps in tourist guide books to bomb Exeter, Bath, Norwich, York, and others. Germany plan was called “Baedeker raids”.
- 194205 24 May 1942: General Dwight D Eisenhower arrives in London to assume the post of Commander of American forces in Europe.
- 194206-1945: Easter Front between Germany and USSR from 22 June 1941 to 9 May 1945.
- 194207 4 July 1942: First air missions by the United States Army Air Forces in Europe.
- 194209 13 September 1942: The Battle for Stalingrad continues; it is now totally surrounded by the Germans. On 30 September 1942, Hitler announces on the Radio that “Stalingrad will be taken.”
- 194209: First US Army Air Forces operations over European continent began 29 September 1942
- 194211 8 November 1942: The United States ground troops first used in WW2 European theater. They entered the war in the west with Operation Torch on 8 November 1942, after their Soviet allies had pushed for a second front against the Germans. General Dwight Eisenhower commanded the assault on North Africa, and Major General George Patton struck at Casablanca.
- 1943: Bomber's Baedeker - Target Book Strategic Bombing in the Economic Warfare against German Towns. First version was approved and released. First version targeted 392 towns with populations above 15,000 inhabitants.
- 19430128: on 28 January 1943 A new conscription law in Germany: men between 16 and 65 and women between 17 and 50 are open to mobilization.
- 19430130: On the tenth anniversary of his rise to power 30 January 1943, Hitler makes a speech in which he promotes General Paulus to Field Marshal. This includes a reminder that no German field marshal has ever surrendered or been captured. On the next day 31 January 1943: Friedrich Paulus (Generalfeldmarschall in command of the German 6th Army) and his staff surrender to Soviet troops in Stalingrad, the first time a German Field Marshal is lost to surrender and thus captured by the enemy.
- 194302: In 2 February 1943, Germany's 6<sup>th</sup> Army surrendered to the Soviets in Stalingrad. On 13 May 1943 the 1<sup>st</sup> Italian Army and the German Africa Corps surrendered to the Allies in North Africa. On 8 September 1943, all of Italy unconditionally surrendered to the Allies. Italy's surrender was kept a secret because German Army was still fighting the Allies in Italy, and Italy was worried about German reprisals. On 6 June 1944, D-Day occurred along the French Northern coast. This western front led by the Allies was moving fast to the east. In the summer of 1944, the Soviet Red and White armies began to move west. The Western Front and Eastern Front were both heading for Berlin.
- 19430201: Soviet Red Army spend rest of 1943 concentrating their action on occupying southern countries with access to the Black Sea (Ukraine, Moldova, Romani), then occupying



- southern countries with access to the Adriatic Sea, and then occupying northern countries with access to the North Sea. Germany concentrates on Siege of Leningrad
- 194303: Henning von Tresckow attempt on Hitler's life on 13 March 1943. On the return flight from a front visit, Hitler visited the headquarters of the Army Group Center in Smolensk. During the visit there were several attempts on his life: During lunchtime, Tresckow, Boeselager, and others planned to get up at a sign and fire pistols at Hitler. The commander-in-chief of the Army Group, Field Marshal Günther von Kluge, knew about the plan but decided not to intervene. However, the plan was abandoned when it became clear that Hitler would not be present. Kluge forbade the attack, citing his fear of a possible civil war erupting between the SS and the army. See also 20 July 1944 plot Valkyrie
- 194303: Most World War II historians recognize the name Henning Von Tresckow. Henning was a Lieutenant Colonel in the German Army and after he witnessed the killings of captured soldiers in the Red Army in 1941, he decided at that time Hitler had to be stopped. Henning later became an officer in the Army Group Centre. While there Henning recruited senior army officers to help him overthrow Hitler's government. In 1943 a makeshift bomb was placed on an airplane carrying Hitler, but the bomb failed to explode. Hitler was to attend another meeting on July 20th, 1944 and a recruitment of Henning, Claus von Stauffenberg, carried a briefcase bomb into the meeting. The bomb exploded while Hitler was inside, killing four men and only injuring Hitler's right arm. This plot was famously named Valkyrie. Henning lived during the same generation as Hans' father and was the son of a brother of Hans' paternal grandmother. <sup>25,26</sup>
- 19430313: Henning von Tresckow. By September 1941, he was disillusioned with Nazi and Hitler and was in contact with opposition groups, planning to overthrow the government (coup) and remove/eliminate Hitler. Tresckow was Chief of Staff of the 2nd Army. He masterminded the 1943 March and 1944 July attempts against Hitler. Henning von Tresckow attempt on Hitler's life on 13 March 1943. On the return flight from a front visit, Hitler visited the headquarters of the Army Group Center in Smolensk. During the visit there were several attempts on his life: During lunchtime, Tresckow, Boeselager, and others planned to get up at a sign and fire pistols at Hitler. The commander-in-chief of the Army Group, Field Marshal Günther von Kluge, knew about the plan but decided not to intervene. However, the plan was abandoned when it became clear that Hitler would not be present. Kluge forbade the attack, citing his fear of a possible civil war erupting between the SS and the army. See also 20 July 1944 plot Valkyrie
- 19430513: In 2 February 1943, Germany's 6<sup>th</sup> Army surrendered to the Soviets in Stalingrad. On 13 May 1943 the 1<sup>st</sup> Italian Army and the German Africa Corps surrendered to the Allies in North Africa. On 8 September 1943, all of Italy unconditionally surrendered to the Allies. Italy's surrender was kept a secret because German Army was still fighting the Allies in Italy, and Italy was worried about German reprisals. On 6 June 1944, D-Day occurred along the French Northern coast. This western front led by the Allies was moving fast to the east. In the summer of 1944, the Soviet Red and White armies began to move west. The Western Front and Eastern Front were both heading for Berlin.
- 19430801 August: Nazi Germany (Hitler) had signed a non-aggression agreement with Soviet Union, Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact on 23 August 1939. On 1 September 1939 Germany invaded Poland, starting World War II. On 17 September, the Soviet Union invaded

Eastern Poland, and, as a result, Poland was partitioned among Germany, the Soviet Union and Lithuania. But on 22 June 1941, Operations Barbarossa, Hitler invaded Soviet Union in violation of pack. From 1941 to 1943, the eastern front was centered on Belgorod in the Ukraine with German movement toward Stalingrad. By Aug 1943 to December 1944 the Germans were pushed back and Soviet Union now occupied Lithuania, Ukraine, Hungary, Rumania, and Bulgaria. The Russians were moving fast and were not far from Breslau Poland which was near Alt Raudten. From Jan 1945 to May 1945, the Russian now had "eastern" Germany, Berlin, Poland, East Prussia, Czechoslovakia, and Austria.

194309: 8 September 1943 Italy the other member of the Axis powers surrendered

19430901: Bomber's Baedeker – British Target Book Strategic Bombing in the Economic Warfare against German Towns. First version was approved and released. First version targeted 392 towns with populations above 15,000 inhabitants. (Not same as Baedeker Blitz of Baedeker Raids which were Germany bombing England.)

19430903: Nazi Germany begins the evacuation of civilians from Berlin

19430908: 8 September 1943 Italy the other member of the Axis powers surrendered

19430908: In 2 February 1943, Germany's 6<sup>th</sup> Army surrendered to the Soviets in Stalingrad. On 13 May 1943 the 1<sup>st</sup> Italian Army and the German Africa Corps surrendered to the Allies in North Africa. On 8 September 1943, all of Italy unconditionally surrendered to the Allies. Italy's surrender was kept a secret because German Army was still fighting the Allies in Italy, and Italy was worried about German reprisals. On 6 June 1944, D-Day occurred along the French Northern coast. This western front led by the Allies was moving fast to the east. In the summer of 1944, the Soviet Red and White armies began to move west. The Western Front and Eastern Front were both heading for Berlin.

19431101: Heavy civilian losses in Berlin as bombing raids continue.

19431103: Some 43,000 Jews were shot by Germans at three camps in German-occupied Poland in Aktion Erntefest in a two-day "Harvest Festival".

19431122: The Cairo Conference: US President Franklin D. Roosevelt, British Prime Minister Winston Churchill, and ROC leader Chiang Kai-shek meet in Cairo, Egypt, to discuss ways to defeat Japan.

19431124: The US General Dwight D. Eisenhower becomes the Supreme Allied Commander in Europe.

19431128: The Tehran Conference. US President Franklin D. Roosevelt, British Prime Minister Winston Churchill and Soviet Leader Joseph Stalin meet in Tehran to discuss war strategy; (on 30 November they establish an agreement concerning a planned June 1944 invasion of Europe codenamed Operation Overlord). Stalin at last has the promise he has been waiting for.

1944: Bomber's Baedeker - Target Book Strategic Bombing in the Economic Warfare against German Towns. Second version released. Towns with populations with as few as 1,000 inhabitants are now also targeted so the list of towns increased to 518.

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19440104: 1944 January 4: The 1st Ukrainian Front of the Red Army enters Poland. But most of the Red Army efforts continue to be Ukrainian, Crimea, and southern countries, and the Norther Baltic countries.

- 19440127: 1944 January 27: The Siege of Leningrad ended after 872 days, as Soviet forces finally forced the Germans to withdraw. Some 2 million died, mostly of starvation and disease.
- 19440606: 1944 June 6: D-Day begins with the landing of 155,000 Allied troops on the beaches of Normandy in France. The Allied soldiers quickly break through the Atlantic Wall and push inland in the largest amphibious military operation in history.
- 19440606: In 2 February 1943, Germany's 6<sup>th</sup> Army surrendered to the Soviets in Stalingrad. On 13 May 1943 the 1<sup>st</sup> Italian Army and the German Africa Corps surrendered to the Allies in North Africa. On 8 September 1943, all of Italy unconditionally surrendered to the Allies. Italy's surrender was kept a secret because German Army was still fighting the Allies in Italy, and Italy was worried about German reprisals. On 6 June 1944, D-Day occurred along the French Northern coast. This western front led by the Allies was moving fast to the east. In the summer of 1944, the Soviet Red and White armies began to move west. The Western Front and Eastern Front were both heading for Berlin.
- 19440720: Henning von Tresckow on 21 July 1944 suicide. 13 March 1943 attempt on Hitler's life during flight. Again on 20 July 1944 Valkyrie. Relationship to Anna
- 19440720: Also involved in the Valkyrie plot was Adam von Trott. He was the Grandson of Lothar and Anna (nee Jay) von Schweinitz also part of the "Klein Krichen" branch of the family. Adam was the son of Lothar's and Anna's daughter Eleonore who had married August von Trott zu Soltz. Adam was arrested and put on trial for his role in the plot and executed on 26 August 1944.
- 19440720: Most World War II historians recognize the name Henning Von Tresckow. Henning was a Lieutenant Colonel in the German Army and after he witnessed the killings of captured soldiers in the Red Arm in 1941, he decided at that time Hitler had to be stopped. Henning later became an officer in the Army Group Centre. While there Henning recruited senior army officers to help him overthrow Hitler's government. In 1943 a makeshift bomb was placed on an airplane carrying Hitler, but the bomb failed to explode. Hitler was to attend another meeting on July 20th, 1944 and a recruitment of Henning, Claus von Stauffenberg, carried a briefcase bomb into the meeting. The bomb exploded while Hitler was inside, killing four men and only injuring Hitler's right arm. This plot was famously named Valkyrie. Henning lived during the same generation as Hans' father and was the son of a brother of Hans' paternal grandmother.
- 19440720: Operation Valkyrie on 20 July 1944. The plot to assassinate Hitler was on 20 July 1944, the name Operation Valkyrie—originally referring to part of the conspiracy—has become associated with the entire event. In the aftermath and clean up, 7,000 people were arrested and 4,980 were executed. If Lt Col Viktor had been involved, it was a well kept secret from the family. The family story about why Lt Col Viktor was chosen, was because in 1945 he had no wife or children. Any act towards surrender was considered treason by Hitler, and would have resulted in execution. But Hitler's enforcement arm, Gestapo, did not just stop with executing the military Officer, they also executed his wife and children. So being a bachelor, he was probably 'volunteered' for the assignment or he may have willingly taken on the assignment. The family does not know how General von Vietinghoff convinced Lt Col Viktor von Schweinitz. Lt Col Viktor von Schweinitz and others arrived in Caserta Italy on 28 April 1945. From 28-29 April 1945, an unconditional surrender document was drafted. On 29 April 1945, Lt Col Viktor von

- Schweinitz signed the Instrument of Surrender on behalf of General von Vietinghoff.
- 19440721: Henning von Tresckow on 21 July 1944 suicide.
- 19440801: Bomber's Baedeker - Target Book Strategic Bombing in the Economic Warfare against German Towns. Second version released. Towns with populations with as few as 1,000 inhabitants are now also targeted so the list of towns increased to 518.
- 19440801: August – September: Warsaw Uprising – failed due to lack of outside support. The Warsaw Uprising (Polish: powstanie warszawskie; German: Warschauer Aufstand), shortly after the war also known as the August Uprising (Polish: powstanie sierpniowe),[15] was a major World War II operation by the Polish underground resistance to liberate Warsaw from German occupation. It occurred in the summer of 1944, and it was led by the Polish resistance Home Army (Polish: Armia Krajowa). The uprising was timed to coincide with the retreat of the German forces from Poland ahead of the Soviet advance.[16] While approaching the eastern suburbs of the city, the Red Army halted combat operations, enabling the Germans to regroup and defeat the Polish resistance and to destroy the city in retaliation. The Uprising was fought for 63 days with little outside support. It was the single largest military effort taken by any European resistance movement during World War II.[17] The Uprising began on 1 August 1944 as part of a nationwide Operation Tempest, launched at the time of the Soviet Lublin–Brest Offensive. The main Polish objectives were to drive the Germans out of Warsaw while helping the Allies defeat Germany. An additional, political goal of the Polish Underground State was to liberate Poland's capital and assert Polish sovereignty before the Soviet-backed Polish Committee of National Liberation could assume control. Other immediate causes included a threat of mass German round-ups of able-bodied Poles for "evacuation"; calls by Radio Moscow's Polish Service for uprising; and an emotional Polish desire for justice and revenge against the enemy after five years of German occupation.[18][19]
- 19440801: Dresden had not previously been bombed during the war. The city was not considered a likely target because it was not a major contributor to the Nazi war economy and no key oil refineries or large armaments plants were located there. In the British Ministry of Economic Warfare's 1943 "Bomber's Baedeker," Dresden was ranked 20th of 100 German towns in its importance to the German war effort. In fact, Dresden was best known worldwide as a site of architectural treasures and was sometimes referred to as the "German Florence." Despite this, British Prime Minister Winston Churchill ordered the Dresden raids based on a plan submitted in August 1944 by Sir Charles Portal, Britain's Chief of the Air Staff.[2]
- 19440826: Also involved in the Valkyrie plot was Adam von Trott. He was the Grandson of Lothar and Anna (nee Jay) von Schweinitz also part of the "Klein Krichen" branch of the family. Adam was the son of Lothar's and Anna's daughter Eleonore who had married August von Trott zu Sltz. Adam was arrested and put on trial for his role in the plot and executed on 26 August 1944.
- 194410: 15 October, US Eighth Air Force: bombed Hannover and Munster-Kassel areas
- 194410: 26 October, US Eighth Air Force: bombed ordnance and storage depot at Bielefeld, Munitions yard Munster, military vehicle plant near Hannover, Mittelland Canal at Minden, and city of Hannover
- 19441015: 15 October, US Eighth Air Force: bombed Hannover and Munster-Kassel areas
- 19441026: 26 October, US Eighth Air Force: bombed ordnance and storage depot at Bielefeld,

- Munitions yard Munster, military vehicle plant near Hannover, Mittelland Canal at Minden, and city of Hannover
- 194411: 26 November, US Eighth Air Force: Using 1,000 B-17 and B-24 bombers and 25 fighter groups attacked oil refinery, marshalling yards, and 7 "Targets of opportunity" which included Herford. US lost over 35 bombers, but US fighters claimed over 100 air victories.
- 194411: 7 November photo taken of Rennstraße Herford in ruins.
- 194411: 2 November, US Eighth Air Force: as liberation and conquest of Germany accelerated, five separate forces using 1,100 heavy bombers bombed synthetic oil plants and "targets of opportunity" around Bielefeld. Supposedly over 160 German fighter planes were claimed to be destroyed. US lost 40 heavy bombers.
- 194411: 6 November, US Eighth Air Force: Six separate forces using 1,000 heavy bombers bombed Airfields, Marshalling yards, and "targets of opportunity" in northwest Germany. Sixteen fighter groups afford close escort and later strafe ground targets in northwest Germany.
- 19441102: 2 November, US Eighth Air Force: as liberation and conquest of Germany accelerated, five separate forces using 1,100 heavy bombers bombed synthetic oil plants and "targets of opportunity" around Bielefeld. Supposedly over 160 German fighter planes were claimed to be destroyed. US lost 40 heavy bombers.
- 19441106: 6 November, US Eighth Air Force: Six separate forces using 1,000 heavy bombers bombed Airfields, Marshalling yards, and "targets of opportunity" in northwest Germany. Sixteen fighter groups afford close escort and later strafe ground targets in northwest Germany.
- 19441126: 26 November, US Eighth Air Force: Using 1,000 B-17 and B-24 bombers and 25 fighter groups attacked oil refinery, marshalling yards, and 7 "Targets of opportunity" which included Herford. US lost over 35 bombers, but US fighters claimed over 100 air victories.
- 194412: 5 December Operation Aphrodite: Two B17 (#39824 and 30353) drones were targeting Herford's marshalling yard on 5 December 1944, but because of cloud cover, so the planes were directed to alternate target of Haldorf where both planes crashed outside of town. Haldorf now is a community within Edermünde which is about 150 km away from Herford and near Kassel
- 19441205: 5 December Operation Aphrodite: Two B17 (#39824 and 30353) drones were targeting Herford's marshalling yard on 5 December 1944, but because of cloud cover, so the planes were directed to alternate target of Haldorf where both planes crashed outside of town. Haldorf now is a community within Edermünde which is about 150 km away from Herford and near Kassel
- 1945 : Nationalsozialismus for Herford was over, it had existed from 1933 to 1945.
- 1945 Gustav Gößling: It was not until this time after the war that we learned of Gustav's death 1944. Probably from the Red Cross.
- 1945: Attempts on Hitler's life: 42 documented attempts. All attempts occurred in the German Reich, except where noted. All attempts involved citizens of the German Reich, except where noted. No fewer than 42 plots have been uncovered by historians.[2] However, the true number cannot be accurately determined due to an unknown number of undocumented cases. Wikipedia
- 1945: Hans. From quora.com

General George S. Patton did not continue on to Berlin after reaching the city of Pilsen in Czechoslovakia during World War II for several reasons. One reason was that the city of Berlin was already being approached by Soviet forces from the east, and there was an agreement among the Allied powers that the Soviet Union would take Berlin.

Additionally, the Western Allies, including the United States, had already agreed on zones of occupation in Germany, with Berlin being divided into sectors controlled by the four Allied powers. Therefore, it was not part of the Western Allies' military strategy to capture Berlin. Instead, the focus shifted to securing the areas assigned to the Western Allies in the post-war division of Germany.

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1945: Hitler's most fanatically loyal troops were preparing to make a lengthy, last-ditch stand in the natural fortresses formed by the rugged alpine mountains of southern Germany and western Austria. If they held out for a year or more, dissension between the Soviet Union and the Western Allies might have given them political leverage for some kind of favorable peace settlement.

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1945: Suicides by Nazi Germany. This is a list of suicides in Nazi Germany. Many prominent Nazis, Nazi followers, and members of the armed forces died by suicide during the last days of World War II. Others killed themselves after being captured. Those who committed suicide includes 8 out of 41 Nazi Party regional leaders who held office between 1926 and 1945, 7 out of 47 higher SS and police leaders, 53 out of 554 army generals, 14 out of 98 Luftwaffe generals, 11 out of 53 admirals in the Kriegsmarine, and an unknown number of junior officials. [1] Henning von Tresckow on 21 July 1944. Wikipedia

194501: 22Jan1945: Official correspondence to Ella Portner from Regierungspräsident

194501: Berlin. After the Vistula–Oder offensive of January–February 1945, the Red Army had temporarily halted on a line 60 km (37 mi) east of Berlin. On 9 March, Germany established its defence plan for the city with Operation Clausewitz. When the Soviet offensive resumed on 16 April, two Soviet fronts ( army groups ) attacked Berlin from the east and south, while a third overran German forces positioned north of Berlin.

194501: Hans. January–March 1945

Main articles: Vistula–Oder Offensive, East Pomeranian Offensive, Silesian Offensives, East Prussian Offensive, and Vienna Offensive

The Soviet Union finally entered Warsaw on 17 January 1945, after the city was destroyed and abandoned by the Germans. Over three days, on a broad front incorporating four army fronts, the Red Army launched the Vistula–Oder Offensive across the Narew River and from Warsaw. The Soviets outnumbered the Germans on

average by 5–6:1 in troops, 6:1 in artillery, 6:1 in tanks and 4:1 in self-propelled artillery. After four days the Red Army broke out and started moving thirty to forty kilometres a day, taking the Baltic states, Danzig, East Prussia, Poznań, and drawing up on a line sixty kilometres east of Berlin along the River Oder. During the full course of the Vistula–Oder operation (23 days), the Red Army forces sustained 194,191 total casualties (killed, wounded and missing) and lost 1,267 tanks and assault guns.

On 25 January 1945, Hitler renamed three army groups. Army Group North became Army Group Courland; Army Group Centre became Army Group North and Army Group A became Army Group Centre. Army Group North (old Army Group Centre) was driven into an ever-smaller pocket around Königsberg in East Prussia.

A limited counter-attack (codenamed Operation Solstice) by the newly created Army Group Vistula, under the command of Reichsführer-SS Heinrich Himmler, had failed by 24 February, and the Red Army drove on to Pomerania and cleared the right bank of the Oder River. In the south, the German attempts, in Operation Konrad, to relieve the encircled garrison at Budapest failed and the city fell on 13 February. On 6 March, the Germans launched what would be their final major offensive of the war, Operation Spring Awakening, which failed by 16 March. On 30 March the Red Army entered Austria and captured Vienna on 13 April.

194501: January 5 1945: On 5 January 1945, two North American B-25 Mitchell bombers dropped 300,000 leaflets over Dresden with the "Appeal of 50 German generals to the German army and people".

19450101: Berlin. After the Vistula–Oder offensive of January–February 1945, the Red Army had temporarily halted on a line 60 km (37 mi) east of Berlin. On 9 March, Germany established its defence plan for the city with Operation Clausewitz. When the Soviet offensive resumed on 16 April, two Soviet fronts (army groups) attacked Berlin from the east and south, while a third overran German forces positioned north of Berlin.

19450101: Hans. Berlin From Wikipedia

No plans were made by the Western Allies to seize the city by a ground operation.[29] The Supreme Commander [Western] Allied Expeditionary Force, General Eisenhower, lost interest in the race to Berlin and saw no further need to suffer casualties by attacking a city that would be in the Soviet sphere of influence after the war,[30] envisioning excessive friendly fire if both armies attempted to occupy the city at once.[31] The major Western Allied contribution to the battle was the bombing of Berlin during 1945.[32] During 1945 the United States Army Air Forces launched very large daytime raids on Berlin and, for 36 nights in succession, scores of RAF Mosquitos bombed the German capital, ending on the night of 20/21 April 1945 just before the Soviets entered the city.[33]

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Allies in the post-war division of Germany.

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194502: Berlin wikipedia

1,500 bombers of the Eighth Air Force, protected by some 1,000 fighters attacked the Berlin railway system on the forenoon (British: morning) of 3 February 1945 in the belief that the German Sixth Panzer Army was moving through Berlin by train on its way to the Eastern Front,[39] thinking the Sixth Panzer Army would use the Tempelhof railyards for the move.[40] This was one of the few occasions on which the USAAF undertook a mass attack on a city centre. Lt-General James Doolittle, commander of the USAAF Eighth Air Force, objected to this tactic, but he was overruled by the USAAF commander, General Carl Spaatz, who was supported by the Allied commander General Dwight D. Eisenhower. Eisenhower and Spaatz made it clear that the attack on Berlin was of great political importance in that it was designed to assist the Soviet offensive on the Oder east of Berlin, and was essential for Allied unity.[41][42]



194502: Dresden 13 and 14 February 1945. On 13 February 1945, bad weather over Europe prevented any USAAF operations, and it was left to RAF Bomber Command to carry out the first raid. It had been decided that the raid would be a double strike, in which a second wave of bombers would attack three hours after the first, just as the rescue teams were trying to put out the fires. [51] As was standard practice, other raids were carried out that night to confuse German air defences. Three hundred and sixty heavy bombers (Lancasters and Halifaxes) bombed a synthetic oil plant in Böhlen, 60 mi (97 km) from Dresden, while 71 de Havilland Mosquito medium bombers attacked Magdeburg with small numbers of Mosquitos carrying out nuisance raids on Bonn, Misburg near Hanover and Nuremberg. [52] The sirens started sounding in Dresden at 21:51 (CET). The first attack, bombs were released at 22:13, the last at 22:28, delivering 881.1 tons of bombs, 57% high explosive, 43% incendiaries. The second attack, three hours later. The German sirens sounded again at 01:05, but these were small hand-held sirens that were heard within only a block. [59] Between 01:21 and 01:45, 529 Lancasters dropped more than 1,800 tons of bombs. On the morning of 14 February 431 United States Army Air Force bombers of the Eighth Air Force's 1st Bombardment Division were scheduled to bomb Dresden near midday. The bombing started at 12:17 and finished by 12:30. On 15 February Dresden was bombed between 12:00 and 12:10. Between 100,000 and 200,000 refugees [97] fleeing westward from advancing Soviet forces were in the city at the time of the bombing. The number of dead recovered by that date was 20,204, including 6,865 who were cremated on the Altmarkt square, and they expected the total number of deaths to be about 25,000. [93] [94]. Most died from lack of oxygen.

194502: Dresden 13 and 14 February 1945. On 13 February 1945, bad weather over Europe

194502: Dresden Dresden's air defences had been depleted by the need for more weaponry to fight the Red Army, and the city lost its last massive flak battery in January 1945. By this point in the war, the Luftwaffe was severely hampered by a shortage of both pilots and aircraft fuel; the German radar system was also degraded, lowering the warning time to prepare for air attacks. The RAF also had an advantage over the Germans in the field of electronic radar countermeasures. [81]. Over 90% of the city center was destroyed.

194502: Dresden The bombing of Dresden was a joint British and American aerial bombing attack on the city of Dresden, the capital of the German state of Saxony, during World War II. In four raids between 13 and 15 February 1945, 772 heavy bombers of the Royal Air Force (RAF) and 527 of the United States Army Air Forces (USAAF) dropped more than 3,900 tons of high-explosive bombs and incendiary devices on the city. [3] The bombing and the resulting firestorm destroyed more than 1,600 acres (6.5 km<sup>2</sup>) of the city centre. [4] Up to 25,000 people were killed

194502: Early and 8 February 1945: Early in 1945, the German offensive known as the Battle of the Bulge had been exhausted, as was the Luftwaffe's failed New Year's Day attack. The Red Army had launched its Silesian Offensives into pre-war German territory. The German army was retreating on all fronts, but still resisting. On 8 February 1945, the Red Army crossed the Oder River, with positions just 70 km (43 mi) from Berlin. [23] A special British Joint Intelligence Subcommittee report, German Strategy and Capacity to Resist, prepared for Winston Churchill's eyes only, predicted that Germany might collapse as early as mid-April if the Soviets overran its eastern defences. Alternatively, the report warned that the Germans might hold out until November if they could prevent the Soviets from taking Silesia.

194502: Hans Berlin wikipedia

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194502: Hans Dresden bombed 13-15 February 1945

194502: Hans Dresden wikipedia

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194502: Yalta Conference 4-11 February 1945. The Yalta Conference had already determined that both Germany and Berlin would be divided into four zones of occupation

19450203: Hans Berlin wikipedia

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19450204: Yalta Conference 4-11 February 1945. The Yalta Conference had already determined that both Germany and Berlin would be divided into four zones of occupation

19450208: Early and 8 February 1945: Early in 1945, the German offensive known as the Battle of the Bulge had been exhausted, as was the Luftwaffe's failed New Year's Day attack. The Red Army had launched its Silesian Offensives into pre-war German territory. The German army was retreating on all fronts, but still resisting. On 8 February 1945, the Red Army crossed the Oder River, with positions just 70 km (43 mi) from Berlin. [23] A special British Joint Intelligence Subcommittee report, German Strategy and Capacity to Resist, prepared for Winston Churchill's eyes only, predicted that Germany might collapse as early as mid-April if the Soviets overran its eastern defences. Alternatively, the report warned that the Germans might hold out until November if they could prevent

the Soviets from taking Silesia .

19450213: Dresden 13 and 14 February 1945. On 13 February 1945, bad weather over Europe prevented any USAAF operations, and it was left to RAF Bomber Command to carry out the first raid. It had been decided that the raid would be a double strike, in which a second wave of bombers would attack three hours after the first, just as the rescue teams were trying to put out the fires. [51] As was standard practice, other raids were carried out that night to confuse German air defences . Three hundred and sixty heavy bombers ( Lancasters and Halifaxes ) bombed a synthetic oil plant in Böhlen , 60 mi (97 km) from Dresden, while 71 de Havilland Mosquito medium bombers attacked Magdeburg with small numbers of Mosquitos carrying out nuisance raids on Bonn , Misburg near Hanover and Nuremberg . [52] The sirens started sounding in Dresden at 21:51 (CET). The first attack, bombs were released at 22:13, the last at 22:28, delivering 881.1 tons of bombs, 57% high explosive, 43% incendiaries. The second attack, three hours later. The German sirens sounded again at 01:05, but these were small hand-held sirens that were heard within only a block. [59] Between 01:21 and 01:45, 529 Lancasters dropped more than 1,800 tons of bombs. On the morning of 14 February 431 United States Army Air Force bombers of the Eighth Air Force 's 1st Bombardment Division were scheduled to bomb Dresden near midday. The bombing started at 12:17 and finished by 12:30. On 15 February Dresden was bombed between 12:00 and 12:10. Between 100,000 and 200,000 refugees [97] fleeing westward from advancing Soviet forces were in the city at the time of the bombing. the number of dead recovered by that date was 20,204, including 6,865 who were cremated on the Altmarkt square, and they expected the total number of deaths to be about 25,000. [93] [94]. Most died from lack of oxygen.

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19450213: Hans Bombing of Dresden in World War II Feb 13, 1945 – Feb 15, 1945

19450213: Hans Dresden wikipedia

The bombing of Dresden was a joint British and American aerial bombing attack on the city of Dresden, the capital of the German state of Saxony, during World War II. In four raids between 13 and 15 February 1945, 772 heavy bombers of the Royal Air Force (RAF) and 527 of the United States Army Air Forces (USAAF) dropped more than 3,900 tons of high-explosive bombs and incendiary devices on the city.[3] The bombing and the resulting firestorm destroyed more than 1,600 acres (6.5 km<sup>2</sup>) of the city centre.[4] Up to 25,000 people were killed.[1][2][a]

19450213: Hans The bombing of Dresden Germany on February 13th and 14th of 1945 was

very controversial for its time. There were thousands of civilians who lost their lives fleeing the Russian and German army's. The allies from the West, Churchill and Roosevelt, decided that Stalin was going to be a problem after the war. It was decided that the allies would show the Russians they had the superior military and they did not care who was in the city of Dresden, the allies were going to drop 3,300 tons of bombs in three waves. So many bombs were dropped at the same time it sucked the oxygen out of the air creating a great firestorm. Buildings and homes were completely destroyed. Bodies lie in the street, flesh burning and there is no way to walkaround them to escape.<sup>23</sup>

19450223: That part of the "Klein Krichen" branch of the family was not done yet in expressing their loyalty to country over Fuhrer Hitler. Adam's cousin Viktor von Schweinitz played a pivotal role in Operation Sunrise which was a cooperative effort between American and German Officers to unconditionally surrender the remaining German Wehrmach forces in Italy and in the South. This operation began in secret on 23 February 1945, more than two months before Fuhrer Hitler committed suicide on 30 April 1945.

194503: 14 march US Eighth Air Force: bombed 2 rail bridges and a Marshalling yard near ,Herford

194503: 31March last time sirens were used for Air Raid in Herford. 480 buildings completely destroyed, 2,380 buildings partially destroyed, 137 people dead.

194503: Hans. January–March 1945

Main articles: Vistula–Oder Offensive, East Pomeranian Offensive, Silesian Offensives, East Prussian Offensive, and Vienna Offensive

The Soviet Union finally entered Warsaw on 17 January 1945, after the city was destroyed and abandoned by the Germans. Over three days, on a broad front incorporating four army fronts, the Red Army launched the Vistula–Oder Offensive across the Narew River and from Warsaw. The Soviets outnumbered the Germans on average by 5–6:1 in troops, 6:1 in artillery, 6:1 in tanks and 4:1 in self-propelled artillery. After four days the Red Army broke out and started moving thirty to forty kilometres a day, taking the Baltic states, Danzig, East Prussia, Poznań, and drawing up on a line sixty kilometres east of Berlin along the River Oder. During the full course of the Vistula–Oder operation (23 days), the Red Army forces sustained 194,191 total casualties (killed, wounded and missing) and lost 1,267 tanks and assault guns.

On 25 January 1945, Hitler renamed three army groups. Army Group North became Army Group Courland; Army Group Centre became Army Group North and Army Group A became Army Group Centre. Army Group North (old Army Group Centre) was driven into an ever-smaller pocket around Königsberg in East Prussia.

A limited counter-attack (codenamed Operation Solstice) by the newly created Army Group Vistula, under the command of Reichsführer-SS Heinrich Himmler, had failed by 24 February, and the Red Army drove on to Pomerania and cleared the right bank of the Oder River. In the south, the German attempts, in Operation Konrad, to relieve the encircled garrison at Budapest failed and the city fell on 13 February. On 6 March, the Germans launched what would be their final major offensive of the war, Operation Spring Awakening, which failed by 16 March. On 30 March the Red Army entered Austria and captured Vienna on 13 April.

19450314: 14 march US Eighth Air Force: bombed 2 rail bridges and a Marshalling yard near ,Herford

- 194504: 12Apr1945, FDR died
- 194504: 20 April 1945: Soviet artillery began shelling Berlin at 11 a.m. on Hitler's 56th birthday.[1] Preparations were made to evacuate Hitler and his staff to Obersalzberg to make a final stand in the Bavarian mountains, but Hitler refused to leave his bunker.
- 194504: 20April 1945: Certification that house owned by American Gustav by Obergürgermeister
- 194504: 29 April 1945: At the royal palace in Caserta, two German officers signed the terms of surrender of German forces in Italy. Hostilities would cease at noon on May 2.
- 194504: 3 & 4 April: American Liberation. American tanks come into Herford and the neighboring town of Bielefeld
- 194504: 30 April 1945: Death of Adolf Hitler: Adolf Hitler and his wife Eva Braun committed suicide at around 3.30 p.m. while the Red Army was a short distance from the Führerbunker. In accordance with Hitler's last Will and Testament, Karl Dönitz and Joseph Goebbels took on Hitler's roles as Head of State and Head of Government of Germany respectively.
- 194504: Berlin, Battle of Berlin 16-25 April 1945. Russian army. No plans were made by the Western Allies to seize the city by a ground operation. [29] The SupremeCommander [Western] Allied Expeditionary Force , General Eisenhower , lost interest in the race to Berlin and saw no further need to suffer casualties by attacking a city that would be in the Soviet sphere ofinfluence after the war, [30] envisioning excessive friendly fire if both armies attempted to occupy the cityat once. [31] Stalin had wanted to settle the score sinceHitler's breach of their non-aggression pact. On 15 April1945, the Soviet Union fired a massive barrage of some one million artillery shells, one of the largest inhistory, onto the German positions west of the Oder.
- 194504: Berlin. On 12 April 1945, Hitler, who had earlierdecided to remain in the city against the wishes of his advisers, heard the news that the AmericanPresident Franklin D. Roosevelt had died. [27] This briefly raised false hopes in the Führerbunker thatthere might yet be a falling out among the Allies and that Berlin would be saved at the last moment
- 194504: Hans On April 29th, 1945 Lieutenant Colonel Viktor von Schweinitz, uncle of Hans von Schweinitz, was authorized to sign the surrender of Germany in Caserta Italy. (See Figure 3) With this signing the Lieutenant Colonel was negotiate the framework of surrender of German soldiers and how they were to be treated as prisoners of war while they were kept in Italy. If an agreement was not met during the signing the German soldiers were to hide in the hills without surrender. They were told to surrender or be slaughtered and they eventually agreed to a fullsurrender.<sup>24</sup>
- 194504: Hans. Berlin From Wikipedia  
No plans were made by the Western Allies to seize the city by a ground operation.[29] The Supreme Commander [Western] Allied Expeditionary Force, General Eisenhower, lost interest in the race to Berlin and saw no further need to suffer casualties by attacking a city that would be in the Soviet sphere of influence after the war,[30] envisioning excessive friendly fire if both armies attempted to occupy the city at once.[31] The major Western Allied contribution to the battle was the bombing of Berlin during 1945.[32] During 1945 the United States Army Air Forces launched very large daytime raids on Berlin and, for 36 nights in succession, scores of RAF Mosquitos bombed the German capital, ending on the night of 20/21 April 1945 just before the Soviets entered the

city.[33]

19450412: 12Apr1945, FDR died

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19450416: Berlin, Battle of Berlin 16-25 April 1945. Russian army. No plans were made by the Western Allies to seize the city by a ground operation. [29] The Supreme Commander [Western] Allied Expeditionary Force, General Eisenhower, lost interest in the race to Berlin and saw no further need to suffer casualties by attacking a city that would be in the Soviet sphere of influence after the war, [30] envisioning excessive friendly fire if both armies attempted to occupy the city at once. [31] Stalin had wanted to settle the score since Hitler's breach of their non-aggression pact. On 15 April 1945, the Soviet Union fired a massive barrage of some one million artillery shells, one of the largest in history, onto the German positions west of the Oder.

19450420: 20 April 1945: Soviet artillery began shelling Berlin at 11 a.m. on Hitler's 56th birthday.[1] Preparations were made to evacuate Hitler and his staff to Obersalzberg to make a final stand in the Bavarian mountains, but Hitler refused to leave his bunker.

19450427: Austria was occupied by the Allies and proclaimed independence from Nazi Germany on 27 April 1945 (confirmed by the Berlin Declaration for Germany on 5 June 1945), as a result of the Vienna offensive and ended with the Austrian State Treaty on 27 July 1955.

19450428: Operation Valkyrie on 20 July 1944. The plot to assassinate Hitler was on 20 July 1944, the name Operation Valkyrie—originally referring to part of the conspiracy—has become associated with the entire event. In the aftermath and clean up, 7,000 people were arrested and 4,980 were executed. If Lt Col Viktor had been involved, it was a well kept secret from the family. The family story about why Lt Col Viktor was chosen, was because in 1945 he had no wife or children. Any act towards surrender was considered treason by Hitler, and would have resulted in execution. But Hitler's enforcement arm, Gestapo, did not just stop with executing the military Officer, they also executed his wife and children. So being a bachelor, he was probably 'volunteered' for the assignment or he may have willingly taken on the assignment. The family does not know how General von Vietinghoff convinced Lt Col Viktor von Schweinitz. Lt Col Viktor von Schweinitz and others arrived in Caserta Italy on 28 April 1945. From 28-29 April 1945, an unconditional surrender document was drafted. On 29 April 1945, Lt Col Viktor von Schweinitz signed the Instrument of Surrender on behalf of General von Vietinghoff.

19450429: 29 April 1945: At the royal palace in Caserta, two German officers signed the terms of surrender of German forces in Italy. Hostilities would cease at noon on May 2.

19450429: Although signed on 29 April, the Instrument of Surrender was not effective until 2 May 1945. Lt Col von Schweinitz and Major Wenner received 3 copies and began their journey through Switzerland to deliver the document to General Field Marshall Kesselring in Berlin. By 30 April 1945, both Lt Col von Schweinitz and Major Wenner were stuck in Switzerland. Fuhrer Hitler committed suicide on 30 April 1945 in Berlin. On 2 May, they were still stuck in Switzerland. The Military in Germany was in chaos, and so was the German government. Luckily, Mr Dulles had been in contact with General

- Kesselring in Berlin about the contents of the Instrument of Surrender. Despite the actual signed documents being stuck in Switzerland, at 4am on 2 May 1945, German Field Marshal Albert Kesselring approved the surrender and by 2pm, Wehrmacht troops in Italy and Southern German occupied areas began to lay down their arms.
- 19450429: Hans On April 29th, 1945 Lieutenant Colonel Viktor von Schweinitz, uncle of Hans von Schweinitz, was authorized to sign the surrender of Germany in Caserta Italy. (See Figure 3) With this signing the Lieutenant Colonel was negotiate the framework of surrender of German soldiers and how they were to be treated as prisoners of war while they were kept in Italy. If an agreement was not met during the signing the German soldiers were to hide in the hills without surrender. They were told to surrender or be slaughtered and they eventually agreed to a fullsurrender.<sup>24</sup>
- 19450430: 30 April 1945 Hitler committed suicide.
- 19450430: 30 April 1945: Death of Adolf Hitler: Adolf Hitler and his wife Eva Braun committed suicide at around 3.30 p.m. while the Red Army was a short distance from the Führerbunker. In accordance with Hitler's last Will and Testament, Karl Dönitz and Joseph Goebbels took on Hitler's roles as Head of State and Head of Government of Germany respectively.
- 19450430: Attempts on Hitler's life: 42 documented attempts. All attempts occurred in the German Reich, except where noted. All attempts involved citizens of the German Reich, except where noted. No fewer than 42 plots have been uncovered by historians.[2] However, the true number cannot be accurately determined due to an unknown number of undocumented cases. Wikipedia
- 194505 47 May 1945 German high command surrenders unconditionally all land, sea, and air forces at Reims effective 9 May 1945.
- 194505: End of WW II 8 May 1945 for Europe theater
- 194505: 16 to 20 May 1945 in the Herford area the American Liberators were replaced by British troops and the "der Britischen Besatzungszone" (British Occupation Zone) began.
- 194505: 8May1945 End of WWII in Europe, WWII in Pacific theater would continue until 2Sep1945
- 194505: Occupation process by USA. When Allied soldiers arrived in a town, its leaders and remaining residents typically used white flags,bedsheets, and tablecloths to signal surrender. The officer in charge of the unit capturing the area,typically a company or battalion, accepted responsibility over the town. Soldiers posted copies of GeneralEisenhower's Proclamation No. 1 , which began with "We come as a victorious army, not as oppressors."The proclamation demanded compliance with all orders by the commanding officer, instituted a strictcurfew and limited travel and confiscated all communications equipment and weapons. After a day ortwo, specialized Office of Military Government, United States (OMGUS) units took over. Soldiersrequisitioned housing and office space as needed from residents. At first, this was done informally withoccupants evicted immediately and taking with them few personal possessions, but the process becamestandardized, with three hours' notice and OMGUS personnel providing receipts for buildings' contents.The displaced residents nonetheless had to find housing on their own. [27]
- 19450507: The official historical unconditional surrender of all of Nazi Germany was signed on 7 May 1945 in Reims France and effective at 11PM on 8 May 1945 (V-E Day).

- 19450508: 8May1945 End of WWII in Europe, WWII in Pacific theater would continue until 2Sep1945
- 19450509: End of WW II 8 May 1945 for Europe theater
- 19450509: German high command surrenders unconditionally all land, sea, and air forces at Reims effective 9 May 1945.
- 19450509: Nationalsozialismus for was over, it had existed from 1933 to 1945.
- 19450509: Occupation process by USA. When Allied soldiers arrived in a town, its leaders and remaining residents typically used white flags,bedsheets, and tablecloths to signal surrender. The officer in charge of the unit capturing the area,typically a company or battalion, accepted responsibility over the town. Soldiers posted copies of GeneralEisenhower's Proclamation No. 1 , which began with "We come as a victorious army, not as oppressors."The proclamation demanded compliance with all orders by the commanding officer, instituted a strictcurfew and limited travel and confiscated all communications equipment and weapons. After a day ortwo, specialized Office of Military Government, United States (OMGUS) units took over. Soldiersrequisitioned housing and office space as needed from residents. At first, this was done informally withoccupants evicted immediately and taking with them few personal possessions, but the process becamestandardized, with three hours' notice and OMGUS personnel providing receipts for buildings' contents.The displaced residents nonetheless had to find housing on their own. [27]
- 19450509: Suicides by Nazi Germany. This is a list of suicides in Nazi Germany. Many prominent Nazis, Nazi followers, and members of the armed forces died by suicide during the last days of World War II. Others killed themselves after being captured. Those who committed suicide includes 8 out of 41 Nazi Party regional leaders who held office between 1926 and 1945, 7 out of 47 higher SS and police leaders,53 out of 554 army generals, 14 out of 98 Luftwaffe generals, 11out of 53 admirals in the Kriegsmarine, and an unknown number of junior officials. [1] Henning von Tresckow on 21 July 1944. Wikipedia
- 194507 July 14 to 1945 August: The Expulsion. From 17 July to 2 August 1945, the Allies met in Potsdam to iron out the Potsdam Agreement. The three participants were the Soviet Union, the United Kingdom and the United States (no France). Besides identifying the occupational zones, it also addressed the Nazi Party and the orderly removal of German population from countries that Germany had occupied. The Nazi party was declared illegal on 10 October 1945. The Allies attempted to purge German society of Nazi elements in a process known as denazification.
- 194507: Patton statement As with Prague, Patton's request to secure Berlin wasdenied. Sadly, after Patton finally reached the ravaged city, he wrotehis wife on July 21, 1945, "for the first week after they took it (Berlin), Iall women who ran were shot and those who did not were raped.could have taken it (instead of the Soviets) had I been allowed."
- 19450709: Austria Occupation zones On 9 July 1945 the Allies agreed on the borders of their occupation zones.[25] Movement of occupation troops ("zone swap") continued until the end of July.[21] The French and American zones bordered those countries' zones in Germany, and the Soviet zone bordered future Warsaw Pact states: Salzburg and Upper Austria south of the Danube were assigned to the American Zone.
- 19450717: At the Potsdam conference, the Allied leaders confirmed their previous commitment to the removal of German populations from Poland, Czechoslovakia, and Hungary, which



the provisional governments of those countries had already begun to put into effect. The three allied leaders agreed that transfers of German civilians should proceed in an orderly and humane manner, but according to modern estimates, between 600,000 and 2.2 million Germans died during the flight and expulsions.[37][38][39]

19450717: Hans. Invasion of the Red Army: Flight and expulsion of the German population: In the Potsdam Agreement, Silesia is placed under Polish administration until a peace treaty is signed. The peace treaty was never signed by the Soviet Union, so the peace treaty was never finalized. Germany surrendered unconditionally and was occupied therefore no "peace treaty" was required.

19450717: The Allies issued a statement of aims for their occupation of Germany: demilitarization, denazification, democratization, decentralization, dismantling, and decartelization. More specifically, as for the demilitarization and disarmament of Germany, the Allies decided to abolish the SS; the SA; the SD, the Gestapo; the air, land, and naval forces; and organizations, staffs, and institutions that were in charge of keeping alive the military tradition in Germany. Concerning the democratization of Germany, the "Big Three" thought it to be of great importance for the Nazi Party and its affiliated organizations to be destroyed. Thus, the Allies would prevent all Nazi activity and prepare for the reconstruction of German political life in a democratic state.[21]

19450717: The Potsdam Conference (German: Potsdamer Konferenz) was held at Potsdam in the Soviet occupation zone from July 17 to August 2, 1945, to allow the three leading Allies to plan the postwar peace, while avoiding the mistakes of the Paris Peace Conference of 1919. The participants were the Soviet Union, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

19450721: Patton statement As with Prague, Patton's request to secure Berlin was denied. Sadly, after Patton finally reached the ravaged city, he wrote his wife on July 21, 1945, "for the first week after they took it (Berlin), all women who ran were shot and those who did not were raped. I could have taken it (instead of the Soviets) had I been allowed."

194508: Hans 25 August 1945 poster and expulsion

194509: 2September1945: WWII ended in Pacific theater also, WWII end complete

194509: End of WW II September 2 for Pacific theater (now end of all of WWII)

19450902: 2September1945: WWII ended in Pacific theater also, WWII end complete

19451010: Nazi Party. Following the military defeat of Germany in World War II, the party was declared illegal on 10 October 1945.[24] The Allies attempted to purge German society of Nazi elements in a process known as denazification. Several top leaders were tried and found guilty of crimes against humanity in the Nuremberg trials, and executed. The use of symbols associated with the party is still outlawed in many European countries, including Germany and Austria.

1945-1949: In der Britischen Besatzungszone May 1945-May1949

1946: Term Iron Curtain is used to describe divide between USSR and Europe

1947-1948 Morgenthau plan was in effect, but never approved by US or UK

194804: 3Apr1948 Marshall plan was modelled after the rebuilt of the US south after the Civil war. Rebuild enemy instead of make enemy pay retribution, like after WW one.

1949: Der Bundesrepublik Deutschland (May1949-)

195604: 5Apr1956 "A sentence of death can be imposed on any German who wears a German military uniform according to a revised ordinance issued by the Allied control commission. The ban on uniforms has not been strictly enforced so far because it was

often the only clothes discharged soldiers had to wear. In the future it will be enforced more strictly."

1961: Berlin wall and other sections are erected to define the Iron Curtain.

### **Hans Tales pre 1958**

DT1185: Hans. Family The beginning or base of the trees are slightly different. The Schweinitz family either started in 1185 or 1350 or between or before. All six versions of the Family tree have a base. But they do not all start the same. What is common to all six is that the family started with Hans (or Hanke, or Haucke or Hauke) in 1350.

DT1210: Hans. In the middle of a jungle swamp area, the first documented settlement took place here around 1210. The venerable building was built on a grid of huge oak piles by the provincial governor Count von Nostitz. When it is unknown. From this it passed to a Baron von Sack

DT1290: Hans Family. Early family name "Suentexas" mentioned in documentation. Came into Silesia area over 600 years ago as settlers. Eventually name became "Schweidnitz" and grew to over 160 estates in Silesia. Land was fallow and had to be cleared. Over time built churches in Seifersdorf, Friedenskirche in Jauer, and in Schweidnitz. Silesia sometimes belonged to Prussia, sometimes Poland, sometimes to Bohemia and Austria, and sometimes to Germany.

DT1350: Hans. The beginning or base of the trees are slightly different. The Schweinitz family either started in 1185 or 1350 or between or before. All six versions of the Family tree have a base. But they do not all start the same. What is common to all six is that the family started with Hans (or Hanke, or Haucke or Hauke) in 1350.

DT1688-1772: Hans. Anna Maria von Sack married Ludwig von Schweinitz, and through this marriage Alt Raudten went from the von Sack family into the Klein Krichen branch of the von Schweinitz Family.

DT1776: Alt Raudten In 1776 it came to Rath von Schweinitz by inheritance contract and has remained in the von Schweinitz family since then. Alt Raudten Castle in the Steinau district was built in the 18th century by the then governor, Count von Nostitz. Our sheet shows the garden side; a large terrace fills the square between the central building and the two short side wings. The two-story house is structured by pilasters, which are set off from the wall in light-colored plaster. A wide staircase opens between the balustrades to the garden. The creator of the garden and its water features is in the style of Nostitz, and was created by the owner Baron von Sack. Since he was married to a von Schweinitz, the property came to the Privy Council of Schweinitz in 1776 by inheritance contract and remained in the hands of this family until Hans Wilhelm von Schweinitz. He was the last squire and was expelled in 1945. At that time the castle remained undestroyed. Nothing is known about its continued use and its current condition.

DT1776: Hans. Alt Raudten became part of the von Schweinitz family by inheritance to Ludwig "Rath" von Schweinitz (1723-1786). The garden laid out here by Baron von Sack and its venerable, old trees, cascades and fountains will certainly be carefully cared for and preserved by the piety of the subsequent owners at all times. The 56-acre park was famous and a must see. According to the French pattern, it was hewn out of the jungle and ended at the more than 1000-year-old grandmother's oak, which still had green branches until 1945, but still today? Favored by the marshy jungle soil, a tree growth

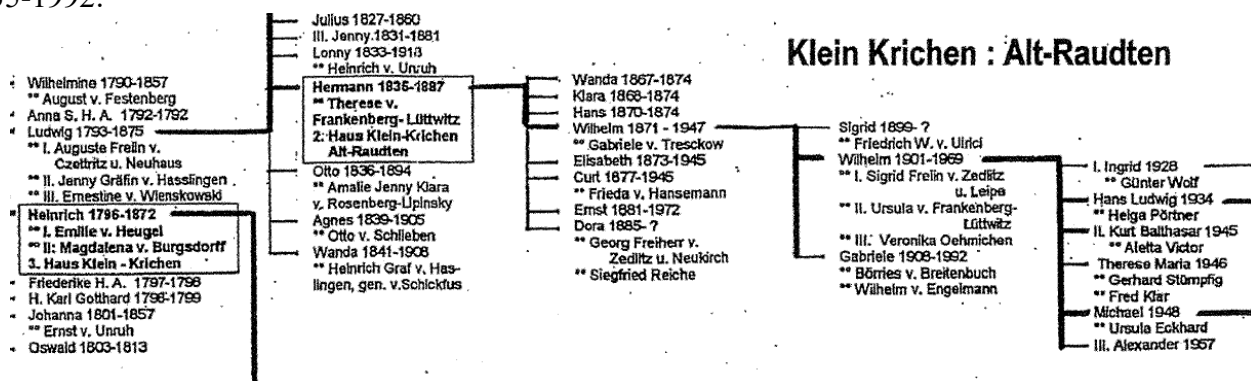
thrived here, as seldom; an avenue of spruce trees over 40 meters high, some of 11 solid meters, gave the impression of being in a cathedral.

DT1790-1875: Hans. Between 1790-1875, the Klein Krichen branch was divided into three branches, one being Alt Raudten.

DT1835: Hans belongs to the Alt Raudten branch of the Schweinitz family tree. The estate of Alt Raudten joined the von Schweinitz family with Hermann von Schweinitz sometime between 1835 to 1887.

DT1835: Hans. The Alt Raudten branch of the Klein Krichen main branch began with the second born son of Ludwig von Schweinitz (1790-1875), "Hermann" Hans von Schweinitz (1835-1887). Herman was the first son to born at Bielwiese on 13 August 1835 and died at Alt Raudten on 8 October 1887. Still need to research how Herman Hans received the estate of Alt Raudten and when. Hermann's first born son, Hans Hermann Heinrich "Wilhelm" von Schweinitz was born 17 March 1871 in Bielwiese and died on 22 June 1947 in Wiesbaden. "Wilhelm" inherited Alt Raudten from his dad "Hermann". On 1 October 1897, "Wilhelm" married Gariele von Tresckow (Born 4 March 1875, died 11 November 1962) and later passed the estate on to his first born son "Hans" Wilhelm Hermann Egon Tassilo von Schweinitz born 21 December 1901 in Alt Raudten and died 18 January 1969 in Wiesbaden. On 7 July 1927 "Hans" married Sigrid Freiin von Zedlitz und Leipe (born 12 February 1902, died 3 September 1942) and on 26 October 1934 they had "Hans" Ludwig von Schweinitz (died 2015 in USA). In January 1945 the von Schweinitz family had to flee and abandon Alt Raudten. At that time the family included: "Hans" Ludwig (11 years old), Vater "Hans" Wilhelm Hermann Egon Tassilo, Mutti Sigrid had died in 1942, GrandPapa Hans "Hermann" Heinrich Wilhelm, GrandMutti Gabriele v. Trisckow, and many other aunts and uncles.

DT1835-1992:



DT1841: Hans and Helga found a poster that is a chart of the 112 Silesian Nobles as of 14 September 1841. The complete poster is in the last section of this booklet. The Schweinitz Coat of Arms is located on chart, third to the right of the eagle. The caption on the bottom of the chart is "Abbildung des, ihrer Majestaet der Koenigin Elisabeth von Preussen, von 112 Schlesischien edelfrauen am 14 September 1841 zu Breslau, allerunterthaenigst ueberreichten wappenteppichs." Illustration of the her Majesty the Queen Elisabeth of Prussia, of 112 Silesian nobles on September 14th, 1841 in Breslau, as depicted on Coat of Arms."

The banner under the Schweinitz Coat of Arms states "Er ist unsere hülfe und Schild" which means "He is our help and shield". It is from the bible Psalm 33:20-22

DT1919: Hans, in August. In August 1919, at the beginning of the Weimar Republic (1919-

1933), Germany's first democratic constitution officially abolished royalty and nobility, and the respective legal privileges and immunities appertaining to an individual, a family or any heirs, but most were able to keep at least some of their estates, including castles, forests and large stretches of agricultural land. Former hereditary titles are permitted as part of the surname (e.g., the aristocratic particles von and zu), and these surnames can then be inherited by a person's children.

DT1920: Hans. At the end of the 1920s, as a result of the world crisis, the von Schweinitz estate decreased significantly.

DT1933: Hans 00:13:35 Speaker 2(Aditi): So what did the family do in between the years that they lost the estate and repurchased it?

00:13:47 Speaker 1(Hans): My father had a pretty good training. University training in in business. He was managing. In other states. He got into investments. Hauling coal on the auto river. He made some money on the stock market. He married money. And then he repurchased the estate family estate in the early 30s.

00:14:30 Speaker 2(Aditi): So would you call him a self-made man?

00:14:38 Speaker 1(Hans): Uh, that's a pretty restrictive name. He had help. Self-made the American definition of self-made is somebody who had did everything of himself. He had help.

00:14:58 Speaker 2(Aditi): What was your father's name?

00:15:01 Speaker 1(Hans): Hans Wilhelm Tassilo.

DT1933: Hans And how did one become to own an estate or to become a land owner? How did your family reach that status?

Usually the way became land owners, they bought land which was called especially some of the swamp areas in Eastern Europe. Which of the before Germany even existed was considered worthless land and they could buy it from they bought it for very little, just like people here in Texas bought land for 20-30 dollars an acre. They bought the land, they came, they. Came from northern Italy and had some money and. They moved as a group. Into that area and bought land, and then they cultivated the land, drained it. It will swamp areas. And made it useful, which was not.

Part of the knowledge of the local people, just like here in Texas, some of the land now is being used. The agriculture was never before used for agriculture. Farming or any other use? So they had the knowledge and they took advantage of the knowledge and established themselves, found 3-4 hundred years. So we're very well off, always supported whoever was ruling. Area where the Austrian Hungarian empire. The Prussian empire. And then later on came. The emperors and the Kings, they always supported whoever was the ruler and they supplied. The list of personnel and the and armies, and they gave military support.

DT1933: Hans And the system was set up on the estate that. You could not get a mortgage, you could only live off the net income. In other words, if we deliver, Purdue had no in net income they had, they could not get a loan, it was impossible. Put it at debt on the property.

So what they were doing. When they no longer when they were partying, a lot, loss of knowledge. To efficiently manage. The agriculture and livestock. We would hire somebody, but then. Family members who would party and have hunts. And parties and travel.

Then they would. Lease out the land. Lease it to the government or large corporations

and just collect that money, which of course if large corporations. They don't care. Take care of the land. They go to a single crop. They leach out the land, they don't care well the way.

The owners take care of the land they used for crop rotation. Let the land rest recover.

They don't just plant cut. No, just potatoes or then the land becomes useless after.

DT1933: Hans Any family member allowed to stay, always have a home

DT1933: Hans estate grew potatoes (pig feed and food), sugar beets (cash crop), and corn (animal feed). Corn used whole plant cut up a silage.

DT1933: Hans estate, ground is heavy with iron, water is tinted red.

DT1933: Hans Field with clay, high heat tiles/ceramics later good for superconductors.

DT1933: Hans Fields heavy deep black soil, engines on side, plow on rope/chains. Grew Potatoes, beets, and corn. Corn for animals.

DT1933: Hans Fish pond

DT1933: Hans hill of clay and sand – ceramic, high heat, never minded

DT1933: Hans Self sufficient

DT1933: Hans So they were living off the income of the land they had leased out. And that worked for a while. But then, after the First World War. Through Messiah treaties. They were allowed to take on mortgages again. And get money so their mortgage to land. Eventually they couldn't make the mortgage payments and the property was foreclosed and the family lost the estate, which was later repurchased by my father before my birth in 1934.

DT1933: Hans So when you were growing up, who all lived in your family home?

00:08:22 Speaker 1(Hans): In our home. The system was set up that way that any family member had the right to live in that estate. In other words, if some of the previous generations as a family members moved out. Through marriage and husband died away. Or somebody could move back. It was multi generation and also several members of the families. Frequently moved back because they lost the husband. Or their wives. And they moved back on the estate.

And then when they again, when they were able to. Move away or by themselves property or land and move it away. And also the first born son usually inherited the estate estate. And the other members of the family children, usually the children. Families at that time had. 10 or more children. And the sons. When they were not. Part of the estate. They would become officers in the military. And they remain that way or they go and they became politically active, they became.

DT1933: Hans Who lost estate Opa Wilhelm or grand opa wilhelm?

DT1934-42: Hans Oh, I grew up on a on a family estate. The family was for years very successful in. Cultivating land, which was considered useless. Especially in the. Odor Valley, which was swamp areas. They drained the swamp lands. They were trained in growing crops. And animals, livestock. And instead of having small potatoes, they would or small. Beets, they would grow larger ones. Of course, potatoes didn't come to that area. Till in the 17th, 18th century, before it was primarily corn. And grains growing there and we're very successful.

The farmers became very jealous and that could not compete and so eventually they started to work for these estates. Which the owners were trained in growing their agricultural products using. Planting different types of crops, diversifying, not growing, just one type of crop, but they always have something. Grown like like sugar beets when

there was an overproduction of sugar beets, they would have. Other types of crops, or if there was an overage of of cattle or an overage of uh sheep or.

The result diversified that there were very little affected by droughts or. Crop or single type of income that's so diversified, but they were cash poor. Were totally self-sufficient. Most of these big estates.

DT1934-42: Hans The people in the estate were. Of course it was a was a family. We usually 3-4 generation homes. And then the farm workers were attracted. To work on the estate and on these large estates. Of course they were the supporting. And Craftsman like blacksmith. Whether they're all. Part came under the control of the estate owners. And it attracted more and more of these people who could not. Make a living on their own, but it was a lot of people were business with themselves.

They were not dependent on employment, they were dependent on whatever they were producing. So on the estate, was your family responsible for looking after the people? Yes, very much.

There was no retirement system. There was no Social Security and there was no health care. The family was responsible for them from birth. Till they died, when they became old. They were doing work, whichever they could do. There was no 48 hour week. But they would get allowances. Which called deputat. They would get farm products like they would get a pig. Or they will get so many bushels of potatoes or. They would get enough to get paid very much cash. But there was no retirement system.

There was no pension. All this wasn't established. Till on the Bismarck later on in Europe. And that was 1850 or. Before that, there was no such thing as Social Security or health care, or. So all the medical, all the retirement and everything, they were totally dependent on the estates on their family.

DT1934-45: Hans Stara Rudna used to have its own church, which was a Catholic temple, later an Evangelical one. It was built before 1500 and rebuilt in the early 17th century. Oriented, single-nave with a three-sided separated presbytery. The interior is covered with barrel vaults with lunettes. On the walls preserved tombstones from the early 15th century. It is located on a clear hill, surrounded by the remains of a wall and a still legible cemetery from before 1945. Today, no longer used, it shows the state of preservation. only slightly better than the palace.

DT1934-45: Hans was born in October 1934, into a world of privilege and upper class social standing. He lived with his family in a Manor house big enough to be considered a castle, it even had a moot and drawbridge. In 1934, the Manor house was surrounded by an estate that was then in Silesia portion of Poland. This section of Poland would sometimes become part of the Germany Empire and sometimes become Poland, as history documented. Many famous Germans came from this very region, such as Wernher von Braun, Richard Wagner, and Johann Sebastian Bach. Not only were both his parents in the Manor, but lots of other family members. There were always aunts, uncles, cousins, and grandparents around. There was also a large house staff to care for the family's needs. Hans even had his own nanny. He lived in this environment for the first 11 years of his life, and his experiences influenced his outlook greatly. Especially when he added what happened in his 8th year. His mother died from influenza. Then in his 11th year (early 1945), the whole family was forced out of the manor house with only a few hours warning, and they had to flee West.

T1933: Back gate is arch, Stara Rudna is village, iron in ground, water is "red" due to iron,

- T1933: Hans Downstairs Easy access for children
- T1933: Hans Estate prior 1934
- T1933: Hans Great hall heating for winter parties
- T1933: Hans Kitchens cooking for holidays, extra for village
- T1933: Hans Leave food on serving dish. No real re Fridgeration, leftovers danger
- T1933: Hans Park open to public on Sunday
- T1933: Hans PHoto parlor room in Alt Raudten
- T1933: Hans Pigs and pig breeding
- T1933: Hans potatoes, fields black earth, deep, no tractors, steam engine on side, pullies for plow, hand 24/7 harvest, bomfires
- T1933: Hans size of estate, items from Alt Raudten compendium
- T1933: Hans Sold old oak trees to raise funds
- T1933: Hans Storage in basements below kitchen
- T1933: Hans village, railroad station
- T1933: Hans what are sugar beets
- T1933: park Foot paths marked with stones
- T1933: park paths shape of "Goose claws", massive oaks. Learned about nature, mushrooms, flowers, nuts, etc (Chestnuts)
- T1933: Park. Public would come on Sundays thru black arch enterance.
- T1933: Patio is Terrece, View to water fountain
- T1933: Road used to have cars in middle, trees on edge, then horse carriage way
- T1934: hans born 26 Oct. Father was 33, mother was 32, Ini was 6.
- T1934: Hans was born on October 26, 1934, in Liegnitz, Germany, in the province of Silesia (Schlesien). His father was Hans Wilhelm von Schweinitz, his mother was nee Sigrid Freiin von Zedlitz-und-Leipe. He had a happy childhood living on the ancestral estate Schloss Alt-Raudten, but his mother died when he was eight years old.
- T1934: Hans. On October 26th 1934, joy went through the estate of a wealthy land baron in Silesia; because, his wife had given birth to her first son and the continuation of the family seemed to be secured. I was this boy, who was expected to carry on the tradition and take the responsibility to manage the estate which had been a family possession for over five centuries.
- T1934-1939: tale, the park, the fields and farming, going to church, church choir, fish pond, fish in bathtub, manor house rooms
- T1934-41: Hans had playmate Heinrich. He was from Africa, German colony that was lost because of WWI and the treaty of Versailles. Germany lost all African colonies (six principal) except for German South-West Africa (now Namibia) and lost all areas under German control. In Namibia, only half the settlers were allowed to stay.
- T1934-42: Hans Lots of trips with mother Sigrid
- T1934-42: Hans Playmate from Africa because Germany lost colony
- T1934-42: Hans Relationship with Mother
- T1934-42: Hans Trips with Mother
- T1934-42: Hans Up to the age of 7 years my childhood was happy and carefree with a great amount of freedom to ideas and action.
- T1934-45: Hans 00:14:58 Speaker 2(Aditi): What was your father's name?  
 00:15:01 Speaker 1(Hans): Hans Wilhelm Tassilo.  
 00:15:04 Speaker 2(Aditi): And when and where was he born?

00:15:07 Speaker 1(Hans): He was born same place he was born on the estate. As far as I remember.

00:15:15 Speaker 2(Aditi): And what are your memories of him as when you were growing up? What are your memories of the man he was? What kind of a father was he?

00:15:28 Speaker 1(Hans): He was very strict. And without his. Training and all that. So I would have not succeeded.

00:15:46 Speaker 2(Aditi): Did he spend a lot of time with you?

00:15:51 Speaker 1(Hans): Well, that's relative because we did spend time together after the war, considerable time. Before the war, he was busy managing the estates and I had my weak kids were playing. We're pretty much on our own. The interaction with adults was very. We children were not allowed to dominate adult life.

T1934-45: Hans 00:16:23 Speaker 2(Aditi): What was your mother's name?

00:16:26 Speaker 1(Hans): Secret Ingeborg frying potatoes or glipper?

00:16:33 Speaker 2(Aditi): And when and where was she born?

00:16:40 Speaker 1(Hans): She was born. I have it somewhere. It says it slipped my mind.

00:16:47 Speaker 2(Aditi): OK. Do you remember much about her parents, your grandparents from your mother's side?

00:16:54 Speaker 1(Hans): Oh yes, I used to. They had lived in England. They came back from England. My mother's grandparents. Grandmother was not of nobility. And he left and went to England and lived in England. And then they came back from England. After the nobility was abolished after her First World War. Then he grandfather became very successful in training. Hunting ammunition and also a margarine. And he built another banner house, some not far from US, where we lived.

I knew the grandmother. She was quite well off, she. Was one of the major stockholders in the block. Family is some of them are ceramics. Which later on became famous for missile nose cones.

When she was quite wealthy and I knew her with her very well and I knew my grandfather very well, we used to spend vacations with them.

00:18:30 Speaker 2(Aditi): What sort of a woman was your mother? What sort of relationship did you share with her?

00:18:35 Speaker 1(Hans): A very, very close relationship I would. Always, always bring her flowers and. In a very close relationship with her.

00:18:46 Speaker 2(Aditi): Were there things you did together?

00:18:48 Speaker 1(Hans): Yes, we would travel together.

00:18:54 Speaker 2(Aditi): Where all did you go?

00:18:57 Speaker 1(Hans): Well, we went to. Capital at that time, we went to the Circus Bush circus. There we went to other states. Together we went to. To hunts together and.

00:19:20 Speaker 2(Aditi): Did she hunt?

00:19:23 Speaker 1(Hans): And she was also she was taking care of poultry. She taught me how to cut off the head of the chickens, chop off the head up and let the chickens run around like headless.

00:19:37 Speaker 2(Aditi): You must have been very young at that point.

00:19:40 Speaker 1(Hans): About 4-5 years.

T1934-45: Hans 6<sup>th</sup> december st nicholos, gifts in winter boot, dried fruit, fruit, candy, nuts, small gift



T1934-45: Hans Bedroom on 2nd floor in corner

T1934-45: Hans chestnuts nuts good for ammo in sling shot.

T1934-45: Hans Christmas sparkles

T1934-45: Hans Christmas tree with candles and tinsel

T1934-45: Hans estate park open to public on Sundays. They came in from back entrance arch.

T1934-45: Hans Hans's life experiences are something everyone reads in books about Germany and the horrible wars and atrocities associated with that country. Hans grew up in nobility while living in large manor homes with moats around some of them. While growing up Hans was sent to a boarding school operated by Arians (pre-Hitler Youth). "I had to kneel before Hitler's picture on my knees and promise I would not wet the bed"<sup>8</sup>, Hans told me.

T1934-45: Hans Learning from Opa,

T1934-45: Hans Mother Would you say you were closer to your mother than you were to your father? Did your mother like to cook?

00:19:57 Speaker 1(Hans): Yes, she was in charge. Of all the cooking. All the preservatives, there were no canning at that time. They were preservatives with the jars we would pickle and smoke. And freeze or with packing ice salt. Because of the cold and severe winders in this area, we've always had. Food reserves for sometimes for a year or more. And they would do all these things. Like a cabbage and. Fruit would be put in jars with the rubber band in the rubber around it. Preserved and and honey and. So very little was bought. Most of it was produced on the estates itself. Very few things were bought. If the shoes were made the. Taylors came to the house. Shoes were made. Sweaters were knitted. Then the rule used again. So there was very little purchasing going on. All of us are all self-sufficient, self supporting. And there was still till. The end of the war.

T1934-45: Hans out in fields with farm horses and workers

T1934-45: Hans pig farmers, going around with them

T1934-45: Hans Relationship with father

T1934-45: Hans room was towards the front overlooking the moot and what was the draw bridge. On right upper floor. Crest over front entrance.

T1934-45: Hans Toys in a little box. We had, for example, we had these little blocks you could set together, you know, make different pictures. You had yo-yo. We have sweatshops. Trade Center already out because of the steel for the spring. Was not rarely available, they were usually broke. But we had a lot of homemade choice. How can I explain that? We used to take a piece of wood. And hollowed it out. And then they had this like from a. Bicycle pump that that slide the handle. And we put. Wet it down. Newspaper or something in there? Stuffed it down so that will sit long and stuffed it down to the end. And then the second one behind it and then pumped it and popped out so further. It was kind of a fun thing we used to play with.

00:40:55 Speaker 2(Phillip) Kind of like those cork pop guns that they have now. OK, so homemade pop guns.

00:41:03 Speaker 1(Hans) And then we have slingshots. We use it. We also had. Would love to have them. Practice them. We have marbles.

00:41:18 Speaker 2(Phillip) That's what I was getting ready to ask. If you had marbles. Business I played, I played marbles as a child too.

00:41:21 Speaker 1(Hans) Oh, yeah, that was. We've been playing it a different way, they. They played here in the states.

- 00:41:27 Speaker 2(Phillip) Oh, I'm sure you did.
- 00:41:28 Speaker 1(Hans) A different way we used to have a little shoe box and hole in that is 5. Especially Big Blue marble over this whole. You got one that's flew there, you know, you could collect it and the other collection later you could. Where you have. To get close to it was shoot in. A certain direction. Of course, that was. Slingshots. Let's see what? Bow and the air. We will make ourselves. Of course a.
- 00:42:20 Speaker 3(Helga) Not at that time.
- 00:42:21 Speaker 1(Hans) If we had that ring, we would run in the street after.
- 00:42:26 Speaker 2(Phillip) Oh yeah, is that the one you chased with the OR you? You lead with a stick, OK? Yeah, I know what you're talking about. They they used to, they used to play that in in the 20s, in the in the Chicago well in the 20s, in the states the you'd always see the kids rolling the. The steel ring with.
- 00:42:51 Speaker 1(Hans) That's on the bicycle Rivers reports for the.
- 00:42:54 Speaker 3(Helga) And these little things. That's well around real fast you have.
- 00:42:58 Speaker 2(Phillip) It that would be the top, yeah.
- 00:43:02 Speaker 3(Helga) Yeah, we had that in there. It's something very, very special was if you had a teddy bear because that was an American thing.
- 00:43:12 Speaker 1(Hans) Oh Oh yeah.
- 00:43:12 Speaker 3(Helga) And although a German company style made rocking horse. And all the teddy bears have little. Button in the ear button ear.
- 00:43:24 Speaker 1(Hans) Well, this came after the war. Of the nickis. Like we have up there.
- 00:43:30 Speaker 3(Helga) Or Mickey and Nick Mickey. Yeah, but the Kitty bed, Charlie.
- 00:43:36 Speaker 1(Hans) We have some of these old clothes.
- 00:43:40 Speaker 2(Phillip) Did you have a teddy bear as a child? A rocking horse or a rocking.
- 00:43:47 Speaker 1(Hans) Yeah, parking horse.
- 00:43:49 Speaker 2(Phillip) Rocking horse spring loaded? Or was it the? Just a normal wooden rocking.
- 00:43:56 Speaker 1(Hans) Bicycles. We had a little. Little little car pedal cars. Of course we had building blocks made out of box with building blocks that could build things.
- T1934-45: Hans Toys Tell me some of the things you did for entertainment games you played.
- 00:22:55 Speaker 1(Hans): Well, we didn't have uh uh. Nintendo or that that then sure, one of the most prized toys we had was. A pocket knife. And a long string. And that was about it, that the toys I had would fit in the shoebox.
- 00:23:24 Speaker 2(Aditi): And how did those three things get you into trouble?
- 00:23:29 Speaker 1(Hans): Of multiple troubles we would we would chalk or something we would use with hopscotch, we play. Strings, we we would you know. The slingshots we use to harass the girls. Take a tomato and shoot it on their \*\*\*\*. Take them jump.
- 00:24:00 Speaker 2(Aditi): Would they tell on you? Would they tell on you to their mothers?
- 00:24:04 Speaker 1(Hans): What good would that do? The parents are not interfere with the kids problem we had. Establish our own. Authority or pecking order.
- T1934-45: Hans toys, string and piece of wood, making own toys
- T1934-45: Hans walking in woods with stories

T1934-45: Hans walks through the park, over bridges, follies (diane), paths shape of “Goose claws”, massive oaks and Chestnut trees. Learned about nature, mushrooms, flowers, nuts and trees. Footpaths markers were made of stone.

T1934-45: Hans was there a sick room in manor house

T1934-45: Hans Were they friends of the family? Were there people on the estate?

00:24:29 Speaker 1(Hans): I was very much restricted. I was actually not allowed to play. With the children of the farmhands.

00:24:38 Speaker 2(Aditi): And why is that?

00:24:39 Speaker 1(Hans): Well, there was a separation of. The Society I always had playmates. Which would be. Uh, living on the estate sometimes where children from the cities. Who were evacuated because of the bombing. Raids on the cities.

And then they were my playmate. For a while I had one from. East Africa, there was a colony in East Africa and one of the the East Africa was lost. One of their sons was my playmate for a while.

Then my niece was playmate because her husband, her father, had, uh, committed suicide. Uh, so she was my playmate, so we always had. I always had playmates who lived in the same house. Which we are of the same social. Class, but none of the working class.

T1934-45: Hans Who are the oldest people you can remember in your family when you were growing up?

00:10:22 Speaker 1(Hans): The oldest members. Grandparents, great grandparents.

00:10:33 Speaker 2(Aditi): Was this your father's parents or your mother's parents?

00:10:37 Speaker 1(Hans): On both sides.

00:10:39 Speaker 2(Aditi): Uh-huh. Can you tell me a little bit about your father's parents? What can you remember about them? Your father's parents? Your.

00:10:46 Speaker 1(Hans): Grandparents oh, I knew my father's parents very well. I was very close to my grandfather, my father's father, very close to him. He's the one who. Because of a high living standard, he had maintained his my grandmother had uh grown up on a lower court. And she was used to parties and hunting.

T1934-45: Hans. Anne von Tresckow, cousin, her father was Henning von Tresckow who masterminded the 20 July 1944 assassination plot against Hitler “Valkyrie”. She was at estate for save keeping from 1939 to 1945.

T1934-45: talking walks with stories

T1934-57: Hans Do you have any brothers and sisters?

00:21:44 Speaker 1(Hans): A whole bunch of.

00:21:46 Speaker 2(Aditi): Tell me a little bit about them.

00:21:49 Speaker 1(Hans): Well, I have one sister from the first marriage. I have two brothers and one sister. From the second marriage, my father married my nanny. Also, was his golf colt at Godchild? My mother died in 1942. He, me and my father Raymer in 1944. There were three children.

My half brother. And half sister live in Germany and another half brother lives in South Africa.

00:22:31 Speaker 2(Aditi): And what about your sister?

00:22:33 Speaker 1(Hans): My sister also lives in Germany. My sister from the first marriage.

T1939: Hans had first love at 5 years. Who? Nanny? Got woody, did not know what to do.

T1940: Hans about having appendix age 6

T1940: Hans Delayed schooling until age 7 in 1941

T1940: Hans Hans was to start his schooling in 1940, his sixth year, but he suffered from a burst appendix. In 1940, this was a serious medical condition and because there was no penicillin yet, the recovery was lengthy. Hans did not start his schooling until 1941.

T1940: Hans Who was Nanny during appendicitis

T1940-45: Hans Alter boy and extinguished candles

T1940-45: Hans Sang in choir at church

T1941: Germany (Hitler) had signed a non-aggression agreement with Soviet Union, Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact. On 1 September 1939 Germany invaded Poland, starting World War II. On 17 September, the Soviet Union invaded Eastern Poland, and, as a result, Poland was partitioned among Germany, the Soviet Union and Lithuania. But on 22 June 1941, Operations Barbarossa, Hitler invaded Soviet Union in violation of pact. From 1941 to 1943, the eastern front was centered on Belgorod in the Ukraine with German movement toward Stalingrad. By Aug 1943 to December 1944 the Germans were pushed back and Soviet Union now occupied Lithuania, Ukraine, Hungary, Rumania, and Bulgaria. The Russians were moving fast and were not far from Breslau Poland which was near Alt Raudten. From Jan 1945 to May 1945, the Russian now had "eastern" Germany, Berlin, Poland, East Prussia, Czechoslovakie, and Austria.

T1941: going to school, fall fires in large room, christmas fish in bathtub, christmas lights, xmas tree, gifts

T1941: Hans The estate was in financial difficulty and there was no money for tutors, so Hans went to the local village school. This was difficult for Hans because he was the odd kid. The other kids were all village boys and already had their friendship groups, and Hans was the boy from the Manor house. Stories of Hans' difficulties in school are included in Hans' biography.

T1941-45: Hans And but I did go to public schools, and it was one of the first generations who went to public school. We always had house teachers. And at the age of 10, we still left the homes. And which send to boarding schools? Or cadet schools, military schools, the boys girls went to boarding schools.

00:26:10 Speaker 2(Aditi): So that must have been a big change for you to leave your home and go to school.

00:26:16 Speaker 1(Hans): That was a big change because there were socialists and and. Commons trends and of course a lot of opposition against the wealthy and rich families. So I was, I really had to defend myself against the kids. In the village because they hated the ruling families and the children of the ruling families. So it was an outsider there.

00:26:44 Speaker 2(Aditi): But there must have been other people from your class, that socioeconomic class. In school or no? They were getting house tutored.

00:26:56 Speaker 1(Hans): No, we were the only land owners in that village.

00:26:59 Speaker 2(Aditi): I see. I see.

00:27:00 Speaker 1(Hans): And I was the only boy.

00:27:03 Speaker 2(Aditi): Now, you said traditionally children of your house would be

tutored at home. How did that come to change in your childhood? Why were you sent to school?

00:27:18 Speaker 1(Hans): A I think it was a. An economic thing. Part of the war. That you could no longer afford a house teacher or tutor. Like Butters were no longer we no longer. We had no Butler, but we had three or four house girls. It was, I think, more of an economic thing.

00:28:02 Speaker 2(Aditi): Now, when you were in school, what was it? A1 room, schoolhouse. Or were there different classes, classes for different ages?

00:28:11 Speaker 1(Hans): It was a wonderful room schoolhouse. Eight classes and one. And one the teacher taught all eight classes at the same time.

00:28:24 Speaker 2(Aditi): So how Young was the youngest child at that point?

00:28:27 Speaker 1(Hans): We started school at the age of 6.

00:28:30 Speaker 2(Aditi): And the oldest.

00:28:32 Speaker 1(Hans): The oldest you know the figure 14.

00:28:35 Speaker 2(Aditi): And everyone was in the same class learning the same thing.

00:28:39 Speaker 1(Hans): Yes, not the same thing you see, there were.

00:28:41 Speaker 2(Aditi): OK.

00:28:43 Speaker 1(Hans): The teachers were trained in such a way that they. See the way the schools were structured at that time. You had four years of grammar school. And then you started high school. After the first four years, which was usually when we enter into into a boarding school now in the villages, you had eight two. Grammar school, which was at a high school, was first eight years. If you did not switch it at 4th grade, it couldn't switch anymore.

You didn't have any foreign languages, you just learned the basics. So that's the basic schooling and that's what was in the villages. The high schools were only. Available in the cities and boarding schools.

00:29:43 Speaker 2(Aditi): So what was your favorite subject in school? Was that unusual? Not many children like mathematics.

00:29:56 Speaker 1(Hans): Well, it was very much supported because your seating order in the school was established by how fast you learned the. Multiplication tables and the divisions we had only two or three hours of school, restless homework. Two students were on their own and then free to play that they have to make the homework.

A lot of it was committed to memory. We had to a lot of things we had to memorize poems, songs. The education system was extremely solid.

00:30:40 Speaker 2(Aditi): So how did you? Being the sort of unpopular child in school because you were. Of a higher class? How did you deal with that?

00:30:55 Speaker 1(Hans): It was extremely difficult because I'd had to sneak my way home. I was chased. With the children and made the fun out of it to chase me. Home from school. I found ways to establish myself. Like if I catch them along, you know, go after them or. I started to develop all kinds of tricks. Like they found their coat in the toilet where they found their pockets. Full of dog ship \*\*\*\*\*.

I've developed all kinds of tricks to get even with them. So eventually they laid off. And then eventually I would make friends with the biggest bully who usually was the most stupid and did his homework. So he went to bat for me.

00:32:10 Speaker 2(Aditi): Are you in touch with any of these childhood friends?

00:32:13 Speaker 1(Hans): Now then, most of them passed away. And no, I have one

friend I've known for over 50 years, but none of my went to school with none of them. Because they're all are scattered all over the world. After the war.

00:32:34 Speaker 2(Aditi): How did you get to and from school? Walk was there. You walk and what?

00:32:41 Speaker 1(Hans): Running running because the other kids were chasing me. Made fun of her.

00:32:48 Speaker 2(Aditi): And what distance was it?

00:32:54 Speaker 1(Hans): Maybe a mile.

T1941-45: Hans Anne was relation to Henning von Tresckow. By September 1941, he was disillusioned with Nazi and Hitler and was in contact with opposition groups, planning to overthrow the government (coup) and remove/eliminate Hitler. Tresckow was Chief of Staff of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Army. He masterminded the 1943 March and 1944 July attempts against Hitler.

T1941-45: Hans Bought friendship with candy

T1941-45: Hans Glued teachers trousers

T1941-45: Hans hunting parties and other activities on estate

T1941-45: Hans in public school in village

T1941-45: Hans Teased in school

T1941-45: Hans Train stone

T1941-45: Hans While growing up Hans was sent to a boarding school operated by Arians (pre-Hitler Youth). "I had to kneel before Hitler's picture on my knees and promise I would not wet the bed"<sup>8</sup>, Hans told me.

T1942: Hans ABOUT Mother Sigrid died 3 September 1942 of Diphtheria

T1942: Hans could only get attention by playing sick

T1942: Hans Diphtheria also contracted but survived

T1942: Hans diphtheria Vaccine available but not distributed

T1942: Hans diphtheria Why so bad in Germany

T1942: Hans diphtheria

The most interesting changes occurred in Germany, where diphtheria was endemic before World War II and where an alarming rise in the incidence of diphtheria was seen beginning in 1941 (194 table 2 ). Frequent references were made to the spread of malignant diphtheria in Germany in the early 1940s, the course of which was so rapid that 194 serum therapy, even at a very early stage of disease development, had no effect [53,58]. Unexpectedly, the proportion of adult patients rose concomitantly with the overall rise in diphtheria incidence (table 3). In 1942, about 237,037 died. Furthermore, among all diphtheria deaths reported, those involving adults also increased (from 12% in 1939 to 48% in 1943) [19460]. On the other hand, increasing enrollment in schools, summer camps, and meetings of children, adolescents, and adults from different neighborhoods and social backgrounds probably contributed to wider circulation of *C. diphtheriae* within these age groups. Likewise, migration and displacement of many people during World War II probably enhanced the circulation of diphtheria organisms and contributed to the shift toward more adult cases [15]. In many areas of Germany late in World War II, conditions were far from normal. People were at work during the day and in overcrowded bomb shelters at night. They were under constant stress, which was reinforced by shortages of food, water, and electricity. Some of these conditions enhanced the transmission of infection.

- T1942: Hans Later Anna von Lasso because dad had to commit suicide. Need to verify year or time
- T1942: Hans Then, in fall 1941 [1942?], an epidemic of diphtheria spread through Silesia. I survived, by my mother died from this disease.
- T1942: Hans told by old aunts that he caused his mother's death, Hans brought disease into house
- T1942: Nanny ursula and relationship with Vati
- T1942-44: Hans Was Opa already affair with Ursula before 1942?
- T1942-45: Hans During the following years I was placed under the care of several governesses. The switch to the stiff authoritarian treatment only resulted i the drive to have my caretakers fired or to make them resign. The war (World War II) had very little effect on my life until Russian tanks and guns were firing over our house on a cold January night in 1945.
- T1943-1944: stuttering, teacher's trousers, stone and steam train, Nazi SS confiscating Weapons, Family begins to leave in August 1944, Wedding 15 Oct 1944 Vati to Ursula
- T1944: Hans Came to claim weapons
- T1944: Hans Vati Took guns apart
- T1944: Hans' about Vater married Ursula von Frankenberg-Luttwitz on 15 October 1944. They divorced in 1950. Ursula was born 26 March 1924. My father's second wife gave birth to one girl (Heizi) and two boys (Hemmi, Michael).
- T1944: Operation Valkyrie on 20 July 1944. The plot to assassinate Hitler was on 20 July 1944, the name Operation Valkyrie—originally referring to part of the conspiracy—has become associated with the entire event. In the aftermath and clean up, 7,000 people were arrested and 4,980 were executed. If Lt Col Viktor had been involved, it was a well kept secret from the family. The family story about why Lt Col Viktor was chosen, was because in 1945 he had no wife or children. Any act towards surrender was considered treason by Hitler, and would have resulted in execution. But Hitler's enforcement arm, Gestapo, did not just stop with executing the military Officer, they also executed his wife and children. So being a bachelor, he was probably 'volunteered' for the assignment or he may have willingly taken on the assignment. The family does not know how General von Vietinghoff convinced Lt Col Viktor von Schweinitz. Lt Col Viktor von Schweinitz and others arrived in Caserta Italy on 28 April 1945. From 28-29 April 1945, an unconditional surrender document was drafted. On 29 April 1945, Lt Col Viktor von Schweinitz signed the Instrument of Surrender on behalf of General von Vietinghoff.
- T1944-45: Hans. Some time in late 1944, the Soviet Union began winning against the German Armies. Because the Soviet Union Armies were advancing towards Germany, the estate was quickly going to be between two armies.
- T1945: Damage to manor house caused by Russian building still which blew up, then manor house was scavages.
- T1945: dresden. Inside riding hall. Bericht Report. Horses were stabled there with carriages. Several floors of stables with ramp.
- T1945: dresden. University Dresden, scientist knowledge, russians wanted dresden and knowledge. Dresden was sanctionary city. Russia mislead usa and great Britian to bomb.
- T1945: dresden. Left after first nigh of bombing.
- T1945: Hans 25 August 1945 poster and expulsion

T1945: Hans about Bombing of Dresden in World War II Feb 13, 1945 – Feb 15, 1945

T1945: Hans Advancement of Russian army

T1945: Hans Anyway, they kicked us out of Austria at a certain time limit and over was supposed to take was £20.00 of. Personal belongings and anyway, we got kicked out of Austria. And we went from Austria near a small town South of Munich, OK. And from that part, we stayed there I believe. And then came up. Through the area near Frankfurt to Vespida. In West Germany. And that's where I went through. Finish and then I went to some other places in between I went to. On the on the another home which was run.

T1945: Hans Army on one side of road

T1945: Hans August. 00:38:00 Speaker 2(Aditi): So when you went to Austria, did you have family there?

00:38:04 Speaker 1(Hans): There were relatives there in Austria.

00:38:07 Speaker 2(Aditi): But who kicked you out?

00:38:09 Speaker 1(Hans): Nobody picked us up.

00:38:11 Speaker 2(Aditi): You said you were forced to leave.

00:38:14 Speaker 1(Hans): Yes, the Austrian will send us a paper hanger. Hitler was an Austrian originally. The Austrian kicked all Germans out. In 45. They restricted us to 20 pounds with my father had bribed people. We came out by truck and had little more. But we lost a lot in Austria when we left Austria. And went to New Munich. Friends of my father, which had in this state outside of music. But the Australian Austria. Sister lived there. So we had contact there. But then we had to leave. We stopped in central Germany. While the Russians were pushing to go to her.

We stopped for a couple of months and I went to a boarding school and then when the Russians moved further in and we continued on to go down to Austria, my father took me out of that boarding school, went to Austria. I had some schooling there and then and was no schooling in Austria.

We went to Bavaria from Austria, Bavaria went to school there. But then again, I went to a boarding school. In the Alps. It stopped off and on and then. Went to when my father moved, the family moved. To near Lee spot near Frankfurt.

I got out of the. Boarding school in. In the Alps. And we went up into. To lease spot and from there again I went to the boarding schools. And Catholic priests and different boarding schools. I have become very honorably. And I had a very good. Boarding schools, good teachers and the nuns were very good.

Some of these. The conditions have become unbearable. Within the family. And then eventually when I got out of grammar school. Finished my grammar school I went to. Couple of years to help my father

And then eventually I went through apprentice and started apprenticeship. I think it was. 15 or 16 when I started apprenticeship as a photographer.

T1945: Hans Dresden and Salzburg. Hans remembers the smell of the burning flesh of over 100,000 civilians and to this day cannot be anywhere around meat that is cooking. They left and traveled south to Salzburg Austria to live with relative and while there he became disruptive because of the atrocities and killings that took place during that time. And in May of 1945 General Patton's Army came into Salzburg Austria.<sup>11</sup> Hans said since Adolph Hitler was from Austria and Austria had voted to support Hitler before the war, his family was kicked out of the country. In Hans' words, "They sent us a paper hanger"<sup>12</sup>, meaning orders to leave the country.



- T1945: Hans Dresden building for horses and carriages, ramp to get to upper level stables.
- T1945: Hans Dresden, they left after first night of bombing, Hans was excited more than scared.
- T1945: Hans Dresden, why did USSR want Dresden, it was a Sanctionary City. Misleading the USA and GB into bombing. University of Dresden, Scientists, knowledge, court, prize
- T1945: Hans Dresden? Fell down cliff, fell into dung heap, fingernails pulled.
- T1945: Hans Echo chamber near front door
- T1945: Hans Echo chamber Opposite near bridge on access road near bridge
- T1945: Hans expulsion From Potsdam agreement ?
- T1945: Hans First towards Berlin with truck
- T1945: Hans Flight January 1945
- T1945: Hans Incident at intersection solved with rifle/gun
- T1945: Hans Ini joined them with her bicycle where?
- T1945: Hans Issue with light horses
- T1945: Hans Jan Fleeing from Russians to Austria, than to Wiesbaden
- T1945: Hans January family went first, by truck towards Berlin
- T1945: Hans January Opa and uncle did not leave until heard Army tanks in echo chamber
- T1945: Hans January Opa and uncle stayed in manor house in underground basements
- T1945: Hans January The war (World War II) had very little effect on my life until Russian tanks and guns were firing over our house on a cold January night in 1945. My father (Hans Wilhelm), whom I hardly knew since he had been either away building the East-wall or he had been occupied with the running of the estate, hastily over-night assembled a convoy of horse drawn-wagons. The following morning our trek of about 600 families joined the millions on the road, fleeing from the Russians. My father had remarried just before we fled
- T1945: Hans Leaving hotel by window and gutter
- T1945: Hans list of towns from albums, Munich, Saalfeld, Dresden, Salzburg
- T1945: Hans Lost finger nails
- T1945: Hans manor house had emergency exits from sub basement.
- T1945: Hans manor house was heavily damaged when stihl that Russian soldiers had, blow up. After that it was scavengers.
- T1945: Hans Map**
- T1945: Hans my only older sister (Ingrid) had joined us also during the following years in which we moved from country to country in Europe. We settled down in Wiesbaden Germany in 1947. By this time our worldly possessions were reduced to the clothing we wore.
- T1945: Hans on hill watching Dresden burn
- T1945: Hans On mountain side then fell down in dung heap
- T1945: Hans Paper hanger- hitler
- T1945: Hans pointing to his room on top floor, photo from 2003
- T1945: Hans Returned to Wiesbaden Germany in the summer of 1945.
- T1945: Hans Russian army in Poland. Flight from the Russians in the winter of 1945 to Austria.
- T1945: Hans see trip with Chris and Mathew for possible flee route.
- T1945: Hans The bombing of Dresden Germany on February 13th and 14th of 1945 was very controversial for its time. There were thousands of civilians who lost their lives fleeing the Russian and German army's. The allies from the West, Churchill and Roosevelt, decided that Stalin was going to be a problem after the war. It was decided that the allies would show the Russians they had the superior military and

they did not care who was in the city of Dresden, the allies were going to drop 3,300 tons of bombs in three waves. So many bombs were dropped at the same time it sucked the oxygen out of the air creating a great firestorm. Buildings and homes were completely destroyed. Bodies lie in the street, flesh burning and there is no way to walk around them to escape.<sup>23</sup>

T1945: Hans The family left the estate near Legnica Poland and fled towards Berlin Germany about 300 Kilometers. They continued to flee and move around the countries until they could finally settle in Wiesbaden West Germany. During this time Hans education was interrupted. Hans would be entered in local schools, if possible. At one time in the 1946/47 school year, Hans was sent to a Children's Home. By the end of the 1946/47 school year, Hans was in a school in Wiesbaden West Germany. The story about this flight (fleeing) is in another compendium about the "Flucht".

T1945: Hans The war was getting close to his family to they decided it best to move toward Berlin in a horse drawn carriage. But before they could arrive in Berlin they were cut off by the Russian army. They began traveling south to Dresden and on February 13, 1945 he and his family got caught up in the bombing of Dresden in which the killing of thousands of civilian's created a firestorm by the allies.<sup>10</sup>

T1945: Hans Then to Salzburg on 24 August 1945

T1945: Hans When with horse drawn wagons, light horses by time in Dresden?

T1945: Hans When, in early 1945, Russian troops rolled into Silesia, the von Schweinitz family, together with millions of other Germans, had to flee. They happened to be on the streets of Dresden when Allied planes dropped phosphor bombs on the crowd, and over 33 000 people burnt to death. The smell haunted Hans all his life.

T1945: Hans which agreement ended the war in Europe

T1945: Hans. Flight/flee. 00:34:02 Speaker 2(Aditi): Well, Felicia, now you said after you had fled, why were you moving?

00:34:09 Speaker 1(Hans): Because the Russians were killing everybody on the way, there were 9 million people being chased by the Russian armies, only six million made it, 3,000,000 were killed. Of the Russian love since Stalin's armies.

00:34:27 Speaker 2(Aditi): And how old were you when you moved? So this was before you finished school? What are your most vivid memories from that period?

00:34:47 Speaker 1(Hans): Air raids, the killing and the air raids. And also the freedom we had to see where children were free. Out of control. Jill Lynette ganged up. We would get into black marketing. And a lot of. The adults couldn't say anything anymore. They had screwed up the country so bad. They either crippled, had lost their arms and legs. Or where in prisoner of war camps. Starved half to death full of holsters. They had lost all respect of the young people and the children of the children. Just like they did in Cambodia.

00:35:41 Speaker 2(Aditi): Now when you left for West Germany, what all did you take with you? What did your family take with you?

00:35:50 Speaker 1(Hans): The only thing we can carry.

00:35:57 Speaker 2(Aditi): And what was that?

00:36:07 Speaker 1(Hans): And Father, father carried some jewelry and a basic jewelry. So if it was gold or jewelry.

- 00:36:14 Speaker 2(Aditi): Was it with the understanding that you would never be able to come back?
- 00:36:22 Speaker 1(Hans): There was always hope that we might be able to go back. I went back many times. When he was under Polish control and the Russian and the communist control before the Iron Curtain came down with all the hope always hope. To go back. We were disowned. We always hoped.
- 00:36:55 Speaker 2(Aditi): Now when you left, did the people on the estate, the farmers and the blacksmiths, did they all leave as well? Did they go with you?
- 00:37:06 Speaker 1(Hans): Yes, some of who did they fled, but there were the death penalty against flee. A lot of them fled. A lot of them committed to use suicide.
- 00:37:22 Speaker 2(Aditi): How did seeing all this at the age of 11 affect you?
- 00:37:30 Speaker 1(Hans): I think it was exciting.
- 00:37:39 Speaker 2(Aditi): When you, when you reached West Germany, what was there waiting for you? Was there anything?
- 00:37:45 Speaker 1(Hans): We didn't go to West Germany, we went, we wanted to go to Berlin 1st and we cut off with the Russian armies. We went down to Austria for. 1st and then we got kicked out of Austria and went to Bavaria and then from Bavaria we went up and we spot in Frankfurt area.
- 00:38:00 Speaker 2(Aditi): So when you went to Austria, did you have family there?
- 00:38:04 Speaker 1(Hans): There were relatives there in Austria.
- T1945: Hans. In 1945, the von Schweinitz family had to flee. When the Soviet soldiers entered the palace through the upper entrance, the whole family went down to the basement. After dark, everyone left the palace, using a passage about which the Red Army soldiers had no idea. No one stopped them, and the local residents, who had lived in harmony with the owners of the palace for years, helped in their escape.
- T1945: Hans. Invasion of the Red Army: Flight and expulsion of the German population: In the Potsdam Agreement, Silesia is placed under Polish administration until a peace treaty is signed. The peace treaty was never signed by the Soviet Union, so the peace treaty was never finalized. Germany surrendered unconditionally and was occupied therefore no "peace treaty" was required.
- T1945: park, back wass had bridge over road. Road was a carriage track. Two hills on either side of road was base of old bridge. Hill across street – Birch trees with white bark-black berries. Hill of clay and sand, high heat ceramic.
- T1945: park, chestnut, sling shot ammo, gathered nuts for winter as deer and pig food
- T1945: park, search for truffles.
- T194501-07: 11-22Jan leaving alt Raudten, 13-15 Feb Dresden Germany, After 13<sup>th</sup> Feb Saalfeld Germany and boarding school. Train to Salzburg Austria, April to July 14<sup>th</sup> Salzburg Austria, May09 end of war in Salzburg, Expulsion 14 July Salzburg to Munichen,
- T19450115: At the end of the 1920s, as a result of the world crisis, the von Schweinitz estate decreased significantly. In 1945, the von Schweinitz family had to flee. When the Soviet soldiers entered the palace through the upper entrance, the whole family went down to the basement. After dark, everyone left the palace, using a passage about which the Red Army soldiers had no idea. No one stopped them, and the local residents, who had lived in harmony with the owners of the palace for years, helped in their escape.
- T194507-194508: 114July to August expulsion, 31 July Hemmi born Munichen, August Niederseeon near Munich,

T194508-194611: Niederseeon near Munich

T1945-1949: Hans in various boarding schools, qty 22

T1945-46: Hans From Salzburg, In 1946 they moved to a small town in the woods just south of Munich for about a year and then moved near Wiesbaden in West Germany.

During this time, he worked as a journeyman and then as an apprenticeship in a photo lab technician at an Army base outside of Wiesbaden. In March of 1945 the airbase was abandoned by the Luftwaffe and was then occupied by advancing American soldiers.<sup>13</sup>

Hans laughingly told me the American soldiers were extremely kind to him and when they would see him, they would stop him and give him chocolate. The black soldiers were particularly friendly. Black soldiers were still segregated and many of them lived with German families and created great relationships with their second families.

T1945-49: Hans From the time I left Silesia until my migration to the USA, I led a very restless life. My father had placed me in several boarding schools during the years from 1945 to 1949. Due to the situation in Germany the schools opened and closed for political or financial reasons, therefore, I changed schools 22 times in those years. I had 8 years of formal school at the age of 15 years and decided to become self-supporting with my father's permission.

T1945-54: Hans Hitler prep school was which one?

T1945-54: Hans School along way, says qty 22

T1945-54: Hans school where Rescued by uncle

T1945-54: Hans Then in his 11th year (early 1945), the whole family was forced out of the manor house with only a few hours warning, and they had to flee West. The flight west changed Hans' world completely. He went from having a staff to take care of his every need, to having to take care of his self. On the day that they had to flee, all the sturdy wagons and heavy horses were out in the field, working. So all their possessions had been loaded onto the only wagon in the barn, the honey wagon (manure wagon), It was pulled by the only harness horses in the barn, high stepping carriage horses. They were trying to make their way to Dresden, which was classified as a sanctuary city. The high strung horse could not take all the commotion caused by the bombings and troop movements. They were constantly spooking and turning the wagon over into the ditch. By the time the family got to Dresden, they were completely shattered emotionally (horses and people), and their possessions were strewn over miles of ditches. No one was watching over Hans, and he was only 11 years old. so, he learned how to survive on the streets. He continue traveling with his family to a town near Wiesbaden Germany. He would spend his days taking on odd jobs so that he could bring food back to feed his family.

T1945-54: Hans Used dumb-waiter to get food at which school

T1946: Hans, his sister Ingrid, his father and his stepmother (nee Ursula von Frankenberg-Luettwitz) eventually settled in a small cottage without water and plumbing in the woods near Wiesbaden. His stepmother gave birth to three children within four years.

T1946: Hans. Ini made a room for herself in bombed out house

T194611-195007: Wiesbaden, Fischsucht and Hotel

T1946-47: Hans For the 1946/47 school year starting in 9 July 1946, Hans was placed in a Children's Home in Bavaria. Kinderheim Vorderhindelang in

### Bayerischen Allgäu – Fernruf: Hindelang

T1946-47: Hans Part was with my family, but then the part that was the problem was my family lived way up in the woods. Most of the cities were in ruins, was very difficult to find living places. My family lived in a small house. Up in the mountains.

00:24:54 Speaker 2(Phillip): And this was white, white and what, what year was that?

00:24:55 Speaker 1(Hans): 46-47 OK and then. I started apprenticeship I think. The partnership in responding to the exam as the journeyman then worked as a photographer. And photo lab. Yes, and I was. But then I went through. Place outside of his pardon? Kaiserslautern with Big Army bases. And I worked in a photo lab which worked for the.

T1946-49: Hans Once settled in Wiesbaden West Germany, Hans continued his education but based on his grades and comments, Hans was in full rebellion. But eventually in March 1949 he graduated from the 8th grade Volksschule. This is the minimum schooling that is required in Germany.

T1946-50: Hans I was heavily involved in black marketing. Because there was a shortage of everything.

00:11:45 Speaker 2(Phillip) At what age? What kind of? Things were you.

00:11:54 Speaker 1(Hans) I was selling, I was getting light bulbs from the Russians. I was getting homes.

00:12:00 Speaker 2(Phillip) Come Combs, comb your hair Combs.

00:12:03 Speaker 1(Hans) Hair Combs and I had silver nylon stockings. These were my best. Trading goods I.

00:12:19 Speaker 2(Phillip) Had so you were a 12 year old entrepreneur then?

00:12:23 Speaker 1(Hans) Oh yes, I had money coming out of my ears. But the money wasn't worth very much.

T1946-50: Hans In 8th grade, bad report, suddenly get certificate of completion

T1946-57: Hans Fischzucht

T1946-57: Hans Han's situation did not have a promising outlook during these times and good jobs for the future were not to be found in Germany. Hans said, "With my name I was expected to be a high school student, which I wasn't; I was expected to have a certain amount of wealth, which I didn't have."<sup>14</sup> He and his sister found an old bombed out building and built it so that it was livable. He had heard that the Lutheran Federation was taking applications from German citizens who had trades and wanted to go to America for a better future. The Lutheran Federation found sponsors in America for immigrants who had trades and these sponsors would have jobs available for them once they arrived. The Lutheran Federation found a sponsor for Hans in Chicago Illinois to work in the area of photography.<sup>15</sup>

T1946-57: Hans Hotel Tamara

T1947: Hans by 26 September 1947, he was in Städt Realgymnasium in Wiesbaden. He had missed 88 days of school 'due to sickness'.

T1947: Hans We settled down in Wiesbaden Germany in 1947. By this time our worldly possessions were reduced to the clothing we wore. My father's second wife gave birth to one girl (Heizi) and two boys (Hemmi, Michael).

T1947-48: Hans school year transferred to Oberschule für Jungen an der Oranienstr for 5th grade. Wiesbaden. Most of his grades were 'not without blame', 'inadequate' and

Despite repeated discipline he shows no signs of improving his work or behavior.

T1947-57: Hans swim meet

T1949: Hans by March 1949 all his grades were “gut” from the Peril Volksschule in Sobernheim. Somehow, in one year, Hans completed three years of education and received his Volksschule Diploma. (Schulentlassungszeugnis von 15 March 1949 = School Leaving Certificate) The pupil took part in the lessons of the 8th year in the last year and will be released today with the following certificate for completing compulsory elementary school.

T1950: Hans I started apprenticeship when I was. I missed about a year and a half of school during the confusion after the war and traveling. Then move together with my sister. We went in an old farm dock building and rebuilt one of the rooms, some of it the. Bricks which were there. And then started working as a journeyman. There was number hope even to. Accumulate enough finances or something on a motorcycle level at a moppet. 11 with the little. There was no hope of ever. Getting married or having a family or something And we were it was pretty wild years.

T1950: Hans In May 1950, Hans began an apprenticeship in Photography. This apprenticeship lasted 2 years and also included tutoring in other basic subjects, such as mathematics, geography, history, composition, and others. Hans apprenticeship is included in another compendium “Fotolaborant 1950-1952”. After the apprenticeship Hans worked as a photographer in Germany until March of 1957.

T1950: Hans My father married a third time, after his second wife had left him to join her father who had a farm in South-west Africa. A son (Alexander) was born to his third wife, who lives with his mother in Italy now.

T1950: Hans. At the age of 14, Hans, all by himself, moved to Wiesbaden and completed a three-year apprenticeship as photographer and photo lab specialist. He worked in that field in Germany until he was 23 years old. His pay as an apprentice was so low, that he often had to go hungry.

T1950: in 8<sup>th</sup> grade, bad report, suddenly get certificate of completion and goes into apprenticeship photography.

T1950: vati and Ulla divorce. Ulla goes to father in South Africa with Hemmi. Leaves behind Heise and Michi.

T195007-195205: foto laboranten lehring apprentice

T1950-57: Hans And then eventually I went through apprentice and started apprenticeship. I think it was. 15 or 16 when I started apprenticeship as a photographer.

00:42:04 Speaker 2(Aditi): And who did you apprentice with?

00:42:07 Speaker 1(Hans): My sister got me the apprenticeship when I lived with my sister then. But then my father's. Her stepmother took off, went to Africa, took the oldest son with them. And my sister moved. Back in with my father to help him and I will move. Back with her. But then the conditions. Became very difficult between my sister and my father and her boyfriend, so she moved. She had to move back into town because she was also. A A photographer and had to earn a living.

I stayed with my father and eventually eventually moved out and moved on my own too.

- 00:42:54 Speaker 2(Aditi): So how long was your apprenticeship period? Years. Two years. And what did he do after that?
- 00:43:02 Speaker 1(Hans): After this, the work continued to work as a in photography.
- 00:43:07 Speaker 2(Aditi): Did you get a job?
- 00:43:09 Speaker 1(Hans): Well, as an apprentice you average job.
- 00:43:12 Speaker 2(Aditi): But after the apprenticeship.
- 00:43:13 Speaker 1(Hans): After the partnership, yes, I got jobs, so they're going to work for the motion Picture company and and they did various jobs and I started. Uh to be. Photography photographer going around on in restaurants at Carnival and. Had to actually do little jobs. You know, I had a regular job and also was going around on weekends taking pictures of people and selling their pictures. And then eventually I came to the United States.
- 00:43:49 Speaker 2(Aditi): Before we get into that, what was the motion picture that you were taking pictures of?
- 00:43:54 Speaker 1(Hans): I wasn't taking pictures of, I was a Courier and a comparison and made a stand in the picture was with Martin Luther, not Martin Luther King with Martin Luther. Split away from the Catholic Church.
- T1950-57: Hans I had 8 years of formal school at the age of 15 years and decided to become self-supporting with my father's permission. After two years of apprenticeship as a photographer in 1952 in Wiesbaden I passed the examinations. From apprenticeship I went to work for an AGFA color processing lab. In 1957 I had progressed to a foreman in a photo finishing plant, however, my income was insufficient to provide a home or to support a wife and children at a level I considered acceptable. My greatest desire was to start a family and to have a home. I decided to increase my opportunities by immigrating to the USA.
- T1950-57: Hans When he was 14 years old, he took on an photography apprenticeship. Hans tried to begin his own photography business, but family members nearby would not help with financing. They believed that it was best that he shoulder the responsibility of a business on his own. When he tried to go to a bank and ask for financing, he was rejected. Because of the remains of the class system in Germany, the banks believed that anybody born into the privilege class automatically had access to money and did not need a loan. He was stuck. First he tried to go to Australia, but because he was still under the age of 21, he needed his Father's permission. His Father refused. When Hans became 21, he applied for visa to United States. And emigrated in 1957.
- T195205-195606: Fotolaborant
- T1952-57: Hans 1953 – 1957 Location: Gruenstadt, Germany Position: Custom Printer and Copier, later in Full Charge of Film Processing
- 1952 – 1953 Location: AFGA Color, Wiesbaden, Germany Position: Custom Color Printer
- 1950 – 1952 Location: Wiesbaden, Germany Position: Apprentice, Still Photographer and Darkroom Man
- T1952-57: Hans ran from girlfriends house back to his apartment room, naked, ran up stairs and left bloody footprints. Girlfriend came to Austin to visit and had a child 3 years older than me. So this probably happened in 1956.
- T1952-57: Hans Wiesbaden Germany 1952. Employed as photographer in Germany until 1957 March. Employed by Central Exchange Photo Finishing Plant, Wiesbaden and

Gruenstadt Germany. Custom Printing and Photo copying. Full charge of film processing department.

T1954-57: Hans friend Bye-Bye

T1954-57: Hans girlfriends from Opel house and many more

T1954-57: Hans houses in rubble and could not remove bricks, rebuild for Herr Hubachs

T1954-57: Hans tours and trips

T1955: Summer trip to Italy. This is a photo compendium of Hans von Schweinitz trip by Moped in the summer of 1955. With some friends, Hans traveled from Grünstadt (near Wiesbaden) West Germany to Italy. He left Grünstadt and traveled through the southern part of West Germany. He crossed into Switzerland at Basel and crossed the Alps by going through Airolo, Locarno, and Bellinzona. He entered Italy at Como, then went Milano. From there Hans went to Genoa on the west coast. He then traveled down the coast to Viareggio. There he spent time on the beach. Hans was never short of girls, and he quickly meet Ruth, who was on vacation from Zurich. This album ends with a letter from Ruth. The letter is a "continue as Friends" letter; she wants to return to her boyfriend in Zurich. and change her relationship with Hans to friendship only.

T19550527: Vati's application for compensation for loose of Alt Raudten. According to paragraph 14 of the circular relating to the calculation of damage in the event of damage caused by expulsion from repeated use and services of May 27, 1955, the occurrence of the damage should be taken as basis on January 1, 1945 (January 26, 1945 expulsion of the applicant). At that time, the beneficiaries were 69 and 73 years old respectively. The total amount of the liabilities to be determined separately according to § 12 para. 3 FG is therefore RM 194,003.76

T1956: 5Apr1956 "A sentence of death can be imposed on any German who wears a German military uniform according to a revised ordinance issued by the Allied control commission. The ban on uniforms has not been strictly enforced so far because it was often the only clothes discharged soldiers had to wear. In the future it will be enforced more strictly."

T1956: Hans June Trip to Sportsfestival in Leipzig in "east" Germany

T195607-195703 not a refugee

T195608: leipzig sport fest tales

T195608: Sportfest in Leipzig. This is a photo compendium of Hans von Schweinitz trip to Leipzig, East Germany in August 1956. Hans was a member of the Grünstadt swim team, and they had been invited to a Sports and Turn (Gymnastics) Fest to be held in Leipzig. At that time Leipzig was part of the Deutsch Democratic Republic, DDR or East Germany and was under Soviet control. Hans' long time friend, Bye-Bye, was also on this team and is in some of the photos. Helga had put together a Photo album of all of Hans' photos of this sporting event. There were no captions or notes behind the photos. Any entries added to these photos are from stories that Hans told. The photos have been collected into subjects based on this trip. 1956



August. Trip from Grünstadt (near Wiesbaden) through East Germany to Leipzig and return

T195609: trip to Usedom Insel. This is a photo compendium of Hans von Schweinitz trip to Koserow on Usedom Insel, East Germany in September 1956.

Usedom Insel, in 1956 was on the border of East Germany and Poland. It was part of the Deutsch Democratic Republic DDR. Helga had put together a Photo album of all of Hans' photos from this vacation. There were no captions or notes behind the photos. Any entries added to these photos are from stories that Hans told. The photos have been collected into subjects based on this trip. In September 1956, Hans lived in Grünstadt (just south of Frankfurt), West Germany. Hans took a train to Usedom Insel. On the way to Usedom Insel, Hans and a friend stopped at Leipzig in East Germany to attend an opera. On 11 September 1956 they watched the Opera, Madame Favort at the Leipziger Theater. Then they continued to Usedom Insel and arrived in Koserow on 14 September. Hans stayed in Koserow at Meta Schwank on Vineta Straße 26. Hans spent plenty of time on the beach. He quickly collected several girls. He took them on a sailing boat trip. And they also went to the Salzhütten (Salt production village).

T195612: trip to Hamburg and beginning of emigration to USA

T19561201 Hans In December 1956, Hans-Ludwig took trip that would change his life. He took a train to Hamburg to see the floor show "Bikini" at Jungmühle Galopp Diele. 1956: Hans Hotel Tamara Wiesbaden, Schumannstraße 16

T1956-57: Hans how Opa ran Hotel, each room rented multiple times each night. Made sure that Vera was pregnant first.

T1956-57: Hans Opa had gambling issue. Would take guests to Casino in Wiesbaden. Locals not allowed in Casino except with guests.

T1956-57: Hans Then applied to Lutheran Federation for sponsorship. Was hoping that I get an immigration resort to come to the United States. Did it happen? Yes, it happened.

00:32:21 Speaker 2(Phillip): How long did that take? How long did that process take?

00:32:24 Speaker 1(Hans): The process took not very long actually. I think it took only about three or four months.

T1957: Chicago again

T1957: Hans 00:47:39 Speaker 2(Aditi): What was your first impression when you reached New York? What was your first impression of New York?

00:47:46 Speaker 1(Hans): Oh, it was. I went up to the Empire State Building and. I was very much impressed.

00:47:56 Speaker 2(Aditi): What was your job in New York you said? You were sponsored. Oh.

00:47:59 Speaker 1(Hans): I didn't have a job in New York. I had a job.

00:48:02 Speaker 2(Aditi): OK, so from New York, you went to Chicago?

00:48:04 Speaker 1(Hans): I went that train to Chicago.

00:48:06 Speaker 2(Aditi): Now when you flew from Germany to New York, was it your first time in an airplane? And when you went from New York to Chicago, was it the 1st?

Time in the train.

00:48:20 Speaker 1(Hans): No, no, no. I always travel by train even as a kid alone, without parents, without anyone. Even a six year old. I would travel by train was not unusual for children to travel by train. Or bus by themselves or no school buses that have used public transportation. They visited our relatives.

00:48:45 Speaker 2(Aditi): So what was it that you were going to do in?

00:48:50 Speaker 1(Hans): I was offered. It had supposedly had a job as a photographer there. But it was a very corrupt organ, American aid society, a very corrupt organization they had. Bribe sponsors who got money for it. And my sponsor was supposed to pick me up at the railway station. Never picked me up. Have a place to stay in the place to work and didn't show up, so I just walked the street till I found somebody that spoke German because I didn't speak English And they made some contact with some Germans in Chicago.

Then went out and looked for a job by myself. Because this guy went, I went to him. He told me that I should be glad that he sponsored me, but I should to kind of work. I would be doing shilling would be doing. It would do it in the United States. Also, I was since I was not a member of the. I couldn't get a job. Because in order to join the Union here to have a job for two years of the catch 22.

So I just wonder. Found the German family morning boarding house. And then went out and found it joined the church immediately and found a job through the. Worked in a scientific library as a photostat operator.

T1957: Hans 00:50:13 Speaker 2(Aditi): And how did you said you didn't speak English. How did you learn that? How did you pick that up?

00:50:20 Speaker 1(Hans): Every study, every free minute I had.

00:50:24 Speaker 2(Aditi): In the library.

00:50:27 Speaker 1(Hans): No, everywhere I was, I used to have flash cards one side German ones that English. Then went to night school.

00:50:37 Speaker 2(Aditi): And that's where you finished high school.

00:50:40 Speaker 1(Hans): Never finished high school.

00:50:44 Speaker 2(Aditi): OK.

00:50:47 Speaker 1(Hans): I just took the test.

00:50:49 Speaker 2(Aditi): And you passed.

00:50:52 Speaker 1(Hans): So much for American high school. Who don't know how to add  $1/3$ . And  $1/4$ . Can you do that? No, we learned that in 4th grade.

00:51:11 Speaker 2(Aditi): So how long were you at the library working the photostat machine?

00:51:18 Speaker 1(Hans): 12 to 16 hours a day because they're the work backlog. And then just tried to beat the hell out of me because I was they like. To have their backlog.

And I worked there for. Three or four months. Then I got this higher paid job.

And then I got a draft notice and I left Chicago and went to Florida, get away from the draft that he caught up with me and. Told me that they would deport me if I wouldn't accept the draft. Would have to join the army. I left after about two months and  $1/2$  in Florida. I went back to Chicago, got another job, didn't tell them they didn't know that it was an immigrant. I came under the draft law. Got a well paid job at that time. About 3-3  $1/2$  dollars an hour. It's equivalent of about \$40.00 an hour.

Whether they caught up with me again and but but their time. I took the exam for the

high school to Plumb and I was able to join the Air Force Board. Going into the. Army Air Force was a better deal.

00:52:45 Speaker 2(Aditi): And why is that?

00:52:48 Speaker 1(Hans): You had to have a high school diploma every. Bimbo could go into the drafted into the army and the Air Force offered much better training. Let's bring up better career fields.

T1957: Hans 00:53:07 Speaker 2(Aditi): Do you remember your first day at Air Force training? What did they make you? OK.

00:53:16 Speaker 1(Hans): Lackland Air Force Base. This was still segregated. You could not. Go into a restaurant. During that time here in Austin. That's how it was here. Believe we are not Caucasian. They have differed. Bathrooms. Different schools. Different housing areas on the bus, you had to go into the back. The the military started to become integrated. Roger was already integrated. Right here down San Antonio.

00:54:05 Speaker 2(Aditi): Was there a big German population in San Antonio?

00:54:13 Speaker 1(Hans): There still is. But I had. Not much contact. You know the first years. You only get out on the weekend. For a couple of hours after hours. Class A pass will weekend. And then after I look up through basic training and Lackland, I was. Shipped up to.

T1957: Hans And emigrated in 1957. When he arrived in United States, he was starting fresh. He had everything taken away from him. His mother was dead, he no longer belonged to the privileged class, he had no money, his family rejected him because they thought he was crazy to emigrate, and he did not speak English. He restarted his life from the bottom. This influenced many of actions he would take later in life. He was always ready to help others that were also working their way up from the bottom, or starting new. He sponsored many immigrants, and advised even more.

T1957: Hans Employed by John Crerar Library, Chicago, Illinois. Photostat operator. Reason for leaving: personal betterment.

Huey Company Chicago Illinois. Coating photographic emulsions. Reason for leaving: financial betterment and difficult working conditions.

Keuffler Eusser, Chicago Illinois. Precision photo copying. Reason for leaving: no opportunity of advancement.

Williams Meyer Company Chicago Illinois. Advertising and Industrial Photography. Reason for leaving: drafted into the Armed Forces.

T1957: Hans First he tried to go to Australia, but because he was still under the age of 21, he needed his Father's permission. His Father refused. When Hans became 21, he applied for visa to United States. And emigrated in 1957.

T1957: Hans Hans believes this is the land of opportunity. He says, "They don't pay attention to the titles, people value what you can do and what you do, and if you do well you get paid well."<sup>17</sup> Hans' first impression of the United States was that people were always in a hurry to do something or go somewhere. Everything was money oriented. He would see people standing in long lines to get hot dogs and it seemed he was looking at an assembly line. Hans said the workers in America were very pretentious and said that if there was someone dying in the street no one would stop to help them. He gave an example of one worker talking telling another worker that a relative had passed away and the worker would just pretend to be listening and would just nod their head up and down saying, "Uh Huh, yeah, oh really? Hans does not

like that much because in Europe people will stop working and look you in the eyes and listen to you and your needs. There was real compassion.<sup>18</sup>

Hans learned that the best way to integrate into America was to join a church and they found him a job at a scientific library as a Photostat operator. There was a tremendous work log and he was exceptionally busy making copies for them. Hans was being paid \$1.35 an hour, and that salary was decent for that era and that helped quite a bit since his rent at the boarding house was \$25.00 a month while doubling up in the room with another couple. Hans and his wife remained friends with the boarding house owners for many years.

Hans, being the achiever he is, got into a lot of trouble with the other Photostat operators because he was working so diligently in getting rid of the backlog of work the other workers got mad at him because it made them look bad. He left for another job making blueprint paper. Sometime later his landlord's sister said to him, "Why don't you come with me to Florida and work around the house and drive the car?"<sup>19</sup> The draft office was looking for him about this time and he had no intentions in going to the military so he left for Daytona Beach.

Hans was content with his life in Florida and then the police began showing up telling him he had to go to the draft office or they were going to send him back to Germany. Immigrants had to obtain green cards when they came into America and also had to let the government know if you moved. That made it easy for the authorities to track him so he hopped on a bus and headed back to Chicago. When he arrived, he found a job making precision reproductions of to scale maps and plans and was being paid \$3.50 an hour. And according to Hans that is equivalent in today's market as \$80.00 an hour. The draft board was still chasing him so he decided to take the high school equivalency test so he could get into the Air Force in 1957. He was taken to San Antonio for basic training and was acing all of his tests and everyone thought he was cheating, but Hans was just good at taking tests. Hans laughed at the other soldiers who were having a hard time polishing their shoes and caring for their uniforms, because that sort of thing was second nature to him because of the way he was raised. Hans called himself a "five for sixer". He explained as a "five for sixer" he would loan them \$5.00 and when they paid him back, they paid him \$6.00. He was also running a candy store out of his mattress because those kids could not do without their chocolate. An advantage he had over the others was that he obtained a truck driver's license while in Germany and that gave him more opportunities as far as assignments and was finally given a job driving a gasoline tank truck making less than \$100.00 a month.

T1957: Hans Hans then flew into New York City in 1956 [1957] in what he called a "flying tiger"<sup>16</sup>, meaning a two-prop airplane with twin-engine propellers. He brought with him a book he bought in Germany that had 500 words with flash cards in the English language and \$50.00 to \$100.00. When they landed in New York and then a train to Chicago to meet his sponsor and he did not show up. He did not know anyone and just walked around for a long time trying to find someone who spoke German. He finally found someone and they led him to a boarding house which was run by a German family who housed German immigrants with a rent of \$25.00 a week.

T1957: Hans How did you prepare for your trip here? How did you prepare for your trip here to the states?

00:12:43 Speaker 1(Hans) One thing you could not leave Germany if you had any debt. You have had a. Clearance, you might say, from the police. It had no records.

00:12:58 Speaker 3(Helga) Yeah, everybody in Germany has to be registered.

00:13:01 Speaker 1(Hans) And you had to be registered where you live. You had to have a trade. I wanted to leave Germany, my father, about the needed permission from the parents. You needed a sponsor. I wanted to go to Australia first because they paid for the fare and the they promised the job. And then I wanted to go to South America. We'll go to, we'll go to Columbia.

But then when I've got past 21. I could make my own decisions. I was not dependent on my father's permission and contacted the. American Aid Society, which was Lutheran Federation organ organised to. Try to find sponsors for young. Who had had a afraid.

And I found a sponsor in Chicago. Transferred to America came over to America.

T1957: Hans March arrived in Chicago and worked in various jobs including commercial photographer. Huey Company Chicago Illinois. Coating photographic emulsions. Reason for leaving: financial betterment and difficult working conditions. Keuffler Eusser, Chicago Illinois. Precision photo copying. Reason for leaving: no opportunity of advancement. Williams Meyer Company Chicago Illinois. Advertising and Industrial Photography. Reason for leaving: drafted into the Armed Forces.

T1957: Hans March to October From March 1957 to October 1957 employed as photographer in Chicago.

T1957: Hans Meet Helga and courting

T1957: Hans Now you mentioned that you. Came to the US shortly thereafter. Can you tell me what were the circumstances under which you moved?

00:44:34 Speaker 1(Hans): Well, came to the states in 56 because there was very little opportunity in Germany. I wanted to get married. I wanted to have a it was very difficult to rent even a place. The income was very low. I could barely afford a moped or bicycle. The future did not look very good in Germany, who had 48 hour week I had. The future didn't look.

Very promising, and the United States. Offered a lot of opportunities for people who are willing to work hard.

I wanted to leave. Before I was 21, I wanted. To go ahead and offer to go. The ones that offered to go to Australia. They will pay. The passage should offer jobs. Had to stay two years and then they had to give you an opportunity to go back at that time. I would have needed the permission of my father to leave Germany. I wasn't 21. He didn't give me permit permit.

And had a job offer in Colombia, Bogota, Colombia. To work for as a photographer and my father again wouldn't give me his permission.

As soon as I turned 20, I already started to apply for a sponsor. In the United States. Eventually found a sponsor for the American League. Of American Lutheran World Federation of what it was. I found a sponsor. And was able to come to the United States. Was offered a job. Came to the United States.

00:46:39 Speaker 2(Aditi): Did you fly here or was it by ship?

00:46:42 Speaker 1(Hans): Flew here 3 days. We didn't have jets at that time. It took two days, three days, almost three days to get here.

00:46:55 Speaker 2(Aditi): So where all did you stop? Do you remember?

00:46:57 Speaker 1(Hans): Well, yes, I remember You left from Germany. I went from

Germany, went to Iowa. From Ireland and Iceland. From Iceland you went to uh. Somewhere on some island of Canada. And from there he flew down to New York.

00:47:24 Speaker 2(Aditi): And was it the same group of people from start to finish? Were they mostly migrants?

00:47:33 Speaker 1(Hans): Yes to all about.

T1957: Hans Oct about began basic training for Air Force

T1957: Hans One thing the law said at that time. If an immigrant comes with an immigration visa and has a green card to work, he is subject to. The draft bill. But he cannot become an officer. You know, those were the Lords.

00:44:52 Speaker 1(Hans): You get that? They put me on the big chief, had shipped it down to San Antonio, the basic experience. Tank and put down there. When I got down there, I had everybody's money.

00:45:32 Speaker 2(Phillip): How are you?

00:45:40 Speaker 1(Hans): Go to the basic training there. And I was, I mean, you have what's called the second wind, where people will come to this country. Whatever you know, I have a good memory and I was acing almost every test. They couldn't figure that out.

00:45:59 Speaker 2(Phillip): You had to be cheating, right? That's what they said. He's got to be cheating.

00:46:07 Speaker 1(Hans): Versace, you know, was also up front, you know, marching. And I had a ball. I mean, these are American. My, my, my sons had such a hard time adjusting to washing down the various polishing issues and. I just couldn't stop from laughing. I have the the eyes, you know? They couldn't figure eventually. Never figured it out and. I had another advantage.

Then you know when to select you for a careful I had in Germany, had paid for my own truck drivers license. I could have everything which have more than one wheel. Once we got out of basic training, I was we were. Correct selected for career fields and I wound up putting petroleum, oil and lubricants driving tank trucks. Please fill on aircrafts. And then our stations outside the walk put an air base.

T1957: Hans The Lutheran World Federation or the National Lutheran Council began in 1918 and later responded to post World War I to react to the needs of refugees and immigrants. When the U.S. entered World War II it stopped refugee assistance in obtaining social support. In 1945 another agency, Lutheran World Relief, was created and this group met the widespread needs in post-war Europe. In 1953 Congress passed the Refugee Relief Act, which allowed thousands of expelled ethnic Germans who were escaping East Germany.<sup>22</sup>

T1957: Hans There was humor in almost everything Hans saw or did. For example, when he was going through basic training, he hid chocolate candy bars under his mattress and sold them to the other soldiers because they could not do without their precious chocolate. When the others worked so hard at polishing their shoes or preparing their uniforms Hans laughed at them inside because they were struggling with something that he was doing as a teen. They are all spoiled brats or "Mama's boys" in his mind.

T1957: Hans Well, it was still with he came over with Flying Tiger and they had to come through. Iceland and Newfoundland and Cape Gander and all these places and have been landed in New York. And from the New York, then I took the train to Chicago. We're very inexpensive to flight from Germany, and since that airline. Was transporting these

flights are especially arranged for for people who left? And I think was \$65.

T1957: Hans When the airplane arrived in New York he saw what most arriving immigrants saw and that was the Statue of Liberty. The symbol of American freedom and prosperity. Once can only imagine the happiness in the minds of those arriving to a new life. Hans's first experience as an immigrant in America was not exactly what he expected when he stepped off of the train in Chicago. Imagine, as an American, being dropped off in the middle of Germany, not knowing the language, and trying to find a place to eat or sleep. Hans wondered the streets of Chicago until he found one person who spoke German and that led him to the boarding house.

T1957: Hans Where were we? Oh yeah, I joined the church. The church helped me to get a job with a scientific library as a photostat operator. We've scientists would cut scientists, library scientists would cover the unmarking the books with which pages they want copied. It has started working. They had a tremendous work log. Made the copies there. They paid me. It was. \$1.35 or something an hour which was. It was pretty good for me. I had a. Especially since I had a little report for around \$25 as I don't remember exactly. He doubled up in her room.

00:40:19 Speaker 3(Helga): But the German immigrant couple stayed. Immigrants because they spoke German.

00:40:26 Speaker 1(Hans): And we, we stayed friends for many, many years. I worked there, but I was. Or he get into trouble because I took care of the backlog and the the other workers didn't like them.

And so I got another job doing. Making a blueprint paper. You know what that is? Coating the emulsions, of course, that was. These huge rolls, which had to be cut and the drying rooms the motion had to be. Coated and had.

My landlady's sister offered me, said. Why don't you come with me? To Florida drive down there and help me. Of the house. Drive the car. All of it. So I went to Daytona Beach, drove her down there. Took care of some of her household matters and so far and around. But at this time the. Draft office already?

Had a fingers on me, you know, I had to register, right? I had no intention whatsoever to go. Go into the military. You also had what's called the hidden card you had just to let them know. Where you at? And in Florida, I was happy at Daytona Beach, you know where they had the race. And the girlfriends there anyway, was happy. Happy there but. Police start showing up. You got to go to the office. You don't show up, we send you back. Yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah. I'll be, yeah, I'll be there on the bus.

It got the real job. It was that I wasn't making. \$3.50 an. It's like you know how much it is equivalent to today's money, 80. Dollars an hour.

00:43:21 Speaker 2(Phillip): What were you doing for \$3.50? Cents a month.

00:43:23 Speaker 1(Hans): I was doing precision reproductions. To scale precision. Reproductions of maps. Two scale exactly. Of plans and stuff like that. And it was. Then of course they got a hold of me again. I said I don't want to go in. I don't want to hold the army.

So I went ahead and took. The high school equivalency test. You needed to have a high school equivalency get into the Air Force past it.

T1957: In 1957, Hans immigrated to the United States and was soon drafted, although he was still a German citizen and could barely speak English. He joined the US Air Force and served honorably for 20 years, retiring as SMSgt. He became a US citizen in 1961. He

earned a B.S. Degree with Honor in Mathematics from Auburn University.

T1957: In March 1957 I arrived in Chicago without a knowledge of the English language, but with \$50 and the desire to work, hard. Within six month I had learned the language in night school and my income had risen to about \$200 a week as a commercial photographer. In October 1957 the draft law required me to serve in the army or join any other branch of the service. I joined the Air Force. From basic training in Lackland AFB (San Antonio Texas) I went to Mitchell Field Wisconsin to be trained in aircraft refueling. In Milwaukee I met my wife (soon to be wife, Helga Pörtner) who had also immigrated from Germany. We married in November 1958. Mitchell Field was deactivated two months later and I was reassigned to Rheine Main AFB Germany. During the 4 years in Germany our daughter (Bettina) was born and I became a US citizen.

T1957: Summer Florida

T195703: left for USA

T19570301: Hans immigration tale about church sponsor and flight, new york city, Chicago, etc

T19570303 Hans with Mr & Mrs Schott in Chicago 1957 Summer

T195703-summer: Chicago

T19570601 Hans travels around US, including PA, Tenn, FL Daytona Florida. There he stayed with Mr and Mrs Westkamp. Hans became their chauffeur and general helper, while he learned English

T195710 to 195801: AF basic training Lackland AFB San Antonio

T19571001: Oct 1957 entered AF, Lackland AFB basic training.

T19571018 -196211xx: Hans Aviation Fuels Specialist

T19571018 Hans October 1957 entry in US Air Force. Basic military training. OJT to the 5 level in 64350A Fuels Supply. Assigned to POL (petroleum, oil and lubricants) until 1962. Air Force directed retraining to the Precision Photo Processing Field in 1966. Technical school and OJT in this field and award of the 23490 AFSC (Air Force Specialty Code). Overseas assignments, 4 years in Germany, 3 years in England and 1 year in S.E.A. (South East Asia - Thailand).

T1958: Hans 00:54:48 Speaker 2(Aditi): Tell me where you first laid your eyes on Helga.

00:54:55 Speaker 1(Hans): I was stationed in Milwaukee and. Our pay was very low. And I lived in the YMCA. We didn't have barracks and I will. Was the military. Semi trucks and refueling units at that time and buses. The Air Force. In the military, we would go out in uniform. The city was very friendly towards the military, so if we went out in the uniform on the weekend. You went to a bar, Oregon. So immediately somebody would invite you for a beer or drink or. Something like that.

Also, the churches were putting on. Get togethers with. Soldiers who entered the uniform went there and you got kool-aid and cookies. Whatever was Helga was living at the YWCA and there the girls they were putting on dances. On the weekend, also with kool-aid and caucus up and invited the military there to dance with them because we had a steady income.

So I met Helga, the YWCA, and. I danced with her and she recognized that. I could dance the dance, as most Americans couldn't dance like the waltz or slow wolves. Or TF. And then we got into talking and notice that that was German, that she was German. You know that we started. She was living at the YWCA and and then I. Askers, and we why do we live separately? Why don't we rent an apartment? So we were cohabitating. In



other words, we were rented. We found the place furnished. And rented it. The landlady thought we were married since it was illegal and if I was in the military and I would be cohabitating, I would go to jail.

And they were raiding places ventilators could not rent. The people who were not married, they could not even go to the hotel. And they said proof of marriage. It was the way it was at. In the 50s.

T1958: Hans 00:57:50 Speaker 2(Aditi): So did you both wear? Did you both wear rings?

00:57:56 Speaker 1(Hans): I think we were engaged and it could be that we were. Wearing a ring. I don't know. I don't remember.

00:58:07 Speaker 2(Aditi): So it was. After a while of knowing each other that you decided to live together.

00:58:13 Speaker 1(Hans): It wasn't very long. Maybe a week. I had a girlfriend in Chicago. I was traveling to Chicago all the time.

00:58:27 Speaker 2(Aditi): And what did she think of this?

00:58:31 Speaker 1(Hans): She was, of course, she's thought that she. And be hooked, you know.

00:58:39 Speaker 2(Aditi): Was Helga a good dancer? That first night you went?

00:58:43 Speaker 1(Hans): Yeah, of course, yeah.

00:58:45 Speaker 2(Aditi): Do you know how?

00:58:45 Speaker 1(Hans): She still wants to dance and I can't dance anymore because when one side of her body is paralyzed, you know. Moving on command, she wants to while wants to do it and embarrasses me.

Anyway, so we moved in. And then after. I think it wasn't. And then in. We announced that we were getting married. And invited our landlady to the wedding. She got bendable, won't she?

Office you realize, because we were raided, you know, the police came, somebody had turned it in and came in. And talk to Landley landley through our through police. I said to go next door and of course next door there were also people living in sin.

00:59:57 Speaker 2(Aditi): Did either of your parents come for the wedding? Did either your parents, your parents, or health's parents come for the wedding?

01:00:06 Speaker 1(Hans): Help us friends. So of course. Helgard has her relatives in Milwaukee. But some of my. Nobody from Germany other than my my my friend. I going to. He came down for the wedding, but all. Held us relatives who had also also chairman, had gone to Milwaukee and they all were there. And but I don't think, and my landlady and others, but none of my family had come from. Germany to the wedding.

T1958: Hans 01:00:52 Speaker 2(Aditi): So when did your family meet your wife? For the first time? Like when did your father meet Helga for? The first time.

01:00:58 Speaker 1(Hans): About three months after. Two or three months after we got married, my father had a heart attack. And I got a compassionate reassignment to Germany. So I was. Stationed in in the Frankfurt, Germany, and then Helco joined me a month later.

T1958: Hans GED Hans received at least a 35 in all five tests. Received 36 for Correctness and effectiveness of expression (he had only 1 year to learn to read, write, and speak English), but received 67 for Mathematical ability. In 1974 Hans received a Bachelor's of Science in Mathematics. Hans received this certificate for GED in February 1958

- T1958: Hans Hans was stationed just outside of Milwaukee and was living at a YWCA and he met his wife Helga there. He said the YWCA put on dances and what he called "Kool-Aid and Cookies."<sup>20</sup> The YWCA would invite servicemen to dances with women eagerly standing by waiting for a dance. The lights were turned down low and the music nice and soft to set the mood for romance.
- He told me that things were very different in the Milwaukee 1950's. It was against the law for a man and woman to live together if they were not married. He told me of one instance that while he and Helga were living with a German woman, not married, and there was a knock on the door around 2:00AM. The woman went to the door to find two police officers and they told her they heard a rumor there was an unmarried man and woman living there and asked if it was true. Hans said the woman cursed at them telling them of course not. However, to get the police from her door she told them what they were looking for was next door. It seems one of Hans buddies was living with a woman next door and it seemed the police were satisfied with that information so they went next door and left them alone. He said this was a normal practice of the police during this time.
- T1958: Hans Shortly after Hans and Helga relationship began his father had a heart attack in Wiesbaden Germany and he received a compassionate leave to go there. But before he was allowed to leave the states, he had to pay any and all income taxes that he owed. They left and stayed there 4 years and he later re-enlisted and was transferred to Roswell New Mexico (Walker Air Force Base) in 1962
- T1958: Hans Yeah, she thought we were married and that cohabitation was.
- 01:24:41 Speaker 3(Helga): That was in Milwaukee. It's working. They had police. 2:00 o'clock at night. Between 2:00 and 3:00. And if they hurt at some. People are living together, they are not married. They would knock on the door, front door, 2:00 o'clock or so and handsome eye. We were planning to marry, but it took so long to get the paperwork done in the Air Force and security. So police came 3:00 o'clock at night because somebody. Had told them. That I enhanced. The boyfriend who somebody wanted to be my boyfriend and save the police out. And then then they opened the door and the police said police in my house. You must have. You must have gotten the house numbers mixed up so they. Were all in front. Of let's say well. Let's try next door. They went next. Door there was. One of his comrades living with his girlfriend. There you go.
- 01:26:05 Speaker 2(Phillip): Thank goodness for your landlord then, huh?
- 01:26:08 Speaker 1(Hans): Then then she came all apart when we invited her to our wedding, she saw.
- 01:26:08 Speaker 2(Phillip): Cover covering for you.
- 01:26:17 Speaker 3(Helga): We didn't tell her that. I wanted to rent the IT was kind of the kitchenette apartment. And so on. Strove me there, and I signed the paper. Address him with my last name, Mr. Kirtner last name and then thinking that he was my husband. And it's all Han said. Well, in that case, you know. How it goes said. He moved in. Either he lived at the YWCA. Nobody would miss.
- But we had to hide that from our relatives. On his underwear had to be.
- T19580101 After Basic training Hans was assigned to 128th Air Refueling Wing, General Mitchell Air National Guard Base, Milwaukee Wisconsin. Squadron 2473D ARFC
- T195801-195811: Milwaukee Wisconsin
- T195803: meet Helga at YWCA

## Hans and Helga TOGETHER after 1Nov1957 75

T19580301: Helga Meet Hans and courting, Dance march 1958 at YWCA, Milwaukee Wisc  
T19580901 Hans In September 1958, although Hans stayed in the barracks on base, somehow he became known as Hans Pörtner, and signed a lease along with Helga for an apartment in Milwaukee. They were not yet married. Therein lays a story.  
T19580930 Hans On 30 September 1958, Hans went to the Milwaukee County Clerk, with the intent of registering for a wedding. He was either so embarrassed or his English was still so inadequate, that he registered for a Small Game Hunting License instead. How this was remedied is a story lost to history.  
T19581001: Hans and Helga Vacation Montreal Canada, Niagara Falls, Bye-Bye. This is their honeymoon  
T195811: Married Helga in West Alice, Wisconsin  
T19581121 Hans receives order to move to Rheine Mein AFB, Wiesbaden, West Germany  
T1961: Hans became US citizen

## Hans and Helga TOGETHER after 1Nov1957

### USA Wisconsin March 1957 to December 1958

19581101 Hans and Helga are married  
19581101 Hans and Helga Marriage Certificate 1 November 1958  
19581121 Hans GE - Germany FR for 36 months 1958Nov21 to 1962Nov20  
19581121 Hans receives order to move to Rheine Mein AFB, Wiesbaden, West Germany  
19581121 Hans Return to Germany in 1958  
19581130 Hans leaves US through McGuire AFB NJ to Germany Rhein Main  
19581201 Helga Return to Germany in 1958  
19581215 Helga leaves for West Germany

### Germany Dec 1958-1962 Nov

19580101 -1959 Album Wisconsin, Germany  
19580901 -1959 Album September 1958-Dec1959  
19581121 Dec-Aug1962: Hans 7310th Materiel Squadron , Rhein-Main AFB, West Germany  
19581121 Hans receives order to move to Rheine Mein AFB, Wiesbaden, West Germany  
19581121 xx-196211xx: Hans address APO 57 New York, NY (Rheine Mein AFB Wiesbaden Germany)  
19581130 Hans leaves US through McGuire AFB NJ to Germany Rhein Main  
19581215 Helga leaves for West Germany  
19590101 -1962 Album Germany  
19590101 In 1959 Hans was assigned to Merfleden AFB in Wiesbaden West Germany. At some point Helga joined him. They moved into Parkstrasse 13, Wiesbaden. A two bedroom apartment on the third floor of a house that did not have an elevator. The bathroom was on the second floor. In 1961 they moved to Blumenstrasse 2 in Mörfelden, West German. This was not far from Wiesbaden.

- 19590101 Many of Hans' family also lived in or near Wiesbaden. And Helga's relatives in Herford Germany were not far away. They had an active social life. Relatives from Amerika often came to visit.
- 19590201 February 1959 - ? 1961 Parkstrasse 13, Wiesbaden West Germany
- 19590201 Hans and Helga were living in an one room attic apartment on the fourth floor of Parkstrasse 13, Wiesbaden Germany.
- 19590220 By 20 February 1959, they were in Wiesbaden Germany for the birthday of Ulrich, the son of Inni von Schweinitz (Hans' older sister) and Gunter Wolf.
- 19591009 On 9 October 1959, Helga gave birth to her daughter, Bettina, in Wiesbaden Germany.
- 19591017: Hans Performance Report starting 19571018 as Fuel Supply Specialist AFSC 64350A in 7310th Materiel Squadron, Rhein-Main AFB, West Germany
- 19591225 In the winter of 1959 to 1960, Hans and Helga went skiing into the Alps "Am Nebelhorn" in the Allgäu Alps in Germany, near the village of Oberstdorf.
- 19591229 Hans Education Extension Course Petroleum Sup Specialist, at Air University
- 19600101 -1962 January 1960-November 1962 Album
- 19600101 Hans Camping Deutscher Club 1960
- 19600501 Hans Education Typewriting 1 course at US Armed Forces Institute
- 19600501 Hans Photographic Fundamentals - 1960 Extension Course Institute, Air University, Gunter AFB. Alabama:
- 19600501 Hans Still Photography - 1960 Extension Course Institute, Air University, Gunter AFB. Alabama:
- 19600601 Hans and Helga Vacation Geneva Switzerland, Moran Italy
- 19600701 -19600801 Hans and Helga Vacation France, Barcelona, Spain
- 19600801 Hans Photographic Fundamentals
- 19600808 Hans Education Extension Course Photographic Fundamentals, at Air University
- 19601017 Hans Performance Report starting 19591018 as Fuel Supply Specialist 64350A in 7310th Materiel Squadron, Rhein-Main AFB, West Germany
- 19601031 Hans Still Photographer
- 19601031 Hans Education Extension Course Still Photographer, at Air University
- 19610101 -1921101 In Oct 1961 they moved to Blumenstrasse 2 in Mörfelden, West Germany. This was not far from Wiesbaden. Until November 1962 when they leave for NM USA
- 19610101 Hans German ID 1961-66 good for
- 19610201 Hans Date of Grade Airman Second Class A2C E4 (now Senior Airman)
- 19610301 Hans and Helga Vacation France, Wiesbaden West Germany, Salzburg and Ischgl Austria
- 19610401 In 1961, they became friends of Mustafa Khan. A visitor from Bahrain. They enjoyed traveling with Mustafa and showing him around Germany and other countries.
- 19610516 Hans 16 May 1961 Naturalized United States Citizenship from Chicago Cook County Illinois District Court
- 19611017 Hans Discharge commitment over
- 19611017 Hans Performance Report starting 19601018, as Fuel Supply Specialist 64350A in 7310th Materiel Squadron, Rhein-Main AFB, West Germany
- 19611018 Hans Re-enlisted for 4 years until 1965
- 19620501 Hans Education General Business 1 course through US Armed Forces Institute
- 19620515 Hans USAF Medical Training course (Red Cross First Aide)
- 19620801 In the summer of 1962, Hans and Helga went to Ischgl, Triol, Austria. They climbed

to the top of "Piz Buin" mountain (10,866 Ft) in the "Silvretta" range of the Alps, between Switzerland and Austria.

19620827 Hans Performance Report starting 19611018 as Fuel Supply Specialist 64350A in 7310th Materiel Squadron, Rhein-Main AFB, West Germany

19621001 Hans Date of Grade SSGT, Staff Sergeant E5

19621001 Hans Award for AF Outstanding Unit 7310th Materiel Squadron. Received a Ribbon

19621001 Hans Letter of Appreciation for Campaign, NATO AMF exercise - Southern Express.

19621121 By November 1962, Hans was transferred to Walker AFB in New Mexico, USAA. So Hans, Helga, and Bettina were on their way to Roswell, New Mexico, USA. HQ 6th Strategic Aerospace Wing (SAC), Walker AFB, New Mexico. Position: Still Photographer, NCOIC, Contact and Projection Printing Section

19621201 Winter in Ischgl Austria skiing with Bettina

19621224 By December 1962, everybody was in Roswell, they lived on 602 Redwood St, Roswell New Mexico.

### **Roswell New Mexico Dec 1962 - Dec 1966/Jan1967**

1962 By December 1962, everybody was in Roswell, they lived on 602 Redwood St, Roswell New Mexico. Chris was born on 24 December 1964. Chris likes to tell people that he was born in Roswell to two aliens and had an alien for an older sister. Anybody that was not a US citizens and per American English were known as "aliens". After Walker AFB closed in 1965, Roswell went into a deep decline. When the town took advantage of the UFO incident at Area 51, which is somewhere close to Roswell, Roswell has become known as the "UFO capital" of the world. Helga and Tina became US citizen on 8 September 1966. But Hans had already become a US citizen on 16 May 1961. So only part of Chris' tale is accurate.

1962 By November 1962, Hans was transferred to Walker AFB in New Mexico, USAA. So Hans, Helga, and Bettina were on their way to Roswell, New Mexico, USA

1962 DEC62-JAN67 Roswell, NM, 602 Redwood St USA

1962 December 1962 - January 1967 602 Redwood Street, Roswell New Mexico USA

1962 Hans Aug 1962 - May 1963 Location: HQ 6th Strategic Aerospace Wing (SAC), Walker AFB, New Mexico. Position: Still Photographer, NCOIC, Contact and Projection Printing Section

1962 Hans Return to United States in 1962

1962 Hans Since December 1962, I have been Staff SGT., and Production Chief in the Photo Lab at Walker Air Force Base, Roswell, New Mexico. My duties are quality control, training of new personnel, photographic work order assignment, maintenance of photographic supply records. I hold a Top Secret Clearance granted by the Air Force, Walker Air Force Base, since 1963.

1962 Helga Return to United States in 1962

1962 While in Roswell, they took trips into Mexico, visited the local Indian Reservations, went spelunking, and were involved in an FBI investigation concerning their area of Roswell was called "Little Berlin" because so many of the Airman had married Germans or were Germans themselves. Also, many of the German scientists that came to US after the

WWII came to Walker AFB, and the Air Force wanted to provide a social setting that made them comfortable.

196211xx- : Hans address 602 West Redwood Street, Roswell New Mexico

19621201- : Walker AFB New Mexico: Hans Assistant NCOIC of Photo Lab

19621201 Hans picks up Helga and Bettina from East Coast and drives to NM

19621224 Xmas at Redwood

196212xx-196701xx: Hans address 602W Redwood Rd, Roswell NM

1962-1965 December 1962-1965 Album

1962-1965 New Mexico, Caves, Erika & Peters Death

1962Aug-Oct1966: Hans HQ 6 Strategic Aerospace Wing (SAC), Walker AFB, Roswell, New Mexico

1963 Hans May 1963 - June 1964 Location: HQ 6th Strategic Aerospace Wing (SAC), Walker AFB, New Mexico. Position: Photographic Technician, Assistant Lab Chief

1963 Hans On the job training administrator and supervisor course - 1963 Extension Course Institute, Air University, Gunter AFB. Alabama:

1963 Hans Personal Counseling - group study - 1963 Extension Course Institute, Air University, Gunter AFB. Alabama:

196301xx: Hans On the job training administrator & Supervisor course

19630201 AF Picnic

19630301 White sands NM

19630401 Santo Domingo Indian Reservation

19630415 Redwood first year

19630418: Hans Education Extension course, Personal Counseling, from Air University

196304xx: Hans Personal Counseling

19630529: Hans Award for Small Arms Marksmanship, received a Ribbon

19630531: Hans Performance report starting 19620828 now as Still Photographer with AFSC 23250 Photographer, assigned to HQ 6 Strat Aerospace Wing, SAC, Walker AFB NM

19630621: Hans Received TOP SECRET clearance

19630901 Pushkin this life since April, until Sep when he dies

19630915 Hans trip to Mexico, Acapulco (included in NM travel compendium)

19631224 Xmas and winter

1963-1966: Hans Organization National Speleological Society

1964 Hans Jun 1964 - Mar 1966 Location: HQ 6th Strategic Aerospace Wing (SAC), Walker AFB, New Mexico. Position: Photo Lab Production Chief

1964 Hans Photographic Technician - 1964 Extension Course Institute, Air University, Gunter AFB. Alabama:

19640123: Hans Education: Hans GED High School issued by State of New Mexico for education received in Sobernheim Germany

196401xx: Hans Photographic Technician

19640323: Hans Letter of Appreciation for 15th AF Missile Accident Investigation Board from 10Mar1964 to 22Mar1964 from BGeneral Lightner

19640330: Hans Letter of Appreciation for 15th AF Missile Accident Investigation Board from 10Mar1964 to 22Mar1964 from Col Haywood

19640401: Hans Letter of Appreciation for 15th AF Missile Accident Investigation Board from 10Mar1964 to 22Mar1964 from Col Clements

19640406: Hans Letter of Appreciation for 15th AF Missile Accident Investigation Board from

10Mar1964 to 22Mar1964 from Lt Col Jensen  
19640505: Hans Education USAF Medical Unit Training Course at Walker AFB NM  
19640527 Redwood 2nd year and Tina Kindergarten exercise  
19640531: Hans Performance Report starting 19630601 as Still Photographer with AFSC 23250  
assigned to HQ 6 Strat Aerospace Wing, SAC, Walker AFB NM  
19640601 Mexico: Acapulco Mexico City, Pyramids, Acapulco, Horse ride, Yucatan (included  
in NM travel compendium)  
19641003 Erika and Peter murder  
19641224 Chris is born, and Xmas,  
1964-1966: Hans Education Eastern New Mexico University  
1964-1966: Hans Organization National Ski Patrol, Denver CO as Patrolman  
1965 Hans Strategic Air Command NCO Preparatory School, 6th Aerospace Wing: Graduate -  
July 1965  
1965 Hans Support letter for Helga, Daughter, and Son September 1965  
1965 The time frame is from 1965 in Roswell NM, USA, the move to England, and living on 50  
Pinhill Road in Banbury England.  
19650101 tumbleweeds on base  
19650121: Hans Letter requesting accommodations at Hill AFB Utah for Walker AFB ski team  
for USAF AFLC Invitational Ski Meet 12Mar65-22Mar  
19650201 Cross on old baldy, Hans and Barry  
19650226: Hans Temporary Duty Orders to Participate in USAF AFLC Invitational Ski Meet  
12Mar65-22Mar at Hill AFB Utah  
19650301: Hans Letter identifying Walker AFB Ski Team and requiring team to participate in  
Giant Ski Slalom training  
19650305: Hans Letter of Favorable Communication from Major Howard  
19650311: Hans Letter of Favorable Communication from Col Hancock  
19650312 Ogden Utah ski meet, Hill AFB (see Hans AF Career Compendium)  
19650317: Hans Letter of Favorable Communication from Major Wright  
19650323: Hans Letter of Favorable Communication from Lt Col Rayner and Lt Col Pritchard  
19650501 Hans Ruidoso Downs Horse races  
19650523 Chris Baptism and his first year 1965 at Redwood and first few months of 1965 at  
Redwood  
19650603: Hans Report of Service and accomplishments  
19650708 Hans Grad from NCO school and site seeing in Colorado(see Hans AF Career  
Compendium)  
19650708: Hans Education Certificate of Training for SAC NCO Preparatory School at Walker  
AFB NM  
19650708: Hans Education Diploma for SAC Noncommissioned Officers Preparatory School  
course at Walker AFB NM  
19650718: Hans Education Certificate of Training for SAC NCO Preparatory School Phase II at  
Walker AFB NM  
19650801 Hans & Helga on Old Baldy with Cross  
19650901 Hunting  
19651001: Hans Date of Grade TSGT Technical Sergeant E6  
19651009 Tina Birthday  
19651017: Hans Discharge commitment over

19651018: Hans Re-enlisted for 4 years  
19651031: Hans Performance report starting 19650601 as Photographic Technician AFSC  
23270 Photographic Supervisor, still at Walker AFB NM  
19651101 Carlsbad caverns (see Cave/Spelunking Compendium)  
19651101 Cave of Madonna(see Cave/Spelunking Compendium)  
19651101 Cottonwood cave(see Cave/Spelunking Compendium)  
19651101 Fort Stanton Cave NM(see Cave/Spelunking Compendium)  
19651101 Hidden Cave(see Cave/Spelunking Compendium)  
19651101 Targas Cave(see Cave/Spelunking Compendium)  
19651201 Hail and Snow  
19651224 Xmas and first few months of 1966 at Redwood (Chris not yet walking)  
1965-1968 Album  
1965-1968 New Mexico and England  
1965xxxx: Hans NCO Lead School course  
1966 Hans Air Training Command, Lowry AFB, Colorado: Course ALR23430-1 Precision  
Photographic Processing Specialist, Honor Graduate - September 1966  
1966 Hans Mar 1966-Oct 1966 Location: HQ 6th Strategic Aerospace Wing (SAC), Walker  
AFB, New Mexico. Position: NCOIC of Base Photo Lab  
19660101 Winter Ski patrol and rescue at Sierra Blanca, and skiing at Sierra Blanca in general  
(see Skiing compendium)  
19660301 White sands NM  
19660301: Hans Letter requesting funding for Walker AFB ski team to attend USAF AFLC  
Invitational Ski Meet 9Mar66-18Mar at Hill AFB Utah  
19660302: Hans Special Order identifying members of Walker AFB ski team for USAF AFLC  
Invitational Ski Meet 9Mar66-18Mar at Hill AFB Utah  
19660313-19660318: Hans Walker AFB ski team attending USAF AFLC Invitational Ski Meet  
9Mar66-18Mar at Hill AFB Utah  
19660401 Chris 2nd year 1966 at Redwood with Chris walking  
19660501 concert with Tom Lewis conductor  
196608xx: Hans Vacation France, Wiesbaden West Germany, Salzburg and Ischgl Austria  
19660909: Hans Education Certificate for outstanding performance while attending the Precision  
Photographic Processing Specialist Course at Lowry Technical Training Center, Denver  
CO  
19660913: Hans Letter for Honor Graduate Award for Precision Photographic Processing  
Specialist Course by Col Reed and Lt Col Pritchard  
19661009 Tina's Birthday, Tina in Cowboy outfit, and Halloween  
19661031: Hans Performance report starting 19660301 NCOIC at Base Photographic Laboratory  
still at Walker AFB NM  
19661101 Bitter Lake NM  
19661224 Xmas  
19661231 Move out and begin trip to England via Milwaukee and Germany  
1966-1969: Hans Organization Colorado Mountain Club, Denver CO  
19670101 Chicago and Milwaukee, west Allis  
19670101 Train Big Chief Roswell to Milwaukee  
19670202 Germany  
19670301 In England



**England 50 Pinhill Road, Banbury, Oxon, Great Britain**

1965-1968 Album

1965-1968 New Mexico and England

1966 Hans Nov 1966- July 1968 Location: 18th TRS, Upper Heyford England Position:  
NCOIC of Film Processing and Quality Control

1966 Helga Nationalization Certificate 8 September 1966

1966Nov-Dec1969: Hans 18th Tactical Reconnaissance Squadron (USAFE), RAF Upper  
Heyford, England

1967 Hans UK - United Kingdom for 36 months 1967Jan22 to 1970Jan06

1967 Hans was assigned to Upper Heyford AFB near Banbury England. The family arrived in  
England in March 1967.

1967 MAR67-DEC70 Banbury, 50 Pinhill Rd, U.K.

1967 March 1967 - December 1970 50 Pinhill Road, Banbury United Kingdom

19670101 Germany Herford on way to England

19670101 Move in month to Pinhill

19670122-19700106: Hans United Kingdom

196701xx-196912xx: Hans Address 50 Pinhill Rd, Banbury England

19670201 London all with Renate Feb/Mar, Tina w/ Brownies

19670401 1967 Apr/May Skiing Ischgl Tirol Austria, Wiesbaden, Brussels at Atomium

19670410: Hans Award received the Air Force Commendation Medal for Meritorious Service  
from 1 October 1965 to 10 January 1967

19670411: Hans Award Air Force Commendation Medal citation for accompany the award

19670411: Hans Award Air Force Commendation Medal list of recipients

19670501 Opa visit

19670501 Tina 1st Grade graduation

19670510 Mini village, Bourton-on-the-Water "Little Venice" Family with Opa

19670701 Hans AF Spain and Gibraltar

19670712 Hans AF Royal Flush XII NATO

19670910 Germany Herford

19671030: Hans Performance report starting 19661101 as NCOIC Film Process at SAC Recon  
Sq, Upper Heyford, England. AFSC 23450 Precision Photographic Processing Specialist

1967-1969: Hans Education University of Maryland MD

1967-1969: Hans Organization British Sub Aqua Club, Banbury England

1967-1969: Hans Organization Rambling Club, Banbury England

1968 Hans July 1968 - Dec 1969 Location: 18th TRS (USAFE), Upper Heyford, England  
Position: NCOIC of 19th TRS Photo Lab (WS430B)

19680325: Vacation France, Wiesbaden West Germany, Salzburg and Ischgl Austria. back 17  
apr

19680501: Hans Education Upgrade Training General Subjects, extension course from Air  
University

19680720d: Hans Performance Report starting 19671031 as NCOIC Photographic Process  
section and the Sensitometry and Densitometry Section at SAC Recon Sq, Upper  
Heyford, England. AFSC 23671 Still Photographic Camera Technician

19680803 Tina alone in Germany with Tante Margret. back 21aug

1969 Hans Air Training Command, Lowry AFB, Colorado: Course 3AAR23470 Precision

Photographic Processing Technician CQ6, Honor Graduate - August 1969  
1969 The time frame is from 1969 to 1970 while Helga and the children lived in Banbury, England. Hans was on tour in Thailand.  
19690118 Opa dies  
19690119 to Germany for Opa's funeral back 25 jan  
19690213 AF helps search for lost man around Banbury  
19690317 Trip to Germany Herford back 9 apr  
19690701 London, Drum parade, Tina with panda. Banbury St John's Ambulance Brigade, St Paul's Cathedral in London  
19690801 Andreas comes to visit  
19690801 Summer Camp Tina and Linda  
19691103 Hans leaves for Thailand  
19691210 Hans leaves Thailand for South Carolina  
1969-1970 England  
1969-1970 England Album  
19700401 1970 Spring Renaissance fest, Battle at Cropedy Hill (Warwickshire) in 1970. Cavaliers and Roundheads.  
19700501 Tina in Hospital  
19700901 Queen at Polo Match  
19701002 Trip to Mallorca. back 23oct  
19701231 Hans arrives in SC USA  
19701210 Tina leaves England enters Germany  
19701222 Tina enters USA McGyure afb  
19710101 Helga, Bettina, Chris leave for SC USA via Germany

### **Thailand Dec1969-Dec1970**

1969 In late 1969, Hans was stationed in Thailand, during the Vietnam War. The Air Force did not allow families to accompany any assignment to Thailand, so Helga and the children stayed in England.  
1969 Hans Dec 1969 - Dec 1970 Location: 14th TRS, Udorn, Thailand Position: NCOIC of the Photo Lab (WS430B)  
1969 Hans was on tour in Thailand.  
19690121: Hans Education OJT Trainer Supervisor Course at Upper Heyford England.  
19690314: Hans Performance report starting 19680621 as NCOIC of 18TRS Photo Lab in 18th Tac Recon Squad, RAF Upper Heyford England (USAFE) AFSC 23490 Precision Photographic Processing Superintendent  
196903xx: Hans Vacation France, Wiesbaden West Germany, Salzburg and Ischgl Austria  
19690501: Hans Date of Rank MSGT Master Sergeant E7  
19690819: Hans Education Certificate of Honor Graduate of Precision Photographic Processing Technician Course at Lowry Technical Training Center, Denver CO  
19690819: Hans Education Precision Photographic Processing Technician Course at Lowry Technical Training Center, Denver CO  
19690901: Hans Performance Report starting 19690315 as NCOIC of 18TRS Photo Lab in 18th Tac Recon Squad, RAF Upper Heyford England (USAFE) AFSC 23490 Precision Photographic Processing Superintendent  
19691017: Hans Discharge commitment over

19691017: Hans Discharge from TSGT Technical Sergeant E6 to promotion MSFT Master Sergeant E7  
19691018: Hans re-enlisted USAF for 4 years  
19691102: Hans Performamnce Report starting 19690902 as NCOIC of 18TRS Photo Lab in 18th Tac Recon Squad, RAF Upper Heyford England (USAFE)  
19691103-19701210: Hans Stationed in Thailand  
1969-1970 Thailand  
1969-1970 Thailand Album  
1969Dec-Dec1970: Hans 14th Tactical Reconnaissance Squadron, Udorn Royal Thai Air Force Base, Thailand  
1970 -1971 December 1970 to 1971 Album  
1970 Hans TH - Thailand for 12 months 1970Jan07 to 1970Dec08  
19700107-19701207: Hans address Udorn RAFB, Thailand  
19700107-19701208: Hans Thailand  
19700224: Hans Education Letter of Honor Graduate Award for course on 19 August 1969 signed by Col Gremban  
19700224: Hans Education Letter of Honor Graduate Award for course on 19 August 1969 signed by Lt Col Rankin  
19700312: Hans Education Certificate for OJT Administrator Course at Sheppard Technical Training center, 907S FTD, Takhli RTAFB Thailand.  
19701210: Hans Returned from being Stationed in Thailand

**Shaw AFB Sumter South Carolina Dec1970-Aug1972**

19701201 Hans Dec 1970 - June 1972 Location: 363rd RTS, Shaw AFB South Carolina  
Position: NCOIC of the Precision Processing laboratory  
19701201 December 1970 - August 1972 5A Rhodes Ave, Shaw AFB South Carolina USA  
19701201 Dec-June1970: Hans 363rd Reconnaissance Tactical Squadron RTSq (TAC), Shaw AFB, Sumter South Carolina  
19701201-1971 England to SC USA Album  
19701215 December while moving from England to South Carolina USA. While leaving England Helga and the children took a visit to Germany and Holland. Then they arrived in Sumter, South Carolina. Moved onto Shaw AFB housing, Rhodes Ave.  
1970-1972: Hans Education University of South Carolina  
1971 Hans Air Training Command, Lowry AFB, Colorado: Course 3AZR23374 Color Photo Process Course FCA, Honor Graduate - December 1971  
19710101-1972 The time frame is from 1971 to August 1972 while in South Carolina. From December 1970 until August 1972, the family lived on Rhodes Drive, on Shaw AFB, near Sumter South Carolina. Hans was assigned to Shaw AFB. While in South Carolina the family would often go to Myrtle Beach South Carolina and the Daytona Beach Florida. Finances were tight, so many trips involved camping and eating food from the coolers.  
19710101-1975: Hans Organization National Association Underwater Instructors, Colton CA as Instructor  
19710108: Hans Education Certificate for OJT Trainer/Supervisor Course at Sheppard Technical Training center, 307S FTD Shaw AFB SC  
19710108: Hans Education Certificate for OJT Trainer/Supervisor Phase II Course at Sheppard

- Technical Training center, 307S FTD Shaw AFB SC
- 19710122: Hans Award of Air Force Commendation Medal "First Oak Leaf Cluster" list of recipients
- 19710122: Hans Award Certificate of Air Force Commendation Medal "First Oak Leaf Cluster" for Meritorious Service 14th Tactical Reconnaissance Squadron, Udorn Royal Thai Air Force Base, Thailand 9 January 1970 to 8 December 1970
- 19710122: Hans Award Citation to accompany the award of the Air Force Commendation Medal "First Oak Leaf Cluster" for meritorious service.
- 19710122: Hans Award Narrative Description for Oak Leaf Cluster for Master Sergeant Hans L von Schweinitz
- 19710401 Dayton FL vacation, Motel Cashah
- 19710401: April 1971 Dayton Florida vacation
- 19710413: Hans Performance Report starting 19701211 as Assistant NCOIC of Precision Processing Lab at 363d RTSq, Shaw AFB SC (TAC).
- 19710501 IRIS Festival and Parade in Sumter SC
- 19710501: May 1971 Iris Festival parade in Sumter SC
- 19710601: 1971 Trip to Atlanta GA to visit Fisher family, Ilse and Stevie
- 19710815: Hans Performance report starting 19710414 as NOIC of Precision Processing Lab at 363d RTSq, Shaw AFB SC (TAC) with additional duty of Squadron First Sergeant.
- 19710820: Hans Education Certificate for Management-1 Course for Air Force Supervisors at Shaw AFB SC.
- 19710820: Hans Education Certificate for Management-1 Course for Air Force Supervisors Phase II at Shaw AFB SC.
- 19710820: Hans Education Record of Training 19July1971 to 20Aug1971 Management-1 Course for Air Force Supervisors at Shaw AFB SC.
- 19711001: Vacation Atlanta GA visit Fisher family
- 19711029: Hans Education Certificate for Precision Photoprocessing Specialist extension course at Air University
- 19711223: Hans Education Certificate for Color Photo Processes Course at Lowry Technical Training Center, Denver CO.
- 19711223: Hans Education Certificate of Honor Graduate from Color Photo Processes Course at Lowry Technical Training Center, Denver CO.
- 19720501: Vacation St Augustine FL, Cypress Gardens, Marco Polo Park
- 19720601 Hans Tactical Air Command NCO Academy, Langley AFB Virginia: Distinguished Graduate - June 1972
- 19720601: 1972 Summer vacation in Florida, St Augustine, Marco Polo Park Zoo, Cape Kennedy (Canaveral)
- 19720601: Vacation Cape Kennedy FL (Canaveral) and Disneyland
- 19720614: Hans Education Certificate for TAC NCO Academy course
- 19720614: Hans Education Certificate for TAC NCO Academy course Phase II
- 19720614: Hans Education Certificate of Distinguished Graduate from TAC NCO Academy course
- 19720615: Hans Education Letter of Distinguished Graduate from TAC NCO Academy course signed by Major Clamme
- 19720622: Hans Education Letter of Distinguished Graduate from TAC NCO Academy course signed by Col Welsh

- 19720623: Hans Education Letter of Distinguished Graduate from TAC NCO Academy course signed by Col Cabaniss
- 19720626: Hans Education Letter of Favorable Communications from TAC NCO Academy course signed by Major Bjorkman
- 19720626: Hans Performance Report starting 19710816 as Sq Assistant NCOIC Precision Processing Lab 363d RTSq, Shaw AFB SC (TAC) with additional duty of Squadron First Sergeant.
- 19720701: July, While moving the family in 1972 took a visit to Germany to visit relatives. re-entered 25jul
- 19720701: July-Aug 1972 lived in trailer in South Carolina before move to Alabama.
- 197207xx: Hans Vacation France, Wiesbaden West Germany, Salzburg and Ischgl Austria
- 197207xx: Hans Vacation Juarez Mexico and Laredo TX

**Montgomery, Maxwell AFB, Prattville Alabama Aug1972-Dec1974**

- 19720801 August 1972 - December 1974 223 Murfee Dr, Prattville Alabama USA
- 19720601 Hans June 1972 to December 1974 Location: OLBK 363rd Combat Specialty Group, Dannelly ANG (Air National Guard) Base, Alabama. Position: Air Force Technical Advisor, Precision Photo Processing Technician.
- 19720801 Hans was assigned to Walker AFB in Montgomery Alabama. The family lived on 223 Murfee Dr in Prattville Alabama.
- 19720801 The time frame is from 1972 and 1973 while they lived in Shaw AFB in South Carolina and then in August 1972 they moved to Prattville Alabama, near Montgomery. Hans was assigned to Maxwell AFB in nearby Montgomery Alabama.
- 19720801-1973: Hans Education: Hans Troy State University AL
- 19720601 June-Mar1973: Hans OLBK 363 Cmbt Spt Gp (Combat Specialty Group), Dannelly ANG (Air National Guard) Base, Montgomery Alabama (TAC) and OLBK 9 Air Force AF (TAC) Maxwell AFB, Montgomery Alabama
- 1972xxxx: Hans NCO Academy Course
- 19731030 30 October 1973, Helga was invited to Tea at the Governor's Mansion AL
- 19730601 Early Summer 1973: Chris and Bettina participated in a Swim Meet in Pensacola Florida, representing the Montgomery Marlins from Maxwell AFB.
- 19730503 Helga Phi Beta Kappa Society Membership 3 may 1973
- 19730801 Summer (August) 1973, family took a vacation to Appalachian Mountains in North Carolina, Tennessee, Northern Alabama., De Soto State Park AL, Rock City Chattanooga Tenn, Gatlinburg Tenn, Biltmore House Asheville NC.
- 19730901 Mobile Alabama vacation
- 197303xx-197412xx: Hans Auburn University, Montgomery AL, BS Mathematics with Honors, Minor in Physics and History for Bootstrap Program, Bachelor's program
- 19730626: Hans Performance Report starting 19720627 as Air Force Tech Advisor Precision Photoprocessing at OLBK 363 Cmbt Spt Gp, Dannelly ANG Base AL (TAC) ANG=Air National Guard.
- 197306xx-197306xx: Hans Scuba Vacation 10 day Belize and Honduras
- 19731030 tea at Governor's mansion
- 19731017: Hans Discharge commitment over
- 19731018: Hans Re-enlisted for 4 years

19731112: Hans Statement of Service

19740501 1 May 1974, Hans made the Dean's List at Auburn University. He was studying for a Math Bachelors.

19741101 Hans and Bettina traveled to Wiesbaden, Germany for Michael von Schweinitz (Hans' younger half brother) marriage to Uschie. Possibly in November

19741213 Hans Diploma Auburn 13 December 1974

19741101 In November 1974, the house on 223 Murfee Drive was sold, and the family moved into a trailer court nearby, Bowman's Trailer Court.

19740901 September 1974, Hans was a scuba diver. Bettina, only 14 years old, took a class and became certified in scuba diving.

19740101 The album starts with photos of Alt Raudten. Tante Ini's trip in 1974?

19740321: Hans Performance Report starting 19730627 as Air Force Tech Advisor Precision Photoprocessing at OLBK 363 Cmbt Spt Gp, Dannelly ANG Base AL (TAC)

19741201 Trailer in Bowman's Trailer court, Prattville AL

19741226 Move to TX

19741226 New Orleans Louisiana, Space Control Center Houston TX

### **Del Valley and Austin, Bergstrom AFB Texas Dec1974/Jan1975-Nov/Dec1977 (SA)**

1974: Dec1974-Apr1975 in Del Valley Bergstrom AFB TX Pecan Trailer Park

1975 10APR75-02DEC77 2319 Village Cir, Austin TX 78745 USA

1975 April 1974 - December 1977 2319 Village Circle, Austin Texas USA

1975 From Apr 1974 to December 1977, the family lived at 2319 Village Circle Austin Texas. Hans was stationed at Bergstrom AFB near Austin Texas.

1974 Hans Dec 1974 to April 1975 Location: 45th TRS, Bergstrom AFB Texas Position: NCO in Charge of Operations Section, Mobile Photo Processing and Interpretation Facility.

1974 In late December 1974, the family began their move to Bergstrom AFB near Austin Texas. Along the way they spent time in New Orleans, Louisiana, and NASA Mission control in Houston Texas. When they arrived at Bergstrom AFB, they moved into a trailer court near the base, Pecan Trailer Park, Del Valle, Texas. They stayed in this trailer court from January 1975 until April 1975.

1975 January 1975 - April 1975 Pecan Trailer Court, Del Valley Texas USA

1974 The time frame is from Summer 1974 while in Alabama to moving to Austin Texas in May 1975

1974-1975 Summer 1974- May 1975 Album Alabama, Texas

1974Dec-Apr1975: Hans 45th TAC Reconnaissance Squadron, Bergstrom AFB, Austin Texas (TAC)

1975 Hans Apr75 to Present: Location: 67th Tactical Recon Wing, Bergstrom AFB, Texas Position: SMS, AFSC 23391, Wing Precision Photo Processing Superintendent; Air National Guard Advisory Team Member; 67 TRW Self Inspection Team Member; 12 Air Force Operation Readiness Inspection Team Member.

1975 Hans USAF Ground Operations School, Hurlburt Field, Florida - November 1975

1975 Hans was assigned to Bergstrom AFB near Austin.

1975 In 1975, Helga became a German Teacher at Anderson High School in North West Austin.

1975 In May 1975, they moved into 2319 Village Circle, Austin Texas. Also, at this time, Hans was promoted to Senior Master Sergeant.

19750801 In the Summer of 1975, the family visited Germany. During this visit they helped to

dig an hole for an in-ground pool at Inni's backyard.  
19750804 tina re-entered usa  
1975 The time frame is 1975 to 1977 while they lived in 2319 Village Circle, Austin Texas.  
19750101-197504xx: Hans address Pecan Trailer Court, Del Valley TX  
19750412: Hans Performance Report starting 19740313 as Precision Photographic Processing Technician at 45th TAC Recon Sq Bergstrom AFB TX (TAC). AFSC 23391  
19750410 - 20141202: Hans address 2319 Village Circle, Austin TX  
19750531: Hans Education Certificate Air Force Writing Course Phase II at Bergstrom AFB  
19750531: Hans Education Record of Training for Air Force Writing Course Phase II at Bergstrom AFB  
197506xx-197506xx: Hans Vacation 10 days Saltillo Mexico  
19750804: Hans Security and Clearance investigation for TOP SECRET  
19750915: Hans Letter of Appreciation for Preprocess Titling Test in August 1975 signed by Col Dodgen  
19750919: Hans Letter of Appreciation for Preprocess Titling Test in August 1975 signed by Col Sauls  
19750929: Hans Letter of Appreciation for Preprocess Titling Test in August 1975 signed by Col Hall  
197510xx: Hans Date of Grade SMSGT Senior Master Sergeant E8  
19751121: Hans Education Certificate for NCO Air Ground Orientation Course by USAF Air Ground Operations School in Hurlburt Field, FL  
1975-1976 Texas  
1975-1976 Album TX  
1975-1977 Album TX  
1975Apr-Nov1977: Hans 67th Tactical Reconnaissance Wing, Bergstrom AFB, Austin Texas (TAC)  
1976 Texas Album  
1976 Germany Album  
1976 Hans Air University: Senior Noncommissioned Officer Academy - November 1976  
1976 In the fall of 1976, Hans, Christopher, and Bettina (not Helga) drove to New Mexico. They visited their old home in Roswell New Mexico. Then drove to Ruidoso Down for a skiing vacation.  
1976 In the summer of 1976, Hans, Helga, and Chris visited Las Vegas. Bettina stayed alone and went to summer High School.  
1976 In the Summer of 1976, the family again went for a visit to Germany. They visited Renate in Holland near Begium, Helga's youngest sister. Possibly June  
19760601 tina entered europe  
1976 The time frame is 1976 while in living in Austin Texas  
19760317: Hans Education certificate for Continue Photoprocessing Specialist extension course.  
19760412: Hans Performance Report starting 19750413 as Precision Photo Processing Technician at 45th TAC Recon Sq Bergstrom AFB TX (TAC).  
19760504: Hans Suggestion Evaluation for "Use of 700 Ft KA-56 Low Pan Film" draft  
19760518: Hans Suggestion Evaluation for "Use of 700 Ft KA-56 Low Pan Film" Submission SMSgt Von Schweinitz made suggestion  
197606xx-197607xx: Hans Vacation 30 days in Luxemburg, West Germany, Wiesbaden, Herford

- 19760715: Hans Suggestion Evaluation for "Use of 700 Ft KA-56 Low Pan Film" Response with alternate recommendation
- 19760811: Hans Suggestion Evaluation for "Use of 700 Ft KA-56 Low Pan Film" recommendation approved by not eligible for suggestion program.
- 19760816: Hans Letter of Evaluation of Suggestion signed by Lt Col Elder
- 19760901: Hans Education Certificate for Programmed Learning for Maintenance and Disposition of Documentation.
- 19760908: Hans Letter Documentation training for Functional Area Documentation Managers signed by Pace.
- 19760917: Hans Suggestion Evaluation Award Certificate for \$450 for suggestion of minimum film loads and first year savings of \$45,417.
- 19761005: Hans Suggestion Evaluation Letter of Transmittal of Award Certificate signed by Lt Col Elder
- 19761108: Hans Education certificate for USAF Senior Non Commissioned Officer Academy Nonresident Course by extension.
- 19761108: Hans Education Diploma for USAF Senior Non Commissioned Officer Academy Nonresident Course by extension.
- 19761108: Hans Education for USAF Senior Non Commissioned Officer Academy Nonresident Course by extension. Membership card and class standing
- 19761208: Report on Individual Personnel
- 19761217: Hans Special Orders, Relieved from Active Duty on 31 October 1977
- 19761221: Hans Letter of Appreciation for supporting provided Twelfth Air Force Inspector General during inspection of 123 TRW (ANG) Standiford Field, Kentucky. Signed by BGen Clement
- 1976xxxx: Hans USAF Senior NCO Academy course by Correspondence
- 1977 Hans AF DD214 retirement November 1977
- 1977 Hans He retired on 31 October 1977 after 20 years.
- 19770108: Hans Letter of Appreciation for supporting provided Twelfth Air Force Inspector General during inspection of 123 TRW (ANG). Signed by Col Rohr
- 19770111: Hans Letter of Appreciation for supporting provided Twelfth Air Force Inspector General during inspection of 123 TRW (ANG) Standiford Field, Kentucky. Signed by Col Porter
- 19770411: Hans Letter of Appreciation for developing Specialty Knowledge Tests at USAF Occupational Measurement Center, Lackland AFB TX. Signed by Col Turner
- 19770518: Hans Letter of Appreciation for developing Specialty Knowledge Tests at USAF Occupational Measurement Center, Lackland AFB TX. Signed by Col Rohr
- 19770526: Hans Letter of Appreciation for developing Specialty Knowledge Tests at USAF Occupational Measurement Center, Lackland AFB TX. Signed by Lt Col Bailes
- 19770531: Hans Note of Appreciation from Lt Col Whitt Latham, USAF Chief of Wing Intelligence
- 19770802: Hans Award Certificate Meritorious Service Medal for Outstanding service from 2 January 1975 to 31 October 1977.
- 19770802: Hans Award Citation to accompany the Meritorious Service Medal for Outstanding service from 2 January 1975 to 31 October 1977.
- 19770802: Hans Award Meritorious Service Medal for Outstanding service from 2 January 1975 to 31 October 1977. List of recipients



19770915: Hans Security and Clearance Personnel Security Questionnaire  
19771031: Hans Separation  
19771031: Hans Orders to Retire DD214. Recorded at Travis County File 4/18 1989 at 2:40pm,  
Recorded 4/18 1989 at 2:45pm file number 56-314  
19771101: Hans Certificate of Appreciation for Helga von Schweinitz  
19771101: Hans Certificate of Retirement for SMSGT Hans von Schweinitz

**Saudi Arabia Nov(Hans) Dec(Helga/Chris) 1977 - Feb 1980**

19770816: Ramadan 16Aug-14Sep 1977  
19770901 Hans Sep 1977 to March 1980 Location: Northrop Corporation Aircraft Division,  
Dhahran Saudi Arabia. Home office: 3901 W Broadway, Hawthorne California 90250  
Position: Photo/Reconnaissance Laboratory Supervisor  
19770901: 1Sep1977: Hans issued entry Visa good for 1 month by Saudi Arabia Consulate in  
New York  
19770901 From September 1977 to January 1980, Hans took on a job with Northrop in Saudi  
Arabia. Helga and Chris went to live with Hans in Saudi Arabia. Bettina stayed in  
Austin Texas and attended University.  
19770929: 29 September Hans arrives into Saudi Arabia and receives 6 month entry visa dated  
28 September 1977.  
19771206: 06 December Helga and Chris are issued 1 month entry visas by Saudi Arabia  
Consulate in New York to Saudi Arabia  
19771213: 13 December Helga and Chris are notified by Northrop that visa has been issued  
19771224: 24 December Christmas, Hans in Saudi Arabia and Chris, Tina, and Helga in Austin  
19771227: 27 December Helga and Christopher leave Austin and on 28 December arrive in  
Saudi Arabia and receive 6 month entry visa  
197801: January visit to Qatif Oasis Nursery gardens  
19780330: 30-31Mar1978: Hans and Helga take Dow to visit Bahrain, Recreation Center  
sponsored  
197804: Mustafa and family visit from Bahrain  
19780503 3-12 May 1978 Iran Album  
19780527: 27 May 1978 Chris leg is broken  
19780528: 28 May 1978 Chris, Helga, Hans Medi-vac to Wiesbaden Germany Rheine-Main  
hospital  
19780601 JUN1978-JULY1978: Saudi Arabia, W. Germany, Holland, Austria Purpose:  
visit parents, relatives, ski vacation  
19780608 tina passport saudi arabia visa  
19780608: 08 June 1978 Hans flies to Saudi Arabia from Wiesbaden Germany  
19780609: 09Jun1978 Tina entry into Saudi Arabia visa for 3 months  
19780621: 21Jun1978 Hans and Tina fly from Saudi Arabia to Germany  
19780713 tina passport heathrow  
19780713: 13Jul1978 Tina returns to USA  
19780805: Aug-Sep Ramadan 5Aug-4Sep 1978  
19780818 tina passport new york  
19780823: 23 August 1978: Hans flies to Saudi Arabia from Wiesbaden Germany

Hans and Helga TOGETHER after 1Nov1957 90

19780824: 24 August 1978: Chris and Helga fly to Saudi Arabia from Wiesbaden Germany  
19780930: 30Sep-12Oct1978: Helga and Chris in Wiesbaden to visit USMTM doctors at  
Rheine-Main Hospital  
19781015: 15 October 1978 Tina has accident with Ford Torino  
19781027: 27 October 1978 Chris and Hans visit RSAF hospital and visit orthopedic doctors  
19781126: 26 Nov 1978: King Khaled returns from US Cleveland Clinic Coronary Bypass  
surgery  
19781208: 8-14 December 1978: Chris and Hans fly to Wiesbaden Rheine-main Hospital, plane  
rerouted to Teheran to evacuate women and children  
1979020217: 17-20 Feb1979 Queen Elizabeth II visit to Saudi Arabia  
19790415: 15Apr-27Aug1979 Hans, Helga, and Chris travel back to San Antonio for Leg  
procedure.  
19790801: Aug move into 2nd compound, ROC Villas  
19791014 The time frame is 14 to 28 October 1979 on their trip to Thailand.  
19791014: 14-28 Oct 1979, Hans and Helga go to Thailand, see photo album  
19791022: 22 October 1979, the Shah had been admitted to the US for cancer treatment  
19791104: 4Nov1979: Iran, hostages taken on Sunday  
19791113 tina passport saudi arabia visa  
19791120: 20Nov1979 Storming of the mosque early Tuesday morning, US President Carter  
threatens Iran with force  
19791121: 21Nov1979 Kuwaiti News Agency said that Saudi troops stormed the Grand Mosque,  
situation now normal.  
19791121: 21Nov1979 Pakistan, mob storms US embassy  
19791201 DEC1979-FEB1980: Tina Saudi Arabia Purpose: Visit parents  
19791201 December 1979 - March 1980 Villa 71, ROC Compound, Northrop Company, Al  
Khobar, Saudi Arabia  
19800201 Feb1980-Mar1980 Hans, Helga, Tina went to Germany on way back to US TX. Also  
visited Austria for skiing  
19800201 FEB1980-MAR1980: Tina W. Germany, Austria Purpose: visit relatives, vacation  
With: Papa, Mutti, Chris  
19800209: 09Feb1980 Helga and Tina left Saudi Arabia for Germany  
19800212: 12Feb1980 Hans left Saudi Arabia for Germany  
19800310: 10March1980 Tina admitted into USA  
19800311: 11March1980 Hans and Helga admitted into USA

### **Austin Texas Mar1980+**

1980 MAR80-JUN2003 2319 Village Cir, Austin TX 78745 USA  
19800310 tina passport into usa  
1983 Mar Cozumel  
1983 Nov Cruise on Royal Caribbean  
1984 25JUN84-18JUL84: Tour through W. Germany, Austria, Switzerland Purpose: tourist  
With: Anderson HS group, Austin  
1984 Mar Hawaii  
1985 England & Scotland  
1986 Bare Foot (BF) cruise

1986 Germany 8Oct-6Nov 1986 including Berlin  
1986 Cancun  
1988 Mexico  
1989 Germany trip  
1990 Sep Germany Koblenz 23Sept-7Oct, Frankfurt and Herford.  
1992 Germany trip  
1993 Chile  
1993 JUN93: Frankfurt Germany through Dresden to Leibzig Poland and return Purpose:  
Family Reunion in Poland. With: Papa and Wolfs  
1994 Germany trip  
1995 Costa Rica  
19950930 Frankfurt Germany through Dresden, Poland, Vienna, Prague, Bamberg and return.  
Purpose: Family reunion and tourist With: Pap and Mutti until 16 oct 1995  
19951005 tina enters austria  
1996 Italy  
1997 Cancun  
1997JUL1997 Germany, Herford, Wiesbaden. Purpose: Visit Mother's family in Germany  
With: Mutti  
19970502 tina into frankfurt  
1998 Japan  
1998 Germany trip  
1999 Germany Trip  
200? Canada train  
2000 Brazil  
2001 Bremen Germany  
20010214 tina passport to?  
2003-2019 19117 Ganton Ct, Pflugerville TX 78660-5003 USA  
20050502 tina passport leaves  
20050515 tina passport into usa  
20050905 Helga to Herford 5Sep-13Sep with Marcia Horngren and Marlene & Dick Ebers  
20060530 tina passport  
20070902 tina passport  
20070916 tina passport  
2008 Nov 50th Anniversary  
20090131: Hans Letter of Summary of Benefits. Honorable Discharge and service dates 18-Oct-  
1957 to 31-Oct-1977  
2009 Germany trip  
2015 Hans Death certificate 26 August 2015  
20150826: Hans von Schweinitz died. Received Presidential Memorial Certificate in Honor of  
his service from President Barack Obama.  
20190608 Helga Death certificate 8 June 2019

**Hans' Passport Entry dates**

19550624: Hans passport issued  
1955075 hans passport Schweiz  
1955Lug21: Hans passport Ponte Chiasso

1955Lug7 Hans passport Ponte Chiasso  
19561119: Hans passport Entry visa to USA Visa number 92203 type RRA  
19570303 Hans passport Admitted to USA New York City  
19600528L Hans passport Donquera  
19600612 Hans passport France  
19610310 Hans passport Resia Strada  
19680325 hans passport france  
19680417 Hans passport Dover  
19680901 hans passport dover depart  
19680901 hans passport france  
19681123 hans passport dover  
19690111 Hans passport dover depart  
19690119 hans passport R C Calais entry  
19690125 hans passport dover enter  
19690317 hans passport dover depart  
19690317 hans passport France  
19690409 Hans passport Dover entry  
19820924 hans passport USA entry  
19860609 hans passport USA entry  
19870329 hans passport St Marten entry  
19870401 hans passport Montserrat entry  
19870626 hans passport visa for SPRJ? Japan?  
19871015 hans passport USA entry  
1987IX27 hans passport stamp  
19880131 hans passport vis for magyar, egyszeri, brutuakasia  
19880924 hans passport USA entry  
19890309 hans passport visa to poland  
19890606 hans passport USA entry  
19920514 hans passport Wartha DDR  
19930108 hans passport stamp  
19931025 hans passport entry chile  
19931108 hans passport argentina entry  
19931108 hans passport chile  
19931114 hans passport argentina exit  
19931115 hans passport USA entry  
1993ENE5 hans passport Cozumal  
19950501 hans passport costa rica  
19950509 hans passport nicaragua  
19950514 hans passport Juan  
19950514 hans passport USA entry  
19950929 hans passport Germany entry  
19951018 hans passport germany exit  
19960316 hans passport milano  
1996GIU09 hans passport stamp  
19970051 hans passport DDR  
19970416 hans passport marquez

19970506 hans passport DDR  
19980330 hans passport germany entry  
19980407 hans passport germany depart  
19980527 hans passport germany entry  
19980616 hans passport USA entry  
19980617 hans passport germany depart  
19981005 hans passport Osterreich Austria  
19981023 hans passport Kansai entry and 90 visa  
19981028 hans passport USA entry  
19990527 hans passport stamp  
19990719 hans passport germany entry  
19990803 hans passport germany depart  
20000218 hans passport visa brazil  
20000607 hans passport germany entry  
20000629 hans passport germany depart  
20010718 hans passport germany enter  
20011018 hans passport germany entry  
20011101 hans passport USA entry  
20030908 hans passport germany depart  
20030908 hans passport USA entry  
20100908 hans passport germany entry  
20100929 hans passport germany depart  
20110615 hans passport germany entry  
20110707 hans passport germany berlin depart  
20110707 hans passport stamp  
20120526 hans passport germany entry  
20120621 hans passport germany depart

**Helga's Passport Entry dates**

19570315 helga passport issued  
19570806 helga passport chiasso  
19570828 helga passport hamburg germany US visa quote 7422  
19571107 helga passport  
19590323 helga passport issued  
19600528 helga passport junquera la  
19621120 helga passport mcguire us  
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19670321 helga passport dover  
19671106 helga passport mindenhall germany  
19671113 helga passport mindenhall germany  
19671223 helga passport mindenhall germany  
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19671226 helga passport dover

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19680417 helga passport dover  
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19690317 helga passport france  
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19690930 helga passport nederland  
19691001 helga passport hatwich  
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19701023 helga passport gatwick  
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19830?05 helga passport cozumel  
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20160322 helga passport germany

**The End**