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Ruth N. Saffro b. 3/22/1922, Heildelshelm, Germany (she can trace her family back to 1736 in Heildelshelm), synagogue survived war; Hitler's Youth; enduring anti-Semitism, called "'Dirty Jew' because Christ was killed by Jews"; down-syndrome brother rejected entry to US; public early school, later Jewish schooling in Mannheim; religious home, celebrating Jewish holiday celebrations; Hitler coming to power; parents apprehension, neighbors stopped talking to family; Ruth, sister, two cousins, encouraged to go to States (1937) "Last time I saw my mother"; travel to France, then Cherbourg, then "Queen Mary" ship to States, joined father's side in Chicago; difficulty learning English, graduated Lake View High School; continued correspondence with parents - told of mother having to hide in chicken coup, Torahs destroyed in synagogue, uncle beaten in middle of night, "Christian doctor treated (injured) Jewish people very well," father beaten; mother insisted father get out with hope that he could assist she & son (with down syndrome) & aunt; Ruth's reunion with father in States; mother, brother, aunt deported in cattle cars; brother (at 9 yrs. old) dies of starvation in a camp, aunt died 2 months later, (1940) mother able to get out of camp, took deceased aunt's clothing & went to Marseilles, slept on straw; Ruth expresses disappointment in father's side in Chicago "unable to visualize what was going on - could have brought more people over."; father's depression not knowing what had happened to wife; his work in Chicago (butcher) to raise his daughters; Ruth's husband kept a secret for many years that he had learned that Ruth's mother died at Auschwitz (Ruth's father passed away not knowing); Ruth/husband return to Ruth's hometown (Heildelshelm), met by childhood friend who gave her mementos from synagogue - the pain in returning; visiting 2nd time with daughter, encountering German who expressed remorse & expressing anger at another who did not; fond reunion with childhood friend who recalled how beautifully her father sang on Friday nights; pursuit in installing plaque in Heildelshelm synagogue - told that neo-Nazis might take it down; Ruth "tries not to judge people & does the best she can while she's in this world."; happiness in her family visiting Israel