

Summary of Interview With Anne Flagg (HHP)

Born September 17, 1910 in Germany. Born Anne Flagenheimer, changed name to Flagg. They were a well known family. When my son was two, Hitler invaded the Rhineland. Then my other son was born. My brother in law lived with us. He had to go to a Jewish school. He had a visa to emigrate and save him, and he went to London.

We had 170 in our factory. Had code names for everything. My husbands passport was taken away. They forbid Jews from going to concerts or to the opera. In October 1938 we drove to east side railroad and brought food. The Germans started rounding up Jews that weren't naturalized and putting them into cattle cars. A few days later Kristallnacht was enacted. synagogues were burning. I ran to the temple and took the children home. Our French governess took my husband to her house. The Nazis smashed everything in our house.

First Pogrom, 1934. Signs were put in Jewish homes. Everybody was put in the temple and it was set on fire. No one survived. {It was a small town. Had to get a passport to get into the temple. We had a country home and we spent summers there. (Next part is confusing-- word for word from notes:

-----A lot of plum cake. Buried cake in backyard so they could save husband. Had a beautician come to the house--daughter denounced husband and he was never heard from again.-----

Jews were not allowed to swim or to go to restaurants. People went back to their homes or tried to emigrate. Roosevelt didn't allow anyone. My uncle went to Cuba and he was not allowed to get in. He had to go back to Germany. He went into the chimney for three days after the pogrom and escaped. Some friends went to Russia and to China.

My brother flew to Himalayas and went to singapore. In February of 1938 I went to the summer home.

October-- Kristelnicht--I went out to see my parents. My mother and father were hiding behind an ice box. I went out on a bike to get food and I threw it over a fence to people.

My husband was hiding in the woods and then he went to the swiss Embassy. I met him in Heidelberg--Jews were not allowed in

restaurants. My husband became mentally ill and had to stay in bed constantly. I went to Stuttgart to get visas. asked Mrs Wald to put her visa file on top. She did, and the visa was ready.

In Frankfurt, we had visas but not passports. We went to the Holland -(amsterdam?) line and saw our lawyer. I had a visa and got out . There was a long line. Went to the department store and bought delicacies and sent it to the Holland - a... line. Wanted passage for two adults and two children. Got passports. Had French Cognac in basement. Drove car. We didn't have a passport for our son Harry, so we gave them a check and two days later we left. At the German-Holland border the train was stopped by the Gestapo. They said they were going to have a body search. They did search the train and take my watch.

Got to Holland and met my husband there. Friends picked us up at Amsterdam and took us to a ship. We made it to the U.S.

People in Amsterdam dug a whole and buried a boy, saving him. Even non-Jews were taken to labor camps. My parents didn't have a visa number. They got a low number and came out six weeks later. The maid saved their silver, and the bookkeeper for my father's factory took accounts receivable and buried it, collecting for my parents for later on.

I never had problems being Jewish. A friend rescued many Jews by posing as a high Nazi. There were no survivors from my school class. In '52 I went back to Germany and people were suffering terribly. The younger generation assumed parents guilt. People never admitted to being Nazi's.

In New Jersey, we had a 15 year old English boy stay with his. His parents had been killed and we gave him clothes. I had to learn to cook. I cooked 15 pounds of rice and it was everywhere.

In 1938, No German had to face a jew. Everything was done by mail. The day after Kristelnicht, there was glass all over. There was a constant fear because we were Jewish. A three hundred year old Seder plate was saved for us by the maid.

As I was growing up, things were great. We had maids and I was spoiled by the nursemaids.

Maternal grandparents-- had a formal life. They put on concerts, she was a pianist.

After WI, things were not so good. I pound od meat cost as much as the rent. Hiked a lot. Had hang-gliders.

The professional people were hit first. They took a long time to realize what was going on. .They couldn't believe it because they felt they were Germans. All books were burned , all scientists left, there was a brain-drain.

Nazis came to the house and took jewelry and took everything apart looking for money.

We were lucky. My uncles and aunts died in camps. Sooner or later it will be forgotten. More understanding between religions.Nazi experience could happen here. There are a lot of ethnic groups in Hawaii and people have guns. People should not have guns. We should try and understand each other.

There was a Japanese internment camp in Wisconsin. It never came up that they were Americans.