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Summary

Margit Richter (called Margaret in Australia), born on March 20, 1923, in Velký Berezný, Czechoslovakia (now Velykyi Bereznyi, Ukraine); Austrian-Hungarian monarchy when her parents were born; Father: Emanuel Adler, builder, four years a prisoner of war in Russia, then a car repair business; Mother: Hannah Neiman; Attended Czechoslovak schools, Jewish education in a kheyder; Average, middleclass people; Traditional, Orthodox observant Jewish home; Brother went to yeshiva; Hungarian Hitlerians took away father's business; spoke Yiddish, Hungarian and Czech in the home; Father was a Zionist; 1939, Hungarian Nazis came along with anti-Semitism; Czech community suffered when the Hungarians came, they fled to Moravia; Eisler family from Vienna owned the wood export business where family worked; broke into Eisler home to get passports, papers and money; When war started school ended and she was taught first aid; Polish people running from occupation came to Czechoslovakia; 1940, Saw trains of people and took food to them; Tisha b'av, Hitlerians beat up and killed Jewish boys, hung educated non-Jews on trees; Jewish boys ran away to Russia, never seen again; Ukrainian Nazis were tools for the Hitlerians; Tuberculosis in community was a problem; 1941 went to Budapest when Gestapo took girls for prostitutes; Received fake birth certificates from Eva Norchick; Norchick's father provided her with a certificate to protect her from the Russians that stated she had left home earlier; Registered as Maria Eve Norchick, a Christian, used that name until the end of the war; Hid in apartment in Budapest, starving; Hitlerians had established a ghetto, in the city bodies from bombing were put on trucks so she went to the ghetto; Soldiers shooting into the ghetto and killing people, mikvah filled with dead bodies; Saw Adolf Eichmann in Budapest, he was looking for money from Jews in Budapest; Turkish Jews had immunity because foreign citizens; Mosco Hogov told them to hide in an apartment; 1942, Deported people from ghetto to Weiner Neustadt, concentration camp; attended Purim performance in Weiner Neustadt, Hitlerians stormed the performance; 1940, arrived in Budapest, left valise in locker, curfew at 7:00 PM; Stayed in a room at Hotel Europa for a few days; went to Jewish quarter in Budapest; After the war, American soldiers gave her money to buy penicillin for her sister; sister had scurvy, no food at hospital, bought food for hospital; Rubin family living in Budapest cooked food, collected clothing and bedding for the hospital; Gypsy took them in buggy to Hungarian border to get away from Iron Curtain; Russian soldiers were harassing her and her sisters so they jumped from the moving train; went to the city of Debrecen, stayed there awhile, rebetzin Strasburg helped them; moved to Budapest; Belgium family, who imported American cars for Hungarian government, looked for them and got Margit and her sisters to Belgium, traveled through the Tetras, then to Prague; Hotel Central in Prague, got passports to travel to Belgium; Lived in Belgium for 12 years, married in Brussels, then moved to Australia to join family; Arrived in Melbourne, became Australian citizens

She shows family photos.