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Interviewee: STERN, Ellen Date: June 7, 1981

Interviewer: Nora Levin

Audio tapes: 1 English Transcript: 1 vol. (unpaged) English

Restrictions: None

SUMMARY

Ellen Stern, née Nussbaum, was born in Hanover in 1927. By 1933, she and her parents had moved to Berlin, where she resided until 1939 when she and her mother left for Louisville, Kentucky. Her account details her childhood in Nazi Germany where she witnessed the arrest of her father, who was sent to Buchenwald for 11 weeks. Upon his return, in November 1938, he left for Louisville, leaving his wife and child to follow. Her mother's apartment was frequently a rest stop for people who were unable to sleep in their own homes, because her father had already been arrested. Ellen saw the Nazi destruction by fire of the *Kinderheim* she attended, the synagogue on *Fasanenstrasse* and the burning of her school, *Goldschmidt Schule*. She discusses her schooling and relationships with students both Jewish and Gentile. Permitted to leave on the *S.S. Europa*, Ellen tells of the treatment she and her mother received on the way to and aboard ship. Ellena and her mother arrived in the United States May 26, 1939.

Following her arrival in Louisville, Ellen completed her education and eventually worked in New York City for NBC. In New York she met her husband.