

1 Transcription of videotape interview of Lilly
2 Radcliffe on August 29, 1991 by Michael Feuer,
3 Certified Court Reporter, Silver Spring, MD

4
5 INTERVIEWER: My name is Constance
6 Bernstein and I'm interviewing Lilly Radcliffe
7 today. My co-interviewer is April Lee and it is
8 August 29, 1991 and we are doing this for the
9 Jewish Oral History Project; Holocaust Oral History
10 Project.

11 Lilly, I'd just like to begin at the very
12 beginning. Tell me something about where you come
13 from, something about your family and your brothers
14 and sisters and your grandmother and grandfather.
15 Can you start back then? Where were you born and
16 what kind of family were you born into?

17 MRS. RADCLIFFE: I was born in
18 Vienna, Austria in 1925. My mother was of
19 Czechoslovakian origin. Her family lived in
20 Czechoslovakia but her mother originally came from
21 Hungary. Her father was Czech. She had one
22 brother with two children and the wife of her
23 brother was not Jewish and she played a great part
24 in the role in Czechoslovakia at the time during
25 the occupation.

1 My father was born in Linz, Austria. He
2 had three brothers and two sisters. His father was
3 Hungarian and his mother was Rumanian.

4 My parents met apparently in Vienna when
5 my mother came to school from Czechoslovakia. She
6 came from a farming family that grew crops and
7 raised horses and had a lot of cows and in a big
8 way the agricultural scene in Czechoslovakia at
9 that time.

10 I had no brothers or sisters. I was the
11 only child.

12 INTERVIEWER: Was it usual for Jews
13 to be farmers in Czechoslovakia at the time?

14 MRS. RADCLIFFE: Not really. Not
15 really. It was something quite unusual, but
16 actually even my grandparents came from a farming
17 background.

18 INTERVIEWER: So your mother went to
19 the university in Vienna?

20 MRS. RADCLIFFE: She went to school,
21 probably what we call the Hockshule. I really
22 don't think it was on the university level.

23 INTERVIEWER: How old was she when
24 she came to Vienna?

25 MRS. RADCLIFFE: I really don't know

1 that either. I do have some pictures from her as a
2 child here. You can see really that it almost
3 feels what we know today -- you would think almost
4 the shtetl effect but yet they were not religious
5 Jews. They were well aware that they were Jewish
6 but from my mother's side it wasn't a great
7 emphasis to live as Jews whereas my father's side
8 again were a little more if you want to say
9 religious. Not Orthodox, but they were very well
10 aware of the Jewish background.

11 From my father's side, one of his brothers
12 was really quite interesting. During the
13 occupation in Linz, he was one -- his name was Max
14 Hirschfeld, and my uncle was negotiating for the
15 safety and departure for Jews with Eichman at the
16 time which later on in history became very well
17 known. He, by negotiating with Eichman, he got
18 quite a number of Jews out of Linz at the time.
19 Unfortunately, my parents went, one of them,
20 because we lived in Vienna.

21 INTERVIEWER: How was it that he was
22 negotiating with Eichman?

23 MRS. RADCLIFFE: He was very active
24 in the synagogue in Linz and he worked for the
25 Kutisgemeinde and he took it upon himself to

1 negotiate and help some of the people out after the
2 burning of the synagogue there.

3 INTERVIEWER: So this was your
4 father's brother?

5 MRS. RADCLIFFE: That was one of my
6 father's brothers, right.

7 INTERVIEWER: And your father came --
8 where was it again?

9 MRS. RADCLIFFE: Linz.

10 INTERVIEWER: When did he get to
11 Vienna?

12 MRS. RADCLIFFE: Probably also at the
13 time he met my mother. I really don't know too
14 much. To go to school there. I really don't know
15 too much about that, to be honest about it.

16 INTERVIEWER: So they got married and
17 stayed in Vienna?

18 MRS. RADCLIFFE: In Vienna, right,
19 and lived in Vienna.

20 INTERVIEWER: And what did your
21 father's father do? What kind of business was he
22 in?

23 MRS. RADCLIFFE: My father's father,
24 they had a store in Linz. One of his sisters was
25 in millenary.

1 I really was only one time as a little
2 girl in Linz. I remember that my father's sister
3 and brother, they used to come to Vienna to see us
4 and to visit us. I don't know whether you want to
5 start coming up to the time of 1938 or 1937.

6 INTERVIEWER: I want to know more
7 about --

8 MRS. RADCLIFFE: The other first,
9 first the background first?

10 INTERVIEWER: Yes, to kind of
11 establish where you come from and your family.
12 They used to come to Vienna?

13 MRS. RADCLIFFE: They used to come to
14 Vienna to visit. I really was closer to my family
15 in Czechoslovakia. I used to go there every
16 vacation time, summer vacation and Christmas
17 holiday time or any of the major holidays, we used
18 to take the train to Czechoslovakia. I spent a lot
19 of my childhood time there. It was kind of
20 interesting because we used to keep Passover and
21 Chanukah at home in Vienna and then I would go to
22 Czechoslovakia and, being from a mixed family, we
23 would have the Christmas tree there, which was
24 quite unusual. I was made very aware of the fact
25 that I was Jewish and, of course, went to Jewish

1 religious school in Vienna and we always did go for
2 the high holidays to temple.

3 At that time in Vienna -- I think I
4 already knew of so-called Orthodox, although we
5 didn't keep kosher, an Orthodox home, that the
6 women were sitting upstairs and the father was
7 sitting downstairs.

8 INTERVIEWER: But when you say you
9 came from a mixed family.

10 MRS. RADCLIFFE: My mother's brother
11 was married to a Christian woman. Okay? So this
12 is -- the reason I put so much emphasis on it,
13 because she really saved their lives later on. She
14 stuck by them.

15 INTERVIEWER: It was your aunt then
16 who had the Christmas tree?

17 MRS. RADCLIFFE: Right, right. In
18 Vienna we used to have Chanukah at home and then I
19 would go for maybe just the Christmas holiday to
20 Czechoslovakia, mainly to be together with my
21 grandparents and my cousins.

22 INTERVIEWER: Tell me about your life
23 in Vienna. Did you live in an area that was mostly
24 Jewish, for example?

25 MRS. RADCLIFFE: No. I lived in the

1 sixth district in an apparent. I will say
2 this: All my friends were Jewish. We did not live
3 in the second district where it was more a ghetto
4 atmosphere but all my close friends that I
5 associated with were Jewish.

6 INTERVIEWER: Was this from school or
7 was --

8 MRS. RADCLIFFE: From the school and
9 kindergarten.

10 INTERVIEWER: What kind of business
11 did your father go into?

12 MRS. RADCLIFFE: My father was in
13 outside sales, in clothing.

14 INTERVIEWER: When you say outside?

15 MRS. RADCLIFFE: Versus working in a
16 department store.

17 INTERVIEWER: What did he sell?

18 MRS. RADCLIFFE: Clothing.

19 INTERVIEWER: All over?

20 MRS. RADCLIFFE: In Vienna. We
21 really were not too well off. I seem to remember
22 life had been quite a struggle and the relief came
23 from Czechoslovakia because they were fairly well
24 off, being on the farm.

INTERVIEWER: In terms of having

8

1 food?

2 MRS. RADCLIFFE: Food, right.

3 INTERVIEWER: You didn't have enough

4 food?

5 MRS. RADCLIFFE: No, we had enough
6 food. My aunt, after the Hitler Anschluss she used
7 to come to Vienna to bring us food.

8 INTERVIEWER: When you were growing
9 up, you don't remember --

10 MRS. RADCLIFFE: I was spoiled. I
11 was an only child. I was very spoiled, very, very
12 spoiled. I was never -- well, because later on in
13 life when I came to England, that became very
14 apparent, how unprepared I was for the outside
15 world. I really never went short of anything. I
16 started ice skating very early in life when I was
17 about four years old, I had piano lessons, my
18 father liked music and so did my father. My father
19 liked to sing and act as a hobby. So culturally I
20 was brought up with music and classical music. Of
21 course I was too young to go to the theaters at
22 that time, except children's stories.

23 INTERVIEWER: So the school you went
24 to, was that mostly Jewish or was it --

25

A. No, not until after we were transferred

9

1 to the Jewish schooling in 1938 after Hitler came
2 to power.

3 INTERVIEWER: Now we're talking about
4 the --

5 MRS. RADCLIFFE: I went to the, what
6 you call here I guess the elementary school. It
7 was a mixed school. I don't think we were more
8 than ten Jewish children in my class, maybe not
9 even that. Classes were pretty large. We were
10 about 40 children in one class. While the
11 Christian children had their religious classes, we
12 were, of course, singled out for our Jewish
13 religious classes for certain hours twice a week or
14 three times a week.

15 INTERVIEWER: Did you feel at that
16 time any antisemitism at school from kids?

17 MRS. RADCLIFFE: Not at that time
18 but, of course, we're talking now when I was six
19 years old. I think that happened, as far as I
20 remember back, a little later on when we went -- I
21 don't know whether you can call it high school, I
22 guess, from -- well, from six to ten I went to this
23 elementary school and then to the high school.

24 Maybe I became more wary because what we certainly
25 did see in Vienna was swastikas around quite

10

1 frequently and buildings and maybe on the
2 pavements. I think I recall back I was about ten
3 years old hearing my parents talking about Nazis
4 and people that maybe lived in our building that
5 were Nazis.

6 I think it was -- it's hard to remember
7 far back. I think I've blocked a lot out in my
8 mind, to be honest about it. I think going back
9 maybe 32, 33, I think from the time on possibly
10 when Hitler went into Germany in 1933, that
11 probably would have been the time when we as
12 children became aware that -- there were
13 conversations in Czechoslovakia: Well, if Hitler
14 ever came to Austria you'll be able to come here,
15 that will be your haven because nothing will ever
16 happen in Czechoslovakia. They were the ones who
17 were secure.

18 My father also had sort of this idea.
19 Apparently as a young man he came to the
20 United States. He was in New York. When the First
21 World War broke out he broke out he returned to
22 Vienna to fight with the Austrian Army against the
23 United States. I think that gave him the idea that

24 from ever and ever on then he was a good Austrian
25 and he would never be attacked as a Jew or anything

11

1 else. It was one of his big mistakes. He went
2 back as a good Austrian.

3 So he also felt as secure as my relatives
4 in Czechoslovakia did. So then the thing, of
5 course, that I remember was the Adolfus
6 assassination, that little civil war we had in
7 Austria which definitely I think we all became
8 aware, even as children, something is happening.
9 Swastikas came more to the forefront.

10 INTERVIEWER: Tell me something about
11 that as you understood it.

12 MRS. RADCLIFFE: The Adolfus? The
13 way I understood it, there was a war between the
14 workers, that people were -- there was shooting
15 going on into the apartment buildings, in the
16 so-called workers' apartment buildings, and that
17 really was happening quite close to where we lived,
18 maybe a few blocks away. Of course, when Adolfus
19 was assassinated the radio stations said that
20 happened at the time. That was about a couple of
21 years before Hitler really occupied Austria. I
22 really don't recall it. I should have read up

23 before I came here but I really didn't.

24 INTERVIEWER: This just about your
25 recollection and what happened to you at the time.

12
1 Do you remember your parents talking about
2 this or what did you perceive was happening.

3 MRS. RADCLIFFE: I think there was a
4 concern of what was going to happen with Austria.
5 I think it was very apparent that children and a
6 lot of people were underground fascists and Nazis.

7 I think it was even as if it was expected
8 that there would be a takeover, what I recollect as
9 a child hearing from my parents. And certainly the
10 summer before the takeover when I was in
11 Czechoslovakia, this was great --

12 INTERVIEWER: What year was that?

13 MRS. RADCLIFFE: That would have been
14 in 1937. I was eleven years old at that time.
15 Certainly the topic of conversation at the dinner
16 tables was what happens -- and it was expected that
17 Germany would enter Austria. At least my parents,
18 you know, they had the foresight to that and yet
19 the acceptance wasn't there. You knew -- I think
20 they knew it was going to happen but they really
21 didn't accept it.

22 INTERVIEWER: Do you remember your

23 mother and father talking about Nazis or the
24 swastika? What did the swastika mean to you or
25 what did the Nazis mean to you?

13
1 MRS. RADCLIFFE: Not very much at the
2 time. I knew it was something evil and horrible
3 but I think we didn't even realize the impact of it
4 until after the occupation.

5 I do remember the planes flying over
6 Austria and the takeover. Are we at this point now
7 or is it too early, you have some other questions?

8 INTERVIEWER: You would have been 13
9 then?

10 A. No, at that time I was eleven and a half,
11 eleven.

12 INTERVIEWER: So I'm kind of
13 interested in when you first began feeling uneasy.
14 Was there anything going on at school that would
15 make you feel uneasy before that time?

16 MRS. RADCLIFFE: I think we were very
17 well aware that we were Jewish and somewhat
18 different from the Christian children because when
19 I think about it now as you ask me the questions, I
20 really didn't have any non-Jewish friends in the
21 school. So now I could wonder why. My Christian

22 association with Christian people was really in
23 Czechoslovakia.

24 INTERVIEWER: Through your aunt?

25 MRS. RADCLIFFE: Through my aunt.

14
1 Even there, there were times, a few occasions where
2 we spent Yom Kippur in Czechoslovakia. It was a
3 little village. It's hard to say what the
4 population was. I really don't know whether it was
5 a thousand or less or a little more but it
6 certainly was very small. The Jewish people in the
7 village were my grandparents was another couple, an
8 older couple that did the Jewish gravestones and
9 there was a little Jewish synagogue there and that
10 Jewish synagogue became very important after I went
11 back to Czechoslovakia after the liberation, which
12 was in fact only about maybe -- when I visited that
13 synagogue and went back to the village, that's just
14 about six, seven years ago. Then I really became
15 aware of what was going on there.

16 There were a few other Jewish people in
17 the family. An aunt and uncle also had a
18 distillery and the farm we were living on, it
19 really was more than a farm. It was quite an
20 estate. In the back a count was living. The
21 building was sort of in a U-shape. The cattle was

22 on one side and then the living quarters, which
23 were quite elaborate for that particular village,
24 with a lot of servants and farm help and maids and
25 so on around. But yet what I remember today and it

15
1 shocks me that the farm help was living in streets
2 leading up to the estate and hovels that could
3 compare to today's Mexico when we drive around in
4 Mexico.

5 That later on as I came to England and
6 then to the United States, really something I can't
7 forget too well because I think when I look back at
8 the difference -- you know, when I tell that story
9 it seems sometimes to me that it wasn't me. At
10 that time there was one car maybe or two cars in
11 Czechoslovakia. My uncle was one of them had a
12 car. We had the carriages with the horses drawn.
13 It doesn't seem possible that this is only 50 years
14 ago. We were not allowed to speak German at that
15 time. I had to speak Czech, although I've
16 forgotten the Czechoslovakian now. People would
17 wave. Looking back at this, it doesn't seem real.

18 It depended what the occasion was in what
19 carriage we would be, whether we could sit in the
20 front or we were in the back in the closed carriage

21 waiving out. It seems impossible that this really
22 happened.

23 There was a horrendous class distinction
24 at that time which, when I went back the first time
25 to Czechoslovakia after Hitler left and the

16
1 communists were in there already then, the change
2 was so horrendous. I had a lot of thoughts on this
3 subject at that time.

4 Going back to the Jewish holidays, my aunt
5 and uncle had been brought up Jewish and her family
6 were Sudenten Germans which we found out later on.
7 She thought giving my uncle dumplings before
8 fasting, the more she served him the better, the
9 easier he could fast because he would fast and he
10 would spend the Yom Kippur in the synagogue and on
11 occasions if I was there I would go with him and my
12 mother would go with him. My father usually stayed
13 in Vienna during the summer vacation. So my mother
14 and I were there alone and my grandmother and
15 grandfather would go to synagogue too.

16 I did overhear if my uncle and aunt had a
17 fight or her family was there, well, who knows what
18 they are thinking that the husband is Jewish. I
19 mean, that conversation came up quite a bit because
20 I think even at that time the family realized that

21 my aunt's brother and family were leaning towards
22 the Germans and this is why my uncle who was Jewish
23 never allowed us to speak German on the streets or
24 anywhere in public. We had to speak Czech and very
25 seldom did I speak German when I was in

17

1 Czechoslovakia.

2 INTERVIEWER: Because of the
3 anti-German sentiment in Czechoslovakia.

4 A. From my uncle's side. I can only go from
5 my family's side. I can't go with the rest of the
6 people.

7 INTERVIEWER: But he was suspicious
8 that his wife's family might --

9 MRS. RADCLIFFE: My grandmother was.
10 They weren't suspicious. I think they knew.

11 INTERVIEWER: They knew?

12 MRS. RADCLIFFE: They knew.

13 INTERVIEWER: Your aunt's family
14 was --

15 MRS. RADCLIFFE: Right.

16 INTERVIEWER: Nazis?

17 MRS. RADCLIFFE: Now, thinking about
18 it, yes, definitely. An estate over was another
19 family that had a similar situation. The father

20 was Jewish and the mother was not Jewish and again
21 I'm mentioning this because when Hitler, when
22 Germany occupied Czechoslovakia the father shot
23 himself hoping to save the family because he was
24 Jewish. Apparently in that area there were a lot
25 of mixed marriages at the time. Too the daughter

18
1 and the children and the mother survived during the
2 occupation because I still see them, my girlfriend,
3 now.

4 INTERVIEWER: In Czechoslovakia?

5 MRS. RADCLIFFE: In Czechoslovakia,
6 right. I do go back quite frequently.

7 INTERVIEWER: Let's go back to
8 Vienna.

9 MRS. RADCLIFFE: Okay.

10 INTERVIEWER: You were around eleven.
11 This was after some civil strife. Did you ever
12 hear your parents talk at all about Hitler?

13 MRS. RADCLIFFE: Not Hitler. I think
14 I was more aware of the symbol, what the swastika
15 meant.

16 INTERVIEWER: When was the first time
17 you really felt the impact of Hitler or
18 antisemitism?

19 MRS. RADCLIFFE: I think during the

20 Adolfus assassination, around there, I think that's
21 when I really became aware. I don't know whether
22 that has something to do with, because I was a
23 little older and can remember more back on that.

24 INTERVIEWER: So what happened to you
25 during that time? You say the fighting was near

19

1 where you lived.

2 MRS. RADCLIFFE: Nothing really
3 happened to me personally at that time except we
4 were made more aware that there were Nazis living
5 in the apartment building where we were. There was
6 another Jewish couple living there with the
7 daughter and the daughter was a little older than I
8 was. I had other Jewish friends living around the
9 corner and up the street.

10 INTERVIEWER: How were you aware that
11 there were Nazis in the building?

12 MRS. RADCLIFFE: Because of the
13 swastikas and my parents talking about it.

14 INTERVIEWER: So they had swastikas
15 on their doors?

16 MRS. RADCLIFFE: On the doors, they
17 might put it on the walls.

18 INTERVIEWER: So then what happened

19 after the Adolfus incident?

20 MRS. RADCLIFFE: We can go now?

21 INTERVIEWER: Yes.

22 MRS. RADCLIFFE: That was the most
23 amazing part. I will say this, that all the school
24 children in my class, everybody denied being a
25 fascist and a Nazi. The planes flew over Vienna.

20

1 The forces came in and I believe the school was
2 maybe closed one or two days. The first day back
3 in school there wasn't one student in my class that
4 wouldn't wear a Hitler panned uniform of the boys
5 and the girls the Bate Am uniform. I think that
6 was the most shocking thing to us children, that
7 we, the Jewish children, were the only ones that
8 didn't have a Hitler Youth uniform on. That's how
9 prepared Austria was. I will never forget that
10 day. There wasn't one child in my class that
11 didn't have the uniform on that fitted, the boys,
12 the khaki shirt, the girls, the uniforms, and I
13 think within a couple of days we were expelled from
14 the school and we were put in a Jewish school.

15 INTERVIEWER: When you say that no
16 one -- you said that they were Nazis before, was
17 there a vote?

18 A. No, we didn't take a vote but it was

19 talked about. I remember it was talked over. Oh,
20 well, if Hitler comes, we are not Nazis. Just like
21 they are saying today, nobody was a Nazi. It was
22 the same at that time, we are not Nazis, we are not
23 fascists. It was amazing, how prepared Austria, I
24 felt, and the families were. Okay, two, ten
25 children, but everybody, I would say the majority.

21
1 Maybe one percent wasn't, two percent weren't but
2 the majority were wearing the uniform as they came
3 to school.

4 INTERVIEWER: What's also amazing
5 here is that the Jews were obviously so unprepared?

6 MRS. RADCLIFFE: Like my father. We
7 were good Austrian citizens.

8 INTERVIEWER: When you went back and
9 told your parents that everybody was in a uniform
10 were they shocked as well?

11 MRS. RADCLIFFE: I think everybody
12 was numb, really. It had to be such a trauma that
13 all of a sudden you are really made aware that you
14 are a Jew. Now, whether my parents or grandparents
15 had problems in Rumania or Hungary before, I should
16 imagine they had come in their lifetime against
17 antisemitism but being an only child, I think the

18 times were different. Today we are trying to
19 educate the children. I think at that time it was
20 keep a child from anything that's a problem, don't
21 make them aware. Just like you kept death from
22 your children, you know, that if a grandmother was
23 sick or grandfather was sick, you don't talk about
24 it. It's something you keep from them. You don't
25 want to, not realizing that later on in life how

22
1 traumatic these things become and how wrong they
2 really were by trying to spoil us.

3 INTERVIEWER: So you were moved
4 almost immediately to a Jewish school?

5 MRS. RADCLIFFE: Yes.

6 INTERVIEWER: How did your life
7 change?

8 MRS. RADCLIFFE: It was fun to be
9 with Jewish children. It really was -- it really
10 didn't feel bad. I was with my close friends
11 together. It was all right, really. I don't think
12 we -- we also didn't realize really what was
13 happening. For us, we were like just in the
14 religious school twice a week together. We now
15 were together.

16 INTERVIEWER: And had Jewish
17 teachers?

18 MRS. RADCLIFFE: That I don't know.
19 That I really don't know. I could look at my
20 papers here. I brought the last report card I
21 think you call it here, report card that is signed.
22 I think we could look at that and see whether they
23 were Jewish or not. I'm really not sure. I've
24 never questioned that. You would think they would
25 put Jewish teachers in there then.

23
1 INTERVIEWER: How long were you in
2 the Jewish school?

3 MRS. RADCLIFFE: The occupation was
4 in 1938 and I left for England in 1939. So
5 probably almost a whole year.

6 INTERVIEWER: What happened during
7 that year that made you eventually have to leave?

8 MRS. RADCLIFFE: Shortly after the
9 occupation arrests started. The men were rounded
10 up.

11 INTERVIEWER: The Jewish men?

12 MRS. RADCLIFFE: The Jewish men. I
13 remember my father being arrested and, of course,
14 panic set in.

15 INTERVIEWER: Why was your father
16 arrested?

17 MRS. RADCLIFFE: Because he was a
18 Jew. It's as simple as that. One of the Nazis
19 from the building that we suspected being a Nazi
20 was the one that helped to do the arrest. I think
21 he was arrested overnight but we had a distant
22 cousin who was a lawyer and I really don't recall
23 how my father was let out shortly after that.

24 INTERVIEWER: Do you remember when
25 the Nazis came for him? Was it at night?

24
1 MRS. RADCLIFFE: No, it was during
2 the day. It was during the day that two men came.
3 I was there.

4 INTERVIEWER: During the day?

5 MRS. RADCLIFFE: During the day,
6 right. It wasn't at night.

7 INTERVIEWER: Your father wasn't at
8 work?

9 MRS. RADCLIFFE: No, he was home at
10 the time. He started to struggle pretty badly. My
11 aunt from Czechoslovakia came and started coming
12 in, bringing food.

13 INTERVIEWER: After your father was
14 arrested?

15 MRS. RADCLIFFE: Yes. She came quite
16 regularly, chickens and whatever, you know, mainly

17 because we didn't really have much money.

18 INTERVIEWER: At what point did that
19 happen, when you didn't have enough money for food?
20 Your father was in prison for how long?

21 MRS. RADCLIFFE: Only overnight but
22 somehow work seemed to get less and less. Then
23 after November 11 when the -- okay, let's go back
24 because the Jewish holidays were before.

25 Jewish holidays were still as before in

25
1 1938. We did not go to Czechoslovakia any more in
2 1938. Obviously we were not allowed out because
3 why wouldn't we have gone to Czechoslovakia that
4 summer? Instead I had -- my mother had a cousin,
5 first cousin, that was married to a very Orthodox
6 Jew in Baden Bad, Vienna. They even had a little
7 synagogue in the back. I was invited for the
8 summer to be in Baden with my cousin that also
9 lived in Vienna. It was a nice summer, really, the
10 way I see it at that point. All the Jewish
11 children were together again. Really, that's where
12 I got my Jewish education more so than in the
13 religious school. It was a wonderful experience
14 for me.

15 INTERVIEWER: In Baden Baden?

16 MRS. RADCLIFFE: No, Baden by Vienna.
17 Baden Baden is in Germany. Baden by Vienna which
18 is maybe an hour away from Vienna.

19 INTERVIEWER: Did you still live at
20 home?

21 MRS. RADCLIFFE: We were still in the
22 apartment but I spent the summer, two months,
23 instead of going to Czechoslovakia, in Baden and we
24 Jewish children all played together and we went to
25 the mark. We were definitely very separate from

26
1 the Christian children. There I did get my Jewish
2 education from them because they were so Orthodox.

3 One of the second cousins had already left
4 for Israel. He left. He wasn't there any more,
5 the older one, because he did see the light.

6 In Baden afterwards they really went
7 through an awful lot. They did save the Torah. It
8 was sort of a praying -- it was a synagogue at home
9 in the backyard, so to speak, but people came
10 there, but they were absolutely Orthodox and kosher
11 and you couldn't switch the light on on Friday
12 night. No cooking. They were as Orthodox as
13 anybody could be and my cousins in Israel still
14 are. That was a new experience for me but I
15 enjoyed it. I learned a lot. I think later on in

16 life, although I'm not Orthodox, you know, it gave
17 me my background, my heritage.

18 So we spent the summer there -- Baden had
19 a big Jewish population, again for a small spa. It
20 also is a spa, a spa area, and it had a religious
21 Jewish community.

22 So then I came from Baden back to Vienna
23 and then we had the burning of the synagogues.

24 INTERVIEWER: Tell me about that.

25 MRS. RADCLIFFE: Well, that was the

27
1 day when all the synagogues simultaneously were on
2 fire.

3 INTERVIEWER: What happened to you
4 that day? Where were you?

5 MRS. RADCLIFFE: I was at home.

6 INTERVIEWER: Did you see any
7 synagogue on fire?

8 MRS. RADCLIFFE: No. We went to look
9 the next day. We heard about it.

10 INTERVIEWER: What did you see the
11 next day?

12 MRS. RADCLIFFE: Well, I think then
13 everybody became aware that -- there was panic,
14 really. There were horror looks in my parents'

15 eyes. I think that is when the Jewish people
16 really became frightened. The ones with foresight
17 started trying to leave. One thing that stands out
18 in my mind that made a great impact, one of my
19 father's men friends came to visit and he also had
20 been with my father in the Austrian Army and my
21 father made the comment again nothing will happen
22 to me; I was in the Austrian Army, at which point
23 the gentleman had just came from Dachau. He had
24 been arrested in Dachau and he showed my father the
25 whip lashes and he said my advice is to you to send

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1 your child out as fast as you can.

2 At first my father didn't want to hear
3 about it. I don't remember whether it was before
4 the burning of the synagogues or afterwards because
5 I think the decision to send me out was made after
6 the burning of the synagogues. So I think he
7 probably was there before. He started telling some
8 of the horror stories about Dachau. That was the
9 first time he and I heard about a, which at that
10 time really was called concentration camp which of
11 course we know today is the concentration camp, and
12 how he was let out of there I really don't know
13 either and he was not arrested in Austria to be
14 sent to Dachau. He was living in Germany at the

15 time. When he came out of Dachau he came to
16 Austria. That I do seem to remember, that
17 conversation.

18 So that is when my parents first started
19 thinking about sending me away. My cousin who
20 lives now in San Francisco, through her parents and
21 through someone they found guarantors in England
22 and she in effect got me guarantors and then the
23 10th of January, 11th of January I was put on a
24 children's transport.

25 INTERVIEWER: In 1939?

1 MRS. RADCLIFFE: In January 1939.

2 INTERVIEWER: This was about four
3 months or something, five months, I guess after
4 the -- well, I don't know. What month was it when
5 the synagogues were burned?

6 MRS. RADCLIFFE: In November.

7 INTERVIEWER: Two months later?

8 MRS. RADCLIFFE: Right.

9 INTERVIEWER: Your whole life was
10 going to be changing when they said you have to
11 leave. What happened to you during that time?
12 What were you thinking?

13 MRS. RADCLIFFE: You know, I think as

14 a child there's a certain amount of excitement. I
15 think things happened so fast that I don't even
16 know whether anyone had time to think. When I
17 think back now, some of my friends weren't there
18 all of a sudden. We didn't see each other any
19 more. They seemed to have like disappeared.
20 Either they left or which I later on found they
21 were sent away. All of a sudden we weren't in
22 schools together any more. People seemed to
23 disappear all of a sudden. I think one of my
24 friends, the one I was so close with, her father
25 lived in Czechoslovakia in the Sudenten part of

30

1 Czechoslovakia and her and her mother lived in
2 Vienna and whether they went to Czechoslovakia, all
3 we know she didn't survive. That we did find out.
4 Our parents, going back again before the Hitler
5 time, the mothers used to go with our buggies, we
6 used to walk, there was a park there where we
7 walked, a certain street where they went up and
8 down with us for walks. Ice skating we did
9 together. Even going back further now, these were
10 always the people that were referred to as Nazis.
11 When I think back, we already knew they were all
12 Nazis years ago. We didn't associate with any of
13 them.

14 Anyway, all of a sudden people seemed to
15 disappear. One good instance was that there was a
16 boy we were playing with, he and his brother, the
17 families were close to, I always thought he
18 disappeared in a concentration camp. Only about
19 six or seven years ago I was given an address in
20 Santa Barbara of his parents and I got his name
21 from an uncle have mine that survived and got out
22 and lived in Santa Barbara and I picked up the
23 phone and I said you better sit down, somebody from
24 your far past has emerged. He said are you Gerhart
25 Himmler, of all the Jewish names, Gerhart Himmler,

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1 do you remember somebody by the name of Lilly
2 Hirschfeld? It was traumatic. So we've kept in
3 touch ever since. My God, he said, I thought you
4 were dead. It was very, very moving. Of course,
5 we've grown apart as friends but we still keep in
6 touch now. In fact, I got his parents' address
7 through my girlfriend in Israel who also -- she
8 went to England and she survived, one of the
9 girlfriends.

10 But people seemed to disappear. I think
11 that's what I seem to remember, that you just from
12 one day to the next, they weren't there and you

13 don't know where they left to and where they went
14 to.

15 INTERVIEWER: That happened to you
16 too.

17 MRS. RADCLIFFE: One day I was on a
18 train and I think it happened very fast, within a
19 couple of days when I was told you be at the
20 station at this and that time. Yes, I do remember.
21 But there was that excitement of being with a lot
22 of young people together, but what I do remember,
23 of course, is my parents standing there at the
24 train station and that good-bye, I understand it
25 today, how hard it must have been for them.

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1 I think later on in life I developed a
2 tremendous guilt feeling. I've always had the
3 capacity in the past of, for many years, that if I
4 don't like something to put it away and not talk
5 about it, not think about it, as if it never
6 happened, until my husband became ill and passed
7 away. That's when I developed this tremendous
8 guilt feeling.

9 INTERVIEWER: About leaving your
10 parents?

11 MRS. RADCLIFFE: Right. When you
12 reason it out -- well, I've always had a lot of

13 guilt feeling. That was some of the joke my
14 husband always felt, if you don't feel guilty, you
15 feel guilty because you don't feel guilty.

16 INTERVIEWER: Did you ever see your
17 parents after that?

18 MRS. RADCLIFFE: No.

19 INTERVIEWER: It's a natural
20 reaction, isn't it, to feel like you weren't there?

21 MRS. RADCLIFFE: I left them there to
22 die. Logically you can reason it out. Well, it
23 was the only way to go and, you know, you would do
24 the same in the circumstances, but from the other
25 part, yes -- you know, it's strange that I don't

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1 even hate the Germans. The Austrians maybe more
2 so, but I've decided a long time ago in my life
3 that I can't live a life of hate and that's not
4 where I want to be. At least give the person the
5 chance to prove -- I mean, they always have to
6 prove themselves to me but I don't want to be just
7 judging somebody unless -- I'm suspicious, yes, of
8 course. With the Austrians I feel a little
9 different. The Austrians, I feel personally that
10 the Austrians were bigger Nazis than the Germans.
11 That is my feeling about it. That doesn't change

12 too much. I think the Austrian per se was maybe
13 less educated in the schools. They were more the
14 proletariat. That's because maybe the people I
15 knew and the Germans I met later on in life were
16 more educated people than the ones I had associated
17 with. Now, that could be. I also feel that what
18 happened in Austria within nine months and a year
19 took really maybe five and six years before it
20 happened in Germany. It all happened so fast.
21 Everybody was ready to be a Nazi. It didn't
22 develop where from Germany between 1933 and 1938,
23 you had -- to 1939, you had that span.

24 INTERVIEWER: The Austrians you're
25 saying were immediately --

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1 MRS. RADCLIFFE: When we say,
2 antisemitic. Maybe Nazis isn't right. The
3 Austrian history has been very antisemitic history,
4 very much up front.

5 INTERVIEWER: You felt they embraced
6 Hitler and Naziism?

7 MRS. RADCLIFFE: Absolutely. Of
8 course, now the ridiculous thing is when my late
9 husband and I went back to Vienna after the war and
10 he was from Berlin originally and when he would ask
11 with his German dial length directions, it took me

12 a while to find out what was going on. They would
13 send you the opposite way because they are
14 pretending you are German, you don't like the
15 Germans, maybe they don't like the Germans but
16 whatever else their background was, they were
17 Nazis.

18 You probably want to hear about the
19 transport, the train. So we left and we went via
20 Frankfort to the Hague of Holland and then came
21 across to London and I continued to hear from my
22 parents regularly. There was always the hope -- I
23 think it was every day in my mind when the war is
24 over -- of course, war broke out -- well, no, quite
25 a few months later, really. That there was always

35
1 that hope, well, they'll come over and I knew that
2 some of my father's brothers and sisters came to
3 the United States and apparently what happened, my
4 father's mother who also lived in Linz was moved to
5 Vienna to live with my parents. Neither one of
6 them got out. I did find out after the war that my
7 parents were sent to Litsmanstat in Poland.
8 Unfortunately what I was looking for, I did have a
9 card that my father arrived there but not my
10 mother. I heard that my mother collapsed on the

11 way boarding the train to Litsmanstat and my father
12 was sent alone. The one notification I did have
13 that, on a postcard after the war, that that's
14 where he was sent to. Maybe that still came -- I
15 don't even remember who sent me that card. I
16 couldn't find it. I was looking for it all over.
17 I could have at some point decided I don't want to
18 look at it any more and throw it away. That could
19 have happened.

20 INTERVIEWER: Somebody sent you a
21 postcard telling you --

22 MRS. RADCLIFFE: It was an official
23 postcard that they received that my father was sent
24 to Litsmanstat. That's how we knew that they were
25 sent to Litsmanstat.

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1 INTERVIEWER: It was an official
2 postcard?

3 MRS. RADCLIFFE: It was a printed
4 card. It was sort of a buff colored card with some
5 printing and writing and arrived in Litsmanstat. I
6 don't have the documentation.

7 INTERVIEWER: Was it Austrian
8 documentation?

9 MRS. RADCLIFFE: It was from
10 Litsmanstat.

11 INTERVIEWER: Somebody sent that to
12 you?

13 MRS. RADCLIFFE: Somebody received it
14 still that my father got there. Whether it was
15 from him actually, but it was a documentation that
16 we definitely know that's where he was sent to. Of
17 course, Litsmanstat was one of the concentration
18 camps. I don't think they had any survivors.

19 INTERVIEWER: Your mother, how did
20 you hear that she had collapsed?

21 MRS. RADCLIFFE: I think somebody saw
22 a friend of my friend, the parents, they met them
23 somewhere, and they also saw my parents sweeping
24 streets.

25 INTERVIEWER: In Vienna?

1 MRS. RADCLIFFE: Well, I don't know ³⁷
2 whether it was Austria or they sent to Hungary at
3 the time. There has been some confusion exactly
4 where that was, where they actually were seen.

5 INTERVIEWER: You left in 1939?

6 MRS. RADCLIFFE: I left in 1939.
7 This I didn't find out after the war and, of
8 course, the minute the war ended that was the end
9 of receiving any correspondence.

10 INTERVIEWER: You didn't hear from
11 them from when to when?

12 MRS. RADCLIFFE: I didn't hear about
13 them until the war was over in the forties. I
14 think until the United States started, went into
15 war. My family was still in contact with my
16 parents somewhat through the United States, until
17 they were deported.

18 INTERVIEWER: You were not --

19 MRS. RADCLIFFE: I was not, no. The
20 last letter officially I had was in England just
21 before the war broke out.

22 INTERVIEWER: When was that?

23 MRS. RADCLIFFE: The war broke
24 out -- was it in September? Yes, September the war
25 broke out. I was still -- I also helped to get

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1 some people out that are in England today, children
2 that were friends of my mother's. We often talk
3 about that, that they came to Manchester as well.
4 I remember always trying to get my cousins out from
5 Czechoslovakia because that was before
6 Czechoslovakia was being taken over and it was the
7 same story again. My uncle would not hear about
8 it. The Russians will look after us was his
9 comment again. We are Czech. The Russians will

10 look after us.

11 INTERVIEWER: When was this, that you
12 were trying to get them out?

13 MRS. RADCLIFFE: Before the war, 1939
14 still, before Czechoslovakia was taken over. I
15 think Czechoslovakia was taken over again, right?
16 I came to England in January. But they also
17 wouldn't hear about it. Nothing will happen to us.
18 The Russians won't allow it.

19 INTERVIEWER: What happened to when
20 you you got to England? Where did you go?

21 MRS. RADCLIFFE: I arrived in London
22 and had to take the train, one house, somebody from
23 the committee met me in London and put me on the
24 train to Manchester. I couldn't speak one word of
25 English. It really was sad when I think back on

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1 this.

2 INTERVIEWER: You were how old?

3 MRS. RADCLIFFE: I was 13. I was 13
4 and the family I lived with, she was converted
5 Jewish, very Orthodox. They had an Orthodox
6 catering business with two daughters, one married.
7 I was very unhappy. It was a horrible time of my
8 life. That's when I became aware I'm away from my

9 parents. I don't speak the language. They thought
10 they would get a domestic servant which didn't
11 happen. I didn't know how to boil a cup of water.
12 One of the really typical spoiled children.

13 I was put into a school practically
14 immediately and one of the girls used to pick me up
15 and take me back and forth from school. It was a
16 rough time, really.

17 INTERVIEWER: You lived with the
18 family?

19 MRS. RADCLIFFE: We lived with the
20 family, very, very unhappy, really.

21 INTERVIEWER: You were unhappy
22 because you were away from your parents. What
23 about the family? Were they nice to you?

24 MRS. RADCLIFFE: I don't think so,
25 but they saved my life. One can never forget that.

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1 The woman that was converted -- they really didn't
2 practice anything. Her sister-in-law was Jewish
3 and -- sure. I sort of gravitated towards her. I
4 think I was very confused at the time, having all
5 this Orthodox for catering purposes and yet not
6 seeing any religion of any kind there. I think I
7 must have been very confused. But my cousin who
8 stayed with a family, she was very unhappy. She

9 was more unhappy than I was. So she ran away. She
10 ended up staying with me for a few weeks. In the
11 mean time her parents went to the United States and
12 she, before the United States entered into war, she
13 still left. So I left there alone practically and
14 that became harder and more difficult at the time.
15 Except there was a refugee hostel about two blocks
16 down the street. Once I got affiliated with the
17 children there, I became a little more content and
18 it was a little easier.

19 INTERVIEWER: You had some friends?

20 MRS. RADCLIFFE: I had some friends
21 there. As a matter of fact, that particular hostel
22 was featured a few years ago on British BBC. They
23 made a documentary. I don't know whether you ever
24 heard of that. They made a documentary, what
25 happened to the children at 35 Northumberland

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1 Street. Again I found one of the girls here by
2 coincidence that was staying in the children's
3 hostel.

4 INTERVIEWER: These were all Jews?

5 MRS. RADCLIFFE: They were all
6 Jewish.

7 INTERVIEWER: From all over Europe?

8 MRS. RADCLIFFE: Mainly from Germany
9 and Austria. Czechoslovakia really, again the war
10 had already broken out after that.

11 INTERVIEWER: A lot of children
12 didn't get out of Czechoslovakia?

13 MRS. RADCLIFFE: Right.

14 INTERVIEWER: How long were you with
15 this family?

16 MRS. RADCLIFFE: I was with the
17 family -- I've got some good stories from them but
18 I don't know whether that fits into this. I don't
19 know whether that fits into this.

20 I went to school until I was 14. It was a
21 struggle. But we managed. And then they decided
22 that I need to earn some money. It didn't work
23 that I would be a catering maid. That didn't work
24 too well. I'll never forget the day when she
25 wanted me to make her a cup of tea or whatever. My

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1 English was very bad, non-existent, really. I
2 couldn't find -- I don't know. I didn't know how
3 to heat the stove and she said to me well, the
4 matches are there. Strike the match on the floor.
5 Well, it didn't occur to me that you could strike a
6 match on the floor. So I went back about ten
7 minutes later and I said I'm sorry, I can't find

8 the floor because I was looking for the box.

9 INTERVIEWER: You couldn't find the
10 floor because --

11 MRS. RADCLIFFE: I was looking for
12 the box. I thought that I'm supposed to look for
13 the box.

14 One of the very funny jobs I had was they
15 put me in a factory, one of the sweat factories
16 where the refugee children were overlocking
17 panties. Overlocking means as you sew, it cuts the
18 material. A 14 year old girl sitting next to me,
19 we were doing a lot of talking and everybody we did
20 the sewing it cut the panty in half. Well, we lost
21 the job two days later. Both of us didn't have a
22 job. That was the end of that one. These are some
23 of the really funny stories. I can't imagine that
24 this all happened to me.

25 So then the people being caterers, my next

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1 job was also great and wonderful. They were doing
2 some catering for lunches in an amusement parlor.
3 Obviously I know today gambling was going on, but I
4 had a job in the amusement parlor sitting in one of
5 those boxes where the crane, as you put money in
6 outside, the crane hand would pick up, I don't

7 know, chewing gum or whatever and my job was to
8 refill this chewing gum or whatever. Well, that
9 was already the war was on, of course, and we were
10 all friendly enemy aliens and I was under age.
11 Well, the place was raided because of the gambling
12 so they pulled me out from the back of that. So
13 that was the end of that job. For eight shillings
14 a week. Eight shillings a week is what, \$1 a week?
15 I don't know. So that was the end of that job.
16 Then the flying bombs started. Finally I got
17 another job sewing slacks in a factory. I hated, I
18 absolutely hated that job. We were sleeping in air
19 raid shelters. I got frozen feet but I also
20 decided to go at that point -- I got tired of all
21 this and I started to go to Pittman's College at
22 the time to take some classes in shorthand which I
23 didn't like either. Anyway, I met a nice Jewish
24 family that I became very good friends with. No,
25 that was already when I had the office job. I did

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1 get an office job. I was working sewing the slacks
2 and I really hadn't admitted it to anybody in
3 England ever but I've admitted it here. I used to
4 go to bed every night praying that that factory
5 would burn down and I would wake up in the morning
6 praying that the factory burned down and thank God

7 I never mentioned it to anybody because the factory
8 really burned down one day. That was job number
9 three. That was the end. I decide nod more jobs
10 that I hate. I really never admitted it to anyone
11 until I left England because I thought I would get
12 arrested. I had nothing to do with it, really. I
13 couldn't believe this. I sort of feel that I have
14 witch's powers.

15 Anyway, I did then get an office job. I
16 became more and more unhappy with the family where
17 I lived and I ran away. The refugee committee at
18 that time -- well, didn't have the funds probably
19 to do anything with me. They had so many problems
20 and obviously the funds weren't there. So they
21 would not listen to me. I wanted to move down to
22 the hostel and they wouldn't allow that. I ran
23 away and the children hid me overnight in the
24 hostel on North UMBERLAND Street. By that time I
25 had a lot of good friends there. Anyhow they found

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1 me the next morning and I refused to go back.
2 There was nothing anybody could do with me to get
3 me back there. So the hostel kept me for a few
4 days. Somebody went back with me to get some of my
5 clothes from the people where I stayed with. In

6 fact, I left a lot of things that would mean a lot
7 to me now, but so be it. Then the person I worked
8 with took me to live with her for a few days. In
9 the mean time an aunt and uncle that was a cousin
10 of my mother's, she got settled, got an apartment
11 in London. Anyhow, they moved me, though, to a
12 hostel in London for a couple of weeks until my
13 aunt got settled and got the apartment fixed up and
14 I then moved in with her.

15 INTERVIEWER: This was an aunt from
16 where, Czechoslovakia?

17 MRS. RADCLIFFE: She was also the
18 same background as my mother. She wasn't really an
19 aunt. She is a cousin. She was a cousin of my
20 mother. They left. They came to London. She was
21 a domestic servant. In the mean time my uncle was
22 in the army. He had a sister and they sort of took
23 me in. They didn't have any children. That became
24 a very important part of my life because I really
25 feel that my childhood from 13 to 17 was completely

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1 lost and I feel very cheated about it. I think
2 maybe that's why my life, those that know me, I
3 have to do everything. I don't want to miss a
4 thing.

5 I lived with them and that's when my life

6 really became very happy and caring except that I
7 developed tuberculosis and ended up in a sanatorium
8 for two years.

9 INTERVIEWER: For how long?

10 MRS. RADCLIFFE: Two years.

11 INTERVIEWER: In London?

12 MRS. RADCLIFFE: In London. I
13 eventually got a job -- after I had the TB, when I
14 came out I got a job in St. Mary's hospital, as a
15 matter of fact, but the interesting thing happened
16 too, I was still very much under the auspices of
17 the refugee committee, even in London, becoming
18 sick and developing TB. For convalescence they
19 sent me to a family outside London -- of course,
20 you know, the war was on and bombs were flying all
21 over. First from the hospital I was evacuated to a
22 sanitarium outside and then to another sanitarium.
23 The flying bombs were still flying so they didn't
24 want me to come back to London. A family by the
25 name of Durenberg, son of the Warburg family, took

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1 me in. Although I was 17, we started becoming very
2 close and they wanted to adopt me. I felt I was
3 too old at the age of 17 to be adopted so I really
4 didn't want to do that but I actually lived with

5 here?

6 MRS. RADCLIFFE: No, his mother was
7 in England. He was from Berlin and he left -- he
8 just got out from Berlin a few weeks -- well, a few
9 days before war broke out and brought his mother to
10 England. His father died of a heart attack in
11 Germany.

12 We came over here and started -- we
13 brought my uncle over.

14 INTERVIEWER: Your uncle from here?

15 MRS. RADCLIFFE: No, my uncle in
16 England, the one I lived with in England. I call
17 him my uncle.

18 INTERVIEWER: Who did you have over
19 here?

20 MRS. RADCLIFFE: My father's brother
21 and my father's sister lived here. The one that
22 did the negotiating with Eichman. And as I
23 mentioned before, in fact during the Eichman trial
24 he was called as a witness here supposedly in his
25 father which he refused to do, of course. They

1 sought him out as a pro-Eichman, of course.

2 INTERVIEWER: How did your uncle
3 escape Czechoslovakia?

4 MRS. RADCLIFFE: Not Czechoslovakia,
5 Austria, Linz. Apparently they all got the
6 papers -- actually, all the brothers and the sister
7 got out except my father and I felt very, very
8 bitter about that. I felt, and I still do, right
9 or wrong, I really don't know, but I do feel that
10 the whole family got out either to Israel or to the
11 United States and I believe even one brother got
12 out to South America, my cousin. We really don't
13 know where she is, the cousin. I really feel -- so
14 the grandmother was sent to my parents and they
15 were left there to just look after her. I could be
16 wrong but I do have resentment there, absolutely.

17 INTERVIEWER: Your father wouldn't
18 leave his mother there?

19 MRS. RADCLIFFE: It became too late.
20 By the time they got an affidavit to come to the
21 United States, it was too late. We found then a
22 lot of my friends perished. Going back to
23 Czechoslovakia, what happened, my uncle, the last
24 six months of the war was sent to Kariezienstat.

25 INTERVIEWER: Your uncle --

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1 MRS. RADCLIFFE: From Czechoslovakia,
2 right. But my aunt who was not Jewish, that really
3 helped a lot, she helped a lot. My cousins who

4 were also not brought up Jewish -- they know where
5 they are coming from but one of them is younger
6 than I am and one of them was a year older. Both
7 of them, they were given the choice by their
8 parents to go with their Sudeten German you know
9 kill and they refused. I never talked to them
10 since. They stayed by the side of their parents
11 and they really went through some very, very rough
12 times. In fact, my uncle was already in
13 Thereisenstat and then the Germans already had
14 rounded up all the men and male children to be shot
15 when the liberation came.

16 The first time my late husband and I went
17 back to Czechoslovakia, they were still living
18 under horrible conditions. In the mean time, there
19 was the Russian takeover and they had suffered
20 tremendously. What they didn't suffer from the
21 Germans they really suffered from the Russian
22 occupation.

23 The two boys were working in a factory and
24 they had worked themselves up and apparently when
25 they found out they were in the past capitalists

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1 they were put down in the boiler room and you had a
2 lot -- my girlfriend whose father shot himself

3 because he was a Jew, right up to the last time I
4 was in Czechoslovakia which was still before the
5 liberation just now she -- I mean, they were
6 constantly throwing out your father was a
7 capitalist or a Jew and it really -- they had
8 some --

9 INTERVIEWER: (unintelligible)

10 MRS. RADCLIFFE: Well, even to a
11 certain degree in talking about that -- I was there
12 during the communist time. I wanted to go back to
13 the village. My cousins don't live there any more
14 in that village. They live outside. So the
15 building they lived in, they made a cooking school
16 out of. They sort of did raise the standard of the
17 lower echelon at that time.

18 My cousin himself wouldn't come into the
19 village. My girlfriend whose father shot himself,
20 she knew that I wanted to go back there. I needed
21 to go back there once more in my lifetime to see
22 where my grandparents lived, where the Jewish man
23 lived that had the gravestones, that made the
24 gravestones, and I wanted to see the little
25 synagogue.

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1 My cousin left us off outside town or
2 outside that village and his wife and my

3 girlfriend, we walked in and there was an old man
4 that recognized us, the girl that -- my girlfriend.
5 So he introduced me and, of course, I was the
6 daughter of the Jewish uncle. There is this little
7 synagogue -- I could have brought that picture --
8 that had a writing on there which was a monument of
9 the Jewish -- the Russians, okay? A monument, like
10 make it a historical place of the Jews that this is
11 a synagogue. I thought I was going to die, really.
12 What happened? What is the story of this? When
13 the Russians wanted to make this a memorial to the
14 Jews, that building, and the only way they would do
15 that -- okay, how was it? Some person wanted to
16 buy the building to make a distillery in it and the
17 only way he could buy that distillery is if he put
18 that plaque outside that this was a synagogue. So
19 great mark, right, that it now is a distillery of
20 some kind and this is a synagogue.

21 I couldn't get over that. You know, this
22 is again typical under the communist regime.

23 Another interesting thing happened. In
24 the town where they live now, it's called
25 (unintelligible) there are two cemeteries there.

2 grandparents were.

3 It was always -- whenever we went to
4 Czechoslovakia before the war my mother -- it was
5 always a big thing to go and visit the graves.
6 Even I as a child would -- that I would be allowed
7 to do. That was the only time that I could handle
8 with death, really.

9 Whenever I asked to go to the cemetery my
10 cousins absolutely said you can't go, we won't let
11 you know, you can't see it, it's horrible. The
12 Jewish cemetery was completely destroyed or
13 vandalism, whatever, so I never could see. Then
14 one day a few years ago now the son of the person
15 that was making the Jewish gravestones lives -- he
16 lives in Germany now as an ex-American Air Force
17 whatever, Air Force officer, but he decided to
18 retire in Munich for some reason.

19 For some reason he doesn't go back to this
20 town, Eglo, where my cousins live now. My uncle
21 and aunt died in the mean time. I always thought
22 there was only one cemetery there, a cemetery, a
23 Christian cemetery, you know, but I didn't know it
24 was Christian or what, until Emil, a friend of
25 mine, said to me Lilly, you are going to Eglo,

1 would you do me a favor? There is a Jewish

2 cemetery in Eglo which my cousins never told me,
3 although in Prague they made a point, you want to
4 see the temple in Prague. Okay, you know.

5 So I came back and I said where is the
6 Jewish cemetery? Well, lo and behold, if it isn't
7 right next to the Christian cemetery which is
8 across the street from where they live, where they
9 go every day. I walk into this Jewish cemetery and
10 I've got a name to look for. The grass is
11 overgrown and most of the stones and we look and we
12 look and we look and there is a couple of stones
13 there with that person's, mother's name on it that
14 was kept. It has flowers on it and to this day we
15 don't know who put the flowers on it. I took a
16 picture of it. I sent it to Emil and said thank
17 you for putting flowers on it. He said I didn't.
18 Again, the Jewish cemetery is really not kept up.
19 All it is is some person is looking for it. I'm
20 going to be back there in one month from now. I'm
21 going to make an effort again now that we're
22 liberated there, I'll make an effort again, and I
23 do want to see what happened to the graves of my
24 grandparents. At some point now we should be able
25 to do something with it. I don't know whether it

1 will be possible, how destroyed it really is, but
2 those things are very touching and it's amazing how
3 you sort of -- for years you don't think about it,
4 it doesn't even enter your mind and then it comes
5 up.

6 INTERVIEWER: When you came to the
7 states where did you live?

8 MRS. RADCLIFFE: In San Francisco.

9 INTERVIEWER: Where?

10 MRS. RADCLIFFE: Again, we had to
11 borrow the money to come over here. We didn't have
12 any money in England. We were really struggling
13 the six months we were married. The refugee
14 committee here -- my uncle in England loaned us the
15 money to come over here and then, I don't know, we
16 landed in New York for a few days until some of
17 the money was collected for us to come by train
18 across to San Francisco and we started from the
19 bottom and it worked out. We each got a job. My
20 husband and I got a job and sort of worked
21 ourselves up.

22 INTERVIEWER: What was the job?

23 MRS. RADCLIFFE: He started off as a
24 Fuller Brush man and I worked in an office and then
25 he got a job as an insurance agent and eventually

1 became an insurance broker, life insurance.

2 INTERVIEWER: And you?

3 MRS. RADCLIFFE: Eventually I started
4 working for Stouffer Chemical Company and I
5 finished up there in middle management as accounts
6 receivable manager, customer service manager,
7 corporate, national and international. I traveled
8 a lot for them. We didn't have any children.

9 INTERVIEWER: Was that on purpose?

10 INTERVIEWER: No, I couldn't have any
11 because of the TB. I had a very rough time after
12 my husband passed away. I got pelvic tubal
13 colosis. I was one of the few who struggled with
14 this for two years very badly.

15 INTERVIEWER: You look fantastic?

16 MRS. RADCLIFFE: I know, I'm
17 fantastic. I have a good attitude. I'm fantastic.

18 INTERVIEWER: That's what I wanted to
19 ask you. What is the trick? What is the attitude
20 that you have learned that has made you survive and
21 look like you do?

22 MRS. RADCLIFFE: I'm a survivor. I'm
23 a fighter. I decided a long time ago and so did my
24 husband that we don't want to have hatred in our
25 house and I'm saying this again. You know, a lot

1 of Jewish people that haven't gone through it and
2 haven't lost as much as I have, my parents, my
3 friends and most of the family, I can't live that
4 way. I feel that every day is precious and one has
5 to make the most of life and help possibly others
6 that go through the trauma of losing a husband.
7 That was a very traumatic time. I'm going back to
8 the concept of death, that spoiled children, how we
9 have been -- even me having lived on a farm which
10 you would think in farm life you would live with
11 death, it's always been something that has been
12 kept away from me until Paul became ill and got
13 cancer. I completely fell apart. I really did
14 because death was something that happens to
15 somebody else in the family. I mean, it was
16 something that I had pushed away all my life. It
17 was something very, very difficult to cope with
18 that actually -- we decided -- obviously I went for
19 counseling because I really fell apart -- it was
20 established that I had to mourn for my parents.
21 I'm still doing it with things I don't like. I
22 have this horrendous capacity to forget things I
23 don't want to deal with and don't want to handle.

24 Of course, maybe we should talk about it a
25 little, the first time I went back to Vienna. The

1 first time we went back was in the late fifties, I
2 think. That was a very, very difficult experience
3 for me. Of course, Paul was with me. I'll never
4 forget. We looked at the building where my parents
5 and I lived in that was bombed and completely
6 destroyed but I stood there where we -- where my
7 mother used to push the pram, the buggy, and I felt
8 for a moment that floor open up and I sunk into it.
9 I had a flashback that was incredible to 1939 and
10 it took me a long time to get over it. Luckily
11 Paul was with me. I could have fainted. That's
12 what it felt like, really.

13 INTERVIEWER: What did you flash back
14 to?

15 MRS. RADCLIFFE: To the childhood.
16 Then walking through the park and seeing the same
17 type of faces sitting there on those deck chairs,
18 it was just horrible. They hadn't changed a bit,
19 they really hadn't changed a bit, as far as I'm
20 concerned.

21 Since then we went back to Vienna once
22 more, mainly because Vienna is the point to go to
23 Czechoslovakia. It would be sort of a point to
24 drive in. Then I went back, after Paul I went back
25 once more. By that time I felt I sort of felt like

1 I could handle it. It's not one of my favorite
2 places to go to. Again it's strange when I'm in
3 Austria and I meet German people, I don't feel that
4 bad to them as I do towards the Austrians and to
5 Poles for that matter. The Czechoslovakians were
6 also very antisemitic. They also weren't the
7 greatest.

8 I think we grew up knowing there's -- I
9 think we were very well aware as children there's
10 antisemitism around. When I think to my life now,
11 I feel just that, after my husband died, that every
12 day one lives is a bonus and there's a lot of
13 beautiful things out in the world. I'm in
14 international competitive ballroom dancing. Would
15 you believe that? That keeps me going a lot. That
16 really -- it's somewhere to go and something to do
17 and no pressure. Well, pressure of winning the
18 medals, winning the competitions.

19 INTERVIEWER: Where do you do this?

20 MRS. RADCLIFFE: I go to the Imperial
21 Ballroom in Redwood City.

22 INTERVIEWER: What a wonderful thing
23 to do.

24 MRS. RADCLIFFE: I just love it
25 really. I travel a lot. In the mean time Stouffer

1 Chemical Company was taken over in one of the
2 mergers and I started a new career. I went to
3 travel agency school and an outside sales rep,
4 travel consultant, and I take tours. I'll be
5 taking a tour to Europe next month. It gives me an
6 opportunity to see the world and see the
7 differences of what is going on. I used to be
8 president of ward, the region president of ward. I
9 was there in Israel with my husband for the ground
10 breaking ceremony of the school of engineering.
11 I'm affiliated with temple Beth Jacob, I belong to
12 Hadassah, all the Jewish things, you know. My
13 husband's memorial, it's like a plaque, the
14 grounds, the school of engineering. It had a lot
15 of meaning for me. I know it's silly, a little
16 plaque, and maybe the Israelis sometimes laugh
17 about it but he was there for the ground breaking
18 ceremonies and it's something where life goes by.

19 INTERVIEWER: When did he die, how
20 long ago?

21 MRS. RADCLIFFE: Twelve years ago.

22 INTERVIEWER: Well, there's a secret
23 you have, Lilly, that --

24 MRS. RADCLIFFE: Well, life goes on.
25 I think, really, when you reach out -- I don't want

1 to miss anything. I think if you reach out for
2 things, they are there. I wish I would have a
3 little more time to do warranty works but my life
4 has been so busy. Taking care of everything by
5 myself is really a little difficult at times. I
6 have wonderful friends here, a great support system
7 in the Jewish community and the non-Jewish
8 community for that matter, really. I've got a lot
9 of very close good friends and that gives one a lot
10 of strength.

11 INTERVIEWER: I know April has been
12 so patient sitting there taking notes and stuff.

13 INTERVIEWER: I don't think patient
14 is the word. I've been very, very interested
15 somewhat you have to say and how you overcame all
16 the nightmares that you lived through but I have a
17 few questions. Just very factual, first. Your
18 birth date?

19 MRS. RADCLIFFE: The year too?

20 INTERVIEWER: You told us the year,
21 1925.

22 MRS. RADCLIFFE: August 10.

23 INTERVIEWER: You had a birthday very
24 recently.

25 MRS. RADCLIFFE: Right.

1 INTERVIEWER: What was your mother's
2 name?

3 MRS. RADCLIFFE: Leonora Posales.

4 INTERVIEWER: Can we go back a
5 little? I really didn't get too much of a sense of
6 your mother, the kind of human being she was.

7 MRS. RADCLIFFE: Very gentle, very
8 well liked, very sensitive, and pretty and spoiled
9 me terribly, being the only child, of course.
10 Unfortunately I didn't know her too long and too
11 well. We would spend all the time together. We
12 were always together, really.

13 INTERVIEWER: What did you do
14 together?

15 MRS. RADCLIFFE: She would take me
16 skating and she would take me to children's things.
17 Her life revolved around me.

18 INTERVIEWER: And your father, he
19 was --

20 MRS. RADCLIFFE: He was a little more
21 stricter, very concerned with all the good advices,
22 you know, when I left home, what to do and not to
23 do. I don't know whether psychologically this is
24 very good or not. Got me some hang ups, I think.
25 This is what happened, we led a very sheltered life

1 per se, really, maybe not so in England, but very
2 fixed ideas, very, very straight. I always say
3 I've led a sheltered life and I was married and all
4 of a sudden I came into this outside world twelve
5 years ago and it's a different world out there than
6 what I was used to. I adapted to it.

7 INTERVIEWER: Were you a pretty
8 protected child?

9 A. Yes. My husband also spoiled me
10 terribly.

11 INTERVIEWER: Your husband spoiled
12 you too but you went to England and in that time
13 when you are with that family it sounded as if you
14 were very independent.

15 MRS. RADCLIFFE: Terribly, I'm
16 terribly independent.

17 INTERVIEWER: You rebelled against
18 them, you gave up these jobs, you ran away. The
19 sheltered little girl back in Vienna changed a
20 great deal.

21 MRS. RADCLIFFE: It's changed more in
22 the last twelve years. Even since I came to the
23 United States. I think I really for some reason, I
24 adapted to the American people immediately. I
25 liked their sense of humor and their freeness and I

1 think working for Stouffer developed me and
2 becoming ORT president. I think I learned a lot
3 there. I think that gave me an awful lot.

4 INTERVIEWER: So you developed a lot
5 of security, feeling of confidence in your work?

6 A. Right, that I can manage alone, yes. I'm
7 very independent.

8 INTERVIEWER: It sounds as if you had
9 a very close and loving relationship with your
10 husband.

11 MRS. RADCLIFFE: Absolutely, very
12 much so.

13 INTERVIEWER: You say that you have a
14 good support group in and out of the Jewish
15 community. You have friends who are not Jewish
16 also?

17 MRS. RADCLIFFE: Yes.

18 INTERVIEWER: Do you feel that any of
19 our experience has sensitized you more to
20 antisemitism if you see it here? You see some of
21 it here too.

22 MRS. RADCLIFFE: I do. Certainly
23 I've had -- I think some of the antisemitism I've
24 encountered in our years in the United States have

25 strangely enough been from people that are pretty

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1 close, so-called close friends and somewhere in
2 conversation they forgot that we are Jewish and let
3 their hair down. I think there were a couple of
4 pretty shocking experiences that hurt terribly but
5 I can walk away from it. I'm saying okay, you want
6 to be an antisemite? All right. Get out of my
7 life. I don't want to deal with you. I think I
8 can deal with it without getting too historical
9 about it. Really, it doesn't really matter. Do
10 what you want and if I don't like what you say I'll
11 tell you so and I'll answer back.

12 INTERVIEWER: And you are safer now?

13 MRS. RADCLIFFE: I feel safe, yes.

14 Of course, Temple Beth Jacobs has had its ups and
15 downs, as you know. My husband took that very
16 badly. He died about a week or so after the temple
17 burned down and when the temple was burning it was
18 terrible. We saw it on television. Why couldn't I
19 have died so that I don't have to go through this a
20 second time, completely not understanding what
21 really happened there. I don't know whether we
22 ever got through to him. I think the rabbi came
23 and talked to him. He took that very, very badly
24 when that happened.

1 feeling of less antipathy toward the Germans and
2 toward the Austrians is to some degree tied up with
3 the fact that your husband was German and also the
4 Austrians were your people and they betrayed you?

5 A. No. I really don't think so. I think
6 I'm really, hopefully, doing it from experience in
7 coming in contact with people. Sure, I've seen
8 plenty of -- the older generation -- maybe I'm
9 talking more about the younger generation. I'm not
10 saying it could never happen again and certainly
11 new video games out in Europe and et cetera, but
12 generally speaking -- the people I've encountered,
13 maybe that has been mere luck, could be. How many
14 are there, really? I mean, I really, except for
15 flying in and out of Frankford, maybe I'm just
16 trying to tell myself that because I want it to be
17 that way. But even here I had a young lady working
18 for me at Stouffer Chemical Company, two German
19 girls. One of them didn't work for me but one of
20 them did. Both of them are much younger than I.
21 Baumgard is one of the girl's name. She is married
22 to an American. She is always on the defensive and
23 apologizing a lot, the fact that she is German, but

24 her story is also sad. She was sent by the Germans
25 to Sudeten Germans as a child to be evacuated, had

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1 to march back into Germany. Her mother, the first
2 day back her mother is helping to clear up -- she
3 gets hit on the head by a brick and died. She was
4 six, seven years old. So from that point of view
5 how can I -- she is a nice person. Of course, she
6 lives here. Yet I can meet some Austrians here
7 that are just a little younger than me and I know
8 his parents were Nazis. You get the feeling, you
9 just know the whole approach to things, you know,
10 the way he acts and that one feels uncomfortable
11 with him.

12 As I say, people have to prove themselves
13 to me really. I will say that. I am suspicious,
14 of course. Why wouldn't I be?

15 INTERVIEWER: I just want to ask you
16 one more question. I just want to say I'm really
17 impressed with the strength you've developed and
18 how you are handling life. How do you feel in a
19 very sort of larger global philosophical way about
20 the future of the world? Do you think we have set
21 ourselves up so we will never have another
22 holocaust like that again? What is your general
23 feeling?

24

MRS. RADCLIFFE: I think we've

25

got -- I think we've got a long way to go before I

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1 could say this couldn't happen again. I think we
2 have to constantly work with it and be aware of it
3 that it doesn't happen again. I'm very concerned
4 about Russia even. I think, great, the communists
5 are out, wonderful, we are all happy about that,
6 but are they going to swing more to the right? Are
7 we doing that all over? I don't know. I don't
8 think antisemitism has gone away in Poland. It
9 certainly hasn't gone away in Russia. I think the
10 (unintelligible) could be very, very bad. I think
11 we also have to be aware here. Certainly we have
12 seen -- you know, I always have the feeling --
13 there's a saying that some of us had that came from
14 Europe. We say at the end in America everything
15 always ends well and it levels itself off. It's
16 going to be okay here. It usually does. I think
17 we've come a long way from the thirties when we
18 had -- when Jewish people couldn't go into schools,
19 couldn't go into hotels, et cetera, when the
20 segregation was so bad. I think at one time it
21 was -- then it became very fashionable to be on the
22 side of the Jews but I think we're swinging a

23 little back the other way now. I think with the
24 pressure that's been brought upon Israel and
25 whether we're going to see more of that or not, who

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1 only knows? I don't feel that secure and I don't
2 think any of us should feel that secure. I think
3 we should be alert.

4 On one of my trips to Europe skiing a few
5 years ago since my husband passed away we came to
6 Munich and my friend in Czechoslovakia whose
7 mother's grave is in Eglo lives in Munich. Anyway,
8 I was with a non-Jewish crowd stopping off one
9 night in Munich and I'm always on the alert if
10 somebody is antisemitic or not.

11 I wanted to go to Dachau but I wasn't sure
12 whether there was enough time, it was cold, it was
13 in the winter, it was a miserable day, and some
14 people on the trip then made the announcement -- we
15 had one night in Munich, we want to go to Dachau.
16 I asked the person, are you Jewish, maybe I
17 misjudged, somebody was Jewish. She said no. I
18 says why is it you want to go to Dachau? Says
19 we'll come back to Germany but we need -- that has
20 the priority. We need to show our respect in
21 Dachau. I was very impressed. That's again the
22 side of humanity that gives you hope, that you feel

23 there's so much good around. So they left,
24 including the German girl I was telling you whose
25 mother was killed, she was with us. She also went

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1 to Dachau. I was with a girlfriend who also wasn't
2 Jewish, of course, and then we're sitting and
3 having lunch and I'm saying I should be afraid to
4 go to Dachau? That is ridiculous. It's something
5 that's the least I can do. So we got ourselves up.
6 We took the train. It was freezing. So we did go
7 to Dachau. The other people had already spent an
8 hour there. Again, it gives me the sense of hope
9 when I was there because the only tourists that
10 were there were non-Jewish people, were young
11 students that were not Jewish that decided to come
12 and visit Dachau and, of course, it was cold and
13 ice and in a way nobody could show us the way to
14 get there. Again, the people that wanted to
15 forget, I suppose. Anyway, what impressed me so
16 much there was reading in the hall the history that
17 was written up. What it showed when it started
18 listing the events from 1900 and what was impressed
19 upon me was that it really started happening in the
20 1900s. By the time it happened, the concentration
21 camp or the labor camp that was there in 1938, it

22 was too late. So it really happened a good 20, 30
23 years before. I think that should be a lesson that
24 should be given to every human being, that you
25 watch today and you catch it today, not when it

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1 already is established. Then it's too late.
2 Basically I think this is what Dachau showed to me.
3 Sure, it was eerie to stand there. If only the
4 floor could talk, you know, but I think the lesson
5 I learned from that and I think all of us learned
6 that went there was just that: Be aware what
7 happens today and don't close your eyes to it,
8 don't let it go back, speak up.

9 INTERVIEWER: Thank you.

10 INTERVIEWER: I have three questions.
11 Do you remember the name of the family that you
12 stayed with in Manchester, their last name?

13 MRS. RADCLIFFE: Freeman.

14 INTERVIEWER: What is your husband's
15 full name?

16 MRS. RADCLIFFE: Edward Paul
17 Radcliffe. He changed it when he joined the
18 British Army. His name was Rosenblatt. He took it
19 out of the phone book.

20 INTERVIEWER: Originally his name was
21 Rosenblatt and he changed it to Radcliffe?

22 MRS. RADCLIFFE: Yes. I didn't know
23 him at the time but apparently he volunteered to
24 join the British Army, Pioneer Corps at the time as
25 soon as war broke out. He was 17 at the time and

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1 at that time you were the friendly enemy alien in
2 England and you could be interned or sent to
3 Australia so he volunteered for the Pioneer Corps
4 and was sent overseas but he had like two seconds
5 to make up his mind. So he wanted to keep the R.
6 He kept the first letter. He made a big mistake
7 because he never got rid of that accent. That's
8 one accent you can't get rid of. He was in the
9 Pioneer Corps. Then he was in the artillery and he
10 eventually came into intelligence and he
11 interrogated German officers. He was very happy
12 with that. It was his glory. They had to salute
13 him. How come you speak so good German and nobody
14 ever caught on to that.

15 INTERVIEWER: My last question, I'm a
16 real romantic and I like to know how people met.
17 I'd like to know under what circumstances you met
18 your husband. Where did you meet him? Was it in
19 London? I didn't quite get that.

20 MRS. RADCLIFFE: I was on a date with

21 someone else at the Bnei Brith dance at the
22 West End synagogue and he was there with another
23 date. It was a Purim ball, as a matter of fact.
24 My aunt made me one of those Esther hats, whatever,
25 and Paul Jones was -- I don't know whether you know

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1 what a Paul Jones is. Women in the center, men on
2 the outside. The music stopped and he put a penny
3 in my hat. He still took his girlfriend home and
4 my boyfriend took me home and then one day, we had
5 rationing in London at the time and I always
6 carried a net with me. I caught him in that net.
7 I had lost a button of one of my favorite suits and
8 I went downtown, to the West End to find one button
9 to match and apparently I stopped to look in a shop
10 window but my uncle who was also in the West End at
11 the time was watching all this, unknown to me.
12 Apparently Paul was sort of purposely running to
13 me. On Piccadilly Circus, no less. He saw me in
14 the shop window. He remembered me from the dance.
15 We sort of met head on. We had to go back home on
16 the underground and my train came first but he
17 decided to go with me and then he decided to sort
18 of walk me home but I had this note and there were
19 grapefruits on sale and the people were queing up
20 for the grapefruits so he also bought some and he

21 had to borrow my net to take some grapefruits to
22 his mother.

23 INTERVIEWER: Then he had to return
24 the net?

25 MRS. RADCLIFFE: He had to return the

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1 net, of course.

2 INTERVIEWER: The network started.

3 MRS. RADCLIFFE: Very good. Anyway,
4 that's how we met. Eight months later we were
5 married.

6 INTERVIEWER: Thank you. I love that
7 part of the story myself.

8 INTERVIEWER: Anybody else have any
9 questions? Is there something we've missed?

10 MRS. RADCLIFFE: You can philosophize
11 a lot. Not really.

12 INTERVIEWER: Do you want to take a
13 look at some of the pictures?

14 MRS. RADCLIFFE: I don't know who
15 this is. A neighbor, soil, I guess geology
16 probably over there. Then nature history, you
17 know, figures.

18 INTERVIEWER: Like mathematics?

19 MRS. RADCLIFFE: Geometry, drawing,

20 writing, needle, you know --

21 INTERVIEWER: Like home economics?

22 MRS. RADCLIFFE: Singing, I don't
23 know. They used to pay me to be quiet.

24 INTERVIEWER: You play the piano.
25 You have some musicality.

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1 INTERVIEWER: Is that you and your
2 husband?

3 MRS. RADCLIFFE: No, that's my mother
4 and my father.

5 INTERVIEWER: Your mother and your
6 father?

7 MRS. RADCLIFFE: Let's see which
8 album.

9 INTERVIEWER: Where is this from?

10 MRS. RADCLIFFE: This was a few years
11 ago, they asked you to document for Yad Vashem.
12 They did a history project on that and all the
13 documents are there.

14 INTERVIEWER: But you look very much
15 like your mother.

16 MRS. RADCLIFFE: Here more so. This
17 was a wedding picture of mine. I think it's just
18 interesting -- I think what I was trying to show,
19 from the type of -- I mean, looking back on it,

20 this is my mother's family, her brother and her
21 grandfather. It's really like a hundred years ago.

22 (Photographs are shown)

23 INTERVIEWER: Who is that little boy
24 with the tough look on his face?

25 MRS. RADCLIFFE: That's my cousin

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1 that I'm going to be visiting next month in
2 Czechoslovakia and my mother and myself and a
3 friend of my mother's.

4 INTERVIEWER: On your tenth birthday,
5 is that right?

6 MRS. RADCLIFFE: Is that what it
7 says? Yes, I guess so. Then my mother and my
8 father in the living room at home in Vienna and
9 then --

10 INTERVIEWER: That's them in Vienna?

11 MRS. RADCLIFFE: Yes. Then my
12 cousins when they were young kids and my cousin was
13 in horse jumping, almost made the Olympics. The
14 Communists ruined it. And my grandmother and
15 then -- let's see what else you can look. This is
16 my aunt and uncle in Czechoslovakia later and my
17 parents and I in Vienna just before I left.

18 INTERVIEWER: That picture down there

19 in the corner?

20 MRS. RADCLIFFE: Yes.

21 INTERVIEWER: I'd like to get a
22 closer look at that.

23 MRS. RADCLIFFE: This is the aunt and
24 uncle, the sister of my grandmother.

25 INTERVIEWER: Everybody always look

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1 so posed and formal.

2 MRS. RADCLIFFE: They are. We have
3 come a long way. Like I say, white gloves and a
4 farm, you know. This is my grandmother. I'd love
5 to have this picture in here. This is my
6 grandmother, my mother and a friend. This again is
7 one of our favorite spots where we used to go
8 swimming as kids and those wonderful old bathing
9 suits. My goodness, I don't have a picture of my
10 husband here? I can't believe that.

11 This is Viennese --

12 INTERVIEWER: Which one is he?

13 MRS. RADCLIFFE: With the hat on.

14 INTERVIEWER: Did he like to sing?

15 MRS. RADCLIFFE: And play. He played
16 the guitar. He played guitar, flamenco guitar.

17 INTERVIEWER: And he was a good
18 dancer too?

19 MRS. RADCLIFFE: Actually not.
20 INTERVIEWER: This is a nice picture.
21 MRS. RADCLIFFE: Should have had my
22 wedding picture here.
23 INTERVIEWER: That's him right there.
24 There he is. I love the way everybody is dressed?
25 MRS. RADCLIFFE: It's a little old

78
1 fashioned, isn't it. This is with Walter Kronkeit.
2 I don't know if it's sharp enough.
3 INTERVIEWER: You were interpreters?
4 MRS. RADCLIFFE: At the winter
5 Olympics in Squaw Valley. He was picked out of 700
6 applicants. I think that's enough. It's a good
7 thing I didn't bring any more albums.
8 INTERVIEWER: Thank you very, very
9 much.
10 MRS. RADCLIFFE: Thank you. I hope I
11 didn't cry too much.

12 (End of videotape)
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15
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17