RG-50.498.0031 Summary of Oral History Interview with Yvonne Lemiere Huguenin—ENGLISH

Charlotte Yvonne Huguenin (Lemière), born in Côte-d'Or, France in 1932; her family moved around—they travelled all over; her father from Normandy; her grandparents rented a house in Cluny-4, Prud'hon Road; during the war of 1914, they stayed in Ameugny; Mr. Dombreau was a Jew in Cluny; some people were able to leave before the round-up of 1942; they heard boots; speaking of the round-up; her mother going to the Kommandantur; Yvonne speaking of Mr. Lardy, Mr. Albert, Mr. Papillon; the return from deportation; speaking of Claudine Rotbart and her own mother Fanny Rotbart; Yvonne Huguenin's father–Mr. Lemière, was a head of the Resistance; her mother received a small pension when her father was killed; on September 4, 1944, Mr. Lemière was killed; he was on his way back from Mâcon; her father was in Sancé, Chalon, and Vinzelles; the allied bombers killed her father; three people killed; Bois Clair; the bombing of Cluny; on August 16, 1944—the battle of Bois Clair; Yvonne remembering the Germans and their panzers; the beginning of the war; the Jewish families in Cluny-Dombreau and Offerman (Oferman-Rotbart/Jacob Oferman); Henri Dombreau's father was a tailor; Yvonne played the accordion; memories from her childhood; listening to the radio from London; Mr. Jeaniac corresponded directly with the special forces; Yvonne's father-Claude Lemière was 37 years old when he was killed; the arrival of the Offerman family-end of 1942, beginning of 1943; the photo of Claudine Offerman-Rotbart; Fanny Rotbart-mother of Claudine; Fanny had another child-Annette (17 yrs old); Yvonne played with Claudine; the arrest and the Germans at the Offerman house departing with a wistful smile; Jacques Offerman and Fanny Rotbart were deported; Jacques Offerman worked in high fashion; the Offerman-Rotbart family was a nice family; Fanny took care of the little one; Offerman family came from Paris; Yvonne doesn't remember any other Jewish families in Cluny; she never saw the yellow star in Cluny; arrest of the Offerman family-officers, policemen, five German soldiers; March 14, 1944–the arrest; Mr. Lemière was in the Maquis–from the beginning of the French Resistance; the Germans taking Jacques Offerman and Fanny Rotbart, but the two children, Claudine and Annette, thanks to the doings of Annette and Mrs. Lemière, escaped arrest; an uncle of Yvonne then rented the Offerman apartment; Fanny Rotbart returned in 1945; after the deportation of her parents, Claudine went to Mâcon; the round-up of February 14, 1944-the Germans arrested Mr. Lardy, Mr. Malere, Mrs. Renaud, Mrs. Cugnet, Mr. Pautet, Mrs. Sauzet, Mrs. Colin, Mr. Thier-Yvonne saw the round-up, and then saw the truck leave; Mr. Lemière wasn't there; speaking of Simone Grandjean, who worked for the Offerman family; Mrs. Zimberlin was also deported; Simone Grandjean never spoke of what happened in the camps; an uncle and a cousin of Mr. Huguenin were deported; the Germans "chased everyone"; the unoccupied zone; not many refugees in Cluny; collaborators—women paraded through the town with shaved heads—Yvonne saw four of them; Fanny Rotbart's family; Claudine Rotbart living presently in Gap, France