

**Interview of Hazel Christenson on her teaching life
at the U.S. Army base in post-war Germany and Lansing, MI**

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5Elsie Hornbacher: This is Elsie Hornbacher from the Lansing Unit of WOSL interviewing
6 Hazel Christenson of 2408 Devonshire, Lansing, Michigan 48910. Her
7 telephone number is 517 (that's the area code) and the number is 485-
8 6608. She may be located at this address or by telephone as the number
9 was given. Today is July 24, 1984. [0:39] Hazel, give a little bit of your
10 background.
11
12Hazel Christenson: I was born and raised in Red Wing, Minnesota. I attended rural school
13 and then was a graduate of the Red Wing High School in 1928. From
14 there, I went to teacher training and received a certificate to teach in the
15 rural schools of Minnesota in 1929. I taught there for 9 years, and then I
16 went into elementary teaching in the city systems around Red Wing. In
17 1945, I came to Lansing, Michigan, where I was employed by the Lansing
18 School System in the elementary grades.
19
20Elsie Hornbacher: [1:34] Hazel, what prompted you to go overseas?
21
22Hazel Christenson: A long time ago, when I was in high school, I was so fond of the books
23 written by Richard Halliburton, *The Royal Road to Romance*, and I
24 thought if ever I get a chance, I want to see some of the places I had read
25 about. That was one reason. Another reason was that my parents were
26 born in Sweden, and I thought if I ever go to Europe, I wanted to look up
27 my aunts, uncles, and cousins there.
28
29Elsie Hornbacher: [2:10] And, um, what year did you go?
30
31Hazel Christenson: It was in 1951. I – I sailed on the George W. Goethals ship. It took 10
32 days, from August 17 to August 27, 1951 to reach South Hampton,
33 England.
34
35Elsie Hornbacher: [2:32] How long did it take?
36
37Hazel Christenson: It took 10 days.
38
39Elsie Hornbacher: Ten. [2:37] Was the, uh, uh, trip over, uh, smooth?
40
41Hazel Christenson: It was very smooth. It took so long because they were avoiding mines that
42 might have still been in the ocean. It was also carrying, uh, military
43 personnel. We were – The teachers were in part of the ship. The military
44 personnel were in the other. And we were segregated.

1
2Elsie Hornbacher: [3:04] Oh, you were segregated?
3
4Hazel Christenson: Yes.
5
6Elsie Hornbacher: [3:06] You didn't even get a chance to play bridge with them?
7
8Hazel Christenson: No, we were segregated, and I could see them standing behind a rope, and
9 I felt sorry for them. They were just huddled together, and they seemed to
10 be longing to speak to some of us but we couldn't.
11
12Elsie Hornbacher: Mm-hm. Uh, we could play bridge when we went over on various ships
13 with the officers. I believe the enlisted men were segregated from us.
14
15Hazel Christenson: That could have been it, just the enlisted men. I'm not too sure on that.
16
17Elsie Hornbacher: Mm-hm. But I know I did play bridge with many of the officers. [3:40]
18 Now in 1951, were they being sent over there as a part of the occupation
19 forces?
20
21Hazel Christenson: Yes, I was part of the Dependent Schools, which meant that I taught the
22 children of officers who were still stationed in Germany. My assignment
23 was Bremerhaven, Germany. That was a big disappointment to me
24 because I thought when I went I wanted to be near the mountains, and here
25 I was hardly off the boat, [chuckle] so to speak, because Bremerhaven in
26 on a coast. It's the port of embarkation and debarkation for the American
27 personnel. And so after the initial disappointment, though, I had a very
28 happy year, as the parents were so supportive and the children were
29 fantastic. So I enjoyed my year very, very much.
30
31Elsie Hornbacher: Bremerhaven is cold in the winter. I've been up there.
32
33Hazel Christenson: It was cold because the winds come off the North Sea. It's very low, so
34 there are no mountains to keep the winds away. It's sort of like Holland
35 because there are dikes there also.
36
37Elsie Hornbacher: [4:53] Tell me a little bit about the nature of the school. Do you remember
38 how many children you had? What grades you taught?
39
40Hazel Christenson: I was in one of the small – smaller school – school systems in Europe.
41 There were only 5 high school teachers. The elementary system was a
42 little bit larger. But I was given 3rd and 4th grade. I had from 27 children
43 to 36 children during the year. Children would come and go as their
44 parents were reassigned.

1
2Elsie Hornbacher: You said that you had the children of officers. [5:31] Didn't you have the
3 children of enlisted men too?
4
5Hazel Christenson: I believe the ch-, uh, enlisted men at that time were not allowed to have
6 their families there.
7
8Elsie Hornbacher: Oh, this surprises me.
9
10Hazel Christenson: Not in Bremerhaven anyway.
11
12Elsie Hornbacher: Mm-hm. They probably would have been at another base.
13
14Hazel Christenson: Perhaps.
15
16Elsie Hornbacher: Um...
17
18Hazel Christenson: We were – We were, um – The school was housed in a former Nazi
19 training school. The floors were just beautiful with, um, carpentry wood.
20 Everything was just beautiful. The draperies were made of linen. I had a
21 fantastically large desk, one that I would like to have had in every school I
22 taught in. The officers who were in charge schools were very supportive.
23 They would often come in and visit. They were so interested in the
24 education of their children. The children were very polite. One thing I
25 remember was their shoes were always shined. They always said yes,
26 ma'am; no, ma'am. They never answered without using ma'am. We had
27 German teachers also to help with the German language. They also took
28 the children outdoors for recess, and I appreciated that so much because in
29 the USA, I never had that privilege to have someone give me a rest period.
30 The children came by bus from their homes, and they stayed during the
31 noon hour and ate their lunch in the cafeteria. They could bring a
32 sandwich if they wanted to. And I had to supervise them while they were
33 eating, but as soon as they were through, they went outside on the
34 playground, and the German teachers would take over, which gave me a
35 more leisurely noon hour too, which I appreciated.
36
37Elsie Hornbacher: [7:27] Uh, who taught the children music or didn't they have music?
38
39Hazel Christenson: Yes, we did have music for 1/2 hour to 45 minutes a day, and the music
40 teacher in the high school taught it because the high school was very
41 small, and she had time to do that.
42
43Elsie Hornbacher: I see.
44

1Hazel Christenson: We also had a special art teacher, and his name was Mr. [Tegetov 7:47].
2 He was – He was a – a graduate of the German schools and was very
3 capable. He was also a Nazi, a very strong Nazi as far as we were told,
4 but he was very, very nice, and we all liked him so much.
5
6Elsie Hornbacher: [8:07] He did speak English, did he not?
7
8Hazel Christenson: He did. He spoke English.
9
10Elsie Hornbacher: [8:09] And he taught the children art?
11
12Hazel Christenson: Mm-hm.
13
14Elsie Hornbacher: [8:11] Then you did involve some indigenous, uh, personnel, uh, to help in
15 teaching of the children, is that it?
16
17Hazel Christenson: Yes. The librarian was also a German woman.
18
19Elsie Hornbacher: I see.
20
21Hazel Christenson: And she was very capable also.
22
23Elsie Hornbacher: [8:25] Did you associate with these people to some degree?
24
25Hazel Christenson: We did with some of them. Yes, we had meetings with some of them and
26 invited them to our homes. And when we left to go home, the – the, um,
27 elementary teachers were entertained by one of the school's secretaries in
28 her home, and she invited a friend from Bremen, who was a concert
29 pianist, and he gave us a program of Mozart and Beethoven, and then she
30 served us a wine punch, and I remember that so vividly.
31
32Elsie Hornbacher: [9:04] Uh, what was the nature of her home? Was it austere or, uh,
33 delightful?
34
35Hazel Christenson: It was delightful. It was amazing to me that, having gone through all the
36 war, some of the homes still maintained their original beauty.
37
38Elsie Hornbacher: Oh. Some grace. [9:21] The furniture all there?
39
40Hazel Christenson: Yes.
41
42Elsie Hornbacher: [9:34] The china?
43
44Hazel Christenson: Yes.

1
2Elsie Hornbacher: Mm-hm. You mentioned that one of your teachers, uh, was, uh, once a –
3 an avid Nazi. [9:32] Uh, did he tell you anything that, uh, uh, stands out
4 in your mind today?
5
6Hazel Christenson: No. I didn't feel as though I should ask him anything. I didn't ask, but it
7 was just something that someone told me.
8
9Elsie Hornbacher: I see.
10
11Hazel Christenson: Mm-hm.
12
13Elsie Hornbacher: Uh, they, uh – We used to talk to the, uh, ladies who worked for us in the
14 school in Austria...
15
16Hazel Christenson: [I see 9:52].
17
18Elsie Hornbacher: ...and they would come to our apartment and, uh, listen to the radio and
19 tell us what the Russians had said. [9:59] Did you have any experience as
20 of this nature?
21
22Hazel Christenson: Four of us were given a house to live in. We were given the whole house.
23 It had 3 – It had 4 bedrooms, and we drew straws to see which bedroom
24 we would each have. And then to take care of the housekeeping, we were
25 given a maid, and she was a German lady, [Fravoti 10:22]. She was a
26 refugee from Estonia. Estonia at that time was taken over by the Russians,
27 and she had to flee the Russians to get to Germany and safety. And she
28 said the only way she survived was that care packages were given to her
29 from the USA, and she couldn't say enough good about the USA and what
30 help she had gotten. So that year was quite a different year for me because
31 we ate our breakfast at home, but we could leave the dishes, and when we
32 got back, they would be cleaned; our beds would be made; the house
33 would be cleaned. And when we gave a party, we could just leave the
34 dishes and go to bed, and the next day when we came home, everything
35 would be shipshape. She would wash the windows once a month even if it
36 was cold out. In February, we had a cold spell, and I said, "Don't bother
37 about the windows today; it's too cold," and she said, "Oh, yes, I have to
38 because I see my friend is doing them next door," and she would not be
39 outdone by anyone.
40
41Elsie Hornbacher: Uh, you mentioned that, um, you were given a maid. [11:43] Didn't you
42 have to pay extra for one?
43

1Hazel Christenson: No, we did not have to pay. That was part of our blessings or benefits
2 from...
3
4Elsie Hornbacher: Mm-hm.
5
6Hazel Christenson: ...the government.
7
8Elsie Hornbacher: In Tokyo in 1949 to 1952, we had to pay for a maid service. So did we in
9 Austria.
10
11Hazel Christenson: I see.
12
13Elsie Hornbacher: But it was, uh, uh, expected that we hire one of the people. [12:06] Uh,
14 what about the people in Bremerhaven in 1951? Uh, were they well-fed?
15 Were they well-clothed?
16
17Hazel Christenson: Yes, I could see no people who looked underfed or ill clothed. I did not
18 have a great deal to do with the general public, but in the stores, they
19 seemed just fine. But I did notice that they were behind us in many things.
20 For instance, some of the stores downtown Bremerhaven had indoor
21 toilets, but they were just like the outdoor ones, that is there was no
22 plumbing.
23
24Elsie Hornbacher: [12:48] Oh, no flushing?
25
26Hazel Christenson: No flushing or plumbing but it was just housed in indoors. And one of the
27 teachers also invited us to her home, and she had the same kind of a toilet.
28 It was indoors, but it was like our outdoors – outdoor toilets were with just
29 a hole...
30
31Elsie Hornbacher: [laughter]
32
33Hazel Christenson: ...dug in the ground, but it was indoors as part of the house.
34
35Elsie Hornbacher: [13:10] Did they smell?
36
37Hazel Christenson: Yes, [chuckle] they did smell.
38
39Elsie Hornbacher: [13:14] I wonder if they used lime to [lay 13:17] the odor?
40
41Hazel Christenson: They could I suppose.
42
43Elsie Hornbacher: [13:19] Where there windows in them, in the rooms where they were
44 housed? [laughter]

1
2Hazel Christenson: Not that I remember. But at least it was warm. [throat clearing] It was
3 warm at least.
4
5Elsie Hornbacher: Mm-hm. [13:28] Now, um, uh, what about, uh, the temperature of the
6 house that you lived in, were you warm in the winter?
7
8Hazel Christenson: Yes. We had a regular furnace, and I was as warm there as I was at home.
9
10Elsie Hornbacher: Hm.
11
12Hazel Christenson: It was a very comfortable year at school and at our house.
13
14Elsie Hornbacher: [13:43] Coal was, uh, plentiful there?
15
16Hazel Christenson: Yes. We – We had – Someone came by every day – A man came by
17 every day to take care of the furnace.
18
19Elsie Hornbacher: Mm-hm. [13:52] He had to stoke – I mean, uh, actually shovel the...
20
21Hazel Christenson: Yes.
22
23Elsie Hornbacher: ...and take the...
24
25Hazel Christenson: Mm-hm.
26
27Elsie Hornbacher: ...shovel the coal in and take the ashes out...
28
29Hazel Christenson: Yes.
30
31Elsie Hornbacher: ...each day?
32
33Hazel Christenson: Yes.
34
35Elsie Hornbacher: [13:59] No thermostat?
36
37Hazel Christenson: I don't remember the thermostat...
38
39Elsie Hornbacher: Mm-hm.
40
41Hazel Christenson: ...part. We probably had one.
42
43Elsie Hornbacher: [14:04] And probably a gravity feed?
44

1Hazel Christenson: Mm-hm.
2
3Elsie Hornbacher: [14:06] Um, did you get into any of the homes, Hazel?
4
5Hazel Christenson: No, I did not except for the teachers'.
6
7Elsie Hornbacher: [14:17] Uh, in 1951, it still was not, uh, acceptable was it? Uh, was
8fraternization frowned upon?
9
10Hazel Christenson: Yes, it was.
11
12Elsie Hornbacher: Mm-hm.
13
14Hazel Christenson: Um, if, uh, the personnel would get too involved with civilians, they could
15lose their job.
16
17Elsie Hornbacher: I understand.
18
19Hazel Christenson: In fact, our principal lost his job for that very reason and...
20
21Elsie Hornbacher: Mm-hm.
22
23Hazel Christenson: ...was sent home.
24
25Elsie Hornbacher: Mm-hm. Uh, in, uh, actually about in 1953-54, they began to encourage
26association or fraternization between the Austrians and the Americans, but
27prior to that, it was frowned upon.
28
29Hazel Christenson: I see.
30
31Elsie Hornbacher: Mm-hm. Uh, [throat clearing] I was invited to an Austrian home. I – In
321953-54, I believe, uh, it was the first push for the Germans and the
33Austrians to invite us into their homes.
34
35Hazel Christenson: I see.
36
37Elsie Hornbacher: They had a big, uh, move on to invite us there for Christmas vacation or
38for any special [time of the day 15:23] they had, but prior to that, uh, it
39was discouraged.
40
41Hazel Christenson: I did, uh, go to a Christmas program in Bremerhaven in a German
42elementary school, and that was very interesting. Although they sang the
43Christmas carols in German, they sang the same ones that we do here, and
44I recognized them. That was interesting. And then the whole school

1 system, all the teachers that is, took a bus trip over to Bremen to see one of
2 their new elementary schools, just a year old, and they started something
3 that had never been done before and that was they had the open
4 bookshelves for the first time. Before then children, um, going to the
5 library or adults too, for that matter, would have to ask for the name of the
6 book, and then the librarian would go and get it. But in this school, the
7 library had open bookshelves, and that was – they were quite thrilled with
8 that.
9

10Elsie Hornbacher: [16:29] Uh, was there any rubble in Bremerhaven?
11

12Hazel Christenson: Yes, there was lots of rubble. I passed by it every day. I usually walked
13 to school. It was about a mile and a half, and I passed by much rubble,
14 bricks. Well, just rubble. Things.
15

16Elsie Hornbacher: [16:49] What type of buildings were bombed? Uh, were they industrial
17 buildings or homes or schools or hospitals? Do you know?
18

19Hazel Christenson: I imagine – The ones I passed were just stores.
20

21Elsie Hornbacher: [17:00] Just stores?
22

23Hazel Christenson: Yes.
24

25Elsie Hornbacher: Mm-hm.
26

27Hazel Christenson: Mm-hm.
28

29Elsie Hornbacher: [17:02] Sort of a business section?
30

31Hazel Christenson: A business section. Yes.
32

33Elsie Hornbacher: Mm-hm.
34

35Hazel Christenson: I didn't notice any churches or anything like that bombed.
36

37Elsie Hornbacher: Hm.
38

39Hazel Christenson: I did attend a German church in Bremerhaven. And speaking about cold,
40 it was cold. There was no heat at all. I wanted to see what a German
41 church service was like and...
42

43Elsie Hornbacher: [17:24] Was it much like our church service?
44

1Hazel Christenson: It was much like ours. It was a...
2
3Elsie Hornbacher: [17:28] A Lutheran church?
4
5Hazel Christenson: ...a Lutheran church.
6
7Elsie Hornbacher: [17:29] Lutheran?
8
9Hazel Christenson: Yes.
10
11Elsie Hornbacher: Mm-hm.
12
13Hazel Christenson: But the only difference was it was very cold. No heat at all.
14
15Elsie Hornbacher: [17:34] Did people sit or stand?
16
17Hazel Christenson: They sat in pews.
18
19Elsie Hornbacher: Mm-hm.
20
21Hazel Christenson: Yes.
22
23Elsie Hornbacher: [17:39] Um, did you have any particular medical care there? [17:46]
24 What if you became ill. [17:47] Did you become ill at all that year?
25
26Hazel Christenson: No, I did not become ill. I – I did cut my finger, um, and I had to, uh, get
27 a tetanus shot. That was the only medical need – need I needed. [chuckle]
28 But I had a health – healthy year.
29
30Elsie Hornbacher: [18:06] Uh, eh, but were medical services available to you?
31
32Hazel Christenson: Yes. Eh, I did have, um, um, MESSA, as we call it, insurance from the
33 MEA here in Michigan, but I could have gone to the medical hospitals
34 provided by the service if I needed to.
35
36Elsie Hornbacher: [18:25] And they were free, weren't they? Or a minimum charge of a
37 dollar or 2 dollars?
38
39Hazel Christenson: I believe it. Mm-hm.
40
41Elsie Hornbacher: Uh, actually, our medical expenses were taken care of.
42
43Hazel Christenson: Yes, I wouldn't have had to have...
44

1Elsie Hornbacher: Of course [inaudible 18:36].
2
3Hazel Christenson: ...taken out extra...
4
5Elsie Hornbacher: Mm-hm.
6
7Hazel Christenson: ...insurance had I known that.
8
9Elsie Hornbacher: [18:40] Uh, what was your pay, Hazel? Do you remember whether it was
10 more or less than in the states?
11
12Hazel Christenson: I don't remember what I was getting in [throat clearing] Lansing at the
13 time, but my salary was \$3825 a year. I didn't understand, though, when I
14 accepted it that that was for 12 months, and we did not work 12 months,
15 so my pay for the year was much less because that would be \$3825
16 divided by 12...
17
18Elsie Hornbacher: Mm-hm.
19
20Hazel Christenson: ...and we only...
21
22Elsie Hornbacher: Mm-hm.
23
24Hazel Christenson: ...taught 9 months.
25
26Elsie Hornbacher: Mm-hm.
27
28Hazel Christenson: So it was not a high salary, but we did have free housing, and the travel on
29 military trains was so inexpensive. The meals at the Officers' Club were
30 so low and [chuckle] and economical that it – it was just fine. But I think
31 it was the only year in my life that I never saved a penny because I spent
32 all I had on travel and buying things for the people back home. But even
33 though the salary did not amount to as much as I had thought, I was very
34 happy I went, and I call it one of my...
35
36Elsie Hornbacher: [19:52] But your sa-...
37
38Hazel Christenson: ...best years of my life. [chuckle]
39
40Elsie Hornbacher: [19:54] But your salary at that, eh-eh, also included – You were on salary
41 as soon as you started traveling, weren't you?
42
43Hazel Christenson: Yes. Mm-hm.
44

1Elsie Hornbacher: [20:01] Which, uh, made – which probably gave you 10 months...
2
3Hazel Christenson: Probably.
4
5Elsie Hornbacher: ...of pay.
6
7Hazel Christenson: Yes, probably. Mm-hm.
8
9Elsie Hornbacher: [20:08] Uh, because they did pay for the time that you...
10
11Hazel Christenson: Yes, probably.
12
13Elsie Hornbacher: ...[inaudible 20:10]? [20:11] Um, did you go...
14
15Hazel Christenson: And also the travel across the ocean and back was free also, and my trunk
16 was shipped free, so we had benefits that laypeople don't usually have.
17
18Elsie Hornbacher: [20:25] And also anything you bought over there was shipped back home
19 free?
20
21Hazel Christenson: Yes.
22
23Elsie Hornbacher: Mm-hm.
24
25Hazel Christenson: Mm-hm.
26
27Elsie Hornbacher: [20:29] Um, did you experience any conflict between, uh, the military and,
28 uh, the Department of Army Civilians?
29
30Hazel Christenson: The military personnel were very nice to me.
31
32Elsie Hornbacher: Mm-hm.
33
34Hazel Christenson: And they invited me to their open houses and to their teas at the officers'
35 club, perhaps because...
36
37Elsie Hornbacher: Mm-hm.
38
39Hazel Christenson: ...I had some of the children of the commanding officers. They were
40 very, very nice to me. [throat clearing] Just about all the parents invited
41 me to their home for dinner sometime during the year. They were very,
42 very wonderful people as far as I personally was concerned. And when I
43 left to go home in August of 1952, one of the parents I had brought down
44 a dozen red roses for me, and she took them to my stateroom, but when

1 she saw that I was in a room with 12 other women, she was amazed and
2 astounded. She couldn't see how any teacher could be given such
3 quarters. It was only because we were single. Married people were given
4 good quarters...

5

6Elsie Hornbacher: Mm-hm.

7

8Hazel Christenson: ...but single people were put together. There was no room for those roses.
9 I had to put them on the dining room table because the room was so small.
10 We were just – There was hardly room for our suitcases. They were just
11 shoved under the beds.

12

13Elsie Hornbacher: [22:18] Uh, were you above water? That's what really makes the
14 difference. Was your stateroom above water or below?

15

16Hazel Christenson: It was above.

17

18Elsie Hornbacher: Above water.

19

20Hazel Christenson: It was above.

21

22Elsie Hornbacher: [22:28] Uh, you did have fresh air that could come into the room?

23

24Hazel Christenson: Yes, mm-hm.

25

26Elsie Hornbacher: [22:33] Was the trip back uneventful?

27

28Hazel Christenson: The trip back was on the, uh, SS LaGuardia. It was a ship belonging to
29 Italy. It was leased by the US. And that ship was not like the Goethals.
30 The Goethals was a navy ship, and that was beautifully maintained, but the
31 LaGuardia was not. It was not as clean. There was water on the floor in
32 the bathrooms. It was very different. Then, too, coming back, we had a
33 big storm, and the ship heaved and heaved and heaved. We couldn't see
34 the horizon even it heaved so, and all we saw was water all around us.
35 And that time I was knocked to the floor and hit my head on a – on a post
36 in the dining room, but nothing serious happened thankfully. But I was
37 glad to see the Statue of Liberty when I came into New York on the way
38 home.

39

40Elsie Hornbacher: [23:39] Did you have a year's leave of absence from the Lansing School
41 System?

42

43Hazel Christenson: I had a year's leave of absence. And when I got back, I taught 5th grade at
44 the Linden School.

1
2Elsie Hornbacher: Um, you came home because that was your agreement? [23:55] Would
3 you have wanted to stay another year?
4
5Hazel Christenson: I had wanted to. Yeah, I was very ambivalent about it. I wanted to and
6 yet I felt that I didn't want to stay too long. One of the things is or was I
7 missed the – my church activities. I went to church but spasmodically
8 because we traveled a lot weekends. Th- The Army personnel did not care
9 if we left on Friday and came back on Monday because they thought that
10 was part of our education, which it was, and so because of that, I did not
11 go to church very regularly, and I missed that, and also I thought it was
12 kind of an unnatural life, and I didn't want to give too many years to it.
13 So, although I could have stayed, I decided to come home after a year.
14
15Elsie Hornbacher: [24:53] Hazel, had you done any traveling over there?
16
17Hazel Christenson: Yes, Elsie, I did. I was able to accomplish my goals of traveling a lot, and
18 one of the places I wanted to see was the Matterhorn in Switzerland. So in
19 the summer after school was out, I spent some time traveling in
20 Switzerland and stayed in Zermatt several nights to see the Matterhorn,
21 and also I went to Geneva, Montreux, Bern, Zurich, Interlaken. Riding the
22 ski lift in Interlaken was a big thrill with my feet hanging down over the
23 glaciers so to speak. It was a big thrill to me to see Switzerland especially.
24 Of course, I saw Holland because that was very close to us. We could go
25 there for weekends. Easter vacation, I went to Paris and saw a great deal
26 there, museums, Eiffel Tower of course. And the summer before I came
27 home, besides Switzerland, I went to England, and I was able to see *South*
28 *Pacific* with Mary Martin on stage. But most of all, I guess, after
29 Switzerland, my biggest thrill was to see my relatives in Sweden and to
30 see where my mother was born and the church that she went to and the
31 tombstones of my ancestors in the churchyard. So I did accomplish my
32 goals of traveling and seeing Sweden, where my parents came from. I did
33 not see my father's birthplace, as his relatives were too old, and I had no
34 way of looking them up at that time. It was a year to remember, but I was
35 happy to get back to the USA.
36
37Elsie Hornbacher: Thank you, Hazel.
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