

Das war mein Leben

Von Emmy Buhr geb. Gemmer / Kröck (1921-2005)

THAT WAS MY LIFE

Engl. translation with out pictures – please look in German Text



Preface

When in the rhythm of the yearly the time moved close, where the evenings became longer and Emmy know not yet so right, what begin now, proposed its Martin, but to prepare once a couple of notices biographical.

So a story of Emmy's life memories be formed into the autumn- and winter months of the past year (2005). That gives us as an estimable testimony of her personal way of life, between the two world wars, into our hands.

Later born ones its representation straight binds us so much, because in pragmatic frankness words, the one young-recent and to move spirit revealed, which is told particularly fate-heavy time of our German history, from the view of those, which did not stand at the shift levers of political power.

The available version would like to give suggestion to all branches of the family to fill existing gaps and contribute further, so that this treasure at personal memories is not lost.

The river of the events, that often by all force over the particulars fallow, in the long run never upset Emmy. Here, also their man and the family were too own the three things, in whose possession no humans may lament: Hands for working, the head for thinking and the heart, in order to keep the courage.

Of it we can always learn.
on 2 September 2005
The large niece Petra Buhr

The life between two wars, part of 1

The life last 70 years, and if it comes highly, there is 80, and if it were koestlich, then it was trouble and work. (Psalm 89, 11)

Today I am 83 years and can my age enjoy. Thus I sit gladly in my living room in the quiescent armchair and have thereby a beautiful view into the garden and watch also the birds, which are fed by me in the winter.

In the evening the garden has different sources of light and looks very beautiful also then. I often think thereby after over the past years with all heights and depths, over a generation between two wars.

I am born 1921 in Laufenselden at the foot of the Taunus. Since this time there were many beautiful, in addition, serious experiences. Unemployment was large also in our region. In addition, the beautiful situation to the Taunus brought advantages. A railway connection gave it at that time already, what for a rurally coined/shaped area not at all was so natural. The health resorts, bath Ems, Schlangenbad, Bad Schwalbach and first of all Wiesbaden already were to emperor Zeiten world well-known and could the surrounding field nourish.

My grandfather on the paternal side died very young, I did not become acquainted with him. He was a waiter in the black support in Wiesbaden. There he learned also his later wife, my grandmother, knows in the same hotel the chambermaids was. The son of these two, Rudolf Gemmer, my father was thus born to 3.1.1894 in Laufenselden. After its school time he learned four seasons, Russian yard and four-towers " waiters in the hotel ". The owner was Leonhard count von Bad Ems. I possess still another letter, which my father wrote before nearly 100 years his parents. See following.

At this time the world language was French, and waiters had to learn also technical terms in this language. Already 1910 carried it forward the portier after San Remo of late were it also one season in CO, in French Switzerland, because experience abroad was important.

Then came the day, which changed the life. The First World War fallow out and Rudolf Gemmer had first home, in order to become then soldier. It was from 1914-1918 in the war. I have also still another group photo, which him as a soldier shows.

When he came to this time home, a new beginning was not still for a long time possible. The winners of the war came, and all beautiful hotels seized for the crew.

My nut/mother had learned Ems in bath schneiderin, and there my parents also learned themselves to know. the two married and lived 1920 in Laufenselden with the nut/mother of my father. Bread had to be earned, stable and barn was present. A horse with a car was bought, and it " was gehaudert " then. Thus one said at that time, if someone with this bottom plate all transported, which was feasible. In the forest mushrooms were collected and driven at the market days to Wiesbaden. In the cities the meal was limited in this time, therefore all edible one was driven to Wiesbaden. The bartering flourished, and who was skillful could of it live.

My parents had luck, because the father of my nut/mother a Wagnergeschaefft had. There wheels for carts were made. My nut/mother got a car made and got also a sewing machine, so that she could make also money.

Singer sewing machine with foot pedals silver cutlery of my grandmother Gemmer

So far, so well. To 18.10.1921 I came. A child was also at that time already a large conversion for parents. With me unrest came into the house, but otherwise we were a completely normal family. I remained often with my grandmother if both parents on the way was, but my father often drove alone. My nut/mother sewed then and got new money. It was also inflation. My grandmother had a cigar box with change. In an unobserved moment I was a groschen into the mouth and swallowed him. I had to be operated immediately in the hospital and. Everything went well, and only a large scar at the belly remained. Financial was also the large problem, because we had no health insurance. Thus my parents everything had to pay. That was very expensive.

Of the small joys in this time it gives to naturally also report.

If my father of Wiesbaden came, he brought me always a few cream drops also. A daily I expressed the desire to get times drop which does not remain hanging on the teeth. The answer was, you is ungrateful, but I got next time drops of fruit.

Now it is time to call also the other half of the family. We were a completely quiet family. 1 child and 3 adult. On some Sundays we drove to wood living to my grandparents muetterlicherseits. My grandparents had 12 children, actually 14, but 2 had completely small deceased. On 1901-1905 one lived, and of 1906-1907 the other child lived. It was spoken thereby in each case of 12 children.

At so a family always much was the matter. If not straight something happened, by old capers one told.

If I were in wood living in the church, my view always went to the honour board and the name Adolf Kroeck, which I only of tell knew. It was born 1893 and to 31.05.1915 in the war in Russia pleases.

Evg. church in wood living

honour board

now at the rear wall

With the personal articles, which were sent back at that time, was also a Ledermaeppchen (repairing things). I got this Ledermaeppchen from my nut/mother. It had always held it in honours, and I do also. (today in the possession of Martin Buhr)

To evg. Church in wood living had our family a special relationship. The founder Justus Kroeck, geb. 1627 in Wunschensuhl, doing rings and 1703 in wood living died, studied in Jena and was of in wood living from 1663 to 1703 a minister. Here our family history in wood living begins. Our Fam. donated still today the used dipping bowl and 1888 eine bank on the left side to 1755.

The Ledermaeppchen that always dressed me taufbecken donated by Justus Kroeck 1755

Then it gave still the brother to Karl. It is 1908 geb. and is in 2. World war misses announced.

All had learned an occupation, and afterwards everyone made itself independent. With the nut/mother all lived free of charge. Their money went into its bags. The end of the song was, grandfather debts had left. The children agreed. Willi took over everything that still there was, because all were the opinion, we want our parents' house not in stranger of hands to give.

All wanted to be able to go at Christmas or also sometimes otherwise home. Hat off before brothers and sisters!

Youngest brothers and sisters of my nut/mother were only 8-9 years older than I and wanted to always play with me. There was also sometimes tears or nose bleeding and afterwards annoyance. That was new for me everything, because I was always alone.

The oldest sons had learned the daring he handicraft. They worked in the workshop of my grandfather. In this time also everything was driven for the course and by the course with horse carts. Grandfather had good orders. It supplied also for the course roles. Today one would say railroad agent. Also the milk was driven into milchkannen on roles. That was also a hard work. My grandfather went sometimes to foot to Wiesbaden, in order to get orders. Since it had a sister in Biebrich, it stayed overnight there and went on the next day again home. The distance amounts to 32 km. Everything ran well, in addition, that had only its time.

My grandmother, Luise Kroeck, was an intelligent woman. She was a manual work teacher in the school and had also education. Twice per week it gave manual work instruction. The household ran beside, but by the assistance of the oldest children (they were at that time spare mothers), was then all probably nevertheless no so large problem. So Heinrich, one had the oldest, the order, to make the lunch finished for example if he came from the school. A daily came the men from the workshop, and Heinrich sat crying for the stove and prayed thereby: Feuerche burn, Kardoffelche, become nevertheless, if my Modder comes home, strikes SE mix DOT. The men laughed and let it naturally live.

The oldest brothers could cook also for cords and. Socks for the children made it, and the 5th child was then a girl. They told stories, also of the Schinderhannes, sang songs, and praying did not come also too briefly. The large garden made also much work. At a border side firs stood. They supplied branches for funeral rings. Also those were made by my grandmother. In the summer were flowers in the garden for Freud and wrong. In the winter flowers made of punched sheets and paper. That was always completely merry and me very much pleased, because with us at home something never happened. I was up to my 12. Lebensjahr only child. At that time were already some married of them. Grandmother was always very anxious and always clarified everything that concerned its children. It had married most in the neighboring villages. She found the correct workshop for everyone, because wagner was an important occupation at that time. My uncle Willi as only rejected everything. It did not leave wood living. He remained bachelor. But as like that was, money was limited. Thus from time to time a continuous sausage from the raeucherkammer disappeared. Those went to the friend, clearly! All did not get as well as no money, also the adults. Sundays it gave sometimes 2 realm Mark.

Martin in our garden with folder of grandmother Kroecks garden, Rabarber, Pfefferminz, Ziernelken

Since besides still agriculture was operated, there was a getreidespeicher. There was thus not only sausage in the raeucherkammer, but also fruit on the soil above in the giebel. Occasionally a bag grain herunterkam at a strong cord.

That was away-driven quietly and quietly, and none verpetzt the others. Amusing way noticed my grandmother also nothing. If however the grandfather afforded for 5 Pfg. a Stumpfen, he got a cigar.

With marriage got all something. The boys a car and a property, my nut/mother a car and a sewing machine and the other girls a bedroom. Nothing remained saved to my grandmother,

and she said a daily to her oldest son, who is born 1890: "Eduard it comes still one." The view was surely sad. Eduard as learned wagner said completely drying: "nut/mother is not sad, then we strike a little more firmly drauf." The work was meant in the workshop.

Still another history of my nut/mother. In the villages it gave midwives. I think, it was 1911, when Christian was born. My nut/mother with their at that time 12 years got said, goes the midwife Luise getting. Luise went hasty to my grandmother and called to its daughter too: "you both bring the suit-case!" At the Loeschweiher, which one called at that time Brandeweiher, the two became divided. My nut/mother wanted to throw the suit-case in the water, to Frieda resisted and made it clear that in the suit-case nevertheless at all the child was not. My nut/mother believed at that time that the child was in the suit-case, and there they actually enough children would have, could one the suit-case away also throw.

As if my grandmother, Mrs. Kroeck, was older, a new manual work teacher was searched. Three women applied. Since many classes were with the Mrs. Kroeck in manual work instruction, none of the new manual work teacher always spoke, but of the new Mrs. Kroeck. My nut/mother became then the new Mrs. Kroeck. That was also financially a large advantage. The money was charged with the municipal rates inclusive firewood. She got then still which raus. At this time only with wood one heated, later also with coal.

My grandmother Elizabeth Gemmer deceased 1927. Their children were married.

A daughter lived in Wiesbaden. Their man was a cook. In the bad time they had a midday table also for some stranger people. They had two daughters. I do not know, what from them became, although I had contact up to death with my aunt.

Second was my godfather aunt. She was not a farmer's wife in a neighboring village and had children. Later it had adopted a boy. During the war wrote it (walter of salty) and I us always merry letters.

The third daughter had married and was called a Frenchman after the First World War Rosina de Fries. She lived in Muehlhausen in the Elsass. Their man was called Thiebaut Fries. She became franzoessin, remained however in its surrounding field "the German".

It had a daughter, who was 2 years older than I. For the family it was a red cloth, because it was married with a Frenchman.

RosineThiebaut Fries geb. Gemmer in Mulhausen, France 1925

I had during 2. World war some-paint in the station Muehlhausen waiting period, however never came on the idea to hold after the relatives look out. With the time also all other connections fell asleep gradually. Everyone had to do enough with itself.

After the death of my grandmother in Laufenselden everything was sold, and everyone got its portion. It was really divided. Aunt Rosina from Muehlhausen wanted to keep gladly at home in Germany and at that time, when the sales lined up, at most ordered. In addition, it did not get the house, but it came somehow into stranger of hands.

The life between two wars, part of 2

we pulled 1928 after wood living and had there a small dwelling. We placed the furniture, which did not fit purely there, into a rented room. That was in the same road as the house of my grandparents. The owner of the house, where we lived to the rent, was an old man and could no longer for itself provide. My nut/mother cooked for him and was in all other respects glad to be again in her loved wood living.

The first dwelling in wood living: Rudolf, Emmy and Dina Gemmer 1926

I was then given first schooling to. We had one nice teacher and two classes in a class. I went very gladly to the school. Our teacher, Mrs. Achtstein, was unmarried, as at that time in the occupation so usual. She bought gradually their controls and wanted to probably marry.

Large names were gestickt on the laundry. My nut/mother stickte also on its laundry Monogramme. Reliably it was also nice thereby to me. Before I came from its class, she married. To the parting from the school service it had invited the whole class. There was engaged particles and cocoa on property beside the house their. We all would dearest have cried, because we had now no Ms Achtenstein more. A successor came immediately.

Our instruction time was in the morning from 8.00 to 12,00 o'clock and in the afternoon from 13.00 to 15,00 o'clock. On the winter days it was then already soon dark. In the summer we had children still for helping on the field. There were always obligations.

My father applied as a tenant for the moving and youth hostel. In wood living the Evangelist church under the direction of Landesbischof Dr. Cortheuser had provided the buildings. We pulled after wood living into the moving lodging. That was for us a new beginning. My parents were content. It ran everything well.

I went into wood living to the school and got then 1933 a small sister, our Aennchen, but a play companion was not that, at the most one toy. I was already nearly 12 years and her a baby.

My childhood was boring somehow, although I had later sometimes homesickness, if I to all back-thought. What actually at that time was childhood? The number of children became so gradually larger, because were born during the war fewer children. There were not kindergartens also. So only Nachbarskinder was play companions. With us a physician, lived nearly next door Dr. Goldschmidt, with his family. A daughter was as old as I, the other 2 years older. One was called Ilse, with whom I was much together. Children, household and garden procured there in the family a house girl. After arrangement of parents I was brought and fetched or turned around to playing there. Dr. Goldschmidt had also a driver, who drove its passenger car. He was called Karl and was with all much likes. A daily Karl had died, more at that time knew we not. In later years everything came then nevertheless to the light. Karl had bought things for the physician family, but also for itself with the buyer not only with the money of his boss. When raus came, Karl had shot himself.

I had tinkered many toys, from my father. Parents of Ilse had a large garden and I believe the first radio in the place. A small black box with 4 or still more shining tubes and for 4 persons headphones. That was mad. There sand box and swing became uninteresting.

Neighbourhood assistance was usual at the time. A neighbour of us had agriculture. There we all helped already times with the harvest. They had a daughter, who was 2 years older than I. In the evening it gave then for all evening bread. The housewife made children hot milk

for us. I could not hold times again the mouth, which was so usual. Children had to be calm with table at that time. I said: " I cannot drink hot milk." It meant thereupon, if you cannot drink hot milk, you go to home. My father was good in addition, strict. I had immediately in the bed. Later my nut/mother came and brought themselves sugar oaks. That was my favourite meal. She said: " place ' the cup under the bed!", and on the next morning there two stood. Who will probably have brought the second cup? A Zuckerei was a struck, raw egg with something sugar and bread.

Ausuege out my Posialbum dedication of father and nut/mother

Dedication of Paula Kroeck and my friend

The work situation became so gradual better. There were also some cars. Before it about each a bicycle had 20. It began a striving for a car. The milk was driven into cans on a truck to the dairy. The occupation of the wagners did not become unfashionable and the family Kroeck had a work.

My Elters was relatively well. We had sufficient overnight accomodation and sold also little things to eat. Each guest had to submit its papers for an entry into our guest book. For the sake of the order also in the small office because of a warrant of apprehension one checked. Then the guests could remain.

Our luck lasted not for a long time. We possessed already a bicycle, and my father had to make 18 kilometers around some completions, on 18 January 1935 with icy cold weather to pc. Goarshausen drive. He came with vibration frost home and said in this evening to me: to " Emmichen, take the large book, be involved more rueber and register the people!" Six days later it died at a pneumonia. Thus I became completely fast a small adult with 14 years. Thus long time remained. My courageous nut/mother had it very heavily with two children and many the work. We got sometime made the edition, a man would have to be at night with us. Since the Wagnergeschaeft did not run in such a way also, the single brother of my nut/mother came to us. The large garden had to be also managed.

To the school early sport was introduced. Of it I did not want to know much, therefore I was often missing thereby. The excuse was, we would have at home much work. History was my dearest subject. Starting from the second school year the girls had manual work instruction. That was particularly heavy for me, because at the time the Mrs. Kroeck, therefore my granny was, a manual work teacher. It expected from me the fact that I was a sample pupil in this subject and thus gave it for me more blame than praise. In the evenings I was particularly trimmed in manual work.

The table was manufactured around 1934 in the workshop Kroeck for Dina. The Zwiebelkoerbchen was a gift of Paula Michels, geb. Kroeck from Grebenroth and stands today with Martin Buhr

Stick, cord and Haegelarbeiten, which drove the long while out during the winter months

My neighbour, inch fox, went 8 years with me to the school. We sat during the whole time next to each other. Elli was a farmer child, and those had their obligations in the garden and on the field also. The fruit trees and bushes did not interest me particularly, because fruit had we at home very much. The work on the field, in the stable and in the barn made joy for me. In the summer plants were set. We children put the plants in the furrow and the women set them. A daily came I to the Elli. It was straight with the adults on the way in the field. I jumped like always on the car and rode along. When we returned, became only clear me, which I had made. My beautiful Faltenroeckchen, which I carried actually only in the school,

looked like a cloth. The nut/mother of Elli washed and dried it then, and which was bad, it had also ironed it. When I came home, my nut/mother said: " you look like fox Setchen!". The folds fell in all directions. My nut/mother had then brought it in order.

The family fox did not buy at that time, like most families, bread with the baker, but they had grain, which flour husbands became. In regular distance bread in the municipality baking house was baked. That was always a special experience. First wood was driven there and made fires. The paste was made before correct by day with sauersteig. Elli was stronger than I and had to drive the barrow with bread paste. On the barrow stood a large basket, which was used only for bread paste. When Elli made once break, I wanted to drive also once the cart. Some meters could be done that well. However then did not function so correctly somehow. The barrow was at one time on the side and bread in the dirt. Perhaps I had driven over a stone or otherwise possibly had made somewhat wrong. Fortunately they had at home still another basket paste, and Ellis nut/mother said, then we baked next time stop somewhat in former times bread. It had not times grumbled yet. I was however very concerned.

In rain weather we went often to me home. I had a doll kitchen, which my father had made for me. All girls would then have gone along gladly, but but we did not have enough place. We had a small dwelling at the time only. I had first also a coffee service from porcelain. In a shop window of a business in wood living a Essservice with suppenterrine and Schuesselchen was then located. The Tellerchen was about 6 centimeters large. I told at home each day of it, and that it cost 2.70 Marks. Always one said to me, that would be too expensive, and we could not afford that. Christmas eve stood then nevertheless everything under the Christmas tree, and the joy was large.

Also sometimes to Christmas there were to oranges and Plaetzchen. In addition also a 10er small box also gold bronziert for styluses, which one needed for the schiefertafel. We had always an affectionately decorated Christmas tree and in the church gab's a crib play.

Once my grandfather had made a carriage. It was beautiful, with iron skids. It was so large and heavy, so that we could transport also a bag briquette thereby, or I could carry 2-3 children forward. Carriage-drives was an icy pleasure, because neither boys nor girls had long trousers. The mothers knitted Wollstruempfe, which were fastened to a Leibchen. The pants had longer legs. We said break hereditary ochers to it. The skirts of the girls and short trousers of the boys covered everything, as long as we only stood. On the carriage then everything slipped, and those naked legs had blue frozen. Snow and ice were on socks, skirt and trousers, but none admitted that it was cold. We remained nevertheless outside, until it became dark. If I came home, my nut/mother got a brick from the baking-oven, in order to warm the feet. They were washed before, that probably were for those Blood circulation well. The girls had also high tying shoes, partly even with nails in soles. That was then skid-proof. There were rubber overshoes with motives many later on soles. That made it also skid-proof. Build schneemann and were still more beautiful schneeballschlachten than carriage driving. One could rave thereby so correctly. The winters were colder and longer.

Also in the difficult years of 1928 - 1930 my parents all attempts made for us over water to keep decent. My nut/mother caught on for other people to sew. The problem was however that the people had still no money. The businessmen were there somewhat better. At this time all business the Jews was, except our baker and butcher. The contacts also to the Jews were well, probably already taken over of parents. The wagner Kroeck, which had father of my nut/mother, with the Jews a verbal agreement, in which was held that my nut/mother had, so often it time, to them come could, in order to hold their laundry in order.

My father worked everything that was possible. In the winter it helped also in the municipality with wood fellings. Leopold, then was called the Jew family. That were four brothers. Everyone had another business. The Luis Leopold bought up the harvest of the farmers and supplied by Kleinbahn everywhere. The harvest was brought for it first after customs office and shipped there. On the return trip coke and briquette were brought along. That was good for my father, because he could supervise that responsible. It was with Leopolds likes.

Station wood living

We also at that time always got a newspaper. That was the Wiesbaden he day sheet. The employments offered were also read. My father was interested in a small restaurant in Wiesbaden and had also a little money as reserve in the bail. My nut/mother wanted to die however no risk, not least because they would then have away-had from wood living. The hotels were at that time occupied by crew powers, which took however 1928 off gradually. The chaos, which they had left, was not to be brought so fast back in order. The state had also no money, and the guests who can be expected did not bring also yet enough. My father applied also as a waiter in the nursing center in bath Schwalbach and became also

taken. However few guests came, in addition and it was missing at everything. The tenant sent then, if several guests came, means father into the next restaurant, in order to lend plates and cutleries. Thus, the place was not probably the correct, and it worked then again for Leopolds. That was everything before the large seizure of power.

My father was very socially adjusted. It wanted to help everyone. Always was called it, Rudolf can you times or please helps me. He could not say no. If citizens with the authorities had problems, my father for them had to write a letter, which he also signed then. At that time, when I was so small, that pleased me to listen which problems had the people so, for example also, who should pay for an illegitimate child. I played in a secondary room completely calmly, but it did not escape me anything. Otherwise my father was very versatile.

If for example farmer people were ill helped he in the most diverse ranges. It could supply the cattle and also the children. It could even milk, which I tried and never completely brought many later than young girl by a friend at a farmer family.

The banks were very careful at the time with credits. Debt advisor did not give it at that time yet. That would have been safe the correct activity for my father.

In the policy one was educated to the silence, and today for me still no topic is. It was another time, in which we were educated. The time was hard, therefore humans had to be educated hard. The teachers and the ministers had to put in a word also a word. As soon as it was dark, children should not be any longer outside.

It was the time of the emergency. The inflation was, work scarcely past gave it not enough. Weekly wages amounted to about 15 Marks. A monthly rent was weekly wages.

In the newspaper was located at that time. Think and Hamann let humans disappear and made it in its butcher's shop to sausage. Hindenburg is to have said at that time, probably as joke, Hamann is the largest criminal. The politicians were at that time exposed to the rabiate opinion of the people. We should be at that time always very careful.

Our wood living is because of the bath road between Nassau and Wiesbaden, and the road from the Rhine to the Ahr crossed there. Turn and taxis furnished the first mounted post office, in order to carry messages and letters. With horse and kutsche one made later. In

wood living a farmstead with horse stables was established. Here the horses were changed. In these stables, which stood later empty, we played as children. From the remaining buildings even became dwellings, business and a Obstkelterei.

1936 were an anniversary and an international meeting in wood living. 1860 invented Nikolaus August petrol, the first combustion engine. The visitors and descendant lived in the Roman castellet and in the hotel Schmidt, which hotel called itself at that time. Clothes of the ladies from England inspired me. In one of the beautiful dresses was I in such a way fall in love. I could still describe it today.

The work situation became somewhat better. Roads, swimming pools and sports fields were built. In Nastaetten even a six-form high school was built, but not for children like me. I had to help, earn rolls, and we could afford even lining on it. All people did not have that at this time. I helped gladly, it made even joy.

I would have much rather had however a training place, but that was not to be gotten. In the evening, in quiet hours, or Sundays we made manual work. Our small Anni knitted we sweaters. I knitted the back and my nut/mother the front part and everyone a sleeve. I gave myself much trouble, but my nut/mother mogelte sometimes. She worked occasionally something else, in order to leave me in the faith, I is better.

Emmy comes from the school
time of the father Rudolf

dte and Kaffe burette from the spoon

The two youngest brothers of my nut/mother got work. Ernst was a cutter and came into the Wehrmachtsschneiderei to Lahn stone. Christian, the wagner, came into the department of body to OPELS into Ruesselsheim. The opinion was, it goes to all better.

In wood living 1936 a new water pipeline were built. There were at that time still people, which got their water from wells. The enterprise in the lodging left something. We took then 6 men in food and logis. The men came from Lahn stone, where they did not have a work. On Mondays they came with the first post office bus and worked to Saturday noon at 12.00 o'clock then gave it to wages, which were also not high. They paid then for their accommodation and usually also still cigarettes. A package cost 20 Pfg. Were good, honest people, but they were very poor.

Buys was my work. A daily came I into the baking room of our baker and listened to him and the butcher from next door a little. With a sentence I could not begin anything, which was called there: " I bring you few bags flour, do SE well away, at opportunity denkste also to me." My father, whom I would gladly have asked, did not live no more. Thus it remained first with the mystery.

It lasted not for a long time, there had I to understand which the sentence then illogical for me meant. The 2. World war had broken out. As the first my uncle Willi got the summoning. He was already of 1914-1918 a soldier. As a sergeant it drew in. Because it was already 54 years old at this time, it returned after some months again. During this time my grandfather had to bring in the harvest in the autumn alone. It became very ill and died in April 1940.

1940 quartering of soldiers with Dina Gemmer

The campaign in Poland took only few weeks. In the winter the first Polish prisoners already came. A house was seized. Guards came along and brought the prisoners to the farmers. They had to work there and received for it to eat. They were allowed to however not also eat

at the table and got a place in the fodder kitchen. Occupation troops remained in Poland. The others were in the west in wait position, until in the spring 1940 the France campaign began.

I would also not like to forget a brother of my grandfather. He was called William, buyer had learned and lived in Erfurt. I knew it well. It had itself well married with the daughter of the family Doehler. The family Doehler manufactured at that time in Erfurt feeding central products. After my memory they had at that time approx. 200 coworkers. The William Gemmer had two sons and two daughters. I could do all four.

William Gemmer came to the First World War of the more frequent one to Laufenselden, particularly also for the bartering. I was at that time a child and can however today still remember. The relationship to our family was always good. Thus I received to my Konfirmation a beautiful golden chain which I my life long with special causes carried. My man Willi gave me then a suitable bracelet many later in addition.

Halzkette of my uncle William to Konfirmation 1941 Leo Gemmer with family

The company Doehler cared for its customers already at that time very well and sent to all to Christmas a package. We were also on the list. For us that always was like a celebration. Even a box cigars participated. My father died in January and still said on the patient bed: " the package remains however long." It was sent at its day of death.

Later I often was in Erfurt to attendance. With Leo Gemmer, I stood for the son of William Gemmer still after my marriage briefly in contact. It exists also still another photo of its wife and of its children. Leo Gemmer went on the hunt and had a hunt house in singing in Thuringia. Also there I already was to attendance. In the back of the head they probably remembered to adjust me as child girls.

The sons of William Gemmer were later very active party comrades. The uncle was the opposite. If I at that time made stop there more frequently with an intermediate stop on the way after floats, he took me in an unobserved instant to the side and said: " Emmi, you is still young and understands what runs here. My old donkeys cannot understand that." After the war they had also many problems. The uncle had died 1943. He experienced however the case of Stalingrad still. That was with my last attendance in Erfurt.

When I was during the Second World War in France, I got package from Leo Gemmer sometimes still another. Sugar was at that time also limited, and in these packages was among other things Vanillinzucker. I drank it at that time in the absence of another sort for a while in the coffee. Afterwards I never drank more sugar in the coffee.

When we came then from the invasion to Berlin, I was times in money scarcities. In the west the war was out and home went no more post office. Since my wages always went to wood living, I had then also no money. My nut/mother before always sent a part of it to me. I called thus Leo and asked him to send to me 200 Marks by eilpost. Two hours later the money was with me. When I mean wages then again got, I sent back the 200 Marks immediately again. Few hours later I got a telex with contents: " money received, you is moved! Leo."

When I married, he sent from the GDR at that time socks to me. At that time goods in short supply. Later then everyone had so its concerns, and the contact fell asleep then with the time. My sister told me then many years later of an announcement in the newspaper, in which a company for baking products from Darmstadt looked for coworkers. The trade mark was the

same, as at that time on all packings. I called immediately there, announced me with Gemmer and asked for it me with that

To connect dwelling. Unfortunately only the house lady announced itself. Leo had meanwhile deceased, and its wife lived in Holland with its daughter. The daughter was there married. I have times try it to reach, but the children of Leo could not do me. In the photo, which I had, they were still completely small.

The youth hostel was not no more used. It lasted not for a long time, there came the first French prisoners. Were civil prisoners. An owner of sawmill had requested it. It asked to accept my nut/mother 6 persons. It gave them also full food supply. Willi, the brother of my nut/mother, pulled completely to us. The employer of the prisoners brought reference lights with the note, the people must hard work. If that is not enough, they inform me. I will then procure everything, which is missing.

Six Kriegsdienstler from France 1942-45 in wood living and Anni 3vl with friends

Anni Gemmer and Else (care child) 1937 Emmi, Anni and Guenther 1945

There were at that time also to the work obligated women, who were used by the hour. Two of it were assigned to my nut/mother. They came gladly, because it gave to eat fully. That lasted to end of war.

When the Americans came, the Frenchmen praised their " mummy " in such a way, so that you did not seem unpleasantly. My nut/mother was for the men the " mummy ", and it made also the parting bread for them by right and which one needs in such a way. To foot they went then toward France.

Ernst, a brother of my nut/mother, was in Russian shank and returned only 1949. In the meantime I was married and lived in the Westerwald. All prisoners of war had to announce themselves in Montabaur to the district government. On this occasion Ernst visited us and stood before the Bettchen of our son Martin. Ernst was pleased in such a way, because its children had arisen nearly, when he came home, and he wanted to see a child growing now also times.

A miracle happened, nine months later came Rainer, its son, into the world. We said everything, that are Martins debt.

The life between 2 world wars part of 3 Family history Gemmer - stone brook / Buhr

1914 Rudolf Gemmer

Second at home in wood living: Rudolf Gemmer as Herbergsvater in the moving youth hostel

1935 Dina and Anni Gemmer

1935 school picture with Emmi Gemmer 5. Row 2. of lks., lks beside teacher Aurand

1936 Konfirmation of Emmy Gemmer 2. of rh down

1986 - 50 years after the Konfirmation of Emmi Gemmer 1. of rh

1937 singer celebration in wood living and Emmi Gemmer as a fixed lady 2. of lks. above

1936 Emmi Gemmer

Anni Gemmer and Else (care child) 1937 Dina and Anni Gemmer 1936

1940 Guenther shoemaker, Dina and Anni Gemmer geb. Kroeck

Emmi, Anni Gemmer and Guenther shoemaker 1943 Guenther shoemaker 1955

1941 of lks..... Leo Gemmer with family

Willi Kroeck, Dina, Anny Gemmer and friend 1942

Of on the left of Willi, Elfriede Diehl, Anni Gemmer and Margot Diehl v. Berghausen
(Elfriede is the nut/mother of Evi Fries Ebernahn)

My own life

After the death of my father I became from the school to dismiss. I helped at home, everything which resulted became done.

A training place did not find my nut/mother for me, but the day came sometime, where I earned also times something and me times a few shoes or otherwise which buy could.

But wood living " Oh God!"

In Nastaetten a seidenweberei of the company Kampf and Spindler from Gummersbach was settled. The wages with us were small. I was adjusted. 2 layers, once of 6 – 14 o'clock and then 14 – 22 o'clock weekly in the change. Thus I could help still at home. So far, so well, but at 5 o'clock with wind and rain with the bicycle, that were not beautiful straight. I remained two years. The wages were small, I believe 20 realm Marks, if it came highly 25 RM per month. A few shoes cost at that time already about eight Marks, because I had a Schuhfaible at that time already.

In the meantime the country and/or financial year had been introduced, and I decided for the household. In our Kasseler Sundays sheet looked for an old lady a girl for itself personally. The condition, it had to be able to sew so much, in order to hold clothes of the woman in order, which white screens changed to their dresses. I away-sent a passport picture with personal record and was then adjusted. If I back-think, this time gave me very much at self-assurance and selbststaendigkeit.

Lock iron brook proximity loud brook, upper Hessen

In the spring 1941 I arrived on lock iron brook, close loud brook in upper Hessen, which own railway station had. The lock had 60 rooms, which were however all inhabited. I got a large room with oriel and far view into the environment and lived a floor over my old lady. At that time the aristocracy was still differently than today and Mrs. Baronin in the third person was addressed ("permitting Mrs. Baronin?").

Their complete name was free woman von Riedesel to iron brook.

But it was natural humans. She inhabited a wing in the lock me her sister, Ms von Herine. We had a charwoman, who supplied also my room. Each room had a tiled stove, which our Karlchen cared for. I was for the support and helped when bathing, dressing etc. there

It carried only black dresses with white boards and neck cuff and sleeve, and everything had to be very correct. Her son, baron Fritz and his Mrs. Dulla, inhabited the wing next door. The dining-room was used together, and which daughter of Karlchen and I served. Meals and porcelain came from the kitchen with the elevator. For cutleries were responsible Ms Sofie and I. No piece came into the kitchen, it by us was cleaned and maintained. The personnel with six persons had its own speiseraum down beside the kitchen. The table was covered, if we down-came. With the kitchen we did not have to do anything, but the thing had a pferdefuss, like everything from the world. Mrs. Baronin rings, and Emmi has to come. In other words, Emmi had to be always there.

Mrs. Baronin knitted socks for her grandsons, if you fell a mesh of the needle, had I to come and that back in order to bring.

1938 free woman Elisabeth von Riedesel in the lock iron brook, Hessen

Her first daughter, Mrs. von Trott, geb. Riedesel, had two sons, the grandchildren of the Baronin, which came repeatedly to attendance. The son, no children had baron Fritz with Mrs. Dulla.

The second daughter lived in Frankfurt, a Baronin Margreth of Crangsee. Their man was the treasurer (financial director) of emperor Wilhelm II., who was in the exile in Holland. It was war, in Holland gave it much that we did not have. If packages came and were opened these in my present, I got always 2 - 3 Pralines. I was nearly a family member.

To the lock the Stallungen for pigs, milk cows with an enormous ouple for the horses, as well as a large market garden belonged. A nationally examined pig master supplied the cattle and supervised feeding. There Swiss a family was for milking. In loud brook there was still another brickyard and a brewery. Everything together was nearly a village with the families and their children, because we had a post office and a hotel, into which we did not go naturally.

Then we come to the pleasant part. Mrs. Baronin went walking much, usually with me. I was allowed to select whether to the ouple or to the gardner, Mr. Voelz, in order to select flowers, which he put then beautifully fuer's for rooms. I had so many handgestickte sweaters, there could it pass that if attendance came, which kingelte Baronin and asked me to show these times. I was allowed to sew also on the electrical sewing machine for the small grandchildren Kleidchen. On the days off she gave me tickets to Kassel or otherwise where, it was always anxious that I much to see got. Once I drove with Baronin Dulla to Frankfurt/Oder with small bag and 2 dresses and became acquainted with thereby Wittenberg and environment. With my old lady I drove lock once to Ludwig-hit a corner, there had her still another, sew army field, with a cook and a gardner with a small yard property. Here it was terribly lonely, and the cook took with sometimes also into her family. When an uncle came to attendance, which was at the armed forces, I met him on the stairs and had its boots in the arm. " Nee, nee ", he, " the servant said makes that not, soldiers makes that." They were completely normal all in their kind.

Also Baronin Dulla was a completely simple woman. It did not need to shine, it was who. Their clothes were simple, it had in its dressing room however mad things for all cases. It was thick snow pleases and Mrs. Dulla with the car to the railway station had driven. My old

lady made itself concerns that she could remain being in the snow. When it returned, it said only: "are put remained, had me freely to dig." It helped also, if one slaughtered. Once we had a butcher from the neighboring village, who slaughtered a black pig. In the kitchen one did not see anything until one cooked. Baronin Dulla came to me whether I could help the Grieben to cut. It had your days, and then preserved things spoil. I found we had a very family relationship. In the summer it was beautiful in iron brook, and there I by wood living delicately was not to be left, was this no problem in iron brook for me.

I had also the possibility of transferring during the estate administration in the office small work. It was war, and everywhere forces were missing, and I could to it-learn here in each regard. If I would have been 20 years older, I would always gladly have remained. But I was too young, in order to live only with two old ladies.

Sofie, the cook of Hersfeld from Ersrode, was a BDM girl. It had announced itself to the land employment to Poland. Since my financial year went with the Baronin to end, I decided to also drive itself to Poland. We drove with 12 girls to floats.

There arrived, a city inspection waited, a theatre attendance in the evening (it was given Othello), and then ging's to four weeks for a family with children. We were together accommodated. Were very beautiful holidays.

1941: one month land assistance in Ostrowo, Poland - Emmy Gemmer, upper row right

I would back be with the others, but two days before the return trip I was bitten by a dog. I wanted to buy in a small shop still some things, there barked a dog as moved, to something was not correct, I did not want him to stroke, and he bit me in the leg.

The owners had fear, which will happen, if a German girl were bitten. Until then the physician came, one told me that the Gestapo had made a raid and everything on the head placed. Off then I knew that here much is not correct. In the hospital I was then healthy maintained. The circle leader, who us girls received and whom had discharged others, visited me and offered myself to remain there in the administration. I would have the possibility Steno and typewriter to learn and for the time being at the map place work.

1941: Emma shrubs from Mainz and Emmy Gemmer in Ostrowo, Poland

That was an offer, and I remained. With a woman employee I had a furnished room. In the hotel we went eating, one got everything else to buy. The salary was 140 RM per month. That was a quantity money with as little training as I it at present had. From the dog I have today still another memory, a thick scar at the knoechel.

In the map place record sheets were spent put on on people Germans and on Poland and food maps. Our people Germans knew fast, how one comes to everything which nothing costs. In the sozialamt there were earliest and loans on request against collecting main of German ancestors. Sometimes in the case of refusal there was annoyance.

My landlady was also so a super+clever. When I made my room thoroughly clean times, I found unterm all kinds of packing up, food supplies to bed. When I called Mrs unfortunate purely, she came with the argument that my room was not as strictly examined as their. The Mrs. wrong did to me, and I looks for myself another room and pulled out with the reference that we will not know each other in the future.

I improved by the removal, because I had referred and got an empty room now from the coffee cup to the bed a complete mechanism of the city free of charge placed.

I became acquainted with many soldiers, who were however only briefly stationed and usually family at home had. I was employed during the city administration and did not know not, what brings the future.

1942 were clear us that it stinks to no more in the east and the war to be won there was. The Germans in Poland sent their families home, and we thought also, how we get away here, in order not to fall the Russians into the hands, over in the long run at the Adolf Hitler place too baumeln.

1941: a friendly family in Poland

Then Bruno Hildebrand (woman and daughter already were in Bochum) with a solution came.

I stood still for a long time with Mrs. Hildebrand in exchange of letters. Later, in wood living, I sent Mrs. Hildebrand and its daughter a package with apples of wood living. The private contacts were back-pushed toward the many changes in the next two years completely.

Letter letter to the front to the younger brothers of my nut/mother, Karl, Ernst and Christian, was obligation. The women wrote sad letters, what one can understand, so some, however with the children and no man in the house was missing. All wrote those Emmi, had no concerns (family) and often found answers to their questions and concerns, and I could be always broken in something merry. Under each letter a remark stood as, writes back equal, because your letters are times which other one, you weight never. This experience strengthened me: "Mach ' from your life the best ", and this formula I remained faithful until today.

In order to then get away from Poland, Mr. Hildebrand went to girls to the Infanterieausbildung to cross after bath and we to empty into East Frisia to the training with the navy.

War memories

1942 I was kommandiert from Poland to my new serving place to empty East Frisia. After a excursion with my uncle in Erfurt I had still three weeks time, mean service to begin. Arrived at empty, we were kaserniert outside of the small city.

All organs were examined and weight, teeth whether cramp veins etc. exactly examined. Then the test of the usefulness came. From this the training began with all Ge and prohibitions.

Since in the intelligence service also many GKA telegrams were passed on, one was also sworn in end the conclusion.

My first place of work was France with the goal Cherbourg at the Atlantic coast. That was already a fiasko! We had two days time in Paris. There we could buy memories until today have I still the propellants box have I today still. We a bus with driver, that us the city showed and stayed overnight in the proximity of Montpernas. That was for us girls very interesting, but when we arrived at Cherbourg, came the first thunder weather of a captain, who welcomed us. " we need to transfer men, the responsibility in the danger zone and no girls... however it can nothing for it... it can you to peace of everything regard... I regulate that already." Said, done, we came then to Marseille, as the first girls at the admiralty.

Puderdose of Paris 1942 1942: Kaethe.... and Emmi Gemmer in Marseille

We were not accommodated in a modern hotel with the note, civilian clothes, a word German, if you go into the city and alone to never go out. Short time was finished later our accommodation in a multistoried building, and we moved then. This house was guarded by two sailors each for each guard and a behaviour lady (home chief) had we also.

We could enjoy our spare time, and although we were strictly guarded, that was very beautiful. On the opposite side was the so-called negro quarter, where for 40 years no more French policeman was alleged. The admiralty lay in the city center. The first two weeks got we our wages without return. I had an account in wood living. We were not allowed to spend or exchange more. The soldiers got their military pay locally disbursed.

1941: Gertrud, Kaethe and Emmi Gemmer in Marseille

The service of the message aids was divided in three layers: of 6 – 14, 14 - 22 and 22 – 6 o'clock after some time one knew the partners and partner inside from Oslo to Africa, and for secret transmissions we had translation documents. The most beautiful layer was the nightshift, since we could stroll then during the day. Every eight days one changed, but there were no days off on suns – and holidays. In the night duty we could rest alternating little, it are, if danger existed and hostile ships the port close could come. Then uncertainty phase was 3, thus no night rest and eyes up.

We could drink and have coffee in the officers' mess at each time there regularly to noon eaten.

In Marseille was despite war and crew a large rummelplatz. Unfortunately I forgot the names. There were so many possibilities, however the ship swing for up to 20 persons was for me the largest experience. We tested like much glass red wine one to drink can, without we got problems when estimating. We had already our fun, naturally were we then in civilian clothes with long trousers, because in uniform one could not take the liberty such things.

In our accommodation order prevailed. Everyone had a nice room with telephone and radio. The service chief knew the roster and controlled the URL from map.

We were thus well guarded in the dangerous port, but it itched us nevertheless to go times into the negro quarter up to the first tavern. They did not do anything to us. Soldiers could not accompany us, because they had to wear uniforms. I enjoyed the time there very much, but a daily was there annoyance with our captain second lieutenant and I was shifted first after Toulon.

1943: Port of Toulon with warships

and short time after set particularly nicely was later the friend our MNO, who belonged to the Air Force. Everything was many smaller and family, but the order was the same.

On German side there were many breakdowns with the submarines, and we came sometime into normandy to Nantes. Here our agency was not any more in a nice building, but in a shelter. We lived far outside in a mansion. The invasion was in full course, and we knew sometimes more than us were dear. Although the time zuspitzte itself, we were well cared for and the soldiers stood for queue, where it gave to buy for 5 francs Angora sweaters! The shop assistants were constantly medically cared for.

1943: Sete, France Intendantur at the port, service as a message aid

1944: Emmi Gemmer to attendance with a friend in pc. Nazere

Now it became seriously. The last seven weeks in June 1944 we were accommodated with 14 girls in a large hall. For everyone there was a bed and a locker. Meal was as always good, and then large transport came toward the west. At night we drove with the truck (which most was not vergoentt). During the day we were for safety reasons in a calm place everything went well. We came to empty and got 14 days vacation.

We had a new movement order and free travel lights to Berlin, but no Pfennig money, in order to buy a cup of Kaffe. For a cup one had to deposit usually two Marks pledge. The last memories of Paris were sold or exchanged, and I was toward wood living on the way. Finally arrived at Nassau, then the post office bus driver took me not also after wood living, since I could not pay the ticket. An older married couple paid me then in the waiting-room a coffee and a telephone call after wood living. I made myself foot on the way once me a farmer a piece carried forward. My nut/mother and Anni came to meet me to foot. I could be a few days at home. I did not have to drive naturally the right home, to me it had however simply taken. We were safe, that war are lost, but on request we did not become to dismiss.

Obligation is obligation. The war continued and I sat down then, my movement order accordingly to Berlin, location cell village, postal service in the Bendlerstrasse, in motion.

After some weeks my best friend came to the supreme command to Bernau into east Berlin. I made now terror until I was shifted also after Bernau. We lived in barracks in the forest, and our switching was accommodated in shelters. In the middle of January 1945 was still good everything, but then we saw the first Russians in the forest. LKWs before the door stood for neck over head, and as with the latter times it went only at night toward Hamburg forward. When we arrived, completely Hamburg was on fire. It continued to go then to Eutin (Schleswig Holstein), where we were then accommodated in barracks and also our task in the switching accomplish there could.

I heard the speech of our large admiral Doenitz to Hitler's birthday still, and two days later I was wounded. I was heavily met on the road by an explosive projectile and have to today still many fragments in my back. In August 1944 I became from the hospital in Eutin to dismiss and was prisoner of the Englishmen.

There were no postverbindungen, no course, and the zones were supervised by the Besatzern. When I better was, I came into the camp to Rendsburg. There was the danger that Rendsburg became Russian zone of occupation. A citizen of Berlin physician ensured for the fact that I came with a prisoner transport to the west. I was not then however still for a long time at home, because was very difficult journeys in this time. At night no courses drove. One then had to stay overnight in the stations. The red cross divided dte out, and if one had luck, also a soup.

One conversed with many, and most soldiers had to drive fear by the French zone and accepted therefore large detours, in order not to arrive in shank, which was nevertheless substantially harder, as those to the American.

A sailor from the Westerwald was not married as I, and we were us united that we did not have to lose anything. Thus we sought to come the shortest way together to Diez. There we wanted to separate. It wanted then into the Westerwald and I after wood living. That was in August 1945. We exchanged our addresses and agreed that we are written times.

Willi Buhr from Ebernhahn

Julius Buhr, the father of my later man Willi Buhr, was a plant manager in the tongrube Wittgert and could its sons there accommodate, as soon as you had left the school. The large niece, Petra Buhr, has on the occasion of 60. Birthday of Guenter Buhr an extensive chronicle provides, in which the family Buhr to 1680 is retraced.

In the community center Ebernhahn hangs this local opinion in high-grade steel welding engineering, manufactured of the artists Steudter/Diehl, donated of the family W+M Buhr, Ebernhahn

Before the Second World War Ebernhahn was a small village. Everyone had one little field, two goats and two pigs in the stable. The men worked in the tongrube. Like that the people were somewhat better to than pure farmers. My later man Willi Buhr had acquired and drove already 1936 the LKW driving licence clay/tone for the company Wittgert von Wirges to Vallendar to the ship.

Before that 1. And partly also until 1932 one made world war with ox trucks.

1930: Willi Buhr and the soccer players at the old sports field in Ebernhahn

1932: Willi Buhr as SA man 1933: with friend with a radtour after honour broad stone

1934: Valentin Heibel, Eugen Buhr and Rudolf Weiland 1936: Willi Buhr

1934: Willi Buhr with the Kirmesgesellschaft Ebernhahn

v. l....., Paula Alef geb. Steudter....., Robert Neust....., Hugo Weimar, Veronika stepfather geb., Willi Roos...., Adolf Siry, Paula Buhr with brother Willi

1934 Kirmesjugend of Ebernhahn

Walter Hommrich, Thea Reusch, Lothar Siry....., Josefine brook, tonuses Hoewer, Robert Neust, Klara Griesar....., Veronika stepfather...., Paula Buhr, Willi Roos, Willi Buhr, Melitta Roos, Helmut Alef

kneeling: Berthold Steudter....., Adolf Siry, Alfons Quernes (Schneider)

The time wanted it so that Willi Buhr had already at the end of of 1936 to the military. Its class 1914, was drawn in actively as the first class for two years. To pull in Wetzlar it as a soldier trained around then 1939 into the war. Thus he spent his youth time of 22. – 30. Lebensjahr in the war. From Wetzlar to Poland, to France and then to Russia.

1938 Russia campaign Willi Buhr 1. from right

1941: Willi Buhr in Russia

1940 Willi Buhr 1. of RH. And comrades in Russia

1941 Willi Buhr with the battle celebration in Russia with two Russians

There it was wounded and was for a long time in the military hospital in Vienna, Marienbad and Franzensbad

Willi Buhr 2. from left in the military hospital in Franzensbad

The company Wittgert placed then a request for UK to 1944, so that it did not have to pull no more into the lost war.

Its two brothers, Siskus and Eugen, were however still at the front, as well as the brother-in-law Josef Balmert, which was until 1949 in shank and its wife and his son should never see more.

Short time married later Willi his first Mrs. Elisabeth Hanappel from Balduinstein. One had converted the barn for his brother Eugen and Mrs. Hedwig and their three children Guenther, Achim and Paula as house, and Willi referred here two rooms.

In the other house the father Julius with his Mrs. Katharina lived, geb. Steudter and the daughter Paula with its man, Josef Balmert and the son Gerd.

The oldest son Siskus lived with his Mrs. Anna, geb. Reach and the son Werner into that rose tail in the house of the family Alois Ley.

Eleven months after its wedding Ebernhahn was bombarded, and both houses were made equal to the ground. Its young wife, who was highly more schwanger, its sister Paula with its son of nine years Gerd came to death, and it was in-supplied heavily hurt to the hospital after the brook. In the house died still five further persons, who had brought themselves there in security (Fam. **creep** out of Koblenz).

Gerd Balmert, the son of Paula, geb Buhr, briefly before the bomb attack on Ebernhahn on 11 March 1945

When Willi was again healthy, had to be pushed, in order to create dwelling. In the meantime one lived at the family Steudter in the " Schoofgasse " also as Eugen returned, resumed he with Wittgert its work, since he had to nourish a family of five family, and Willi was further busily with it to push.

In the converted barn was less debris, and therefore this house could be first developed. The development was then also easier. The picture developed only 1957

In the time after the war the war comrades of Willi of the more frequent met

Company meeting 1968 to the Mosel Emmi Buhr 4. vl, Willi Buhr in front l.

Company meeting 1979 standing in Ebernhahn, 3+2 of on the right of Martin and Wiltrud Buhr

Kompani meet

Acquaintance with the Westerwald

How agrees, I wrote the Westerwaelder sailor. It had a sister, Walburga seizes, which had three children. Their man was in 2. Please world war. 1945 I sent its two Pound of butter to Christmas. Thereupon it told me that in Wirges a railroad car with leather would lie. I drove with the railway over Limburg with butter and potatoes to it. Also for the three small children I had bring along something to meals.

There my sister Anni to the Konfirmation went, should be manufactured shoes from the leather. With our meeting she mentioned that she would have a cousin, who pushes with everything and can also shoes in Pirmasens procure. She presented to me this cousin, and we went in the evening together into the cinema Gilles to Wirges. I should remain faithful then 57 years the Westerwald.

I had in Punkto meal never emergency I came to the war home, and all people needed dresses. I helped my nut/mother to make from blankets and armed forces coats jackets and coats. Beautiful cuts developed. Thus we got our food. Anni was still a school child. I worked also for Mrs. Schneider, a Modistin. We drove also more frequently to Cologne into the hat factory and got Stumpfen in a larger suit-case. Mrs. Schneider was from East Prussia, and if controls came had her the elbow to regulate, better raus than I. We were always controlled by Frenchmen. If we were controlled in the Lahnsteiner station, them went then to the toilet, and I had to tell the vegetable of the many children and, what in the suit-cases should be.

When I had become acquainted with Willi, I had felt better with him, because he could do everything still better. We brought it then so far that the second lieutenant welcomed us personally, if we came to the station. It always offered a cigarette to us. Only with the German police there were problems. Once we had to watch, how a suit-case full tobacco, barley and grain from our hiding place was taken. What probably the policemen thereby made?

At this time we often met in pc. Goarshausen with our friends. A daily was very much betruemt and depressed Willi, which I could not do from him. He had gotten a citation to the general customs office after Koblenz. I promised to come along it. I drove from Lahn stone to Koblenz. He came from at home. It had luck in the misfortune. He got only a high fine and was not locked up. Since everything was konfisziert, it had a completely new, but better fuel mechanism to over then burn builds again black liquor around to then exchange against other things. Short time we later met then the resolution to always together-remain. That meant marries.

We wanted no large celebration and everything in all silence, but the future mother-in-law wanted that we are church trusted, and my nut/mother made the suggestion: " then marries nevertheless at Annis Konfirmationssonntag!" and everything prepared.

Now the religionskrieg went loosely. It was clear that I would live times in Ebernhahn, because the Westerwald the Taunus had the flourishing industrial companies of the clay/stone industry in advance.

I wanted to then fulfill Willis nut/mother the desire catholic to marry. In wood striking there was an Evangelist church and a catholic chapel. Thus Willi spoke with the catholic minister gel hard in Nastaetten, which had relatives close in Siershahn, in order to trust us in the catholic chapel in wood living. For the time at that time not possibly, because the Pope made possible this possibility of the mixed marriages only 30 years later.

We married civil on Friday, the 28. 03. 1947 in wood living and two days later church. We went thus with the whole society first into the Evangelist church to the Konfirmation of Anni and to it into the catholic chapel to the wedding. As witnesses at the marriage we had determined Karl Sarius from wood living and Karl new from Ebernhahn. Otherwise nobody participated from Ebernhahn. In the chapel the organist and many merry waited completely, in order to see this event. Both ministers came to it to the coffee drinking into the youth hostel, which was still the house of the family Dina Gemmer.

Every time I waited Nastaetten for the Kleinbahn, I visited the minister gel hard. With my mother, that gave still manual work instruction in the school in wood living, it always inquired, how we are in the Westerwald.

from above on the left of Eugen, Willi and Siskus Buhr, down Julius, Paula and Katarina Buhr

As a new member of a family one must become acquainted with all.

I had to reorient one's opinion in many things, then it gave Grandpa and granny to grandparents with us and with Buhrs

With us all were Evangelist, catholic with Buhrs everything, and the men carried tailored suits of cutter Marx from Wirges. We in wood living sewn.

My mother-in-law bore heavy wrong, because she had lost its only daughter Paula in the last war days and its grandchild Gerd, for which she had prepared everything for the first communion. It knew only the sentence, my children is dead and forgot with the fact that three sons and the son-in-law had returned healthy from the war. I tried to understand it. It had three healthy enkelkinder. Guenther and Achim by son Eugen and Werner von Sohn Siskus. When Werner went to the coming union, it did not even give the material for the coming union suit, thought for Gerd. Then Paula, the daughter of Hedi and Eugen came in October 1945 to the world.

Katharina geb. 1885 and your gebetbuch