

IMPORTANT

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Interview Transcript Title Page

Collection title:	AJR Refugee Voices Testimony Archive
Ref. no:	111

Interviewee Surname:	Goldman
Forename:	Mathilde
Interviewee Sex:	Female
Interviewee DOB:	8 May 1924
Interviewee POB:	Hamburg, Germany

Date of Interview:	29 November 2005
Location of Interview:	Salford, Manchester
Name of Interviewer:	Rosalyn Livshin
Total Duration (HH:MM):	1 hour and 35 minutes

RV TRANSCRIPTS: GOLDMAN, MATHILDE (111)

**REFUGEE VOICES:
THE AJR AUDIO-VISUAL TESTIMONY ARCHIVE TAPE:**

INTERVIEW: 111

NAME: MATHILDE GOLDMAN

DATE: 29 NOVEMBER 2005

LOCATION: SALFORD

INTERVIEWER: ROSALYN LIVSHIN

TAPE 1

RL: Now, I am interviewing Mathilde Goldman and today's date is Tuesday, 29th November 2005. The interview is taking place in Salford and I am Rosalyn Livshin. If you can tell me first your name?

MG: Mathilde Goldman.

RL: And your name at birth.

MG: Weinberger.

RL: And did you have any other first names?

MG: No. My second name is Chaya. And I'm called Tilly. Nobody calls me Mathilde.

RL: And your Jewish name, your Hebrew name?

MG: Matta

RL: Were you named after anybody?

MG: My grandmother, my father's mother.

RL: And when were you born?

MG: 8th of May 1924.

RL: And where were you born?

MG: In Hamburg, Germany.

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RL: How old does that make you now?

MG: Eighty-one and a half.

RL: Now first of all your parents. And if you can tell us something about their family backgrounds?

MG: Yes. Now, who shall I start with?

RL: Start with your mother.

MG: My mother. My mother was born in London on the 4th of October 1882. She was ... she had six brothers and six sisters. Her father, Marcus Landau, came from Russia originally. He had ... my mother was one of the children of his second wife. He was left with five children and he married again and had another thirteen children. He was a shochet and a grocer as well. And they lived in Highbury, New Park. First they lived in the East End, in Leman Street, or whatever it's called, L-E-M-A-N, and then in Highbury, New Park. And my mother is, she was a ... she worked for the Jewish Welfare Committee as a ... mostly connected with the white slave traffic to see, you know, see that girls didn't come to harm and rescue them. And, well, she had, one of her sisters was Miss Helena Landau, the headmistress of Delamere. She had another sister, Annie Landau. She was the headmistress of the Evelina de Rothschilds School in Jerusalem. And one of her sisters, Elsie, was a gynaecologist at the Elizabeth Garrett Henderson Hospital. And the brothers were all businessmen. One uncle was a lawyer. What else shall I tell you?

RL: Did she ever tell you anything about her work?

MG: No, not really. No ... I know once we went to see the lady she worked for when we came on a visit in 1936 to London from Germany, but I can't remember anything, no. And ... what else shall I tell you about her family?

RL: So she grew up in London?

MG: Yes, she grew up in London. Yes, and she went to ... maybe that's how she met my father. Do you want to know that?

RL: Yes

MG: Yes. She had an uncle in Heidelberg, which is a university town in Germany, where my father was studying. And they had a boys' boarding school. My father taught there, you know, to earn some money while he was working, while he was studying. And they introduced them. And they got engaged. Only the war came in between, the first war and she had to go back to London. My father had to serve in the German army. He was

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wounded in 1915. He was in hospital for 3 years. He was left with a lame leg. They married in 1920. And don't forget, all those war years they couldn't correspond. And they married in Germany in 1920.

RL: And tell me a little bit about your father.

MG: My father. He came from a small village really. And his father was a ... he had a bakery and also he dealt in cattle, you know selling cattle. And he had two brothers and a sister.

RL: Which was the little village?

MG: Called Wüsten-Sachsen in Bavaria. And he went to school in Fulda, also in South Germany these places are, and then he went to university in Heidelberg. I don't know much about the ... my uncles were businessmen and my aunt was married to a businessman, that's ...

RL: Where were they living ...?

MG: My uncle lived in C ...one uncle lived in Cologne, one lived in a place called Limburg and my aunt lived in a small place called Münstermaifeld. All those were in South Germany. In those days one didn't see much of the family. My grandfather, my father's father, came with us on holiday once. I can't remember, I was only a little girl and my grandmother died before I was born. Both my mother's parents also died before I was born. I never knew them. We didn't know any of the family well because in those days one didn't travel ... not like now that one hops on an aeroplane ... So my mother, the first time she went back to England was 1933 when her brother, one of her brothers, died. That's from 1920 to 1933. Course they corresponded and we came on a visit here in 1936 and of course we got know the family better when we came to England as refugees. We - as I say, I wasn't an ordinary Kindertransport-child, or my sister - we came to relations. We stayed with my uncle.

RL: We'll come onto that story later ...

MG: ... later ...

RL: We want to take you through your childhood as well. So your father's family ... You say, first of all, you said that he went to university. What did he study?

MG: Science. Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Mathematics. And he got a PhD.

RL: And what did his brothers do?

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MG: They were businessmen. I don't know exactly what they did.

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RL: What kind of religious upbringing did they have?

MG: An orthodox upbringing. Yes, like we had as well.

RL: And your mother's family. What kind of upbringing did ...?

MG: Also the same, yes. My grandfather was a shochet and my mother used to tell us they had chickens running round the garden and they used to have them for Shabbos and the children didn't really like that, you know (*chuckles*) First you see them running round the garden and then they came on the dinner table (*chuckles*). But they ... as I said it was a big family.

RL: Where did your parents marry?

MG: They married in Germany. I'm not sure if they married in Fulda or in Hamburg. But neither of their parents ... well, my mother's parents were already ... my mother's father was bed-ridden. My mother's mother didn't come either. As I say you didn't travel around in those days like you do now. So they just had friends I think. I don't really know much about that.

RL: What children did your parents have?

MG: I had a brother, who died three years ago, and my sister lives in London, my younger sister.

RL: Who was the oldest?

MG: My brother was the oldest.

RL: What was his name?

MG: Marcus Weinberger.

RL: And your younger sister?

MG: Eva Massel now, yes.

RL: So where did your parents go to live once they were married?

MG: In Hamburg. Because my father was a teacher there at the boys' Jewish grammar school, or as it was called Talmud Torah Obere Altshul. That's was its name.

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RL: Had your father gone to Yeshiva at all or had um ..?

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MG: No, when he went to school in Fulda he lived with the Rov of Fulda then and he sort of like had his own tutor, so to speak. You see my father, he gave ... (*telephone rings*) ... that's not my phone ...

RL: We'll just let it ...

MG: And he taught later on in a girls' seminary in Hamburg on a voluntary basis. He didn't, he wouldn't take money for that. He also taught in school Hebrew as well, besides the other subjects. And he taught us (*chuckles*) ... yes ... only basic Hebrew. We started off, we had to have regular lessons with him, all of us, but ... And also he gave lessons to ... people came to him to learn ... for Hebrew lessons and you know to learn Gemorrah and things like that and also he never took money for that.

RL: Whereabouts in Hamburg were you living?

MG: Well, it wasn't properly Jewish... First we lived in a street called Grindelberg, which was quite a way from the school where my father taught and then we moved in 1929 to Bornstraße, which was very near, it was near the big Shul, near the school as well, because my father walked with a stick, because of his lame leg he used a stick [Chuckles] ... yes, and ...

RL: Did he tell you, you know, sort of the circumstances of how he got wounded in the war?

MG: Yes, it was on the Russian front, the German Russian front, and they were on a hill and a soldier next to him was shot in the head. So he was lucky he was only shot in the leg, but it took a long time. He was left with this lame leg. But when the Gestapo came in 1939, they came on a Shabbos, you know they were interning everybody, it saved him from being taken to a concentration camp, because they had his military pass with all the details about the wounds, how he was wounded, and so he was never taken to a concentration camp. So everything is good for something. Because my mother went round the house with the Gestapo to make sure they didn't plant things and they afterwards accused us of having things. And my sister, I remember my sister screaming "Don't take my daddy away!" , in German of course "Don't take my daddy away!" [Sighs]

RL: Now coming back to your childhood. What was your earliest memory as a child?

MG: My earliest memory? I tell you what I remember. I was about 3 or 4 years old, this sounds funny, we were at the seaside, we were playing ring-a-ring-a-roses and my, no a friends of ours, my arm was dislocated. I remember sitting at the doctor and having it pu... - was my earliest memory – having it pushed back. And of course going to school -

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but I don't remember anything of the - I went to Kindergarten , but I can't remember that. But I went to ... in school, we didn't start until we were six in Germany, but I was nearly

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six. I started in April and I was going to be six in May. So that I remember. And then the schooldays ...

RL: What school did you attend?

MG: It was a Jew ... The first school I went to, unfortunately it closed after the first year I was there. It didn't have enough money to carry it on (as) a school. I can't remember the name of it, it was in Biberstraße in Hamburg. And then I went to the Jewish girls' school, first the junior school and then the high school.

RL: Who was in charge of that?

MG: The headmaster was called Dr. Jonas. I can't remember the first name. And the junior school and the high school were on different places, different buildings. But we walked everywhere. Nobody thought of going on the trams. It was quite a way to walk, but nobody ... one just walked.

RL: Can you describe your home, the two places that you lived.

MG: The first one – I can't remember much – it was on the third floor. In Germany one had flats on the whole, you see. It was on the third floor and gas lighting, not electricity. And they had sort of an oven, a stove in the corner, no central heat(ing) or anything like that. And we probably had five rooms – I can't remember. I remember the living room and the bedroom and the kitchen. It was a big flat. And then we moved to Bornstraße in 1929, which was also flats, but they were built on top of shops, so we were really ground floor but it was up some steps and they had what was called in those days five and a half rooms. They had central heating and electric light (*laughs*). And my sister wasn't born until after we moved there.

RL: Were these flats in Jewish areas?

MG: In Jewish areas, yes. And we had also a Jewish – the first flat, I don't remember the second flat – she was a Jewish landlady who owned the house. And it was a Jewish area. The big shul – was called the “Grosse Shul” - was at the corner, was round the corner and there was quite a few shuls in the area.

RL: Which shul did your family ...?

MG: Well, my father went mostly to the shul in the orphanage, but he also went to the Grosse Shul, the big school, especially on Friday night, because he had trouble walking, you see. But really the earliest memories were from the orphanage school, shul I should

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say. And afterwards when I was bigger I went to the big shul. And we used to watch the people, because they came down that road past our house, so we used to sit at the window behind the lace curtains and watch the people go by. The men used to wear top hats in

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those days. And I also remember when they destroyed the shul, Kristallnacht and they were kicking the – people left those top hats in the shul then afterwards – and the Nazis were kicking them down the street. I remember that still. Yes.

RL: Was your father active in the community in any way?

MG: Not really, I don't think, no. Except he taught in shul. But my mother was voluntary welfare worker in the Jewish community. She went, you know, visit people and see what they needed, things like that. Also visited hospitals which I accompanied her sometimes to visit the Jewish patients in hospitals.

RL: How did she find, you know, coming to live in Germany, having been brought up in England?

MG: I don't know, once she acclimatised alright. She always spoke in German with an accent and she never spoke English to us. No. English I learned in school and then, because we came here and soon learned English, we got out of speaking German in the war.

RL: So you didn't learn English from your mother?

MG: No. But she was quite active in the community.

RL: Did you belong to any youth groups?

MG: Ezra

RL: What did you do?

MG: We usually met on Shabbos usually, you know, had stories told and singing. That group, they, yes ... And sometimes you went on outings. That's it really.

RL: Who was in charge of the Ezra group?

MG: I can't remember. I can't even remember the group leader. Yes that was, the group leader was Ruth Marcus. I think they also came to live in Manchester eventually. But I can't really remember anything about it.

RL: Who was the rabbi of the Grosse Shule?

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MG: Dr. Carlebach. His name. I'm trying to think of his first name. I can't remember that either. First there was Spitzer, Rabbiner Spitzer of Hamburg, and then Dr. Carlebach, Yosef Carlebach his name was, that's right. And Spitzer, I can't remember his first name. It was more or less before my time, you know when I was only a little girl

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RL: And what memories do you have of Shabbos and Yomtov at home?

MG: Well, we had Friday night and singing zemiros and as a girl I went to shul on Friday night as well and Shabbos morning, we had breakfast and dinner, I went to visit my friend. I mostly went there. She, we kept the Yomtov everything.

RL: Which was your favourite Yomtov?

MG: I don't know. Liked them all.

RL: Do you have any particular memories of the Yomtovim that stand out?

MG: Well, I remember we were able to build a sukkah. We were on the ... that was the lowest floor and the balconies went sort of half as they went up they were half of the size below, so we were able to build a sukkah on our kitchen balcony. I remember that and decorating it with my father. And what else? Hanukkah. It was just like we keep Yomtov here now. It's the same thing.

RL: Were there any different customs, anything different that you did there that you ...?

MG: Not really, no, no. Well, I'm in the same environment really, so it's still the same and the Shul we go to, well there's not so many left now, but it's originally a lot of people from Hamburg in there. On Shabbos, especially in the summer we went round to visit friends, the children.

RL: Did you learn any music at all?

MG: No, I didn't.

RL: Did you participate in sport activity?

MG: No, not really. Only what we had in school, but nothing otherwise, no.

RL: What about reading?

MG: We read a lot, yes. We have a library not far away, so I read a lot, yes.

RL: Did you ever visit any, you know, like theatres or operas or ...

MG: Not really ...

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RL: ...or cultural, do any cultural ...

MG: Not on a regular basis. Once or twice we went to the pictures to see Shirley Temple, but otherwise not. Just one didn't do it.

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RL: What about holidays?

MG: We use to go and rent a house either at the seaside or country places. I do remember going milking, you know, because you get kosher milk, so we went ourselves. And so mother, we had to do all the cooking ourselves obviously. But that stopped once ... I can't remember if we went after 19.., no I don't think we went anywhere after 1933 any more when Hitler came to power. Then as a child I remember, you know, writing on the Jewish...when it came to Kristallnacht. We didn't know, you didn't have a radio like you have here regularly and there was no shechita anymore in Germany after Hitler came to power and my mother's relations in London sent money to some friends in Belgium. And they sent us chickens once a month. And on this Friday of the Kristallnacht, our maid - the Jewish maid we had - and I went to the station to collect these chickens and we didn't know why all this- it was in town - why all the big stores, why all the windows were smashed in. We had no idea. In between my mother had heard about this and she was looking out the window worrying where we were and so we came back, thank G-d, all right. But before that already, I remember the Nazis marching down the streets, especially the Jewish areas singing their horrible songs that I can still see in front of my eyes, yes, and ...

RL: How did you get on with the non-Jews around you?

MG: We didn't really have anything to do with them. We used at first to have non-Jewish maids, but then of course after we were not allowed to have them any more and so we had Jewish girls. And everybody had maids [laughs]. And I remember one of our maids, a non-Jewish maid, who had got married and she lived in the country, came to visit us and she told my parents she would like to take us to So that we shouldn't come to any harm. But of course my father wouldn't do that. Also my best friend, they had already emigrated to Holland in 1937, and he wrote as well should send the two of us, my sister and me to Holland to save us. My father said it's too near. And he was right. And they were all, unfortunately they didn't make it, that family.

RL: How were the family affected when Hitler came to power in '33?

MG: Well, at first we didn't notice. But when they started, you know you kept looking over your shoulder and then they wrote, you know, nasty things on the cemeteries, on the Jewish shops they wrote horrible things. That I remember. But we had to get on with it.

RL: When did your father have to stop practising shechita....?

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MG: No, my father was in England. No. My father was a teacher.

RL: So he continued to teach.

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MG: He continued to teach, yes. I remember my mother telling us in the 1920s, they had the hyper-inflation in Germany, and the wives went to the school about 12 o'clock every day to get paid by the day. By the time they went shopping in the afternoon the money was only worth half as much. I don't know how she really managed. I admire her. But they got over that.

RL: You say you remember the Nazis marching through the streets.

MG: Marching, yes. Shall I tell you what they sang, translated into English? "When the Jewish blood sprays on the knives, the knives cut twice as well" they sang. All these years I remember that, because I can still see them. My sister was very frightened. She was only a little girl. She was very frightened. But we still went to school. The Jewish schools still existed and we walked there on our own. And walked back again on our own.

RL: Did you ever meet any trouble in the streets?

MG: No, not really, no. Not as children. I don't if the grown-ups did, but we didn't.

RL: So you say that you weren't really aware of Kristallnacht until the following ...

MG: Until the following morning, yes. I had no idea.

RL: Did you see the Shul?

MG: I saw the Shul destroyed, yes. I mean the building was still there, but everything was smashed up.

RL: And at what point did your parents begin to talk about sending you away?

MG: Well, after that, you see, one of my mother's sisters, she worked for the Jewish Refugees Committee here in England and she arranged for us to come over, but to relations obviously, and then my parents came about six weeks later. They also came out. So you could take nothing out with you. They took the silver candle... Anything silver you had the Nazis stole. I think ten marks you were allowed to take out, that's all. I don't know what they did with the other things. My father gave to the Jewish maid whatever he, the money he could get hold of because they blocked savings and things like that, they stole it all.

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RL: So what did you bring with you? What were you able to pack?

MG: Just clothes and I can't remember if we brought any money out with us or not, just the two of us. As I say nothing was allowed out and some people tried I think to smuggle things out, but father wouldn't do that. It's not worth risking your life for things like that.

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RL: Had you already ... were you still at school?

MG: I was still at school. Yes, I was still at school. So when I came to London I also went to school here in Highbury Hill High School in London, lived with my uncle and aunt. They had six children of their own and they took the three of us in as well. My brother came out already. We sent him out before he was sixteen, it was Lag B'Omer 19...when we was sixteen, 1938. So he wasn't there any more at uh ... And I remember seeing him off in an airplane, which was in those days something unheard of. But it was good that we sent him out before he was sixteen because after sixteen they interned the boys of sixteen, put them in concentration camps.

RL: Did that happen to people that you knew?

MG: Yes. Funny, when they came to our house on that Shabbos, my father was giving a shiur to a young boy. They thought it was my brother, so they didn't bother with him either. It wasn't my brother. But unfortunately he also didn't make it in the end, he didn't get out of Germany.

RL: Do you remember first of all your leaving Germany? If you can describe to me that day.

MG: Yes, well, I think my sister and I, we didn't know anyone else on this Kindertransport. I don't know if any of them were from Hamburg or whether from other areas. I still can see my parents waving us good-bye. We didn't know if we were going to see them again and so many people didn't, and went on the ... In England we were met by my aunt and uncle. But, as I say, we were lucky.

RL: How did the journey go? Were did you travel to?

MG: We went, I think, over Hook of Holland, I think, I seem to remember. I think it took over night, that journey, but I'm not quite sure about that any more. We all were together in a carriage, all the children, and we were allowed to take – I don't remember how many children there were – but we were allowed to take out one case each. And I remember they looked through my case at the border. Didn't find anything except my clothes. Because as I say some people tried to smuggle things out

RL: And how was your sister on the journey?

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MG: She was alright. It think it was uh ... But she still ... she sometimes mentions it now ... it was a terrible experience. But she was only nine years old. I was already nearly fifteen. It makes a difference.

RL: Where did you land in England?

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MG: In Harwich, I think it was. Then we were taken to London, I think Camperdown House it was called where we all met up. And the children were divided up to various, you know, people who took them in. And of course we were lucky, as I said, we were taken to our uncle and aunt. So ...

RL: Had you met them before?

MG: Once, when we were on holiday here in 1936 I met them. That's ... we soon learned to speak English. My sister couldn't speak a word of English. I had already learned in Germany, so I already could understand a bit. But it didn't take her long to become top of the class. [Laughs] So, all she could say at first "Don't understand". [Laughs] We went to school straight away in England. She went of course to junior school and I went to Highury Hill High. Then of course the war came. We were evacuated. She was able to come with me because they took younger sisters. And we went in Huntingdon and I went to the Highbury High, went to the school, and she was in the local junior school there.

RL: Highbury High that was the non-Jewish school.

MG: The non-Jewish school, yes.

RL: How did you find going to ...?

MG: I found it quite difficult. It was only about half a dozen Jewish girls there and we had separate ... in the mornings at prayers we had separate thing. And in Huntingdon they sent us a teacher, but you know I think I knew more than the teacher (*laughs*) because I had a good grounding, not only from my father but also in the school. Yes my father gave us regular ... I think I could read the aleph beis before I could read the ABC.

RL: And when did your parents come over?

MG: I think it was March '39. About five, six weeks after us.

RL: And where did they stay?

MG: They stayed with ... at first with my mother's sister at Mrs. Sachs, she was Elsie Landau, the gynaecologist at the Elizabeth Garrett Anderson Hospital. And then they came to Manchester in charge of Cassel Fox Hostel.

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LR: When did they come to London?

MG: I think it was after Pesach. Not quite sure of the date any more because we didn't come with them, we stayed in London. And one didn't telephone in those days either like one does now. So we wrote letters. And I don't know if you know about Cassel Fox Hostel where this Mr. Eli Fox and Mr. Joe Cassel bought this house for refugee boys in

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Upper Park Road. I don't know how many people remember this nowadays. And I don't know how many boys there were. My husband was one of the boys. It was also Kindertransport boys and they had working young men. And my father was in charge of the, you know, the - what shall I call it? - the money side of it, but my mother oversaw the household affairs. They had cook, and help for the cook as well.

RL: Do you remember who the cook was?

MG: Well, one I remember was called Miriam Blecher. She married a gentleman called Max Beer and she is still alive. She is over 90 and she lives in Haifa in an old age home.

RL: How many boys were in the hostel?

MG: I think roughly between 20 and 30, I think. I'm not sure. I asked my husband. He can't remember either. He was one of, amongst the first boys and he can't remember either how many there were. We had bunk beds and a big dining room. They had a play room playing ping pong and things like that. And I remember building a big sukkah out in the garden and I remember sitting outside and rubbing, doing the chrane for Pesach for seder night. In 1942 we came to Manchester, my sister and I and we stayed there with my parents. And I worked. We had to pay, I can't remember it was, you got I think ten shilling pocket money and your fare. We didn't earn much in those days. And the rest you paid for you board and lodging. Once you started working, you paid.

RL: And coming back to London, first of all, and where you were living with your aunt and uncle, going to school. What did you make of London and of England?

MG: We just, we had to get on with it. You know, it was no trauma counselling or anything like that in those days. You had to get on with your life. As I say, we were lucky we were with relations and not with strangers. So we just settled in, went to shul with them, visited the other relations who lived in that area. That's ...

RL: Which shul did they attend?

MG: They went to Poet's Road shul, my uncle and aunt.

RL: Did you join any groups ...?

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MG: No, not then. I didn't go to any Cheder there because I was more advanced than that, you see, so there was no point wasting my time. My sister I think they sent her to Cheder. My brother, he also lived there with them. It was the three of us. So we weren't split up as children. As I say, we had to get on with it, couldn't feel sorry for ourselves or anything like that.

RL: Did you find anything in particular difficult? Was there anything that was hard?

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MG: Not really. No, we didn't. Except we were evacuated. It was difficult getting used to living with non-Jewish people. My uncle and aunt, they sent us kosher food, but even so, it wasn't ... I remember something - when we were first there - at the beginning of the war Rosh Hashanah soon afterwards we were supposed to write, something or other we had to write, and I told my head mistress, I explained to her about Yomtov and everything, that we couldn't write and couldn't do this, that and the other. And she understood, you know, because she was a religious person herself, and she understood. When it came to the ... when you were sixteen you had to a tribunal to see if were an enemy alien. She came with me, she took me to Bedford where the tribunal was and she stayed with me and brought me back again ... she had ... in her car she took me. But she appreciated that we kept our religion.

RL: So how did you manage in the non-Jewish home?

MG: We were at first with elderly people, who never had any children, but they were very nice and we managed. Yes, they were nice to us and we were nice to them. No, at first we were in a village for about a week. And then afterwards when these people got too old we lived with somebody else and they thought we might be spies (laughter). So every time a plane went over - because it was near an aerodrome there - she thought we were giving signals to them or something. But couldn't make them understand. The last thing we would do.

RL: Were the three of you together when you were evacuated?

MG: No, my brother went to - what was it called? - Highbury County School with my cousins and they were in St Leonard's in Brington, I think. And afterwards they went to Somerset I think they were evacuated. No, my sister and I were together. So I looked after her.

RL: How long were you there?

MG: Well, from the beginning of the war till 1942. Did we go 1940? It was the holidays. At Pesach obviously we had to go home. And in the winter and summer holidays we also came to Manchester then and my parents. But ...

RV TRANSCRIPTS: GOLDMAN, MATHILDE (111)

RL: Were you at school all the time that you were there?

MG: Yes, I was in school.

RL: How did you get on with the other children?

MG: I got on very well. Yes. And at the same time that I came to the school, a non-Jewish girl came from a different part of England and started at that school and we were best friends. She died a couple of years ago, but her husband still sends me greetings

Tape 1: 42 minutes 34 seconds

cards and I kept up correspondence with her all the time, all our lives till she died. She was a couple of weeks younger than I was. I had some Jewish friends as well.

RL: What was her name?

MG: Her name was Stella Adams. She was a ... she didn't have a father any more. But we got on very well

RL: Were there other Jewish girls also evacuated to the same place?

MG: Yes, yes, I think there were about six or eight of us, that's all. But none of them were really religious.

RL: How did you manage, say, for Shabbos and ...?

MG: Well, we had to manage as best we could. That's it. Didn't do anything we shouldn't do. It wasn't easy, but people were you know because of the bombs and that ... I remember a bomb when we were here, but it was already when we were ... after 1942 ... a bomb coming through ... an incendiary bomb coming through Cassel Fox roof, but it didn't it fizzled out. We all sheltered down in the cellar the whole, you know, all the boys when the sirens went. You got used to it.

RL: So would go for holidays up to Manchester rather than to your aunt and uncle?

MG: Yes, we went to our pa... I think the first Pesach of the war, I think, we went back to my uncle and after wards we came to Manchester. And it wasn't ... and we had to change three times on the way. The trains were full of troops, but we had no trouble and it was awkward to get here.

RL: You mentioned going before a tribunal? Do you remember what happened that ...?

MG: Well, they asked you questions, you know what are you doing and that ... and you got like a little pass, identity book and you were allowed to carry on with what you were doing. In certain places you weren't allowed to go I think, the restricted area, but that

RV TRANSCRIPTS: GOLDMAN, MATHILDE (111)

wouldn't apply to me. And of course when you went to work you had to get permission from the authorities to work. We didn't get naturalised until we bought this, well until we were married and bought this house. In 1952 we got English, my husband and I.

RL: Was you father, he obviously had to go before a tribunal ...

MG: Yes, well, he was also alright because he was in this position at the hostel and my mother got her nationality back, British nationality. And my father was naturalised before my sister was sixteen because she was naturalised with him.

Tape 1: 45 minutes 54 seconds

RL: How many years were your parents at the hostel?

MG: Till my father had a stroke in 1952, and then we moved together to this house. We used to live in the flat at the top of Halberstadt shop across the road. My husband brought everything over himself including the baby in his cot, a six months old baby. [Laughs]

RL: So they were actually living in the hostel until ...

MG: Yes. And then it was made into a school, you know, Cassel Fox School, later on, they were still there then, so he sort of saw to the financial things there and my mother was in charge of the general household things. They had school dinners and things like that. And then he was run over, my father, the day after ... coming home from shul - he went to Crumpsall Shul, it was the nearest one because he couldn't walk well - and on the way home from shul he was knocked down on Leicester Road, the day after my son was born. It was on the 29th February, it was 1952, and later on he had a stroke. So they had to give up and we bought this house together.

RL: Going back to the hostel, are there any stories that you remember?

MG: I can't remember anything really. No I can't really remember anything.

RL: Was it run on religious lines?

MG: Yes. Yes. I don't if the whole if they were all religious, but it was run on religious lines, yes.

RL: So, did they have davening there in the mornings, or did they go to ...?

MG: I think they went to shul. I can't remember actually. I forgot to ask my husband that. I can't remember. They probably went to shul. I can't remember.

RL: Did the boys go to school in Manchester or were they working?

RV TRANSCRIPTS: GOLDMAN, MATHILDE (111)

MG: Well, the younger ones went to school, they went to the Jews School I think and the others ... My husband went to Yeshiva for a time and then he started working. I think he was probably sixteen when he started work for Langers, the stone, you know, memorials and then later one he worked for Mr. Halberstadt and then we set up a butcher's shop in Whitefield, Park Lane Kosher Meats, which he had for 39 years. We started with nobody and built it up. I did the bookwork. That was my job.

RL: And going back to your move to Manchester in '42. What did you do when you got here?

Tape 1: 49 minutes 18 seconds

MG: Well, I looked for a job. I first worked at John Noble. And when it came to early Fridays, I couldn't get off. Shabbos was not shut. I couldn't get off early Fridays, so I had to leave. And then through Mr. Fox I got a position as a secretary at the Manchester Jews Benevolent Society where I worked until six weeks before my eldest child was born in 1948.

RL: What was John Noble? What was that like?

MG: I think they were sort of .. what do you call ... I'm trying to think of the name ... mail order firm I think they were. Yes, I was in the ... it was a big secretarial pool ... we had worked with dictaphones. I got on alright with the non-Jewish employees there. I had no trouble. I get on with everybody (*laughs*).

LR: Had you had secretarial training?

MG: I trained in school in the sixth form much to my headmistress' disgust. She thought I would make a good teacher. But I didn't want to be a teacher (*laughs*).

RL: And was the work with the Benevolent Society, was that full-time?

MG: Full-time, yes. I did secretarial work. And then afterward I was on this Jewish Day Schools Mothers Committee. I was also the secretary and had to look after the money as well. You know, we had coffee parties or garden parties, all that. We worked quite hard for the Mother's Committee to bring in money.

It started whenour Michael was about four when I started, 1956 / 57 and we made at garden parties about £800/900, which was a lot of money in those days. The other committee ladies, they went out and got advertisements for the brochures and collected things to sell at the garden party. Like they still do now, I think. But we worked hard.

PL: What did your brother do?

RV TRANSCRIPTS: GOLDMAN, MATHILDE (111)

MG: He studied at Manchester University. Actually he got a scholarship. And he studied chemistry and then he lectured at Hull University before emigrating to Canada, to Ottawa, and he was lecturer at University there. And he also ... And then he worked for the Canadian government, I don't know as what, I never asked. He was sent as a representative to NATO conferences in Europe. Well, he couldn't have told me. We didn't ask what he did, what his work was for the Canadian government till he retired and uh ...

RL: What family did he have?

MG: He had a daughter and a son. The daughter lives in America, in Philadelphia, and the son lives on the West Bank. He's an ear, nose and throat doctor. I think he works now

Tape 1: 53 minutes 2 seconds

... he used to work at Shaare Zedek hospital. I think he now works at Hadassah hospital.

RL: And your sister, what did she do ...?

MG: She worked for the Yeshiva here as a secretary, the Manchester Yeshiva in Seymour Road. When they moved to London, she worked for the Yeshiva there. Now I can't remember what it was called. They didn't have any family and of course she's retired now. She's also a bit over 70.

RL: When did she move to London?

MG: 1960 I think it was.

RL: When she married?

MG: No, they married in 1952 and he worked, he did, what the Jewish, you know, the communal council he worked ... my father-in-law and then he worked for the board of deputies. He was what they call a clerk, the main secretarial person there.

RL: What was his name?

MG: David Massel.

RL: How did she meet him?

MG: I think in university. Here in Manchester. Don't know, she studied Social Sciences, I think, or some other useless ... (*laughs*) and I think that's where they met.

RL: Did you belong to any clubs or organisations as a girl in Manchester?

MG: I? No, I didn't.

RV TRANSCRIPTS: GOLDMAN, MATHILDE (111)

RL: Did your sister or brother belong to any?

MG: I can't remember. I don't think so. Honestly, I can't remember.

RL: Were the family interested in Zionism at all?

MG: No.

RL: Did they belong to any Zionist ...?

MG: No we were more Aguda people.

Tape 1: 55 minutes 1 second

RL: Did you belong to the Aguda or go to any of the ...

MG: No, not here, no. In Germany, Ezra was part of that, but not here. It's possible my brother-in-law was ... I don't know if David belonged to anything. I honestly don't remember.

RL: When did you ... presumably you knew your husband from being in the hostel.

MG: In the hostel, yes.

RL: When did that develop into more than ...?

MG: The cook actually, she thought we would, you know, we would fit together. So she sort of ... And eventually we, because we knew each other quite a long time, we got engaged in 1946 and married in '47. We had moved out from the hostel by then, he was working and he lived with people he knew from Austria here in Wellington Street, he lived.

RL: Where was he from?

MG: He was from a place called Deutschkreutz in Austria, which the Jewish people called Zellen, which is the word for cross, you see. And his father was a stone mason in Austria. That's why he started here as a stone mason as well.

RL: Did he have brothers and sisters?

MG: Yes, he had two sisters and one brother. They all came on the Kindertransport together. The brother was also in the hostel and then they went on the Whittingham, what's it's called... they went on the farm, they had a ... a lot of boys went there. And the sister was in the girls' hostel in Waterloo Road and then she went to Israel. It was Palestine at the time still. His parents went with the eldest sister, went illegally to

RV TRANSCRIPTS: GOLDMAN, MATHILDE (111)

Palestine before the war and his mother died there in 1943. He never saw his mother again, his father only about three times. His father came here first on a visit in 1957 and I think he came again. And once he went to ... for my daughter's wedding. The first time I think he went ... My daughter went to Israel in 1968. She made aliya.

RL: I think we will continue that on the next...

Tape 1: 57 minutes 49 seconds

TAPE 2

Tape 2: 0 minute 6 seconds

RL: This is the interview with Tilly Goldman and it is tape 2. We were just talking about your husband and his family, his sisters and parents and so forth. Where did you marry?

MG: We married here in ... A cousin of mine had a nursing home in Altringham and that's where we got married under the Chevra Kadisha Shul, Rabbi Steinberg. In those days you didn't have these huge crowds, had mostly family and that's where we got married. Of course, he didn't have any, his brother was here, but otherwise nobody.

RL: Who was the cousin that worked in the ...?

GM: Her name was Annie Kimche. She was the daughter of my mother's half-brother. And she was a nurse. She used to be a nurse in Frankfurt and they opened this nursing home here in Altringham. You know people had babies went there or recuperating after an operation and things.

RL: And was this a Jewish nursing home?

MG: Jewish, yes.

RL: When was that opened? When did that start?

MG: I can't remember. In the war probably. I can't remember when it finished either. I've not been there for a long time and of course my cousin is not alive any more. She was more my mother's generation than my generation.

RL: Whereabouts in Altringham was it?

MG: It was called Holm Acre this place, but I can't remember the name of the street. H-O-L-M, that way it was spelt, Holm Acre.

RL: And was that mainly for mothers that had had children, babies, or was it for all sorts of ...?

RV TRANSCRIPTS: GOLDMAN, MATHILDE (111)

MG: I don't know if it was only for women or ... it was mostly I think for mothers with babies. I said people had operations, but I don't know if that was for men as well, or just for women. I honestly can't remember. Her daughter-in-law had been a nurse in the Jewish hospital and they ran it together.

RL: Did you ever have any contact with your mother's sister who was the head of Delamere?

Tape 2: 2 minutes 47 seconds

MG: Yes, she came regularly to visit us. Every fourth Wednesday she came and had tea here. Oh yes. And we went to visit also, we went to London to visit and saw the family. And most contact really had with her and my cousin who lived in Park Road, Dr. Landau. She was Mrs. Kenyon, but she worked under her maiden name as a doctor, because that's how she got her degree.

RL: Where did she work?

MG: She worked as a G.P. she was.

RL: And her married name was?

MG: Kenyon. She worked for the ICI, I think. Some chemical firm.

RL: So, Helena Landau it was? She never married?

MG: She never married, no. She's been dead some years.

RL: Did you ever visit her in Delamere?

MG: Yes. We went on holiday there sometimes, my sister and I, we both spent a holiday there. At that time it – I don't know if it is now any more – for children with various illnesses and needed fresh ... it was called the Jewish fresh air home in school it was called. And it was a residential place. I don't know if it is any more now residential. She was the first headmistress there and Miss Langdon we used to meet as well. It was all a long time ago.

RL: Were there any refugees in Delamere?

MG: I don't know. I don't know who the children were. But I don't think they came only from Manchester. They came from other parts of the country as well.

RL: And after marriage, where was it that you first lived?

MG: We lived in a flat over Halberstadt's shop across the road from here.

RV TRANSCRIPTS: GOLDMAN, MATHILDE (111)

RL: Was that on Leicester Road?

MG: Well, the address was actually Ashbourne Grove as well, 26 Ashbourne Grove the flat. That was over Halberstadt's shop.

RL: Was your husband working for Mr. Halberstadt?

MG: Not then, no. Later. Some years later he worked for Langers memorials.

Tape 2: 5 minutes 21 seconds

RL: How long were you in the flat?

MG: Till August 1952 from March 1947, so just over five years. But my sister got married later on in 1952, then she lived there before they moved to London.

RL: And up to '52 your parents were still in the hostel.

MG: In the hostel, yes. I mean it was a school then, it was Cassel Fox School. Miss Walters was the headmistress. It was a junior school.

RL: When did the school start?

MG: I was trying to remember, but I can't. I can't remember when it started. And then of course it was, now it's a different school there. Cassel Fox combined them with the primary, didn't they, yes. They all say when the Jewish school started here. Before that it was only a Jews' school which was down Derby Street or somewhere in that area.

RL: And you say 1952 you moved into this house and you have been here ever since.

MG: Ever since, yes

RL: Ashbourne Grove?

MG: Yes, I think we're the oldest inhabitants in Ashbourne Grove now.

RL: Was the area different then to what it is now?

MG: No, mostly Jewish people lived here, I think, but also one or two non-Jewish people. But I think we only have ... well, I can only think of one on this side, but she is a very nice person.

RL: Which shul did you join then?

MG: The Adass Yeshurun in Cheltenham Crescent and we still go there.

RV TRANSCRIPTS: GOLDMAN, MATHILDE (111)

RL: When did that start?

MG: It started before we joined. I don't know. During the war, I would think

RL: And what kind of people went there?

MG: Well, at that time it was mostly refugees, originally come from Germany, mostly from Hamburg, Frankfurt. But also, you know, what they call ultra orthodox (*laughs*). And I mean I knew the people from Hamburg.

Tape 2: 7 minutes 57 seconds

RL: Which families?

MG: Glückstadt, Löwenstein. Who else? Emmanuel, in Frankfurt was Halberstadt ...

RL: Were there any English-born people?

MG: I don't think at that time. Of course now there are plenty of English-born, all our children. And we have other people who are not from refugee, I mean whose parents are also English.

RL: Who was the rabbi?

MG: At first I don't think we had one and then we had Dayan Kraus and then Rabbi Reschner and now we've got Rabbi Cohen, who has just started.

RL: Was Dayan Kraus the first one?

MG: He was the first one. I think so.

RL: How big a membership, would you say, in those early days did the shul have?

MG: I don't really know. I have no idea. I don't know how many members they have now. It was started off in Northumberland Street, well before that it was somewhere else, I don't know, but where the Aguda is now is where we had ...

RL: When did it move?

MG: In 1960, was it? I'm trying to think. I think it was 1960.

RL: Was that a purpose-built building?

MG: Yes, purpose-built. Yes, we got a grant from Germany, I think, sort of you know a reparation for what they did to us because it was mostly German people who set up the shul. I think it was 1960.

RV TRANSCRIPTS: GOLDMAN, MATHILDE (111)

RL: And that was in Cheltenham Crescent?

MG: Yes, then it was in Cheltenham Crescent.

RL: Did the shul have any extra activities? Was there ever any like shiurim?

MG: Well, they had shiurim, but for ladies not really. No. But the men had, and they still have ... But they always went also to a, you know, other shiurim they went to the ...

Tape 2: 10 minutes 36 seconds

RL: Were there shiurim for ladies in those days?

MG: I don't know. I don't think so. Not like there are now. My husband now goes to, not at the thing, it's a what I call a retired gentlemen's shiurim he goes since he retired of course every morning for two hours there. That was in the old Aguda building

RL: Now, what family do you have? When were the children born. If you go through the children.

MG: Yes, three children. Well, my eldest daughter was born in 1948, May 1948, 21st of May '48.

RL: What's her name?

MG: Marion Gold. She lives in Israel. She married an Israeli. She went to Israel in 1968. We went, my brother made his son's bar mitzvah in Yerushalayim and I went with my two girls, and she took a fancy and emigrated in December that year. And she's been there ever since.

RL: And she married an Israeli?

MG: An Israeli, yes. Shabtai Gold. His parents were obviously not born in Israel, but he was and all of his sisters. They have three boys.

RL: Where did they live?

MG: My daughter lives in Haifa. And one of the sons lives in Haifa, one in Netanya and one in Herzliya. I think. You don't write any more. One telephones. She was here actually a couple of weeks ago.

RL: Which was the next child?

MG: The next child was my son Michael.

RV TRANSCRIPTS: GOLDMAN, MATHILDE (111)

RL: When was he born?

MG: 28th of February 1952. And he's - I was thinking I hope he won't ring me up now, he's supposed to be landing in Heathrow now – he is an accountant. He lives in Stanley Road.

RL: What family does he have?

MG: He has five boys and two girls.

Tape 2: 13 minutes 9 seconds

RL: And are any of them married?

MG: One, two, three boys are married. And that's it, yes.

RL: Where do they live?

MG: One lives in London, one lives here, one lives at the moment in Jerusalem. And the others, well, one boy is in Yeshiva in Jerusalem as well and the other three are here. Two still go to school and one works.

RL: And then, your next child?

MG: Deborah. Chalk now her name is. Chalk.

RL: When was she born?

MG: 5th of June 1964.

RL: And where does she live?

MG: She lives in Golders Green.

RL: And what family does she have?

MG: She's got one girl and three boys. None of them are married yet.

RL: Which school did your children go to?

MG: When they ... junior school they went to Jewish day school, which they call now Yesodei Hatorah. The girls went to Jewish high school, which is now called Beis Yaacov and my son went to Jewish grammar school. My eldest daughter Marion and my son, they were sort of the pioneers, my daughter was the third class of Jewish high school and my son, I don't know, second or third class of ... There were only a few children in each class. They sort of built up the school. The parents took the risk to send them to Jewish

RV TRANSCRIPTS: GOLDMAN, MATHILDE (111)

schools, I mean they all won scholarships to other schools. That's how the schools were built up.

RL: And the after school what did they do?

MG: Well, both girls ... Marion went to a secretarial college in town, in Princes Street and she worked at Cohen & Wilkes in Derby Street before she went off to on Aliyah. And Michael, he did a correspondence course – you didn't have to go off to university in those days to be an accountant – he did a correspondence course and he worked at a firm

Tape 2: 15 minutes 37 seconds

in Manchester. But now he works for himself in Leyland. And Debbie she learned in school secretarial course. She worked for Haffner Hoff before she got married.

RL: Did they belong to any clubs, the children?

MG: They went to the Aguda groups, all of them, separate boys and girls groups.

RL: Where did they meet, the groups?

MG: Also in the, I don't know, in the Aguda probably. I think so.

RL: How did they meet their spouses?

MG: Shidduch, all of them.

RL: Was it through a Manchester shadchan?

MG: No, Marion she was introduced by somebody in Israel and I don't know..... and I think it was in London, yes. And for Marion some friend of theirs in Gateshead, I think, started it off. Because the Chalks used to live in Gateshead before they moved to London. The grandfather of my son-in-law was Dr. Chalk in Gateshead, the Dr. Chalk. Her father-in-law was also a doctor, well, he's retired now, he was in London.

RL: Did any of them do any extra Jewish learning, you know, go to sem?

MG: Well, Debbie went to sem in Israel. Marion didn't. And my son went to Yeshivah in Gateshead.

RL: Which sem in Israel did she go to?

MG: A Beis Yaacov Sem in Jerusalem.

RL: Was that just for one year?

RV TRANSCRIPTS: GOLDMAN, MATHILDE (111)

MG: It was a very intensive course. That's what she did.

RL: Is your husband active in any way in the community, or was he involved in ...?

MG: Well, he really didn't have much time, you know working as he did. Both he and I were on the Chevra kadisha to, you know help getting ready the bodies for burial. But he couldn't go very often, I ... But I don't do it any more either because I can't stand long enough. I used to be in charge of a team. We also belonged to the Machsikei Hadass Chevra and to the Beis Din Chevra both.

Tape 2: 18 minutes 46 seconds

RL: When did you start that?

MG: I started on the Machsikei Hadass Chevra when Michael was about four, I think, end of the Fifties, I think, end of the 1950s. I haven't been able to do it for about ten years. But now what I do – hope to be out of work always - I call the team together for the Machsikei Hadass at least to do something still for them, you know, on the sad occasions. But then I worked for the Jewish Day School Committee and Jewish High School Committee on the ladies' committee.

RL: When you joined the Chevra kadisha, who was in charge at that stage?

MG: Mrs., the Machsikei Hadass was Mrs Berkovich, I think, at that time. And the..... yes it was Rebbetzen Kraus, I think but it was from... the Manchester Beis Din.....

RL: Did they operate in the same way?

MG: Yes, yes.

RL: So there was no difference between them?

MG: No.

RL: How do you think you've settled into life in England?

MG: I just settled in. I had no trouble. As I said before, we had to get on with it. It was quite easy.

RL: Was there anything that was strange or different from what you were used to?

MG: Not really. I can't think of anything really different. As I say we went to relations so the life was the same and things have changed, I mean, over the years everywhere, but we stayed the same. My husband's younger brother and sister, they both died. His elder sister, she lives in Haifa still.

RV TRANSCRIPTS: GOLDMAN, MATHILDE (111)

RL: When did you first visit Israel?

MG: I went first in 1967. In 1968, sorry. 1968 for my nephew's bar mitzvah. And then I've been more or less every year since, not always.

RL: How did you feel on that first visit?

MG: It was marvellous. My brother hired a car and we went to see all the sights and everything. It was quite an experience. Of course, now, when we go, we don't ... we just really go to see family. We go to the Kosel, don't travel so much any more. Not up to it.

Tape 2: 21 minutes 46 seconds

RL: Did you ever think about living there yourselves?

MG: Not really. No. [Laughs] I don't think I could stand the heat. We always used to go in August. That's my husband's - a lot of the customers went on holiday in August and [tape quality poor here] remember we had a child at school; we had to go in the holidays.

RL: How do you feel towards Germany?

MG: Nothing good. They deserve everything they get. I've never been back to Germany. I've nothing to go back for. My parents are buried here. As I said, my brother went back because he was on government business for Canada but otherwise ... They had meetings, NATO meetings - I don't know what about - but we never went back. My husband hasn't been back to Austria either. We have nobody there. My brother once went to Austria to the place my husband was born. He said the cemetery, the Jewish cemetery, is destroyed, he said, there. But my husband's grandparents unfortunately died in the camps.

RL: Do you receive reparations at all?

MG: I don't get a pension from them. For educating my daughter here in England I get a few pounds every three months, that's it. And my husband gets a pension from Austria. Why I don't know, but he does. Right in the beginning they sent, they gave some reparation of £400 to ... but that's quite a long way back, in the 1950's. But I wouldn't like to go back. I expect that things are all different now in any case. I think where we lived it was bombed, my brother said, the house where we lived, so nothing to go back for.

RL: Did you have relations that were killed during the war?

MG: Not immediate relations, but I think my father had some uncles. But his brothers and sister they got out. His brother was here, and his sister and the other brother in America. But nobody is alive any more of that generation. We are the eldest.

RL: In terms of identity. How would you describe yourself?

RV TRANSCRIPTS: GOLDMAN, MATHILDE (111)

MG: I don't quite know what you mean.

RL: Well, like on the one hand you were born in Germany and you know you live in England, you're naturalized English, but ...

MG: I lived most of my life in England. I was only fourteen when I came to England, so my other life was all here. So I don't really think of having grown up in Germany. I can speak German, but that's it.

Tape 2: 25 minutes 37 seconds

RL: Do you feel different to the British in any way?

MG: I don't think so, no. We had English relations and mother was from England and we just, we fit in.

RL: Have you ever experienced any anti-Semitism here?

MG: No. Personally not, no. Can't think of anything, no. Not even during the war. Nothing.

RL: Except for the family who thought you were spies.

MG: Well yes, Silly lot. We were two school children (*laughs*) But otherwise they were quite decent to us, I must say, they didn't hold it against us. Of course they weren't used to Jews either.

RL: Would you say that your experiences have affected you in any way?

MG: I don't think so, but I'm careful, should I say, I don't say I look over my shoulder now, but I'm careful not to draw attention to ourselves or say anything that could cause trouble or anything like that. One is careful, I think that has left its mark. One takes care. I don't know if everybody is like that, but certainly we are.

RL: And what about with regards the bringing up of the children?

MG: Well, there was no trouble. They went to Jewish schools, so they didn't really mix with non-Jews until they were adult. My elder daughter works at probably non-Jewish, must have been non-Jewish employees then. She had no trouble at all. I don't think they had any trouble. It didn't affect them.

RL: Thinking in terms of who you mix with in Manchester, where would you say are your closest friends from?

RV TRANSCRIPTS: GOLDMAN, MATHILDE (111)

MG: People who go to our shul we are our friends with. Otherwise don't really ... I know other people but not sort of as friends.

RL: In terms of religious observance, has that changed at all over the years? Was that affected in any way?

MG: Well, we were always the same kind, so it hasn't affected us really. We stayed the same.

RL: And your children?

Tape 2: 29 minutes 3 seconds

MG: They're also the same, yes.

RL: You followed on the same ...?

MG: We followed on the same route, yes.

RL: And your own grandchildren now, you say you've also got several great grandchildren.

MG: Several great-grandchildren, yes.

RL: Where are the great-grandchildren living? Which countries are they in?

MG: Well, some live in Israel. But my daughters' obviously live in Israel. Well, one of my son's sons he's at the moment in a Kolel in Israel, their baby's just been born. Some live in London and one lives here in Manchester, so that's it.

RL: Were you ever, did you ever have any connections with any refugee organizations?

MG: Not really, no.

RL: An association of Jewish refugees?

MG: No, I didn't have any connection with them, no. No, I don't go to any of them. Now and again they have these meetings. I don't go to those. I don't know anybody, so no point. No, we kept sort of our circle here.

RL: Is there anything else that we might have missed out that you'd want to say.

MG: Can't think. No, you know more or less my life story. [laughs]

RL: Is there any message you'd like to finish with?

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MG: No, except we're grateful to England that they took us in. Haven't forgotten that. Otherwise we wouldn't have made it. That's what I mean, for the children it was ... For the grown-ups it wasn't so easy to come to England, but a lot of them did, but the children, they did a good deed there with the Kindertransport that they let us come in.

RL: When did your parents die?

MG: My father died in 1953 and my mother in 1964 when my youngest was just three months old. Yes, she lived with us here all the time. My husband ... my father when he came out of hospital, you know, after his stroke, my husband looked after him, he washed him every evening when he came home from work, and saw to other things for him. He

Tape 2: 32 minutes 14 seconds

was very good son-in-law. Yes.

RL: Thank you very much. Thank you.

MG: I hope it was of some help.

Tape 2: 32 minutes 30 seconds

This is a photo of my parents, Moritz und Violet Weinberger and myself, Tilly Goldman, taken in woods outside Hamburg about 1930.

This is a photo of my parents, Moritz und Violet Weinberger and my younger sister, Eva Massel, taken about the mid-'30's in Hamburg.

This is the Jewish boys' school in Hamburg, where my father was a teacher. It was taken by my brother when he was on a visit to Germany about the mid-1960's.

This is a photo of my wedding taken in Altrincham, Manchester. First on the right is my father, Dr. Moritz Weinberger. Next to him is my mother, Violet Weinberger, then myself, Tilly Goldman, my husband, Edmund Goldman. Next to him on his left is Mrs. Berkovich, who was the Unterführer for him. Then Rebbetzin Steinberg. Next to her on her right is Mr. Berkovich and right at the left end is Rabbi Steinberg.

This is a picture of myself with my brother and sister taken here in Salford about 1991. On the right is my sister, Eva Massel, in the middle is myself, Tilly Goldman, and to the right of me, on the left in the picture, is my later brother, Marcus Weinberger.

You don't want the names of all the children.

This is a photo of my daughter, Deborah Chalk's, wedding taken on 9th July 1984. It's in Manchester, Salford. Starting from the right my daughter, Ruth Goldman, with her baby. Next to her is my daughter, Marion Gold. Next to her is myself, Tilly Goldman, with one

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of my Israeli grandchildren. Next to us my younger daughter, Debbie Chalk, and her husband Yisroel Chalk. In front of him in the white shirt is another grandson from Israel. Next to my son-in-law to his right is my husband Edmund Goldman with one of my son's children. Next to my husband is my son, Michael Goldman, with one of his children and next to him on the left is my eldest grandson from Israel with another of my son's children from here.

This is a photo taken in May 1997 on the occasion of our golden wedding and the bar mitzvah of one of my son's boys and it's a photo of my son's seven children and my daughter's in London four children. It was taken in Stanley Road, Salford, actually, my son's house, up the stairs.

Tape 2: 36 minutes 30 seconds

This is a photo of the wedding of my grandson Moishe Goldman taken in London in March 2003. It's a photo of my husband and myself with our children, grandchildren, two great-grandchildren and my sister on the left.

And that's it.