

Helen Heidebrecht
Displaced Person
General Ballou
December 24, 1949



Though I was extremely seasick throughout the voyage from Germany to Canada, I do remember some highlights. There was a big black man that worked in the dining room of the ship. He was kind and took a special interest in us, teaching us the song "Heavenly Sunshine", the first English words we learned.

And oh the excitement of landing in Halifax on Christmas Eve! I was 5, my sister was 7, and we received coloring books and crayons upon arrival. We had never seen such things in our young lives. We boarded a train heading for Coaldale, Alberta and that night our mom had to get very stern because we chose not to sleep but spent the night coloring.