

Harry and Heidi
Kornelson by Son
Olie Kornelsen
German Immigrants
Atlantic
June 29, 1951



As told to me by my mother and father,

On June 17th, 1951, with our 9 month old son, we boarded the train in Waiblingen, Germany and traveled through Switzerland and Italy enroute to the city of Genoa. In Genoa, we stayed for one night in the "Hotel Belvedere."

On June 18th, we boarded the "Home Lines" ship "Atlantic" for our voyage across the Atlantic Ocean to Canada. Apparently the vessel "Atlantic" is now the flagship for the Greek Navy. We had a single cabin.

While onboard some of our activities included watching movies, playing chess and dancing. The entire trip was very calm and the guest services crew, all from Northern Italy, were most helpful in making it a most enjoyable experience. The food served was very good Italian cuisine and consisted of food like lasagna, spaghetti, meatballs, turkey, a variety of vegetables, oranges, bananas and fruit-flavored Gelato.

On Friday, June 29th, at about 12:00 Noon, on a beautiful hot summer day, we stood on the deck as the "Atlantic" made its way into the Harbour. We gazed out onto the beautiful green hills of Halifax, dotted with trees and houses.

We disembarked the "Atlantic" and made our way through immigration. Funds for our train tickets were to have been wired and waiting for us upon arrival, but when we arrived...no funds. However the funds did arrive the next day, but because of the weekend and the July 1st holiday, we were interred inside Pier 21 until Monday, July 2nd. We were treated very well and the food served was very good. We indulged the likes of bacon and hard-boiled eggs for breakfast, mashed potatoes, peas and carrots and greens for dinner. We even had the opportunity to experience real Italian Sausage for the first time, which one of the Italian passengers had brought with them.

Well, on Monday morning, July 2nd, with \$10.00 U.S., the only money we had which we brought with us from Germany, we boarded the Canadian National Railway train bound for Montreal. Arriving in

Montreal at about 12:00 noon, under a curtain of rain, we switched trains to the Canadian Pacific Railway to continue our journey out west. While on the train between Winnipeg and Calgary, our son who was 9 months old at the time, began to walk.

After 3 days and 2 nights on the train, we were happy to finally arrive in Calgary on Friday, July 6th (a very hot summer day), at about 10:00 AM to begin our new life in our new home....Alberta Canada.

We have lived in Calgary since October 1951. Our son Olie moved to Ontario in 1980 and has two children, Ryan and Shannon. Olie visited Halifax in July 1999, this past summer and visited Pier 21. He described the experience as very moving.