

Helga Kay Kissell  
6331 Mesedge Drive  
Colorado Springs, Colorado 80919-1814

January 14, 2016

Dear Sajeda!

Greetings to you from the mountains in Colorado!  
It is winter here and the snow is beautiful against  
the blue sky!

Our good friends at CARE gave me your name  
last week and told me of your circumstances at this  
time, they also mentioned that your interests are  
in music and writing etc. We both have a lot in  
common! I know first hand what it is like to loose  
a home and become a refugee. There was the second  
World War in Europe - 1939 to 1945. I grew up in  
Berlin, Germany during that time. In February 1945  
there were terrible Air Raids in our town. My father  
lost his life during an Raid and our house was also  
hit by a bomb and we lost everything. My mother  
and I were lucky to be able to take one of the last  
trains out of the City! Our last possessions were in  
one suitcase. There were hundreds of people on the  
train and more tried to get on at other stops. We  
found refuge in the State of Thuringia where it was  
very peaceful and quiet except the people there were  
not very friendly and did not like the idea to have  
to share their houses with strangers! The war was  
over soon after our arrival there. The Americans  
occupied the area and that was the time I met

my future husband there! He returned to his home  
in 1946 and we wrote many letters to each other until  
I got permission to travel to the United States.

Meanwhile the situation in Bavaria was very bad.  
We were so hungry and that is where CARE came to  
the rescue. My husband's family sent us several CARE  
packages over time and what a surprise that was, we  
portioned all the good things out over a time and  
enjoyed every bit of it.

It is never easy to have to leave one's homeland!  
Always remember the good times and look forward  
to what the future may bring. It is always difficult  
to adjust living in a different country - I know!

I hope this letter reaches you and we want you to  
know you are in our thoughts!! We thank CARE  
for giving us this chance to write to you!

I am interested in music - I play guitar. I like  
to write and have been reading good books all  
my life! We live in a small town, the mountains are  
all around us, there are lots of woods and many wild  
animals come by and pay us a visit!

Dear Sajeda - it was a pleasure to be able to  
chat with you today!

Best Wishes to you

Greetings across the miles!

Helge and Leo