

CHAPTER SEVEN

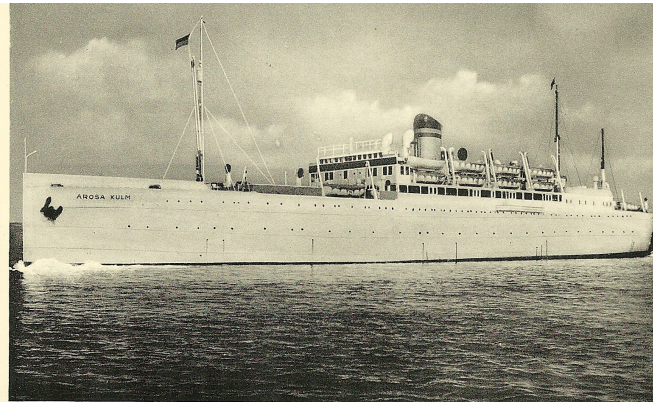
JULIUS EWALD KARL

Leaving Germany – Entering Canada

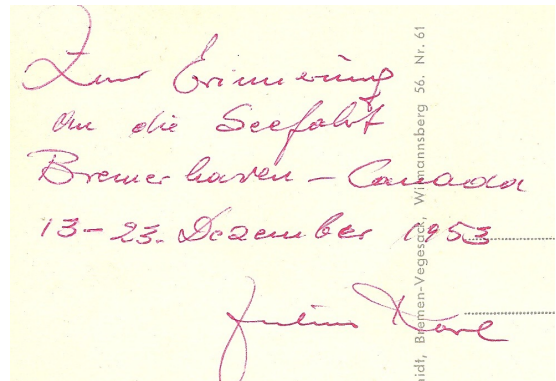
1952 – Crossing the frigid Atlantic Ocean

Times were hard in Germany as the country was struggling to recover to destruction imposed upon it by the war. Post WW2 immigrants needed a sponsor to come to the United States or Canada. Among others, a number of Germans were sponsored by the Church of God agencies and members. Julius' oldest sister, Erna and her husband Willi, had already immigrated to Canada and paved the way for her mother and siblings to follow. Now the stage was set, passports obtained, and reservations made on the ship for her family to follow.

In December 1953, Julius, his mother, and his sisters Gertrud and Frieda embarked on their journey across the cold Atlantic on the T/S Arosa Kulm. Many people became ill, some critical. One can imagine the joy and relief the passengers felt when land appeared in sight and they sailed into port at Halifax, Nova Scotia.




T.S. AROSA KULM



Above left – A post card of the ship that took the Karls across the Atlantic. Above – Julius wrote on the back of the card. (Translation: In memory of the sea voyage. Bremerhaven to Canada 13 - 23 December 1953.)



Left – In the dining room of the ship. Far left, Frieda is all smiles. Far right, Julius is intrigued by some trinket.

Name (bei Ehefrauen auch Geburtsname)	Karl	 <p>Dienststempel</p> <p>Unterschrift des Inhabers Wegberg, 1.8.1952</p> <p>Ort: Gemeindeführer:</p> <p>Ausstellende Behörde</p> <p>Unterschrift des ausstellenden Beamten</p>	Imm. 1000 (Rev. 1-4-54)
Vornamen (Rufnamen unterstreichen)	Julius		AROSA-LINE T/S. "AROSA KULM"
Geburtsstag	5. April 1931		BREMEN HALIFAX 319 For use of Carrier
Geburtsort (Land, Kreis)	Pinino Krs. Wartheland		CANADIAN IMMIGRATION IDENTIFICATION CARD (To be shown to Examining Officer at port of arrival)
Staatsangehörigkeit	deutsch		Name in full Karl, Julius
Größe	176 cm		STATUS IMMIGRANT - "LANDED" IMMIGRANT - "REGU"
Farbe der Augen	grau		Signature of Passenger Julius Karl
Unveränderliche Kennzeichen	keine		Port Stamp CANADA IMMIGRATION DEC 23 1953 HALIFAX

Julius and his family were met in Halifax and taken to Toronto where they took up residence for about a year before moving to Hamilton. There, Julius found a job at a steel mill and Frieda was employed by Dominion Glass where she worked until retirement. Julius remained at the steel mill for seven years before leaving for the United States. His sister Gertrud married Artur Schulz who had immigrated to Canada from Russia, and they established their home in Edmonton, Alberta, western Canada where Artur was working.

Once in Hamilton, in addition to helping family members build houses and working full time at the steel mill, Julius and a friend began holding church services in German for the many new German residents. Soon they were able to purchase property and build a Church for the worshippers. They also pastored the church and cared for the people.



Above the Hamilton Gemeinde Gottes Church of God -Services were in German



Julius preaching in front of the Cross he made



The church Trio – Julius in the middle was learning guitar

A few decades later, the church moved to a new location after building a new facility to call home. They now conduct services in English but have translation for those who still wish to have German. They archive their services for later viewing: <http://www.churchofgodhamilton.ca>. Julius would be delighted to know that his seed is still yielding fruit nearly 70 years later.

EPILOGUE

Many of Julius' relatives immigrated to Canada, a few to the United States, and others remained behind in Germany. After World War II ended, Germany was not unified. Eventually the separation became primarily through Berlin, dividing East from West. Finally, because the East was losing so many residents, in 1961 a permanent concrete wall was erected, complete with watchtowers to prevent them from crossing over into West. East Germany was communist and West Germany was capitalist. (Search for "Berlin Wall" to get the complete history.)

On 09 November 1989, the first cracks were made in the Berlin Wall and it began to fall. What a day of rejoicing! Before that, it had separated the Karl relatives in East Germany from those in West Germany. Two months later, Julius took his daughter Caroline, who had just turned 16, and went back to visit his homeland for the first time since immigrating to Canada. He was overwhelmed with the transformation from the bombed-out country to a modern, progressive one. They stayed with cousins and drove on the autobahn to Austria checking out cello makers. They found and purchased a cello for Caroline who was a senior in high school and playing with the University of Michigan Youth Philharmonic Orchestra. She would begin college in the fall of 1990 majoring in music with cello as her major instrument at the University of Michigan.

Twenty years later, in the summer of 2000, 18 months after Julius died, Caroline and Yvonne made a trip to Germany and visited the Berlin Wall--parts of which were still standing in remembrance. Caroline spent the next two summers studying German at the Goethe Institute in West Germany.



Left: Caroline and Yvonne at the Berlin wall.

Below, written on the wall:
"Many small people who in many small places do many small things can alter the face of the world."

