



PHOTOS SUBMITTED

Julie Deutekom, her younger brother and sister enjoy their freedom in Amsterdam soon after the Second World War ended in 1945. Her younger brother, who was six years younger, was captured and sent to Auschwitz concentration camp till the end of the war. He weighed only 45 pounds when he freed by American soldiers. He never told his family about the circumstances of his capture or time in Auschwitz.

Matter of survival

STORY BY BENZIE SANGMA FOR THE INTELLIGENCER

"I still remember that feeling of happiness as I caught sight of the Canadian soldiers arriving in their tanks. It was simply delightful.

"I lived at this farm where one morning I woke up to hear loud noises coming from the orchard at the back. I looked out and saw that the Canadian soldiers setting up their tents in our orchard.

"They were, I think, on a few days of vacation. We went out to greet them. Although we couldn't speak English we interacted with them. We were so happy to see them."

The war and occupation caused the deaths of 240,000 Dutch people, 106,000 of whom were Jews.

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