

THE FIRST
MACRANDERS
IN BRAZIL

A Family Chronicle

BY
SIDNEY GEORGE
MACRANDER



THE FIRST MACRANDERS IN BRAZIL

written by Sidney George Macrander, São Paulo (Brazil)

edited by Frank Macrander, The Netherlands

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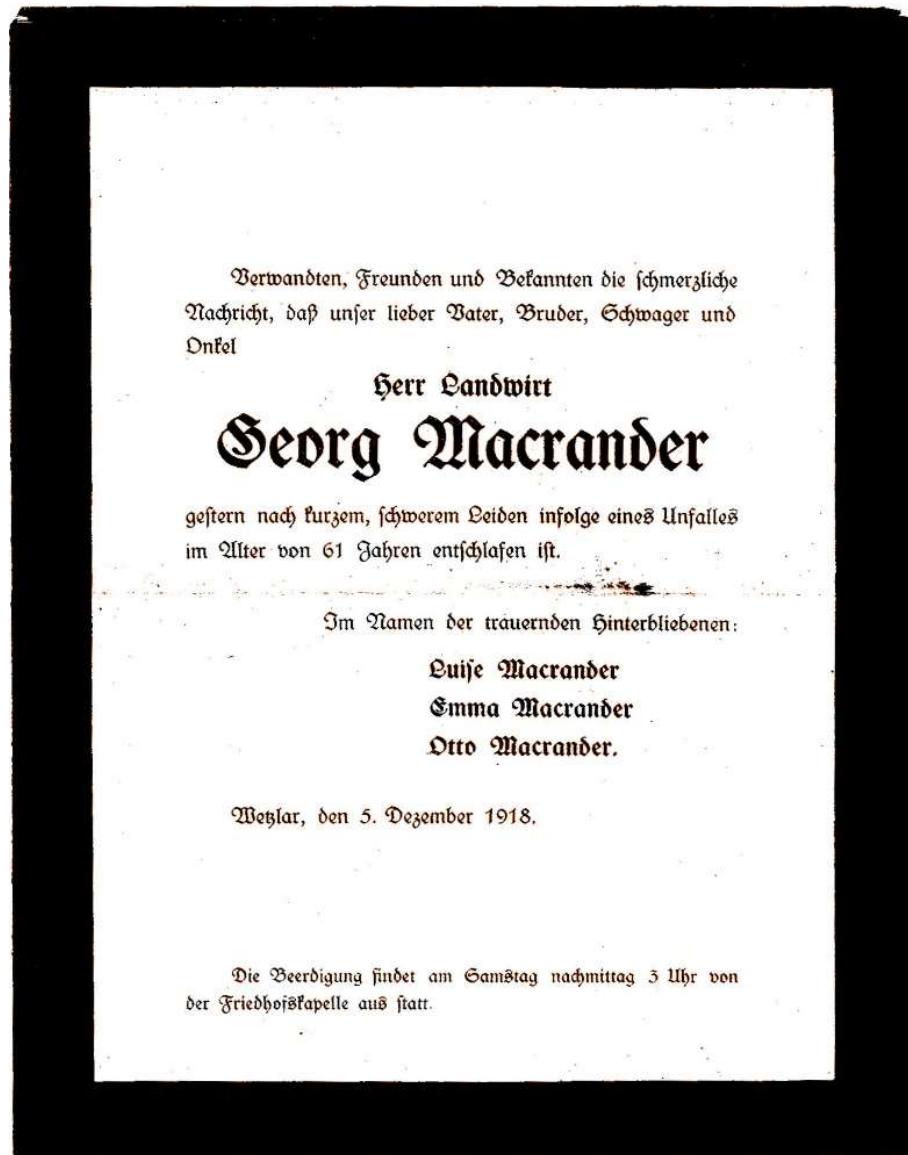
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OTTO AUGUST GEORG MACRANDER

a. Biographical Data

- i. Born April 11th 1903. Son of *Georg Macrander der Jüngere* and *Regine Macrander, geborene Immel*. Brother to Luise and Emma Macrander. One of the, if not the last Macrander to be born in Wetzlar. Parents died early (Regine on July 13th 1910, aged 43 and Georg on December 4th 1918, aged 61). (figure a1)



(figure a1) - Funeral Advertisement - Emil Georg

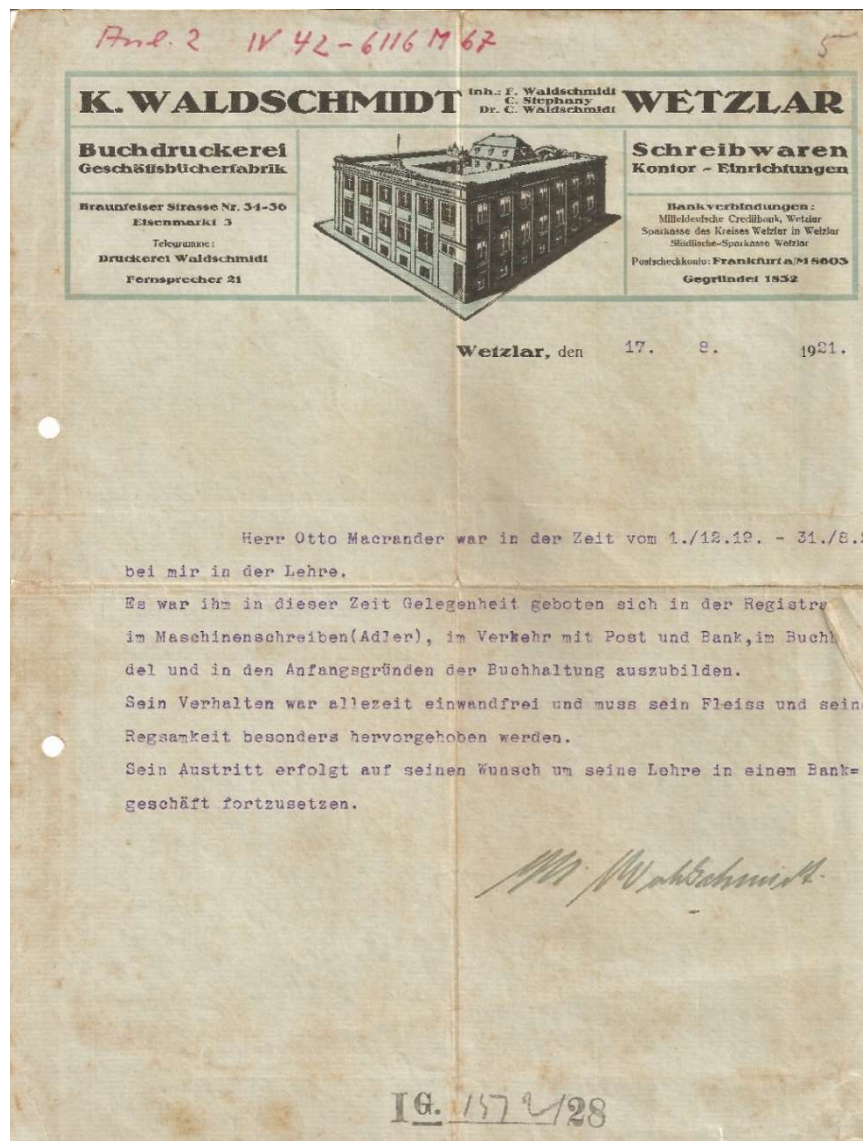
b. Youth/Upbringing

- i. Otto was only 15, when his father Georg died, so his older sister Luise (born 1891) assumed his guardianship until he was declared of age on February 22nd 1923.

- ii. He first went to school at the “Königliche Seminarübungsschule” in Wetzlar from April 22nd 1909 through March 19th 1913. Further records, including high school attendance are missing. With the demise of his father, the orphaned family probably moved to Wesseling at the outskirts of Cologne sometime in late 1921. This is what one may presume from his admittance to the Philosophy Faculty of the University of Cologne wherein he studied from November 4th 1921 until December 1923.

c. Early Professional Career

- i. Worked as a trainee at K. Waldschmidt in Wetzlar from December 1st 1919 through August 31st 1921 becoming familiarized with bookkeeping. Also learned typewriting and shorthand. (figure c1)
- ii. Employed by the subsidiary of the Schaffhausen Bank in Cologne and, subsequently, in its Wesseling branch, from September 5th 1921 through February 22nd 1924.



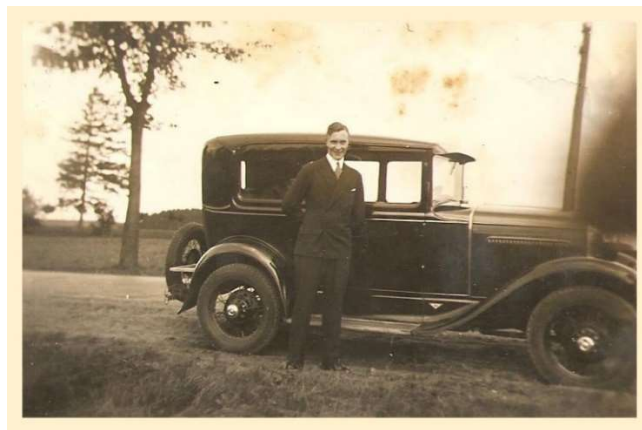
(figure c1) - Reference Letter by K. Waldschmidt - Wetzlar

d. Bachelor Years

- i. Taking into account the rampant inflation that beset Germany in the early twenties, the resulting lack of prospects and a penchant for adventure, Otto decided to look at possibilities outside Germany. So, and apparently on the spur of the moment, he boarded a ship bound for Santos, Brazil. He must have learned the rudiments of Portuguese while on board.
- ii. Once on foreign soil he lost no time in getting a job, working consecutively on two farms in the heartland of the country's coffee-growing region at that time i.e., in the vicinity of Araraquara, 250km west of São Paulo. Nearly two years of activity in this agricultural branch (from early 1924 through late 1925) allowed him to gain a thorough insight of coffee-growing and processing techniques of the early twenties.
- iii. Thereafter he secured a job at the former Brazilian subsidiary of the *Deutsche Überseeische Bank* - Berlin in São Paulo from December 11th 1925 through August 13th 1927.
- iv. The economic conditions in Germany undergoing improvement and also yearning for a culturally developed environment, he decided to return to Germany sometime in late 1927.

e. Back in Germany

- i. After a brief unemployment interlude, he became representative at the *Ullstein Verlag* in Berlin entrusted with calling on important customers throughout Germany. (figure e1)



(figure e1) - The young executive and his Ullstein service car

- ii. Presumably, on occasion of one of his assignments he met Dr. Walter Dahle, who became impressed by his sense of initiative and exotic professional years in Brazil and who must have brought him into the Aschkinass/Henschel cultural community at Hermsdorf - Berlin
- iii. Most likely, at the same time he attended a refresher course of his gymnasium years in order to qualify for a High-School Diploma (*Zeugnis der Reife* in German), which was issued on February 26th 1929, by "The

Reform-Realgymnasium” at Berlin-Hermsdorf, stating that he intended to study Geology/Geography.

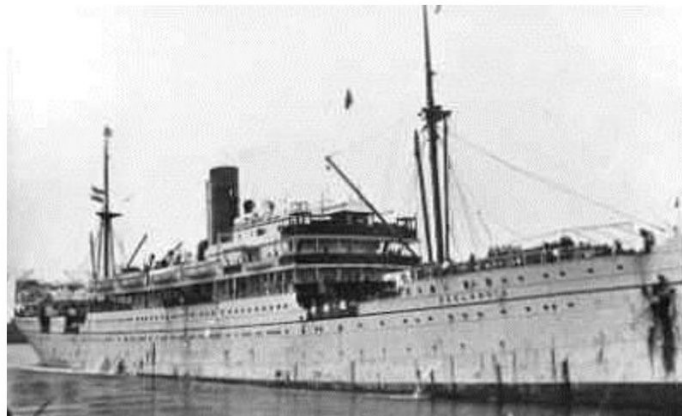
- iv. Meets wife-to-be Eva H. Aschkinass sometime in 1929. They became engaged on January 2nd and married on September 17th 1931. There was no time a prolonged honeymoon, given the professional side at Ullstein, where Otto was looking forward to a promising career. (figure e4)



(figure e4) - The young couple

- v. However, his times on the road and calls on customers made him increasingly concerned about the political atmosphere in Germany, the possible ascent of Hitler to power and the threats thereof to individual freedom. So much so, that he began to consider emigration.
 - vi. Daughter Eva Pia (Pia) - born July 02, 1932 in Berlin.
- f. The decision to emigrate
- i. By the end of 1932, Otto had made the firm decision to leave Germany. His resolve must have been a blend of several factors, namely: as already mentioned the deteriorating political situation in Germany; the Jewish descent of Eva; his yearning for the Brazilian wide open spaces and dreams of becoming a coffee landlord and; possibly, being ill at ease in the Aschkinass/Henschel cultural community at Hermsdorf.
 - ii. The young couple faced stiff opposition not only from Ullstein but also from members of the Hermsdorf circle. Culturally enlightened but otherwise woefully out-of-touch, they considered Holland to be enough of a safe-haven in the event that the situation in Germany would render life for Jewish inhabitants intolerable.

- iii. With passports and travel permits issued and their belongings packed they set out for Amsterdam, the last stop prior to boarding ship for Rio de Janeiro. Unexpectedly, they were denied access to their financial assets for the withdrawal of funds and if it weren't for a generous loan from a very close friend the young couple would have been obliged to remain in Holland. As it was, the amount provided them with the bare minimum for a new start in Brazil.
- iv. A very bitter decision, especially for Eva, was to leave one-year-old infant Eva Pia behind in the care of grandmother Anna Aschkinass, who had already moved to Holland, until they had fixed residence. One needs to bear in mind that they were actually travelling into the blue yonder, i.e. with no fixed destination much less to a home they could call their own.
- v. On August 14th 1933, albeit with a heavy heart but youthful enthusiasm they boarded ss. Zeelandia en-route to Rio de Janeiro. During their days onboard they called on several ports and became acquainted with interesting co-passengers, particularly Mr. and Mrs. Prudente de Moraes Neto, he a grandson of Brazil's third president of the republic. (figure f5.1 and f5.2)



(figure f5.1) -The SS Zeelandia in Amsterdam



(figure f5.2) - On deck with Mr. and Ms. Prudente de Moraes

g. The beginning in Brazil

- i. They disembarked in Rio at dawn on August 30th spending their first day in the city's center and at a much too expensive hotel, which they left the following day for an affordable boardinghouse in Copacabana then only an unpretentious suburb with a superb beachscape. (figure g1)



(figure g1) - Unpretentious Copacabana in 1933

- ii. However, their ultimate travel objective was São Paulo, the country's coffee trading center, wherefrom Otto intended to begin his land-prospecting program, which, regrettably, needed to be downscaled in view of the limited funds available.
- iii. They booked a room at the Mindlin boardinghouse - a recommendation of Mr. Prudente de Moraes - which would become their address for the next two months. Guests included a famer who provided Mrs. Mindlin with a Brazilian type of cheese of his own produce. On knowing that Otto was looking for a farm to purchase, he promptly invited him to his own near Santa Branca to have a look-around. Otto returned enthused by what he had seen both in terms of landscape and property prices.
- iv. Without further delay, Otto and Eva set out for Santa Branca with prior overnight in Jacarei (then more of railway stop vis-à-vis today's massive industrial complex). Assisted by a real-estate agent in a Ford Model T, they took time to look at possible local options, but did not come upon anything that appealed to them. So they drove on to Santa Branca a tiny village practically on the margins of the Paraíba River. Some 16 kilometers further on they stopped in front of a huge construction that certainly had seen better days, but which caught their fancy right away due to its harmonious proportions. It was an impressive building of almost meter-thick, rammed-

earth walls, 21 huge rooms including 2 gigantic salons, a majestic entrance hall giving way to a broad wooden stairway that led to the house's upper floor. Right off they could see that it had been slave-built and maintained. In fact the ruins of their quarters (*senzala*) could still be seen aside it. They were looking at the home of a former coffee baron. Otto was particularly attracted by the challenge of restoring it to its former glory. (figure g4.1 and g4.2)



(figure g4.1) - Front view of a dilapidated baronial coffee mansion



(figure g4.2) - The even more dilapidated lateral aspect

h. Fazenda Caetê

- i. The property inclusive of the farmhouse had an area of 240 hectares and was on sale for very attractive price, but would still take a hefty chunk out of their limited funds. Although there were remnants of a coffee plantation, the farm's topography was better suited for hardier products, which demanded lesser care and technology. Coffee growing, which during the 19th century had been the Paraíba valley's core produce, had migrated to northern Paraná where both soil and flatter land lent themselves to mechanization.
- ii. There they must have stood in front of the impressive but dilapidated building, now half storage shed, half animal shelter or stables covered in grimy dirt, infested by fleas, mice and unusable remnants left behind by the former utterly bankrupt owners. Furthermore, it was devoid of the most basic household effects (furniture and kitchen appliances).
- iii. For Eva it must have been an overwhelming cultural shock given the elegance and refinement of her Berliner background. Their youth must have prevented them from becoming fully aware of the challenge that lay ahead.

i. Coming to grips with reality

- i. In early November 1933 they arrived at the Fazenda with their personal belongings and what was the most essential in terms of appliances/tools. The first weeks/months in their new home must have been grim to say the least. Brazil, in the thirties, was woefully short of telecommunications, transportation (roads/vehicles), electrical energy, household-amenities and, most importantly, in schooling. Predominantly rural, its population was mostly illiterate not to say primitive as a result of the country's history, social structure and political system. All these shortcomings must have added to their plight. (figure i1.1 to figure i1.6)



(figure i1.1) -
Reform work - pause to consider what next



(figure i1.2) -
Installing new colonial shingles



(figure i1.3) - In the saddle



(figure i1.4) - Ready for inspection



(figure i1.5) -
Eva with infant Pia atop drying coffee beans



(figure i1.6) -
Checking on cow fodder

- ii. At the beginning, labor was hard to come by. Then, news spread that Fazenda Caetê was being managed by a new owner. As result, farmhands (*Caboclos* as they were known) began to come by looking for work. Notwithstanding their primitiveness and lack of skills they proved invaluable in helping Otto and Eva to meet the multiple challenges they were facing. Eva had help in the kitchen and Otto came upon masons and carpenters who knew their trade. So, in the end prevail they did. Room by room, meter by meter, beam by beam, shingle by shingle, without being able to resort to electric energy they managed to bring the former coffee baron's home back to life! It took them a year and half.
- iii. A ray of sunshine amid their hassle, were the days they took off to gather infant Pia into their arms some four months after their own departure from Amsterdam. In the care of a children's nurse she arrived in Santos aboard the same ship i.e. ss. Zeelandia.
- iv. While house-restoring took most of their time, there was also actual farming to be seen to. Most importantly a vegetable garden protected from leaf-cutting ants in addition to the sowing of staples, such as corn, rice, beans, potatoes and the planting of cassava and an orchard. The building of a chicken coop and other sheds such as a pigsty, a livestock barn, etc.,

also had to be taken into account. Last, but not least, the nearby stream had to be harnessed to provide tap water at least for kitchen activities and later for washbasins in several rooms and an indoor replacement of the outdoor toilet. Telecommunications in the form of a crank-phone, not to mention electric energy, were luxuries of a distant future.

j. Settling in

- i. The restored mansion repainted in its original colors gleamed in the landscape! However, restoring was only part of the mission. Rooms had to be fitted out. They were lucky inasmuch as their ship-borne belongings had arrived, some months before, on oxcart (the only means of transportation capable of coping with the pathetic conditions of the dirt road from Santa Branca onwards). Unbelievable as might have seemed even their grand piano wrapped in carpets made it to the front yard unscathed. (figure j1.1 to figure j1.3)



(figure j1.1) - A gleaming new mansion



(figure j1.2) - The grand piano in its rightful place



(figure j1.3) - Partial view of the library

- ii. In the meanwhile, Eva became pregnant once more. As her birth-giving date drew nearer a trip to the maternity in São Paulo had to be undertaken. This began with the perilous dirt-road trek on oxcart to Santa Branca and thereupon by rail, bus or car to São Paulo and the maternity, where Sidney George (Siddy) was born on January 11th 1935. Returning to the Fazenda would take place in much the same manner with the dirt-road trek becoming the last hurdle. (figure j2)
- iii. All these events had allowed Eva and Otto to become more familiarized with their surroundings, with the Brazilian way of life and, particularly with what to expect from their hired help. Whichever their shortcomings and primitiveness, *Caboclos* were untiring and skillful with a hoe, an ax, a mattock, a sickle, a spade, etc. This helped Otto with land clearing, tree and orchard planting, sowing and in the construction of a watermill and a type of water-hammer (*monjolo*) useful in shelling coffee, corn and cereals. However, the workload was beginning to tell. Especially for Eva, now the mother of two with no appropriate modern conveniences at her disposal. A blessing in disguise was the acquisition of a small neighboring property by a Berliner Attorney and his wife, who had fled Germany in time. Apart from the friendship that developed, their daughter came to the help of Eva in caring for infants Pia and Siddy.
- iv. Back in Germany, Otto's sister Luise decided, or was persuaded by her brother, to leave Germany before departures became impossible. She disembarked in Santos on October 16th 1936. As a matter of fact, none too soon, given that Eva was in the last stages of her third pregnancy, which culminated with the birth of Anna Regina (Nina) on November 14th 1936. (figure j4)



(figure j2) - En route on oxcart.
Eva with newborn Siddy in her arms.



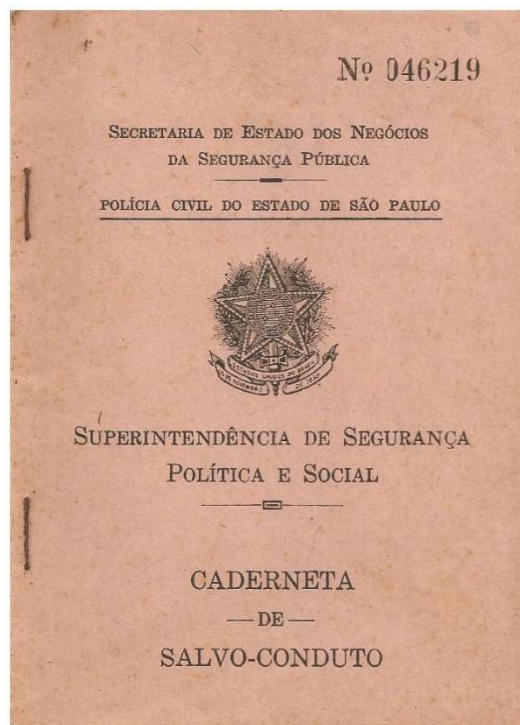
(figure j4) -
Aunt Luise with infant Nina

Otto also tried to persuade his sister Emma and husband to follow suit or to, at least, send their son Volker, his nephew, before it became too late. But to no avail.

- v. Slowly, a small German emigrant nucleus began to take shape at Fazenda Caetê, due to its relative closeness to São Paulo, then the preferred destination of German émigrés/refugees and already in those years the headquarters of many German-company subsidiaries. By word-of-mouth the Fazenda became the object of curiosity of those desirous of meeting their intrepid owners.
- vi. In this manner, Otto and Eva befriended many illustrious visitors and this provided an opportunity for lively evenings inclusive of candle-lit grand-piano recitals by renowned pianists and discussions based on some book out of their extensive library, or on the latest global developments.
- vii. With most of the house restored, to the extent their limited funds allowed, Otto concentrated his efforts on agricultural activities with the purpose of expanding and diversifying the farm's produce. Thanks to the fact that Fazenda Caetê was becoming increasingly known, young men of German descent interested in acquiring farming experience provided Otto with temporary help in exchange for bed and board. Eva, as well, could now count on Luise to help take care of the children and rely on the latter's expertise in a wood-stove-equipped kitchen. Luise also proved to be of invaluable help during situations wherein Otto and Eva had to absent themselves as in the case of the birth of Luiza Hedwig (Hedi) on November 12th 1940.
- viii. Thus, although burdened with financial problems and a permanent lack of funds, Otto and Eva, now in the company of Luise, managed to make ends meet out of the Fazenda's produce from their arrival in 1933 onwards. Nonetheless, in addition to the day-by-day, many serious hurdles and hardships had to be overcome or endured as of the forties.

k. World War II

- i. Brazil's federal government showed itself friendly towards the Nazi regime during the first war years. However, the alleged sinking of Brazilian merchant shipping by German submarines in addition to the pressure exerted by the U.S., keen on jump-off bases in the country's northeast, gave rise to the declaration of war on the Axis Powers by Brazil on August 31st 1942. Almost immediately, a series of measures directed at resident Germans, Italian and Japanese were put in force by the country's authorities, namely:
- Axis citizens were no longer permitted to speak their native language in public
 - Travel by whatever means was subject to the issuance of *laissez-passer* permits stating whereto, why, date of return, etc. (figure k1)
 - There were rumors about property confiscation and internment in POW camps



(figure k1) - Wartime Laissez-Passer Permit

Luckily neither confiscations nor admittances to confiscation camps materialized, but both speaking German in public and traveling without a permit were strictly prohibited. Worse still was the postal blackout that ensued, leaving Otto, Eva and Luise without any news about those that had stayed behind, among them Anna Aschkinass (Eva's mother) and Emma Behmann (Otto's and Luise's sister). This situation would perdure until a semblance of order had been reinstated in occupied Europe.

- ii. Through connections with the diplomatic corps they received news that Anna had survived, albeit in hiding and under frightful conditions. Otto's sister Emma and her husband had also survived although in anguish over the loss of their son Volker who, in spite of recovering from a bullet wound, had been deployed in the last days of the battle for Berlin, disappearing without a trace.
- iii. After much red tape Eva and Otto managed to obtain an entry visa for Anna, who arrived in Santos as early as May 24th 1947. She would spend her twilight years on the Fazenda providing invaluable guidance and encouragement to Eva, Otto and their children. Nevertheless, her wartime sufferings had left their mark so that she passed away from angina pectoris on January 13th 1954 after seven peaceful years. She was laid to rest in the Santa Branca cemetery. (figure k3.1 and figure k3.2)



(figure k3.1) - Brazilian Entry Visa
for Eva's mother Anna



(figure k3.2) - At long last
in peaceful surroundings

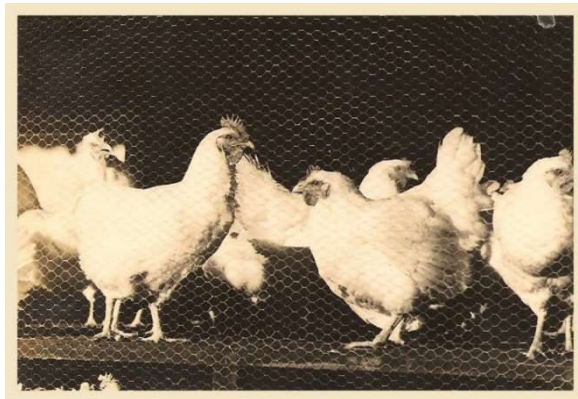
l. The gradual move to São Paulo: 1946 - 1965

- i. Notwithstanding their attachment and dedication to the Fazenda, its financial return became increasingly short not only to meet Otto's, Eva's and Luise's own requirements, but also those of four fast-growing children. Particularly with regard to schooling which on the rural scale would only reach third grade.
- ii. The situation led Otto to look for additional sources of income, first as a real estate agent, thence to a position in a chemical company and lastly to partnership in an electrical-installation company established by a young man, who had spent time working at the Fazenda. However, this required renting a small *pied-à-terre* and later an apartment in São Paulo, in addition to the purchase of an American vintage (wartime) Jeep, in order

to overcome hurdles of the dirt-road and still have time to keep up with the developments at the Fazenda over weekends. Eva would accompany him as required by the children's schooling requirements, thereby leaving the Fazenda in the care of Luise. Needless to say that this put an additional strain on all involved, particularly because skilled labor was migrating to S. Paulo, jeopardizing diversification attempts (children's summer camp, milk and chicken-egg production, etc.), which all came to naught. (figure l2.1 to figure l2.3)



(figure l2.1) - Old and young surrounding Otto's wartime jeep



(figure l2.2) - Attempt at chicken-egg production



(figure l2.3) - The multi-task oxcart

- iii. As stated, during the late forties Otto had had been active as a real-estate agent and in this manner had become enchanted with the almost unspoiled seashore at Caraguatatuba then a still sleepy waterfront town, some 200km northeasterly of S.Paulo. At the Indaiá beach, a good trek out of the town; he acquired a beachfront plot with the purpose of building a house whereto he and Eva would move in their retirement years.
- iv. By the end of the fifties/early sixties, their children had reached adulthood and became capable of fending on their own. Furthermore, daughters Pia married Geophysicist Wendelin Lotze on November 6th 1960; Nina, British Airways Executive Michael D.M. Springate on March 13th 1960; son Siddy, Heidi Maria née Kluge on October 3rd 1963. Hedi, their youngest, who from early on was very independent minded, accepted a position with Varig Airlines in Frankfurt in 1966.
- v. Thus, Otto and Eva, who were already spending more than half their time in São Paulo, came to the sad conclusion that they could no longer hold on to the Fazenda. It had become a loss maker as result of the lack of funds that had pursued them from early on. Furthermore, the war years had given rise to a new world and they could no longer see themselves living practically on their own in such a huge house. It had become part of their past.
- vi. To ease matters somewhat, they had managed to obtain reparation Wiedergutmachung funds from the new German government in addition to a lifelong pension for the years of employment at *Ullstein*, which had to be cut short in view of the early-thirties' prevailing circumstances. The related proceedings required their physical presence, thus giving them the chance of returning to Germany thirty years after they had left in 1933.
- vii. The above mentioned funds enabled them to begin with the construction of the house in Caraguatatuba envisioned for their retirement years. They also allowed Otto to resign his partnership position in the electrical-installation company, albeit maintaining an advisory role.

m. The Fazenda is sold: 1964

- i. Otto had a well-to-do neighbor and renowned labor lawyer in mind as a possible buyer. The latter had repeatedly shown interest in acquiring it but in 1964 did not have the necessary funds. So, and for a short time only, it went to an interim owner, who did nothing for the upkeep of both house and property, quite to the contrary. Luckily, only a short time elapsed before the Fazenda became the property of the above mentioned neighbor and lawyer.
- ii. It proved to be a timely decision. Luise, who had stood by them through thick and thin, was getting on in years and could no longer cope on her own in a huge but empty house on account of cardiac problems. With the advent of jet planes, she had the joy of seeing her beloved Germany and friends - who had survived the war - once more in 1964, prior to moving to

a neighboring Fazenda that had been acquired by Germans and with whom she had become close friends.

n. Golden years: 1965 - 1978

- i. The sale of the Fazenda gave rise to busy times. Firstly, they acquired a spacious twin-bedroom apartment in São Paulo to serve as a type of *pied-à-terre* when not in Caraguatatuba. Secondly, as quickly as possible, they completed the construction of their beach house. Last but not least, their belongings at the Fazenda had to be reckoned with.
- ii. Once most of these issues were out of the way, Otto and Eva gradually settled into their retiree life, mostly at their beach house in Caraguatatuba. For a long time Otto had yearned to commit his thoughts/experiences to writing. In a little shed behind their house he would, frequently, spend part of the day writing travel reports, poems, essays and even books. Eva, for her part, drew inspiration from her new surroundings, thus becoming a passionate painter. Weekend houses began to spring up on the Indaía beach, where foreign-company executives and their families would spend weekends or vacations. Thus, Otto and Eva became acquainted/friends with many interesting people. In addition, friends from São Paulo would come down to spend time with them. Their own children/grandchildren were also frequent callers. (figure n2.1 and figure n2.2)



(figure n2.1) -
Eva in front of their beach house



(figure n2.2) -
Otto in his retirement years

- iii. Every two years or so they would travel abroad, usually to London, wherefrom, in the company of their daughters Nina, Hedi and son-in-law Michael, they journeyed extensively throughout the U.K., Europe and even to Kuwait and the U.S. When on their own, Germany merited most of their time, in order to meet relatives, to revisit their hometowns (Berlin and Wetzlar) and to marvel at the many transformations brought on by the country's *Wirtschaftswunder*. For extended stays their choice was a small Tyrolean family-run guesthouse in Kaprun, Austria. On a yearly basis, they would also visit daughter Pia, son-in-law Wendelin and grandchildren in Rio de Janeiro.
- o. Health problems
 - i. Late in his retirement years, Otto began to develop certain age-related health problems, among which circulatory disorders and high blood-pressure, so much so, that upon arrival in London in April 1977, he suffered a sudden heart attack while strolling in the vicinity of Nina's house and had to be hospitalized forthwith. Although seemingly recovered, he spent the next six months convalescing in London.
 - ii. Once back in São Paulo, Otto and Eva felt obliged to rearrange their customary routine. Particularly with regard to Caraguatatuba: they were uneasy at the prospect of being far away from prompt medical care, in the case of an emergency. Sadly but inexorably, they came to the conclusion that they had to forsake their retiree existence at the beach.
- p. Life at Al. Casa Branca - São Paulo: 1978 - 1987
 - i. Notwithstanding the nostalgia for their beach-house and its surroundings, Otto and Eva seemed to settle into their downsized routine with relative ease. They did not lead a secluded life. Quite to the contrary. Many of their erstwhile friends and acquaintances from the Fazenda times called on them, now that the distance factor no longer existed. Similarly, couples they had become friends with at the beach, called on them. In turn, they would call on many of their friends. Nina, Mike and Hedi would fly down from England to see them. Similarly, Pia and Wendelin would drive from Rio to São Paulo for a weekend visit. Sidy built in a weekly luncheon with them. Obviously all this socializing became livelier with the school and church events of their grandchildren. Whenever there was time and inspiration, Otto would write (mostly poems) while Eva would paint.
 - ii. They always looked forward to weekends at Sidney's and Heidi's country house, which allowed them to relive aspects of bygone days at the Fazenda. Otto still enjoyed hearing the rooster crow and getting up early to breathe the cool morning air, pick assorted herbs for breakfast and savor the smell of fresh topsoil.
 - iii. Occasionally they would visit friends in nearby towns such as Jacareí and Monte Verde. Two highlights are particularly worth mentioning: the first

on September 17th 1981, when a gala luncheon was organized in one of São Paulo's top restaurants to celebrate the couple's golden wedding jubilee with the presence of all family members, the second on April 11th 1983, when the whole family, grandchildren and in-laws included, drove up to the Fazenda to celebrate Otto's 80th with a picnic luncheon. (figure p3)



(figure p3) - Golden Wedding Jubilee

- iv. Happy as these times might have been, they did not spare Otto from age-related health problems and from hospital admittances on some occasions. After all, both he and Eva were getting on. As a result, their apartment at Alameda Casa Branca became bit far and difficult to reach in the event of emergencies.
- q. Twilight years at Rua São José: 1987 - 1990
 - i. Helped by all, they moved to an address within walking distance from Heidi's and Sidney's apartment. In this manner, food and household-cleaning items were included in Heidi's shopping list, banking and bureaucratic matters turned over to Sidney and to ease household chores a daily was engaged for cleaning and helping in the kitchen. They could also rely on Nina and Mike, who spent more than their usual vacation time, to help them cope.
 - ii. The decision to move was made none too early. Otto's health had been deteriorating steadily over the past few years including neuromuscular disorders to the extent that he became bedridden and nursing services had to be contracted. Hospital admittances, as well, became more frequent.

- iii. Sadly, Otto's keen intellect, sharp reasoning power and erudition became impaired by his progressive loss of lucidity. Dementia had set in. Mercifully, his and his family's suffering did not prolong itself beyond limits. On September 27th 1990, aged 87, he went gently to sleep.
- iv. Otto's innate dynamism gave rise to many achievements in the face of numberless adversities. Were it not for his foresight and perseverance the Macranders would not have set foot in Brazil. Albeit no longer in the possession of the family - but further beautified by the sense for the aesthetical of its current owners and now provided with state-of-the-art amenities available through electric energy - the colonial farmhouse, which together with his beloved Eva he brought back to life, bears witness to an undaunted and enterprising spirit. Resplendent, conveniently out of sight behind huge eucalyptus trees planted by Otto as seedlings, the baronial residence has become part of the Paraíba Valley's historical coffee-planting heritage. (figure q4)



(figure q4) - Resplendent! Conveniently out of sight behind huge eucalyptus trees!

EVA HEDWIG MACRANDER NÉE ASCHKINASS

r. Biographical Data

- i. Born June 20th 1908 in Berlin, Eva Hedwig was the only daughter of Emil Aschkinass and Anna Aschkinass née Riess, a wealthy Berliner Jewish couple. Her father Emil was a promising young physics and natural sciences professor at the University of Berlin, who in 1907 had translated Rutherford's *Radioactivity* into German while maintaining permanent contact with the Curies and other leading scientists active in atomic particle research. Particle research, at the beginning of the 20th century, was in its infancy and little was known about radiations and their lethal effects. Thus, due to his involvement and experiments Professor Emil Aschkinass became their victim, passing away in 1908 from overexposure to gamma rays when Eva was barely six months old.

s. Childhood

- i. Her childhood years were untroubled and happy. Subsequent to the demise of her father, her mother Anna moved to the Berliner suburb Birkenweder right next to a woodland and a neighborhood ideally suited for the upbringing of an infant.
- ii. She grew up as the sole child within an environment of tender care, love and tranquility. Anna welcomed many illustrious guests so that Eva, from early on, became used to a culturally high-level environment.

t. Early Life

- i. At the right time, Eva attended primary school at a Girl Lyceum in Hermsdorf and also at a boarding school in Wolfenbüttel next to Braunschweig. She did not attend high-school and was brought up in a rather Victorian manner and out of touch with the world. On the other hand, however, she became an accomplished cook and thoroughly familiar with the skills of running a household. In due time she joined a tennis club and soon became a prize-winning player. Dancing was her passion, particularly, the Foxtrot and the Charleston then in vogue. She also became well-read in the Classics, Romantics and the Moderns. In short, she had the privilege of being young and enthusiastic in the heydays of the Berliner twenties. (figure t1)



(figure t1) - Young and enthusiastic in the heydays of the Berliner twenties

u. Acquaintance with husband-to-be

- i. In 1929 she became acquainted with Otto. Frequently, they went out together and soon came to the conclusion that they were meant for each other. So, on January 2nd 1931 they became engaged and married on September 17th of the same year.
- ii. As of this date their lives may be considered as a sole one, given their degree of their togetherness, which only came to an end with the demise of Otto in September 1990.

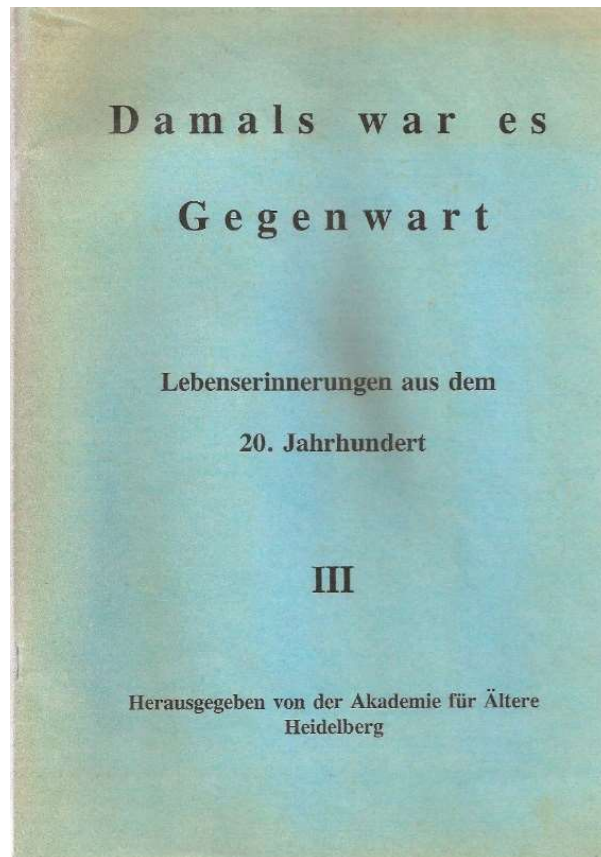
v. Widowhood

- i. Although it was to be expected, the demise of her husband led Eva into a phase of deep mourning for quite some time. However, under the semblance of frailty, stood a steely woman, who together with her husband had withstood and overcome many difficult situations and uncertainties. So, in due time she gathered strength to carry on assisted by her children, in-laws and friends. For some time thereafter, she continued to live as a widow at the apartment she had shared with Otto.
- ii. However, with her becoming frailer due to a fractured femur and other age-related problems she was taken in by Sidney and Heidi. The latter, alas, passed away from cancer in July 1994. As a result, Eva had to face yet another move
- iii. This because pursuant to Brazilian legislation, a deed of partition had to be drawn up setting forth that a half of the property that Heidi had in common with Sidney would be transferred in equal parts to children Thomas George and Anna Maria. Once the deed had been duly approved by the jurisdictional court, the apartment wherein Sidney and children lived was sold. So, in August 1995, Eva accompanied her son to a smaller apartment.

w. Twilight years

- i. Despite her advanced age, Eva soon became accustomed to the new surroundings and although no longer able to walk properly on account of a fractured femur, she enjoyed the wheelchair tours in the beautiful park that was part of the condominium she had moved to. Many of her friends, widows themselves, called on her to talk about bygone days, literary subjects, what children and grandchildren were up to, etc. She took part in a senior-citizen reading group organized by the Hans Staden Institute on a weekly basis. At the condominium park proper, she soon became an institution with many similarly disabled elderly looking forward to meeting her on the premises.
- ii. With the assistance of a long-standing friend, she managed to write her memories, submitting them to the “Akademie für Ältere” at Heidelberg,

where they summarized her article publishing it along with others under the cover title “Damals war es Gegenwart”. (figure w2)



(figure w2) - Cover title of Eva's memoirs

- iii. Slowly but surely, as the years passed by she became frailer and beset by other age-related problems. Similarly to Otto, her lucidity gradually flickered until on August 10th 2000 aged 92, the Lord beckoned her home.

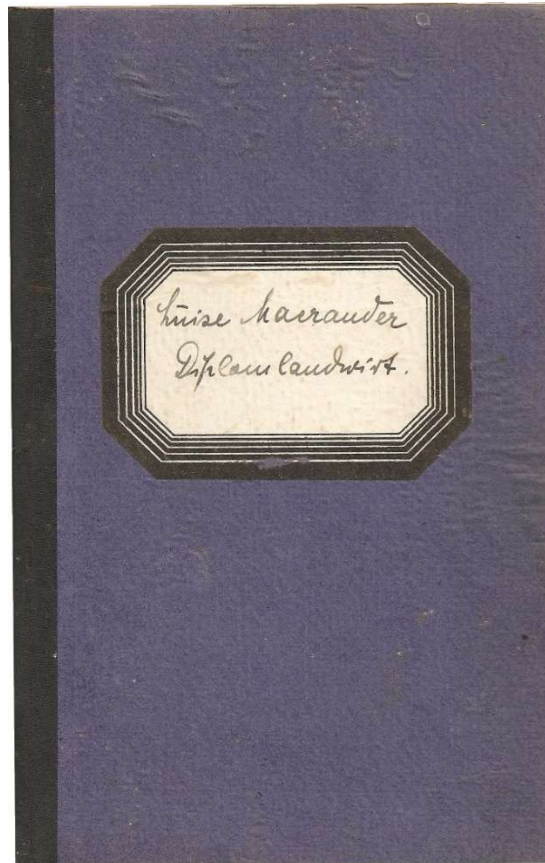
LUISE GEORGINE HENRIETTE MACRANDER

x. Biographical Data

- i. Born August 10th 1891 in Wetzlar, at the time part of Prussia. Daughter of *Georg Macrande der Jüngere* and *Regine Macrande, geborene Immel*. Sister to Emma and Otto Macrande. Parents died early (Regine on July 13th 1910, aged 43 and Georg on December 4th 1918, aged 61).
- ii. As of the demise of her father in 1918, she assumed the guardianship of brother Otto, until the latter was declared of age in February 1923

y. Personal Life

- i. Little is known of her personal life prior to emigrating from Germany to Brazil. Worth bearing in mind is her degree in agronomics issued by the University of Göttingen, where she attended lectures between 1926 and 1929. (figure y1)

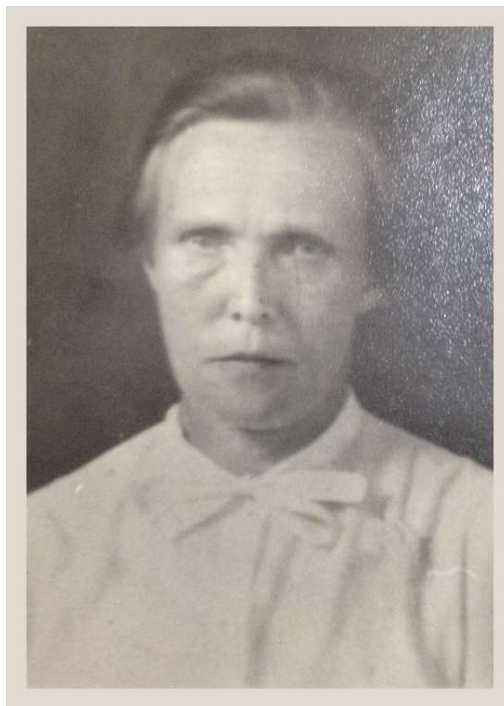


(figure y1) - Degree in agronomics issued by the University of Göttingen

- ii. From very early on (1907) she also acquired practical expertise in the area, holding several part-time jobs at sector-related institutions and agricultural establishments.

z. Invaluable contribution

- i. The combination of her theoretical knowledge and practical skills would prove themselves invaluable at the Fazenda, where she arrived in late 1936. Further details of her life thereafter have already been described in Otto's background.
- ii. Not only at the Fazenda but also in its surroundings she became an institution when it came to the healing powers of plants and herbs both in humans and domestic animals. In short, life at the Fazenda would have been a lot harder without her hands-on approach to daily challenges. (figure z2)
- iii. Sadly, she passed away on December 10th 1965, aged 74. She lies next to Anna Aschkinass in the cemetery of Santa Branca.



(figure z2) - Luise in later years

GENEALOGICAL DATA

Otto August Georg Macrander * 11.04.1903 - Wetzlar † 27.09.1990 - São Paulo	∞ 17.09.31	Eva Hewig Aschkinass * 20.06.1908 - Berlin † 10.08.2000 - São Paulo
Luise G. H. Macrander * 10.08.1891 - Wetzlar † 10.12.1965 - Fazenda S. Pedro		
Descendants - Children		
Eva Pia Macrander * 02.07.1932 - Berlin	∞ 06.11.1960	Wendelin Franz Lotze * 28.03.1931 - Münster
Sidney George Macrander * 11.01.1935 - São Paulo	∞ 03.10.1963	Heidi Maria Kluge * 24.03.1943 - Prague † 11.07.1994 - São Paulo
Anna Regina Macrander * 14.11.1936 - São Paulo † 11.06.1995 - London	∞ 13.03.1960	Michael D.M. Springate *13.04.1934 - London
Luiza Hedwig Macrander *12.11.1940 - São Paulo		
Descendants - Grandchildren		
Monica Macrander Lotze * 12.08.1961 - Rio de Janeiro		
Andreas Macrander Lotze *11.03.1965 - Rio de Janeiro	∞ 05.07.2008	Olga Alejandra Buriticá Sandoval * 25.06.1977 - Bogotá
Thomas George Macrander *03.08.1966 - São Paulo	∞ 31.05.1996	Carla Aparecida Athaide Falchet *31.12.1970 - São Paulo
Anna Maria Macrander *23.12.1969 - São Paulo	∞ 12.12.2000	Neuton Togi Karassawa *17.11.1970 - São Paulo
Christopher Eric George Springate * 30.09.1965 - Hong Kong † 30.05.2019 - Berlin	∞ 16.06.1992	Katja Eckhart * 26.09.1961 - Berlin
Descendants - Great-grandchildren		
Emille Lotze Porto *24.12.1991 - Nicolas Lotze *05.07.2013 - Nicolas Philip George Springate *12.07.1995 - Joshua Timothy George Springate *08.09.1999 - Arthur George Falchet Macrander *29.12.2002 - Lucas George Falchet Macrander *05.01.2007 - Beatriz Maria Macrander Karassawa *24.12.2001 - Felipe Sigueki Karassawa *28.06.2003 - Laura Macrander Karassawa *05.01.2008.		

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