

Leah Kellogg nee Waterman was born to Bessie and Max Waterman, third of four children on May 15, 1920.

They and their parents homesteaded on the prairies of Alberta, Canada having left their native Eastern European origins. They escaped the murderous pogroms of Czarist Russia and the equally anti-semitic repressions in the eastern provinces of Roumania.

Farming and pioneering in the early part of this century was hard, presenting problems of intense cold, winds, and the shifting price of wheat.

In order to further the academic and Jewish education of their four children they left farming for the urban life in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan.

There Kellogg received her education graduating with a degree in Home Economics at the University of Saskatchewan.

The family moved to Vancouver to settle in a milder climate.

Kellogg served her student year at the Vancouver General Hospital.

She was then employed at the Hospital of the Good Samaritan in Los Angeles.

Responding to the U.S. Army's plea for dietitians to serve in the Army's hospital she entered military service in 1943.

Her first assignment was Bruns General Hospital in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

While here, she perceived her destiny as being a U.S. citizen and therefore took her oath as a naturalized citizen at the Federal Building in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Her next assignment was Normandy, France serving as chief dietitian at the 189th General Hospital.

From here the unit was shifted to Mourmelon, France outside of Reims.

After VE day the hospital ministered to the hundreds of released allied prisoners of war, emaciated and ill after as long as a 5 year imprisonment by the Nazis and their routine starvation. Many were American soldiers who had been fed soup made of grass or potato peelings. Their recovery was an enormous challenge.