I was born in 1929. My parents are Amalia Brod and Andrija Latal. With a bow in my hair, I am visiting with my grandparents, Julius and Fanny Brod, and other family members in Sarajevo in 1934.

During the siege of Sarajevo, 1992 — 1995, I worked as a volunteer in the Sarajevo Jewish community center. Here I am pictured with my war-recipe cookbook.

Ljerka Danon depends on the Claims Conference for homecare, medical care, food assistance, transportation and social programs. She also receives a monthly pension from the Central and Eastern European Fund, recognition for the persecution she suffered during the Holocaust.

When Ljerka was 11 years old in early 1941, her Catholic father Andrija Latal bought a home on Kalemova Street in Sarajevo. Before he had time to register the forms with City Hall, Nazi Germany invaded Yugoslavia. The SS and their Croatian Ustasha collaborators arrived in Sarajevo in April and immediately used residential records to begin rounding up Jews. While thousands of Jewish families were being murdered, Ljerka’s father hid his Jewish wife, his daughter, and three of Ljerka’s aunts.

For more than three years, Andrija Latal scrounged the city markets and the hills surrounding Sarajevo looking for food, all while two SS officers lived directly across the street.

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