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Introduction to my Parents who first met in Berlin, Germany

In 1937 the marriage of Tom Hans Georg Massow von Prince to Margarete Mariane Seims took place. They married on 5 June 1937, the day of my father's birthday. They had hoped to marry on 31 May 1937, but Margarete's father died that day, and mother's ship was delayed on arrival in Tanga. Massow's brother Adalbert and wife Juliane (parents of Kilulu and Jutta) were there to meet mother. They were there also to witness the marriage at the Magistrates Court, Korogwe.

Before my arrival into this world, the young lovers lived in Kulasi/Magoma and were establishing the sisal estate. The factory had to be built along with various other buildings connected with the factory in Magoma. To help finance this project, Massow took Margarete hunting for elephants in the Uмба Steppe. The sale of tusks and elephant skin helped pay the wages for the workers. Mother said the fat from the elephant was good for cooking.

One of the horrors, and excitement, was being charged by a very old elephant bull. After he was shot, they found many bullets and arrow heads embedded in him, also his one tooth had a very big scar. This old warrior must have been in pain for many years. Father gave me these elephant tusks. There was also a charge from a rhinoceros. Juma, our cook, told me he was there for both charges, but stood behind a tree. Father was a good shot. I watched him shoot a crab on the beach from the cliff top in Makindi. Just one shot. He had a good eye.

The rhinoceros horn, when we were living in Makindi south of Tanga, mother used as a good hiding place (until it was stolen one night), along with various other places, to hide her cigarettes. Father used to tell us how unhealthy it was to smoke. Poor Mum, Dad knew all the hiding places.