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THE INDEPENDENT JERSEY CARE INQUIRY

EXHIBIT JPN1



When we were very young in 1938



"JOHN had great big waterproof
on; John had a great big water
hat; John had a great big water
mackintosh and that (and John
that!"

Never have those super words
A Miss been more appropriate
to describe this wonderful picture
the children from the West
crèche as they set out for a con-
tional on [redacted] 1938

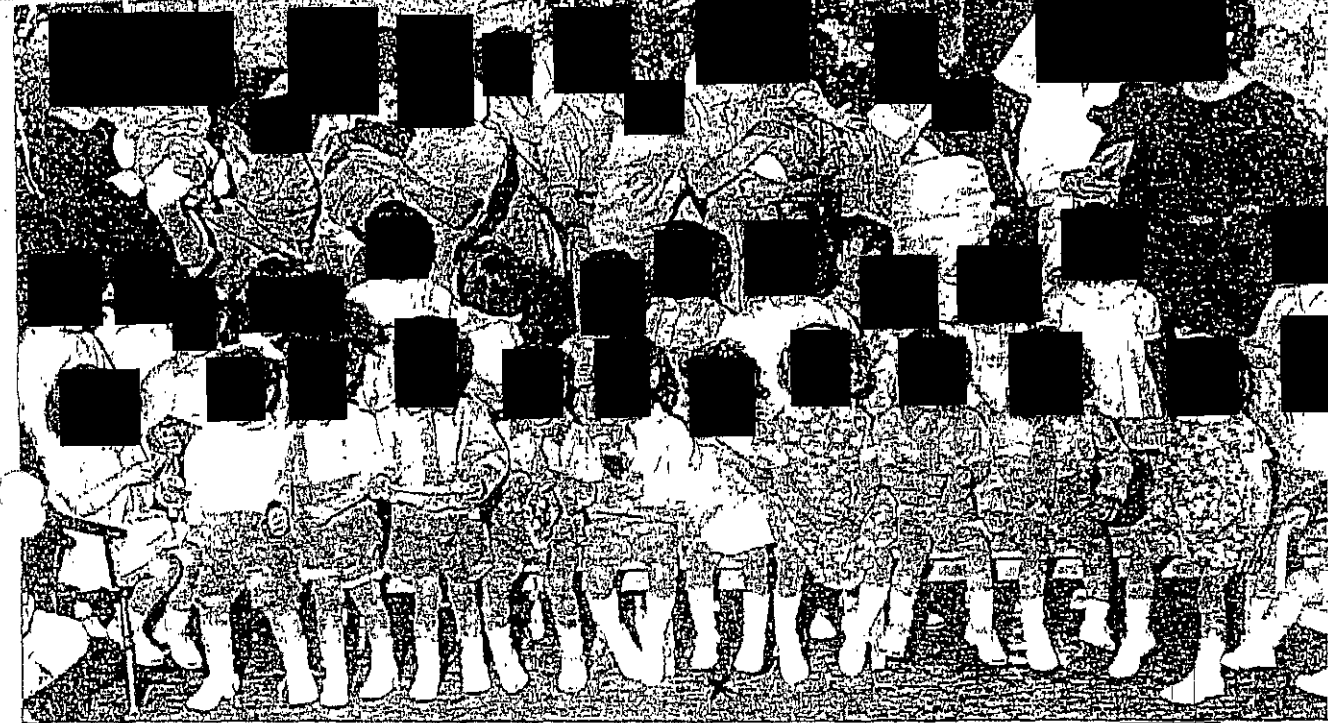
Found by the JFP archivist,
picture has delighted everybody
whom I have shown it but, as it was
"recent", each of these delightful
is now in his or her early thirties.

While I am sure that there must be
John among them I would love to be
the names of others who may recognize
themselves as well as that of the pro-
nounce showing off her wat-er-
proof!

I look forward to hearing from you

3 yrs of AGE

The picture caption on [redacted] reference was made in an article about the Westway Crèche in 1933 to the then [redacted] who married the man [redacted]. He was not nicknamed 'Gin', a name which was given to his son.



In the happier times before the Occupation, children at the Westway Crèche enjoy Christmas in 1933 with [redacted] (centre) with a baby in her arms, [redacted] (far left), who married [redacted] and [redacted] (far right). The tree was a gift and was decorated on Christmas Eve to surprise the children in the morning.

Putting the record straight

'The behaviour of a great number of women has been quite disgraceful. There are many illegitimate children on the Island born of German fathers. The Westway Crèche on Royal Parade is full of the little bastards.'

Report from documents released by the Public Relations Office on 19 November 1956

ANGER and distress at the upbraiding of some of the allegations made by Jersey exiles to their interrogators during the Occupation were the first reactions of Jerseywoman Blanche Milton, née Hall, a former nurse and sister at the Westway Crèche, who now lives in Folkestone.

'I was really cross. The remarks were scathing about women and children in the Island and the remarks about the Westway Crèche being full of German babies made it seem as though that's all we were there for,' she said.

Ms Milton was in St Peter and left school in 1916 as a nursery nurse at the Westway Crèche.

Miss Thornley, who was the matron at Maternity died last year and an sister-in-law at Westway, is also dead now, so there are few people left to put the record straight.

'It is so sad that these accusations should be made and I am sure the women who were at the crèche were very good people and they were very busy during the Occupation.'

A former sister at the Westway crèche refutes the statements made in the recently released papers from the Occupation. ELAINE HANNING reports

then they should be prepared to be named.'

The then [redacted] joined her certificate in surgery nursing in 1933 and worked at the crèche until her marriage in 1947.

[redacted] told all the English nurses to go at the time of the Evacuation and I could have gone with them but I felt that I just couldn't leave the children,' she said. 'I was very angry when my son-in-law showed me the allegations published in The Times and so I wrote a letter to refute what the paper had published. I also objected strongly to the use of the word 'bastard' when referring to innocent little children.'

Woman

Since the publication of the names of women who allegedly fraternised with enemy soldiers, UK journalists are now searching for the children with German fathers by going through the Island telephone directory looking for families with the same names.

'That is so unfair,' said [redacted] 'Most of the children at the crèche are in their fifties now and came in at through the Poor Law Commission. They came to us at ten days old and stayed until they were we.'

'There were a few more during the Occupation when numbers went up from 45 to a maximum of 60 but it was not the same as the crèche was not the same as it was then. The crèche was very busy during the Occupation.'

because when there was not enough of a ration, like liver, to go round everybody, it would be sent to the institutions so we were able to feed our children a bit better.'

In about 1943 [redacted] was

in charge of the crèche when they had a call to say the German commandant wanted to inspect the crèche that morning. 'When the German officer came at 10.30 he wanted to know how many of the children

had German fathers and I told him, none, they are all registered as British nationals. I was aware that a few of the children may have had German fathers, though not an awful lot, but to us they were all British.

'It annoys me when accusations are made about people who were doing a good job in very difficult circumstances — a few people collaborated but we shouldn't all be put in the same sack because of them.'

