

**Janis Kozlowski:** That must have had a big influence on how you looked at things in life having gone through that, because....

**Eleanor Mae Cramer:** Oh, yes.

**Janis Kozlowski:** Most people didn't....

**Eleanor Mae Cramer:** Day to day, one day and day two. You live for day to day. You didn't ... you got used to it and you knew everything was secretive. You knew what to expect. You knew that you just couldn't do anything that you want.

**Janis Kozlowski:** Well, can you think of any other memories you've had ... you have of the war time that you could tell me about?

**Eleanor Mae Cramer:** Oh just the last time when the war was over, oh my gosh, everybody was celebrating and everybody was so happy. It was, oh gosh, it was like Christmas all over again. It was really something. Everybody was happy and just, oh gosh, just everybody was friendly. It was just a wonderful thing. There was excitement and everything. And the thankfulness and glad that they are, you know, we were glad that everything was alright, that they came home alive and they weren't injured. Oh it was a big relief. We had no idea, you know, but oh my lands, I'll never forget the ... when it mentioned, you know, the war's over, oh gosh, so relieved. We could breathe again. It was just ... everybody was happy, just so happy. No matter where you went everybody was happy because it was quite a strain. That was....

**Janis Kozlowski:** I can imagine, every day worrying about people.

**Eleanor Mae Cramer:** Yes. And to see each other when we did get to see each other, oh my gosh, it was like heaven.

**Janis Kozlowski:** You got an extra can of that canned meat out, right? [both laughing]

**Eleanor Mae Cramer:** Yes. I'll never forget that, and mixing that butter up. [both laughing] Those are two ... and you didn't have any luxuries. We never even thought anything about anything else like pie, cake, or ice cream. We didn't even care about anything like that. We were just glad to have meat and potatoes and ....

**Janis Kozlowski:** Well, anything with sugar, right, you couldn't really ... didn't have a lot of that.

**Eleanor Mae Cramer:** No. Just meat and potatoes and I don't remember much about the vegetables but I do remember the meat and potatoes. It was food and we were glad to have it too. We had to sign for a certain amount. Your rations, you had to ... you couldn't just go pick it up off the shelves and take it, you had to sign for it and get it and it'd be given to you. Just ... it was restricted by the government.

**Janis Kozlowski:** A very different time in this country's history.

**Eleanor Mae Cramer:** Oh, yes.