

# President Found in Sixth Generation Of German Who Came to U.S. in 1741

By HORTENSE MYERS  
UPI Correspondent

Greenwood, Ind. — (UPI) — A national reunion of all descendants of Hans Nicholas Iron Cutter (or Eisenhower), a German settler who came to America in 1741, is being proposed by the genealogist who studied his family tree and found President Eisenhower in the sixth generation.

Mrs. Annie B. Richardson of Greenwood, is the author of a 1,000-page compilation of the "Eisenhower Lineage," described as the only major genealogical study done of the family. Both the White House and Dr. Milton Eisenhower refer questions about family history to Mrs. Richardson.

She explained there are at least five major reunion associations among descendants of the first Eisenhower.

Mrs. Richardson, a middle-aged former secretary, said:

"My husband and I attended five Eisenhower reunions this year and everywhere we heard a wish expressed that a national reunion could be held with President Eisenhower as the speaker."

## Fourth Cousin

Mrs. Richardson also is a descendant of Hans Nicholas Eisenhower — as are several thousand other persons. The charts show President Eisenhower is a fourth cousin of Mrs. Richardson's mother, Mrs. Anna Meranda Lynch Taylor, who died in 1941.

The Indiana woman, a former employee of the National Archives in Washington, talked enthusiastically of the projected national reunion, which she thought should be held in June 1959, preferably in Pennsylvania not too far from the 168 acres of land which the first American Eisenhower settled near Fredericksburg.

She said she will write to the presidents of the five major Eisenhower reunion associations and ask their cooperation in such a family gathering.

"I seem to be the focal person when it comes to family history," Mrs. Richardson said. "I wasn't appointed, I just elected myself for the job. I certainly didn't know how much work I was getting into when I asked to see my grandfather's Civil War pension record."

Disappearance Credited  
She explained that had it not been for the mystery of her grandfather's disappearance during the Civil War she might never have become interested in genealogy.

"My grandmother, Catharine Isenhour, married Ira Anderson Lynch in Connorsville, Ind., in 1857. One day grandmother went out to see where Ira was and found his axe in a log. He'd gone off to war, to join the 10th Indiana Volunteers."

"He was injured in the battle of Mills Spring, Ky., Jan. 19, 1862, and came home on furlough. He left again and my mother was born after that, but she never saw her father; Ira never came back. My grandmother died in 1891 believing he was killed in the Civil War."

But Mrs. Richardson found out differently.

Always Wondered  
"I became a secretary at the National Archives in May 1940," she related. "The first division in which I worked was pension records. That was the first time I ever knew just anybody could walk in and ask to see a record like that. I had always wondered about my Grandfather Lynch so I asked to see his record."

The pension data showed that Ira Anderson Lynch survived the Civil War and lived until 1914. The granddaughter discovered her missing relative had wandered exten-

sively in the 52 years since he walked away from his Indiana home and had died and was buried in Richland Center, Wis.

"He must have lived a lonely life," she said. "My only conclusion is that he was badly injured. He had 11 in his family. I suppose that rather than be a burden, he just never came home. He died on my 12th birthday."

After solving the mystery of her grandfather, Mrs. Richardson began to haunt the Library of Congress and the Daughters of the American Revolution library in Washington, collecting more information about her ancestors.

The hunt had been going on for years before she discovered that she and President Eisenhower shared Hans Nicholas as a common ancestor.

## Began in 1691

Mrs. Richardson's compilation covers 286 years beginning in 1691, the year Hans Nicholas Eisenhower was born. It covers 11 generations of Eisenhowers in the United States. The material now is to be found in most major libraries of the United States.

One copy was bound into a book and mailed to the President. He sent Mrs. Richardson a letter of thanks mentioning "the enormous amount of work you have done on the subject" and also thanking her for answering queries referred to her by the White House staff about family history.

A newly published German book on the Eisenhower genealogy lists Mrs. Richardson as the "American Eisenhower genealogist." Mrs. Richardson said she wrote to the President and got his permission before she sent the requested material to the German publishers.

Among her discoveries, Mrs. Richardson found that exactly 200 years before Dwight David Eisenhower was inaugurated as 34th President of the U.S. the founder of the family in America was going through a ceremony of his own. On Jan. 20, 1753, a deed for 168 acres of Pennsylvania farmland was recorded in the name of "Hans Nicholas Iron Cutter (or Eisenhower)."

During a visit there, Mrs. Richardson was delighted to learn that historically-minded residents have discussed buying the farm near Fredericksburg and a log cabin standing on it as a state memorial.

Not Original Dwelling  
But she explained that the log cabin is not the original Eisenhower dwelling. She produced an excerpt from the Pennsylvania Gazette of 1756 which said "that by a letter from Fort Henry in Berks county dated August 7th there was advice the Indians were hovering about that neighbor-

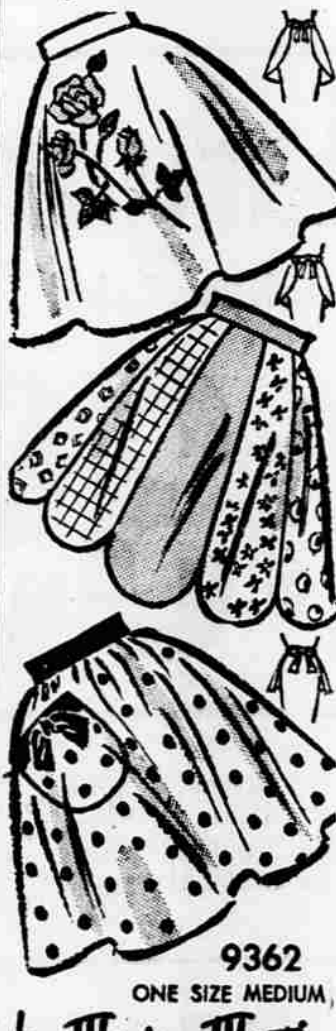
hood, some of them being seen almost every day and that they had burnt the house of Nicholas Eisenhower."

The early newspaper doesn't say, but apparently Hans Nicholas and his four sons and one daughter survived the Indian attacks. The President's great-grandfather was the second oldest son, Peter, while Mrs. Richardson's great-great-grandfather was the third oldest, Johannes.

Mrs. Richardson noted there are 176 different spellings of the family name, adding:

"The descendants who use the spelling 'Eisenhower' are in the minority. But I filed my bulletins (on the family lineage) under 'Eisenhower' because I believe it is going to be the most famous spelling."

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## Eastern Oregon Cities Seek WCA Commitment

Baker — (UPI) — A spokesman for the cities of Baker, La Grande and Ontario, Ore., said here Wednesday they will ask West Coast Airlines for an immediate commitment on renewal of commercial air service after expiration of present contracts Feb. 6, 1959.

West Coast officials last week declined to commit themselves on renewal of contracts with the three eastern Oregon cities pending outcome of a West Coast application for extended service to Salt Lake City and San Francisco. A hearing on that proposal is scheduled before the Civil Aeronautics Board in Washington, D.C., on Oct. 13.

Leo Adler, a Baker businessman acting as spokesman for the three cities, said Congressional At Ullman and Sens. Richard Neuberger and Wayne Morse would have representatives at the CAB hearing.

Adler said Baker, La Grande and Ontario also would press West Coast for improved schedules such as through flights from Portland and Yakima. He said passengers destined for the eastern Oregon points from Portland now must transfer twice en route.

## Missing Coos Family Dead

Coos Bay — (UPI) — Bodies of the long-missing Allan Erickson family were found near here Wednesday in their submerged auto.

Erickson, 20, his wife, 19, and their four-months old son, had been missing since the night of July 30 when they left the home of his uncle, Oliver Carlton, at Cooston, Ore.

The car was pulled out of the Coos river at 11:45 a.m. today about one-quarter mile above the Catching Slough bridge on the Coos river highway. It was found in from 15 to 20 feet of water. Stanley Lorence, a fisherman, had noticed an oil slick on the water and police later sent down skin divers who retrieved the license plate and made the identification.

The family had been objects of a widespread search along the southwest Oregon coast.

EDITOR IN NEW YORK  
Pasadena, Calif. — Mrs. Zola Vincent, foods editor for the Medford Mail Tribune, is in New York where she is attending the 16th conference of newspaper foods editors. The conference last through Friday.

ford Mail Tribune, Pattern Dept., 232 West 18th St., New York 11, N.Y. Print plainly NAME, ADDRESS, SIZE and STYLE NUMBER.

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