Couple Wed After 40 Years Of Separation

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP) — A romance that began in Germany and did not cool in 40 years of hardship and separation was culminated over the weekend in the marriage of Miss Charlotte Staudte, 54 and Eric Tobehn, 56.

Tobehn lost trace of Miss Staudte shortly after he went to war in Germany in 1914. All efforts to find each other failed until he took out American citizenship papers. Then Miss Staudte obtained his address in Alaska from a German consulate.

Their correspondence was renewed and eventually Tobehn made arrangements for Miss Staudte to come here. She arrived a few days ago and the wedding ceremony was quickly arranged.

The wedding, read in German, was performed in the Anchorage Lutheran Church. The bride wore a white satin wedding gown, the veil of which belonged to her mother, and used her mother's wedding band in the double-ring ceremony.

The bridal gown, carefully packed, was smuggled out of the Russian occupation zone of Germany shortly before Miss Staudte escaped over the border to the Western zone.