

United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives
Finding Aid
RG-10
Small Collections

RG-10.382
Acc. 1989.328

Title: Renée Fritz Papers, 1938-1971.

Extent: 8 items (1 folder)

Provenance: The papers were donated to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum by Renée Fritz in 1990.

Restrictions on access: No restrictions on access.

Restrictions on use: Restrictions on use. See Deed of Gift agreement.

Organization and arrangement: Arrangement is chronological.

Language: German and English.

Preferred citation: Standard citation for the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Collections Division, Archives Branch.

Biographical/Historical note: Renée Schwalb Fritz was born in 1937, in Vienna, Austria. Renée's father left for the United States in 1939. Renée and her mother fled Austria to Belgium. After the Germans occupied Belgium, in 1940, Renée was hidden in a convent. She remained there for two years until the Germans became suspicious. The underground took Renée to a Protestant family's farm and then to an orphanage. After World War II she was reunited with her mother who had survived Auschwitz. Their relationship was strained. Five years later they joined her father in the United States after arriving at Ellis Island. Renée matriculated into the American high-school system with much difficulty. Despite the difficulties, she was determined to attend and finish her education at Boston University. She was married to an American soon after graduation from college.

Scope and content note: Documents include a page of a notepad stamped with a Star of David and two letters from Dachau concentration camp. Photographs range from 1945 to 1971, depicting Renée Fritz at various locations in Belgium and France.

Inventory

1. Letter written by Nikolaus Schwalb on form from concentration camp, Dachau, 1938 Dec. 4.

2. Page of a notepad of Med. Dr. Bertold Israel, Vienna, 1939. Stamped with a Star of David.
3. Letter written by Nikolaus Schwalb on form from concentration camp, Dachau, 1939 Jan. 15.
4. 1 photoprint: b&w, Namur, Belgium, 1945. Renée Schwalb is pictured with Jack Schultz.
5. 1 photoprint: color, Belgium, 1971. Renée Schwalb Fritz is pictured with Mrs. Degelas, who hid thirteen members of the Schwalb family in Brussels, Belgium during the Holocaust.
6. 1 photoprint: color, Brussels, Belgium, 1971. The house where the Schwalb family was hidden in Brussels, Belgium is pictured.
7. 1 photoprint: color, Brussels Botanical Garden, 1971. Renée Schwalb Fritz stands next to the same statue where she was photographed as a child.
8. 1 photoprint: color, Paris, 1971. Renée Fritz Schwalb with her cousin, Bruno.