

HERTHA WOLFF HELLMANN PAPERS, 1899-1952
1994.62

United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives
100 Raoul Wallenberg Place SW
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Descriptive summary

Title: Hertha Wolff Hellmann papers

Dates: 1899-1952

Accession number: 1994.62

Creator: Hellmann, Hertha Wolff, 1898-1983

Extent: 0.5 linear foot (12 folders)

Repository: United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives, 100 Raoul Wallenberg Place SW,
Washington, DC 20024-2126

Abstract: The Hertha Wolff Hellmann papers consist of biographical materials, photographic materials, a letter, and lyrics to "Das Ladenmädel" documenting Hertha Wolff's family in Berlin, Hertha's escape to Shanghai with her daughter Vera, her husband Georg Wolff's deportation to Trawniki, Vera's death in Shanghai, and Hertha's immigration to the United States.

Languages: German, English, Chinese, Italian

Administrative Information

Access: Collection is open for use, but is stored offsite. Please contact the Reference Desk more than seven days prior to visit in order to request access.

Reproduction and use: Collection is available for use. Material may be protected by copyright. Please contact reference staff for further information.

Preferred citation: (Identification of item), Hertha Wolff Hellmann papers, United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives, Washington, DC

Acquisition information: Gerald Hameroff donated the Hertha Wolff Hellmann papers to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in two installments in 1994. The accession previously cataloged as 1995.A.0184 has been incorporated into this collection.

Accruals: Accruals may have been received since this collection was first processed, see archives catalog at collections.ushmm.org for further information.

Processing history: Julie Schweitzer, January 2014

Biographical note

Hertha Wolff Hellmann (1898-1983) was born in Berlin to Siegmund Max Knapp and Hedwig Rothe Knapp. She fled to Shanghai with her daughter, Vera, in 1939, but her husband, Georg Wolff (1894-approximately 1942), was too ill to join them. He was deported to Trawniki, Poland, in 1942 and perished. Vera died in Shanghai in 1944 of blood poisoning from an infected inoculation needle. Hertha immigrated to the United States in 1947 and married Arthur Hellmann.

Scope and content of collection

The Hertha Wolff Hellmann papers consist of biographical materials, photographic materials, a letter, and lyrics to "Das Ladenmädels" documenting Hertha Wolff's family in Berlin, Hertha's escape to Shanghai with her daughter Vera, her husband Georg Wolff's deportation to Trawniki, Vera's death in Shanghai, and Hertha's immigration to the United States.

Biographical materials include identification papers; birth, marriage, and vaccination certificates; emigration and immigration paperwork; and a death announcement documenting Hertha and Vera Wolff's lives in Berlin, their travel to Shanghai and Vera's death there, and Hertha's immigration to the United States. This series also includes an American Joint Distribution Committee notification about Georg Wolff's deportation to Trawniki.

Photographic materials include a photograph album containing photographs of Vera Wolff from the age of seven months to fifteen years, some including her mother, two photographs of Shirley Temple, one photograph of Deanna Durbin, and a list of Vera's childhood illnesses; loose photographs of Vera and Hertha from the album; and loose photographs of two groups of children, two unidentified men, Vera's grave, and an unidentified woman with a girl.

The collection also contains a single letter from Otto Singer to Hertha Wolff referencing a \$200 check for an unspecified purpose as well as lyrics to Rudolf Nelson's "Das Ladenmädels."

System of arrangement

The Hertha Wolff Hellmann papers are arranged as four series:

- Series 1: Biographical materials, 1899-1952
- Series 2: Letter, 1948
- Series 3: Lyrics to "Das Ladenmädels," approximately 1904
- Series 4: Photographic materials, approximately 1927-1947

Indexing terms

Wolff, Vera, 1927-1944

Jews--Germany--Berlin.
Jewish refugees--China--Shanghai.
Jewish children in the Holocaust--China--Shanghai.

Berlin (Germany)
Shanghai (China)

Photographs.

CONTAINER LIST

Series 1: Biographical materials, 1899-1952

Box	Folder	Title
1	1	Wolff, Georg, 1946-1947
1	2	Wolff, Hertha, Birth and marriage certificates, 1923-1927, 1947
1	3	Wolff, Hertha, Emigration and immigration, 1939, 1952
1	4	Wolff, Hertha, Employment and training history and recommendations, approximately 1914-1942
1	5	Wolff, Hertha, Identification papers, 1939
1	6	Wolff, Hertha, Vaccination certificates, 1899, 1910, 1947
1	7	Wolff, Vera, 1927-1928, 1938-1944

Series 2: Letter, 1948

Box	Folder	Title
1	8	Singer, Otto, 1948

Series 3: Lyrics to "Das Ladenmädel," approximately 1904

Box	Folder	Title
1	9	Lyrics to "Das Ladenmädel," approximately 1904

Series 4: Photographic materials, approximately 1927-1947

Box	Folder	Title
1	10	Photograph album, 1927-1944
1	11	Photograph album, loose photographs of Vera and Hertha Wolf, 1927-1944
1	12	Photograph album, loose photographs, miscellaneous, approximately 1936-1947