

**ILSE ROTHSCHILD PAPERS, 1940-1946**  
**1995.A.0004.2**

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

Title: Ilse Rothschild papers

Dates: 1940-1946

Accession number: 1995.A.0004.2

Creator: Rothschild, Ilse, 1916-2011.

Extent: 0.3 linear foot (3 folders)

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

Abstract: The Ilse Rothschild papers consists of Rothschild's postwar Belgian identification card, a 1940 letter from her brother, Ludwig Cohn, describing his railroad ordeal from Belgium to Saint-Cyprien as an interned enemy alien, his 1942 Red Cross letter indicating that Les Milles was being liquidated, four photographs of Cohn at the Les Milles internment camp, and four photographs of Rothschild's husband, Erich Rothschild, working with oxen and potatoes at the Gordola labor camp in 1942. Fritz Tockus, Ilse Rothschild's brother-in-law, and Freddy Horn are also identified on a May 1941 picture postcard.

Languages: German, French, English

**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), Ilse Rothschild papers (1995.A.0004.1), United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives, Washington, DC

Acquisition information: Ilse Rothschild donated the Ilse Rothschild papers to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in 1995 and 2000. The collections formerly cataloged as 1995.A.0004, 2000.385.1, and 2000.387.1 have been incorporated into this collection.

Accruals: Accruals may have been received since this collection was first processed. See archives catalog at [collections.ushmm.org](http://collections.ushmm.org) for further information.

Processing history: Julie Schweitzer, September 2017

### **Biographical note**

Ilse Rothschild (1916-2011) was born in Bad Hersfeld, Germany to Eduard Cohn and Hedwig Katzenstein Cohn. She lived in Antwerp until 1938 and survived the war in Brussels and Namur under the pseudonym Yvonne Collin. Following liberation, she worked for the United States Army in various roles, including as a language teacher. She married Erich Rothschild (1913-1995), who was born in Friedberg, Germany to Louis Rothschild and Rega Simon and trained as a pharmaceutical chemist at the University of Zurich. He spent at least one year of the war at the Gordola labor camp in Switzerland. Ilse and Erich were married in Locarno in 1945, had their first son, and immigrated to the United States in 1949 and lived in Providence and Barrington, RI. Ilse's brother Ludwig Cohn (1907-1942) was interned at the Saint-Cyprien and Les Milles concentration camps, transferred from Drancy to Auschwitz on convoy 19 in August 1942, and perished. Ilse's father died before the Holocaust, her mother was deported to Minsk in 1941 and perished, and her sisters Cilly Marx and Helen Tockus (later Tocker) survived.

### **Scope and content of collection**

The Ilse Rothschild papers consists of Rothschild's postwar Belgian identification card, a 1940 letter from her brother, Ludwig Cohn, describing his railroad ordeal from Belgium to Saint-Cyprien as an interned enemy alien, his 1942 Red Cross letter indicating that Les Milles was being liquidated, four photographs of Cohn at the Les Milles internment camp, and four photographs of Rothschild's husband, Erich Rothschild, working with oxen and potatoes at the Gordola labor camp in 1942. Fritz Tockus, Ilse Rothschild's brother-in-law, and Freddy Horn are also identified on a May 1941 picture postcard.

### **System of arrangement**

The Ilse Rothschild papers are arranged as a single series.

### **Indexing terms**

Rothschild, Ilse, 1916-2011.

Rothschild, Erich, 1913-1995.

Cohn, Ludwig, 1907-1942.

Les Milles (Concentration camp)

Saint-Cyprien (Concentration camp)

Jews--Germany--Bad Hersfeld.

Jews--Germany--Friedberg (Hesse)

Jews--Belgium--Namur.  
Concentration camp inmates--France--Correspondence.  
Forced labor--Switzerland--Gordola.  
World War, 1939-1945--Deportations from Belgium.  
Holocaust, Jewish (1939-1945)

Brussels (Belgium)  
Namur (Belgium)  
Les Milles (France)  
Saint-Cyprien (Dordogne, France)  
Gordola (Switzerland)

Correspondence.  
Photographs.

### CONTAINER LIST

#### Series 1: Ilse Rothschild papers, 1940-1946

Box/Folder	
1 of 3	Cohn, Ludwig, 1940-1942
2 of 3	Rothschild, Erich, approximately 1942
3 of 3	Rothschild, Ilse, 1946