

**BLANCA BORELL COLLECTION, 1945-1947**  
**1999.A.0035**

United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives  
100 Raoul Wallenberg Place SW  
Washington, DC 20024-2126  
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**Descriptive summary**

Title: Blanca Borell collection

Dates: 1945-1947

Accession number: 1999.A.0035 (RG-19.058)

Creator: Borell, Blanca.

Extent: 1 folder

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

Abstract: The collection consists of photographs depicting Blanca Borell and her husband Norbert Borell in the Linz-Binderbuchel displaced persons camp 1945-1947. Photographs depict demonstration rallies by survivors of Gusen and Mauthausen, remembrance ceremonies in Gusen in May 1946, a soccer team in Binderbuchel, and displaced persons en route to Canada with aid from HIAS. Includes a depiction of Simon Wiesenthal. Also includes a HIAS business card issued to Norbert Borer.

Languages: English

**Administrative Information**

Access: Collection is open for use.

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), Blanca Borell collection (1999.A.0035), United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives, Washington, DC

Acquisition information: The collection was donated to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum by Blanca Borell in 1999.

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: Updated by Adam Fielding, May 2020

### **Biographical note**

Blanca Borell (1920-2009) was born Blanca Schreiber on 6 May 1920 in Rajsko, Poland to Jacob Schreiber and Adela Finder. She had two sisters, Sonia (later Sonia Weitz) and Stella. She married Norbert Borer (b. 23 October 1913). In April 1940 Blanca was forced into the ghetto. In 1942 she was deported to the Płaszów concentration camp. She was transferred to Auschwitz in January 1945 and then Bergen-Belsen, Gusen, and Mauthausen. She was liberated from Mauthausen in May 1945 and later went to the Linz-BinderMichel displaced persons camp where she was reunited with her husband Norbert, who also survived Płaszów and Gusen, and later served as an Austrian representative for HIAS. They immigrated to the United States in 1948. Blanca's sister Sonia also survived the Holocaust, but both of the sisters' parents perished.

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

The collection consists of photographs depicting Blanca Borell and her husband Norbert Borell in the Linz-BinderMichel displaced persons camp 1945-1947. Photographs depict demonstration rallies by survivors of Gusen and Mauthausen, remembrance ceremonies in Gusen in May 1946, a soccer team in BinderMichel, and displaced persons en route to Canada with aid from HIAS. Includes a depiction of Simon Wiesenthal. Also includes a HIAS business card issued to Norbert Borer.

### **System of arrangement**

Collection is arranged as a single series.

### **Indexing terms**

Person:

Borell, Blanca (Blanka Schreiber Borer), 1920-  
Borell, Norbert (Norbert Borer), 1913-  
Wiesenthal, Simon.

Corporate:

Gusen (Concentration camp)  
Auschwitz (Concentration camp)  
Płaszów (Concentration camp)  
HIAS (Agency)

Topical Subject:

Jewish ghettos--Poland--Kraków.  
Holocaust survivors--Austria.  
Refugees--Austria--BinderMichl.  
Refugee camps--Austria--BinderMichl.  
Soccer teams--Austria--BinderMichl.

Geography:

BinderMichl (Linz, Austria)

Genre/Form:  
Photographs.

## CONTAINER LIST

### 1. Concentration camp survivors hold a demonstration, 1946

Concentration camp survivors dressed in their camp uniforms holding a demonstration so that they could live in Bindermichl displaced persons camp and not be forced back into [Gusen] concentration camp after liberation. Norbert Borell (Borer), husband of Blanca Borell, acted as representative for the survivors and organized the demonstration to march on the American Army headquarters. The demonstration was successful and the survivors did not return to Gusen.

### 2. Concentration camp survivors hold a demonstration, 1945

Concentration camp survivors march in a parade as part of a demonstration to be allowed to live in Bindermichl displaced persons camp and not to remain in the concentration camp.

### 3. Mauthausen survivors marching in a demonstration rally, 1945

Concentration camp survivors march dressed in their camp uniforms. One man carries a flag. Other marchers carry a banner that reads, "KZ Mauthausen." Caption on reverse: "Rutka [Friedrich Knoll], Henek [Silbersmit], Sonia [Schreiber Weitz]."

### 4. First anniversary of liberation, 1946 May 5.

Memorial held on the first anniversary of liberation at Linz, Austria. Norbert Borell is second from the left. Natan Zaidner is third from the left. Other persons in the photograph are HIAS workers. Stamp on reverse: "Wachtel Foto Reporter UNNRA." Artur Wachtel served as an official photographer for U.N.R.R.A.

### 5. Survivors at the first anniversary of liberation, Gusen camp, Linz, Austria, 1946 May 5.

Genek Knoll is third from the left. Simon Wiesenthal is fourth from the left.

### 6. Bindermichl soccer team, 1946.

Stamp on reverse: "Weissblum, Foto, Barake 46, Linz-Wegscheid."

The soccer team formed in Bindermichl displaced persons camp near Linz, Austria.

### 7. HIAS representatives, circa 1946-circa 1947

From left to right: Sonia Schreiber, Norbert Borell (Borer). The man and woman at the right are Americans working for HIAS.

### 8. HIAS officials, 1947

Five HIAS officials, two wearing "HIAS" armbands, stand in front of an open railroad car. A sign on the railroad car reads, "Linz – Austria Transport to Paraguay, Uruguay, San Domingo, Cuba, Columbia, 1947." From left to right: Mark Wrobel (Chason), Genia Zaidner, HIAS worker, two unknown survivors, and Norbert Borell, HIAS director.

### 9. Norbert Borell sending survivors to Canada, circa 1946-circa 1947

Norbert Borell and other HIAS officials, some wearing "HIAS" armbands, stand near railroad tracks, examining the contents of a wooden crate.

10. Displaced persons assisted by HIAS on their way to America, circa 1947  
Several displaced persons sit in deck chairs during a ship voyage to the United States.

11. [Norbert Borer] business card, n.d.