

## **LEONORE GUMPERT CORRESPONDENCE, 1938-1942 2003.229**

United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives  
100 Raoul Wallenberg Place SW  
Washington, DC 20024-2126  
Tel. (202) 479-9717  
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### **Descriptive summary**

Title: Leonore Gumpert correspondence

Dates: 1938-1942

Accession number: 2003.229

Creator: Gumpert, Leonore, 1922-2008

Extent: 0.5 linear foot (1 box)

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

Abstract: The Leonore Gumpert correspondence consists of letters and postcards dated 1938-1942 to Leonore in America from her mother, Clara Joseph, in Kassel and Darmstadt and from her sister, Inge, in Kassel, Darmstadt, Brussels, Seyre, and Chateau de la Hille. Some correspondence from Germany includes messages from Leonore's aunt Martha and grandmother Josephine. There are also a few letters and postcards from Leonore's father, Julius, and from relatives in New York. Most of the letters and postcards describe daily life in Germany, Belgium, and France and relate efforts to immigrate. One October 1938 letter from Clara Joseph includes recipes. Some of the letters and postcards are accompanied by English translations provided by the donor.

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), Leonore Gumpert correspondence, United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives, Washington, DC

Acquisition information: Leonore Gumpert donated the Leonore Gumpert correspondence to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in 2003.

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.

Related materials: The United States Holocaust Memorial Museum's library holds a copy of *Inge: A Girl's Journey through Nazi Europe*, by Leonore Gumpert's sister, Inge Bleier, and son, David E. Gumpert. Photographs of false identification papers issued to Inge Joseph can be viewed through the Museum's catalog (60708 and 60708A). Inge Joseph can also be seen in three additional photographs available through the Museum's catalog: 44699, 59901, and 59906.

Processing history: Julie Schweitzer, March 2014

### **Biographical note**

Leonore Gumpert (1922-2008) was born Lieselotte Lina (Lilo) Joseph to Julius Joseph (1885-1959) and Clara Joseph (nee Neu, 1891-1942) and lived with her parents and sister, Inge (1925-1983), in Darmstadt. Julius Joseph was arrested on false charges in late 1936, released and escaped to England in 1939, and immigrated to the United States in November 1940. Leonore immigrated to the United States in July 1938, settling in Chicago. Inge joined a Kindertransport to Brussels in January 1939, where she stayed with relatives and then in a home for refugee children. When Germany invaded Belgium, Inge was evacuated with the other children to Seyre (Haute Garonne) and then to Chateau la Hille near Pamier (Ariège). She escaped to Switzerland in late 1943, immigrated to the United States in 1946, and married Frank Bleier. Clara Joseph (1891-1942) was deported via Piaski to Trawniki and perished.

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

The Leonore Gumpert correspondence consists of letters and postcards dated 1938-1942 to Leonore in America from her mother, Clara Joseph, in Kassel and Darmstadt and from her sister, Inge, in Kassel, Darmstadt, Brussels, Seyre, and Chateau de la Hille. Some correspondence from Germany includes messages from Leonore's aunt Martha and grandmother Josephine. There are also a few letters and postcards from Leonore's father, Julius, and from relatives in New York. Most of the letters and postcards describe daily life in Germany, Belgium, and France and relate efforts to immigrate. One October 1938 letter from Clara Joseph includes recipes. Some of the letters and postcards are accompanied by English translations provided by the donor.

### **System of arrangement**

The Leonore Gumpert correspondence is arranged as a single series:

- Series 1: Correspondence, 1938-1942

### **Indexing terms**

Bleier, Inge J.  
Joseph, Clara.

Jews--Germany--Darmstadt.  
Jews, German--Germany--Darmstadt--Correspondence.  
Jews, German--Belgium--Brussels--Correspondence.  
Jews, German--France--Correspondence.  
Jewish refugees--Belgium.  
Jewish refugees--France.

Darmstadt (Germany)  
Brussels (Belgium)  
United States--Emigration and immigration--History--20<sup>th</sup> century.  
Germany--Emigration and immigration--History--1933-1945.

### CONTAINER LIST

#### Series 1: Correspondence, 1938-1942

Box	Folder	Title
1	1	June-July 1938
1	2	August 1938
1	3	September 1938
1	4	October 1938
1	5	November 1938
1	6	December 1938
1	7	January 1939
1	8	February 1939
1	9	March 1939
1	10	April 1939
1	11	May 1939
1	12	June-July 1939
1	13	August-September 1939
1	14	October-December 1939
1	15	January-March 1940
1	16	April-June 1940
1	17	July 1940
1	18	August-September 1940
1	19	October-December 1940
1	20	1941-1942