

ARZT FAMILY PAPERS, 1850-1989 and undated 2006.510.1

United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives
100 Raoul Wallenberg Place SW
Washington, DC 20024-2126
Tel. (202) 479-9717
e-mail: reference@ushmm.org

Descriptive summary

Title: Arzt family papers

Dates: 1850-1989 and undated

Accession number: 2006.510.1

Creator: Arzt (Family : Berlin, Germany)

Extent: 3.5 linear feet (2 boxes, 1 oversize boxes, 2 oversize folders, and 1 book enclosure)

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

Abstract: The Arzt family papers include biographical material, correspondence, writings, and photographs documenting the pre-war lives of Hans Arzt and his family in Berlin, Germany and their wartime and post-war experiences after they fled Germany for the Dominican Republic, Palestine, and Czechoslovakia. The collection also includes some correspondence, biographical material, and photographs of Lotte Hamburger, Hans' wife, and her family.

Languages: German, English, Spanish

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), Arzt family papers (2006.510.1), United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives, Washington, DC.

Acquisition information: The Arzt family papers were donated by Naomi Swyers to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in 2006.

Separated material: A wallet (2006.510.2), box (2006.510.3), souvenirs (2006.510.4-.6), a bottle (2006.510.7), and a bracelet (2006.510.8) have been cataloged as objects.

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

Processing history: Morgan Voth, November 2019

Biographical note

Hans Artz (1894-1975) was born to Heinz (Hanz) Artz (1866-1931) and Sophie Ehrenhause (1869-1939) and had five siblings: Grete (1895-1987), Trude (1899-1988), Edith (1900-?), Erich (1902-1979), and Ruth (1911-1988). Heinz owned a liquor store and married Sophie in 1892. Heinz died in 1931 and Sophia moved into a boarding house and then a nursing home before passing away in 1939.

Hans served in World War I and was a POW. After the war he took over his father's business and married Lotte Hamburger (1891-1970, born to Julius (1856-1925) and Clara (1862-1939)) in 1924. They lived in Berlin and had two children, Susi (b. 1925) and Hannelore (Lore, b. 1928). After his business was taken from him because he was Jewish in 1938, Hans and his family decided to leave Germany. Hans, Lotte, and their daughters left for the Dominican Republic in October 1938. They immigrated to the United States in 1947.

In 1933 Trude, her husband Richard Bail (1899-1971), and their children Gerte (b. 1922), Heinz (1923-1982), and Lutz (b.1926-1976) left for Czechoslovakia where they opened a photography studio. After their residence permit expired in 1936 or 1937, they moved to Prague and attempted, unsuccessfully, to immigrate to France. In 1938 they moved to Italy and sent their sons to school in Palestine in 1939. Trude and Richard moved to Palestine in 1945 and eventually settled in the United States.

Ruth went to Paris around 1933 as a German-speaking governess. She briefly returned to Germany before leaving again for Sweden. When her visa renewal was denied she was sent back to Germany. In 1936 she was arrested and interned at Moringen concentration camp for nine months before she was released and left for Palestine. She married Heinz Warschauer (b. 1906) and had a son, Dan (b. 1945). They immigrated to the United States in 1950.

In February 1936 Grete, her husband Peter Philipsborn (1892-1972), and their son Fritz (b.1922) immigrated to the Dominican Republic where they opened a store. After the war they immigrated to the United States and settled in California.

Edith married Kurt Bail (1896-1985) and they had two daughters, Hilla (b.1922) and Evlein (Eva, b.1923). Edith and Kurt divorced in 1936 and Edith and her daughters were forced to leave Germany in 1939. They went to England where Edith found work and Kurt went to Bolivia.

Erich, his wife Hanni Dussek (b. 1905), and their daughter Ruth (Lütte, b. 1933) sailed for Chile in June 1939.

Scope and content of collection

The Arzt family papers include biographical material, correspondence, writings, and photographs documenting the pre-war lives of Hans Arzt and his family in Berlin, Germany and their wartime and post-war experiences after they fled Germany for the Dominican Republic, Palestine, and Czechoslovakia. The collection also includes some correspondence, biographical material, and photographs of Lotte Hamburger, Hans' wife, and her family.

Hamburger family biographical material includes birth records and a family history for Julius Hamburger and birth records, report cards, and marriage announcements, songs, toasts, and service material for Lotte Hamburger. Arzt family biographical material includes immigration documentation for the Dominican Republic, a marriage certificate, school report cards, letters of employment, and admissions letters for Susi Arzt as well as documentation of World War I service, membership cards, business cards, marriage certificate, correspondence relating to his business regarding the transfer of his assets because he was Jewish, and a last will for Hans Arzt. The series also includes Arzt and Hamburger family trees and an unpublished family history titled *The Arzt Chronicles*.

Correspondence includes letters sent from Hans to Lotte during WWI when he was a POW, original and photocopies of letters between Lotte, Lore, Susi, Kurt, and other family members after they were separated during the war and living in Germany, the Dominican Republic, and Palestine as well as illustrated letters from Wolfgang Hamburger, Susi and Lore's cousin. The series also includes letters of congratulations to Lotte and Hans on their wedding.

Writings include a date book which lists dates of birth, a diary by an unknown diarist, a handmade encyclopedia made by Edith for her brother Hans, and a book of recipes, including the original recipe for liquor from the Heinz Arzt store. The series also includes poetry written by Lotte and Susi.

Photographs include mainly pre-war albums and loose photographs largely of the Arzt family in Berlin, at the Heinz Arzt factory, on vacations, and leaving Germany. Some pre-war photographs of the Hamburger family are included.

System of arrangement

The collection is arranged in four series:

Series 1: Biographical material, circa 1885-1989 and undated

Series 2: Correspondence, 1850-1961

Series 3: Writings, 1928-1974 and undated

Series 4: Photographs, 1924-1975

Indexing terms

Person:

Arzt, Hans, 1894-1975.

Arzt, Lore, 1928-

Arzt, Susi, 1925-

Hamburger, Lotte, 1891-1970.

Topical Subject:

Jewish families--Germany--Berlin.
Holocaust, Jewish (1939-1945)--Personal narratives.
Family histories.

Geographic:

Berlin (Germany)
Santo Domingo (Dominican Republic)
United States--Emigration and immigration--History.

Genre/Form:

Correspondence.
Photographs.
Passports.

CONTAINER LIST

Series 1: Biographical material, circa 1885-1989 and undated

Box/Folder	Title
1.1	The Arzt Chronicles, 1989
1.2	Arzt, Hans, circa 1912-1956
1.3	Arzt, Susi, 1938-1966
1.4 & OS 1	Family trees, undated
1.5	Hamburger, Julius, circa 1885-1908 and undated
1.6-1.7 OS 2	Hamburger, Lotte, 1907-1924 (2 folders)

Series 2: Correspondence, 1850-1961

Box/Folder	Title
1.8	Arzt, Lore, circa 1934-1953
1.9-1.10	Arzt, Hans, 1895-1939 (2 folders)
1.11	Arzt, Susi, 1920-1950
1.12	Gunpel, Eduard, 1861-1865
1.13	Hamburger, Kurt, 1933-1949
1.14	Hamburger, Lotte, 1897-1960
2.1	Hamburger, Wolfgang, 1938-1939
2.2	Lichtenstein, Max, circa 1911-1915
2.3	Richard, 1930-1941
2.4	Wedding congratulations, 1924-1938
2.5	Miscellaneous, 1850-1961

Series 3: Writings, 1928-1974 and undated

Box/Folder	Title
2.6	Date book, undated

BE 1	Diary, 1928-1939
2.7	Encyclopedia, 1974
2.8	Recipes, circa 1945-1960
2.9-2.10	Arzt, Susi, circa 1940s and undated (2 folders)
2.11	Hamburger, Lotte, circa 1920-1946 and undated
2.12	Miscellaneous, undated

Series 4: Photographs, 1924-1975

Box/Folder	Title
2.13-2.14	Album, 1924-1936 (2 folders)
2.15	Album, loose pages, 1924-1936
3	Album, 1937-1938
2.16	Arzt and Hamburger family, 1895-1975