

**DANIELLE AND DAVID SNEGG PAPERS,
approximately 1920-1990 (bulk, approximately 1920-1949)
2014.230.1**

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

Title: Danielle and David Snegg papers

Dates: approximately 1920-1990 (bulk, approximately 1920-1949)

Accession number: 2014.230.1

Creator: Snegg, Danielle

Additional creator: Snegg, David

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 Danielle and David Snegg papers primarily consist of letters from Danielle's father to Danielle in Paris that were smuggled out of the Blechhammer labor camp as well as love letters exchanged between Danielle and her future husband, American serviceman David Snegg, at the end of the war while Danielle waited for her father to return home. The collection also includes a postcard and letter Danielle's parents wrote to her from Drancy in the hours before their deportation in September 1942, one real and one false identification card for Danielle, David's immunization record, and photographs of Avram and Marguerita Halerie, Danielle and David Snegg, and the Pliez family who housed Danielle in Paris during the war.

Languages: 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.

Physical access: The pressed flowers in the correspondence series and the letters to which they are attached) cannot be accessed physically. Only digitized copies can be viewed.

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), Danielle and David Snegg papers (2014.230.1), United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives, Washington, DC

Acquisition information: Michel Snegg donated the Danielle and David Snegg papers to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in 2014.

Separated materials: Michel Snegg also donated a Star of David badge (2014.230.2) and a drawing titled "Souvenir" with the note "Blechhammer 43" (2014.230.3) to the Museum.

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, December 2018

Biographical note

Danielle Snegg (1926-1990) was born Fernande Halerie on March 3, 1926 in Paris to tailor Avram (Adolf) Halerie (1902-1945?) and Marguerita (Ita) Bercovitz Halerie (1902-1942?). Avram was born in Mihăileni, Romania and Marguerite was born in Constantz, Romania. Danielle's younger brother David (1922-1942) was deported to Auschwitz in July 1942 and killed. Her parents were deported from Drancy to Auschwitz in September 1942. Her mother is believed to have been killed there. Her father was transferred from Auschwitz to the Blechhammer labor camp and managed to smuggle letters to Danielle. He was transferred back to Auschwitz in April 1944, sent on a death march in 1945, and is assumed to have died at either Buchenwald or Gross-Rosen. Danielle survived the war in hiding with the Pliez family in Paris. After the war, she met and married American serviceman David Israel Snegg (1923-2008) from California and became a naturalized American citizen.

Scope and content of collection

The Danielle and David Snegg papers primarily consist of letters from Danielle's father to Danielle in Paris that were smuggled out of the Blechhammer labor camp as well as love letters exchanged between Danielle and her future husband, American serviceman David Snegg, at the end of the war while Danielle waited for her father to return home. The collection also includes a postcard and letter Danielle's parents wrote to her from Drancy in the hours before their deportation to Auschwitz in September 1942; one real and one false identification card for Danielle; David's immunization record; and photographs of Avram and Marguerita Halerie, Danielle and David Snegg, and the Pliez family who housed Danielle in Paris during the war.

Correspondence primarily consists of letters and postcards from Avram in Blechhammer to Danielle and family friends. The correspondence signed using other names is also believed to be from Avram. This correspondence primarily documents packages requested and received, provides updates on his wellbeing and spirits, asks after mutual acquaintance, and advises Danielle to enjoy herself and behave well. Some of the correspondence filed under Avram's name appear to be in someone else's handwriting or to bear someone else's signature. Addressees include the Vignas, Pliez, and Ponnelle

families as well as Danielle ("Fernande"). This correspondence follows a previously arranged numerical order and is roughly in chronological order as well.

This series also includes letters and postcards from someone named Marcel imprisoned at Blechhammer. Marcel's correspondence describes weather and working conditions, exchanges greetings among mutual friends (Gabrielle and the Pliez, Ponnelle, and Vignas families), thanks Danielle for packages, and asks for more aid. The letters and postcards frequently refer to someone named "François," which might be a code name for Danielle's father. The letters and postcards appear to have been smuggled out of Blechhammer and mailed from Dortmund. This correspondence follows a previously arranged numerical order and is largely in chronological order as well.

Danielle's letters to David describe her love and longing for him, documents her anxious wait for her family's return from the concentration camps, recounts her daily activities, work, and leisure time, and passes along news of mutual acquaintances. Many of the letters have dried flowers attached to them or lipstick marks where Danielle kissed the letter. David's letters to Danielle reciprocate her love, make plans for their marriage, and ask after her father.

System of arrangement

The Danielle and David Snegg papers are arranged as three series:

Series 1: Biographical materials, 1942-1947

Series 2: Correspondence, 1942-1990 (bulk 1942-1947)

Series 3: Photographs, approximately 1920-1949

Indexing terms

Blechhammer (Concentration camp)

Drancy (Concentration camp).

Jews--France--Paris.

Concentration camp inmates--Correspondence.

Holocaust survivors--France--Paris.

Paris (France)

Correspondence.

Photographs.

CONTAINER LIST

Series 1: Biographical materials, 1942-1947

Box/Folder	
1.1	Snegg, Danielle, Identification papers, 1942, 1947
1.2	Snegg, David, Immunization register, 1943-1945

Series 2: Correspondence, 1942-1990 (bulk 1942-1947)

Box/Folder	
1.3	Marcel (from Blechhammer), approximately 1943-1945
1.4	Gottreich, Anna, 1990
1.5-1.9	Halerie, Avram, approximately 1943-1944 (5 folders)
1.10	Halerie, Avram and Marguerite, deportation, 1942
1.11-1.14	Snegg, Danielle to David Snegg, 1945 (4 folders) (pressed flowers stored separately)
1.15	Snegg, Danielle to relatives and officials, 1943-1947
1.16-1.21	Snegg, David to Danielle Snegg, 1945 (6 folders)
1.22	Friends or relatives of David Snegg, 1945
1.23	Translations and notes

Series 3: Photographs, approximately 1920-1949

Box/Folder	
1.24	Halerie, Avram and Marguerite, approximately 1920-1940
1.25	Pliez family, 1944
1.26	Snegg, Danielle and David, 1940-1949
1.27	"Souvenir de Marcel, Joseph, Henri," 1930s