

**URBACH FAMILY PAPERS, 1910-1995**  
**2014.501.1**

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

**Descriptive summary**

Title: Urbach family papers

Dates: 1910-1995

Accession number: 2014.501.1

Creator: Urbach (Family : Poznań, Poland)

Extent: 1.0 linear foot (6 folders and 1 box)

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

Abstract: The Urbach family papers include biographical materials, correspondence, photographs, and a scrapbook documenting the family of Jewish dentist Isidor Urbach from Poznań, the family's survival in ghettos and in hiding during World War II, and the two girls named Masza Zunszajn and Roza Zaltz the family hid during the war. The collection also includes restitution correspondence documenting the murder of Dr. Urbach's parents and relatives during the Holocaust and a scrapbook containing surrender leaflets dropped by the Red Army and clippings about the Nazi era and Holocaust collected by Dr. Urbach after the war.

Languages: Polish, German

**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), Urbach family papers (2014.501.1), United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives, Washington, DC

Acquisition information: Daniel Urbach donated the Urbach family papers to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in 2014.

Related archival materials: Daniel Urbach also donated a watercolor (2014.501.2) to the Museum.

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

Processing history: Julie Schweitzer, January 2018

### **Biographical note**

Dr. Isidor Urbach (b. 1898) was a Jewish dentist from Poznań, Poland married to Catholic Irena Urbanska Urbach. The couple had five children. In the early years of World War II, the family was confined to the Ostrów Lubelski and Stare Żalucze ghettos, and then Isidor lived in hiding in Żalucze while the children lived under forged papers with Irena's mother. They were joined by eight year old Masza Zunszajn (later Miriam Raz), whose family had been killed during the Aktion in Wereszczyn. The Urbach family and Masza moved to a small house in Żalasocze, where Irena and the children lived openly while Isidor and Masza hid in a bunker dug under the oven. Irena earned a living by providing dental service to the local population using skills Isidor had taught her. Teenager Roza Zaltz (Zalc) later joined Isidor and Masza in the bunker. In early 1944, Rosa left the bunker and joined a group of Jews hiding in the nearby village of Garbatowka. Masza and the Urbach family were liberated in July 1944 and moved to Włodawa, where Irena organized a soup kitchen. Masza eventually moved to Israel and started a family at kibbutz Gan Shmuel, and Rosa Zalc-Gerstein immigrated to the United States. Irena Urbach was honored by Yad Vashem as Righteous Among Nations.

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

The Urbach family papers include biographical materials, correspondence, photographs, and a scrapbook documenting the family of Jewish dentist Isidor Urbach from Poznań, the family's survival in ghettos and in hiding during World War II, and the two girls named Masza Zunszajn and Roza Zaltz the family hid during the war. Biographical materials include a birth certificate, vaccination record, identification documents, permits and passes, work documents, and a list of products the Urbachs offered at their soup kitchen in Włodawa following liberation. Correspondence includes prewar family postcards and postwar documenting an invitation to Dr. Urbach to open a soup kitchen in Włodawa, his donations of library and research materials to universities and institutions, and his efforts to receive restitution for the murder of his parents and relatives during the Holocaust. Photographs, photographic postcards, and album pages depict the Urbach family, Masza Zunszajn, and Roza Zaltz. This material also include photographic postcards dating from 1918 and images appearing to show partisans and burials. The scrapbook dates from approximately 1939-1959 and contains a photograph of Poland in 1939, surrender leaflets dropped by the Red Army, and clippings about the Nazi rise to power, World War II, the Holocaust, and the Nuremberg trials in Polish and German. These materials were collected by Dr. Urbach after the war.

### **System of arrangement**

The Urbach family papers are arranged as a single series.

**Indexing terms**

Urbach, Isidor.

Jews--Poland--Poznań.

Jewish dentists--Poland.

Holocaust, Jewish (1939-1945)--Poland.

Hidden children (Holocaust)--Poland.

Holocaust survivors--Poland.

Poznań (Poland)

Włodawa (Poland)

Correspondence.

Photographs.

**CONTAINER LIST**

**Series 1: Urbach family papers, 1910-1995**

Box/Folder	
1.1-2	Biographical materials, 1910-1945 (2 folders)
1.3	Correspondence, 1923-1995
1.4-5	Photographs, 1918-1967 (2 folders)
2.1	Scrapbook, approximately 1939-1959
1.6	Scrapbook, loose pages, approximately 1939-1959