

SIMON FAMILY PAPERS, circa 1929-1946 2015.204.1

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: Simon family papers

Dates: circa 1929-1946

Accession number: 2015.204.1

Creator: Simon (Family : Karlsruhe, Germany)

Extent: 0.3 linear foot (4 folders, 1 oversize box)

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

Abstract: The Simon family papers include correspondence, passports, photographic materials, and a War Bond documenting Julius, Gerda, and Lore Simon from Karlsruhe and their immigration to the United States in 1939. Correspondence includes a 1941 letter and six 1942 Red Cross forms from the Bundheim family in Assen, Germany to the Simon family in New York as well as 1946 Red Cross letter tracing the fates of Elias, Griet, Martha, and Erich Bundheim. A 1933 German passport documents Julius and Lore Simon, and a 1938 passport marked with a red "J" documents Gerda Simon. Photographs depict Lore with her parents, her aunts Jenny Gotschalk and Rosa Benjamin, her paternal uncle Sali Simon, her cousins Lutz and Ruth Benjamin and Margot Bundheim, grandfather Elias Bundheim, and other family and friends at home, in Karlsruhe, and on vacation. The collection also includes a \$25 U.S. War Bond Julius and Gerda purchased for Lore and a newspaper clipping showing a photograph of the couple buying the bond from Henry Morgenthau, Jr.

Languages: German, 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), Simon family papers (2015.204.1), United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives, Washington, DC

Acquisition information: Lore Deutsch donated the Simon family papers to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in 2015.

Separated material: Lore Deutsch also donated to the Museum a fragment from a Torah mantle destroyed during Kristallnacht (2015.204.2).

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 2019

Biographical note

Lore Deutsch was born Lore Simon on February 16, 1929 in Karlsruhe, Germany, to physician Julius Simon (1886-1953) and Gerda Simon (née Bundheim, 1906-1996). Julius' parents were Leopold and Auguste Simon. Gerda's parents were Elias (August 29, 1868-1942) and Martha Bundheim (November 6, 1876-1942), and she had two brothers, Erich (b. 1903) and Paul. Julius and Gerda met at a seaside resort, married in 1928, and had Lore in 1929. The Simon family immigrated to the United States in January 1939. Gerda's brother Paul immigrated to South Africa with his wife and two children in the 1930s. Gerda's parents and Margrieta (Griet) Bundheim van der Wijk (b. 1894) were deported on October 16, 1942 from Westerbork to Auschwitz and killed. Erich Bundheim (b. 1903) was deported on July 16, 1942 from Westerbork to Ravensbrück, but it is unclear where he perished.

Scope and content of collection

The Simon family papers include correspondence, passports, photographic materials, and a War Bond documenting Julius, Gerda, and Lore Simon from Karlsruhe and their immigration to the United States in 1939. Correspondence includes a 1941 letter and six 1942 Red Cross form letters from the Bundheim family in Assen, Germany to the Simon family in New York as well as a 1946 Red Cross letter tracing the fates of Elias, Margrieta (Griet), Martha, and Erich Bundheim. A 1933 German passport documents Julius and Lore Simon, and a 1938 passport marked with a red "J" documents Gerda Simon. Photographs depict Lore with her parents, her aunts Jenny Gotschalk and Rosa Benjamin, her paternal uncle Sali Simon, her cousins Lutz and Ruth Benjamin and Margot Bundheim, grandfather Elias Bundheim, and other family and friends in Karlsruhe and on vacation. The collection also includes a \$25 U.S. War Bond Julius and Gerda purchased for Lore and a newspaper clipping showing a photograph of the couple buying the bond from Henry Morgenthau, Jr.

System of arrangement

The Simon family papers are arranged as a single series.

Indexing terms

Personal names

Deutsch, Lore, 1929-
Simon, Julius, 1886-1953.
Simon, Gerda, 1906-1996.
Morgenthau, Henry, 1891-1967.

Topical terms

Jews--Germany--Karlsruhe.
Jewish refugees--New York (State)--New York.

Geographic terms

Karlsruhe (Germany)
Germany--Emigration and immigration.
United States--Emigration and immigration.

Genre terms

Correspondence.
Passports.
Photographs.

CONTAINER LIST

Series 1: Simon family papers, circa 1929-1946

Box/Folder	Description
Folder 1 of 4	Correspondence, 1941-1946
Folder 2 of 4	Passports, 1933, 1938
Box 1	Photograph album, circa 1929-1932
Folder 3 of 4	Photographs, loose, circa 1931-1935
Folder 4 of 4	War Bond and clipping, 1944