

REGINA GRUBER AND TUVIA SHERES PAPERS, 1936-1998
2016.204.1

United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives
100 Raoul Wallenberg Place SW
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Descriptive summary

Title: Regina Gruber and Tuvia Sheres papers

Dates: 1936-1998 (bulk 1943-1968)

Accession number: 2016.204.1

Creator: Sheres, Regina Gruber (L'viv :Ukraine)
Sheres, Tuvia (Vilnius :Lithuania)

Extent: 0.5 linear feet (1 box)

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

Abstract: The collection contains correspondence, identification papers, photographs, testimonies, and restitution claims documenting the experiences of Regina Gruber and Tuvia Sheres in Poland, Lithuania, and Italy during the Holocaust, and their post-war experiences in Italy prior to immigrating to Canada. Included are papers regarding their time as displaced persons in Bari, Italy; and their work with the Joint Distribution Committee; their immigration to Canada; testimonies; and restitution claims. The restitution papers also reflect Regina's attempts to reclaim funds from a Swiss bank that her father had deposited before the war.

Languages: German, Polish, 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), Regina Gruber and Tuvia Sheres papers (2016.204.1), United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives, Washington, DC

Acquisition information: The Regina Gruber and Tuvia Sheres papers were donated to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum by Allan and Robert Sheres in 2016. Allan and Robert are the son and grandson of Regina and Tuvia Sheres.

Related archival materials: There is a drawing of Tuvia Sheres while he was a partisan fighter in the Naroch Forest in Belarussia in the Alexander Bogen collection (2005.181.98) at the United States Holocaust Memorial 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: Adam Fielding, February 2016

Biographical note

Tuvia Sheres (later Ted Sheres; 1920-2002) was born in Wilno, Poland (now Vilnius, Lithuania) to Moses Efraim and Tajba (née Lewin) Sheres. He had one brother, Harry. In 1939, the Soviet Union invaded Poland and Wilno was soon part of Lithuania. In 1941, Nazis occupied Wilno and Tuvia's family were sent to a ghetto, and he was sent to work as a mechanical engineer at the HKP slave labor camp there. His mother was killed around 1942, and in 1943 he faked his death and escaped the ghetto. Tuvia joined a group of Russian partisans in the Naroch (Narocz) forest who ran rescue missions to the ghetto to help potential fighters escape. He soon became known as Tevko the Tiger, and the Germans offered rewards for his capture, dead or alive. Tuvia fought with the partisans until July 1944, when the region was liberated by Soviet forces. By 1946, Tuvia had made his way to Milan, Italy. He worked with the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee helping fellow survivors living in displaced persons camp. He also ran a factory, which served as a cover for gathering people for Bricha, an organization that helped survivors immigrate illegally to Palestine. During this time, Tuvia met Regina Gruber, who lived in Bari DP camp.

Regina Dina Sheres (born Regina Gruber, b. 1924) was born in Lwów, Poland (now L'viv, Ukraine) to Amalia (1891-1942) and Aron (1888-1943) Gruber. She had one sister, Klara (1922-1944), and one brother, Emanuel (1926-1943). Her father had previously bought a birth certificate from a neighbor named Irena Nivaleska, and using this birth certificate Regina got a false identification card under this name, which enabled her to survive the war. During the war, she worked as a maid in Kraków and Warsaw. Regina was the only survivor from her immediate family. After the war, she briefly went to Austria, and then to the Bari displaced persons camp in Italy. It was in the camp where she met Tuvia Sheres. They married in 1949 and immigrated to Montreal, Canada that same year.

Scope and content of collection

The collection contains correspondence, identification papers, photographs, testimonies, and restitution claims documenting the experiences of Regina Gruber and Tuvia Sheres in Poland, Lithuania, and Italy during the Holocaust, and their post-war experiences in Italy prior to immigrating to Canada. Included are papers regarding their time as displaced persons in Bari, Italy; and their work with the Joint Distribution Committee; their immigration to Canada; testimonies; and restitution claims. The

restitution papers also reflect Regina's attempts to reclaim funds from a Swiss bank that her father had deposited before the war.

System of arrangement

The collection is arranged alphabetically as one series.

Indexing terms

Person:

Sheres, Tuvia, 1920-2002

Sheres, Regina Gruber, 1924-

Topical Subject:

Restitution and indemnification claims (1933-)

Holocaust Jewish (1939-1945)--Poland.

Testimonies.

Emigration & immigration--United States--1940-1950.

Partisan movement--Underground--Resistance.

Displaced persons camps.

Geography:

Lwów (Poland: Voivodeship)

Vilnius (Lithuania)

Bari (Italy)

Genre/Form:

Photographs.

CONTAINER LIST

Folder	Title
1	Gruber, Amalia and Aron: Death certificates, 1946-1947
2	Gruber, Aron: Financial documents, 1936; 1938
3	<i>Partisans of Vilna</i> film screening invitation, 1994
4	Restitution claims, 1947-1998
	Sheres, Regina:
5	Declaration of intention, 1950
6	Education papers, 1946; 1949
7	Identification papers, 1946-1951
8	Letter received, 1954
9	Photographs, 1943-circa 1947
10	Testimonies, 1945-1958
11	Sheres, Regina and Tuvia: Marriage certificate, 1949 [photocopy]
	Sheres, Tuvia:
12	American Joint Distribution Committee papers, 1949
13	Identification papers, 1948-1952
14	Technical Institute of Vilna certificate, 1949

15	Testimonies, 1956-1957
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