

KEUTER FAMILY PAPERS, 1941-1947
2016. 429.1

United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives
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Descriptive summary

Title: Keuter family papers

Dates: 1941-1947

Accession number: 2016. 429.1

Creator: Keuter (Family : The Hague, Netherlands)

Extent: 0.4 linear foot (4 folders)

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

Abstract: The Keuter family papers consist of letters written by Albert and Barend Klaas Keuter from the Oranje Hotel prison in Scheveningen, Netherlands, and smuggled to their family describing their arrests, conditions in prison, hunger, and solitude. The papers also include wartime records documenting restrictions on Dutch civilians under the Nazi occupation and the family's concerns for Albert and Barend; and postwar correspondence to Elizabeth Keuter conveying information about what happened to Albert and Barend in the Vught, Sachsenhausen, and Bergen Belsen concentration camps. Most of the documents are accompanied by annotated translations.

Languages: Dutch, 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), Keuter family papers (2016. 429.1), United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives, Washington, DC

Acquisition information: Karla Rizzuto donated the Keuter family papers to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in 2016 on behalf of the Keuter family.

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, November 2018

Biographical note

Albert Keuter, (1892-1944) was a Mennonite minister born in Blokzijl, Netherlands, to Barend and Wilhelmina Keuter. He married Elisabeth van der Lee in 1917, and they lived in the Hague with their five children: Barend Klaas (Jons, 1918-1944), Cornelia (Corrie, b. 1919), Elisabeth (Beppie, b. 1924), Willem (Wim, b. 1928), and Alberdina (Appie, b. 1936). Following the German occupation during World War II, the family was evicted from their home because the Germans were creating a combat zone (*Tankgracht*) in the area. Albert Keuter became involved in the Dutch resistance group *Ter Galestin*, not knowing that his oldest son, Barend, was also active in the resistance. Albert was arrested at a train station on January 5, 1944, and his son Willem witnessed the arrested because he was at the station to pick up his father. Barend was arrested shortly after, and both Albert and Barend were imprisoned in Scheveningen (the Oranje Hotel prison). They were transferred to Vught concentration camp on June 6, to the Sachsenhausen concentration camp on September 6, and to Bergen Belsen on February 5, 1945. Barend died at Bergen Belsen on March 5th and his father on March 10th.

Scope and content of collection

The Keuter family papers consist of letters written by Albert and Barend Klaas Keuter from the Oranje Hotel prison in Scheveningen, Netherlands, and smuggled to their family describing their arrests, conditions in prison, hunger, and solitude. The papers also include wartime records documenting restrictions on Dutch civilians under the Nazi occupation and the family's concerns for Albert and Barend; and postwar correspondence to Elizabeth Keuter conveying information about what happened to Albert and Barend in the Vught, Sachsenhausen, and Bergen Belsen concentration camps. Most of the documents are accompanied by annotated translations.

System of arrangement

The Keuter family papers are arranged as a single series.

Indexing terms

Vught (Concentration camp)
Sachsenhausen (Concentration camp)
Bergen Belsen (Concentration camp)

Concentration camp inmates--Netherlands--Correspondence.
World War, 1939-1945--Underground movements--Netherlands.

Netherlands--History--German occupation, 1940-1945.
Scheveningen (Netherlands)

Hague (Netherlands)

Correspondence.

CONTAINER LIST

Series 1: Keuter family papers, 1941-1947

Folder	Title
1 of 4	Keuter, Albert, correspondence from prison, 1944
2 of 4	Keuter, Barend Klaas (Jons), correspondence from prison, 1944
3 of 4	Wartime documents, 1941-1945
4 of 4	Postwar correspondence about Albert and Barend Keuter, 1945-1947