

HILDE ARON PAPERS, circa 1936-1975
2018.107.1

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

Title: Hilde Aron papers

Dates: circa 1936-1975

Accession number: 2018.107.1

Creator: Aron, Hilde, 1921-2002

Extent: 0.1 linear foot (3 folders)

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

Abstract: The Hilde Aron papers consist primarily of letters and postcards from Levi and Franziska Speier and their younger daughter Ursula in Guxhagen and Borken, Germany, to their older daughter, Hilde, who had immigrated to the United States in 1938. The letters describe Jewish holidays, the Speiers' need for more food, and their efforts to emigrate. Additional letters document the Speier family's deportation and murder and the whereabouts of other family members after the Holocaust. The papers also include loose postcards conveying greetings from Hilde's family and friends and the empty album that formerly housed the postcards.

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), Hilde Aron papers (2018.107.1), United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives, Washington, DC

Acquisition information: Dennis Aron donated the Hilde Aron papers to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in 2018.

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, October 2018

Biographical note

Hilde Aron (1921-2002) was born Brunhilde Speier to Levi (1885-1941) and Franziska (Fraenze, née Rosenbusch, 1893-1941) Speier, and she had one sister, Ursula (Ursel, 1924-1941). The Speier family was from Guxhagen, Germany, the Rosenbusch family was from Borken, Germany, and Frieda Rosenbusch Stern lived in Melsungen, Germany. Hilde trained to be a dental assistant in Hamburg and Kassel in the 1930s. At age 17, she left her family in Germany at the end of 1937 and arrived in the United States in early January 1938, along with her cousin Blanche, the daughter of her father's brother, Joel Speier. She lived with her Aunt Rickchen (her father's sister) and Uncle Joseph Heilbrunn and their three sons in Chicago. Blanche's father, Joel, his second wife, Malwine, and their son, Bruno, moved from Guxhagen to Berlin in 1940 and immigrated to the US via Barcelona in August 1941. Hilde's parents and sister expected to join her shortly in America but never received the necessary papers. They are believed to have been included on a transport from Frankfurt originally destined for Riga that was diverted to Kaunas Fort IX in November 1941 and shot upon arrival. Hilde's cousin, Julie (Ilse) (daughter of her mother's sister, Frieda), moved to Palestine with her husband, Heinz. Frieda was deported to Poland and perished in the Holocaust. Hilde's aunt Clara (her mother's other sister) left Germany for England with her husband Ernst by 1939 and immigrated to New York after the war. Hilde married Fred Aron (1921-2008) and had sons Dennis and Lester. Fred Aron was born in Immendorf, Germany to Sally (Samuel) Aron and Selma Wirth. He immigrated to the United States via Rotterdam with his parents, his brother, Lothar, and his grandmother, Karoline (Lena), in 1938 and settled in the Hyde Park neighborhood of Chicago. He served in the US Army in World War II.

Scope and content of collection

The Hilde Aron papers consist primarily of letters and postcards from Levi and Franziska Speier and their younger daughter Ursula in Guxhagen and Borken, Germany, to their older daughter, Hilde, who had immigrated to the United States in 1938. The letters describe Jewish holidays, the Speiers' need for more food, and their efforts to emigrate. Additional letters document the Speier family's deportation and murder and the whereabouts of other family members after the Holocaust. The papers also include loose postcards conveying greetings from Hilde's family and friends and the empty album that formerly housed the postcards.

System of arrangement

The Hilde Aron papers are arranged as a single series.

Indexing terms

Holocaust victims--Germany.
Jewish families--Germany--Correspondence.

Guxhagen (Germany)
Borken (Hesse, Germany)

Correspondence.
Postcards.

CONTAINER LIST

Series 1: Hilde Aron papers, approximately 1936-1975

Folder	
1 of 3	Correspondence, 1938-1939, 1946, 1956, 1975
2 of 3	Postcard album, postcards, approximately 1936-1942
3 of 3	Postcard album, empty album