

HILDE ARON PAPERS, circa 1936-1975
2018.107.1

United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives
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Washington, DC 20024-2126
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Translations

The following transcriptions and translations by Hans-Peter Klein and Dennis Aron are housed in the Museum's donor file.

Letters from Germany 1938 -39

Transcribed by Hans-Peter Klein

Translated by Dennis Aron

Introduction by Dennis Aron

November, 2010

Introduction

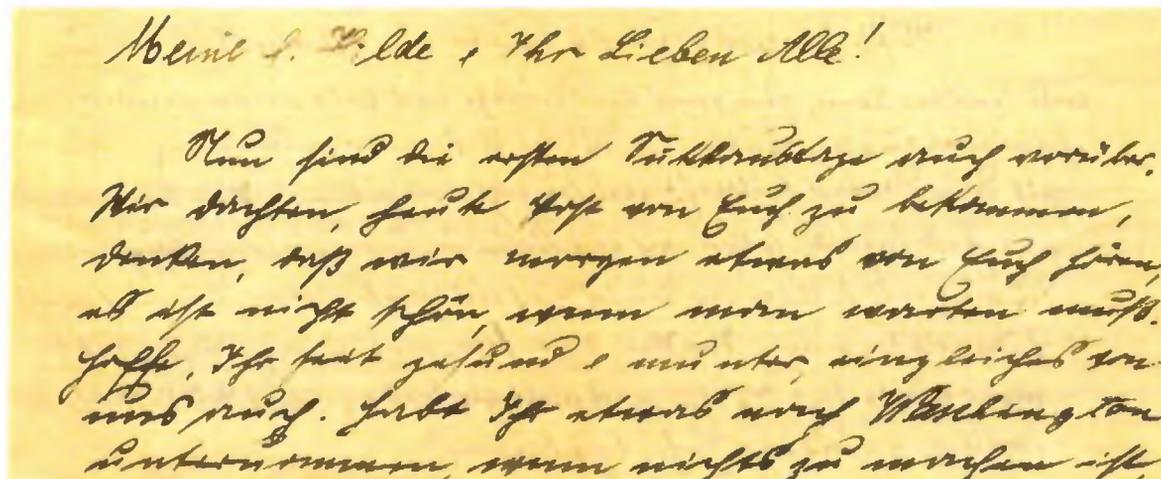
In 2002 after my mother, Hilde Speier Aron, died, I found a small red plaid stationery box among her effects. Inside were several handwritten letters in German folded in quarters. A quick look told me they were from her mother during 1938-39 and told me that I would probably not be able to emotionally handle their contents so I closed the box and put it away, not knowing if I would ever be able to handle the contents, but knowing that someday I would need to deal with them.

My dad had always discouraged my brother and I from asking mom about her family and Germany and she rarely mentioned her life there, so we knew little of it. The letters might have shared some light. What she did share was what she remembered of the names of family members and how they connected in quite abbreviated family trees. As far as we knew, her only living relatives were her Uncle Joseph Heilbrunn's family in Chicago, her Uncle Joel Speier's family, her Aunt Clara Rosenbusch Levi and her cousin Hilde Oppenheimer Dreyfus in New York and her cousin Ilse in Haifa Israel. She maintained contact with Clara and Ilse but had limited or no contact with the rest. As far as we knew these were the only survivors of her side of the family. It turns out she had and has many relatives all over the world and several in Chicago she didn't know or didn't mention.

In 2008 after my dad, Fred Aron died, I again found the red plaid box and decided it was time to open the time capsule and learn what I could from the letters. I discovered that they were written in what I came to learn is the old German script called Kurrent. Even with keys like the one to the right, the combination of my grandmother's handwriting and my poor high school German which made it very challenging to understand the context made it virtually impossible to read them, much less translate them.



A sample of one of the letters:



I eventually found an angel to help. In the course of my genealogical research, I discovered that Mark Gordon, husband of my second cousin Robin Heilbrunn Gordon with whom I had had no contact, had gotten fascinated with Robin's family trees and had been immersed in it for 35 years. He had been to Germany several times to search the archives and cemeteries and had a wealth of family information. In the course of his research he became friends with Hans-Peter Klein, a history teacher at a college in Hessen, the German state where my mother's family lived for centuries. Mark and Hans-Peter had a years long collaboration in researching these Hessen German families. Mark introduced me to Hans-Peter. I had started correspondence with him to get help in searching the parts of my mother's family that Mark had not addressed. Hans-Peter was remarkably helpful.

After I discovered that I could not read the letters I asked Hans-Peter if he knew anyone who could help. He immediately offered to transcribe the letters into a German that I could read and then translate. The pressures of his job and other commitments delayed his starting the project for over a year. Then, he sent transcriptions of the first 3 letters. A week later, the rest arrived. Here are the emails we traded:

-----Original Message-----

From: vera.pit.klein@t-online.de [mailto:vera.pit.klein@t-online.de]
Sent: Saturday, August 28, 2010 10:56 AM
To: Dennis Aron
Subject: RE: Letters from Borken

Dear Dennis,

here are the transcriptions of the other letters. I couldn't stop reading and writing when I've seen the first letters. All the letters together are a very moving story about, what you said, a long distance mothering, and about a desperate attempt to get a permit to leave Germany. It is a very rare and authentic document in terms of content and stylistically. When I read the letters I remembered the title of a book written by Halina Birenbaum, a shoa survivor: The hope dies at last (Die Hoffnung stirbt zuletzt.).

I suppose first of all the letters are personally documents of your family. But it is more and it will be a good idea to contribute them to the Holocaust Museum and put them up on a website. May be is there any possibility to publish them? If you agree I would like to give a copy to Breitenau Memorial in Guxhgen too. And I'm thinking about reading out the letters on a memorial day like 09.11. May I ask you if these letters are the only ones you have or do you have some more?

Best regards

Hans-Peter

-----Original Message-----

From: Dennis Aron
Sent: Wednesday, August 25, 2010 8:50 PM
To: vera.pit.klein@t-online.de [mailto:vera.pit.klein@t-online.de]
Subject: RE: Letters from Borken

Dear Hans-Peter,

You are a wonderful person. I can't begin to thank you enough.

I started to translate the first one first using Google Translate and then correcting it. It's not too difficult. But it has been and is likely to be emotional for me as I see her trying to do long distance mothering in the midst of 1930's Germany.

As you go through these letters, I will be interested in your thoughts as to what I should do with them. I'm concerned if I leave them in the family, they may not again see the light of day. I have thought about contributing them to the new Holocaust Museum in my town of Skokie IL and also about putting them up on the web to share them with others.

My best regards,

Dennis

-----Original Message-----

From: vera.pit.klein@t-online.de [mailto:vera.pit.klein@t-online.de]
Sent: Wednesday, August 25, 2010 11:11 AM
To: Dennis Aron
Subject: Letters from Borken

Dear Dennis,

at last I find time to transcribe the first three letters from Borken, you sent to me. It is very moving to read the letters and these are important and impressive documents of Jewish life in the 30th.

Next time more.

Best regards

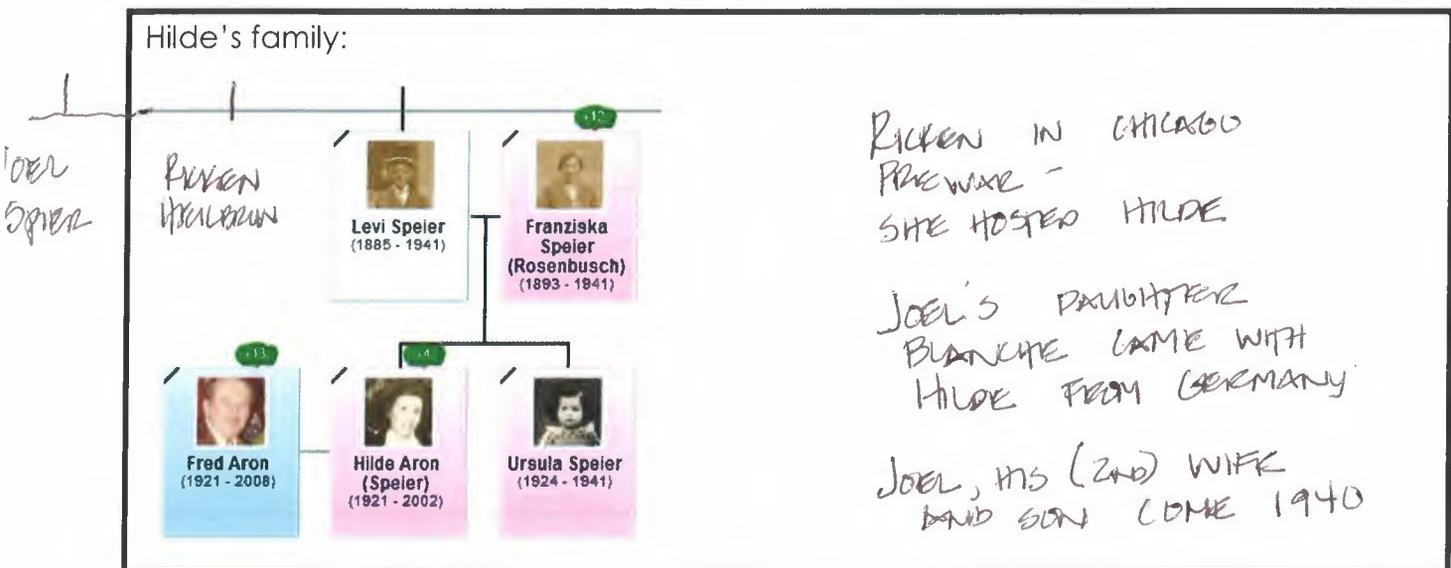
Hans-Peter

Background

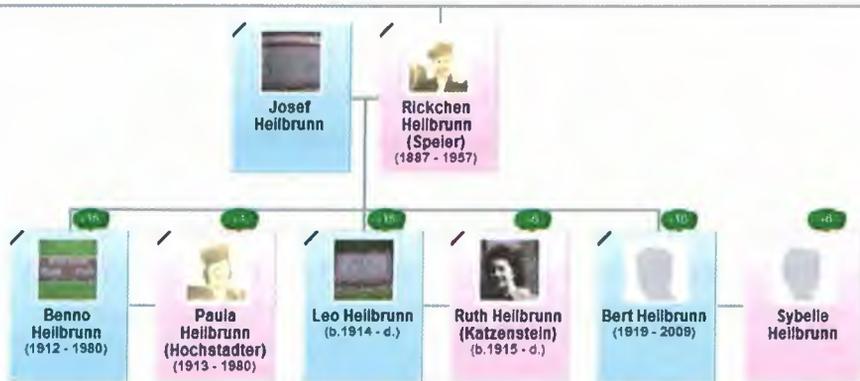
In early 1938 Hilde Speier, age 17, left her family in Borken Germany to come to live with her Aunt Rickchen and Uncle Joseph Heilbrunn and their three sons in Chicago. Hilde's parents, Levi and Franziska (Fraenze) and her sister Ursula (Ursel) were able to obtain only one permit to leave Germany at that time, but expected to leave as well. They never obtained permits. They were deported from Frankfurt to Kowno (Kaunas) Death Camp in Lithuania on November 22, 1941 and perished there 3 days later.

What follows after some information on the families mentioned, are a series of letters that Hilde and the Heilbrunns received in 1938 and 1939, primarily from Hilde's parents and sister. They start with a letter from Fraenze shortly after Hilde arrived in Chicago and end 13 months with a birthday card from Ursel. We have no other correspondence during this period or after.

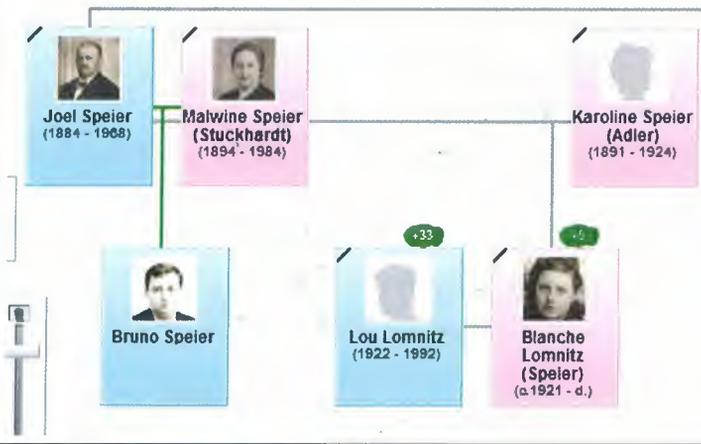
The families mentioned in the letters:



The Heilbrunn host family in Chicago. Rickchen was Levi's sister

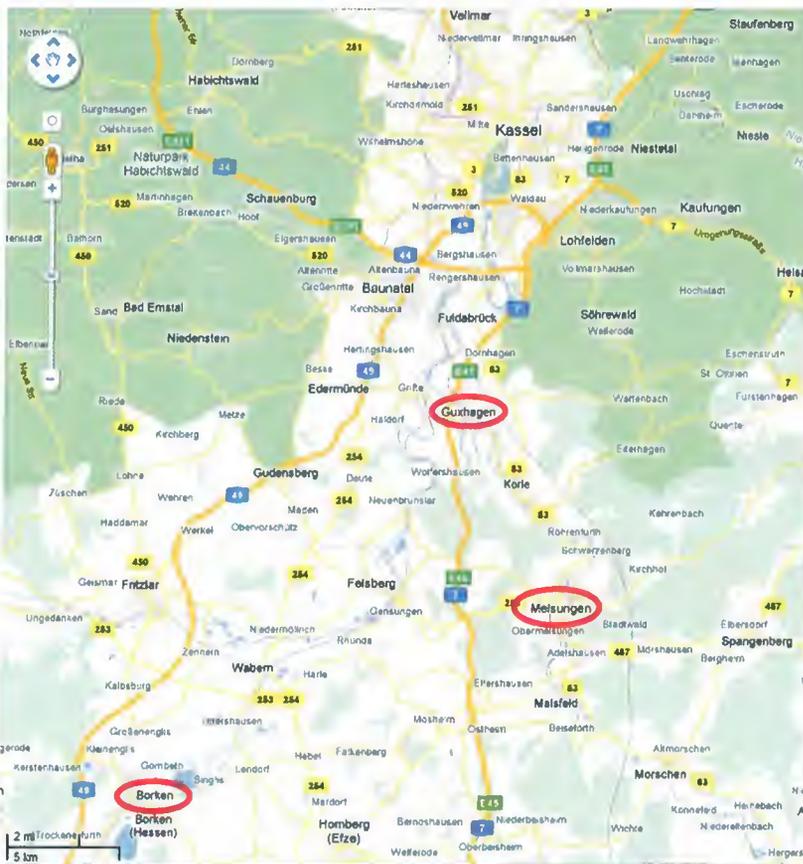
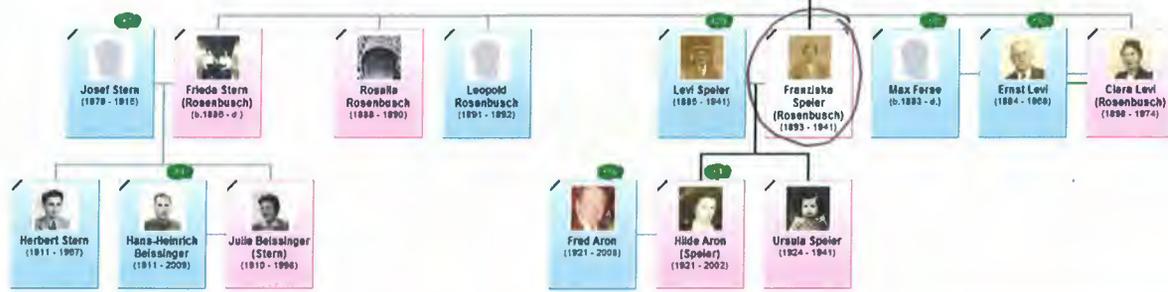


Joel Speier was Levi and Rickchen's brother. Blanche (Blanka) came to the United States on ship with her cousin Hilde Speier. Joel, Malwine and Bruno moved from their home in Guxhagen, Germany to Berlin in 1940 and were able to obtain permits to leave for the United States from Barcelona in July or August of 1941.:



Fraenze and her sisters Frieda and Clara were very close. Frieda's children Julie (Ilse) and Herbert are mentioned in the letters. Clara wrote a note on one of them. Frieda was lost in the Holocaust. Clara and her husband Ernst left Germany for England by 1939 and then to New York after the war. Ilse, her husband Heinz and her brother Herbert moved to what was then Palestine in the early 1930's after Hitler took power.

Hildegard's mother



For frame of reference, Kassel, at the top center of the map is about 100 miles NNE of Frankfurt.

Borken is the ancestral home of the Rosenbusch family.

Guxhagen is the ancestral home of the Speier family.

Melsungen was the home of Frieda Rosenbusch Stern.

The Letters

Borken, March 20, 1938 [Sunday]

My dear little Hilde and dear ones all!

Yesterday morning we received your kind letter and dear Hilde you did write. You were so disappointed last week that you only received one card from us but now you have a longer letter. How is the Purim celebration going? And dear Aunt Rickchen wrote that you have no desire to dance -- but that I cannot understand. Here you gladly danced so much and always pestered me that I should dance with you. If you cannot learn it, then take dancing lessons. You're still so young and don't want to go to the Dance. One will only always be cheerful and jolly, if one is healthy and can dance.

I always speak of you that you have such fun. You and Rickchen take care that dear Hilde attends the dance class, a young girl must know how to move. If you work all week, you must have a change. Dear Hilde, I have already started preparations for Pesach, but am not ready yet. First thing tomorrow we want to go and work in the garden. Ursel brought in the first violets this morning and wants to put them in the letter. But please write soon to Erfurt and Melsungen. You know Uncle Ernst is always pleased when he hears something. Ilse writes G. (?) and well.

Herbert will soon go probably to Melsungen. If it works, tomorrow they sell their house and Aunt Frieda then moves to Kassel. Hugo Moses goes on 23 March to Stuttgart, coming, not to Chicago but to New York, for the cousin who has guaranteed him wants him to go there. The Katzes go on April 9 to the ship, are otherwise done with everything as far as possible, so they leave one by one.

Dear Hilde, have you otherwise met no friends; was it a German girl that you went to the movies with? Martin Blum will be Bar Mitzvah on Saturday in 8 days. He wants to become an optician. What else are you doing? Hopefully you get the letter promptly. We usually write by this time on Saturday evening, but we had a visit till 10 clock and then we were tired. Ursel and I took a very long walk yesterday. It was beautiful weather and Ursel has yet no companions and then we were doubly tired. Regarding the dancing class, dear Hilde write us now your thoughts and if one still cannot dance properly, one need not be ashamed. Everything is new at first. Dear Josef we have missed your lines, why did not you write? I now will close, because the letter should be mailed. Be warmly greeted and kissed by your loving mama and your Fraenze.

Dear mother wrote everything, so only the most cordial greetings and kiss, your Ursel.

Also from me, receive all of the heartfelt greetings and kisses from your loving papa
and your Levi

Borcken, October 12, 1938

My dear Hilde, and all of you dear ones!

Now the first days of October are over. We thought we would get mail from you today, think tomorrow we hear something from you. It is not pretty, if you have to wait. Hope you been hale and hearty, and the same for us. Have you attempted anything in Washington, if nothing can be done, then, dear Hilde, still make a petition and beg that your parents and teenage sister still want to be there. Here now is bad weather, last week was very stormy. Abraham Appell and wife today are now aboard ship. Noone can be missing in the synagogue, otherwise there is no minyan. We would have gladly gone to Melsungen for the holidays, but have stayed here for that reason. Today we harvested our vegetables in the garden, other than that we have nothing more to do in the garden. What have you all done for the holidays? Surely you have also made friends in the synagogue. After the holidays I want to go to Kassel to buy various things. This evening I am lazy about letter-writing so I must close. Be warmly greeted and kissed 1000 times by your loving you mama and your Fraenz.

Warm greetings and kisses, your Ursel.

My dear Hilde and your loved ones all!

Hope you are hale and hearty, we can, praise God report the same. Now the holidays will soon be over again, hopefully all for the good. And Joel, praise God is again in order. How is your work and Josef? Do you have much to do now? We now learn quick English, but it goes badly into our old heads. Dear Hilde, you'll probably not be much aware of Yontif. You will probably have to work on Sukkot. We also had a letter from Hugo Moses, who wrote that, you have not written him yet. Dear Hilde, did you not write to Erfurt for Rosh Hashona?

For today the heart-felt greetings and kisses from your you loving Papa and your Levi

Borken, October 18, 1938

My dear Hilde and all of you dear ones!

Your dear letter of 29 Sep was received last Friday and the one from 4 Oct was received yesterday. A heartfelt thanks for your congratulations and wishes. The holiday is then over, it's about everything and that's nice too. Dear Hilde, you wrote if I knew an Amalie Cohn? Where is she here, I can not remember, only an Amanda Cohn from Kadernberg near Essen, who was here visiting with Liebmann Kaufmann and was related to Adele Kaufmann's first husband, where Liesel Kaufmann had lived. Liesel Kaufmann is now also here, she gets her papers for America. Your cold weather, dear Rickchen will probably be gone again. Here it is now not at all cold. You dear Hilde want to know if we have to dig up the garden yet, we have now harvested, all the rest the owner does; I have now no interest more for it because both the time and my energies are too precious. Through the rest that I now have, I have also once again become thicker. I have asked several times how many volts in the electric light you have in Chicago. I wanted to set my iron on it. But please write it again. Herbert writes very well. It is still undetermined when Aunt Frieda goes. Uncle Ernst's birthday is tomorrow. Otherwise we are content, hope the same for you dears as well. So for now all be greeted warmly and kissed by your loving you mother and your Fraenz.

Cordial greetings and kisses your Ursel.

My dear Hilde and your loved ones all!

Thank you for your congratulations and wishes, I hope they will be fulfilled. As you write, you want to receive a letter; one should not have to wait so long: after four months Stuttgart sent the guarantee on 29 August by registered mail and it was invalid. So if you want to do it, then please do it soon and also follow the rules, otherwise we have to have a new guarantee again later. For today, the cordial greetings and kisses from your loving you dad and your Levi .

Guxhagen, October 19, 1938

My dears!

We have received your letter on Rosh Hashanah and your health [*wishes?*]... . Thank God that we can also say the same that I am feeling better and started working again this week; I received the money last week from Berlin and say my best thanks, I'll fulfill your wish and will only buy things as needed. Blanka¹ has again gathered meat for us, but only got one pound of sausage and meat for a week, this is somewhat little when it [has to feed?] five and you could us from time to time send a small parcel with sausage or beef, which may not, however, weigh a pound including the packaging and you have to label it as a gift. We have not yet got the papers, waiting on them every day. Have you already sent them there? You [*should?*] have securely sent it to us and not to Stuttgart. A number we have from [*the lottery?*]... .. But it is very high and if it goes past, it may take another two years before we have a turn in Stuttgart. Have you heard if there is anything you can do from there that we can have an earlier turn in Stuttgart. Hopefully you've celebrated the Yontif well, which was also the case with us. Receive the warmest greetings for today. Many greetings to the boys and their dear mother. Your Joel²

My dears! I hope that you received our letter in full health. You have surely spent the holy days very well, was your dear mother able to fast on Yom Kippur? Joel has also fasted quite well for Yom Kippur, although he did feel weak, now, thank God it's better. Since last week Joel is back to work, but we both always fight about the breakfast. Joel does not always eat a good breakfast... what I give to him; an entire Challah for maybe 3-4 men who do not go to the heavy work; you would be amazed about it. Uncle Scholem spent Rosh Hashanah with us, but left again. We would have liked him to stay longer. Dear Rickchen, your friend Bertha Fraenkel, was here the day before yesterday; probably in mid-November she will go to the nursing home at Gailling in Baden. It is a great luck for her that she can be taken on there, for she can no longer care for herself because she sees very badly. On Kol Nidrei Mrs. Koppel Speier died³, Hermann⁴ moved to Kassel. Julius Steindler moves in the coming weeks to Kassel. So the community is getting smaller and smaller, Berthold Lichtenstein will

¹ Joel's daughter by his first wife Caroline. Blanka traveled with Hilde on the same ship to the United States.

² Joel was the brother of Levi Speier and Rickchen Speier Heilbrunn. Malwine was his wife, Bruno, their 11 year old son. They left Germany in 1941 by way of Barcelona.

³ Kol Nidrei was 5 Oct 1938; she is recorded as dying on 7 Oct 1938

⁴ Hermann was the son of Koppel Speier

probably not live here much longer, will probably also move away. Also, I tell you again thank you for the money you sent. Joel will use it as you had in mind. Thus, for today, hearty greetings. your Malwine

Greet the children and Hilde often from me.

Bruno sends many greetings.

Borken, October 25, 1938

My dear Hilde, and all you dears!

We wait once again in vain for a letter from you. Hope you are alive and well, thank God we are healthy. It's getting cold, one can already tolerate well a warm room. This morning I cleaned our stove, I hope I do not need to clean it again before we would have our summons. Did you get the letter? As we hear, all the papers come back from Stuttgart, kept with the notes to the summons. Our papers they have kept there. Now, if perhaps a letter from you once again goes to Stuttgart, then maybe we would soon get our summons. Last week Ursel and I were in Kassel, I had some work done to my teeth and Ursel got a pair of shoes, she grows out of everything. Dear Hilde if you came to Hamburg, you should get a house dress from Blum's, which Ursel had arranged, but really very pretty. If only we had the opportunity for Ursel to learn sewing, she really has real style, but I know nothing of that. She should also make a jacket, because if she makes herself nothing, she learns nothing. Liesel Kaufmann is now here. She altered a hat for me, very beautiful, she has the knack. On Saturday we had Jahrzeit for Mama of blessed memory, it is already two years. The time passes quickly. I suppose we get news from you tomorrow. I know nothing to write more, so for today be warmly greeted and kissed by your loving you mother and your Fraenz.

Cordial greetings and kisses your Ursel

Cordial greetings and kisses from your loving you Papa and your Levi.

Erfurt, December 14, 1938

My dearest Hilde, dear all!

Today is Wednesday and, besides the telegram from dear Benno on Saturday, we have been 8 days with no mail from you and you may surely think that I longingly wait. Sometimes I am despairing and do not know what to do. We still have not heard anything from Stuttgart. You will receive our telegram, the answer to Benno's telegram, and you will understand. I had also written to you a more detailed airmail letter. Do what you can do for us, I implore you not to be in vain and I think and hope it is also destined that you do your duty, so we can get away as fast as we possibly can. In the meanwhile you will probably also get a letter from Herbert and Ilse in Eretz, as yesterday we had a letter from them. Dear Joseph and dear Benno, you asked, what you can do for us and let us not wait so long for an answer. So do what is in your power. I know nothing else to write to you and wait greatly for mail from you. And thousand hearty greetings and kisses from your you loving mom and your Fraenz.

My dears!

I hope that you dear ones meet the the request of the dear Mama. You can not think, how we wait for a response from you. Preparations have started for me to go to England, Holland and also Eretz⁵ and Ilse wrote that she wanted to take me. I can go with a children's transport to Holland and England. What they offer first, then I'm going. I prefer going with the loved ones to you. You must without fail see to it that we come to you. Above all, see to it that the dear dad is able to get away first⁶. More the heartiest greetings and kisses. your Ursel

My dears!

I thank you sincerely that you send us the affidavit, I hope all is soon ready so that we can get away. It's fabulous of you that you have endeavored for us; may dear G-d be inclined to reward you. Now see to it that dear Levi has most rapid way to go. Again, heartfelt thanks and all the best, many cordial greetings and kisses.

Your Clara

⁵ Eretz Israel or at that time, Palestine

⁶ He may have been ill or injured and unable to travel

Borken, February 7, 1939

My dear Hilde and your loved ones all!

Your dear letter was received from Erfurt⁷. Mr. S. has responded to us. Dear Levi is out of town for that very reason, but is still not back. In order that you are not without mail from us, I write only this card; when Levi comes back, we write a detailed letter to you immediately. Otherwise, we are healthy, hope the same of you and my dears too. Many warm greetings and kisses, your loving mother and your Franze

Greetings and kisses your Ursel

⁷ Clara Levi, Fraenze's sister in Erfurt, may have forwarded a letter she received or one that was sent there to Fraenze, Levi and Ursel

Borken, February 21, 1939

My dear Hilde and all your loved ones!

I received your kind letter of Jan 31 and see that you have sent a telegram to London. We had also a form here, a copy of that which they have sent you. Just think that you dears have finished off everything so that dear Levi can go. We also had mail from New York, Hugo⁸ writes that he again has work, that it is also good. We hear here that children can ask their parents to delay; you should inquire about that, as you did with the first, as it will probably go again by number, and arrange everything so that nothing is missed, for Ursel and I want to be gone soon. Ruth Appel wrote 14 days ago from New York, that they heard on the radio, maybe you've already heard it, too. You wrote that there is very high snow, here is nice weather. Is it also very cold there? What else are you doing? Here it is very boring, you have no social life, prudent people don't come out.

It is time that we can do our house work. . We do what we can do. Today I know really nothing special to write. Praise God we are healthy and we hope the same of you. Farewell for today and receive 1000 warm greetings and kisses from your Fraenze and your loving you mom.

The warmest of greetings and kisses from your you loving Papa and your Levi.

Cordial greetings and kisses, your Ursel

⁸ This is probably Hugo Moses who was referenced in prior letters.

Borken, March 5, 1939

My dear Hilde and your loved ones all!

Your kind letter of Feb 21 was received yesterday and it is incomprehensible to us that you have not received the letter from London, from your Tepesche⁹. On Feb 4 we had already received an answer from your Tepesche of London, a copy of which we sent you last week. But they wrote us that they have also sent the same to you. Should you have not received it, which we hope not, write immediately and handle everything so that we finally get to the goal. Many have already left for London. The teacher, who was earlier in Bebra and is now perhaps five weeks in London, has already received his summons to the consul, through his wife, who lives in Wiesbaden, and will soon be off to America. Only see to it that all is in order, then we will be with you soon, God willing. You dear Hilde wrote, if we had not heard from Stuttgart, if there is no expediting, we will hear from here in two years time. Erich Nussbaum sees to it that his father comes to London, Minna also goes to London. Last week I had written you that you should still ask the HIAS to arrange a Kindertransport for Ursel from here; please see to it that succeeds. Today is Purim, Levi read the Megillah to Ursel and me, we have otherwise done nothing related. Why didn't the young couple¹⁰ write me not once; we wrote them weeks ago. How's your grandma¹¹? You have snow, as you wrote, and here, for weeks already, is the most beautiful spring weather. You always want to be outside. Otherwise we are healthy. Hope you are also the same my dears. For today be greeted warmly and many times kissed by your loving you mother and your Fraenz.

Cordial greetings and kisses your Ursel

Also from me the warmest greetings and kisses from your loving Levi and your loving you Papa.

⁹ This might be a surname

¹⁰ Probably Benno and Paula Heilbrunn, married in December, 1938.

¹¹ Probably referring to Sophie Heilbrunn, mother of Joseph

Birthday card
Miss Hilde Speier
c/o Joseph Heilbrunn
6232 S. St. Lawrence Ave
Chicago (Ill.)
America USA

Postmark: Borken April 10, 1939

My dear Hildchen!

I warmly congratulate you, my dear sister, for your birthday and I wish you all the best, above all, that we can be together soon. I promise that I will never again scratch and kick you. – I see from your letter this morning that you have won the table tennis championship, for which I congratulate you and wish you that you always continue to swing upward. I wish all this to you from my heart, my dear birthday child. Your sister Ursel.

The loving parents greet.



Heartfelt greetings on your
birthday

Postcards

This is signed by Julie who maybe Ilse Stern Beissinger. She went by both names. F. Rosenbusch may be my grandmother Franziska Rosenbusch Speier. I don't know who the baby is.

27435
 53
 0922
 1380.44
 865
 598
 280
 CORN
 21
 2
 7
 8
 28
 12
 865
 06
 100
 308
 Julie
 F. Rosenbusch II
 F. Rosen
 Rosen.
 K. L. Schatz's Kind und beim besten
 Wohlsein, wüßte ich nicht. (Mittwoch)
 Einmal meine Sprößling & wann befrucht
 die L. tante und einmal 2.
 Herzliche Grüße von mir und von
 zu dem besten. Mein geliebtes Kind
 lieben & wie viel ich dich liebe mit
 Anbitten. Liebe ich dich & alle
 noch einmal ich dich & alle
 Kinder. Mein geliebtes Kind
 & frage. Wie ich dich liebe
 sendet dir Julie





H. d.

Hilde Spitzer

bei Dr. med. von Wochow

Landsberg

Grindelberg 47

Photo-Kunst Fritz Stoffregen, Halbe, Krs. Teltow

Liebe Hilde!

Wie geht's? Hier ist es wunderschön
Schön ohne mich mal 4 Wochen nicht!
Die 54 Jungen u. Mädchen müssen feste
arbeiten. Was macht Mueschi? Ich
mache den ganzen Tag u. habe viel
Glück mit dem Wetter. Gibt es was
neues? Schreiben tue ich mich gut.
Viele Grüße, auch an Mueschi u. gut'le
Deine Klara Sue.



Halbe, Krs. Teltow — Teilansicht.

Höhenluftkurort Oberhof i. Thür.
(825 m ü. d. M.)

Blick vom Hotel Wünscher nach dem Schneekopf



Meine H. Liese! Frau
Danke für Deine H. Karte
und die guten Wünsche. Ich
bin seit Samstag in Erfurt
und sind heute hier, denn
ich bin die letzte Gruppe
& Gruppe wurde Frau
Für Frau Doktor Guste Clara
besonders Gruppe und ich schreibe
ihnen noch.

Die meine Onkel
besten prof. Gruppe Gott

Thüringer Kunstverlag Rudolf Bechstein,
Sitzendorf, Schwarzatal,
Nr. 682 II.

Frau
Frau Liese Speier
H. H. von Wittmann
Hamburg 13
Grüßung 72



Oberhof (Thür. Wald) 825 m ü. M. Blick n. d. Schneekopf

Körsel, den 12. 11.

Liebe Hilole!

Will Dir nur schnell vor
Schmerzen fern bleiben.
Bin hier gut angekommen mein
Eltern haben sich sehr gefreut.
Aber vor ich die ganz tolle
Woche noch besser geht geht
es mir wieder ganz gut. Wir
kommen nächste Woche Montag
wieder. Für heute viel ich schön
Grüße Dr. Winkler und
sei auch Du vielmal
gesegnet von Deiner
Lina.

Kaufhaber!
Kraftfahrer!
Freie Schneider!



Hilole Speier
bei Dr. Winkler

Gömburg.
Grindelberg 14.

7742/4515 Echte Photographie



Wilhelmshöhe. Herkules.

Kupferstatue von Antoni und Küper. 1717 vollendet. 57 Ztr. schwer.
Riesenschloß, erbaut von Landgraf Karl von Hessen 1701 bis 1714 durch
Guernieri, 600 m u. M. Figur 10 m, Pyramide 30 m, 812 Treppenstufen.
Ganzes Gebäude mit Figur 80 m hoch. Höhe der Figur 9,25 m.
Schulterbreite 3 m

Nr. 61746 Arno Weirich, Papierhandlung, Eisenach
 Eisenach, 6. III. 96

Liebe Hilde!
 Ich sende dir von Eisenach so
 Clara's Grustholzzeit ist die
 besten Grust
 Liebe Hilde
 ist hier zur Beaufichtigung
 geht nach. hier. Grust
 an Hilde Adm. Grust
 Grust Grust mit Grust S. M. Grust
 Liebe Hilde! Mit sehr
 an Grust Grust Grust Grust

Herbert
 Buscha

Frankfurter Eisen
 P. H. Herr J. und H. H. H. H.
 Hamburg 13
 Grindelberg 77



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The WASHINGTON of the United States Line
regular service to and from New York, Ireland
France and Germany. The Washington and her
the mighty Manhattan, are the largest and fu
ever built in America.

SEA
5 07
1937
WASHINGTON



RD

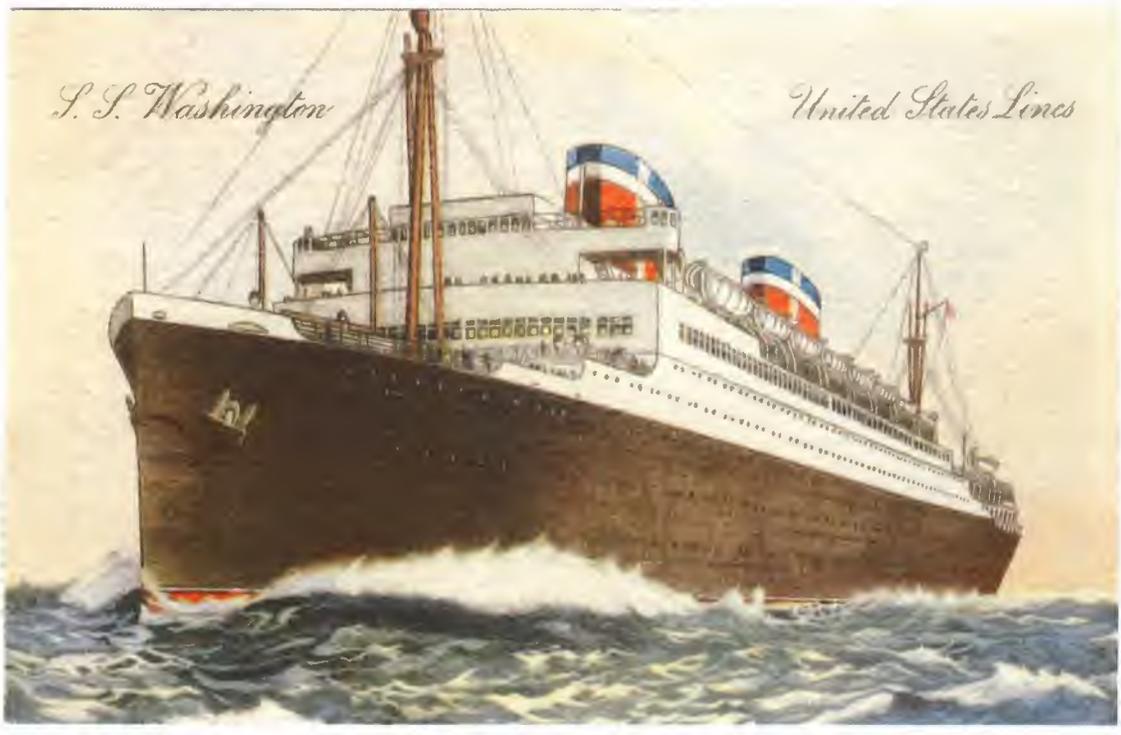
Germoinia



ADDRESS

Sister Gile...
ich schon seit... und hoch
Mich noch mehr für dein schön
Adressen gemacht...
besten Wunsch so ist sehr schön. Gestern
wieder von der... und...
heute kommen wir noch...
und... sehr...
meine...
stimm...
habe...
heute...
und...
und...
und...

Frl.
Gile Spiel bei L. Speyer
Brorjen
By Adress





Bad Dürrenheim (Schwarzwald), Friedrich-Luisen-Hospiz



Internationale
Leipziger Messe



20. VIII 2. K.

1934

Gilde Spengler u. Dr. Senz

Dassel

Gohringgollerstr. 23

— Nr. 6425. Photo Hartz. Verlag: Hans Andres, Hamburg 1 —

Liebe Gilde!

Entschuldigt bitte, dass ich heute erst schreibe, als ich endlich vor lauter Vergnügen und Famil. sein kein Zeit. Hier in Hamburg ist es fabelhaft; ich habe sehr viel gesehen. Wenn sich das Wetter heilt, fahren wir heute Mittag mit dem Wagen nach Travemünde an die Ostsee. Der Preis wird natürlich sehr. Vorige Woche war ich im Altpalast, Osterparillen u. s. w. Nächste Woche kann ich Dir alles erzählt denn Montag komme ich voraussichtlich wieder. Goffentlich war es auch in Dassel nicht so entzetzlich langweilig. Auf Wiedersehen in ein paar Tagen; herzl. Grüsse auch für Familie auch Deine
Lieselotte.



Hamburg

Blick auf Hafen und Stadt

Oberhof i Thür.
 H. 2. 10. 32.
 meine liebe K. Lilla! Probier
 du so wenig zu schreiben
 dich selbst du bist so lieb
 auch mal wieder etwas von
 uns hören. Wie geht es dir?
 Die Feiertage bist du ja zu
 Hause in Polen. Was machst
 du in deiner freien Zeit?
 Hast du heute noch mal gepro-
 bier? Halbgarten und die kleinen
 waren hier bei ihren Eltern.
 Gern's sind noch hier und
 Nina laßt auch mal von dir
 hören. Gute Nacht!



Frau Lilla
 Herr Dr. med. Lexia
 Kassel
 Hohenollmstr. 23



Oberhof i. Thür., 830 m ü. d. M.
 Höhenluftkurort u. Wintersportplatz

Orig. - Fliegeraufnahme 94059

Transcriptions of the postcards

No. 1 :

Wwe.
F. Rosenbusch II
Borken Hessen

Poststempel: 19.8.
COR..
*(The next letter could
B, P, R, may be
CORBACH ?)*

Meine Lieben. Schaetze Euch noch beim besten
Wohlsein, ein gleiches von uns. Wie gefaellt
Euch unser Sproessling ? Wann besucht
die liebe Tante uns einmal ?
Herzliche Gruesse von meiner Frau sowie
von Eurem Adolf. Wie geht's Euch
Lieben & und wird die liebe Schwester weiter
arbeiten. Besuche uns doch, liebe Schwester,
mal unbedingt, auch ihr beiden
Kinder. Wie gefaellt Euch unser
lieber Junge. Viele herzliche Gruesse
sendet Euch Julie

*May be you can find more about the baby, when you have the names Adolf and his wife and
the connections to the relatives "aunt", "sister" "both children" .*

*Given that Hilde had it and it was addressed to F. Rosenbusch and that Hilde's mother
Franziska was younger than her sister Frieda, it seems likely it was addressed to her. Julius
Loewenstern had a brother Adolf. There is a timing problem. Julius son was born in Wanne,
in 1908 while Fried and Franziska were probably unmarried and addressable as Rosenbusch.
But the picture was taken by a photographer in Corbach and it appears the card was mailed
from Corbach. That would point to Adolf's son who was born in 1924 and would be
consistent with Frieda having 2 children, but already married and supposedly using her
married name. In addition, Frieda lived in Melsungen, not Borken. Also, the Rosenbusch girls
were not siblings but cousins of the Loewensterns, so they were technically not Aunts' So it
appears it was not Julius and/or Adolf Lowenstern who wrote the letter.*

*My loved ones. Appreciate you, or to the best
Well-being, and the same of us. What do
You our offspring? When visited
the dear aunt us again?
Cordial greetings from my wife and
from your Adolf. How are you
Love & and the dear sister more
. work Visit us, dear sister,
times necessarily, including her two
Children. How do you like our
dear boy. Many cordial greetings
Julie sends you*

No. 2 :

Frl. Hilde Speier
im Haus Herrn Dr. Wertheimer
Hamburg 13
Grindelberg 77

Liebe Hilde !
Die Chawerim des Bundes gratulieren
herzlich !

Borken, den 19.4.36

	Ruth Appel
Helmut Katz	Ursel
Margot Blum	
Werner Katz	
Otto Katz	Inge Rosenbusch
Manfred Heiser	Minna Nussbaum

Love Hilde! Borken, the 19.4.36
The chaverim congratulate the Federal
welcome!

No. 3 :

Frl.
Hilde Speyer
bei Dr. med. Max Wertheimer
Hamburg
Grindelberg 47
Lieb Hilde !
Wie geht's ? Hier ist es wunderschoen.
Schoen, ohne mich mal 4 Wochen, nicht ?
Die 54 Jungens und Maedels muessen feste
arbeiten. Was macht Muschi ? Ich
radele den ganze Tag und habe viel
Glueck mit dem Wetter. Gibt es was
neues ? Erholen tue ich mich gut.
Viele Gruesse, auch an Muschi und gut s l (?)
Dein Heinz Luz

Poststempel: Halbe
31.7.

Love Hilde!
How are you? Here it is very beautiful.
Schoen, without me by 4 weeks, no?
The 54 boys and girls have to fixed
. work What does pussy? I
radel the whole day and have a lot of
Lucky with the weather. Is there anything
new? Relax, I'm doing me good.
Best regards, also to good pussy and s l (?)
Your Heinz Luz

No. 4 :

Fraeulein Hilde Speier

Poststempel: Oberhof (Thuringen)

im Haus Dr. Max Wertheimer
Hamburg 13
Grindelberg 77

29.9.36

Meine liebe Hilde ! Vielen
Dank fuer Deine liebe Karte
und die guten Wuensche. Ich
bin seit Sonntag in Erfurt
und sind heute hier, von wo
ich dir die herzlichsten Gruesse
und Kuesse sende Deine
 Tante Klara

Fuer Frau Doktor
besondere Gruesse und ich schreibe ihr noch.
Dein neuer Onkel
sendet herzliche Gruesse
 Ernst

My dear Hilda! Many
Thanks for your lovely card
and the good wishes. I
have been a Sunday in Erfurt
and are here today, from where
I you the warmest greetings
Kisses and send your
 Aunt Clara

For Mrs. Dr.
special greetings and I still write to her.
Your new uncle
sends warm greetings
 Ernst

No. 5 :

Frl.
Hilde Speier
bei Dr. Wertheimer
Hamburg
Grindelberg 77

Liebe Hilde !
Will Dir nur schnell vor
Schabbes kurz schreiben.
Bin hier gut angekommen. Meine
Eltern haben sich sehr gefreut.
Leider war ich die ganze vorige
Woche stark heiser. Jetzt geht
es mir wieder ganz gut. Wir
kommen naechste Woche Montag
wieder. Fuer heute will ich schliessen.
Gruesse Dr. Wertheimer und
sei auch Du vielmals

Kassel, den 13.11.

gegruesst von Deiner Dina

Love Hilde! Kassel, 13.11.
Will you just fast forward
Sabbath write short.
Arrived here well. My
Parents are very happy.
Unfortunately, I was the whole last
Weeks hoarse strong. Now go
I am feeling fine again. We
come next week Monday
again. For today I will close.
Regards Dr. Wertheimer and
You should also very much
greetings from your Dina

No. 6 :

Fraeulein Hilde Speier
... Herrn Dr. med. Wertheimer
Hamburg 13
Grindelberg 77

Liebe Hilde !
Ich sende Dir von Eisenach, wo
Clara und Ernst' s Hochzeit ist, die
besten Gruesse Herbert.
Liebe Hilde
ich bin zur Beaufsichtigung
auch mit. Herzliche Gruesse
 Frau Rothschild.

Eisenach, 6.III.36

Liebe Hilde,
Herzliche Gruesse und Kuesse deine liebe Frieda.
Liebe Hilde ! Wir alle denken
an Dich. Gruss und Kuss Deine Mama

On the front of the postcard:
Herzliche Gruesse Onkel Ernst
Herzliche Gruesee Deine Tante Clara.

Love Hilde! Eisenach, 6.III.36
I am sending from Eisenach, where
Clara and Ernst 's wedding, the
best regards.
Dear Hilde
I am to oversee
with. Cordial greetings
 Mrs. Rothschild.

Dear Hilde,
Cordial greetings and kisses love your Frieda.
Love Hilde! We all think
to you. Greetings and Kiss Your Mama

On the front of the postcard:
Cordial greetings uncle Ernst
Cordial Gruesee your Aunt Clara.

No. 7 :

Fraeulein Hilde Speier
... Herrn Dr. med. Wertheimer
Hamburg 13
Grindelberg 77

Liebe Hilde ! Unsere Karte von
Eisenach aus wirst Du wohl er-
halten haben. Wir sind hier und
wollen auch noch einige Tage blei-
ben bei dem herrlichen Wetter.
Nach Hamburg kommen wir dies
mal nicht, denn der lb. Ernst
hat erst die Grippe gehabt und
wollen wir die weite Fahrt nicht
machen. Du darfst uns mal
ausfuhrlich schreiben. Die Adresse
hast Du ja. Recdht herzliche Gruesse und
Kuesse von Deiner Tante Clara
Es gruesst Onkel Ernst.

Baden-Baden, 10.12.36

Miss Hilde Speier
... Dr. med Wertheimer
Hamburg 13
Grindelberg 77

Love Hilde! Our map of Baden-Baden, 10:12:36
You probably will Eisenach from it-
have observed. We are here and
also want a few more days remain
ben at the glorious weather.
After Hamburg, we get this
times not because of the pound. Ernst
has just had the flu and
we do not want the long journey
. make You are allowed to times
detailed letter. The address
have you could. Recdht cordial greetings and
Kisses from your Aunt Clara
It salutes Uncle Ernst.

No. 8 :

Frl.
Hilde Speier bei L. Speier
Borgen

Poststempel: May, 20
5 p.m.
1937

Bz. Kassel

S.S. Washington

Liebe Hilde, nun schwimme
ich schon seit 3/9 (?) Tagen und habe
mich noch nicht fuer Dein schoenes
Abschiedsgeschenk bedankt. Also
besten Dank. Es ist sehr schoen. Gestern
waren wir in Learore (?) und Sartpenien(?),
heute kommen wir nach Irland
und haben sehr schlechtes Wetter.
Meine Schrift musst du entschul-
digen, aber es schaukelt sehr. Des-
halb will ich auch schliessen. Fuer
heute Schluss. Gruess Deine lieben Eltern
und sei auch du vielmals
gegruesst von Deiner Dina.

*The two places where they were bevor they came to Ireland,
are difficult to read and I could find places with these names.*

Dear Hilde, now swim
I've been 3 / 9 (?) days and have
I have not for your beautiful
Farewell gift thanks. So
many thanks. It is very nice. Yesterday
we were in Learore (?) and Sartpenien (?)
Today we come to Ireland
and have very bad weather.
My handwriting you need debt relief
competent, but it rocks a lot. Des-
half I will also close. For
day deadline. Regards to your dear parents
and also you had a lot of time
greetings from your Dina.

No. 9 :

Frl.
Hilde Speier
im Haus Herrn Dr. Lewin
Kassel
Hessen-Nassau

Poststempel: Bad Duerrheim 9.8.1937

Liebe Hilde !
Ich bin gut hier
angekommen. Es
gefaellt mir gut
hier. Schreibe mir
auch bald einmal.
Meine Adresse:
Ursel Speier, Friedrich

Bad Duerrheim, 9.8.36

Luisen Hospiz Bad Duerrheim
Gruss und Kuss Ursel

Love Hilde! Bad Duerrheim, 9.8.36
I'm good here
arrived. It
I like good
here. Add me
well sometime soon.
My address:
Ursel Speier, Friedrich
Louise hospice Bad Duerrheim
Greetings and kiss Ursel

No. 10 :

Frl.
Hilde Speyer b. Dr. Lewin
Kassel
Hohenzollernstrasse 23

Poststempel: Hamburg
28.8.37

Liebe Hilde !
Entschuldige bitte, dass ich heute erst schreibe, aber
ich finde vor lauter Vergnuegen und Faul-sein keine
Zeit. Hier in Hamburg ist es fabelhaft; ich habe schon
sehr viel geshen. Wenn sich das Wetter haellt, fahren
wir heut Mittag mit dem Wagen nach Travenmuen-
de an die Ostsee. Ich freue mich natuerlich sehr.
Vorige Woche war ich im Ufapalast, Alsterpavillon
u.s.w. Naechste Woche kann ich Dir alles erzaehlen,
denn Montag komme ich voraussichtlich wieder.
Hoffentlich war es auch in Kassel nicht so entsetzlich
langweilig. Auf Wiedersehen in ein paar Tagen;
herzliche Gruesse auch fuer die Familie Lewin Deine
Lieselotte

Love Hilde!
Sorry about that today I only write, but
I think for sheer pleasure and not be digested
Time. Here in Hamburg it is fabulous, and I have already
much Geshen. If the weather is keeping to drive
We lunch today with the car after Travenmuen-
de to the Baltic Sea. I am of course very much.
Last week I was in Ufapalast, Alster Pavilion
u.s.w. Next week I can tell you everything
since Monday I'll be back probably.

Hopefully it was not in Kassel so horrible
boring. See you in a few days;
cordial greetings and for your family Lewin
Lieselotte

No. 11 :

Fraulein Hilde Speier
... Herrn Dr. med. Lewin
Kassel
Hohenzollernstrasse 23

Poststempel: Oberhof
8.10.37

Meine liebe Hilde ! Obwohl
Du so unsagbar schreibfaul
bist, solltest Du doch von hier
aus mal wieder etwas von
uns hoeren. Wie geht es dir ?
Die Feiertage bist Du ja zu
Hause gewesen. Was machst
Du in Deiner freien Zeit ?
Hast Du Marta Levy mal gespro-
chen ? Hildegard Blum und die kleine
waren hier bei ihren Eltern.
Blum's sind noch hier in Oberhof.
Nun lasse auch mal von Dir
 hoeren. Gruesse Doktor's und

7.10.37

on the top of the postcard:
empfangе Du selbst die herzlichsten
Gruesse und Kuesse von
Deiner Tante Clara

Gruesse
Onkel Ernst

in blue over the text:
Herzliche Gruesse Frau Blum
Freundliche Gruesse
Ruth Nussbaum

My dear Hilda! Although 7:10:37
You write so unspeakably lazy
are, you ought to from here
of something new from
hear us. How are you?
The holidays are you indeed to
Been home. What do
You in your free time?
Have you even spoken Marta Levy
? Chen Hilda Blum and the small
been there with her parents.
Blum's are still here in Oberhof.
Now let sometimes from you

. hear Doctor's greetings and

on the top of the postcard:
You receive even the heartiest
Greetings and kisses from
Your Aunt Clara

Regards

Uncle Ernst

text in blue over the:

Cordial greetings Mrs. Blum

Best regards

Ruth Nussbaum

No. 12 :

Mr.

Josef Heilbrunn

6232 ... Lawrence Ave.

Chicago/Ill.

Amerika

Poststempel: Bad Wildungen

14.9.38

Meine liebe Hilde & und Ihr Lieben Alle !
Tante Frieda & und ich sind heute hier,
Onkel Ernst zu besuchen und wollen
wir Euch ein Kaertchen von
hier aus schreiben. Unseren Brief
von gestern werdet ihr erhalten
haben & und besorgt bitte alles umgehend.
Noch die herzlichsten Gruesse und Kuesse von
Deiner Dich liebenden Mam & und Eurer Fraenze.
Herzlioche Gruesse, es freut mich sehr, dass mich
Deine liebe Mutter und Tante Frieda besuchen.
Was macht der Dollarmillionaer, wann ist
Verlobung ? Dein Onkel Ernst.
Herzliche Gruesse und Kuesse deine Tante

Frieda

auch fuer Heilbrunns noch

On the left side:

Wuensche,

dass deine

Eltern

bald dort

sind.

Zu deiner ... (?)

wuensche alles Gute

My dear Hilde & your loved ones and all!
Aunt Frieda & and I are here today
To visit Uncle Ernst and do
we you a card from

Leave here. Our letter
will get her yesterday
& and concern have all your questions.
Even the most cordial greetings and kisses from
You & your loving Mam and your Fraenz.
Herzliche regards, I am very pleased that I
Your dear mother and aunt visit Frieda.
What makes the Dollarmillionaer, when is
Engagement? Your uncle Ernst.
Cordial greetings and kisses your aunt

Frieda

Heilbrunn also for more

On the left side:
Wishes, to your ... (?)
that your wish you all the best
Parents
now there
are.

Guxhagen, October 19, 1938

My dears!

We have received your letter on Rosh Hashanah and your health *[wishes?]*... . Thank God that we can also say the same that I am feeling better and started working again this week; I received the money last week from Berlin and say my best thanks, I'll fulfill your wish and will only buy things as needed. Blanka has again gathered meat for us, but only got one pound of sausage and meat for a week, this is somewhat little when it *[has to feed?]* five and you could us from time to time send a small parcel with sausage or beef, which may not, however, weigh a pound including the packaging and you have to label it as a gift. We have not yet got the papers, waiting on them every day. Have you already sent them there? You *[should?]* have securely sent it to us and not to Stuttgart. A number we have from *[the lottery?]*... .. But it is very high and if it goes past, it may take another two years before we have a turn in Stuttgart. Have you heard if there is anything you can do from there that we can have an earlier turn in Stuttgart. Hopefully you've celebrated the Yontif well, which was also the case with us. Receive the warmest greetings for today. Many greetings to the boys and their dear mother. Your Joel.

My dears! I hope that you received our letter in full health. You have surely spent the holy days very well, was your dear mother able to fast on Yom Kippur? Joel has also fasted quite well for Yom Kippur, although he did feel weak, now, thank God it's better. Since last week Joel is back to work, but we both always fight about the breakfast. Joel does not always eat a good breakfast... what I give to him; an entire Challah for maybe 3-4 men who do not go to the heavy work; you would be amazed about it. Uncle Scholem spent Rosh Hashanah with us, but left again. We would have liked him to stay longer. Dear Rickchen, your friend Bertha Fraenkel, was here the day before yesterday; probably in mid-November she will go to the nursing home at Gailling in Baden. It is a great luck for her that she can be taken on there, for she can no longer care for herself because she sees very badly. On Kol Nidrei Ms. Koppel Speier died *[Kol Nidrei was 5 Oct 1938; she is recorded as dying on 7 Oct 1938]*, Hermann moved to Kassel. Julius Steindler moves in the coming weeks to Kassel. So the community is getting smaller and smaller, Berthold Lichtenstein will probably not live here much longer, will probably also move away. Also, I tell you again thank you for the money you sent. Joel will use it as you had in mind. Thus, for today, hearty greetings. your Malwine

Greet the children and Hilde often from me.

Bruno sends many greetings.

October 19, 1938

Guxhagen, ~~the 10/19/1938~~

My dears!

We have received your letter on ~~Rouschhaschar~~ [Rosh Hashanah?] and your health Thank God that we can also say the same that I am feeling better and started working again this week: I received the money last week from Berlin and say my best thanks, I'll fulfill your wish and will only buy things ^{as necessary} when it comes. Blanka has again gathered meat for us, but only got one pound of sausage and meat for a week, this is somewhat little when it [has to feed?] five and you could us from time to time send a small parcel with sausage or beef, which may not, however, weigh a pound including the packaging and you have to label it as a gift. We have not yet got the papers, ^{in time} every day waiting. Have you already sent them there? You [should?] have securely sent it to us and not to Stuttgart. A number we have from But it is very high and if it goes past, it may take another two years before we have a turn in Stuttgart. Have you heard if there is anything you can do from there that we can have an earlier turn in Stuttgart. Hopefully you've celebrated the Yontif well, which was also the case with us. Receive the warmest greetings for today. Many greetings to the boys and their dear mother. Your Joel.

[wishes?]

My dears! I hope that you received our letter in full health. You have surely spent the holy days very well, was your dear mother able to fast on Yom Kippur? Joel has also fasted quite well for Yom Kippur, although he did feel weak, now, thank God it's better. Since last week Joel is back to work, but we both always fight because of the breakfast, Joel eats the breakfast is not always good ... what I give to him, ^{you would be} maybe 3-4 men in the ^{entire} Chal [?] ^{for} who do not go to the heavy work ^{you would be} were amazed about it. Uncle Scholem spent Rosh Hashanah with us, but left again. We would have liked him to stay longer. Dear Rickchen, your friend Bertha Fraenkel, was here the day before yesterday; probably in mid-November to the nursing home at Gailling in Baden. It is a great luck for her that she can be taken on there, for she can no longer care for herself because she sees very badly. On Kol Nidrei [? Kol Nidrei was 5 Oct 1938; she is recorded as dying on 7 Oct 1938] Ms. Koppel Speier died, Hermann moved to Kassel. Julius Steindler moves in the coming weeks to Kassel. So the community is getting ^{smaller and} smaller, Berthold Lichtenstein will probably not live here much longer, will probably move away too. Also, I tell you again thank you for the money you sent. Joel is the same [?]. Thus, for today, hearty greetings. your Malwine

Joel will use it as you had in mind

Greet the children and Hilde often from me.

Bruno sends many greetings.

Borken, March 20, 1938 [Sunday]

My dear little Hilde and dear ones all!

Yesterday morning we received your kind letter and dear Hilde you did write. You were so disappointed last week that you only received one card from us but now you have a longer letter. How is the Purim celebration going? And dear Aunt Rickchen wrote that you have no desire to dance -- but that I cannot understand. Here you gladly danced so much and always pestered me that I should dance with you. If you cannot learn it, then take dancing lessons. You're still so young and don't want to go to the Dance. One will only always be cheerful and jolly, if one is healthy and can dance.

I always speak of you that you have such fun. You and Rickchen take care that dear Hilde attends the dance class, a young girl must know how to move. If you work all week, you must have a change. Dear Hilda, I have already started preparations for Pesach, but am not ready yet. First thing tomorrow we want to go and work in the garden. Ursel brought in the first violets this morning and wants to put them in the letter. But please write soon to Erfurt and Melsungen. You know Uncle Ernst is always pleased when he hears something. Ilse writes G. (?) and well.

Herbert will soon go probably to Melsungen. If it works, tomorrow they sell their house and Aunt Frieda then moves to Kassel. Hugo Moses goes on 23 March to Stuttgart, coming, not to Chicago but to New York, for the cousin who has guaranteed him wants him to go there. The Katzes go on April 9 to the ship, are otherwise done with everything as far as possible, so they leave one by one.

Dear Hilde, have you otherwise met no friends; was it a German girl that you went to the movies with? Martin Blum will be Bar Mitzvah on Saturday in 8 days. He wants to become an optician. What else are you doing? Hopefully you get the letter promptly. We usually write by this time on Saturday evening, but we had a visit till 10 clock and then we were tired. Ursel and I took a very long walk yesterday. It was beautiful weather and Ursel has yet no companions and then we were doubly tired. Regarding the dancing class, dear Hilde write us now your thoughts and if one still cannot dance properly, one need not be ashamed. Everything is new at first. Dear Josef we have missed your lines, why did not you write? I now will close, because the letter should be mailed. Be warmly greeted and kissed by your loving mama and your Fraenze.

Dear mother wrote everything, so only the most cordial greetings and kiss, your Ursel.

Also from me, receive all of the heartfelt greetings and kisses from your loving papa and your Levi

Borken, March 20, 1938

My dear little Hilde and dear ones all

you only received

Yesterday morning we received your kind letter and dear Hilde you did write. You were so disappointed last week that only one card from us ~~came for you~~ but now you have a longer letter ~~from us~~. How is the Purim celebration ^{going} and how dear Aunt Rickchen wrote, ^{that} you have no desire to dance, but that I cannot understand. Here you gladly danced so much and always pestered me that I should dance with you. If you cannot learn it, ~~but~~ then take dancing lessons. You're ~~still~~ ^{not too} young and don't want to go to the Dance. One will only always be cheerful and jolly, if one is healthy and can dance.

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Dear Hilde, have you otherwise met ~~no~~ ^{well in} friends; was it a German girl ^{you} that went to the movies with? Martin Blum, Saturday ~~at~~ ⁱⁿ 8 days ~~Bannzwer~~ ^{Bar Mitzvah} [?] will become an optician. What else are you doing? Hopefully you ^{will} get the letter ^{promptly} in time, otherwise ^{usually}

we ~~usually~~ ^{by this time on} write ~~as already~~ Saturday evening, but, ^{we} had a visit till 10 clock and then we were tired. Ursel and I took a very long walk yesterday. It was beautiful weather and Ursel has yet no ~~secretly~~ ^{complaints} and then we were doubly tired. Regarding the dancing class, dear Hilde write us now your thoughts and if one still cannot dance properly, one need not be ashamed. Everything is new at first. Dear Josef we have missed your lines, why did not you write? I now will close, because the letter should be mailed. Be warmly greeted and kissed by your loving mama and your Fraenze.

Dear mother wrote everything, so only the most cordial greetings and kiss, your Ursel.

Also from me, receive all of the heartfelt greetings and kisses from your loving papa and your Levi

Borken, October 12, 1938

My dear Hilda, and all of you dear ones!

Now the first days of October are over. We thought we would get mail from you today, think tomorrow we hear something from you. It is not pretty, if you have to wait. Hope you been hale and hearty, and the same for us. Have you attempted anything in Washington, if nothing can be done, then, dear Hilda, still make a petition and beg that your parents and teenage sister still want to be there. Here now is bad weather, last week was very stormy. Abraham Appell and wife today are now aboard ship. Noone can be missing in the synagogue, otherwise there is no minyan. We would have gladly gone to Melsungen for the holidays, but have stayed here for that reason. Today we harvested our vegetables in the garden, other than that we have nothing more to do in the garden. What have you all done for the holidays? Surely you have also made friends in the synagogue. After the holidays I want to go to Kassel to buy various things. This evening I am lazy about letter-writing so I must close. Be warmly greeted and kissed 1000 times by your loving you mama and your Fraenz.

Warm greetings and kisses, your Ursel.

My dear Hilde and your loved ones all!

Hope you are hale and hearty, we can, praise God report the same. Now the holidays will soon be over again, hopefully all for the good. And Joel, praise God is again ^{well} in order. How is your work and Josef? Do you have much to do now? We now learn quick English, but it goes badly into our old heads. Dear Hilde, you'll probably not be much aware of Yontif. You will probably have to work on Sukkot. We also had a letter from Hugo Moses, who wrote that, you have not written him yet. Dear Hilde, did you not write to Erfurt for Rosh Hashona?

For today the heart-felt greetings and kisses from your you loving Papa and your Levi

Borken, October 12, 1938

and all of you
My dear Hilda, dear ones ~~all~~!

Now the first days of October are over. We thought ~~to~~ get mail from you today, think tomorrow we hear something from you. It is ~~awful~~, if you have to wait. Hope you been hale and hearty, and the same for us. Have you attempted anything in Washington, if nothing can be done, then, dear Hilda, still make a petition and ~~ask~~ that your parents and teenage sister still want to be there. Here now is bad weather, last week was very stormy. Abraham Appell and wife ~~are~~ ^{today} ~~now~~ ^{aboard ship} ~~on board~~. ~~He must not~~ ^{No one can} be missing in the synagogue, otherwise, ~~no~~ ^{there is} minyan. We would ~~like to~~ ^{gladly} have gone to Melsungen for the holidays, but have remained here. Today we ~~have~~ ^{then that} harvested our vegetables in the garden, otherwise ~~we~~ ^{Surely} have nothing more to do ~~with~~ ⁱⁿ in the garden. What have you all done for the holidays? ~~Certainly~~ you have also made friends in the synagogue. After the holidays I want to go to ~~Cassel~~ ^{Kassel} to buy various things. This evening I am lazy about letter-writing so I must close. Be warmly greeted and kissed 1000 times by your loving you mama and your Fraenz.

Warm greetings and kisses, your Ursel.

My dear Hilde and your loved ones all!

Hope you are hale and hearty, we ~~can~~ ^{for the} praise God report the same. Now the holidays will soon be over again, hopefully all ~~good~~ ^{for the}. and Joel, praise God is again in order. How is your ~~business~~ ^{work} and Josef? ~~Do~~ you have much to do now? We now learn quick English, but it goes badly into our old heads. Dear Hilde, you'll probably not be much aware of Yontif. You will probably have to work on Sukkot. We also ~~have~~ ^{had} ~~previous~~ ^{for the} letter from Hugo Moses, ~~as he~~ ^{who wrote that} ~~writes~~, you have not written him yet. Dear Hilde, did you not write to Erfurt for Rosh Hashona?

For today the heart-felt greetings and kisses from your you loving Papa and your Levix

Borken, October 18, 1938

My dear Hilde and all of you dear ones!

Your dear letter of 29 Sep was received last Friday and the one from 4 Oct was received yesterday. A heartfelt thanks for your congratulations and wishes. The holiday is then over, it's about everything and that's nice too. Dear Hilde, you wrote if I knew an Amalie Cohn? Where is she here, I can not remember, only an Amanda Cohn from Kadernberg near Essen, who was here visiting with Liebmann Kaufmann and was related to Adele Kaufmann's first husband, where Liesel Kaufmann had lived. Liesel Kaufmann is now also here, she gets her papers for America. Your cold weather, dear Rickchen will probably be gone again. Here it is now not at all cold. You dear Hilde want to know if we have to dig up the garden yet, we have now harvested, all the rest the owner does; I have now no interest more for it because both the time and my energies are too precious. Through the rest that I now have, I have also once again become thicker. I have asked several times how many volts in the electric light you have in Chicago. I wanted to set my iron on it. But please write it again. Herbert writes very well. It is still undetermined when Aunt Frieda goes. Uncle Ernst's birthday is tomorrow. Otherwise we are content, hope the same for you dears as well. So for now all be greeted warmly and kissed by your loving you mother and your Fraenz.

Cordial greetings and kisses your Ursel.

My dear Hilde and your loved ones all!

Thank you for your congratulations and wishes, I hope they will be fulfilled. As you write, you want to receive a letter; one should not have to wait so long: after four months Stuttgart sent the guarantee on 29 August by registered mail and it was invalid. So if you want to do it, then please do it soon and also follow the rules, otherwise we have to have a new guarantee again later. For today, the cordial greetings and kisses from your loving you dad and your Levi.

October 18, 1934

Borken, ~~the 18-10-38~~

My dear Hilde and your loved ones all!

Your dear letter of ~~last Friday~~ 29 Sep was received ~~yesterday~~ 4 Oct. A heartfelt thanks for your congratulations and wishes. The holiday is ~~over then~~, it's about everything and that's nice too. Dear Hilde, you wrote if I knew an Amalie Cohn? Where is she here, I can not remember, only an Amanda Cohn from Kadernberg ^{near} Essen, who was here visiting with Liebmann Kaufmann ^{and was} related ^{to} Adele Kaufmann's first husband, where Liesel Kaufmann had lived. Liesel Kaufmann is now also here, she gets her papers for America. Your cold, dear Rickchen will probably be gone again. Here it is now not at all cold. You dear Hilde want to know if we have to dig up the garden yet, we have now ~~been~~ harvested, all the rest the owner does, I have now no interest more for it because both the time and my energies are too precious. Through ~~my~~ ^{the} rest that I have now, I have also once again become thicker. I have asked several times how many volts in the electric light you have in Chicago. I wanted to set my iron on it. But please write it again. Herbert writes very well. When Aunt Frieda goes is still undetermined. Uncle Ernst's birthday is tomorrow. Otherwise we are ~~satisfied~~, hope the same for you dears as well. So for now all be greeted warmly and kissed by your loving you mother and your Fraenz.

Cordial greetings and kisses your Ursel.

My dear Hilde and your loved ones all!

Thank you for your congratulations and wishes, I hope they will be fulfilled. As you write, you want to receive a letter; one should not wait ^{as} long ~~as we have~~: after four months Stuttgart sent the guarantee on 29 August by registered mail and it was invalid. So if you want to do it, then please do it soon and also follow the rules, otherwise we have to have a new guarantee again later. For today, the cordial greetings and kisses from your loving you dad and your Levi.

all of you dear ones

*then
last Friday and the one from
was received yesterday*

weather

Content

have to

Borken, the 25.10.38

My dear Hilda, and all you dears!

We wait once again in vain for a letter from you. Hope you are alive and well, thank God we are healthy. It's getting cold, one can already tolerate well a warm room. This morning I cleaned our stove, I hope I do not need to clean it again before we would have our summons. Did you get the letter? As we hear, all the papers come back from Stuttgart, kept with the notes to the summons. Our papers they have kept there. Now, if perhaps a letter from you once again goes to Stuttgart, then maybe we would soon get our summons. Last week Ursel and I were in Kassel, I had some work done to my teeth and Ursel got a pair of shoes, she grows out of everything. Dear Hilde if you came to Hamburg, you should get a house dress from Blum's, which Ursel had arranged, but really very pretty. If only we had the opportunity for Ursel to learn sewing, she really has real style, but I know nothing of that. She should also make a jacket, because if she makes herself nothing, she learns nothing. Liesel Kaufmann is now here. She altered a hat for me, very beautiful, she has the knack. On Saturday we had Jahrzeit for Mama of blessed memory, it is already two years. The time passes quickly. I suppose we get news from you tomorrow. I know nothing to write more, so for today be warmly greeted and kissed by your loving you mother and your Fraenz.

Cordial greetings and kisses your Ursel

Cordial greetings and kisses from your loving you Papa and your Levi.

Borken, the 25.10.38

My dear Hilda, and your dear love!

We wait once again in vain for a letter from you. Hope you ^{are} ~~been~~ alive and well, thank God we are healthy. It's getting cold, one can already tolerate well a warm room. This morning I cleaned our stove, I hope I do not need to clean it again before we would have our summons. ^{Did} Have you get the letter? As we hear, all the papers come back from Stuttgart, kept with the notes to the ^{summons} subpoena. Our papers they have kept there. Now, if perhaps a letter from you once again goes to Stuttgart, then maybe we would soon get our summons. Last week Ursel and I were in Cassel, I had ^{some work} a bit done ^{on} to my teeth and Ursel got a pair of shoes, she grows out of everything. Dear Hilde if you came to Hamburg, you should get a house dress from Blum's, which Ursel ^{arranged} has had ^{to} righty made, but really very pretty. If only we had the opportunity ^{to} ~~to~~ Ursel ^{could} learn sewing, she really has real style, but I know nothing of that. She should also make a jacket, because if she makes herself nothing, she learns nothing. Liesel Kaufmann is now here. She altered a hat for me, ^{by} ~~but~~ very beautiful, she has ^{skill} ~~skill~~. On Saturday we had Jahrzeit for Mama of blessed memory, it is already two years. The time passes quickly. I suppose we get news from you tomorrow. I know nothing to write more, so for today be warmly greeted and kissed by your loving you mother and your Fraenz.

Cordial greetings and kisses your Ursel

Cordial greetings and kisses from your loving you Papa and your Levi.

Erfurt, December 14, 1938

My dearest Hilde, dear all!

Today is Wednesday and, besides the telegram from dear Benno on Saturday, we have been 8 days with no mail from you and you may surely think that I longingly wait. Sometimes I am despairing and do not know what to do. We still have not heard anything from Stuttgart. You will receive our telegram, the answer to Benno's telegram, and you will understand. I had also written to you a more detailed airmail letter. Do what you can do for us, I implore you not to be in vain and I think and hope it is also destined that you do your duty, so we can get away as fast as we possibly can. In the meanwhile you will probably also get a letter from Herbert and Ilse in Eretz, as yesterday we had a letter from them. Dear Joseph and dear Benno, you asked, what you can do for us and let us not wait so long for an answer. So do what is in your power. I know nothing else to write to you and wait greatly for mail from you. And thousand hearty greetings and kisses from your you loving mom and your Fraenz.

My dears!

I hope that you dear ones meet the the request of the dear Mama. You can not think, how we wait for a response from you. Preparations have started for me to go to England, Holland and also Eretz¹ and Ilse wrote that she wanted to take me. I can go with a children's transport to Holland and England. What they offer first, then I'm going. I prefer going with the loved ones to you. You must without fail see to it that we come to you. Above all, see to it that the dear dad is able to get away first². More the heartiest greetings and kisses.
your Ursel

My dears!

I thank you sincerely that you send us the affidavit, I hope all is soon ready so that we can get away. It's fabulous of you that you have endeavored for us; may dear G-d be inclined to reward you. Now see to it that dear Levi has most rapid way to go. Again, heartfelt thanks and all the best, many cordial greetings and kisses.
Your Clara

¹ Eretz Israel or at that time, Palestine

² He may have been ill or injured and unable to travel

Borken, February 7, 1939

My dear Hilde and your loved ones all!

Your dear letter was received from Erfurt¹. Mr. S. has responded to us. Dear Levi is out of town for that very reason, but is still not back. In order that you are not without mail from us, I write only this card; when Levi comes back, we write a detailed letter to you immediately. Otherwise, we are healthy, hope the same of you and my dears too. Many warm greetings and kisses, your loving mother and your Franze

Greetings and kisses your Ursel

¹ Clara Levi, Fraenze's sister in Erfurt, may have forwarded a letter she received or one that was sent there to Fraenze, Levi and Ursel

Borken, February 21, 1939

My dear Hilde and all your loved ones!

I received your kind letter of Jan 31 and see that you have sent a telegram to London. We had also a form here, a copy of that which they have sent you. Just think that you dears have finished off everything so that dear Levi can go. We also had mail from New York, Hugo¹ writes that he again has work, that it is also good. We hear here that children can ask their parents to delay; you should inquire about that, as you did with the first, as it will probably go again by number, and arrange everything so that nothing is missed, for Ursel and I want to be gone soon. Ruth Appel wrote 14 days ago from New York, that they heard on the radio, maybe you've already heard it, too. You wrote that there is very high snow, here is nice weather. Is it also very cold there? What else are you doing? Here it is very boring, you have no social life, prudent people don't come out.

It is time that we can do our house work. . We do what we can do. Today I know really nothing special to write. Praise God we are healthy and we hope the same of you. Farewell for today and receive 1000 warm greetings and kisses from your Fraenze and your loving you mom.

The warmest of greetings and kisses from your you loving Papa and your Levi.

Cordial greetings and kisses, your Ursel

¹ This is probably Hugo Moses who was referenced in prior letters.

Borken, March 5, 1939

My dear Hilde and your loved ones all!

Your kind letter of Feb 21 was received yesterday and it is incomprehensible to us that you have not received the letter from London, from your Tepesche¹. On Feb 4 we had already received an answer from your Tepesche of London, a copy of which we sent you last week. But they wrote us that they have also sent the same to you. Should you have not received it, which we hope not, write immediately and handle everything so that we finally get to the goal. Many have already left for London. The teacher, who was earlier in Bebra and is now perhaps five weeks in London, has already received his summons to the consul, through his wife, who lives in Wiesbaden, and will soon be off to America. Only see to it that all is in order, then we will be with you soon, God willing. You dear Hilde wrote, if we had not heard from Stuttgart, if there is no expediting, we will hear from here in two years time. Erich Nussbaum sees to it that his father comes to London, Minna also goes to London. Last week I had written you that you should still ask the HIAS to arrange a Kindertransport for Ursel from here; please see to it that succeeds. Today is Purim, Levi read the Megillah to Ursel and me, we have otherwise done nothing related. Why didn't the young couple² write me not once; we wrote them weeks ago. How's your grandma³? You have snow, as you wrote, and here, for weeks already, is the most beautiful spring weather. You always want to be outside. Otherwise we are healthy. Hope you are also the same my dears. For today be greeted warmly and many times kissed by your loving you mother and your Fraenz.

Cordial greetings and kisses your Ursel

Also from me the warmest greetings and kisses from your loving Levi and your loving you Papa.

¹ This might be a surname

² Probably Benno and Paula Heilbrunn, married in December, 1938.

³ Probably referring to Sophie Heilbrunn, mother of Joseph

Birthday card
Miss Hilde Speier
c/o Joseph Heilbrunn
6232 S. St. Lawrence Ave
Chicago (Ill.)
America USA

Postmark: Borken 04.10.1939

My dear Hildchen!

I warmly congratulate you, my dear sister, for your birthday and I wish you all the best, above all, that we can be together soon. I promise that I will never again scratch and kick you. – I see from your letter this morning that you have won the table tennis championship, for which I congratulate you and wish you that you always continue to swing upward. I wish all this to you from my heart, my dear birthday child. Your sister Ursel.

The loving parents greet.



Geburtstagskarte an
Miss Hilde Speier
c./o. Joseph Heilbrunn
6232 So. St. Lawrence Ave
Chicago (Ill.)
Amerika USA

Postmark

Poststempel: Borken 10.04.1939



Mein liebes Hildchen !

Recht herzl.[ich] gratuliere ich Dir, mein liebes Schwesterlein, zu Deinem Geburtstag und wuensche Dir alles erdenkliche Gute, vor allen Dingen, dass wir recht bald zusammen sein koennen. Ich verspreche dir, dass ich Dich nie wieder kratzen und treten will. – Aus Deinem Brief heute Morgen ersehne, dass Du die Tischtennismeisterschaft errungen hast, wozu ich Dir gratuliere und wuensche, dass Du Dich immer weiter empor schwingst. Dies alles wuenscht Dir, mein l.[iebes] Geburtstagskind von Herzen Deine Schwester Ursel.
Die l.[ieben] Eltern gruessen.