

Bund deutsch-jüdischer Jugend-Ring (Fond 1207)
Records of Jewish Youth Organization "Ring," Berlin
RG-11.001M.48

United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives
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Descriptive summary

Title: Bund deutsch-jüdischer Jugend-Ring (Fond 1207)
Records of Jewish Youth Organization "Ring," Berlin

Dates: 1933-1936 (bulk)
1913-1936 (inclusive)

Accession number: 1993.A.0085.1.48

Creator: Bund deutsch-jüdischer Jugend-Ring

Extent: 2 microfilm reels (partial)
1,569 digital images

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

Languages: German

Scope and content of collection

Group's statute; leaflets to local groups; name lists of members; reports and articles on Jewish history and the history of the Jewish Union in Germany; professional questions of young Jewish women; copies of the organization's bulletins; internal correspondence including notices of lectures and financial questions; correspondence with a German-Jewish youth organization in Mannheim, showing the organization's policies, activities, and eventual decline; and correspondence with the Jewish organization "Frontovniks."

Note: USHMM Archives holds only selected records.

Administrative Information

Restrictions on access: No restrictions on access.

Restrictions on reproduction and use: Reproduction and publication only with written permission of the Russian State Military Archives.

Preferred citation: Preferred citation for USHMM archival collections; consult the USHMM website for guidance.

Acquisition information: Source of acquisition is the Russian State Military Archive (Rossiiskii gosudarstvennyi voennyi arkhiv), Osobyi Archive, Fond 1207. The United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives received the filmed collection via the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum International Archival Programs Division in 1993.

Existence and location of originals: Rossiiskii gosudarstvennyi voennyi arkhiv

Related archival materials: Fishman, D. E. and Kupovetsky, M, Kuzelenkov, V. (ed.), *Nazi-Looted Jewish Archives in Moscow. A guide to Jewish Historical and Cultural Collections in the Russian State Military Archive*. Scranton: University of Scranton Press 2010. Published in associati

Processing history: Processed by Aleksandra Borecka, 2018.

Historical note

The German-Jewish Youth Community (Deutsch-Jüdische Jugendgemeinschaft, DJJG), in December 1933 joined with other non-Zionist groups—the Hamburg German-Jewish Youth, the Jewish Youth and Children’s Groups of Berlin, the Jewish Liberal Youth Association, and the CV youth groups—to form the Ring, Federation of German-Jewish Youth (Ring, Bund deutsch-jüdischer Jugend, BDJJ). The BDJJ was a national organization for Jewish children and teenagers, who came together for socialization, hikes, retreats and to learn about Jewish culture. In early 1936, the BDJJ was required to call itself the Ring, Federation of Jewish Youth (Ring, Bund der jüdischen Jugend) because the use of the word “German” in its name had been prohibited by the Gestapo. In the spring of 1936, the Reichsvertretung der Juden in Deutschland formed the Jüdisches Auswanderungslehrgut (Jewish Emigration Training Farm) in Silesia. Members of the Ring participated in this training. The goal of the institution was to provide young Jews agricultural skills in order to ease their emigration to other countries. The curriculum was a mix of agriculture, Judaism, and German culture, and emphatically (and controversially) not Zionist. Here, young people were to be prepared for immigration to countries other than Palestine. Preparation for immigration to Palestine was severely limited by the restrictive policy of the British Mandate Authority. From Gross-Breesen, young Jews later were able to immigrate to Australia, South America, Kenya, and the United States. Gross-Breesen existed until late 1941; the last head of the training facility, Walter Bernstein, was later deported to the Buna/Monowitz concentration camp and murdered there in November/December 1943. The Ring, Federation of Jewish Youth was banned in early 1937, but activities of the youth movement continued secretly as private meetings.

System of arrangement

Fond 1207 (1913-1936). Opis 1; Dela 12. Selected records arranged in four series: 1. The statute of the Jüdischer Jugendbund "Ring"; 2. Printed materials: Articles and bulletins, 1935; Letters and correspondence, 1933-1936.

Note: Location of digital images; Partial microfilm reels #193-194;
Reel 193: Image #1502-Reel end;
Reel 194: Reel start-Image #754.

Indexing terms

Centralverein Deutscher Staatsbürger Jüdischen Glaubens.
Deutscher Vortrupp, Gefolgschaft Deutscher Juden.
Nationalsozialistische Deutsche Arbeiter-Partei.
Reichsbund Judischer Frontsoldaten.
Jewish youth--Germany--Societies and clubs.
Jews--Germany--Politics and government.
Jews--Persecution--Europe--History--20th century.
Antisemitism--History--20th century.
Germany--Politics and government--1933-1945.
Germany--Ethnic relations--History--20th century.
Berlin (Germany)--Ethnic relations.
Mannheim (Germany)
Articles.
Bulletins.
Correspondence.
Registers.
Statutes.

CONTAINER LIST

Reel 193

Fond 1207/opis 1

- 1 Charter and leaflets to local groups. Articles on the history of Jewry, et al. 1933-1935. Folder begins at image RG-11.001M.0193.00001502.jpg
- 2 Compositions by Cohen (sp?) and Gilby (sp?). Article "History of Jewish Union in Germany." No date. Folder begins at image RG-11.001M.0193.00001610.jpg
- 5 Bulletin of German Jewish Youth Union. Articles on professional questions of Jewish young women. 1935. Folder begins at image RG-11.001M.0193.00001674.jpg
- 6 Information bulletins of the organization, "Fortgruppe." 1935. Folder begins at image RG-11.001M.0193.00001734.jpg
- 6a Examples of flags, emblems, pins, of various Jewish youth organizations. no date. Folder begins at image RG-11.001M.0193.00001749.jpg

- 7 Form letters to local organizations regarding creation of courses for leadership training for local groups. Recruitment of members. Lists of members of local groups. 1933-1936. Folder begins at image RG-11.001M.0193.00001829.jpg
- 8 Correspondence with members of organizations regarding lectures and reports. Financial questions. 1932-1936. Folder begins at image RG-11.001M.0193.00001918.jpg
- 9 Correspondence with the Jewish organization. "Frontovniks," regarding agreements of cooperation. Physical education. 1933-1936. Folder begins at image RG-11.001M.0193.00002052.jpg
- 10 Correspondence between members and Berlin leadership regarding organizational principles. No date. Folder begins at image RG-11.001M.0193.00002095.jpg
- 11 Correspondence between leadership and local groups. New members and selection of leaders. 1933-1936. Folder begins at image RG-11.001M.0193.00002212.jpg. Continues on reel 194.

Correspondence to and from the Mannheim chapter of the Association of German-Jewish Youth. The Association was originally, it appears, an affiliate of the Central Federation of German Citizens of the Jewish Faith (Centralverein deutscher Staatsbuerger Juedischen Glaubens) and was simply called C-V Jugend. The organization attempted stubbornly to cling to its belief that it was German in its essence. Antagonism toward the Zionist movement was displayed in 1935 correspondence. Resentment is expressed toward the Zionists and their claim that the Zionist movement represents the only option for solving the Jewish problem in Germany. In 1935, a member sends in his resignation on the grounds that he can see no future for Jewish life in Germany. In September 1934, message from Berlin headquarters, Mannheim, is advised to distant from using its hand salute because it looks too much like the "Hail Hitler" salute and if this message continues can cause unpleasant misunderstandings; noted that the modus operandi of organization is too militaristic. 1934 correspondence reflects the interest of the youth organization in hiking. In June 1935, the Mannheim chapter is advised to no longer undertake any trips in large organized numbers. In 1935, the organization is forced to drop the "German" from its name and to call itself "Association of Jewish Youth." In 1934, membership was 180; 1936 dropped to 75 due to emigration. By 1936, the head of Mannheim chapter writes that the focus of the Association's activity is now directed toward preparation for emigration.

Reel 194

- 11 Continued from reel 193. Folder begins at image RG-11.001M.0194.00000006.jpg