

AR 25550

1/8

GROUP 4 (WESTPHALIA) - RUTH HOLLÄNDER

UNDATED, 1915-1972, 1997, 2008?

ARCHIVES

# FedEx

Express

Ruth Holländer

Group 4

21



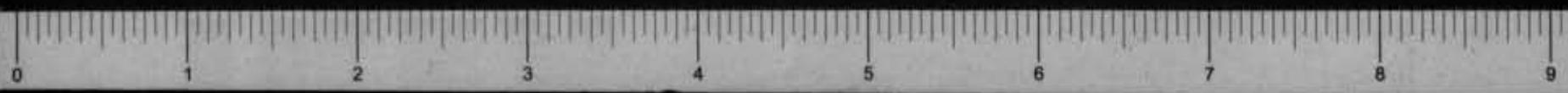
2

Roger F

Envelope

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45  
 1928 1440 1445  
 17 26 31

98  
 17  
 83

72  
 15  
 57

1972+  
 28  
 44

Left to VIII

		Ein in der nah rechts.
G	1	Grete Weisner? Raegerstrasse
G	2	Lena Limper Ferkisch - gelähmt Mann
G	3	Christ Pleh. Mann gefallen - vermisst Christ 1945 gestorben
B	4	Kurt Threter vermisst seit 1943
B	5	? Mann Halbinde Arbeiter
B	6	Olto Weis Frau gelähmt - ist Olto 1972 gestorben
G	7	? wie vorbeigekert hier ge?
	8	Rita die Strahlende <sup>weisen</sup>
	9	Milene Müller Mann, Lehrer 4 Söhne
	10	" " ganz schwer gestorben
	11	Grete Baker Witwe keine Kinder
	12	? Lifer gefallen, Christ Pleh's Mann
	13	? Fippler
	14	? M. Gruppe sie nicht viel alle
		haben es aber vergessen Möchte für Abzug machen lassen

Widow widow  
 Arrived paralysed (husb)  
 Husband dead missing presumed dead  
 Missing etc etc  
 City? watter  
 City wife cripple - dead 1927  
 Olto died 1972

Strahlende <sup>weisen?</sup>  
 Beaming, smile  
 husband is a ted  
 difficult heart  
 wide

Synak?

300 in front

## A Triple Love Story

by Roger Herz-Fischler

I had heard parts of the following story from my mother, but it wasn't until 1996 that we could piece everything together. This is because some of the pictures were scattered—and not completely identified—in my mother's album, and others were only found in a shoe box after my mother-in-law died.

My father Sigmund Fischler was born in Leipzig and had emigrated to the U.S. around 1925. He had however returned to Germany and Poland several times, including two extended stays in the 1930s.

My father-in-law Albert Herz from Haiger (Hessen) had—thanks to a warning from the mistress of a local SS officer—fled to France in September of 1935. There in Alsace he met and married Coralie Weill, a friend of his sister, and they eventually moved to Paris.

Ruth Holländer, my mother, came from the small town of Hilchenbach in the Siegerland. She left Germany on November 1, 1937 and her last photographic record is a picture of her father Joseph—second from the left—taken in Cologne on that day. The next day, November 2, she was in Paris where she stayed with her cousin Albert Herz. They took three photographs in front of a Parisian park; my mother is in the light coloured dress. Then on November 3 Coralie Weill took my mother to the boat train and my mother took a picture from her compartment.

From November 3 to November 9, my mother sailed to the USA on the Aquitania. The man standing on the right in the picture with the little girl (a note with the picture says that her name is Gretl Schlesinger), and also seated in the middle picture to the left of my mother, is my father. The story that I had heard was that some US sailors wished to speak to my mother, but not being conversant in German they asked my father to act as an interpreter . . . .

My parents were married on March 19, 1939 and in February 1940 I was born. Meanwhile in 1943, in a tiny hamlet near Limoges France—where Albert Herz had been demobilized from the French Foreign Legion in 1941—Eliane Herz was born. The Herz family emigrated to the US in 1958 and on their second day in their new country, Albert Herz reversed the 1937 roles and took his family to see his cousin Ruth Fischler. Eliane Herz and Roger Fischler were married on April 12, 1964.

I originally wrote this short biography of my mother at the request of Frau Gertrude Menn of Hilchenbach—she was a class mate of Arthur, my mother's brother—who wanted it for International Women's Day in Hilchenbach, March 2007.

Numbers such as [1a, 1b] refer to the number of photos on the CD-ROM. See the list of photos for details as to the dates etc.

## The Two Worlds of My Mother Ruth Holländer

From a strictly chronological view point we could divide Ruth Holländer's life into two periods: from her birth in Hilchenbach on January 9, 1915 until her departure from Germany on November 1, 1937 and from November 1, 1937 until her death on December 2, 1982. But this would be an oversimplification for, like many refugees, she always maintained links—some being open and some being private—with the land of her birth.

### A German Childhood

My mother did not talk very much about her childhood, but from the little that she and my aunt Selma Holländer (1920 -1982) told me and from the photographs and documents that she left behind, it would seem that she lived the life of a typical child and young woman from a small German town of the 1920s and 1930s. We see her as a prettily dressed baby in a picture postcard ([1a, 1b]), as a toddler with her mother Julie Sommer and soldier father Joseph Holländer ([2]), and in 1926 as an older sister ([3]). Later we find her smiling for the photographer in a circa 1929 class photograph ([4a, 4b], she is referred to as "the beaming one" in the notes on the back) and then in Wanfried a. d. Werra at the start of an apprenticeship with Herman Ehrlich, a manufacturer of women and children's children's clothing ([5, 6]). She worked there from mid-1929 until the end of 1933. In 1934 she worked in Brühl (near Bonn) and then from early 1935 until mid-1936 she worked as a sales clerk in the Marshall textile store in Stuttgart. After the sale of the store my mother worked in Frau Marshall's home ([7]).\* There was a certain normalcy in her life as shown by two pictures ([8, 9]). The first, which dates from 1936, shows her working on the family plot in Hilchenbach and the second, from 1937, was taken on a visit to Munich. \*\*

### Transition to a New Life

My mother received her departure certificate in Stuttgart ([10]) on September 9, 1937. A formal picture—most likely the passport photo—shows her ([11]) as she was preparing to leave Germany. I know that a relative had sponsored her so that she could receive a visa to the USA, but I do not know when it was decided that she should emigrate. We have one photograph ([12]) showing the entire Holländer family together and it would not surprise me to learn that it was taken just before her departure. We also have a farewell note ([13]) from her mother Julie Sommer dated November 1, 1937, the day of her departure:

Be courageous and strong,  
and remain our good child,  
as you always have been.

Godspeed in all your endeavours.

Written by your mother.

November 1, 1937

Thanks to a series of contact prints and photographs we can follow her voyage from Germany to America. In the first ([14]), taken on November 1, 1937, we see (on the right) her father Joseph Holländer who had escorted her to Cologne. The next day found her in Paris where she stayed with her cousin Albert Herz (Haiger, Hessen). The following day she boarded the boat for the trip to New York.

As my mother was young and pretty, some sailors on the boat wanted to speak to her and so they looked for someone to act as an interpreter. The person whom they found ([16, to the left of my mother]) was Sigmund Fischler (Fischleiber), the man who would eventually become my father. He had been born in Leipzig in 1899 and had emigrated to New York in 1925. Not only was my father much older than my mother, but his background (his parents had immigrated from Poland) and his education (a degree in chemistry from the University of Leipzig) were quite different.

### A New World

My parents were married on March 19, 1939 ([17]) in what was probably a very small affair, without pictures being taken. Joseph and Julie Holländer sent the couple a wedding card ([18a, 18b]) and later they forwarded a "Dear Relative" postcard ([19a, 19b]) from Isaak Fischleiber in Warsaw.\*\*\* I was born in February 1940 and remained the only child; I suspect that my parents' modest economic situation—they had to share an apartment at first—made them hesitate to have more children.

My father continued to work in the fur market and my mother took in sewing. Later on she did catering at weddings and bar-mitzvahs. Life was not easy for the couple, but—as is invariably the case for refugees past and present—everything is relative. Surely the hardest part was not knowing what was happening to their families in Europe. I could not find any letters from Julie and Joseph Holländer in my mother's documents, only the wedding card, a sprig of Heather ([20]) that was sent in 1939 or 1940 and a signed photograph dated "Rosh Hashanah 5700" (Jewish New Year, 1939). On the other hand there are many letters from her cousin and friend Else Sommer of Heinebach, near Kassel.

After the war my mother and aunt Selma (she arrived in Great Britain July of 1939 and came to New York in December 1947) attempted to obtain information ([21]) and received various replies, both from the Red Cross and from Julius Lowenstein (Siegen) and Heinrich Karl (Hilchenbach) ([22a, 22b]). My parents—and I have reason to believe that this was typical—never talked to me about what had happened in Europe; I can only remember one outburst from my mother, while she was watching a television film on the subject. I also had no idea—until I looked at her address book ([23]) after her death—that she had remained in contact with Gertrude Peter and Berta Karl of Hilchenbach. It was perhaps one of these women who sent the class photograph [4a]. Neither of my parents ever returned to Germany.

### The Old World in the New World

One thing that made the transition to New York easier for my mother was the neighbourhood that my parents lived in. In 1940 New York City had a population of over 8,000,000 with perhaps 1,500,000 Jews. Most of these Jews were of East European descent or Reformed German Jews. But where my parents lived, in the upper part of Manhattan ([24a, 24b]), they found themselves among a group of 22,000 German speaking Orthodox Jews. Most of these were refugees and almost half came from small towns.\*\*\*\* By 1950 they had formed eleven synagogues and in the

one that we attended, everything—from the rabbi's sermon to the bulletin—was in German until the late 1960s. A photo ([25]) taken at the time of my Bar-Mitzvah in 1953 shows the family.

Despite being fluently bilingual these people continued to speak German with one another and to act (Order! Neatness! Thriftiness!) in much the same way as others who grew up in Germany before the war. Many of the small stores in that part of New York were run by members of this group and there were German Jewish Clubs and two Jewish newspapers published in German. So even though the German Jews constituted only a small percentage of the population of upper Manhattan, they were able to maintain a certain cohesion. All of these immigrants had adapted to the American way of life, but I believe that a part—beyond the language—of the old country remained with them. Most of their children—usually with the help of their thrifty, but far from wealthy, parents—went to university and became professionals, invariably moving away from Washington Heights.

As the years went on ([26]) my parents remained within the same group of German Jews. They were now able to afford small holidays, mainly to the countryside, every year. I married in 1964 and my father died in 1972. My mother now did bookkeeping on a part-time basis and was very active in charitable work. She lived long enough ([27]) to get to know and enjoy her two granddaughters.

- \* When I first saw this note I realized that she was the “oma Marshall”, whom I knew as a child. The Persian rugs surely come from her.
- \*\* The Nazis came to power in early 1933. Many Jews left very early, and restrictions increased for others, but apparently life was still bearable in small towns.
- \*\*\* The Nazis expelled all Polish born Jews to Poland on October 28, 1938 (the assassination of the German ambassador in Paris by the son of one of the Jews expelled was the excuse for Kristalnacht on November 9-10, 1938). This explains why Isaak Fischleiber wrote from Warsaw. Germany invaded Poland in September 1939, so when the postcard was written Poland was under German control. That is why a Jew in Warsaw could write to Jews in Germany. The U.S.A. did not enter the war until December 1941 (Pearl Harbour) and so my mother's parents could send the card on to New York.
- \*\*\* The book *Frankfurt on the Hudson* talks about this neighbourhood in which I grew up. Of course at the time I did not notice anything unusual; for me almost all jews spoke German!

## Pictures Discussed in the Biography of Ruth Holländer

- 1a, b. Ruth Holländer. Postcard Julie Sommer to Hedwig Holländer. 1915.
2. Julie Sommer, Ruth Holländer, Joseph Holländer. 1915.
3. Selma, Arthur, Ruth Holländer. 1926.
- 4a, b. Class photograph. 1928? 1929. The writing on the back dates from after 1972, as shown by the remark "1972 gestorben" on the line after Otto [? Weis]. From the handwriting on another photo the person who wrote the remarks was probably Gertrude Peter of Hilchenbach.
5. Ruth Holländer. Wanfried, start of apprenticeship. July, 1929.
6. Testimonial from Hermann Ehrlich. 31.12.1933.
7. Testimonial from Frau Eduard Marshall. 9.09.1937. My mother visited, and perhaps worked for, "Oma Marshall"—as I referred to her—in New York City.
8. Ruth Holländer. Family plot in Hilchenbach. 1936.
9. Ruth Holländer. Munich. 1937.
10. Departure certificate (*Bescheinigung über Wohnungsabmeldung*). Stuttgart, September 9, 1937.
11. Ruth Holländer. Formal photograph. 1937 "Foto-Ohler, Stuttgart-S." Probably a passport photo.
12. Arthur Ruth Holländer, Julie Sommer, Ruth Holländer, Joseph Holländer, Selma Holländer. 1937? Perhaps the last picture with the entire family.
13. Farewell note from Julie Sommer to Ruth Holländer. November 1, 1937.
14. Joseph Holländer (second from the left). Munich. November 1, 1937. Contact print.
15. Albert Herz and Ruth Holländer. Paris. November 2, 1937. Contact print.
16. Ocean liner Aquitania. Between November 3 and November 9, 1937. Ruth Holländer is the second from the right. Sigmund Fischler is the third from the right. Contact print.
17. August 27, 1939. Sigmund Fischler, Ruth Holländer. Riverside Park, on the Hudson River in upper Manhattan, New York City.
18. Wedding card from Julie Sommer and Joseph Holländer
- 19a, b. Postcard, dated January 29, 1940, from Issac Fischleiber (formerly of Leipzig) in Warsaw to Julie Sommer and Joseph Holländer in Hilchenbach.
20. Heather from the garden of Julie Sommer in Hilchenbach sent to Ruth Holländer in New York in 1939 or 1940. The note is by Ruth Holländer.
21. Search notice from the *Aufbau*—a German-Jewish newspaper published in New York. 1945? 1946?
- 22a. Letter from Julius Lowenstein (Siegen) to Ruth Holländer. 11.6.46.

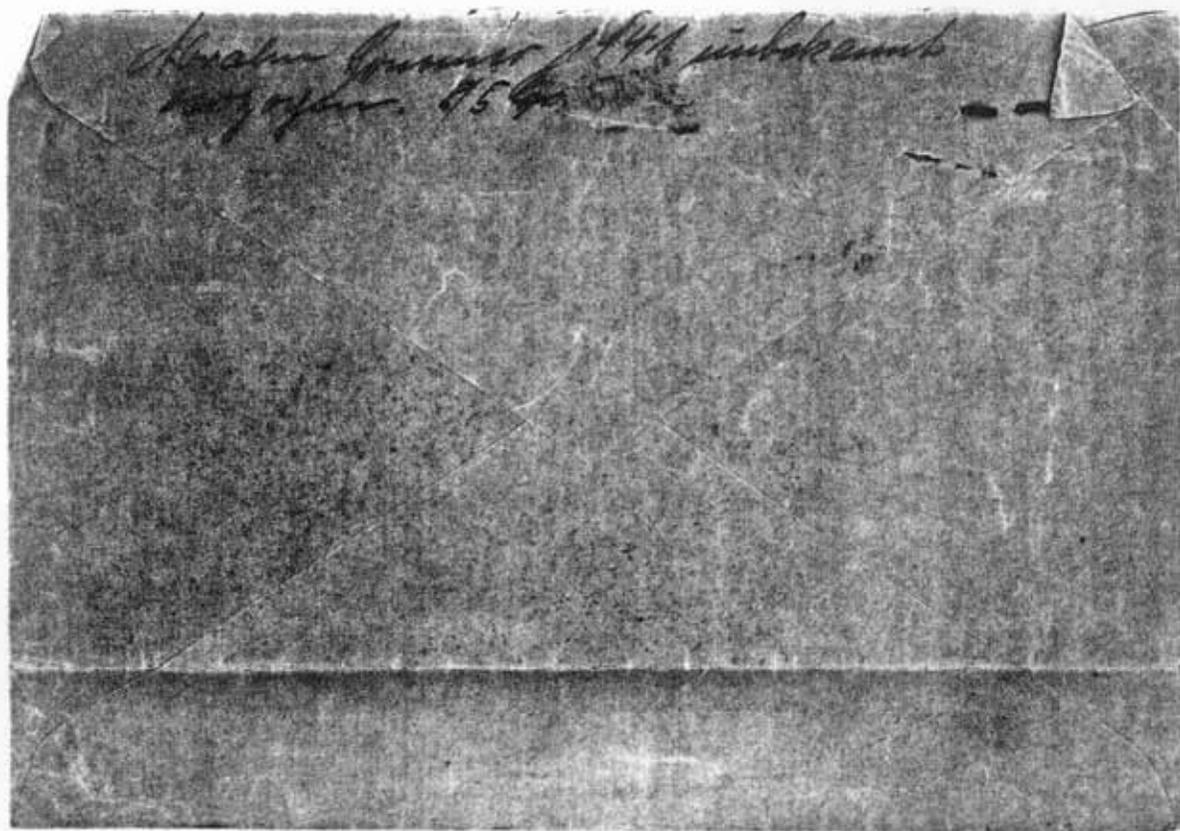
- 22b. Page 2 of a letter from Heinrich Karl (Hilchenbach) to Selma Holländer in Great Britain. 1.12.1946.
23. Address book of Ruth Holländer with the entries "Gertrude Peters" and "Bertha Karl", both of Hilchenbach. 1975-1982.
- 24a, b. Maps of New York City and Manhattan showing the location of Washington Heights where Ruth Holländer lived. For more details on the German-Jewish community, see the book: *Frankfurt on the Hudson*, by Steven Lowenstein, Wayne University Press, 1989.
25. February 1953. Bar Mitzvah of Roger Fischler. Sigmund Fischler, Selma Holländer, Roger Fischler, Rosa Sommer (sister of Julia Sommer), Ruth Holländer.
26. May 1969. Sigmund Fischler, Ruth Holländer.
27. July 1978. Ruth Holländer. Bath, England.



supposedly man according  
to a note that Klaus  
-Dieterman had



SENT by Klaus Dieterman  
1987. He was unaware  
of the source



Handwritten text on the envelope flap:  
Kuala Lumpur 1946  
10/10/46 85

THE ANCESTORS OF RUTH HOLLÄNDER  
MOTHER OF ROGER

RUTH AND HER ANCESTORS ALL CAME FROM A SMALL REGION IN WESTERN GERMANY IN WHAT IS NOW CALLED WESTPHALIA AND HESSE. THEY ARE CALLED "LANDJUDEN", BECAUSE THEY WERE JEWS FROM SMALL VILLAGES WHO RAISED AND SOLD ANIMALS AND HAD SMALL PLOTS OF LAND. SOME OF THESE VILLAGES HAD ONLY A FEW JEWISH FAMILIES SO THEY OFTEN MARRIED JEWS FROM NEARBY SMALL VILLAGES. SOME OF THE VILLAGES WHERE RUTH'S ANCESTORS LIVED ARE SHOWN ON THE MAP ON THE NEXT PAGE

RUTH'S MOTHER WAS JULIE SOMMER FROM HEINEBACH. JULIE'S MOTHER WAS SARAH KATZENSTEIN. THAT'S THE FAMILY THAT LINKS ELIANE AND ROGER. IN THE PICTURE AT THE BEGINNING OF THE ALBUM WE SEE SARAH AS A YOUNG WOMAN WHEN SHE WAS ABOUT EIGHTEEN YEARS OLD. ON THE NEXT PAGE WE SEE JULIE IN HER LATE TWENTIES OR EARLY THIRTIES SITTING TO THE LEFT OF SARAH. JULIE'S FATHER WAS KOPPEL SOMMER

A.

Nr. 2

Hilchenbach, am 12. Januar 1915.

Vor dem unterzeichneten Standesbeamten erschien heute, der Persönlichkeit nach \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ in Person.  
Der Matzejar und Wispfirtlar Topf-  
Holländer,

wohnhaft in Hilchenbach,

\_\_\_\_\_ Wispirtlar Religion, und zeigte an, daß von der  
Eulen Holländer, yaberman Sammer,  
pinner Hofmann,

\_\_\_\_\_ Wispirtlar Religion,  
wohnhaft in \_\_\_\_\_

zu Hilchenbach in pinner Wispirtlar

am \_\_\_\_\_ Mannen ten \_\_\_\_\_ Januar des Jahres

tausend neunhundert fünfzigste \_\_\_\_\_ Uhr mittags

um \_\_\_\_\_ zwei min sechs Uhr ein Mädchen

geboren worden sei und daß das Kind \_\_\_\_\_ den Vornamen

Ruth

erhalten habe.

Vorgelesen, genehmigt und unterschrieben \_\_\_\_\_

Joseph Holländer

Der Standesbeamte.

In Vertretung \_\_\_\_\_

Hilchenbach

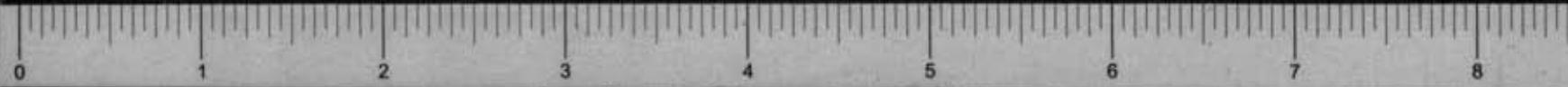
MOAISCH/JEWISH

SEINER WOHNBURG/ AT HOME

METZGER UND VIEHHANDLER  
BUTCHER AND CATTLE DEALER  
JOSEPH HOLLÄNDER

GEBURTSMUNDE/ BIRTH CERTIFICATE  
RUTH HOLLÄNDER  
HILCHENBACH 09.01.1915

UNTERSCHRIFT/  
SIGNATURE  
JOSEPH HOLLÄNDER





Liebe Julia,  
Ihre Freude an der  
Jahresfeier ist mir  
sehr lieb. Ich hoffe,  
die Besuche werden  
mir ein Vergnügen  
sein. Ich hoffe bald  
noch von Ihnen zu  
hören, ob Sie  
noch in Bonn  
sind.  
Julia

5  
SIEGEN  
1915

Stad  
Julia  
Liedersbach 10. II

POSTKARTE/ POST CARD JULIE SOMMER ZU/TO HEDWIG HOLLÄNDER (FRANKFORT)

RUTH HOLLÄNDER

09.01.1915 HILCHENBACH - 02.12.1982 NEW YORK



↑  
ATELIER KRAUSS  
MILCHENBACH 7/W.

JULIE SOMMER RUTH HOLLÄNDER JOSEPH HOLLÄNDER

1915-1916



RUTH HOLLÄNDER



JULIE SOMMER  
CA. 1916

↑ ATELIER KRAUS HILCHENBACH ↑



RUTH, SELMA HOLLÄNDER

1923



SELMA, ARTUR, RUTH HOLLÄNDER

1926



LISTE DEM SCHULKAMERADIN: ZU RUTH HOLLÄNDER  
GESCHICHT NACH 1972

LIST OF SCHOOLMATES: SENT TO RUTH HOLLÄNDER  
AFTER 1972

Ruth Holländer? Raegerstraße  
 Lem Limpur - Ketscherle - gelähmt Mann  
 Ernst Pleck - Mann gefallen - vermisst  
 Ernst 1945 gestorben  
 Ernst Kueker vermisst seit 1943  
 2. Mann Ketscherle Kueker  
 Otto Kreis Frau gelähmt - ist  
 Otto 1942 gestorben  
 ? war vorübergehend hier ge-  
 wesen  
 Ruth "Die Strahlende"  
 Helene Müller Mann, Lehrer 4 Söhne  
 " " ganz schwer gestorben  
 Grete Baker Witwe keine Kinder  
 ? "Läfer gefallen, Ernst Plecks Mann  
 ? Tröppler  
 ? Mit mir habe sie nicht viel alle  
 Jahre es aber vergessen  
 Mücke Hübner machen lassen

RUTH "DIE STRAHLENDE" - "THE BEAMING ONE"



AUFNAHME "LEONAR"



R.H.

R.H.

"JULI 1929 IN WANFRIED" (14 JAHRE/YEARS OLD)

ANGESTELLT ALS LEHRAHMÄDCHEN UND VERKÄUFERIN  
 BEI EHRÜCH KONFEKTION INS WANFRIED 12.07.1929-31.12.1933  
 APPRENTICE AND SALES CLERK: EHRÜCH CLOTHING, WANFRIED ↑

← RUTH HOLLÄNDER UND SCHULKAMERADIN/AND SCHOOLMATES  
1928? 1929?

**Hermann Ehrlich**

Manufakturwaren  
Damen- u. Kinderkonfektion

Fernsprecher Nr. 22

An

Wanfried, den 31. Dezember 1933  
(a. d. Werra)

Z e u g n i s .

Fräulein Ruth Holländer geb. am 9. Januar 1915 zu Hilchenbach Westf. war vom 15. Juli 1929 bis 15. Juli 1932 in meinem Manufaktur & Konfektionsgeschäft als Lehrling und vom 15. Juli 1932 bis 31. Dezemb. 1933 als Verkäuferin tätig.

Dieselbe hat durch Fleiss und Ehrlichkeit mein volles Vertrauen erworben und ist es mir gelungen in dieser Zeit sich Warenkenntnisse ~~sich~~ anzueignen.

Durch Ihr freundliches Wesen liess sich die Kundschaft gern von mir bedienen und bedaure ich in mir eine gute Stütze zu verlieren.

Aus diesen Gründen kann ich Fräulein Holländer jedem meiner Berufsgenossen empfehlen.

Ihre Entlassung erfolgt auf eigenem Wunsch. Meine besten Wünsche begleiten Fräulein Holländer auf Ihrem ferneren Lebensweg.

*Hermann Ehrlich*

ZEUGNIS-REFERENZ / TESTIMONIAL

RUTH HOLLÄNDER FINISHED SCHOOL IN 1929 - AGED 14 -  
AND WORKED AS AN APPRENTICE (15.07.1929) AND THEN AS A SALES CLERK  
15.07.1932 - 31.12.1933 (PERHAPS FORCED OUT BY NAZI PRESSURE)

Eduard Marschall Wwe.

Stuttgart, den 9. September 1937  
Gausstr. 33

Z e u g n i s .

Fräulein Ruth Holländer aus Hilchenbach in Westfalen war vom 1. Februar 1935 bis 1. Juni 1936 in unserem Geschäft (Textilwaren) als Verkäuferin tätig.

Sie hat sich unsere Zufriedenheit in jeder Beziehung erworben. Nach dem Ableben meines Mannes und dem Verkauf des Geschäftes war Fräulein Holländer bei mir im Haushalt und war ihr Fleiss, Ehrlichkeit und Betragen nur lobenswert. Sie hat Wille und Geschick zu jeder Arbeit. Habe dieselbe lieb gewonnen.

Wünsche Ihr auf Ihrem Lebensweg das Beste.

*Frau Eduard Marschall*

ZEUGNIS / TESTIMONIAL †

ANSTELLUNG / EMPLOYMENT

RUTH HOLLÄNDER (09.01.1915)

1. SCHULABSCHLUSS / GRADUATION JUNI / JUNE ? 1929
2. LEHRAMÄDCHEN / APPRENTICE - EHRICH, WANFRIED A/WIRMA 15.07.1929 - 15.07.1932
3. VERKÄUFERIN / SALES CLERK - " " 15.07.1932 - 31.12.1933
4. "SUHL - BRÜHL BEI BOBW 1934-35" → 5. VERKÄUFERIN / SALES CLERK - MARSHALL, IGGELHEIM\* - STUTTGART  
01.02.1935 - 01.06. 1936
6. "HEIMSGEHILFEN" / HOUSEMAD - ? BEI AT MARSHALL † ? BEI AT BAER? (FOTO/PL.  
STUTTGART, "GEMIS STRASSE 33 09.08.1937" [WOHNUNGSABMELDUNG]
7. ABMELDUNG VON / DEPARTURE FROM STUTTGART - 09.09.1937
8. ABMELDUNG FÜR / DEPARTURE FOR NEW YORK - 01.11.1937

(NOTIZ)  
\* NACH EINE ANMERKUNG R.H.



"WANFRIED" 15.07.1929 - 31.12.1933



"GEORG FLOTT PHOTOGRAPH"

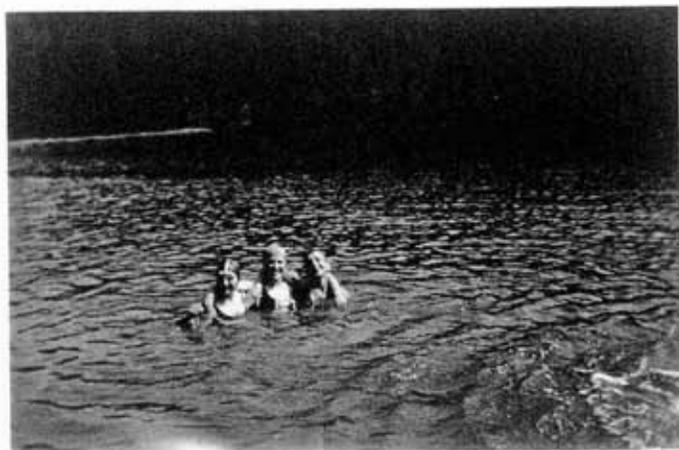
RUTH HOLLÄNDER 1929 - 1933



1934 † R.H.  
KUCKEN/SEE LEVI HOLLÄNDER



"1936"



ELSIE SCHAEFER RUTH HOLLÄNDER  
ARTHUR SCHAEFER



? ? † R.H.

RUTH HOLLÄNDER 1934 - 1936



"STUTTGART"



"STUTTGART, ERIC BAER 1937"



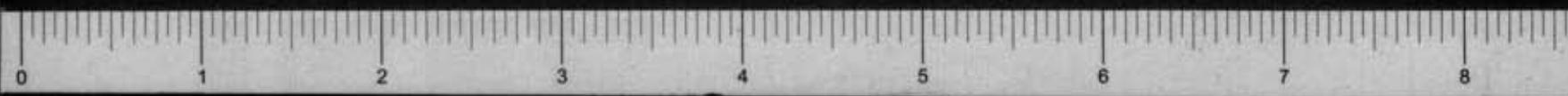
"STUTTGART 1937"



STUTTGART ?

STUTTGART 02.1935 - 09.09.1937

RUTH HOLLÄNDER





↑  
"FOTUFLUTT B 920 ROTEBOMISTA 12"  
↓



"MUNICH 1937"



DIE FAMILIE / THE FAMILY  
1936, 1937

# Stunden der Andacht.

Ein Gebet- und Erbauungs-Buch  
für Israels Frauen und Jung-  
frauen zur öffentlichen und häus-  
lichen Andacht, sowie für alle Ver-  
hältnisse des weiblichen Lebens.

Von Sanny Neuda

geb. Sämlebl.

„Ich danke: Beten steht bei mir  
Erhören und Gewähren in dem  
Höchsten Band.“ (Df. 77. 11.)



Achtundzwanzigste Auflage.  
Alle Rechte vorbehalten.

Verlag von Jakob B. Brandels, Breslau.

„Das Gebet liegt in unserer Natur. Es ist  
der Seufzer einer gefangenen Seele, es ist der  
Vorgeschmack ihrer Befreiung, es ist das Vor-  
gefühl der Ewigkeit.“  
Der Mensch betet, auf welcher Stufe der  
Sittigung er auch stehen mag.“

Das Buch der Erlebung.

Keiner lieben Kistler zu  
Roch. Gra. Schönn 56 94

Ihrer Hochgeborenen der edlen  
großherzigen Frau Baronin

Louise von Rothschild

Gemahlin des edlen Barons

Herrn M. Carl von Rothschild

in Frankfurt am Main

in tiefster Ehrfurcht gewidmet von  
der Verfasserin und dem Verleger.



Minist. L. Johann Palma mit mir  
die Summe gegeben 17. Febr. 5699.  
Die Tagessumme Markt, und die Tagessumme  
Minist. Minister begleitet mich auf  
Alten Rayen. In dem selben Tag  
gab auf L. Ruff mit mir den  
Tag gegeben. In dem Minister.

GESCHICHTE  
STORY  
↓

## Ein zweimal Geschenk / A Two-time Gift

Geschenk von Ruth Holländer an seiner Mutter Julie Sommer für Rosh Hashana 5697 (17.09.1936). Dieses Buch (28 Auflage!) ist, mit einige wenige Wörter ins Hebraisch, ganz ins Deutsch geschrieben.

Selma Holländer ist am 3 Juli 1939 von Deutschland weggegangen und Julie Sommer hat ihr dieses Buch gegeben. Das Datum "17 Tamuz 5699" entsprechend mit 4 Juli 1939.

Ruth Holländer gave this book *Meditative Moments* to her mother Julie Sommer for Rosh Hashannah 5697 (17.09.1936). This book—this copy is from the 28<sup>th</sup> edition!—is, except for a few words in Hebrew, written entirely in German.

Selma Holländer left Germany for England on July 3, 1939 and Julie Sommer gave this book to her. The date in the text is 17 Tamuz 5699, which corresponds to July 4, 1939.



REISEPASS AUFNAHME? PASSPORT PHOTO?

WIDMUNG / DEDICATION: SIGMUND FISCHLER



↑  
JOSEPH HOLLÄNDER

"01.11.1937 COLOGNE"  
LETZENTAG INS DEUTSCHLAND  
LAST DAY IN GERMANY



S.F.  
←  
R.H.

SS. AQUITANIA 03.11.1937 → 09.11.1937



R.H. A.H.

DER WEGGANG / THE DEPARTURE

02.11.1937 PARIS  
← MIT SEINEM COUSIN / WITH  
HER COUSIN ALBERT HERZ

KONSULTIEREN:  
"EINE DREIFACHE LIEBES GESCHICHTE!"  
CONSULT:  
"A TRIPLE LOVE STORY"



RUTH HOLLÄNDER  
NEW YORK 1939/1939



RIVERSIDE DRIVE (BRÜCKE/BRIDGE GEORGE WASHINGTON)  
NEW YORK 04.1939



"27.08.1939"



"06.09.1945"

SIGMUND FISCHLER ROGER MORRIS FISCHLER

RUTH HOLLÄNDER- SIGMUND FISCHLER (FISCHLEIBER)

TRAUUNG/WEDDING  
NEW YORK 19.03.1939

SIGMUND FISCHLER  
LEIPZIG 06.08.1899 - NEW YORK 06.03.1972  
zu/ro USA 11.1925

ROGER MORRIS FISCHLER  
NEW YORK 22.02.1940

Ich suche meine Eltern und  
Bruder:  
**Josef Holländer u.  
Frau Julchen**  
geb. Sommer, Sohn  
**Arthur Holländer**  
zuletzt Hilchenbach, Westf.,  
letzte Nachricht 1942.  
Auskunft erbitten:  
**Mrs. RUTH FISCHLER**  
geb. Holländer  
628 W. 151st St., Apt. 1-B, N.Y.

"I AM SEARCHING FOR MY PARENTS AND  
BROTHER JOSEF HOLLÄNDER AND WIFE  
JULCHEN NÉE SOMMER, SON ARTHUR  
HOLLÄNDER LATELY OF HILCHENBACH,  
WESTFALLIA, LAST NEWS 1942.  
INFORMATION REQUESTED:  
MRS. RUTH FISCHLER NÉE HOLLÄNDER  
628 W. 151ST STREET, APT 1-B, NEW YORK"

AUFBAU (NEW YORK 1945? 1946?)

RUTH HOLLÄNDER

SEINE FAMILIE / LOOKS FOR HER FAMILY

Julius Loewenstein

Siegen, den 11.6.46

Siegen / Westf.

Wiesenstr. 37/3

Sehr geehrte Frau Fischer!

Durch die "World Jewish Congress" London, konnte ich heute in der  
Besitz Ihrer Anfrage nach Ihren Eltern und Bruder (Josef, Julchen  
und Arthur Holländer). Am 28. April 1942 sind dieselben mit einem  
Transport nach Szamosch (Polen) gekommen. Ich weiß daher noch das  
Datum genau, da zwei Schwestern von mir, sowie Franka, Wladanu  
und viele andere Glaubensgenossen mit diesem Transport fort kamen.  
Ich kam die letzten Jahre öfter mit Ihrem Herrn Vater u. Bruder zu-  
sammen, da dieselben in Geisbela arbeiteten und ich dort wohnte.  
Leider kann ich Ihnen nicht viel Hoffnung machen, da man von diesem  
Transport nie mehr etwas hörte und auch bis dato niemand zurück-  
gekehrt ist.

Ich selbst war auch 3 Jahre im K.-Z. Theresienstadt und habe als  
einziger Jude mit meiner Frau, aus dem ganzen Siegerland die Zeit  
überlebt.

Ich wäre froh, Ihnen eine bessere Nachricht zukommen lassen zu  
können, aber es hat auch keinen Zweck, Sie in Hoffnungen zu wiegen,  
die sich nicht bewahrheiten. Ihr Onkel u. Familie sind 1943 nach  
Polen gekommen, auch davon kann ich Ihnen nichts weiter mitteilen.

Ihnen und Ihrer lieben Familie nur das Beste wünschend, sendet  
Allen unbekannter Weise herzliche Grüße Ihr

*Julius Loewenstein*

Siegen / Westf.  
Wiesenstr. 37/3

→  
ENGLISH

NACH DEM KRIEG / AFTER THE WAR

Letter From Julius Lowenstein in Siegen, June 11, 1946

DEUTSCH

Today I received, via the World Jewish Congress in London, your request for information about your parents and brother (Joseph, Julchen and Arthur Holländer. On April 28, 1942 they arrived by transport in Szamosch (Poland). I recall the date precisely because two of my sisters, as well as the Franks from Weidenau [just north of Siegen] and many other co-religionists, arrived on this transport. In the last years I was often together with your father and brother because they worked in Geisweid [south west of Hilchenbach and northwest of Siegen] and I lived there. Unfortunately I cannot offer you much hope, because nothing more was heard about this transport and until now no one has returned. I myself spent three years in the Theresienstadt concentration camp and I and my wife are the only Jews in the entire Siegerland [region around Siegen, including Hilchenbach] who survived.

I would be happy if I could offer you some better news, but there is no use in raising your hopes. Your uncle [Willi Holländer] and his family were transported to Poland in 1943, but likewise there has been no communication from them. ...

Letter From Heinrich Karl in Hilchenbach, to Selma Holländer in England, December 1, 1946

Hilchenbach, 1. XII. 1946

liebe Selma.

Anbei die gewünschten G. U. woraus Sie sehen können, daß ich  
deinen Brief vom 13. Oktober erhalten habe. Vielen Dank für die

Oncle Willi toll, wie ich neulich aus Laasphe hörte, in  
seinem Lager gestorben sein. Von Tante Gerdi und den beiden  
Tinggen höre ich leider nichts, auch nicht von deinen Eltern.  
Frage mir oder Tante Hedwig doch mal gelegentlich mit,  
was ihr darüber weißt. Onkel Edmund hat mir kürzlich  
auch aus Palästina geschrieben, worüber ich mich sehr  
freute, habe ihm ausführlich geantwortet.

für heute dem genug. Mit herzlichen Grüßen aus der  
Heimstadt  
Heinrich Karl

(214) (Hilchenbach Westf. Gerberstr. 168)

"Liebe Selma.

Anbei die Gewünschten G.U. voraus Du ersehen kannst, daß ich deinen Brief vom 13. Oktober erhalten habe. Vielen Dank für die lieben Zeilen. Den erwähnten anderen Brief hatte ich wohl bekommen, meine Antwort kam aber bald zurück mit

Ja, von deinen Schulkameraden ist wohl keiner noch einer da. Diese Jahrgänge sind faßt restlos dahin. Das von den früheren jüdischen Mitbürgern niemand mehr in Hilchenbach ist, dürfte Dir durch Tante Hedwig bekannt sein.

Onkel Willi soll, wie ich neulich aus Laasphe hörte, in einem Lager gestorben sein. Von Tante Gerdi und den beiden Jungen höre ich leider nichts, auch nicht von Deinen Eltern. Teile mir oder Tante Hedwig doch mal gelegentlich mit, was ihr darüber wißt. Onkel Eduard hat mir kürzlich auch aus Palästina geschrieben, worüber ich mich sehr freute, habe ihn ausführlich geantwortet. Meine Schwester Berta will Dir auch demnächst mal einiges mitteilen. Deshalb will ich es heute kurz machen. Wir wissen ja alle nicht viel.

Die armen Kleinen, wie Älteren haben wenigstens früher viel Gutes erfahren. Gelegentlich gerne mehr l(iebe) Selma für heute denn genug. Mit herzlichen Grüßen aus der

Heimat Heinrich Karl  
(21b) (Hilchenbach i./Westfalen - Gerberstraße 168) "

[ABSCHRIBUNG HERR GÄMLICH]

[For Heinrich Karl and the Peter family (mentioned in the letter) see the sheet on former neighbours]

Dear Selma, ... I received your letter of October 13 ... my previous reply came back. ... How are we? ... Our great concern is about our daily bread and the basic necessities of life. We have all become beggars, the non-Nazis as well as the former Nazis. Things are not what one could describe as normal. You asked about your former teacher Mr. Soeder; [he was murdered this year]. The Peters' youngest child Hilde [lived in the Moselle (region of France), husband died in the last weeks of the war.] ... It is doubtful if any of your former schoolmates are still here [? none are left?]. None of the former Jewish residents, as you should have heard from Aunt Hedwig, is here.

Uncle Willi, as I recently learned in Laasphe [neighbouring town], apparently died in a concentration camp. Unfortunately I have not heard anything about Tante Gerdi [wife of Willi] and the two boys [Arno Alfred and Lothar] nor about your parents. Let me or Aunt Hedwig know what you know about this. Uncle Edmund recently wrote me from Palestine. ...

... Greetings from your  
home town

Heinrich Karl



VOR 11.9.1962

Von links nach rechts:

Berta, Gretchen's jüngste  
 Meltrid, " " Älteste

② Mütter  
 Else

① Vater  
 Hilde mit Frieda der Ältesten.

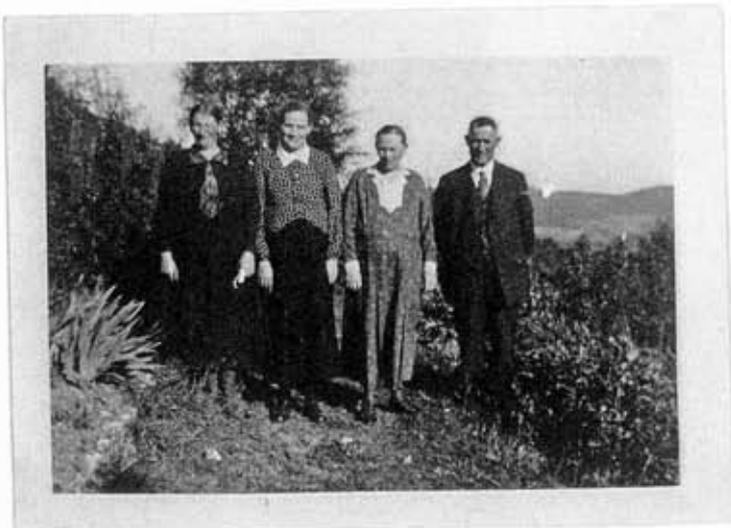
③ Gertrude  
 Gretchen  
 in der Klausur: Oma Mütter, Gretchen's Schwiegermutter



20. September 1954

① ② ↑  
 UNTERZECH 6  
 ↓  
 ③

ZIP CODE		AREA CODE
6 Peter Unterzeche 6		
75912 Hilchenbach/Kulmb.		
CITY CODE		



④ ⑤ ② ①

1. FRIEDRICH LUDWIG GÜNTER PETER (1875-1962)
2. LINA PETER (1880-1963)
3. GERTRUDE PETER
4. JOLIE SOMMER 5. FRIEDA HEDRICH (1908-1950)

ADREßBUCH / ADDRESS BOOK RUTH HOLLÄNDER  
 c. 1975 → 1982

Berta Karl	010-49-2733
Hilchenbach 11	(82733)
D 6912 - Hilchenbach	755
	2775

2 LINE → R.H.P

NACH DEM KRIEG GESCHICHT? SENT AFTER WWII?  
 (LOSE AUFNAHME, LOOSE PHOTO  
 (?BILDER VON GERTRUDE PETER?))

ZWISCHEN 1919 UND 1925 HAT RUTH HOLLÄNDER  
 INS UNTERZECH 8 GEWOHNT. THE HOLLÄNDERS  
 LIVED NEXT DOOR AT UNTERZECH 8, 1919-1925

DER KONTAKT MIT HILCHENBACH NACH DEM KRIEG  
 STAYING IN CONTACT WITH HILCHENBACH AFTER THE WAR