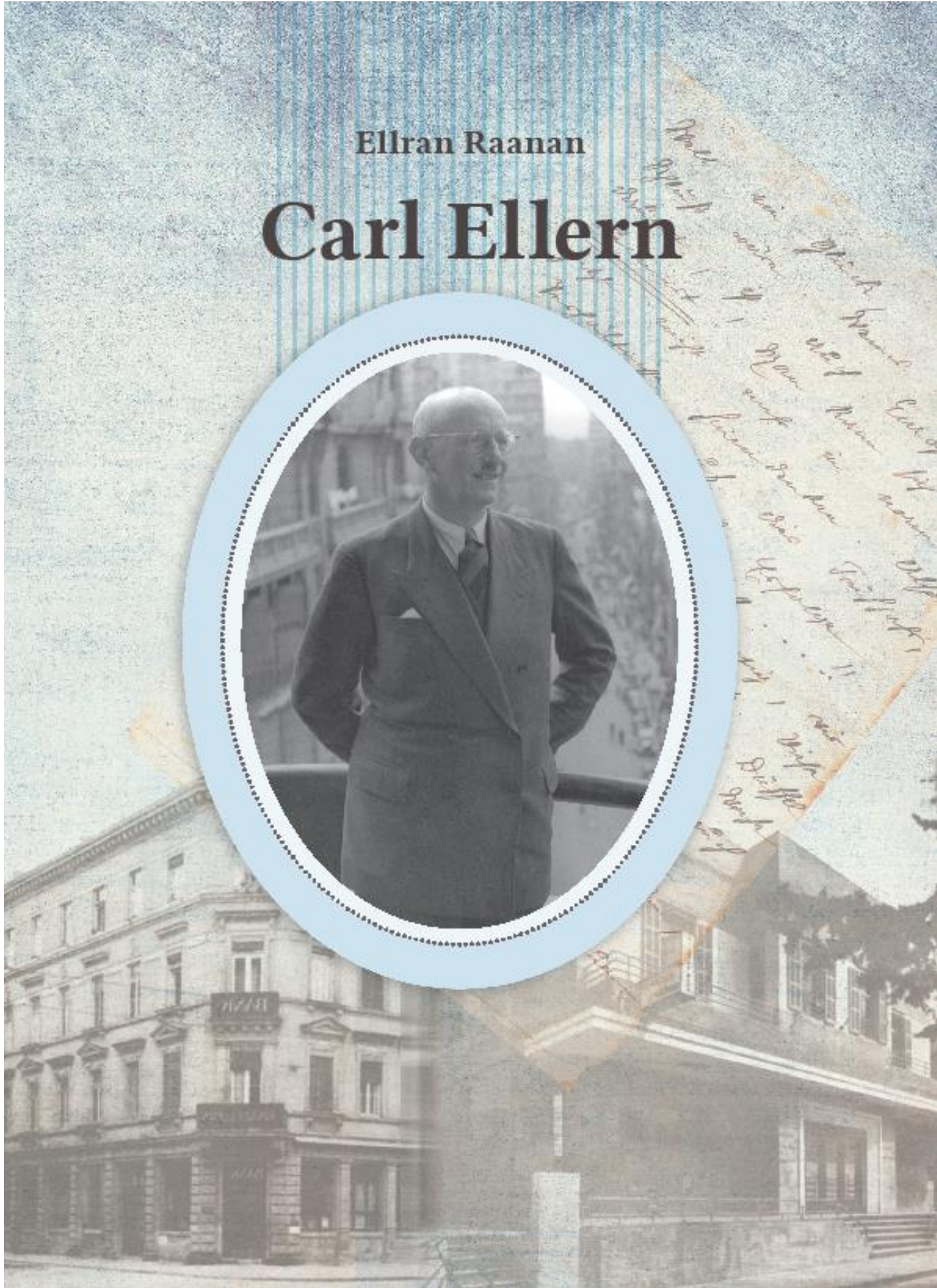
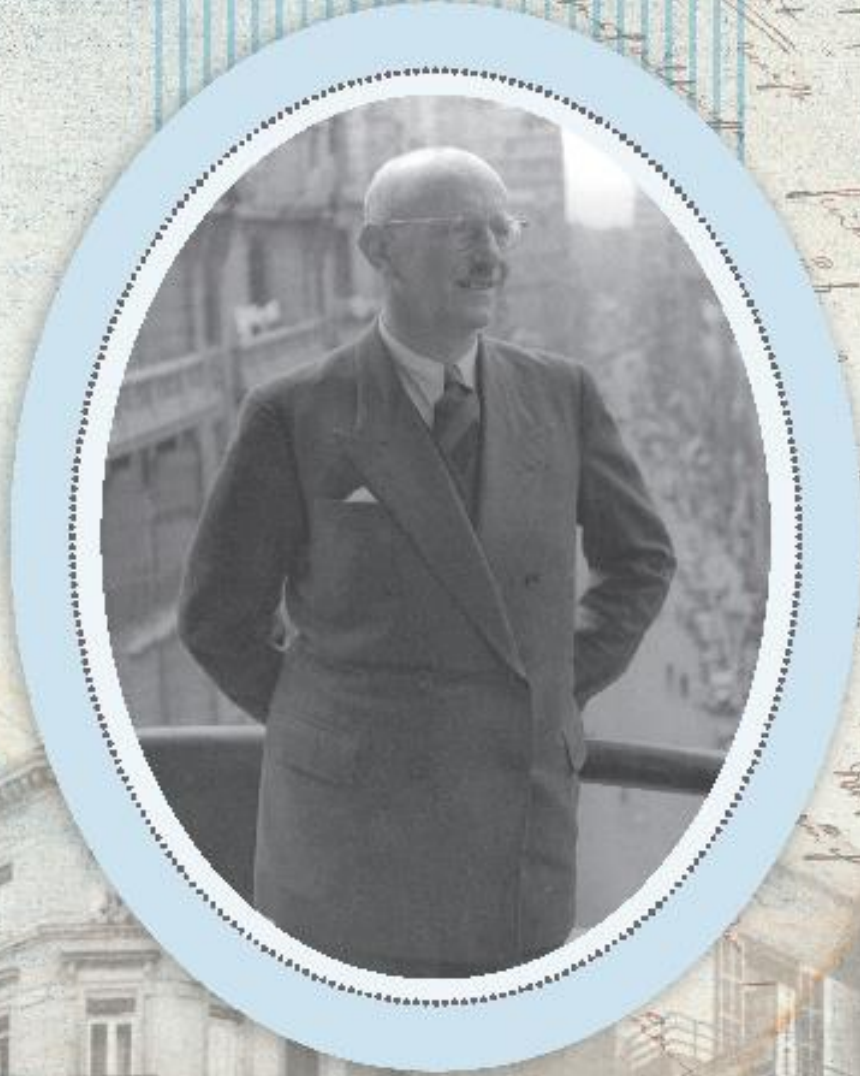


Ellran Raanan

# Carl Ellern



# **Carl Ellern**

**Raanan Ellran**

# Carl Ellern

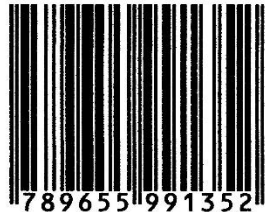
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## Table of Contents

	Page
Introduction.....	5
Description of Carl Ellern’s life course.....	7
Carl's parents: Caroline and Aron Meir Sigmund Ellern .....	46
Jenny Ellern – Carl’s first wife .....	48
Heiny Ellern - Carl’s brother .....	54
Anna Schwab – Carl’s sister .....	62
Alex Ellern – Carl's younger brother .....	65
Dr. Aron Ellern – Carl's eldest son – my Father .....	69
Harold Ellery – Carl's second son .....	73
Margot Rieck — Carl's youngest daughter .....	78
Martha nee Igersheimer - Carl's wife since 1945 .....	83
Hermann Ellern – Carl’s cousin .....	86
Heinrich Chaim Maier – Carl’s cousin .....	89
Albert Asher Ellern – Carl's Uncle .....	93
Recha (Rachel) Ellern - Carl's cousin .....	94
Ellern’s Bank .....	98
Appendices .....	103
Family Album .....	141



## Introduction

In November 1952, "Edition Olympia", Tel Aviv, published the second edition of "the Feuchtwanger family, descendants of Seligman Feuchtwanger"<sup>1</sup>, as the genealogical tree of the Feuchtwanger family. The first edition was published in Munich in 1910. The Ellern family is one of the branches of this family tree. Carl Ellern was one of the six members of the Committee who dealt with the release of the 1952 edition. Fifty-seven years later, in 2009, an expanded and updated edition was released. Susan Edel, my second cousin, was the main force that worked on collecting and editing the material.<sup>2</sup> The edition included a historical overview of the family history, including documents and pictures, and, of course, an update of records that were in previous editions, as well as the addition of newly added descendants. The current version includes 14,000 names, compared to 500 in the first edition and 1,400 in the second one. The "Beit Ellern" Foundation (of which I was one of the members of the board), led by the late Margot Ellern (Hermann Ellern's daughter), helped finance this edition.

5.2.3 M • אַלרן  
**Carl Kalonymos Ellern**  
Born: 22 May 1890 in Frankfurt am Main, Germany, ג' סיון תר"נ - Died:  
7 June 1966 in Tel Aviv, Israel, י"ט סיון תשכ"ו  
Note : Until 1905: Hirsch Realschule and Goethe Gymnasium in  
Frankfurt am Main. 1905-1910: Karlsruhe. 1910-1914: Paris. 1914-  
1918: Military Service (West Front, East Front, Balkans). 1919 -1938:  
With Hugo Mainz and Co., Bankers, Hamburg. For several years  
member of "Boersen-Vorstand". November 1938: 8 days  
concentration camp Oranienburg. December 1938 - March 1940  
London and Amsterdam. From 1940 in Tel Aviv, Israel. Manager,  
Ellern's Bank Ltd., Tel Aviv, Israel.

Carl Ellern's record in the 1952 edition

When the new edition was distributed to the family members, Bruria Navi, Carl's cousin's daughter, approached me and asked how it could be that the official publication regarding Carl Ellern has remained as it was in 1952, while other records have been expanded. In her opinion, Carl's records did not adequately represent his position in society and the economy of the country, and the writing did not reflect his actions and performance. At the same time, other people's actions were expressed much more prominently.

After reading the writing on Carl in the new edition, I was very saddened. Indeed, the script dwarfs the man and his work. I suppose Grandpa Carl himself drafted the section about him, with the modesty that characterized him. Therefore, at the next meeting with Bruria Navi, I promised to write about Grandfather and make sure his descendants will know his life story and the position he occupied in building the country's economy in its early days.

<sup>1</sup> The Feuchtwanger Family, The Descendants of Seligmann Feuchtwanger, Edition Olyimpia-Martin Feuchtwanger-Tel Aviv. Lidor Press, 1952.

<sup>2</sup> Nathan Drori-Editor, Susan Edel - Joint Editor, The Feuchtwanger Family, The Descendants of Seligmann and Fanny Feuchtwanger. Tel Aviv, Israel.

When Carl and Martha passed away, their rented apartment in Dizengoff Street 8, Tel Aviv, had to be vacated. The job was entrusted to our mother, Ruth Ellern. All the documents and pictures came to our parents' house in Raanana. When my parents (Ruth and Aron) also passed away, all the material came to me. Unfortunately, I did not get to know the material while my father was alive, so there was quite a bit of stuff I had no idea what it meant, as well as many pictures of people that I could not identify or where and when they were taken. Luckily, in some of the material, there were comments, many of them in Father Aron's handwriting, which made the study of the material possible. With the help of family members, we were able to decode a significant number of documents and pictures. Another great deal of material has been sent for professional translation.

This essay is an attempt to deal with the above failure. The information sources that I used for writing this essay were as follows: the material that remained in my parents' home, conversations with people, materials I removed from archives and websites, and information I received from family members who were happy to contribute and help.

I hope my objective has been achieved. This was to gather information about Carl Ellern and those closest to him, and to allow future generations to get to know him, as well as his work. I would not have started and certainly not finished writing, without Bruria Navi's help, with translation, information, editing and, most of all - with her encouragement. I am grateful to Ruth Fidler for the proofreading and remarks of the original Hebrew version, and to all the family and friends who helped, advised, and encouraged me.

Very special thanks to Tony Abrahams, my cousin Debbie's husband for proof reading and other contributions to this English version.

Raanan Ellran

## Description of Carl Ellern's life course

Carl Kalonimus Ellern (later his three children called him Peps) was born on May 22, 1890, in the city of Frankfurt, Germany. Son of Sigmund Aron Meir Ellern (7.10.1854 – 3.2.1902), a banker of the town of Fürth, and Caroline Cerla Ellern, nee Bing (9.6.1860 – 23.7.1943). Carl had a sister and a brother, twins, about two and a half years older than him, Heiny and Anna, and nine years after his birth, his younger brother Alex was born.<sup>3</sup>

The elementary school he attended was the Hirsch Realschule of the Orthodox Jewish community in Frankfurt. The picture below was published in 1928 to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the institution's establishment. The school was founded in 1853 by the Orthodox Community and provided general and religious education. Later, the school name was changed to the Samson-Raphael Hirsch School, after its first principal.<sup>4</sup>



*The Real-School building, Frankfurt on the Main, Germany, photo taken on 1928*

On February 3, 1902, when he was almost 12 years old, his father Sigmund died of pneumonia. He was only 47 years old at the time of his death. The use of antibiotics (based on sulphur) that could have saved his life began only a few months after his death.

Carl began attending the Goethe Gymnasium high school in Frankfurt in 1903.<sup>5</sup> A certificate he received at Christmas 1904 indicates that he was ranked third out of 21 classmates.

Grandpa Carl told his grandson Jonathan that he attended high school with the son of the Emperor of Germany. He also told him about a football game in which he played in the opposing team to that of the Emperor's son. The Emperor's team lost which made him angry with Grandpa and he called him a "dirty Jew". In response, Grandpa punched him in the face and broke his

<sup>3</sup> His brother's life history is presented in detail below, along with the life history of other family members who were very close and dear to Carl.

<sup>4</sup> From the Beit Hatfutsot website.

<sup>5</sup> On August 17, 1903, the family address was - Elkenbachstrasse 47, Frankfurt.

tooth. The school principal carried out an investigation and asked to hear Grandpa's version. When asked by the principal, the Emperor's son confirmed what Grandfather had said, and in response, the principal said: "then you deserved it! Go back to your classrooms." Grandpa seemed to enjoy telling this story.



*From right to left: Heiny, Carl, Alex, and Anna Ellern*

Caroline was born in Amsterdam, and her family remained there even after Caroline moved to Germany. In July 1904, Anna, Carl's sister, went to visit them, and according to postcards that were found, the family members often visited Caroline's family in Amsterdam.<sup>6</sup>

Caroline remained a widow with four children and understandably, her financial situation was not comfortable. The person who helped her was Sigmund's brother, Ignatz, Carl's uncle, and Hermann Ellern's father. Ignatz helped Heiny, Carl's older brother, financed his medical studies and even got Carl a job at a bank he owned.

Carl's original plan was to study law, but as mentioned, his mother did not have enough means, so, after completing two years in high school, in 1905, he went to study banking with his uncle, Ignatz in the city of Karlsruhe. He was only 15 years old.

From 1905 to 1910, Carl lived in the city of Karlsruhe and began working as a clerk in his uncle's bank. According to his cousin Hermann's stories, Carl turned out to be a real talent and very soon began developing new areas of business at the bank.<sup>7</sup>

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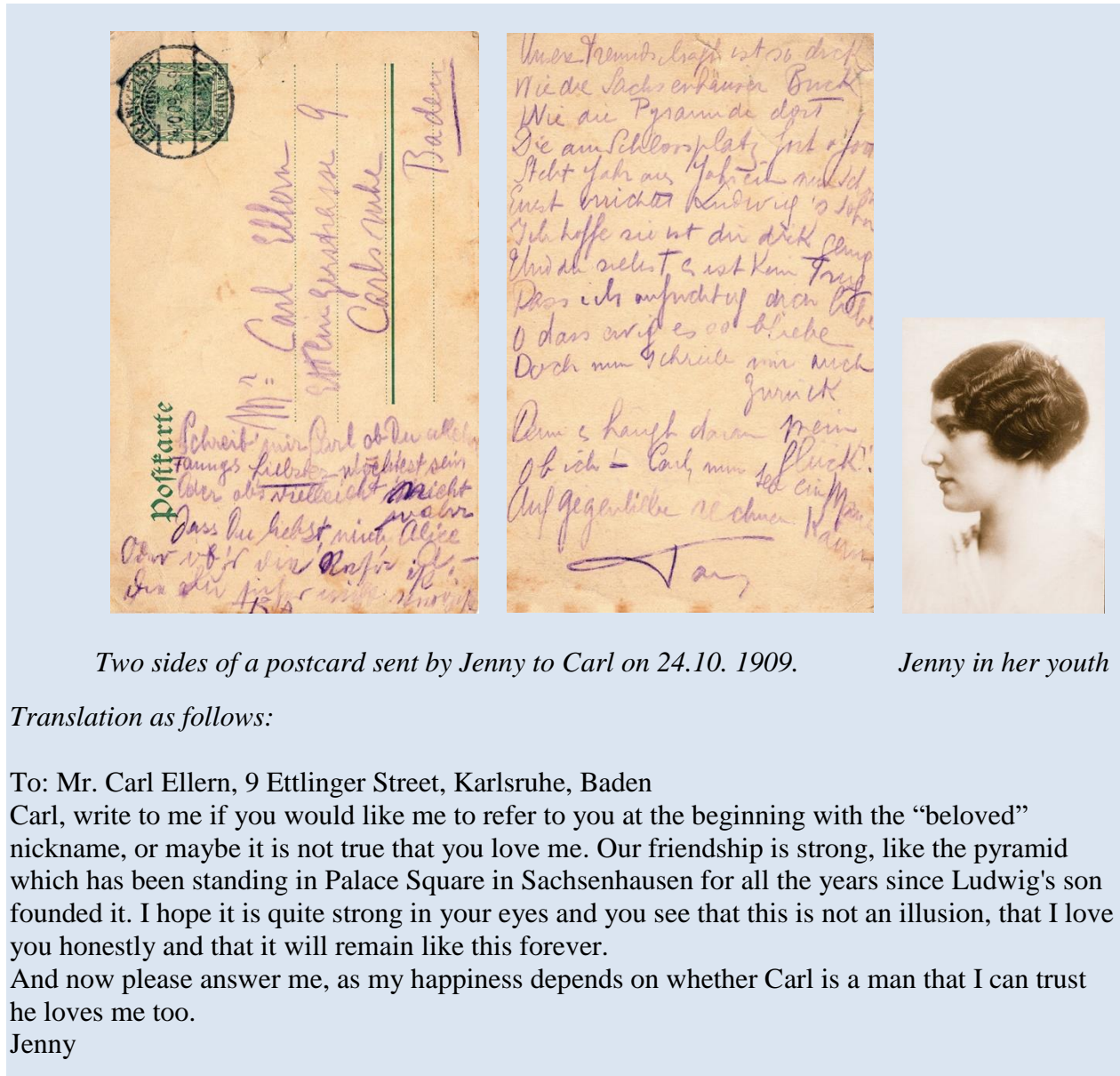
<sup>6</sup> From July 1904 or earlier, the family address was already: Ulandstrasse 36, Frankfurt am Mein.

<sup>7</sup> Postcards found from this period teach that its address was Ettlingerstrasse 9, Karlsruhe



Carl's eldest son, Aron, wrote that in 1908 his father got engaged secretly to Jenny Schenele Goldberg. They only got married six years later when he earned enough to support a family. A postcard sent by Jenny to Carl on December 20, 1906, asking him to get tickets to the theatre, indicates that their relationship had begun at least two years earlier. Comments that have been written by Jacob Goldberg, Jenny's brother, shed light on the young couple's decision to keep their engagement secret. He wrote: "Only years after secretly being engaged to Jenny, Carl finally earned a high enough salary to allow him to marry her. My parents have long agreed to the intended groom. The marriage could now be celebrated".

From 1910 to 1914, Carl lived in Paris<sup>8</sup>. He worked there for the Steindecker<sup>9</sup> brothers (Steindecker Freres), with whom many family members have worked over the years.



Two sides of a postcard sent by Jenny to Carl on 24.10. 1909.

Jenny in her youth

Translation as follows:

To: Mr. Carl Ellern, 9 Ettlinger Street, Karlsruhe, Baden

Carl, write to me if you would like me to refer to you at the beginning with the "beloved" nickname, or maybe it is not true that you love me. Our friendship is strong, like the pyramid which has been standing in Palace Square in Sachsenhausen for all the years since Ludwig's son founded it. I hope it is quite strong in your eyes and you see that this is not an illusion, that I love you honestly and that it will remain like this forever.

And now please answer me, as my happiness depends on whether Carl is a man that I can trust he loves me too.

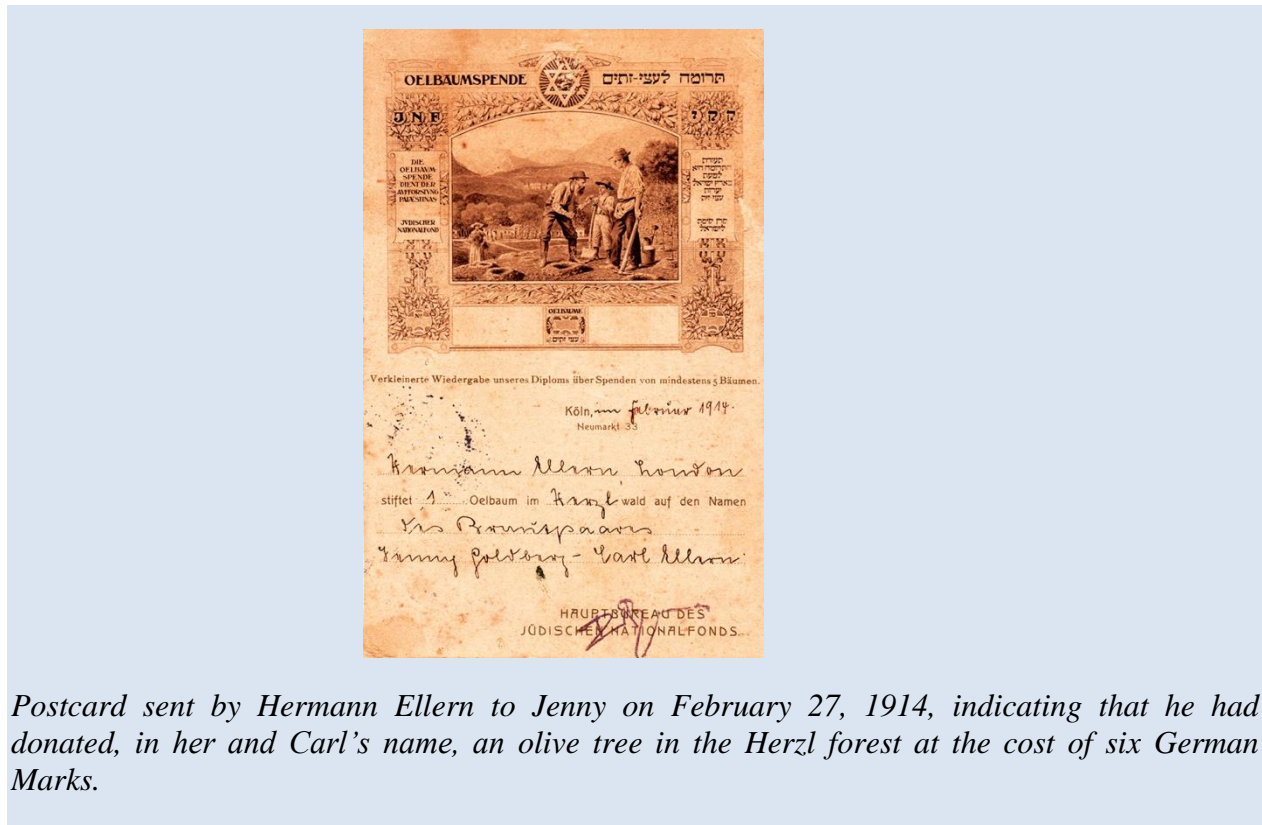
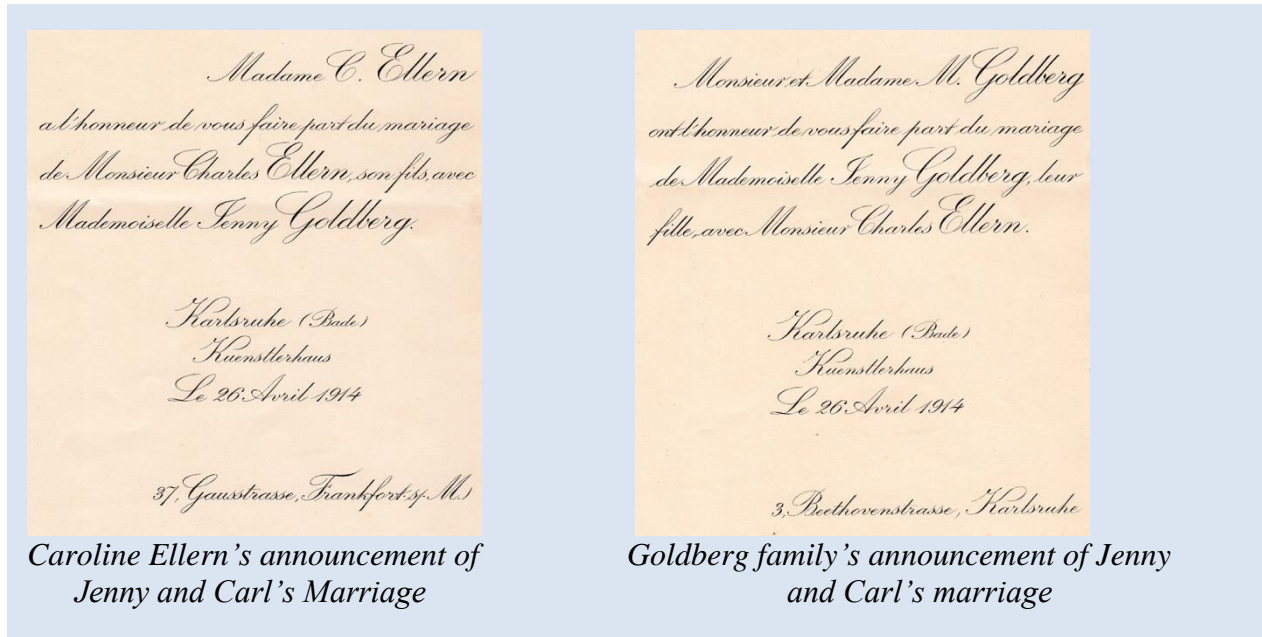
Jenny

<sup>8</sup> Carl's residence address in Paris was: 6 Rue Pavillon, Paris IX

<sup>9</sup> Their office address was: Steindecker Freres, 3 Rue de la Borsa, Paris, according to a postcard sent by his brother Heiny on March 8, 1913



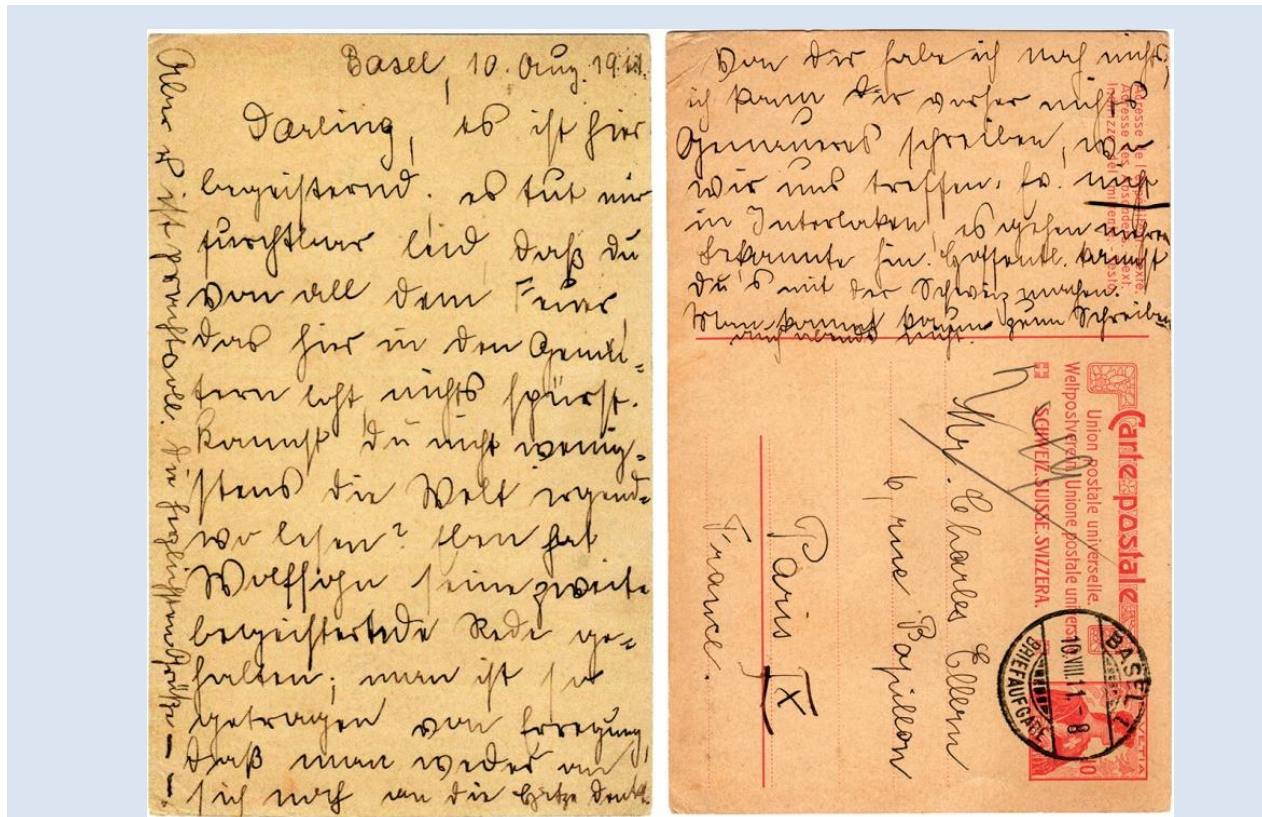
In February 1914, Jenny Goldberg and Carl Ellern's parents announced their engagement, this time an open engagement that took place two months before the wedding day.



Postcard sent by Hermann Ellern to Jenny on February 27, 1914, indicating that he had donated, in her and Carl's name, an olive tree in the Herzl forest at the cost of six German Marks.

On April 26, 1914, Jenny Goldberg and Carl got married. The wedding took place at the artist's house in Karlsruhe. Before the wedding, Jenny traveled with her mother to Paris to purchase the trousseau.

Jenny was born on May 22, 1889, in Karlsruhe. The Zionist education she received at her home led her to become one of the Zionist leaders in Karlsruhe, and even to represent the community at the Zionist Congress in Basel in 1911. In a postcard sent to Carl from Basel on August 10, 1911, to his home in Paris, she shares with him her experiences from the Congress.



Translation of the postcard:

Basel, August 10, 1911

To:  
 Mr. Charles Ellern  
 6, rue Pavillon  
 Paris IX, France

*My love, it is fantastic here. I am sorry that you cannot feel all this fire burning in our heads. Can't you at least read the Welt somewhere? Right now, Wolfson delivered his second exciting speech; we felt such excitement that we do not think of ourselves or the heat.*

*But it's terrific. The warm greetings...*

*I haven't received anything from you yet, I can't write to you in advance where to meet. [...] Not in Interlaken, a lot of acquaintances go there. I hope you can get to Switzerland.*

*Writing is not possible, even in the evenings.*

Her son Aron said she was a pacifist, like many of her contemporaries who referred to that which took place in World War I, the unnecessary killing of millions of people fighting for a few acres of muddy land as “the massacre”

On July 1, 1914, Jenny and Carl set up their home in Paris, where he was working at the time. According to the contract signed by Carl, it was a huge apartment<sup>10</sup> for a young couple. His son Aron wrote: "Father and Jenny have set up a spacious and well-equipped house in Paris."

In August, less than a month after entering the apartment, the First World War broke out. Fearing that France would harm German nationals as Germany became an enemy land, the couple decided that Jenny would return to her parents' house in Karlsruhe. Once he completed his business affairs in Paris, Carl also managed to return to Germany, but he was forced to smuggle himself over the border, as the borders between the two countries had already been closed. Upon his return to Germany, Carl joined the German Artillery Corps. Home contents were left behind, apparently believing that the war would end soon, and the couple could return to their newly established home.

Jacob Goldberg, Jenny's brother, wrote: “The young couple, Jenny and Carl, gained full happiness only for a short period because World War I broke out as early as July 1914. Carl, the idealist and patriot of the German homeland as it was then, strongly demanded to move from France to Germany on the last train, and then reported immediately to military service.”<sup>11</sup>



*Carl with uniform and a weapon in 1915*



*In the city of Furth, May 1917*

On June 1, 1915, Jenny wrote that she was at Carl's mother in Frankfurt<sup>12</sup>, and Carl was volunteering in a training camp in the 63rd Field Artillery Battalion.

<sup>10</sup> The apartment address was: 27 Rue George Sand, Floor 6, Paris

<sup>11</sup> On December 7, 1914, Jenny's parents' home address was Beethovenstrasse 3, Karlsruhe

<sup>12</sup> (Gansstrasse 37)



A postcard sent by Jenny to Carl on December 28, 1915, indicates that he then served in the 11th Bavarian Infantry Division. The division was located about 85 kilometers south of Timisoara (now Serbia and formerly in the Hungarian part of Transylvania), in a small village called Temesvajkoz. Jenny sent the postcard from Budapest, while she was on her way to Vienna.

According to a postcard sent by Carl to Jenny at her parents' home, on January 28, 1916, Carl visited them on a day-long visit to Karlsruhe.

Jacob Goldberg wrote: "Carl served in the German Army, on the Western Front, on the Eastern front and in the Balkans. He was wounded twice during the war and returned home in 1918. During the war, Jenny spent her time at her parents' home, serving as a volunteer nurse in military hospitals and other aid services. She twice went to visit her husband Carl on the eastern front. A brave act for a woman in those days."

The resume Aron wrote about his father in 1992 indicates that he was posted during his service, among others, in the role of "listener." This was due to his command of the French language. He listened to radio broadcasts of Brest Port in France, where he was able to decode the French naval code about 5 minutes after entering into the force! For this achievement, Carl was awarded the "Iron Cross", second rank.

Heiny, Carl's brother, also joined the German army with the outbreak of the World War. He served as a doctor after graduating from his studies and specializing in surgery with Professor Ernst Ferdinand Sauerbruch, one of the most famous surgeons in Germany and worldwide. Heiny was killed on March 6, 1916, as he treated wounded soldiers in the "Ardennes" battles. Heiny's stories are detailed below.

In the picture below, we can see Dr. Heinrich (Heiny) and Carl Ellern. Carl wrote next to the photo that it was taken in Brussels in 1914. Carl may have been on his way from France to Germany.







Heiny's death was a major and challenging event for Carl, not only because he loved him and was very attached to him, but also because this loss echoed the previous one that Carl had experienced with his father's death.



*Carl, with his teammates, he is the third one from the right.*

During World War I, about 10,000 Jews who volunteered to serve their homeland were killed. This number, which was much higher than their relative share of the population, was for them, according to Bruria Navi, a source of pride and proof of their loyalty to Germany, a commitment they emphasized was stronger than that of other Germans.

Which of them could have believed that less than 20 years later, their sacrifice and loyalty would be rewarded with hatred, persecution, and murder?

My father Aron (Aron Meir Sigmund Yehuda) was born at 22:15, on October 8, 1918, in Karlsruhe, about a month before the end of the war.

Jacob Goldberg wrote: "I well remember how happy the starving guests were, due to the war, to fall upon the delicious food at the circumcision. Soon after that, Carl, his wife and child moved to Hamburg (the move to Hamburg was on April 28, 1919). In Hamburg, Carl worked as a banker from 1919 to 1938 at Hugo Mainz & Co. Of his wonderful property left in Paris, which was "expropriated", meaning that Carl paid every month for the expropriation, he was eventually only refunded the silverware, tablecloths and sheets and a suitcase full of old letters. So, they had to start over in Hamburg. But with Carl's special financial talent and Jenny's adaptability, they soon had a good income and social status. They rented an apartment on Parkla Street and Carl was very successful in his job. Carl was a member of the Stock Exchange's board of directors and has been very influential in the Jewish community."



*A picture of Jenny and Aron taken on October 31, 1918, when Aron was three weeks old.*

When Aron was born, Jenny and Carl's address was still in Karlsruhe<sup>13</sup>.

Aron's brother and sister were born in Hamburg: Heiny (Harold Ellery) on April 10, 1920 and Margot on August 21, 1921. At the time when Jenny and Carl were living in Hamburg, they met Martha and Shlomo Levi and became close friends.



*From the right: Shlomo and Martha Levi and Carl and Jenny Ellern*

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<sup>13</sup> Beethovenstrase 3, Karlsruhe



*From the right: Harold, Margot and Aron (Hamburg May 14, 1922)*



*From the right: Carl, Harold, Aron and Jenny Ellern*





*From the right: Carl, Caroline, Harold, Jenny and Aron Ellern (around 1924)*



*Carl and Jenny Ellern*



*Jenny and Harold Ellern*

On August 18, 1924, Carl sent from Verdun (France) a postcard to "Bubi" (Bubi was Aron's nickname) and told him about his visit to Uncle Heiny's grave, and that "it was awful in the war..."<sup>14</sup>

For many years, Carl was a member of the Board of Directors of the Stock Exchange in Hamburg, Börse-Vorstand.

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<sup>14</sup> According to a postcard dated August 19, 1927, the family address in Hamburg was Parkallee 5 III, Hamburg 37 Elbe

Jenny died prematurely of cancer (carcinoma) on February 10, 1929, in Hamburg, when she was not yet 40 years old. She left behind her heart-broken husband Carl and three children: Aron, 10 and a half years old, Harold 9 and Margot 7 and a half (the obituary is shown as Appendix 1). Jacob Goldberg wrote: “Unfortunately, the great tragedy happened then, when Jenny became ill with carcinoma, and despite the excellent care, she died on February 10, 1929. Carl educated his children alone. Housemaids were changed often, and Carl's mother, Caroline, went to live with them. But these were difficult years. The children themselves grew up as happy and protected children until Hitler came to power.”

Chaim Maier, Carl's cousin who knew Jenny and loved her, said that Jenny brought wisdom, pleasant temper, the joy of life, openness, and kindness to her relationship with Carl.

After her death, Carl ordered a large oil picture of Jenny. The painting moved to Ruth and Aron Ellern's home after the passing of Martha and Carl and is currently with Gideon Ellern, Carl's grandson.





One can only imagine how the passing of his young and beloved wife affected Carl's soul. He already knew the loss of his father as a child and his beloved and esteemed older brother in the war. His three young children were left without a mother, and life continued. The nannies came and went, until Carl's mother, Caroline, moved in with Carl and the children.



*From right to left: Margot, Carl, Harold and Aron Ellern*

In honor of Aron's Bar Mitzvah, on October 9, 1931, Rabbi Dr. Carlebach, Chief Rabbi of Hamburg, sent a very moving letter to the family (see Appendix 2).

A postcard sent on July 24, 1932, reveals that Carl's three children were staying at the Hinterzarten ski resort with a nanny named Jenny Guggenheimer. Aron was the one who wrote most of the postcard describing their experiences of that day. A postcard sent three days later indicates that the vacationers had moved, with the nanny, to a recreation resort in the Black Forest. This postcard was also mostly written by Aron, who described the experiences of that day. It seems that finding occupation for children during the summer vacation to continue their parents' work routine is a universal matter...



*From right to left: Aron, Margot, Carl and Harold Ellern*

In the general elections held in November 1932, the Nazi party, led by Adolf Hitler, achieved 40% of the electoral votes. That is, it kept its strength but failed to grow as in the previous elections. On January 30, 1933, Adolf Hitler was appointed Chancellor of Germany (equivalent to Prime Minister) and began to implement his ideas. His power increased significantly when,

the day before German President Hindenburg's death, the role of President and Prime Minister was consolidated, and the next day Hitler was awarded the "Führer" title.



On the back of the left side picture, there was nothing written. We can see they are moving a huge safe and in the window above there is a figure that, when enlarged, looks like Carl.

I visited Hamburg in July 2019 and enlisted the help of Dr. Caroline Vogel who lives at Carl's old address. She located the address of the office of Hugo Mainz and Co. where Carl had worked. I visited the building at Grope Bäckerstraße 4 and as you can see, it is still very much the same.

On April 1, 1934, a boycott of Jewish-owned businesses was imposed in Germany, and measures were taken against Jewish physicians and lawyers.

On April 7, a law was enacted enabling Jews and other non-Aryans who serve as state employees, to be removed from their jobs.

During the years 1933-1934, the German Government adopted the "Aryan paragraph" in professional organizations, the Legislature, sports clubs and physical fitness, in the army and in institutions of higher education.

The Aryan paragraph (*Arierparagraph*) was a standard clause in the codes of antisemitic organizations in Germany and Austria, that limited the entry only to "Aryan" blood holders. These measures paved the way for the removal of the Jews from their occupation in many professions, preventing them from being generally accepted for professional training or higher education studies.<sup>15</sup>

From that moment, the lives of German Jews changed beyond recognition, and so did the lives of opponents of the Government, Communists, members of the gay and lesbian community, the

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<sup>15</sup> Sections from Appendix 17

disabled, the mentally disabled, the Gypsies, and anyone who did not belong to the upper white race - pure Aryans.

Except for one correspondence/exchange of letters detailed below, I have not found among the many documents, the consequences that the Nazi measures described above had on the family life, or Carl's career. However, there were consequences.

On September 14, 1934, Carl sent his son Aron to London, to the home of Anna, Carl's sister, and her husband. Anna and Sigmund Schwab arrived in London before World War I and were well established. Aron said that when he was a student in Germany, and after the law violated the rights of the Jews, he did not stand for the sound of the German national anthem. When the teacher asked him why he did not get up, he replied that if he had no rights, then he also had no obligations. That evening, the teacher showed up at the family home and told Carl, "German Jews are facing a difficult time, and your son may be harmed. Therefore, he should finish his studies at your sister's in London."

About two weeks after his arrival in London, Aron announced that he had been accepted to the famous St. Paul's School in London's Kensington district. He studied there for two years, from the age of 16 to 18, but not under boarding school conditions. Aron lived with his uncles until he began his studies at the University of Reading.

Following Aron's arrival in England and his admission to St. Paul's School, Carl appealed to the German authorities to allow him to send Aron 200 marks each month. The answer he received at his request on September 20, 1934 (see Appendix 3) is formulated in an arrogant and scolding style: "Before I address your request, I would like to know what is the reason your son should attend a foreign school outside our country. The amount you requested to send seems too high to me, so I would like you to explain why the amount is so high. Beyond that, I would like you to send me your son's passport and confirmation of his admission to St. Paul's School."

After nine days, Carl replied: "... My son needs out-of-state studies since, as a person who does not belong to the Aryan race, he has little chance of finding employment here, and an education outside of the country will later allow him to emigrate from here... The registration fee is £ 5, and the annual education is £ 45; hence a monthly cost of 200 marks for tuition and economics is barely enough ..." (see Carl's reply in Appendix 4).

According to an article published in 1940<sup>16</sup>, the annual education fee of £45 was equivalent to 58 German marks a month in those days - that is, a little less than three-quarters of the monthly amount Carl asked to transfer to his son was intended for living expenses.

At the same time, a document from the Hamburg Police Commander dated April 13, 1935, was sent to Carl confirming that on July 13, 1934, he was awarded the Cross of Honor to frontline fighters during the years 1914-1918. Unlike the one known as the Iron Cross (see Appendix 5). Carl kept the sign, and today it is with me.

The following is a photograph of the Cross of Honor and the translation of the document attached to it:

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<sup>16</sup> Howard S Ellis, German Exchange Control, 1931-1939: From an Emergency Measure to a Totalitarian Institution. Part 2 in: *Quarterly Journal of Economics* 54/4 (1940), pp 1-158, 18.



**In the name of the Führer and Chancellor of the Reich**

*To the businessman  
Carl Ellern  
in Hamburg*

Awarded based on the order from July 13, 1934 in memory of the World War

1914-1918

**The Cross of Honor for Frontline Fighters**

Founded by the president of the Reich, the general Feldmarschall von Hindenburg.

*[Round stamp: Hamburg Police]*

Hamburg, April 13, 1935

*Chief of Police*

No. 033065/35

Even Caroline, Carl's mother, received a cross of honor as a bereaved mother of a fighter who had fallen in battle.

In September 1935, the Nuremberg Laws were published, prohibiting the marriage between Jews and non-Jewish partners, and even defined that extramarital sexual intercourse between Jews and non-Jewish partners was punishable by law. Besides this, Jews were prohibited from employing a non-Jewish woman under the age of 45 as domestic help, or even from raising the German flag or the Reich flag, vote in the elections or serve in a public office.<sup>17</sup>

The relationship between Carl and his son Aron also knew tense days. When he was a university student in 1936 or 1937, Aron wrote a letter to Carl, apparently in response to accusations made by Carl about his lack of responsibility regarding his decision to build his life in Israel. Aron was about 18 or 19 at the time. He decided to immigrate to Israel, obtain certificates as soon as possible, and prepare himself for the land work. The following is a translation from German of the original letter:

Dear Peps                      (Reply to New Year's letter)

If you had read Herbert's letter (Gershon Levy) on agriculture, you would have said nothing about immaturity. Nevertheless, I insist - we do not want this perception: In other words, a man and a Jew anywhere, but a Jew in a Jewish country. The decision to return to our ancestral land and rebuild the people and the land, which for 2000 years has not been agriculturally productive, is a decision I have made. Without it, my life is missing any purpose. What I am saying here is not just a statement, but my most profound belief. Actually, let's remember this: We have already made the decision.

1) An agricultural trial period for next summer vacation. 2) Right now, we must take care of the "certificate." Never mind that my profession is still uncertain. If we wait until it is safe, it will be too late... If you have any doubts about taking me seriously, note just one thing: I am working on myself to become a balanced person, and this work is fruitful, especially since I am investing all my energies into it. So, dear Peps, especially for you: "May you be inscribed in the book of life."

Your faithful son,  
Sigmund

---

<sup>17</sup> Sections from Appendix 17





*Carl Ellern (standing sixth from the right) with his brother Alex (standing second from the right) and his staff at Alex's office in Hamburg*

Between 1936 and 1938, the prohibition on Jews to engage in new professions was extended, as well as the 1934 prohibition (affiliation with professional organizations, the legislative authority, sports and fitness clubs, the military and higher education institutions). Delays and restrictions on emigration have also been imposed, and as of April 26, 1938, a duty to report on and register any property worth 5,000 marks or more also entered into force.<sup>18</sup>

Grandpa Carl told his grandson Jonathan that the Nazis had set up a soldier's club on the ground floor of the building where they lived. As the noise of the activity at the club disturbed the neighbors in their sleep, Grandpa went down to the ground floor, talked to the person in charge and, asked them to keep quiet after a certain hour.

And indeed, so it was - the Nazis made sure to keep quiet from the time it was agreed. Jonathan didn't understand then why Grandpa was telling him the story and sounded so pleased, as Carl's mother was among the six million murdered by the Nazis...

Life in Germany had become increasingly difficult, both in terms of laws and regulations and because most of the German public supported the measures or were afraid to come out against them. Hence, the Jews felt mainly seclusion and hatred. Despite being loyal and proud Germans, some Jews began to leave Germany. Some moved to other European countries, some to Israel and some to distant lands. Ida Goldberg, Jenny's mother, arrived in Palestine on February 17, 1938. She lived with her daughter, Martha Loffler, at 16 Nachmani Street, Tel Aviv.<sup>19</sup>

Carl's second son, Harold, was sent out of Germany and arrived in London on April 28, 1938. It seems that at this point, Carl had decided to emigrate from Germany - a difficult decision for a German patriot, who had spent four years of his life as a German soldier during World War I and lost his brother in the War. Carl kept a letter sent to Mr. Otto Schiff dated May 13, 1938, from the Home Office Foreign Department, referring to Mr. Schiff's urgent letter of May 11, 1938,

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<sup>18</sup> Sections from Appendix 17

<sup>19</sup> The information is included in her naturalization file, which was opened by her on May 15, 1940 and approved on June 6, 1940.

concerning Carl, Caroline, and Margot Ellern. As written, the three of them should apply for a visa from the British Consul in Hamburg, to whom a message on the matter has been forwarded.

During June 1938, those who were defined “asocial elements” were taken to concentration camps, including thousands of Jews. Among the Jews sent there were also 200 of the 700 Jews living in Hamburg.

In the middle of November 1938, it was decided that Jewish children would go to Jewish schools and that Jewish shops and businesses must become "Aryan" or close. At the end of that month, Jewish lawyers were banned from practicing their profession, but in exceptional cases, they could advise Jewish clients only. On July 23, 1938, an order was issued stating that from January 1, 1939, Jews will be obliged to carry identity cards all the time. Two days later, it was announced that Jewish doctors' licenses would expire on September 30, 1938, and that, in exceptional cases, they will be allowed to treat only Jewish patients.

On August 23, 1938, the Second Order was issued to implement the "Law for Changing Surnames and First Names", which, as of January 1, 1939, would require Jews to adopt the name Israel (men) and Sara (women) if their former name was not a known Jewish name (see Appendix 7). At the beginning of October 1938, all passports were canceled, and on each new passport issued to a Jew, the letter “J” was stamped. At the end of October 1938, between 12 and 17 thousand Jews of Polish descent were deported to Poland.

*This is Hans Rosenfeld's German passport, brother of Ruth Ellern, with the letter “J” in red*



A few days later, on November 7, the German diplomat named Ernst vom Rath was murdered in Paris by a 17-year-old young Jew named Herschel Grynszpan, whose parents were among those deportees of Polish descent. The authorities used the murder to initiate on November 9, 1938, a national program of "Spontaneous Public Outrage." This program, in which around 30,000 Jewish men were arrested and placed in concentration camps, was a pogrom in the full sense of the word and was called the "Kristallnacht" or “the Night of Broken Glass” (*Reichskristallnacht*).

That night, in Hamburg alone, many Jewish-owned businesses were destroyed, along with Jewish doctors and lawyers' offices, and at least five synagogues and places of worship. Of the total of 30,000 imprisoned in Germany, about 1,000 Jews were arrested in Hamburg. The detainees in Hamburg were gathered at small pick-up points and then sent to the Sachsenhausen concentration camp. An uncertain number of Jewish detainees died during the detention period due to the brutal treatment they received in the camp. Most of them were released until August 1939, provided they had proved they were preparing to emigrate from Germany.<sup>20</sup> In 1933, on the eve of the Nazis' rise to power, about 20,000 Jews lived in Hamburg, compared to 700 only in June 1938, as a result of deportations, arrests and immigration. Three days later, on November 12, 1938, Goering ordered the Jews to jointly raise a sum of one billion marks (which were then worth £ 65 million, equivalent to a monthly wage of about six million workers in Israel) as an atonement payment. As well as this, he determined that the Jews would pay for the damages incurred during the pogrom.



*These 2 pictures are apparently from Karlsruhe, from October 1938. In the picture on the right: Carl in the car; in the picture on the left: Carl in the car and standing outside are Margot, Harold and apparently Paul Forchheimer.*

On November 5, 1938, by order of the Supervisor of Banks of the Nazi Government, the bank in Karlsruhe, that Carl's uncle Ignatz founded, was closed after 57 years of activity.

On November 12, 1938, Carl was sent by the Nazis to the concentration camp at Oranienburg and spent eight days there. The camp was established in 1933 upon the Nazis' rise to power in an abandoned factory in the center of the city. It was notorious for arrests without trial and the abuse of prisoners. In 1934 the camp closed in its first location and reopened in buildings adapted for its purposes in the Sachsenhausen district in the city of Oranienburg. By all indications, Carl's release was made possible by documents his sister Anna in London made sure to provide - documents confirming his emigration to the United Kingdom or Palestine.

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<sup>20</sup> Sections from Appendix 17



Kommandantur  
des Staatl. Konzentrationslagers  
Sachsenhausen

Oranienburg, den 19. XI. 1938 19...

**Entlassungsschein**

Der Jude Karl Ellern geb. am 22.5.90  
in Frankfurt/Main war in der Zeit  
vom 12.11.38 bis 19. XI. 1938 in einem Konzentrationslager untergebracht.  
Die Entlassung erfolgte am: 19. XI. 1938  
Seine Führung war: ./.

Auflage:  
Sie haben sich bis auf Widerruf jeden Samstag  
bei der Ortspolizeibehörde Ihres Wohnortes und sofort  
zu melden.

Der Lagerkommandant:  
Oberführer

(Stempel)

Druck: Müller, Oranienburg

Confirmation of Carl's release from the Sachsenhausen concentration camp, November 19, 1938.

Translation:

Command of the  
Sachsenhausen concentration camp

Oranienburg  
November 19, 1938

**Release Confirmation**

The Jew Carl Ellern was born in May 22, 1890.

In Frankfurt/Main.

He was in a concentration camp from November 12, 1938 until November 19, 1938.

The liberation was carried out on November 19, 1938.

Until the cancellation of this instruction, he must report every week to the police station  
near where he lives.

The Camp Commander

On November 25, 1938, Carl received a German passport.<sup>21</sup> With the help of the certificates, which were quickly organized by his sister Anna from London, Carl and Margot left Germany for the Netherlands in December 1938. According to what I heard from his son Aron, Carl left

<sup>21</sup> Passport Number 19642, according to the naturalization documents in Palestine from 1942.,



with his car and managed to transfer all the contents of his house to Holland.<sup>22</sup> The furniture finally arrived at Carl's apartment on 8 Dizengoff Street in Tel Aviv. After the passing of Martha and Carl, some of the furniture was shared among the family members.

Ruth Frumkin, daughter of his brother Alex, wrote that Carl and Margot arrived in Holland in 1939 and left for London on their way to Palestine in 1940 on the last train. The Germans invaded Holland in early May that year.

Jacob Goldberg wrote: "Carl sent his son Aron to study in London as soon as Hitler came to power, and Harold sometime later". He did not want to emigrate before helping all members of the community to emigrate, but since the Nazis sent him to the Oranienburg concentration camp in November 1938, and after he had succeeded in receiving the certificates quickly through his sister in London, he was forced to emigrate with his daughter Margot. Upon leaving Germany in late 1938, the two stayed in Amsterdam and later arrived in London.

In early 1939, Caroline, Carl's mother, moved to Amsterdam, to her hometown. She joined her son Alex and lived there with his family.

At the same time in Germany, following another law passed by the Nazis on January 17, 1939, Jewish dentists, veterinarians and pharmacists lost their professional license. From April 30, 1939, tenant protection laws ceased to protect Jewish tenants, thus paving the way for their concentration in "Jewish apartments". At the outbreak of World War II in September 1939, the Nazi government imposed additional decrees on the Jews: a night curfew was imposed on them, they were only allowed to buy in certain grocery stores, had to give away their radios and do forced labor. Jews of Polish origin were sent to concentration camps.<sup>23</sup>

Carl's naturalization file, found in the State Archives, shows that Carl and his daughter Margalit (Margot) arrived in Palestine on April 23, 1940. Carl started to work in Ellern Bank, and as of 1941, he was appointed member of the Board of Directors of the Bank. He and Margot lived in a rented apartment on the third floor at 8 Dizengoff Street in Tel Aviv, at the corner of Yosef Eliyahu Street. Opposite to the apartment was a large orchard in which, during our childhood, the Culture Hall was built.

A letter sent by Aron to the Schwab family in London on July 31, 1940, shows that he was staying in a detention camp at Prees Heath Internment Camp near the city of Liverpool. The British gathered those who had recently emigrated from Germany to detention camps, and after a few months, began to release everyone who was clearly not a German spy. Aunt Anna Schwab from London, who sent him packages to the camp and even came to visit him there, was also active in his release from the camp.

From postcards that Carl received between June 1940 and January 1941, his concern for the fate of his friends in Paris is notable. One of the postcards he sent on July 24, 1940 (to the Steindecker family in France) was returned to him, with the censor's stamp saying: "There are no postal services for French communities occupied by the enemy". In this postcard, Carl asked them about their situation, briefly told them about his immediate family, and asked them to send a short postcard. Two other postcards he received also indicate the worrying situation in Europe: a postcard sent by Carl to Paris in June 1940 was answered on July 11, 1940, arriving only six months later. The time gap probably indicates that only then did the postal services in France begin to work again.

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<sup>22</sup> From December 1938 to March 1940 Carl's address was: Carl Ellern, Courbetstraat 15"Amsterdam-Z Tel. 97318

<sup>23</sup> Excerpt from Appendix 17

On July 11, 1941, Carl received a thank-you letter from a senior secretary of the Palestinian government in Jerusalem, confirming that binoculars sent by Carl to the fighting forces had been received and transferred to the Army. The binoculars were returned after the end of the war, were passed to Aron, Carl's son, and after his passing, his wife Ruth (my mother) passed them to me.

On September 1, 1941, the Nazis issued an order by which every Jew aged six and above must wear a yellow badge with a Star of David. They were also prohibited from using public transport, except for special permits that were specially assigned for forced laborers.

From October 1941, the emigration of Jews from Germany was prohibited, their systematic deportation from their land was accelerated, and their property became the property of the German Reich. Those who were not Jewish and helped the Jews risked arrest. Jews not yet exiled were obliged to do forced labor and hand over to the authorities: typewriters, bicycles, cameras, woolen clothes, furs, ski equipment, climbing shoes, and any other additional possession. Jews were obliged to leave their homes and move to "Jews' houses." Jews' houses (Judenhäuser) were Government-owned houses (confiscated from their original owners) where they put Jews whose homes were either confiscated or whose lease had expired due to regulations against the Jews. In such a house (or apartment), they concentrated several families and forced them to share a kitchen, toilets, and so on. It was forbidden to lock the doors, and the Gestapo could come and conduct inspections at any time. Thus, the privacy of the household members, as well as their sense of security, was deprived.

On January 20, 1942, at the Wannsee Conference, representatives of the Reich and the SS authorities planned the extermination of European Jews. As of March 13, 1942, Jews were forced to mark their homes with a Star of David on white paper.<sup>24</sup>



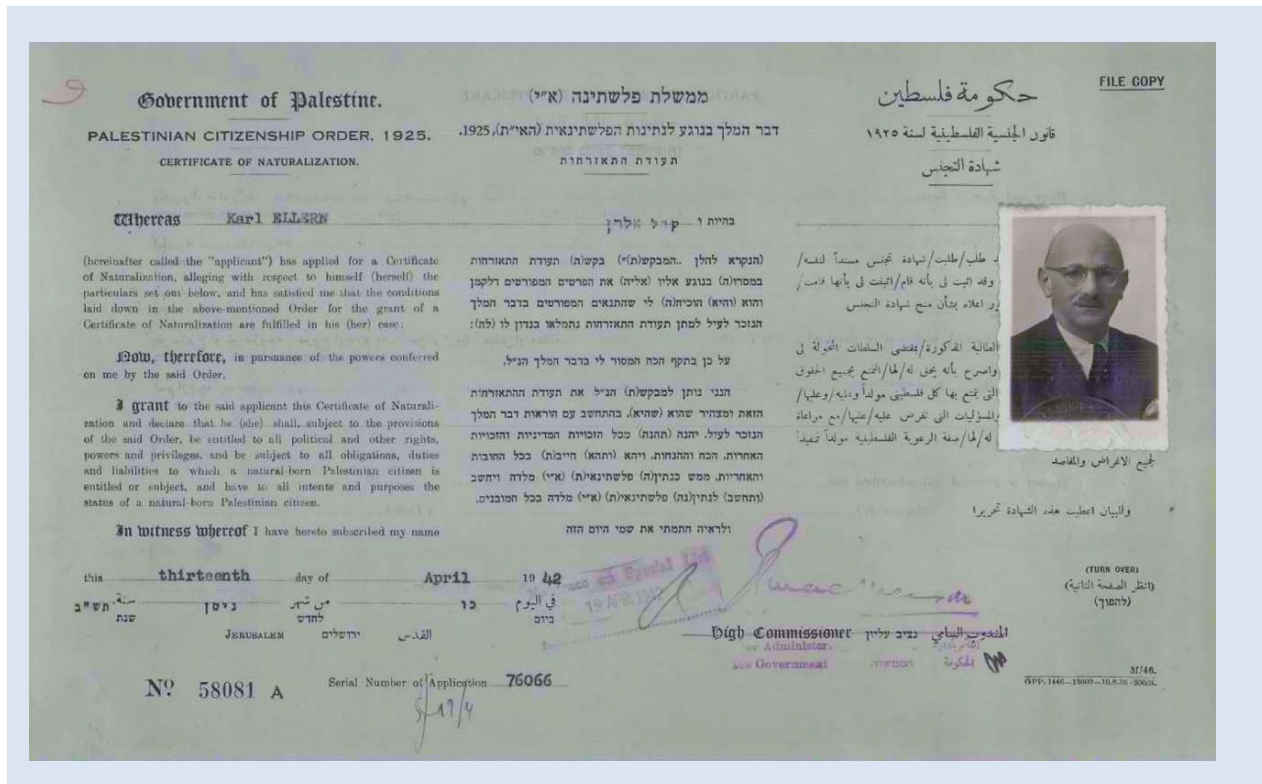
*March 1942, Carl and Margot Ellern*

On March 25, 1942, Carl paid at the British Immigration Office in Tel Aviv for handling his naturalization request. The request included a letter signed by his cousin Hermann, confirming that Carl was serving as a Director at Ellern Bank. The naturalization certificate (number A 58081) was approved and signed on April 13, 1942.

From June 1942 to April 1945, Jews over the age of 65, widows, widowers, divorcees, divorced, mixed couples, celebrities, and even those decorated with medals in the World War I were deported from Germany to the Theresienstadt concentration camp. For many of them, it was a

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<sup>24</sup> Excerpt from Appendix 17

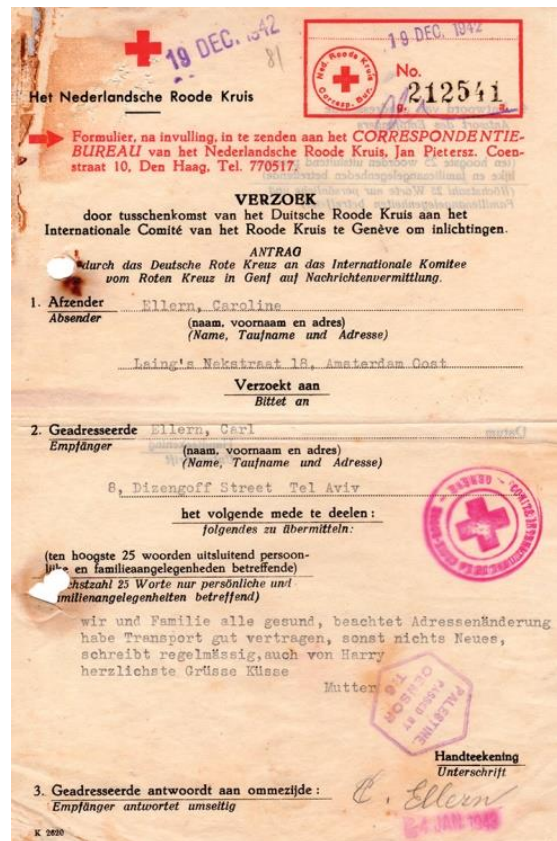


transit station on their way to the extermination camps. Thousands of them died of hunger, disease, and cold in the concentration camp itself.<sup>25</sup>

On December 19, 1942, Caroline, through the Dutch Red Cross, wrote to Carl in Tel Aviv: "The whole family and we are healthy. Please pay attention to the change of address. The transport has been safe for me. Besides, I have no news. Write regularly also about Hary. A warm greeting and kisses, Mom."<sup>26</sup>

Caroline refers to the moving from her previous address as a "transport," meaning it was an imposed moving, not on her own initiative. The testimony of Ruth Ellern (Frumkin), Alex's daughter, indicates that Alex, his wife Lotte and their children were also transferred on the same transport and that the new address was in the ghetto.

In April 1943, five months after sending the letter through the Red Cross, Caroline had been transferred from the ghetto in Amsterdam to the Westerbork camp. Westerbork was a transit camp in occupied Holland. The camp was established in 1939 by the Dutch government to hold illegal Jewish immigrants



<sup>25</sup> Excerpt from Appendix 17

<sup>26</sup> Caroline's new address, as it appears in the letter, is Laing's Nekstraat 18, Amsterdam, while her permanent address was: 195 Zuider Amstellaan, Amsterdam.



who entered the Netherlands. After the occupation of the Netherlands by Germany in 1941-1944, the place served as a transit camp for Jews destined to be deported to the "East." From July 1942, some 98,000 Jews (including German Jews who managed to escape to the Netherlands) were sent through the camp to Auschwitz, Sobibor, Theresienstadt, and Bergen-Belsen.

On June 20, 1943, all the ghetto residents in Amsterdam, including Alex, Lotte, Ruth, and Heiny Ellern, were sent to the Westerbork camp. Upon their arrival, they found Caroline in the camp's hospital, with her senses in a confused state. Despite pleas of Alex', who presented to the camp commander the honorary crucifixion received by Caroline as the mother of a fallen fighter in World War I, Caroline was taken on July 20, 1943, from Barak 85 in Westerbork to Sobibor Camp, where she died on July 23, 1943.



*Carl and Margot in 8 Dizengoff St. in 1942*



*Margot Ellern and Yitzhak (Julius) Rieck, Tel-Aviv, 1943*

On December 23, 1943, in Israel, Margot married Yitzhak Rieck (Julius Rieck). The wedding took place at the restaurant of Chaim Maier, Bruria Navi's father. Chaim Maier was a cousin of Grandfather Carl and very close to him. Quite a few family events took place at Bruria's parents' restaurant.

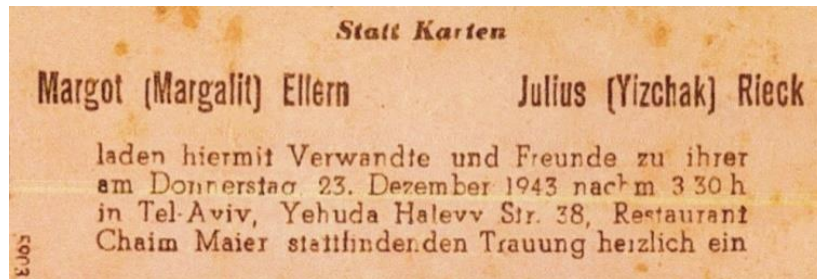
*Instead of invitation cards*

**Julius (Yitzhak) Rieck                      Margot (Margalit) Ellern**

Hereby invite their relatives and friends

To participate in their Wedding which will take place on Thursday,  
December 23, 1943 at 3.30 p.m.,  
In Tel-Aviv, Yehuda Halevi 38 St., at Chaim Maier's Restaurant

And here's the source:





An ad appeared in the local press:



**Inspector Y. Rieck, Tel-Aviv**

Cordial greetings

On the occasion of his marriage

**Ein Shemer Police Station**

On July 20, 1944, the Soviet Army liberated Majdanek, and on January 27, 1945, Auschwitz. The US Army liberated the Buchenwald camp on April 11, 1945. All this did not prevent the Germans from canceling the protection of intermarried Jews, in January 1945, and subsequently sent 2,000 Jews to Theresienstadt between January and April 1945.

On May 8, 1945, World War II ended with the surrender of the German Army.<sup>27</sup>

On May 16, 1945, Carl married Martha Levy, nee Igersheimer. Martha was born on February 26, 1892, in Frankfurt, to Gershon Igersheimer and Lina Mela, and died in Tel Aviv on July 26, 1966, 19 days after Carl's death. The story of the life of Martha and her family until her marriage to Carl can be read in a detailed chapter below.

With regard to Carl's marriage to Martha, Bruria Navi says:

"I was 18 after the war. There was a great commotion in the family, a topic of considerable gossip. My parents said: they should stop gossiping. It's not anyone's business, except for the couple. If they had been in love before the war and Martha survived all the horrors of war, she deserves to fulfill her love. Maybe her thoughts on Carl kept her alive.

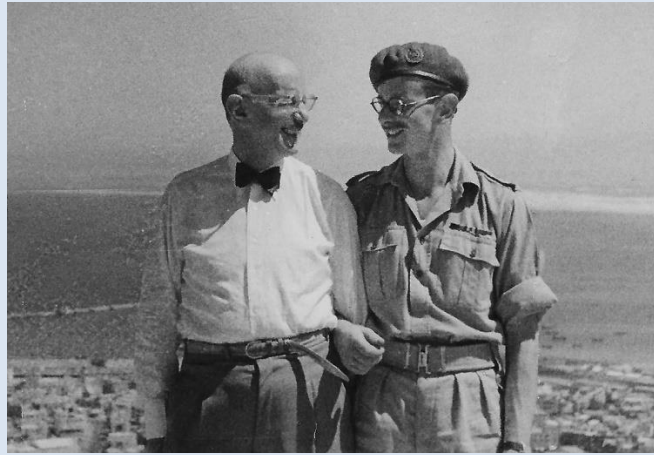
In the book "A Man Seeking Meaning," the psychiatrist V. Frankl describes the situation in the camps in Auschwitz. "A dream keeps a person going, something to live for." He thought of his wife in dire straits and in the most difficult hardships. Martha and her husband came to Israel. After a short while, we hear that they got divorced, and Carl announced that he had married Martha. The first husband also survived the Holocaust. He had no means. Carl, who was wealthy, had taken his wife from him. Obviously, this is a topic of gossip. My father knew what others might not know. Carl was very attached to his first wife. She died when she was very young, in 1929."

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<sup>27</sup> Excerpt from Appendix 17



*Carl at the Grand Hotel in Cairo, January 6, 1946*



*Haifa, January 1946, Carl and Harold*

In June 1945, at the end of the war, Lotte, Alex's widow (Carl's brother), and his children Ruth and Chaim were released from the Bergen-Belsen camp, making their way by train to Holland. They immediately contacted the family in London (Anna and Julius Schwab), in Tel Aviv (Carl Ellern) and New York (Kati, Lotte's sister). Chaim was very ill, and with Carl's assistance, he was transferred to a suitable rehabilitation institution in Switzerland, where he was hospitalized for over two years until he recovered. Chaim immigrated to Israel and lived there and at the time of writing this document, he is 88 years of age. Ruth's diary, from her childhood to her family's arrival in England after the war, is shown in Appendix 8.

Ruth Ellern, formerly Frumkin, told her children that even in the most challenging times, their relatives, including Carl Ellern and Anna and Julius Schwab, were very attentive and helpful.



*From right to left Margot and Carl Ellern, Grete Bruenn, Jerusalem, September 1945. Grete Bruenn is the sister of Jenny Ellern and is married to David (Siegfried) Bruenn, who served as CEO in Ellern Bank.*

On February 6, 1946, Lotte (Alex's widow, Carl's brother) and Ruth (Alex's daughter) Ellern left Amsterdam and arrived in London.

In August 1946, Carl contacted the Dutch Red Cross to see if they had any information about his mother, Caroline. His application letter contained all the details known to him regarding her name, date of birth, her last known address in the Netherlands and details of her experiences from April 1943, the time when she was sent from a temporary address in the city to the camp. From there, on 20.7.1943, they sent her from barrack No. 85 in the camp to an unknown destination. Carl went on to say that since then, no more news came from her, and since his mother was 83 years old at the time, the family has no real hope that she survived. Carl also stated in his letter that although it is very unlikely that she is still alive, the family would take some comfort from finding out what had happened to his mother.

About a month later, a reply was received saying that the transport that Caroline was on had arrived in Sobibor, where she had died (as it was initially written, more likely she was murdered) on July 23, 1943. This is the place to mention that Caroline was the mother of three fighters with the Iron Cross decoration from World War I. One of the three did not return from the war, and instead, she received warm and detailed letters that his friends and commanders had written about him (see Appendix 9).

In a letter Carl wrote to his son Harold on June 11, 1947, he tells him that he has decided not to buy a car on his friend's advice, fearing that Etzel - the National Military Organization - might think they could "withdraw" money from him if he owned a car. This is not the first evidence I see of Etzel's fundraising methods to finance its activities.

In November 1947, Aron came to visit his father Carl, then settled in Kibbutz Yavne along with the group members who were to establish Kibbutz Lavi. In February 1948, Ruth Rosenfeld, Aron's fiancée, also arrived at the kibbutz.

In early May 1948, Carl sent a message to his relatives and friends about Aron's wedding at Kibbutz Yavne, stating that they would travel on the "South Yehuda" bus to Rehovot, from there by armored car to Gan Yavne and from there to the kibbutz by truck. He added that the return trip will be on the next day.

On February 12, 1949, Carl wrote to Aron and Ruth Ellern that he agreed to give the Sefer Torah he owned<sup>28</sup> to Aron in his kibbutz. He requests that the book be kept family-owned and requires the kibbutz secretary's approval of it. He also states that after his death, ownership of the Sefer Torah will pass to Aron's hands. The book seems to have been taken to the kibbutz (Yavne or Lavi). As a child, the book was returned to us, and Father Aron said it would be passed down from firstborn to firstborn. Upon his passing, I gave the book to Jonathan. The book is on loan today at an educational institution in Kfar Batya in Raanana.

In October 1949, my circumcision (Carl's eldest grandson) was held at Kibbutz Lavi.

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<sup>28</sup> On September 3, 1945, Carl received a handwritten note confirming that the Sefer Torah that Mr. Ludwig Bing handed over to the "Or Zion" Synagogue (which was once housed in the Habima building in Tel Aviv) will from then on be owned by him. The Chairman of the Synagogue signed the note. A receipt dated September 4, 1945, shows that Grandpa Carl paid Gustav Bing 40 pounds (which at the time was the equivalent of four months' average salary) for this Sefer Torah.



*In the picture from the circumcision, (from the right) Uzi Ellern, Lutz and Ida Treu, Chaim Maier, unidentified rabbi, Jacob Goldberg, Carl, Aron and Ruth Ellern.*

In a letter dated February 19, 1950, Grete and Harold, Carl's son, announced their plan to visit Israel. They wrote that they would fly from London to Rome on March 14, 1950, and on March 18 planned to continue to Lod and land in Israel on the night between 18 and 19 March. They will spend 39 days in Israel, eventually returning to London on the night of 25 and 26 April via Rome, Zurich, and Basel. Grete told me that one of the purposes of the trip to Israel was to see how life was conducted here, as they were thinking, especially Harold, to immigrate to Israel. Grete was very reluctant, and the visit to Israel became the issue of the agenda.

On September 6, 1950, Carl and Martha took off from Israel to Europe. In Lucerne, they visited the Zilcha family, in Basel, Margot and Jul, and in London, Grete and Harold, as well as Anna Schwab and her family. Among the letters that Carl kept was found one dated December 5, 1950, stating that the Consul of Israel in Amsterdam confirmed that Carl was carrying mail from the consulate to several government offices in Israel.

At the end of February 1952, Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion addressed Carl (see Appendix 11) and invited him to become a member of the "Economic Advisory Committee to the Prime Minister." In a letter, Ben-Gurion writes that in the Government guidelines, approved by the Knesset in October 1951, the Government announced that it would establish an economic advisory council to the Prime Minister. The Committee included 36 members, most of them representatives of various public bodies (the Histadrut, the Farmers' Association, the Industry Owners Association, and more). The Prime Minister personally appointed only four of the members, and Carl was one of them.

The functions of the Council, as included in its provisional statutes were:

- a. To find ways to increase the economic independence of the State of Israel;
- b. To have an opinion on proposals concerning economic laws as well as on specific problems, following the request of the Government or the Knesset;
- c. To ascertain claims by financial organizations regarding the implementation of economic laws as well as complaints about economic discrimination by the Government administration;



- d. Recommend to the Government or the Knesset on other matters as the Council decides upon the proposal of its members.

On June 10, 1952, Carl was appointed a member of the Board of Directors of the Postal Bank in place of Minister Peretz Naftali (see Appendix 12). The appointment is signed by the Minister of Transport, Mr. D.Z. Pinkas. My father said that my grandfather felt that his proposals did indeed help. In the protocol of the meeting of the Postal Bank Council dated December 17, 1956, Carl is mentioned as one of the participants.

In April 1953, the Minister of Finance appointed "a commission to investigate the need for the establishment of municipal savings funds" (see Appendix 13). Carl was asked by the Committee's secretary to appear before it and make his opinion known. His main remarks appear in Appendix 14. Four of the five points raised by Carl are true to this day:

1. Under the existing inflation conditions, the "simple man" would prefer to spend his money, with the understanding that the purchasing power of his money will be significantly reduced due to inflation, so that interest rates are far from compensating, and therefore he will not save;
2. There is a fear that tax or compulsory loan will again be imposed on deposits;
3. There are plenty of banks, and soon the postal bank too, so anyone interested can deposit their money in them;
4. The public does not have much trust in the municipalities' financial administration. Contracts with companies signed by municipalities were not paid on time, funds received from the Government to carry out work for the public benefit went to other causes, and the contractor who thought he would receive guaranteed compensation from a Government source had to wait, since permits cannot be granted to one municipality and denied to another, it is right not to give them at all. People doubt the professional ability of a municipality to conduct banking business. Besides, the municipalities will probably want to use the deposit money, which can lead to liquidity problems when withdrawals begin, and God forbid to create a "run on the banks" in the entire country.



*1954 near the house of Ruth and Aron, in Raanana. From right to left: Recha Forchheimer (Hermann's sister), Aron, Jonathan, Ruth, Martha, Raanan (bottom), Carl, Bessi Ellern*

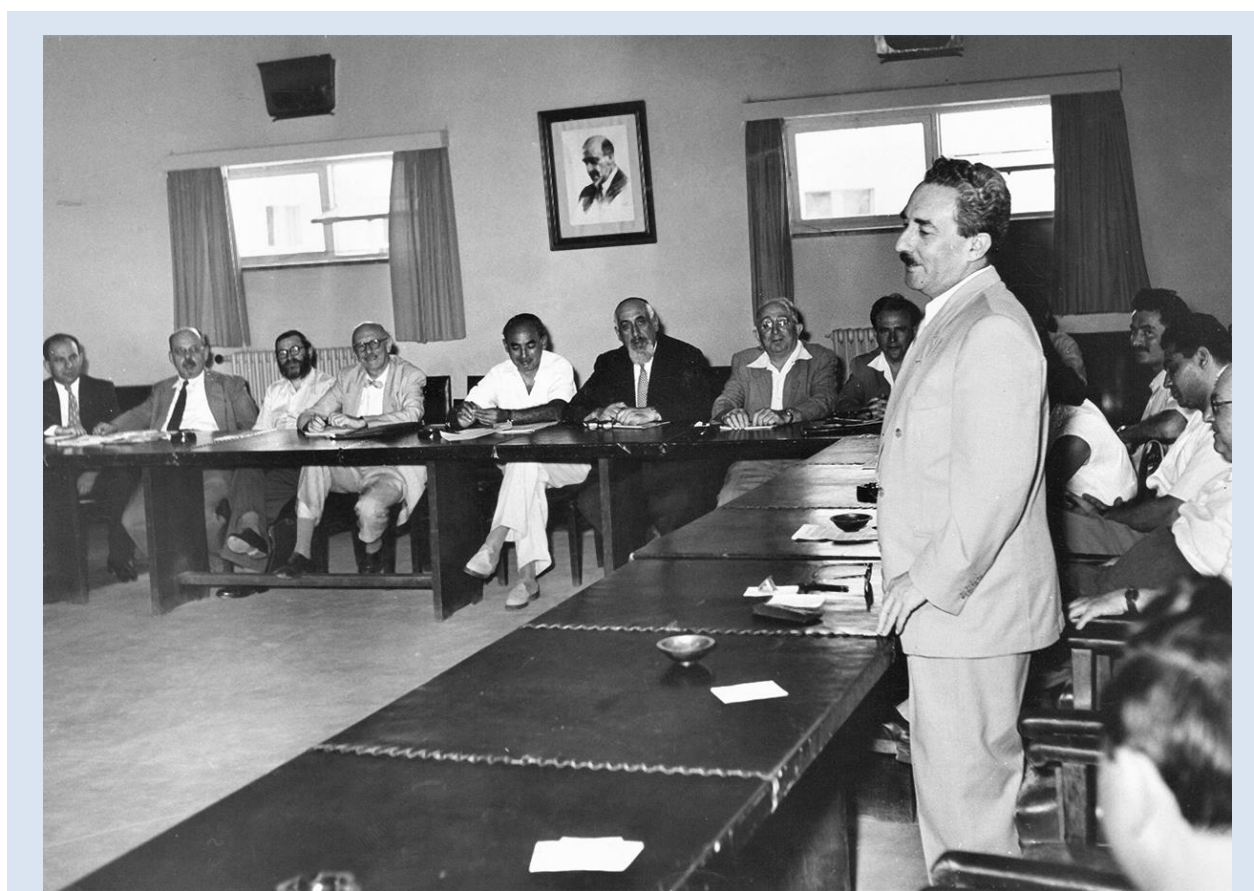


*From right to left is Ruth Levi, Martha Ellern, Carl Ellern, Ann and Harry (Anna's son) Schwab, Margot Rieck*

Harold died in London on January 29, 1955, six months after being struck down by polio and only three months before the first anti-polio vaccine was declared safe to use.

Carl, who was sitting by Harold's bed when he was completely paralyzed and could only move his eyes, was severely affected by his son's death. His anguish was fulfilled: his father died when he was 12, his older brother died when he was 26, his wife when he was 39, his younger brother died in the Holocaust when Carl was 55, and now, when he was 65, he had lost his son. I was about five years old at the time, so I didn't witness Grandpa's behavior and the effect of his loss on him. Even when I was growing up, I didn't hear anything about the way Grandpa had dealt with the misfortunes that had befallen him. In all the material that came to me, I found nothing that could shed light on the consequences that all the grief had for Grandpa. According to the material, he continued to function, both in work and in public life, and was much appreciated, but obviously something had broken inside him.

Carl acceded to Minister Peretz Naftali's request to return to be a member of the Economic Advisory Committee to the Prime Minister (see Appendix 15). On July 27, 1956, a new Economic Advisory Council was appointed by the Prime Minister. This time it was composed of 41 members, and once again, Carl was one of the three members personally selected by the Prime Minister (see the nomination letter in Appendix 16).



*Photo from the trip of the Economic Committee on July 1955, on the right (standing) Minister Moshe Sharett, fourth from the left, Carl Ellern*

Carl wrote that the photos were taken during the Committee's trip in the Lachish region and Ashkelon. The tour may have focused on the national water conduit which began in 1953. My father, Aron Ellern, wrote to me that my grandfather told him he had doubts about whether the

members of the Eretz Israel Workers' Party (*Mapainiks*) had adopted his recommendations in the Economic Advisory Council.



Grandfather Carl, fourth from the right

The following article from the Haaretz newspaper (July 22, 1956) shows that the economic issue was at the center of political debates and struggles that forced Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion to devote time and efforts to the subject.







*Martha and Carl near the city of Andermatt  
Switzerland, September 1, 1957*



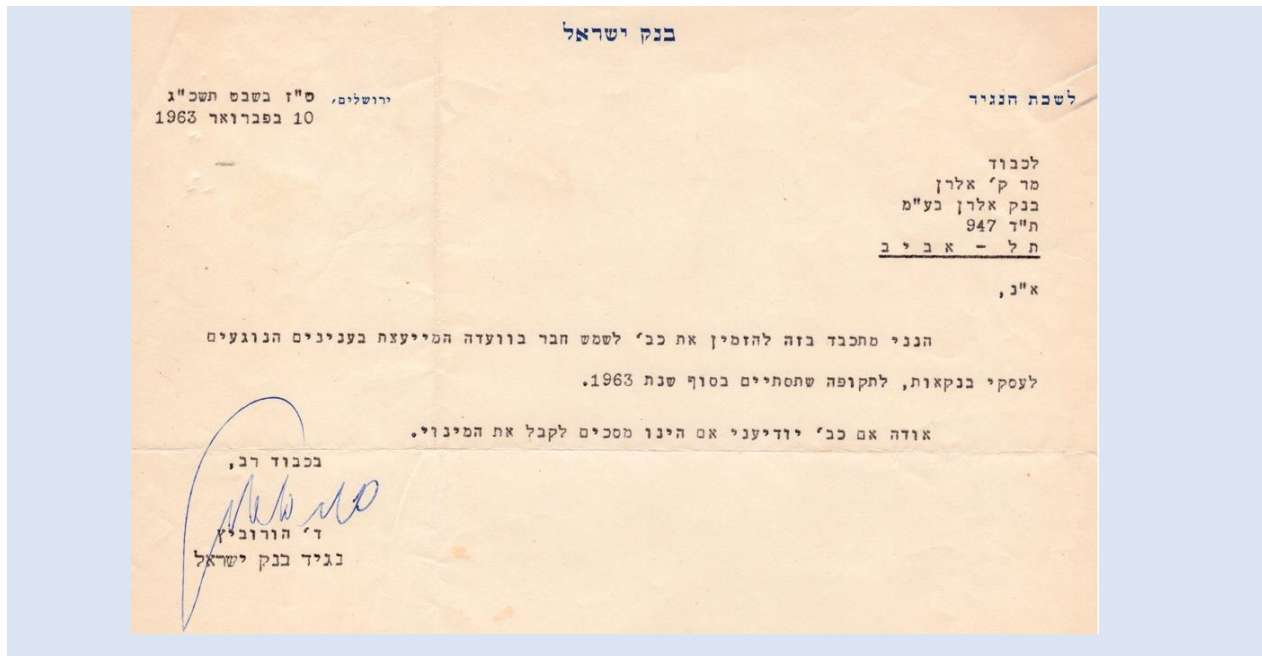
*Martha and Carl on the train to Wengen  
Switzerland, August 1961*

Another tragedy struck Carl on January 25, 1962. Margot, his youngest daughter, died in a car accident while driving the family vehicle. Something caused the car to deviate into the opposite lane, and it collided head-on with a vehicle coming the other way. Carl loved Margot very much. They say that her personality reminded him of her mother, Jenny. Like her, Margot was smart, talented, energetic, and always created a pleasant atmosphere around her. It was a tremendous loss for all of us.

From a letter written by Jenny's brother's daughter, Miriam Rose, from Kibbutz Lavi, to Martha and Carl on January 30, 1962, we can learn about Margot's personality and her growing environment: "...I admire you that you raised your children without a mother and gave them exceptional mental and human education, and if they are outstanding people, it is mainly because of you ... I loved her ... I admired her too ... during her short life, she lived with such intensity that she succeeded in doing much more than others during 80 years of life..... "

In February 10, 1963, the Governor of the "Bank of Israel" invited Carl to serve as a member on the Advisory Committee of Banking Business Matters.

Carl accepted the invitation and expressed hope that his health would allow him to attend the meetings.



Carl helped a lot of people. Jacob Goldberg (Jenny's brother) wrote, according to Carl's acquaintance: "Peps works overtime for the troubles of others." A reminder of how Carl used to help other people I received myself about four years after his death, when I left my car for treatment at a car electrician in Rehovot. When I returned after a few hours to pay and get the car, the garage worker told me that the business owner had instructed her not to charge me. I approached the owner to ask about it, and he explained: "You are the grandson of Carl Ellern. I immigrated to Israel in the Youth Aliyah; my parents perished in the Holocaust. Without your grandfather's help, this business would not exist". According to my father, Aron Ellern, Carl also helped the dedicated postman who brought him the mail. The mailman found it difficult to support his family from the payroll in the mail, and so, my grandfather would give him "loans" from time to time - loans that were obviously not to be repaid. The arrangement that my grandfather had with the postman - an arrangement that also teaches us about their relationship, spared him the descent to the mailbox: when the postman would call them from outside the building, Grandpa or Martha would drop a thin rope with a clothes peg at the end, the postman would fasten the mail with the clothes peg, and then the rope would be pulled up.



*Carl and Martha Ellern*

Despite the status he had acquired, the economic possibilities that were at his disposal, the travels, trips, and vacations, Grandpa, after all the tragedies that had hit him over the years, was not a happy person. During his most difficult times, his cousin Recha was always at his side. He appreciated her wisdom and devotion.

Carl died in Tel Aviv on July 7, 1966, of Parkinson's disease. He was buried at the Kiryat Shaul Cemetery (block 2, area 3, row 31, place 44).

I was 17 at the time, and my parents allowed me to come to the funeral. It was the first funeral I attended. I remember that among the escorts was Minister Yosef Burg. Eliahu Navi delivered the eulogy.

In the memoir written by Dr. Jesselson, who worked with Carl at the Ellern Bank and left Israel in 1957, he devoted some paragraphs to Carl. The following is a quote from the relevant page given to me by his son, Eliezer Jesselson:

In the Tel Aviv office, I developed close relationships with two friends since the 1930s. They both barely succeeded in leaving Holland before its conquest, and I would like to dedicate several lines to them. They were both exceptional people, and a deep friendship developed between us, even after I moved to Switzerland in 1957. Today, unfortunately, they are no longer alive (1985).

One was Carl Ellern, Hermann Ellern's cousin. He was born around 1890 in Frankfurt and studied banking with Ignatz Ellern in Karlsruhe. His wife also came from Karlsruhe. She was the daughter of renowned banker Goldberg from the Strauss Bank & Co. of Karlsruhe.

He was an experienced banker during World War I when he was recruited as a soldier. He then became a partner at the Hugo Mainz Bank & Co. in Hamburg ... Later, he arrived in Israel...

He refused to enter the bank as Hermann Ellern's partner but joined the board of directors and was active in consulting and bank actions. That's how our friendship developed. I admired him both because of his character and his skills. He had a wonderful sense of finding unique business opportunities. He had an in-depth knowledge of banking work techniques, with meticulous execution and control. When he received a document for signing, his glance was enough to reveal errors in it, and when he signed, it was evident that the document was perfect. He had a rare talent to perform complicated calculations in his head. Today they would call it a computerized brain. But mostly, I admired his character: he was honest, straight, restrained in his reactions, and reliable as he spoke. He was willing to help everybody but discreetly, and it was rarely possible to find out who he helped, how he helped, and when he did it.

Despite his many misfortunes, he maintained these qualities, misfortunes that would subdue another man. He lost his father at an early age and his brother had fallen in World War I. His wife died in 1929, leaving him with three young children. His son, Harold, an architect by profession, died in London in the 1950s. He died of polio after months of suffering and the use of an iron lung. His only daughter, also a mother of tender age children, was killed in a car accident in Haifa. In the 1940s, he married a second woman who had been rescued from Bergen-Belsen, and who had lost one of her three children during the Holocaust. Her daughter was killed in a siege on Jerusalem, so that, each of them had only one son who survived, out of three children. In his last letter to me in Zurich, he wrote on June 14, 1966:

“Many things were imposed on us. I honestly tried to give essential content to my last years, but it is impossible for me.”

He died on July 7, 1966, after years of suffering from Parkinson's disease. His wife, Martha Levy, nee Igersheimer, thanked me for the obituary letter on July 24, 1966, in the article: "Life burdened him with great intensity, more than even you knew. It may be possible to talk about it, but certainly not to write."

She passed away a day or two after her writing the above lines, and they were both buried in Kiryat Shaul. I visit their graves when I go to my parents' grave there, in the same cemetery.



The following is what Bruria Navi told me in 2015 when I started writing this essay:

"Carl was not only a gifted banker, but also a wise student, an erudite man who read a lot and had conversations on a variety of topics such as history, Judaism, and the Bible. A Bible study was held at his home under the guidance of B.S. Jacobson.

He was not a Zionist.

After the establishment of the state, he criticized the government policy in all areas, and particularly on the economic field.

I have no knowledge and understanding of finance, so I cannot appreciate the great understanding and knowledge Grandfather had. His abilities and contribution were not expressed in writing. Thus, he has been wronged to the point that conscience does not stop bothering me. Apparently, he had an exceptional knowledge of the shares of overseas companies. At the establishment of the State, he was appointed to the Prime Minister's Advisory Committee. He had expertise in investments. It is not a small matter.

In the early days of the State, poverty was so deep that today it is difficult to understand its profoundness, and how we came out of it. Hence the importance of his contribution. After all,

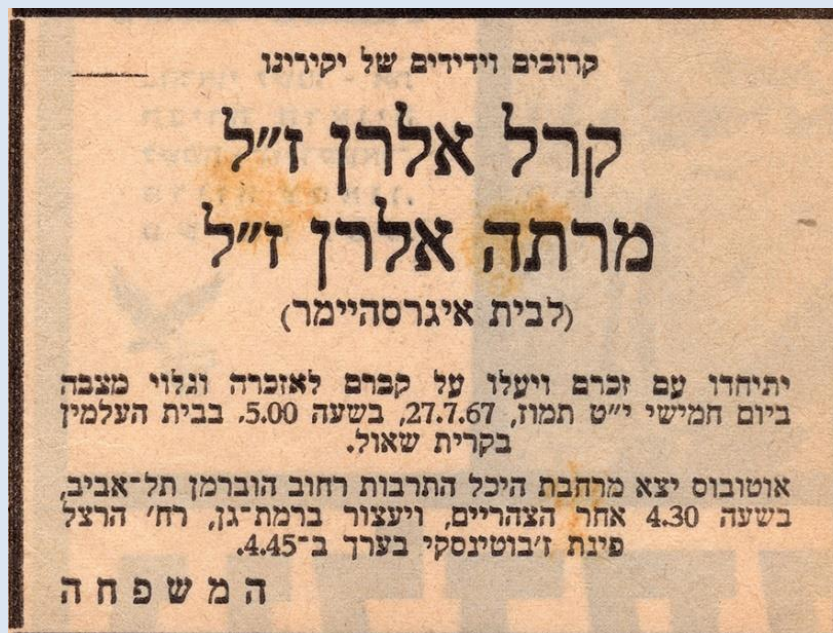


there is no security without money. This must not be forgotten, and an article about Carl maybe in the "Hyacinth" magazine, should be published. He didn't take care of his public relations. He was so humble that he didn't bring up what he had done.

The source of the things I say is from my personal acquaintance with him and from the things I heard from my mother and Recha Ellern. My mother was, for many people, a "Western Wall". It is also essential to write about Recha as things are forgotten.

Eliyahu and I had the opportunity to get to know him on Saturday night visits. He had a lot of criticism. He was too pessimistic, in my opinion, but eventually, we realized that he was right in many cases. We were very involved. Eliyahu in the security field and I in the education sector. We were very enthusiastic. We argued a lot with him. He did not like the Jewish shtetl policy, the charity funds, the asking for money. Carl saw how they continue behaving like in the little town. It was just over the Sinai War, and emissaries to America were already out collecting donations. He criticized the construction of the economic infrastructure.

Grandpa rented an apartment in a fashionable area. The furniture was beautiful but modest; he always dressed nicely but not extravagant. Grandpa loved Margot, and he also loved her modesty and contentment. Aron received no warmth. Ronit (my ex-wife) noticed this when he was at your place while writing his doctorate.



An Invitation to Martha's and Carl's memorial ceremony in July 27, 1967

## **Carl's parents: Caroline Ellern (nee Bing) and Aron Meir Sigmund Ellern**



Aron Meir Sigmund Ellern, the father of Carl Ellern, was born on October 7, 1854, in the city of Fuerth, region of Bavaria, Germany. His parents were Hayum Heinrich Ellern, a banker and textile merchant, and Regine Rechl Feuchtwanger.

Hayum Heinrich Ellern was the son of Alexander Sender Ellern and Nannete Hindel (nee Randsburger). He was born on September 9, 1821, in Fuerth and died in Vienna on July 1, 1886. Hayum was a banker at the Fuerth branch of the old established E.J. Wertheimer Bank, and in 1853 he became a textile wholesaler operating in Vienna and trading with the Balkans.

Regine Rechl nee Feuchtwanger was the daughter of Seligmann Feuchtwanger and Fanny Wassermann. She was born on December 13, 1824, in the city of Fuerth and died in Vienna on January 18, 1865. (The family tree of the Feuchtwanger family began with Seligmann Feuchtwanger).

Regine and Hayum, Carl's grandparents, were married in the city of Fuerth on October 13, 1852. Seven children were born to Regine and Hayum: Flora (who married Moshe Tubia Wetzler), Sigmund (father of Grandfather Carl), Ignatz (father of Hermann, cousin of Grandfather Carl), Johanna (who married Arnold Kahn), Clara (who married Shimon Maier, grandfather of Bruria

Navi), Albert (the father of Recha, Carl's cousin, whose life story, as well as her father's, are detailed below) and Jenny (who married Rabbi Dr. Wilhelm Reich).

From 1871 to 1886 Sigmund worked in Munich for I.L. Feuchtwanger as a banking specialist. On November 24, 1886, Sigmund married Caroline.

In 1871-1873 he worked for Ludwig E. Wertheimer bankers in Vienna.

From 1873 until his death on February 3, 1902, he worked at the same bank, in the Frankfurt branch.

Carl's mother, Caroline, the daughter of Carl Calmann Hayum Bing and Annatje Benjamins, was born on June 9, 1860, in Amsterdam. After Jenny's death, Caroline moved to the home of Carl and the grandchildren and helped raise them. She left for Holland, her homeland, shortly after her son Carl.

In April 1943, she was transferred with her son Alex and his family from 18 Lekstraat St. in Amsterdam to the Westerbork camp. On July 20, 1943, Caroline was taken from Barak 85 in Westerbork to Sobibor Camp, Poland, where she perished on July 23, 1943.<sup>29</sup>

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<sup>29</sup> As mentioned in Grandpa Carl's life story

## Jenny Ellern (nee Goldberg) – Carl’s first wife



Jenny Schenele Goldberg was born in Karlsruhe on May 23, 1889, to Moshe Goldberg and her mother, Ida Mainz.

Jenny had one brother and four sisters. The family tree is presented below.  
From 1895 to 1905, from age 6 to 16, Jenny attended the School of Religious Studies of the Jewish Religious Association in Karlsruhe.



*Picture of a class in the school years 1903/1904. Jenny stands third on the right.*







Jenny's graduation certificate April 9, 1905

Translation of Jenny's graduation certificate April 9, 1905:

School of Religious Studies  
 Of the Jewish Religious Association in Karlsruhe  
**Graduation Certificate**  
 For  
**Jenny Goldberg**  
*Born on May 23, 1889, in Karlsruhe, Baden*  
*Daughter of Mr. Moshe Goldberg*  
 She studied at our Institute from April 1895  
 Until April 1905 in (grade) "Selecta"  
 And received the following grades:  
**Behavior: Very good, Diligence: Very good, Achievements: Very good**  
**Remarks:** *Throughout her schooling, Jenny Goldberg excelled in exemplary behavior, with her tireless dedication, to the satisfaction of her teachers*  
 Karlsruhe, April 9, 1905      **Director:** (Signed) Dr. Schiffer

Clearly, she was a very good student.

On November 7, 1910, Jenny was notified by the District College of Teaching in Koblenz that she had successfully passed the exam as a French and English teacher (schools for girls in middle and high division).

On April 26, 1914, Jenny and Carl were married in Karlsruhe.



*Jenny standing in the center of the first line with a white handkerchief in her pocket.*



*Jenny Ellern*



*Jenny Ellern*



On February 10, 1929, Jenny died of cancer (carcinoma), when she was almost 40.



*Jenny's gravestone in Hamburg,  
February 1996*



*The inscription on Jenny's gravestone*





*This is a photomontage which includes many of Jenny's extended family members from the Goldberg family.*

*The top photo is the original, and below there is an enlarged replica, with the names of the people appearing in it.*



## Heiny Ellern – Carl's brother



Heiny - Heinrich Chaim Ellern was born on September 23, 1918, about two and a half years before Carl, in Frankfurt. After elementary and high school, he studied medicine at the universities of Strasbourg, Berlin, Marburg, and Zurich. In Zurich, he served as a surgeon's assistant to Professor Sauerbruch, considered one of the most important and influential surgeons of the 20th century, among other things due to the invention of the "Sauerbruch chamber" - a pressure chamber for open-chest function (for lung surgery).





In 1914, when World War I began, Heiny joined the German army and served as a physician assistant and chief physician - Oberarzt. On March 6, 1916, in the famous Verdun battle that took place near the French city of Ville, Heiny was hit by a hand grenade and killed. He was only 29 at the time of his death.

The first announcement of his fall arrived in a printed letter, translation below<sup>30</sup>:

Copy

Western Battlefield, March 7, 1916

Dear Mrs. Ellern,

Your son was hit by a heavy hand grenade and on March 6, 1916 and died a heroic death. I and the medical officers of 25 Infantry Division would like to express our deepest sympathies on your sorrow for your terrible loss. He was an excellent physician, continually working for his 117th Brigade, and he was always a loyal friend in the bad times as well as the good ones. Be sure his memory will live forever among the medical officers of the 25th Infantry Division. Today we brought him to his final rest.

His grave is in VILLE, in the cemetery of the Medicine Squad 2 of the 18<sup>th</sup> force. The nearest major train station is in Montmedy.

My true condolences.

Yours,  
Signed Zamka  
Chief Physician and Physician of  
The 25th Infantry Division

The second message was sent the next day, translation below<sup>31</sup>:

Infantry - Live Brigade No. 117  
Divisional Physician

March 8, 1916

Dear Madam,

It is my painful duty to inform you that your son, our Ellern, died a heroic death on March 6, as a result of his serious injury. With his death, the brigade lost an excellent and talented battalion physician in every way, who had worked continuously and faithfully since joining us. He had gained the unconditional trust of his commanders, officers, and soldiers. With sacrifice and regardless of the danger, considering only the good of the wounded, he provided our wounded with incomparable services. He acted in this manner until he fell victim in the noble commitment of his duty. His tragic fate, which I witnessed, shocked me deeply. He did not return to full consciousness. After being transferred to the main dressing center, he passed away without suffering.

Yesterday, March 7, he was buried, and today, when we returned to Ville. his place of burial, we buried the stretcher bearer who had fallen with him beside him. I instructed his grave should be marked and commemorated, as much as possible, with the primitive means at our disposal. Thus, he rests among a small group of fallen heroes, all equal in their heroism, on

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<sup>30</sup> A photograph of the original appears in Appendix 19.

<sup>31</sup> A photograph of the original appears in Appendix 20.

a small hill, which overlooks the mountains from where we began the Verdun battle on February 22. I hope that soon I can send you a photo of the grave. Even if your warrior son's grave is simple, his memory will remain in the brigade with a deep sense of appreciation for his achievements and sincere grief for the loss of a well-loved comrade by everyone.

Dear Madam, allow me to express my great appreciation.

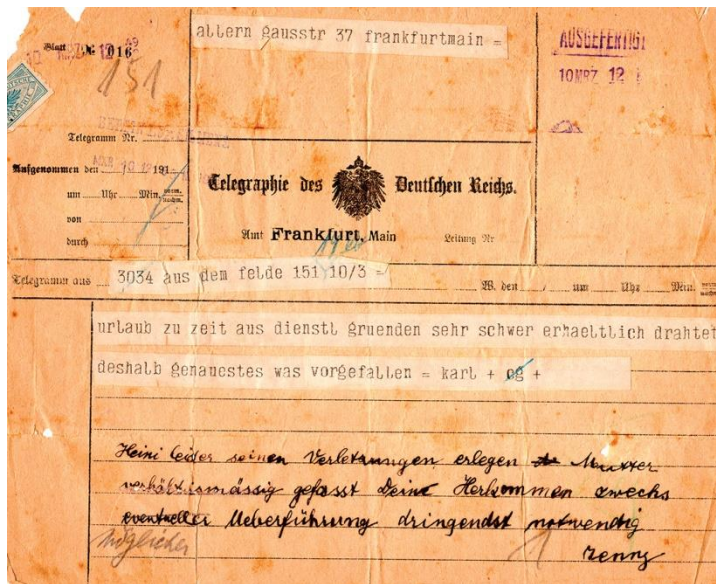
I share your grief from the bottom of my heart,

Faithfully,

Signed Swan

Headquarters physician

The news of the injury reached Carl very quickly. He wrote to the family the telegram below, with the family's response on it.



Translation as follows:

Ellern, Gauss Street, 37 Frankfurt, Main

**The Telegraph of the German Reich**

The Frankfurt Office, Main

**Performed on March 10, 1916**

Telegram 3034 from the field 151 10/3

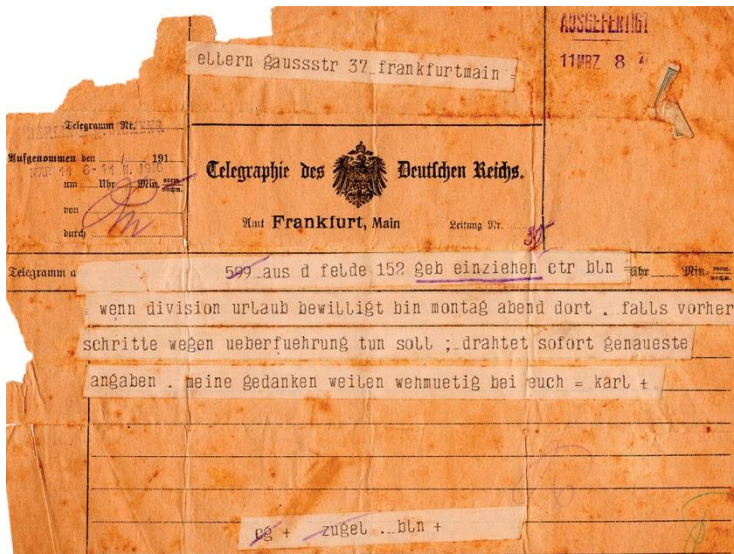
Because of the service, it is very complicated to get a vacation now. So, they sent a telegram with an accurate description of the event. Carl.

*Unfortunately, Heiny died of the injuries. Mother is relatively strong. Your arrival, for a possible transfer, is essential and urgent.*

*Jenny*



In response to the news regarding Heiny's death, Carl sent the following telegram on March 11, 1916:



Translation as follows:

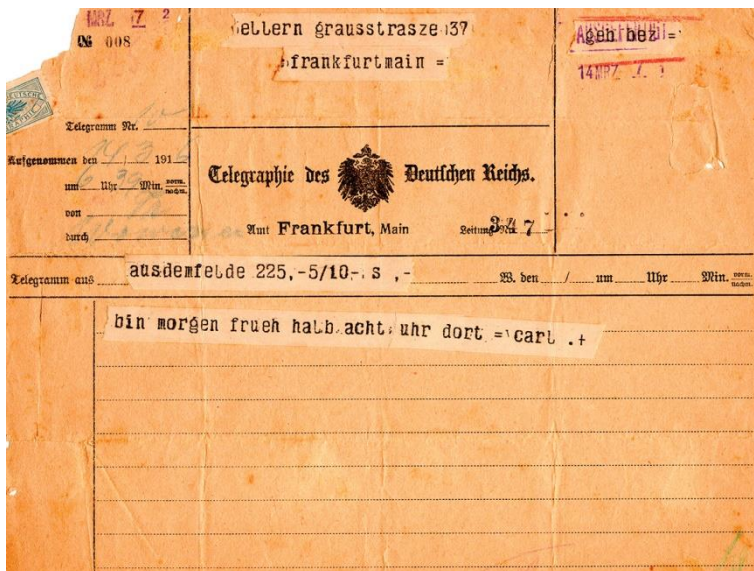
Ellern, Gauss Street, 37 Frankfurt, Main  
 The Telegraph of the German Reich  
 The Frankfurt Office, Main

Performed on March 11, 1916

Telegram 599 of the 152 field, payment to be charged

If the division authorizes the holiday, I will arrive on Monday evening. If you are beginning to move elsewhere, please send a telegram immediately with the exact details. Thinking of you and missing you. Carl.

And finally, Carl sends another telegram announcing his arrival on March 15, 1916, in the morning:



Translation as follows:

Ellern, Gauss Street, 37 Frankfurt, Main  
The Telegraph of the German Reich  
The Frankfurt Office, Main

Performed on March 14, 1916  
From the field 225 5/10 S

Coming tomorrow morning at 07:30. Carl

From many letters sent by Heiny's commanders to his mother, it emerged that he was an excellent, dedicated and honest battalion doctor, and was very much loved by all who worked with him.



*Picture of Heiny's grave near Verdun, as taken by his brother Carl in 1936*

In a letter to Caroline, Heiny's mother, sent by the Chief Medical Officer of the division where he served, he states that the grave is in a small village, Ville-devant-Chaumont, Zip Code 55150 France, in the cemetery of the 2nd Medical company, Corp 18. The tomb is in block 1, number 371. The village of Ville-devant-Chaumont is about 19 km north of the French city of Verdun, about three hours and more from Frankfurt, Paris, and Dusseldorf airports.<sup>32</sup>

<sup>32</sup> The nearest train station is on Montmedy. From there, you must drive about 34 km south, beginning on Route 643, about half an hour. When you get to the village, 250 meters further southwest on Highway 905, and there to the left of the road is the cemetery.

A young doctor who served with Heiny in the same division wrote Caroline a letter after his death. Here is the full translation of the letter (from German):<sup>33</sup>

Am Postwald, April 16, 1916

Dear Madam,

A few days ago, we returned to a warm place, and I'm sorry I couldn't answer your letter earlier. I certainly understand your desire to hear accurate details of your brave son's last hours. I spent time with your son during the difficult days in Louvemont. His shelter was right next to mine. The day before they were due to replace us, his shelter was hit directly, while he was in place together with his stretcher-bearer. Two soldiers were buried under the rubble. Your son was able to call for help, and we helped to rescue the two unfortunate soldiers, but in vain. It was the last time I saw your son. As I heard, he went to the brigade shelter to report to the regiment. Then he asked to return to his stretcher. They offered him to stay in the shelter for a while until the heavy artillery fire weakened a bit, but it was impossible to stop him, and he said it seemed awful to be buried under rubble in the shelter; he preferred to be in the fresh air. That feeling was well understood after the disaster that had happened before. Shortly after that, he and his stretcher-bearer were hit and killed by a grenade directly near the divisional shelter. The medical physician Dr. Schwan bandaged him, and he lived for a while longer, but I don't think he was aware of the severity of his injuries, which certainly was his luck.

Perhaps it would be a little comfort to my honorable lady, to tell you how much I admired his extraordinary courage, his tremendous sacrifice in his concern for the wounded, and I consider him an example. As it was said, if he were alive, he would surely have been awarded the Grade I Iron Cross as a signal of his excellent service.

Yours faithfully,

Warner Grill, Physician Assistant (Brigade) I/117

Another letter kept by Carl was sent to Caroline on March 10, 1916, by a Major Officer of the battalion in which Heiny served.<sup>34</sup>

The following is the translation of the letter:

Copy

March 10, 1916

Dear Lady,

I feel the need to express my deepest condolences on your son's death as a hero. If the word "hero" is appropriate to describe someone, then it is suitable for your son, who acted with glory and courage and sacrificed his life for his comrades in arms and work and invested all his strength for the wounded. Throughout the long period in which he belonged to the First Battalion, he was a magnificent and talented medical aid, continually working in the hygiene, sick and wounded service.

I learned to evaluate him as a man of noble and honest character, and I will forever remember him with respect and loyalty.

Sorry for your loss.

Faithfully,

Signed Henrique, Major

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<sup>33</sup> A photograph of the original appears in Appendix 22.

<sup>34</sup> A photograph of the original appears in Appendix 21



About six years after his death, Caroline submitted a request to move his tomb from France to his hometown. Her response to the answer she received from the authorities can be seen below.

The source:

An dem Kaiserlichen Hofe zu  
3. G. des Königs Dr. Severing  
Berlin

Im Jahre 1916 am 2. März fiel in das Grabmal  
von Douaumont an. Ich habe das Grab, Dr. Heinrich  
Ellenst. ist in Velle, nicht weit von Chantilly  
bevorzugt. Mein General-Kommando des 18. A. K.  
sowie die Überwachungs- in die Gräber haben  
erwartet ist. Das (Gräber) sollte schon das Bild  
wunderlich war, als die Gräber wieder  
freundlich besetzt wurden. Aber das. untröstlich  
sind mich die Zeit nach dem Tode ist.  
Es war ein, der eine Anzahl Über-  
führung erwartet ist, soll ich 80.000 Mk  
dafür bezahlen. Ich habe mich mit  
nicht besetzt. Mein Hofe war es. Ich habe  
Hilfen werden, vor allem ich als (Bittsteller)  
das Kaufman möglichen geben, um ich zu  
meinem Leibeserben Kaufman zu zeigen,  
das er mich war, auch sollte man ich  
nicht als Lösung in die vorläufige Linie  
erwartet. Es sollte schon eine Kaufman  
s. trotzdem war ich in einem (Bittsteller)  
überhaupt nicht einig geben. Am  
dem Hofe hat es 22 Soldaten das haben  
erwartet, als es mit ihnen Kaufman  
müde ist. Einfach mit dem eigenen  
Lohn bezahlt. Das war es das war



mir wärst st. heilig, mir dieß dieß  
 zu nützen, die ich + ein nice fut  
 befähigung in Kuppung wagen. Ich muß  
 st. will dead, nur man ihm übrig  
 bleib, fürst Automan st. ich fuff  
 daß die dead waspafan; ich ich  
 mich 6 Jahre darund w. made st.  
 kann mich innerlich süßig man  
 auf dem waffen ich. Ich dieß  
 baldige beledigung in. Gaps  
 zeigen ich fuffung  
 st. C. Ellern  
 16.50 x 5  
 82.50  
 Gausstr 37 II  
 Frankfurt / Main

Translation:

For the attention of:  
 Dr. Sevring, Ministry of Interior  
 Berlin

On March 6, 1916, my eldest son, Dr. Heinrich Ellern, died in the area of Domont and was buried in Ville, not far from Montmedy. The 18th Corps General Staff has already approved the transfer to the motherland, and the vicar in charge had prepared everything needed when the enemy again conquered the area. The General Staff told me to wait until there is peace.

So (illegible) now that a possible transfer has been approved, I have been asked to pay 82,000 marks in return. But I rightfully object to that. My son served and wanted to be useful, because as a mother, I did everything possible to educate him to be a helpful person, and he was, if he had not been, he would not have been sent to serve as a surgeon on the front lines. He was already wounded in the head, and yet he continued to serve in a surgical shelter. That day, he saved the lives of the 22 soldiers, with whom he was buried and he paid for it with his life. Therefore, it is only right to save me the expense. I have not demanded any compensation, and I need and want that what is left of him should be moved here, and I hope you understand. I have been waiting for six years, and I am still waiting, and unable to find inner peace before that happens.

I hope you will comply with my request as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Mrs. C. Ellern  
 37 Gauss St. II  
 Frankfurt / Main

## Anna Schwab - Carl's sister



Anna Hindel Schwab nee Ellern was born on September 23, 1887, in Frankfurt, and was a twin sister to Heiny. Unusually for those days, Anna was a social worker. At the beginning of 1909, she went on vacation to London, where she met Julius Yehuda Schwab, born in Frankfurt on March 10, 1878. Julius was a banker, who emigrated from Germany to England in 1901, and became a citizen there in 1906. He worked for Charterhouse Japhet Investment Bank. Anna and Julius were married in Frankfurt on October 17, 1909.

Anna was very active in the community and social work. The Bnei Brith organization was her second home, and she worked diligently and enthusiastically. She was also involved in volunteer work in the East End district of London – an area where many refugees were housed during World War II. Among other things, she founded a women's club that served as a meeting place for young women and a respite for those who were living on the streets.

She and some of her girlfriends located a building in Stepney, purchased it (the couple oversaw the fundraising), and called the place “Beaumont Hall”. This place became the “Stepney Jewish Girls' Club and Settlement,” with Anna being its chairman and leader for many years. Even as her medical condition deteriorated, she continued to work very vigorously and continued visiting the center she had established, which had answered the social needs of the area's residents.

Anna's long-standing activity for the community, which was rooted in good deeds, love, and friendship, earned her respect and appreciation.

The few documents on the subject show a clear picture of Anna as a pillar, not only of the community she cared for but also of her family. Thanks to her incredible dedication and determination, and her connections with the London Government, Anna helped the family and even saved some of them from the Nazis. A certificate she obtained for Carl helped him leave the concentration camp just eight days after his arrest and emigrate to Palestine with his daughter Margot. Anna also helped her brother Alex and his family, and it was thanks to her that they managed to get to Bergen Belsen instead of continuing to the "East" for almost certain extermination. Later, she and her husband Julius took care of Alex's family members when they arrived in London. My late father Aron was sent from Germany to Anna and Julius, where he lived from the age of sixteen to eighteen, when he began his university studies. Later, when he was in the Prees Heath Internment Camp quarantine camp (as a German subject at the outbreak of World War II), they supported him, encouraged him, and sent him packages. He also had a visit from Anna (see visit permission as Appendix 10). His release from the camp may also have been made possible by her efforts.

She was indeed, a strong, smart, talented, woman who wished to help others. An amazing woman!

In 1992, my father Aron Ellern wrote about her: "A vigorous woman who was not afraid of anyone, and who, like her brother Carl, was a proud but not a Zionist Jew. She served as co-chair of the London Committee to save German Jews, and her influence in government circles (which was not keen on accepting refugees, due to the unemployment and crisis in England) was considerable. She once said to me, 'Sigmund, be wise, a state only with Jews - it won't work!'"

According to Aron, her husband Julius was a banker, "a moderately observant Jew, great at reading the Torah, and always read the bible's scroll to the whole family in exactly 35 minutes."

The relationship between Anna and Carl was excellent, and he often went to visit her.

Anna died in London on April 16, 1963, when she was 76 - the age of her brother Carl's passing away.

Julius Schwab died in London on June 10, 1949.



*Julius Schwab*

Anna and Julius left behind three sons:

### Sigmund George Ahron Meir Schwab

Born in London on July 27, 1911.

Sigmund married Helen Kathleen Lawrence Simmons in London on September 12, 1938.

Helen was born in London on February 8, 1915.

Helen and Sigmund had three children:

- Jennifer Lawrence Shoshana Schwab was born in Amersham, Bucks, England, on May 11, 1941. Jennifer married Roger Andrew Frayne McArdle in London on September 19, 1965.
- Michael George Schwab was born in London on November 4, 1944.
- Caroline Esther Schwab was born in London on March 5, 1947. Caroline married Carlo Canteri on July 27, 1970. She is currently married to John Russell.

Sigmund died in London on November 13, 1980, Helen died in Plymouth, England, on September 19, 1987.

## Walter Manfred Moshe Schwab

Born in London on July 2, 1913.

Walter married Alice Rosenthal on January 18, 1942. Alice was born in Heilbronn am Neckar, Germany, on May 10, 1915.

Alice and Walter had one daughter:

Julia Schwab was born on February 27, 1950.

Walter died in London on May 30, 1996; Alice died in London on May 14, 2001.

## Harry Curt Chaim Schwab

Born in London on September 2, 1917.

Harry married Anne Esther Levy in London on May 15, 1946. Anne was born in Berlin, Germany, on March 31, 1921.

Anne and Harry had two children:

- Susan Elizabeth Schwab was born in London on August 20, 1948. Susan married Julian Samuel Edel in London on February 15, 1972.

- Judith Aviva Schwab was born in London on November 9, 1950. Judith married Ronald Damboritz in Jerusalem on April 18, 1977.

Harry died in London on September 15, 2005; Anne died in Petah Tikvah on July 3, 2019.



*Harry and Anne's Wedding*

Harry and Anne were second cousins. Anne's father, Jacob Levy was a cousin of Carl Ellern (their mothers were sisters nee Bing).



## Alex Ellern – Carl's younger brother



Alex - Alexander Ellern, was born in Frankfurt on November 5, 1899. He was a dealer in rare metals and chemicals in Frankfurt. On April 11, 1926, he married Lotte. Lotte was born in Hamburg on July 2, 1902, the youngest daughter of Emma Steffenhagen and Heinrich Guttmann, and she worked as a kindergarten teacher. The couple had a daughter and a son. The daughter, Ruth, was born on December 23, 1927, when her parents lived in Eschersheim, a northern suburb of Frankfurt, and attended the Jewish Community Girls' School in Hamburg (1934-1938). Chaim, their son, was born on February 24, 1931, and from April 1937 to March 1938, he studied at the "Talmud Torah" in Hamburg (where his cousins, Aron and Harold, were also students).





*In the picture, Lotte and Alex in 1928.*

In 1932, the family moved to the Römerstadt area, near Heddernheim, in northwest Frankfurt, where Alex served as a member of the board of the old Heddernheim synagogue. In 1933, when the Nazis came to power, Alex was fired from the company he had worked for 15 years and decided to set up an independent business in Hamburg, where the family moved in the summer of 1934. The life of the Jews in Germany became increasingly problematic, so in 1937 Alex went to London to study the possibility of immigration, but he could not get a certificate. In March 1938, Alex and his family immigrated to Holland. Unfortunately, the Dutch closed the border as the family members were on their way, and despite their efforts to enter legally, they eventually were forced to smuggle themselves across the border. After three months, Alex obtained the required papers, rented a house, and they started their new life in Holland.

From 1938 to 1941, the children, Ruth and Chaim, studied at the Dongan school in Amsterdam. From September 1941 to December 1942, Ruth attended the Jewish High School and Chaim the "Hermann Alte" School.

In May 1940, the Germans invaded the Netherlands. Alex tried to arrange a boat to England, but it was too late ...so Alex re-established his business in Amsterdam, brought in a Dutch partner and changed the name of the company so that it was not considered a Jewish business. In December 1942, the family was transferred to the ghetto. Grandma Caroline was sent to Westerbork after Passover 1943, and on June 20, the other family members were also posted there.

At the end of July 1943, a month after Grandmother Caroline was sent east to her death, her and other family members' certificates arrived from England. Because Alex had a first-class iron cross (following his injury in World War I), he was given the right to choose between Theresienstadt (where "privileged people" were transferred) and Bergen Belsen (where holders of certificates that were supposed to be part of an exchange deal with German nationals in Israel, called the Templars, were transferred). Alex chose Bergen Belsen. On February 1, 1944, on a

three-day passenger train ride, the family was transferred to Bergen Belsen, thanks to their certificates. Ruth told her son Amos that Uncle Carl had organized the certificates. Of all the information I have seen, I would like to add that it is very likely that Aunt Anna from London was a senior partner in the move, based on her excellent relations with the London establishment.

The journey on the passenger train (not a freight train) ended, and from there, the family had to walk to the camp for two hours through snowy forests. In the camp there was segregation between women and men, hard discipline, reduced food, different jobs, and poor conditions. In October, conditions got even worse. In December, Alex was taken to work, and as he lacked the required level of fitness, he was severely beaten until he lost consciousness. His consciousness returned to him after a while, but his condition remained severe. Alex died in Bergen-Belsen on March 4, 1945, from malnutrition and inadequate medical care, just days before the US military liberated the camp. On April 6, 1945, the family walked back to the train station from where they had arrived at the camp, they were squeezed into a train that travelled on and off for seven days until American soldiers liberated the train. Alex's family survived and immigrated to Israel through Switzerland and England.

In June 1945, when the war was over, Lotte and her children returned to Amsterdam. On the way, they were arrested by the Dutch, but they released them after six days and they completed their journey to Amsterdam. They immediately contacted the family in London (Schwab), in Tel Aviv (Carl) and New York (Katie, Lotte's sister). Chaim was very ill with tuberculosis, and Carl helped move him to a suitable rehabilitation institution in Switzerland while running Alex's insurance. Chaim was hospitalized there for over two years until he recovered. He immigrated to Israel and lives there to this day, and he is 88. Ruth's diary, from childhood to the arrival of her family in England after the war, is shown in Appendix 8.

Ruth continued her studies at the Jewish High School in Amsterdam until they left Amsterdam and arrived in London, where Aunt Anna and Uncle Julius received them on February 6, 1946. In England, Ruth was involved in the training of religious pioneers. She married Haim Jacob Frumkin on January 15, 1950, in London. Haim Frumkin was born in Oxford, England, on June 9, 1915, the son of Samuel Frumkin and Elizabeth Scher. From 1940 to 1946 he served as a radar expert in the British Air Force.

Ruth and Haim immigrated to Israel immediately after their wedding. From 1950 to 1951, they lived in Kibbutz Ein HaNatziv, and from there, they moved to a rented apartment on Perry Megadim Street in Tel Aviv. Ruth told her son Amos that Carl bought the apartment for Margot and her new husband Jul, who were then staying in Basel to complete Jul's medical studies. When Margot and Jul came back, the Frumkins were preparing to look for a new place, but Margot wanted them to stay and share the apartment with them. Ruth cherished Margot's gesture.

On February 20, 1953, their eldest son, Amos, was born. As a geologist, he is currently a Professor in the Geography Department at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, where he manages the Israel Cave Research Center. On August 23, 1978, Amos married Ayala Harari, who was born in Jerusalem on August 31, 1957. Dr. Ayala Frumkin currently runs the Genetics Laboratory at Hadassah Medical Center, Ein Kerem, Jerusalem.

Yair Shmuel, Ruth and Haim's second son, was born on April 22, 1958. As a geography graduate at Haifa University, he serves as a guide. Yair married Hanna Dalia Mor on August 22, 2000.

Chaim, the second son of Lotte and Alex Ellern, came to Israel, as mentioned, in 1947 after his release from the rehabilitation institution in Switzerland. He was a banker. On February 13, 1962, he married Sonja Sarah Flory Nerden, born in Amsterdam on March 5, 1933. Sonia and Chaim have two daughters. Yael Ellern was born in Jerusalem on March 26, 1963 and works as an insurance agent. Osnat was born in Jerusalem on March 21, 1966 and works as a pharmacist. On August 16, 1994, Osnat married Dr. Guy Kashi - born on October 22, 1969, an industrial and management engineer, the son of Meir Kashi and Adva Tamari.

Lotte Ellern died in Jerusalem on May 10, 2002.

Chaim Frumkin died in Jerusalem on December 19, 2004.

Ruth Frumkin nee Ellern died in Jerusalem on January 1, 2012.



## **Dr. Aron Ellern – Carl's eldest son – My Father**



My father, Aron Meir Sigmund Yehuda Ellern, was born in the city of Karlsruhe, Germany, on October 8, 1918. In 1919, his parents moved to Hamburg, where his father Carl was a partner in a small commercial bank (16 employees) called Hugo Mainz & Co. Hugo Mainz was Grandma Jenny's uncle.

My father attended the Talmud Tora Realschule School in Hamburg, from 1925 to 1934. In 1934 he was sent to London, to his Aunt Anna, sister of his father, Carl. Anna was married to Julius Harry Schwab. They emigrated from Germany to England shortly before the First World War. Aron lived with them for about two years, from 1934 to 1936, and attended St. Paul's School in London.

In 1936 Aron was admitted to Reading University, and in 1939 he was awarded a B.Sc. degree in Agronomy. During his studies, after the outbreak of World War II, he was in one of the quarantine camps where the British concentrated the non-born British people who had arrived in recent years from enemy countries. The intention was to prevent the 5th Corps from having the freedom of action. Aron was interned at Prees Heath Internment Camp near the town of Whitchurch, in the Liverpool city area.

After graduation, he joined the Bahad training – a Religious Pioneer Alliance, where he served as a member of the Executive Committee and was very active in establishing new training programs.

In 1943, the Bahad movement bought, with the help of the generous Oscar Philip, a Lodge near the town of Thaxted in Essex County, in the South East of England. The farm covered 1,600 acres of land and had 50 dairy cows. From 1944 to 1947, Aron served as the Professional Manager of the training farm in collaboration with his friend Koli (Akiva) Landau. Koli was entrusted with the day-to-day affairs, and Aron represented the farm with the authorities and the outside world.

In 1947, Aron received British citizenship. Immediately, in November 1947, he went to visit his father in Palestine, arriving on November 17, 1947. When the UN announced the establishment of a Jewish home in Israel (on November 29, 1947), Aron decided to stay in Israel and not return to England. He settled in Kibbutz Yavne, where a nucleus of people was organized to establish a new kibbutz.



*Ruth and Aron near their tent in Kibbutz Yavne,  
September 1948*



*Ruth in a photograph from 1948*

Ruth Rosenfeld, Aron's fiancé, arrived in Israel about three months later (on April 16, 1948) on the Adenauer ship, with the help of the Bahad movement, and joined him at Kibbutz Yavne. Ruth was born in the city of Dortmund, Germany, on May 31, 1927, to Mina (nee Loewenstein) and Richard Rosenfeld. In February 1939, three months before her Bat Mitzvah, her parents decided that there was no chance of leaving Germany, so they sent Ruth to England as part of the Kindertransport. Her brother Hans, who was 19 at the time, left for England as an independent immigrant. Ruth was adopted by the Levin family from the city of Leeds, lived with them until the age of 18, and went on a training course for her immigration to Israel in February 1948. The parents of Ruth and Hans were sent to their deaths in Minsk in November 1941. Hans enlisted in the British Army, served as a fighter in the Special Forces in the Paratroopers Brigade and was killed in the famous invasion of Arnhem, Holland.

On May 9, 1948, Ruth and Aron were married at Kibbutz Yavne. I found the marriage certificate, but not a single photo from the event. Ruth and Aron fought in the War of Independence, Ruth, who was a nurse, remained in the kibbutz with the fighters, while the women and children were taken to safety, and Aron was part of the Givati Brigade in the southern region. Both were condecorated with the words "War of Independence."

Ruth and Aron were among the founders of Kibbutz Lavi. They arrived on February 13, 1949, and according to the kibbutz members register, they were accepted as members on May 8, 1949. In its early stages, the kibbutz needed cash to purchase raw materials, for both construction and subsistence. Some members were sent to work outside the farm. Ruth was sent to work as a bath attendant in "Hamei Tveria" and hated every moment there. Aron worked at "Chimavir" - a job that equipped him with a jeep but forced him to be absent from the kibbutz more than he would have wanted. On October 23, 1949, I was born, the eldest son of Ruth and Aron and the first grandson of Carl. In 1951 we moved to Raanana. Aron worked as a chemist at ICI, and later moved to the Ministry of Agriculture and served as an "agricultural guide" (for sugar beet growers). In 1960, Aron moved to the Volcanic Institute and served as a researcher, first in the development of vegetable varieties for the sabbatical year (the Institute for Field Crops according

to the Torah) and later in the growth of grazing grasses in arid regions. The assays were made at the Volcanic Institute and the Migda farm, near the population of Gilat. In 1963 Aron was awarded the M.Sc. degree in Agronomy from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. In 1981 he was awarded a P.H.D. from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

Ruth, who was unable to attend high school in England, began studying art at the Ein Hod artists' village. She then went to study at the Avni Institute of Art in Jaffa and graduated there in 1969. Later, she wanted to continue her studies. At Tel Aviv University, they accepted her even though she did not have a high school diploma, provided that in the first year of her studies, the average of her grades would be no less than 80. In 1979, Ruth graduated from Tel Aviv University and was awarded her B.A. in Archaeology and Ancient Eastern Cultures and Classical Studies. In 1991 she was awarded her M.A. in Art History by Tel Aviv University.

Ruth and Aron had three sons:

The eldest is me - Raanan David Ellran. I was born in Kibbutz Lavi on October 23, 1949. I attended the "Yavneh" elementary school in Raanana and the "Midrasha Noam" high school Yeshiva in Pardes Hanna. I served as a pilot in the Israeli Air Force for 22 years, and I was released with the rank of Colonel. During my military service, I completed my bachelor's degree in Economics and Business Administration at Bar Ilan University, and during unpaid leave, I completed an MBA (majoring in finance). When I left the army, I joined the business sector as a company manager, including "Ace" and "Assuta Medical Centers." At the same time, I served on the board of directors of many companies, including Rafael and Meitav Dash.

On December 31, 1970, I married Haya, daughter of Sarah and Zvi Agassi at Tel-Nof Air Force Base. Haya and I divorced in December 1971.

On September 5, 1973, I married Ronit, the daughter of Miriam (nee Fernbach) and Prof. Israel Broderman in the parents' garden in Raanana. We broke up in 1978 and divorced on January 20, 1981.

On March 18, 1981, I married Veronica, the daughter of Lisa (nee Dargoldz) and Zoltan Stein. Veronica was born in Colombia on May 5, 1952. She completed her BA in Philosophy and French Language and Literature at Tel Aviv University (1975). Veronica is an artist engaged in metalwork and sculpture, while also curating and producing art projects.

Jonathan Shalom Ellran was born in Raanana on February 5, 1952. He attended Yavneh elementary school in Raanana and high school at the Bnei Akiva Yeshiva in Nahalim. He later studied at Mercaz HaRav Yeshiva in Jerusalem, was ordained to the rabbinate, and served in the IDF. Jonathan served as a rabbi of the Kochav Hashahar settlement in East Benjamin for 26 years. At the same time, he served as a teacher and educator at various institutions. Since 2002 he has served as a consultant at the Puah Institute - Fertility and Medicine, according to Halacha. On November 17, 1974, Jonathan married Hagit Grossberg, in Jerusalem. Hagit is the daughter of Rivka Jacobson and Rabbi Eliyahu Grossberg. Hagit was born in Jerusalem on October 4, 1954. She is a teacher, with a B.A. degree (1987) from the Jerusalem College for Girls in Beit Vagan, in the Bible, Oral Law and Literature, and an M.A degree (1998) from Touro College in Jerusalem in Jewish Studies with an internship in Jewish History. In 2002 Hagit received an M.A. degree in Jewish Education from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

Gideon Mordechai Alexander Ellern was born in Raanana on December 20, 1954. He attended Yavneh elementary school in Raanana, Beit Berl High School near Kfar Saba, and served in the IDF. He was a goalkeeper in the Maccabi Tel Aviv football team and other groups in the National League. Gideon completed a B.A. degree in Mass communication (film and video) at

Tel Aviv University, and his master's degree in cinema at Syracuse University, New York. He works as a Special Education Teacher in the education system of Los Angeles and continues to make films.

On August 15, 1993, Gideon and Lisabeth Lobenthal, born on March 5, 1962, were married in Michigan, her parents' city of residence. The two divorced in 1997. Lisabeth is involved in the management of Jewish synagogues and community centers.

Aron died on March 27, 1996; Ruth died on March 6, 2016. Both died in Raanana and were buried at their request at Kibbutz Lavi.



## Harold Ellery – Carl's second son



Harold - Heinz Jacob Chaim Ellern, was born in Hamburg on April 10, 1920. From 1927 to 1938, he studied at the Talmud Tora Realschule, Hamburg.

Harold received his German passport # 8483 on June 29, 1934, the year his brother Aron was sent to England, but his departure for London was delayed for about four years. I don't know if the reason was that he had to wait for a visa to enter England or if it was his father who chose to postpone his migration.

Harold competed in Maccabi in Germany, excelling in Javelin Cast and Battle 10th.





*Harold's class in a postcard to Aron, September 4, 1927*

Harold arrived in London two weeks after his 18th birthday, on April 28, 1938. As soon as he arrived in England, Harold changed his name from Heinz Jacob Chaim Ellern to Harold James Ellery, as it appears in the registration card shown below.

113  
 MALE, CONDITIONAL LANDING  
 350-47-496  
 REGISTRATION CARD.

(1) NAME (Surname and given names)  
 ELLERY  
 Ellery, Harold James  
 (2) ~~REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE~~ No. 674253  
 Date Issued 1/9/38  
 Place of Issue Rostock

ALIAS  
 (3) NATIONALITY German Born on 10/11/1920 in Hamburg, Germany

(4) PREVIOUS NATIONALITY (if any)

(5) PROFESSION or OCCUPATION Student Sec B  
 (6) Address of last residence outside U.K. 5 Parkallee, Hamburg, Germany  
 (\*) Arrived in U.K. on 28.11.1938

SINGLE or MARRIED Single  
 Wife's Name and Serial No.

(7) GOVERNMENT SERVICE  
 H.M. Forces  
 16.9.41 - 8.11.46.  
 AKA 648253

(8) PASSPORT or other papers as to nationality and identity  
 German Passport  
 8483 issued at  
 Hamburg 29/6/1934

(9) PHOTOGRAPH  
 (11) SIGNATURE OR LEFT THUMB PRINT  
 Harold J. Ellery  
 Ellery  
 1/9/38

REGISTRATION OFFICE  
 9/11/38  
 STREET STATION, LONDON

*Harold's registration card from September 1, 1938, as a foreign subject in England*

Harold studied architecture at A.A. School of Architecture in London and was certified as an Architect (A.R.I.B.A. and A.A. diploma).



*Harold, October 1940*



*From the right, Aron and Harold Ellern, October 22, 1941*

During World War II, Harold enlisted in the British Army and served there from September 16, 1941, to November 8, 1946.

At the beginning of his military career, he was stationed in the Royal Pioneer Corps. The Royal Pioneer Corps was a light engineering corps in the British Army. The Corps was established in 1939, and the Pioneer units carried out a variety of tasks, including bearing stretchers, laying pre-built routes on the beaches, and performing various logistics tasks. Under the supervision of the Royal Engineer Corps, they built airports, roads, and bridges; the Corps built the Port of Mullbery and carried out the Pluto Operation. 23 Pioneer Corps took part in the invasion of Normandy<sup>35</sup>. Like many foreign citizens, Harold was not allowed to carry weapons. Later, when foreign citizens were already allowed to carry weapons and take part in the fighting, Harold took part in the invasion of Normandy and was released in the rank of Captain. A steel helmet from the days of World War II that was in Harold's hands was given to his brother Aron and used in the War of Independence in Israel. After Aron's death, Ruth Ellern passed the helmet to Harold's daughters.



After the war, Harold was employed as an architect by Norman & Dawbarn Ltd, architects and engineers, London.

On March 27, 1949, he married Grete Miriam, the daughter of Sigmund Karl Kohnstamm and Lilly Babette nee Weinschenk. Grete was born in Nuremberg on December 5, 1927.

Grete and Harold had two daughters: Debbie and Judy.

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<sup>35</sup> The invasion of Normandy (Operation Overlord) was an amphibious invasion of the Western Allied armies on the Normandy coast of occupied France, which took place from June 6, 1944, to June 30, 1944, as part of the Western Front during World War II.

Debbie - Deborah Jane was born in London on April 2, 1951.

On September 1, 1974, Debbie married Anthony Frederick Abrahams, in London. Tony was born on July 2, 1950 and engaged in the manufacture of textile products and later in their trade.

Judy - Judith Roberta was born in London on January 7, 1954. In 1975, Judy completed her B.A. degree at the Central School of Art and Design, and in 2005 she completed her M.A. degree at Central Saint Martins, London. Judy is an artist and photographer.

On December 12, 1986, Judy married John Smithson. John was born on March 29, 1952 and holds a BA in Politics from Manchester Polytechnic and a Diploma for a bachelor's degree in Journalism from the University College, Cardiff. John is a film and television producer. Judy and John divorced on June 8, 2010.

Harold died in London on January 29, 1955, from Polio (Poliomyelitis), just before the start of the vaccine for the disease and was only 35 at the time of his death.

Grete remarried in London on February 3, 1957, to Dr. Paul Albert Bachmann. Paul was born in Nurnberg on March 21, 1914. Paul had two children from his previous marriage: Peter and Diana.

*From right to left Grete, Judy, Paul, Diana, Peter, Debbie in 1956*



Peter Roy Backman was born in London on May 26, 1943, as Peter Roy Bachman. He holds a BSc degree from The Open University 1997 and serves as a business consultant in the restaurant sector. Peter was married on September 16, 1973, at the West London Synagogue to Barbara Kay Posner, who was born in London on September 16, 1943.

Diana Ruth was born in London on November 9, 1947, holds a BA in Modern Languages (French and Spanish) from Manchester University, and holds diplomas in education and relationship therapy. Diana was married in Hampstead Garden Suburb on February 7, 1971, to Anthony David Finn, born in London, January 24, 1948. David is a Chartered Accountant (FCA). Diana and David live in Israel.

Paul's first wife was Ann Eva Kohnstamm. She was born in Nurnberg, Germany, on November 24, 1916, and died in Surrey, Ewell, in England, on January 24, 1955. Ann died in the same week that Harold died. Paul and Ann married in Yorkshire, Bradford, England, on May 17, 1941. It should be noted that Ann was the cousin of Grete's father.

Paul died suddenly on November 26, 1961, in Rome, on their way back to England from a visit to Israel.

On August 18, 1967, a few years after Paul's passing, Grete married Jack Alfred Goldhill, a widower, in London. Jack was born in London on September 18, 1920, and he worked as a Surveyor and Property Developer. Jack became a widower when he lost his first wife, Rella on August 13, 1966 (born Aurelia Fried), born in London on April 2, 1924. Rella and Jack had three children: Michael, David, and Simon.



Michael Louis Goldhill was born in London on March 20, 1949. He married Julia Goldstein in London on June 25, 1972, who was born in London on March 7, 1951. They divorced in 1984. On April 9, 1987, Michael married Carolyn Lorraine Miller, born in London, on April 30, 1957. Michael is involved in Property Development.

David Raymond Goldhill was born in London on April 11, 1952, and he is a physician specializing in anesthesiology. He married Lucinda Gay Norman on June 29, 1979. Lucinda was born in Nottingham, in England, on August 31, 1953, and works as a teacher and consultant in the field of public relations.

Simon Robert Goldhill was born in London on October 5, 1956 and is a Solicitor by profession. Simon married Dawn Hart in London on November 22, 1990. Dawn was born in Durham on September 29, 1959. (They are now divorced.)



*The tombstone on the grave of Harold Ellery (Ellern)*



*July 26, 1959*

*Behind: Carl and Martha Ellern, Anna Schwab  
In front: (Right to left.) Judy Ellery, Diana Bachmann, Ruth Freedman (daughter of Hannie, Grete's eldest sister and Mick Freedman), Debbie Ellery.*

## Margot Rieck — Carl's youngest daughter



Margot was born in Hamburg on August 21, 1921. She studied first at Johnsalle School and then at the Real School for girls of the German Community. She studied for the matriculation exams at the Talmud Torah boy's school, in a class assigned to the Jewish girls in Hamburg.

Margot was a Zionist from an early age, studied Hebrew diligently, and during school breaks also engaged in teaching Hebrew to her friends.

Margot had an excellent understanding of what the future held for the Jews, and she spoke explicitly about it with her close friend Miriam Gillis - Carlebach<sup>36</sup>. Among other things, she used to urge her to send her three little sisters out of Germany, claiming that, their parents (Hamburg's Chief Rabbi and his wife), had the right to sacrifice themselves, but not their children.



*From right to left Aron, Margot and Harold Ellern in London*

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<sup>36</sup> Jedes Kind ist mein Einziges: Lotte Carlebach-Preuss. Anlitz einer Mutter und Rabbiner-Frau, Dolling und Galitz Verlag, Hamburg 1992 (page 197)

In 1938, after her father was released from a concentration camp, the two left Germany and moved to Holland. The 17-year-old Margot, fearing they were going with nothing, told her father not to worry, that she could make money in Holland by cleaning houses. In 1940 Margot and her father emigrated to Israel.

In 1941, she began her studies at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, and at the end of her first year, went to a year of service at Kibbutz Yavne, where she met her future husband, Jul (Yitzhak) Rieck. After another school year in Jerusalem, Margot moved to the Faculty of Agriculture in Rehovot.

Margot married Yitzhak Julius Rieck on December 23, 1943.

Yitzhak (Jul) Rieck was born in Vallendar am Rhein, Germany on 3.11.1912, as the fourth surviving child of Hermann (Chaim) Rieck (teacher, born in Lithuania on 9.10.1862; d. in Germany on 5.9.1925) and Frieda Rieck, nee Kassewitz (born in Schmieheim, Germany, on 17.7.1871, d. in Israel, on 25.7.1951).

Yul made his Aliyah on 29.3.1937 and served as an officer in the British Police until his departure for medical studies in Basel.

On December 14, 1947, Margot completed her master's degree in Agronomy at the Faculty of Agriculture at the Hebrew University's branch of Rehovot, and soon after joined her husband, who was studying medicine in Basel, Switzerland.

On December 13, 1949, their daughter Ruth was born. Jul graduated from Basel in 1951, and the family returned to Israel, first to Tel Aviv, and after a few months they settled in Haifa. Jul began working at the Rambam Hospital, where he was engaged in clinical practice and research. He later moved to work as an internal physician at the "Carmel" Hospital, as he preferred clinical practice to research.



*from right to left: Haim & Ruth Frumkin, Ruth Jul & Margot Rieck*

When Margot, Jul, and Ruth returned to Israel, they had an apartment in Tel Aviv, where Ruth and Haim Frumkin were living at the time. The Frumkin couple intended to vacate the apartment and look for a new place to live. Still, Margot, who knew they recently had left Kibbutz Ein Hatziv and were at the beginning of their stay outside the kibbutz, suggested that the Frumkins would live in one room, the Riecks on another one, and together they would share the rest of the house. And so, it was. Professor Amos Frumkin told me that his mother, Ruth, had said to him that Margot's gesture had touched her heart.

In 1952, Margot began working in the Northern District of the Jewish Agency as secretary of the Settlement Department.



*Margot and Miki*



*From the right: Margot, Ruth, Miki, Aron, Gideon and Jonathan in Haifa, Purim 1958*

On January 24, 1962, on her way to work, Margot was involved in a severe car accident. She was driving the small Renault Quatre-Chevaux family car in a built-up area and collided head-on with a vehicle coming in front of her. The accident occurred on the street of her residence near Carmel Hospital, where, as mentioned, Jul, her husband, served as an internal physician.



*In the picture: Jul and Margot Rieck with their daughter Miki by the Renault*



Margot died the next day of the accident, and she was only 40.

She left three daughters: Ruthy, Michal, and Ofra, and more about them can be found towards the end of the chapter.

In "The Field" magazine, Volume MG of Booklet 4 (January 1963), an article was published by Dr. A. Yaffe from the Department of Botany at the Hebrew University. Outputs from the Plant Protection Branch, the Training Administration, entitled "Fusarium mushrooms in field crops in Israel". The article says:

"The article is dedicated to the late Margalit Rieck nee Ellern, who perished one year ago in a brutal car accident. The charm, warmth, and wisdom that blended in her personality will not be forgotten among her circle of friends. Margalit carried out the first research project on the sickle disease (fusarium) in Israel in 1945-1946. The essence of her work was included in this article." Miriam Rose, a relative from Kibbutz Lavi, wrote to Margot's father, Carl, a letter after her death (January 30, 1962) "... I loved her ... I admired her too ... In her short years, she lived with such intensity that she managed to do more than others did during 80 years of life..."

I was about 12 years old when my Aunt Margot passed away. I remember her very well. In all family gatherings with her, she always had a good vibe. Always creative, taking initiatives, paying attention to everyone, and full of joy. I don't remember her being angry, neither at me nor anyone else in my presence. I felt that she loved people and radiates warmth. I know that the relationship between her and her brother, my father, was very good and that she supported him emotionally during difficult days. When she left, a big hole was created, that will never be filled again.

On November 17, 1964, about three years after Margot's death, Jul married Miriam, daughter of Sally (Shlomo) Loewenstein and Frieda Katzenstein. Shlomo was born in Bochum, Germany, on August 18, 1881, and died in Haifa on October 10, 1971. Frieda was born in the town of Osler in the Hanover district on June 13, 1894 and died in Haifa on December 9, 1983. Frieda and Sally married on May 15, 1921, and had three daughters: Hanna Weigert (1922-1994), Rachel Eshet (1925-2010), and Miriam. Miriam was born in Essen on June 18, 1929 and came to Israel with her family in 1936. Her father, who was a neurologist, was fired from his job by the Germans, and after that, the family came to Palestine. The family's early years in the country were not financially simple, as the multitude of doctors who arrived in Israel in a short time made it difficult for her father to find a job. This situation forced Miriam to go to work after graduating from elementary school. Later, Miriam worked as a nurse at Assaf Harofe Hospital, and she was in the middle of studies and external matriculation examinees when Grete Bruenn (Margot's aunt, Grandma Jenny's younger sister) introduced her to Jul.

On October 15, 1965, their son Yoav was born.

Miriam later studied psychology and completed her master's degree. She spent many years working in research at the Psychological Stress Research Institute.

Miriam became a real part of the family. Both our parents and we, the children, loved coming to Haifa to her and Jul's apartment and staying with them, and we felt she was an aunt with all it implies. The relationship with her continued until she died, including many phone calls. Miriam wanted to be involved in our lives, know what was going on, and harness her knowledge and experience to advise and influence as much as she could. Conversations we had with her helped improve our quality of life.

As mentioned before, three daughters were born to Margot and Jul:

Ruth Rieck was born in Basel, Switzerland, on December 13, 1949. She holds a bachelor's degree (B.A.) from the University of Haifa in the Bible and English literature and a master's degree (M.A.) in Semitic languages from the University of Manchester, England. Ruthy holds a PhD from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and served as a lecturer and researcher. On October 7, 1969, Ruthy married Martin Fidler in Haifa, son of Jack Ya'acov Fidler and Janette Marks. Martin was born in Salford, England, on December 3, 1945. He received his bachelor's degree (B.Sc.) with honors in politics and history from the University of Salford and his master's degree (M.A.) in military studies from Kings College, London. Martin served in the IDF and the security system, and upon his retirement, served as a Driving Tester for the Ministry of Transport.

Michal Miki Shlomit Rieck was born in Haifa on December 22, 1954. She holds a B.A. in psychology and an M.A. in clinical psychology from Tel-Aviv University. Authorized as a supervising psychoanalyst by the Israel Psychoanalytic Society, and a co-founder the "Israel Winnicott Center". On January 10, 1984, in Kfar Saba, she married Ofer Inov, the son of Yair Inov and Carmela nee Mambush. Ofer was born in Israel on January 16, 1954, and he works as a film and television photographer (cameraman). Miki and Ofer divorced in 1992. In 1992, Miki married Avraham Rami Kalfon, son of Benjamin Kalfon and Rina Arditi. Rami was born in Israel on November 6, 1954 and holds a Ph.D. in Biotechnology. Miki and Rami divorced in 1999.

Ofra Yael Rieck was born in Haifa on October 2, 1958. In 1974 she took on an orthodox way of life, and later was married in Bnei Brak to Avraham Har-Kessef, starting a big family. Avraham is the son of Hayim Zeev Zilberberg and Ronya nee Gutman. He was born in Germany on 20.9.1947. The two were divorced in 2002. On August 12, 2019, Ofra remarried, in Jerusalem, to Rabbi Moshe Goldstein, who serves as head of the Yeshiva Sha'arei Yosher - Ayelet Hashahar. As an independent graphologist, Ofra is the owner of the Kav Nekuda Institute in Jerusalem.

Yoav, the son of Miriam and Jul, was born in Haifa. He has a B.A. in Mathematics from the Technion (1989) and a PhD in Mathematics from the University of Texas at Austin (1997). Since 2000, he serves as a professor of mathematics at the University of Arkansas. Yoav married Mari Toyowasa in Nara, Japan, on June 30, 2002.

Jul died in Haifa of a severe illness on November 24, 1987. Miriam died in Haifa in advanced age on June 24, 2017.

## Martha nee Igersheimer - Carl's wife since 1945



Martha Fredel was born in Frankfurt on February 26, 1892, to Gershon Igersheimer and Lina nee Mela. Martha, or her affectionate nickname Muk, got married in 1912 to Shlomo (Siegfried) Levy, born in Hamburg in 1879. Shlomo was the son of Dr. Baruch Levy (1845-1911), a physician and rabbi of the ultra-Orthodox community in Hamburg. Dr. Baruch Levy opened the Zionist Congress in 1909, declaring that the ultra-Orthodox wanted the success of Herzl's efforts to settle the land of Israel.

Martha and Shlomo had three children: Ernst Baruch, Gershon, and Ruth Lina. In 1936, the couple emigrated to the Netherlands and moved there, together with Shlomo's brother Leon, opening their trading house. When the Germans invaded the Netherlands in 1940, they were transferred to a concentration camp. From there, Martha and Shlomo were transferred to the Bergen-Belsen camp and went through a difficult period. They immigrated to Israel in 1944, as part of an exchange deal with some 1,000 Templars who were deported by the British Government of Palestine to Australia. They arrived by train through Turkey and Syria, sick and exhausted, and their daughter Ruth received them at Atlit camp. In 1945, Martha and Shlomo separated. Martha married Carl. Shlomo died on January 1, 1966. Martha died in Tel Aviv on July 26, 1966, 19 days after Carl's death.

The eldest son of Martha and Shlomo, Ernst Baruch, was born on July 3, 1914. He was active in the anti-Nazi movement in Germany, and he was arrested and released on the condition that he leave his country. He emigrated to Stockholm and, in 1938, joined his parents in Holland. He married Bella, and after his parents were sent to a concentration camp, he joined the Dutch resistance, where his wife Bella was also an activist. In 1943, he was captured and sent to the camps, including Auschwitz, and did not return.



*Martha*



*Martha and Gershon Levy, Tel Aviv 1944*



*Martha Levy with Jenny Ellern*

Gershon, the middle son of Martha and Shlomo, was born in Hamburg on February 12, 1918, attended the Talmud Torah school, and went to agricultural training in Germany and England. In 1935 he came to Israel with his father, who returned to Germany. Gershon studied in Mikveh Israel and began to serve as an agricultural guide in the religious youth village in Kfar Hasidim. In 1941, he married Mary nee Herschberg. From the outbreak of World War II and until 1945, he served in the British Army (with the rank of Captain). In 1947, Mary and Gershon moved from Jerusalem to Rehovot, from there to Kiryat Tivon and later to Kiryat Amal. Gershon then worked in the Settlement Department of the Jewish Agency as Deputy Director of the Northern Region. In 1958, he was appointed director of the tractor station plant in Kfar Galim and Ashkelon.

Mary and Gershon had three children: Uri, Raya (Tirza) Shluman and, Eitan (Baruch). Uri helped me with a lot of information about the family. Mary and Gershon separated in 1959. From 1960 to 1981, Gershon was married to Shoshana (nee Cohen).

Gershon served in the Reserve for many years. (He participated in the Yom Kippur War when he was 59 years old!) and reached the rank of Major. He worked a lot abroad - in Iran (where he was involved in setting up the water plant in Qazvin), Ethiopia, Thailand, and more.

In 1982, Gershon got married in Bangkok, Thailand, to Panida (Nid) Poonyait. Nid was born in 1955 in the Udon Thani Province, Thailand, to her father Pat and mother Buangearn. Nid holds a B.A. in Economics (1980). Nid and Gershon had one daughter: Liora.

Gershon died on August 23, 2000.

Ruth Lina, the elder daughter of Martha and Shlomo, was born on December 28, 1920, and immigrated to Israel in 1939. She attended a teacher's seminar in Tel Aviv and later worked at the Children's Institute "Ahava" in Kiryat Bialik. She then served as a kindergarten teacher in



Jerusalem. Ruth was killed in the War of Independence (on June 6, 1948) by a Jordanian bomb which fell on Ben Yehuda Street in Jerusalem, while on her way to the kindergarten.

### ***Gershon's children from Mary***

Uri was born in Jerusalem on October 8, 1943. Uri is a graduate of the Technion in Industrial and Management Engineering (1968) and served as director of companies in the printing industry. On March 30, 2000, Uri got married in Binyamina to Tzipi nee Halfin. Tzipi was born in Haifa on June 22, 1947. Her parents were Esther nee Mer and Arie Lunk Roeder. Tzipi graduated from Wingate Institute in 1970, completed her B.A. in Sports and Geography in 1978, taught in the fields of sports and geography at the Urban High School in Tel Aviv, and served as Deputy Director there for years.

About Raya, born on April 20, 1947, and Eitan, who was born on June 5, 1951 - I was unable to obtain further details.

### ***Gershon's daughter from Shoshana***

In addition to Ilan Levy (Bernstein) - the son who was born to Shoshana before her marriage to Gershon, Gershon and Shoshana had a daughter named Dalia Ruth Levy.

### ***Gershon's daughter from Nid***

Liora, daughter of Nid and Gershon, was born in Thailand on January 14, 1984, but the same year the family immigrated to Israel. Liora grew up in Israel, served in the IDF, and graduated from the Faculty of Medicine at Tel Aviv University in 2012. She currently serves as a physician at Rabin Medical Center in Petah Tikvah and specializes in women's medicine. On June 22, 2012, Liora married Lotem Guy, who was born in Jerusalem on July 15, 1982, to Henia and Peretz Guy. Lotem has an M.A. in Computer Science and Computational Biology from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, 2013.



*Martha Ellern, Grete (Harold's widow) and Paul (Grete's second husband)*

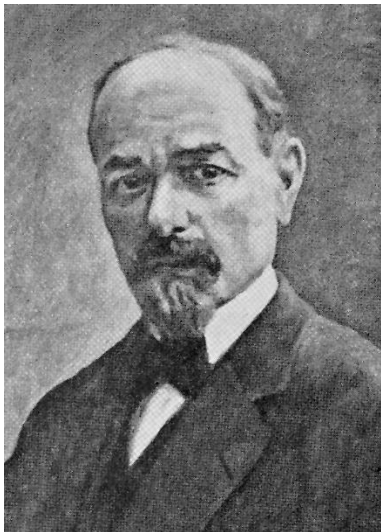
## Hermann Ellern – Carl's cousin



Hermann Ellern was born on October 4, 1892, in Karlsruhe, Germany, son of Ignatz and Clara Ellern, who lived at 9 Ettlinger Street.

Ignatz came to Karlsruhe to work as a clerk at Samuel Strauss's bank. In 1881, he founded the Ignatz Ellern Bank, which financed commercial and industrial businesses and construction enterprises, and served as a mortgage loan agency in the area.

Ignatz and Clara Ellern were an essential support to their family during a crisis. When Ignatz's brother, Aron Meir (Carl's father), passed away at an early age, they funded Heiney's (Carl's brother) medical studies and took the 15-year-old Carl into their home to teach him the banking profession at Uncle Ignatz's bank.



*Ignatz Ellern 1856-1917*



*Clara Ellern nee Feuchtwanger 1866-1963*

Clara was known in the family as Tante Clair (Aunt Claire) or Oma Claire (Grandma Clair). She was a humble and kind-hearted woman.

The Bank prospered for years after its founding, when Carl Ellern and Ignatz's son Felix, who was killed in World War I, developed the field of foreign coupons and securities, which distinguished the Bank and caused it to be widely well-known.

Hermann started his banking career at his father's bank and later worked for Ernst Wertheimer and Co. in Frankfurt, Germany, and Samuel Montagu and Co. in London, England. During World War I (1914-1918) he served in the German army, and during the last two years of the war he was captured by the British (Stobs, England).

In July 1919, two years after his father's death, he and his brother-in-law Emanuel Forchheimer joined as a partner and manager of the bank founded by his father Ignatz in Karlsruhe. The young partners were able to develop the bank's unique fields further, and because of this, the bank survived during the great crisis of 1929, when many of the major banks collapsed.

On April 30, 1924, Hermann married Bessi nee Loewenthal in Frankfurt. Bessi, born in Frankfurt on January 28, 1901, was a graduate of the Frankfurt Academy of Art (1923). Hermann, who was an enthusiastic and active Zionist, and was in contact with some of the leaders of Zionism, visited with Bessi in Israel in 1931. The two decided to immigrate to Israel in 1933, even before Hitler came to power. That same year, Hermann founded Ellern Bank, and the bank began operating from a small, modest office on 7 Rothschild Boulevard in Tel Aviv. The bank's capital, at its beginning, was transferred to Israel in the form of new textile machinery for the Lodzia factory.

In 1935, the offices moved to 3 Rothschild Boulevard.

Ellern Bank attained a very important place in the Israeli economy and private banking and was particularly successful in pioneering the issuance of enterprise securities. Hermann was one of the founders of the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange. When the bank was sold in 1966, it had 17 branches and 500 employees.

After Bessi immigrated to Israel with her four children in 1934, she was one of the founders of the organization known today as "Reut" and part of its board members. The Reut Association - or its first name 'Social Women Service', was established in 1937 by a group of women from the German immigrants, to help the needy population of those days. These were new immigrants who found it difficult to absorb and find a suitable livelihood in their new country. Many of the women set up a kitchen that provided hot meals for those who could not afford one. They opened a kindergarten so that the parents could go to work, and built the "Beit Shalom", a sheltered housing with 65 housing units in central Tel Aviv - a modest but cozy home for older immigrants who left their world behind.

Bessi died in Tel Aviv on April 11, 1967.

In the same year, Hermann established the Beit Ellern Foundation Company Ltd., a company whose sole purpose was to contribute to Israeli society.

The first members of the Foundation were: Hermann Ellern, Dr. Yosef Burg (Minister of the Israeli Government), Eliyahu Navy (Attorney, District Judge and Mayor of Beer-Sheva 23 years), Lord Edwin Samuel, Attorney Baruch Gross, Attorney Chaim Herzog (formerly head of the Intelligence Division and member of the IDF General Staff and later President of the State of Israel) and Uzi Ellern.

On July 9, 1968, Hermann married Eva nee Schwartz, and they lived together until her death on May 26, 2004.



*Hermann Ellern's family on the occasion of his mother Clara's 97th birthday. Right to left:  
Standing: Eli Many, Joshua Ellern, Hermann Ellern, Felix Ellern, Baruch Gross, Uzi Ellern, Leny  
(Leonard) Forchheimer (grandson of Recha Forchheimer).  
Seating: Genia and Tami Ellern, Bessi Ellern and Tali Many, Clara Ellern, Esther Many, and Recha  
Forchheimer.  
Kneeling: Margot Gross, Gabby Gross, Ronit Gross, Ariel Many and Miki Rieck.*

Hermann died in Tel Aviv on August 9, 1987.



## Heinrich Chaim Maier — Carl's cousin



Heinrich Chaim Maier, Carl's cousin, was born in Mullheim, in the Alsace Laurent region (near the border of France with Germany) on September 3, 1886. His parents were Simon (Shimon) Maier and Clara Chaya nee Ellern. Heinrich served as an officer in the German army during World War I, was a Zionist activist, and a member of the Blau Weiss movement.

On May 16, 1922, in Trier, Chaim married Martha Gittel Loeb, daughter of Moritz Loeb. Martha was born in Hermeskeil on January 6, 1897.

As a young man, Chaim studied with his uncle Albert, the range of colors for metals and worked for him for several years. In the Saar region, where the family lived, no anti-Semitism was felt. Still, there was a significant movement of Jewish refugees who escaped from Germany in the hope of finding a better place to continue their lives. The Jewish community to which the family belonged helped the refugees.

Bruria, the daughter of Martha and Chaim, remembers that in the morning she sometimes found, many refugees sleeping on the floor in their living room, and she told me how they prepared them for the road. In 1935, the family emigrated to Israel. First, the family lived in Petah Tikvah, where Chaim was an active member of the "Haganah" and a restaurant owner. He was also among the founders of the Chevra Kadisha (*Jewish burial society*) of the "Yekke" Community in Petah Tikvah. In September 1939, the family, and with them, the restaurant, moved to 38 Yehuda Halevi St. in Tel Aviv.

Martha and Chaim's restaurant, named Mittagstisch (= *lunch table*), was in the Tel Aviv business district. Their daughter Bruria said: "My parents had a restaurant for lunch. There was not even a sign outside. There were regular guests, members of the "Davar" newspaper and bankers, even though there was a restaurant at Bank Leumi."

Martha and Chaim's home served as a shelter for all the Yekkes who came to Israel. But the Maier family was not satisfied with that: when one of the Yekkes got sick, they would take food and visit him, even if it was a long-distance trip. Chaim and Martha also used to bring challah and cakes, which Marta baked on Fridays, to the residents of a Yekkes nursing home, which was located near Tel Aviv port.

After the restaurant closed, Chaim worked at Ellern Bank, and at the same time, volunteered as chairman of the Chevra Kadisha company in Tel Aviv for about ten years,.



1945 - Family event at Martha and Chaim Maier's Mittagstisch restaurant (Bruria's parents) at 38 Yehuda Halevi St. Tel Aviv.

Top, from the right: Carl Ellern, Bessi Ellern, Esther Ellern, Hermann Ellern, Hilde and Albert Loewenthal (Hennie's son, Hermann's mother's sister) and above him Chaim Maier.

Bottom, from the right: Hansel Ellern (Recha Ellern's mother, a chapter is dedicated to her below), Helena Loewenthal (Bessi Ellern's mother).



Martha and Chaim Maier's Mittagstisch restaurant (Bruria's parents) at 38 Yehuda Halevi St. Tel Aviv. Photographed in March 1945 at an event in honour of Emanuel Forchheimer's 70th birthday (Hermann's brother-in-law).

Top, from the right: Clara (Hermann's mother), Helena Loewenthal (Bessi's mother), Emanuel Forchheimer, Recha Forchheimer, Hennie (Hermann's aunt), Carl Ellern

Bottom, from the right: Yohana (Hansel) Ellern (Recha's mother)

Martha and Chaim had two daughters: Esther and Bruria.

Esther Maier was born in Germany on July 10, 1924 and died in Tel Aviv on September 28, 1985. On August 29, 1943, Esther married Albert Avraham Gueron, son of Jacques Gueron. Albert was born in Sofia, Bulgaria, on May 7, 1919, and died in Tel Aviv on June 3, 1985. Albert was a carpenter by profession.

Bruria Clare Maier was born in the Territory of Saar, Germany, on November 29, 1925. About her childhood, she said: "In 1939, I finished elementary school. The financial situation in Israel was difficult. My parents could not finance my studies at the gymnasium. Carl and Hermann Ellern assisted in the first year, and in the second, I already financed myself as I gave private lessons. After that, I already had enough to pay them back. They refused but asked me to make sure that other children go to school. I have repaid my debt. So, I managed to go to a good high school."

Bruria served in the "Haganah" and was involved, among other things, with immigrants of the Second Aliyah who landed on the shores of the country. At the same time, she was trained as a teacher and taught at the Carmel School in Tel Aviv. On March 25, 1947, Bruria married Eliahu Navi, a native of Basra, Iraq (June 22, 1920), the son of Simcha and Saleh Navi. Eliahu served as secretary and board member of the Hashomer Organization and had a B.A. with distinction from the School of Economics and Law in Tel Aviv (1948). He transmitted a weekly column in spoken Arabic in the Defence underground radio (Kol Hahaganah) and the voice of Israel (Kol Israel) after the establishment of the state. In 1957, the family moved to Beer-Sheva, where Eliahu became the first judge to serve in the city. From 1963, he served for 23 years as Mayor of Beer-Sheva, and upon his retirement, established the Judicial Authority of the Histadrut and served as its director (1999-1986).

Bruria attended Levinsky Seminar and was a teacher and educator in Israel. She later completed her studies at the University of Beer-Sheva in English Literature and Linguistics (1974). Bruria has initiated many activities and established many institutions for the welfare of the residents of Beer-Sheva.

Esther and Albert had two children: Dani and Rivi.

Dani (Daniel) Gueron was born in Tel Aviv on June 16, 1946. He has a B.A. degree in Economics from Ben-Gurion University in Beer-Sheva and serves as Escort Accountant in the local authorities on behalf of the Ministry of Interior. On September 15, 1971, Dani married Eva Golubovitch, the daughter of Adam Golubovitch and Pola Peninah nee Rorman. Eva was born in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, on December 16, 1949, and served as a lecturer in the Teacher's Seminar in Beer-Sheva.

Rivi (Rivka) Gueron was born in Israel on June 10, 1953, studied Psychology and Sociology and worked in real estate brokerage. On October 13, 1975, Rivi married Yair Shragai, son of Haim Nathan Shragai, from Chernovitz and Rachel Derbamdiger. Yair was born in Israel on May 1, 1948. Yair is a musician and works in production, composition, processing, artistic management, research, teaching, and choral conducting.



*From the right are Heinrich Maier, Rivi Gueron, Martha Maier, Esther and Daniel Gueron, Eliahu and Bruria Navi*

Bruria and Eliahu had four children: Yochai, Yael, Tamar and Hagar.

Yochai was born on November 15, 1949 in Tel Aviv and died on February 9, 1950.

Yael was born on December 25, 1950, in Tel Aviv. Yael has a B.A. from Ben-Gurion University in Behavioral Sciences and graduated in Art Studies, holding a Teaching Certificate from the Midrasha of Art in Ramat Hasharon. Yael is an artist and served as an art teacher at High School. On February 27, 1978, Yael married Amit Azulai, the son of Ora and David Azulai. Yael and Amit divorced in 1993. Since December 2003, Yael has been in a relationship with Ezri Alon (Fishler), who was born in Kibbutz Gat on January 27, 1950, the son of Anda and Haim Fishler. Since he left the kibbutz in 1979, he has worked at the Nature Parks and Reserves Authority serving in various positions, from Ein Gedi Nature Reserve Manager to the Southern District Authority Planner.

Tamy (Tamar) was born on December 27, 1955, in Jaffa. On February 27, 1984, she married Zvi Ilan, the son of Lea and Arie Ilan. Zvi was born on March 31, 1953, in Tel Aviv. He is a graduate of the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering at Tel Aviv University (1979) and a graduate of the Faculty of Law (1991). Zvika is a lawyer, and Tamy is a banker.

Hagar was born on June 13, 1961, in Beer-Sheba. On July 25, 1983, Hagar married Gil Shalev (Balashnikov), the son of Zehava and Yehuda Balashnikov. Gil was born in Beer-Sheba on September 18, 1957 and serves as C.T.O. of the Innovation and Development Management at Elta's plant in Beer-Sheba.

Heinrich Maier died in Tel Aviv on February 19, 1957. Martha died in Beer-Sheba on July 22, 1964.



## **Albert Asher Ellern – Carl's uncle**

Albert Asher Ellern was born on May 25, 1861, in the city of Fuerth in the Bavarian region of Germany. He was a trader in the field of colours for the various industries in Nuremberg.

On December 26, 1893, Albert married Johanna Hanna Falk in the city of Breslau, Germany. Johanna was born on August 16, 1872, in Breslau, and her parents were Wilhelm Falk and Valesca nee Turk.

Johanna and Albert began Zionist activity in 1905 and were among the founders of the World “Mizrachi” movement.

Albert was the uncle (his father’s brother) of Grandfather Carl, and had a great relationship with him, as we can learn from the dozens of postcards, he had sent him, which were kept in Carl's house until his death. Albert was also the uncle of Chaim Maier, Bruria Navi's father. Chaim learned from him the secrets of the profession and worked for him.

After Albert passed away, Johanna (Hansel) moved in with her daughter Recha and even immigrated with her to Palestine in 1939.

Albert Ellern died in the city of Baddeweiler, Germany, on June 7, 1930.

Johanna Ellern died in Tel Aviv in 1952.

Johanna and Albert had four children: Valerie, Heinrich, Recha and Eugen.

Valerie (Elisheva) was born in Nuremberg, Germany, on August 23, 1895. She was one of the founders of the Blau Weiss Zionist youth movement and died in an accident on February 10, 1923.

Heinrich (Chaim) Ellern was born in Nuremberg on December 17, 1896. He served in the German army during World War I and was a Zionist and merchant. Chaim died in Nuremberg on May 18, 1934.

Recha (Rachel) Ellern was born on December 2, 1898, in Nuremberg and died in Tel Aviv on August 31, 1973. The next chapter will deal with her history extensively.

Eugen (Yitzchak) Ellern was born in Nuremberg on June 25, 1900. On September 17, 1935, he married Herta (Haya) Hildesheimer in Berlin. She had been born on January 15, 1904. Eugen served in the German army during the First World War. He immigrated to Palestine in April 1936 and was one of the founders of the Maccabi Sports Club in Nuremberg.

Eugen died in Palestine in 13.9.1936.

Herta died in Israel on May 16, 1984.

Herta and Eugen had a daughter named Elishevah.

Elishevah Ellern was born in Petah Tikvah on February 28, 1937. She graduated from the Nursing School next to Sheba Hospital in Tel Hashomer and served as a nurse in the Public Health. On November 27, 1958, Elishevah married Rafael Schreiber in Petah Tikvah, the son of Ezra Schreiber and Lily nee Schreiber. Rafael was born on December 17, 1935, in Syria and was a travel agent.

## Recha (Rachel) Ellern – Carl's cousin



Recha (Rachel) Ellern is the daughter of Albert Ellern and Johanna (Hanna) nee Falk.

Recha was born on December 2, 1898, in Nuremberg. She was Grandpa Carl's cousin and her father was Sigmund's brother, Carl's father. Recha was very close to Carl. She was very smart, and she was a real support to my father Aron during his difficult times.

The following is a translated quote from what they wrote about her on the Hamburg Municipality website.<sup>37</sup> The website contains the life stories of the people who have streets and squares in the city named after them.

Between 1912 and 1918, Recha worked as an office clerk in the city of Fuerth. She began her Zionist activities in 1916. From 1914 to 1915, she worked in Kinderhort, which is a kind of after-school day-care, operated by the B'nai B'rith organization in Nuremberg.

From 1916 to 1919, she worked for the Mizrachi movement in Nuremberg, working for youth welfare. This included teaching history, economics, and socio-political issues, drafting up records and conducting home visits.

From 1919 to 1921, she volunteered to run the youth center of the Mizrachi movement in Berlin. In Berlin, too, she was involved with teaching.

In 1922, she was certified as a social worker at the Women's Social Work School in Berlin (Soziale Frauenschule in Berlin-Schöneberg). She began working as a social worker in the social women's organization, Israelitisch-Humanitärer Frauenverein, in Altona, which at that time merged with The Jewish Settlement of Hamburg. Finally, Recha headed the Social Welfare Department of the Jewish Community in Hamburg, including institutions for children.

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<sup>37</sup> <https://www.hamburg.de/contentblob/7390304/7e96267f0c6f4d57c8b5517ec094273e/data/gedachtnis-der-stadt-bd2-nachtrag-recha-ellern.pdf>

She was only 24 years old when she began working as a social worker in the Jewish community of Altona. Among her patients were many new settlers from Poland who arrived in Hamburg after the First World War. The energetic and courageous Recha was devoted to cultivating the younger generation. Her office was at Greenna Strasse (now Kirschenstrasse) No. 5. There was a school in the building, which housed the offices of the Humanitarian Women's Organization.

After the Nazis came to power, Recha saved many Jews from deportation. From her remarkable originality, creativity, courage, and vigour, one can learn from the way she acted on October 28, 1938. On that day, the Germans planned to exile about 1,000 Jews to Poland. In the early morning, the police gathered Jewish settlers who had come to Hamburg from Poland after World War I. They took their passports and assembled them in a very big hall. As a representative of the Jewish community and wearing a nurse's uniform and a headdress with the inscription ZJW (Jewish Social Work Centre), Recha saved many of them, that day from an uncertain future. Here are some examples of her astonishing actions:

A police officer, who, due to her costume, mistakenly thought that Recha was a nurse, shouted at her: "Sister! Someone fainted here!". Recha did not hesitate and answered quickly: "I know the woman; she has serious heart disease and must go straight to the hospital." An ambulance was called, the woman was taken to the Jewish hospital and thus saved from the deportation.

A family of two parents and their children were also helped on the same day by Recha. She understood from their remarks that their arrest was upsetting their plans, as in a month, they were expecting to obtain their US entry visas from the American Consulate. Recha immediately turned to the Chief Inspector and asked for their passports. Then she went to the US Consulate, explained the circumstances, and said that if this family got their visas now, they would not be deported. The consul was persuaded and signed the entry visas in the passports. From there she went to a travel office, booked tickets for the ship, and paid the bill. And so, the same family could return home and quietly prepare for their migration. The source who testified to this case added: "I do not understand how she was physically able to do all this. Run to the hall to speak to the police commander, from the hall to the offices, the consulates, and return to the police commander, etc."

Besides this, it is said that Recha also saved from deportation a man who said he had business and financial obligations. Recha presented the decision-makers with evidence of serious illnesses that could endanger his life in transport, and he was released. These stories, and many others, reveal her exceptional capacity to get things done, and this was hugely appreciated by those around her, and because of the force of her personality, people were careful not to stand in her way.

In 1939 she accompanied a child transport (Kindertransport) to Palestine and remained there. The book of the Feuchtwanger family reveals that she was one of the founders of the Bahad movement (Religious Pioneers Alliance).

In recognition of Recha's blessed activities in Hamburg, her name and work were commemorated in two locations in the city:

A small monument was erected in 1987, next to where Recha was operating (Kirchenstrasse 5), opposite the Catholic Church, about 220 meters south of the entrance to the old Jewish cemetery in Altona. On it are written the various organizations and services that housed the building, as well as Recha's name and description of her work.<sup>38</sup>

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<sup>38</sup> Memorial Stone in memory of the former Jewish Welfare House and the Jewish community sister Recha Ellern: [HTTPS://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Datei:Gedenkstein\\_J% C3% BCdisches Wohlfahrtshaus\\_\(Hamburg-Altona-Altstadt\).2.ajb.jpg](HTTPS://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Datei:Gedenkstein_J%C3%BCdisches_Wohlfahrtshaus_(Hamburg-Altona-Altstadt).2.ajb.jpg)

In 2016, the Hamburg Senate decided to name a street after her, which was in a new neighborhood being built in Altona. Recha was chosen as one of 10 women whose names would be given to 10 of the 12 new streets of the neighbourhood.<sup>39</sup>

On the Hamburg Municipality website, I found her resume, including striking examples of her actions for the benefit of other people. The translation is shown in full in Appendix 18.



*The Monument in Recha's memory*

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<sup>39</sup> <https://www.abendblatt.de/hamburg/altona/article208745463/Hamburg-benannt-Strasse-nach-einer-Domina.html>





*The plaque on the monument*

Translation of the inscription on the plaque:

**In this place - in what used to be Griana Street 5 and Gadman Street - were located:**

- Jewish Community School (until 1927)
- Jewish Kindergartens and daycare centres (from 1927)
- Jewish Orphanage (until 1918)
- Jewish Humanitarian Women Organization (from approximately 1922)

**The building was inaugurated in 1840 - with funds from the inheritance of Yitzhak Hartwig von Essen (1776-1842). At the beginning of the 1920s, Recha Ellern's social work was particularly outstanding in the building (1895-1973). From 1941, more than ten people were deported from here by the Gestapo to ghettos and various concentration camps. At the end of 1942, the property was forcibly sold to the City of Hamburg.**

**Altona Regional Assembly 1987**

After immigrating to Israel in 1939, Recha served as one of Henrietta Szold's senior assistants as part of the National Committee's Social Service. She also took care of the children who immigrated to Israel through Alyat Hanoar and, in this framework, worked with Recha Freier. She travelled all over the country and visited every child to watch over their living conditions and the progress of their absorption in the country.

Immediately after the War of Independence, Recha established the War Victims Department and was responsible for the Tel Aviv District as a state employee.

She founded the Department to examine the rights of children of parents in the process of divorce. In order to decide whether to approve or refuse agreements between the parents, the courts turned to Recha and asked her opinion on these agreements.

In the 1950s, she served as chief supervisor of the Research and Planning department at the Ministry of Welfare.

Recha was one of the founders of "Social Aid" (today called "Welfare") even back in the days of the British Mandate on Israel, and after the establishment of the State, she was among the founders of the School of Social Work.

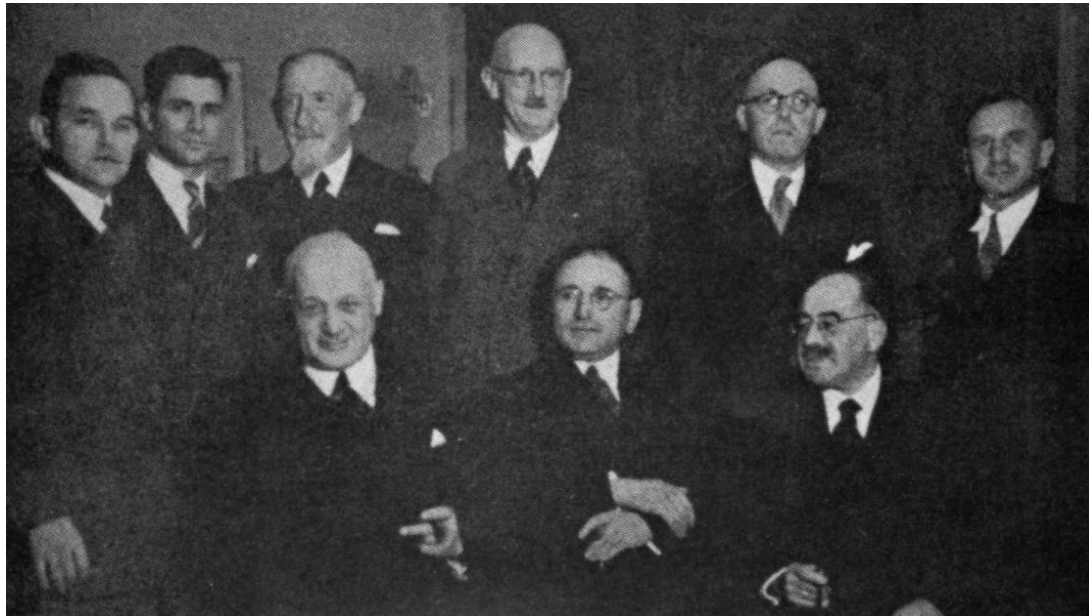
Recha died in Tel Aviv on August 31, 1973. She is resting in the cemetery of Kiryat Shaul, Tel Aviv.

## Ellern Bank

Ignatz Ellern, Hermann's father, set up the Ignatz Ellern Bank in Karlsruhe, Germany. The bank appears in the address book of the city of Karlsruhe as of November 15, 1881. Of the 14 banking institutions included in the book, nine were Jewish-owned. Carl joined the bank and acquired his banking knowledge and experience for the first time.

Before World War I, the bank entered the field of foreign securities. The young Carl Ellern, who was then returning from Paris, worked alongside his cousin Felix, and they developed this new field with considerable success until Carl's enlistment into the army.

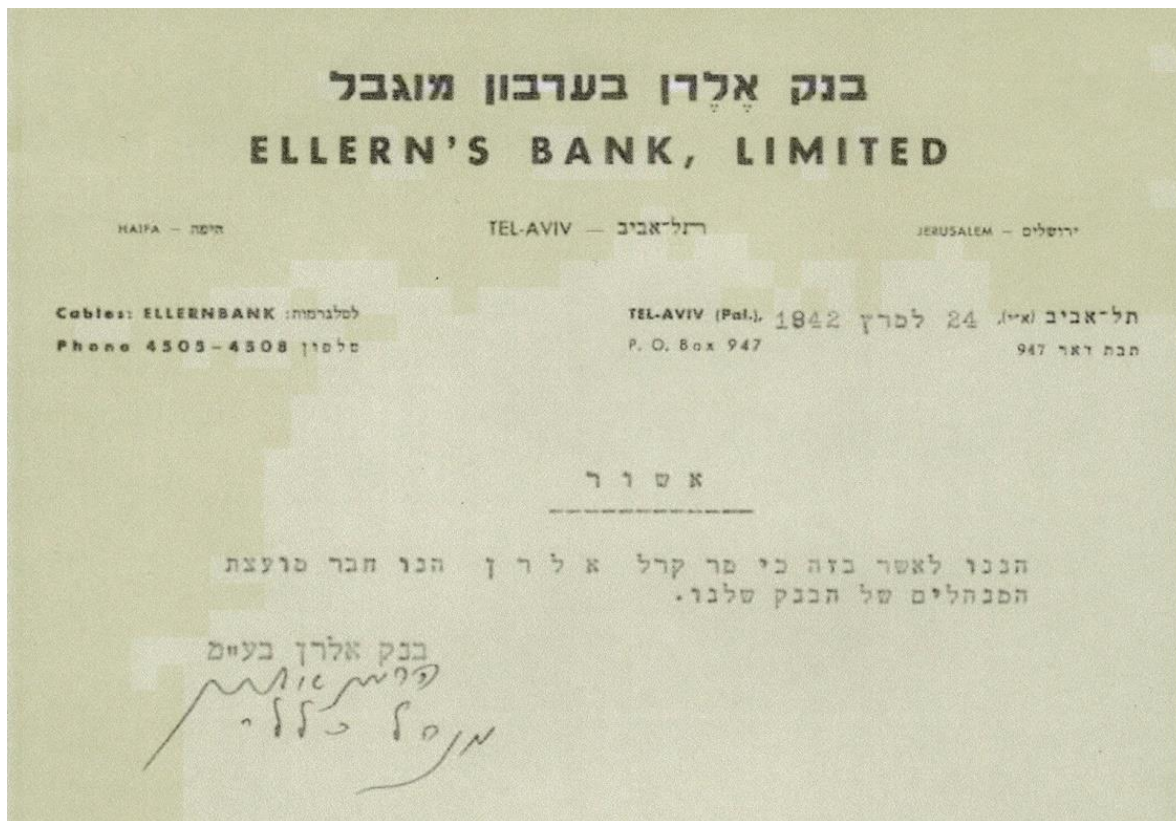
*Ignatz Ellern Bank in the city of Karlsruhe, Germany, 1935*



*Members of the Bank Management and branch managers in 1944*

*Seated from right to left: Dr. Leo Landau, Hermann Ellern, Martin Haxter.*

*Standing from right to left: Dr. Michael Rosenfelder, Dr. Sigmund Yeselson, Carl Ellern, Emanuel Forchheimer, Abdallah K. Zilkah, David Bruenn.*



24.3.1942, a letter signed by Herrman Ellern, confirming Carl was a member of the board of directors of Ellern's Bank.

After the death of Ignatz Ellern (1917), his son Hermann (Carl's cousin) and Hermann's brother-in-law, Emanuel Forchheimer, ran the bank. On January 1, 1939, the Nazis closed the Ignatz Ellern Bank, as they did to all other banking institutions owned by Jews.

Hermann immigrated to Israel with his family in 1933, whilst his brother-in-law continued to run the bank in Germany. On January 30, 1934, Hermann established the Ellern Bank in Tel Aviv. The management initially operated in a small, modest office (22 square meters) on 7 Rothschild Boulevard in Tel Aviv, and in 1935, they moved to the floor above the main branch on Rothschild 3 Tel Aviv. Hermann Ellern was the Chairman of the bank's board of directors from the time of the bank's establishment until its sale in 1966 to Feuchtwanger Bank. In 1940, upon his immigration to the country, Carl joined the bank's board of directors and served as manager of the main branch.





*The main branch of the Ellern Bank at 3 Rothschild Blvd., Tel Aviv, 1935*

Initially, the bank had branches in Tel Aviv, Jerusalem and Haifa. In 1945, an office was opened in Netanya, and in 1951, in Ramat Gan. Until 1957, the Bank had ten branches: four in Haifa, three in Tel Aviv, one in Netanya, one in Ramat Gan, and one in Jerusalem. In April 1958, the Bank's 11th branch was opened at the intersection of Gordon and Dizengoff streets in Tel Aviv. The 12th branch opened was the second branch in Jerusalem, at 14 King George Street, in 1959. Carl Ellern retired from the bank in 1964.

At the beginning of 1964, the Feuchtwanger family sold their shares in the Feuchtwanger Bank to new investors – lawyers Edward Kossoy and Arnold Applebaum. The rest of the bank's shares were held by Yekutiel Federmann (who owned about half the bank's shares) and Aharon Sakharov, CEO of Sahar Insurance Company.



*Members of the Board of Directors of Ellern Bank, in 1958  
From right to left Uzi Ellern, Carl Ellern, Hermann Ellern (Chairman), Ivan Salomon, David Bruenn, Baruch Gross*



In 1966, Yosef Epstein, a South African-born banker, purchased the controlling shares in Feuchtwanger Bank. Epstein's goal was to find cheap and available financing for his real estate business, which got into trouble that year due to the big recession in Israel. Epstein withdrew about \$ 17 million from the bank.

In June 1966, Feuchtwanger Bank (owned by Mr. Epstein) purchased the Ellern Bank. When the Bank was sold, it had 17 branches and over 500 employees. The bank's balance sheet totaled 142 million Israeli pounds, and its share of the public's deposits was 3%. The stated goal was to merge the banks and become the fourth largest bank in Israel. However, at the time, Feuchtwanger Bank was on the verge of liquidation. It would become clear that the aim was to try to stabilize the bank with funding from Ellern Bank. The execution of the transaction encountered difficulties due to disagreements over the ownership transfer process, and after several months and court hearings, final agreements were reached regarding this issue. In January 1967, when the debts of the Feuchtwanger Bank became apparent, and when the Bank of Israel took over the management of the bank, the public was also warned about the stability of Ellern Bank, even though the bank was stable and the owners withdrew only a million pounds.

The publicity resulted in the loss of customers and severe damage to the bank. After the Bank of Israel took over the management of Feuchtwanger Bank, most of its branches were sold to the Agudat Israel Bank, which opened at the time. Ellern Bank, which was a subsidiary of Feuchtwanger, was offered for sale at auction. At first, it seemed that the two leading candidates for the purchase of Ellern Bank were the Industrial Bank and Bank Hapoalim. Ben Dunkelman's name then came up as someone who was going to buy the bank, but eventually most of the bank's branches were sold to Leumi Bank. The bank purchased three branches for manufacturing and commerce and one or more branches were sold to Barclays Bank. Ellern Bank itself was put into liquidation process, which lasted until the early 1980s.

Criminal charges were filed against Yosef Epstein and Raanan Amir, the bank's CEO, for their actions. They were convicted of theft by an agent, fraud under aggravating circumstances, and conspiracy to defraud, and they were sentenced to imprisonment. Yosef Epstein was sentenced to six years in prison, and the bank's CEO, Raanan Amir, was sentenced to four years but was released after a short time due to health reasons.

It was not known to many people that no customer of Ellern Bank lost any money at Ellern Bank. All accounts and deposits were respected by the Bank of Israel and transferred to other banks, mostly to Bank Leumi. A large part of this chapter relies on the value of " Ellern Bank" on Wikipedia.



*Photo from the opening of the bank branch in Kfar Maccabiah.  
From right to left: Bessi Ellern, Carl Ellern, Hermann Ellern, Martha Ellern, Siegfried Bruenn (who was  
the bank's general manager) and his wife*

# Appendices

## Appendix 1 – Obituary for Jenny Ellern's death and its translation

Meine herzensgute Gattin, unsere liebe, gute Mutter,  
Tochter, Schwiegertochter, Schwester, Schwägerin  
und Tante

# Frau Jenny Ellern

geb. Goldberg

ist uns im blühenden Alter von 39 Jahren nach  
schwerer Erkrankung durch den Tod entrissen worden.

Hamburg, Frankfurt a M., Heidelberg, Berlin, London  
(Parkallee), 10. Februar 1929.

### In tiefer Trauer:

Carl Ellern mit Siegmund, Heinz und Margot  
Ida Goldberg geb. Mainz  
Caroline Ellern geb. Bing  
Dr. Gustav Löffler und Frau Martha geb. Goldberg  
Dr. Albert Hirsch und Frau Frieda geb. Goldberg  
Dr. Jakob Goldberg und Frau Fina geb. Josephy  
Dr. Alfred Marcus und Frau Thea geb. Goldberg  
Siegfried Brünner und Frau Gretel geb. Goldberg  
Julius Schwab und Frau Anna geb. Ellern  
Alexander Ellern und Frau Lotte geb. Guttman.

Beerdigung: Montag nachmittag.



**Appendix 2 – Letter from the Chief Rabbi of Hamburg in honor of Aron Ellern's Bar Mitzvah**

Oberrabbiner  
DR. CARLEBACH

ערוך: 27.7.28  
הע"מ: 58 נ"ע

ALTONA-E., den 27.7.1928 7/28

Hohe verehrte Herr Mann, lieber Bar- Mitzvah euer.  
Lieber Sohn Goldberg! Ich

Gefallen Sie mir freunt-  
lich, Ihnen allen zum morgigen Sie Tag  
unser freudigen Aach- kundenwunsche zum Aach,  
Sonne Sie bringen. Mit verehrten Freuden war-  
ten Sie diesen Tag begreifen, denn Sie haben Ihre  
Kauf, seine inausgesprochene Mittel, l. Gerechtigkeit,  
junge Kraft, zeitige und inbegriffene Sie, selbst Ihnen  
unser kann Sie auch und inbegriffene Aach  
Sie Sie, Sie in Ihren Aachen weitere werden,  
Sie Sie sagen und die große Aachen  
die Aachen werden werden. Aber Sie, unser  
lieber Aachen, nicht mit Aachen in Aachen  
Sonne Aachen Aachen Aachen, denn Sie  
Sie nicht die Aachen die Aachen Aachen  
ganz Sie die Aachen und unser Aachen  
ausgesprochene Aachen, die Aachen Aachen zum  
Tagen in die Aachen, Sie Aachen und werden  
zum Aachen, die Aachen Aachen, Aachen  
Aachen Aachen, zum Aachen und Aachen  
Aachen Aachen, Aachen Aachen, Aachen  
und Aachen verehrten Aachen Aachen Sie.

Die Aachen Aachen Aachen Sie in  
Aachen Aachen Aachen Aachen, Sie mit Aachen

Appendix 2 – Letter from the Chief Rabbi of Hamburg in honor of Aron Ellern's Bar Mitzvah – Continuation

Sinn und wirfern Stanzel jaguen, ob  
ob zu yonglann Laifann in daten jäsig jüf.

Jf d' unfern verifriktig und  
Sifas Garmiarwah Auhil ob' Konant und  
Kaufan Hoff Stalpe, in Antankant von  
da mita Sefingz angau

ob Jf' rogatunfau

S' Staps Landtag

Jef' unferter Jann flemm Eied

umfungen die wir  
Jfa un. Augfprigen bitte auf von mir die fanglich fpan  
6" N Wüuffe zum fprantage Jfas ältften fofnat.  
Wöge Sifas Eied an das jfan fo früh das Jfan. 19  
das dabaus fprangitortur in Jfan befondertes  
frümd und wof für die zu Rünft werden.

mit fanglichen Grüßen

Jfa Jfa rogabann

Kotte Darlebay.

## **Appendix 2 – Translation of the letter from the Chief Rabbi of Hamburg in honor of Aron Ellern's Bar Mitzvah**

Chief Rabbi  
Dr. Carlebach,

Altona  
October 9, 1931

Honorable Mr. Ellern, Dear Bar-Mitzvah.  
Honorable Mrs. Goldberg,

Let me send you my best wishes on the Bar-Mitzvah celebration tomorrow, dear Bar-Mitzvah boy, this is a day of joy. As the crown of your home, your unforgettable mother, who was a good and esteemed woman, will be missed by you more than ever. Her invisible spirit which lives on inside your house, will bless you and sanctify the beginning of your way as a full-fledged man, at this important time.

But you, my dear boy, will take on the weight of the responsibility inherent in this honorable day with double pride, as through you, your loved ones, who have gone into a world that is all good, will be resurrected and revered, and their precious memory will bless you. Be strong and become a man, a devout man, God-fearing, spiritual, and well-behaved for your father, your brothers and sisters and your venerable grandmother.

May the Dear God grant you His special protection, bless you with a strong mind and compassionate heart, so that you may have meaningful achievements in life.

I take part in this Bar Mitzvah celebration as a friend and as a caring member of your home, in memory of the noble loved ones who are no longer among us.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Yosef Carlebach

Dear Mr. Ellern,

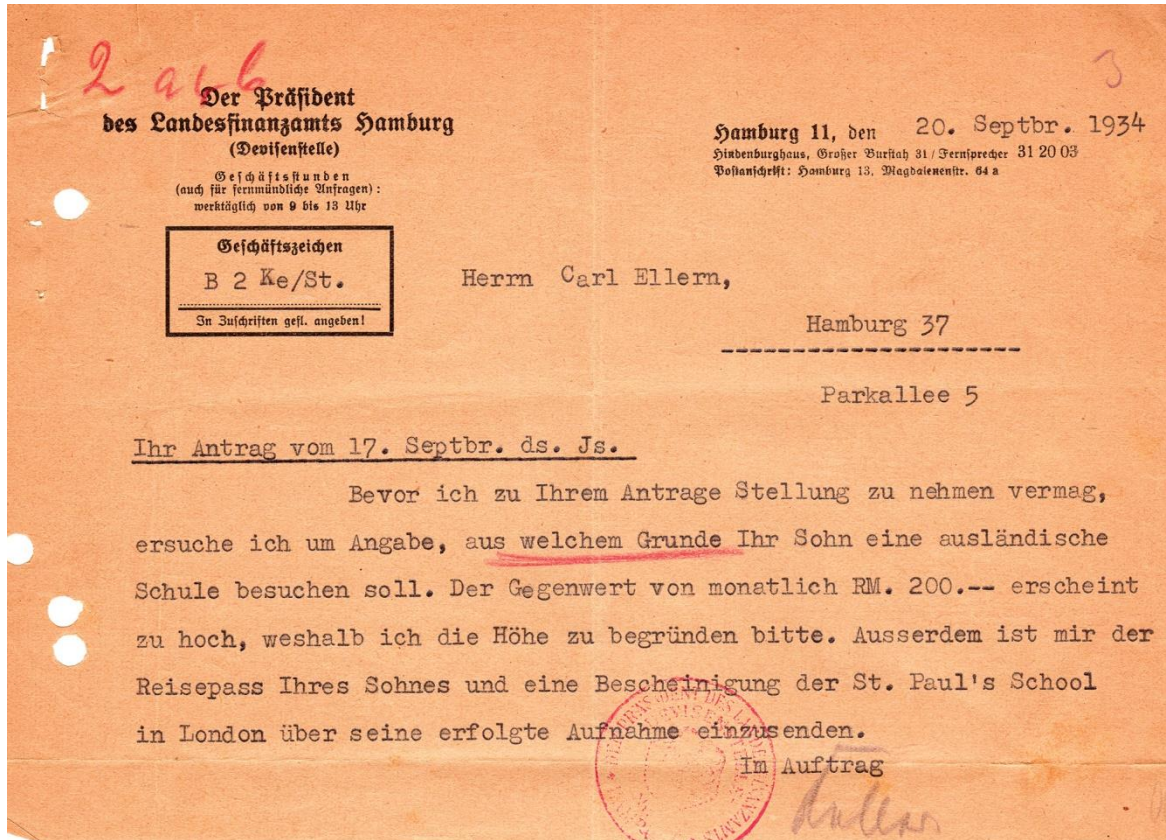
Please accept, along with the rest of your family, my sincerest good wishes on your eldest son's honourable day. May this child, who enters so early the life cycle of pain, bring you joy and comfort in the future.

Friendly and very respectfully,

Lotte Carlebach



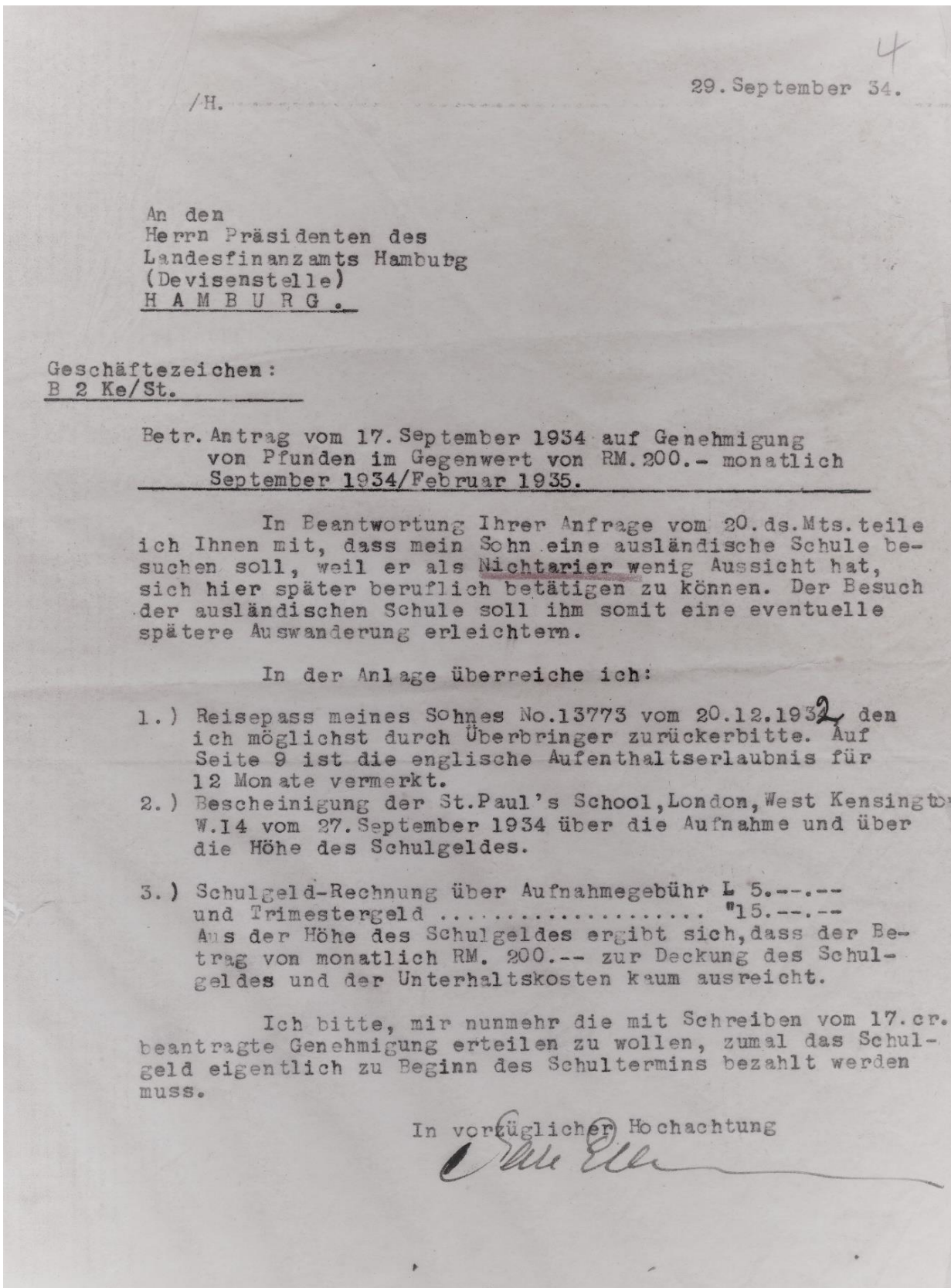
**Appendix 3 – Letter received by Carl from a German official on September 20, 1934**



*The above is a response letter received by Carl from the Deputy Commissioner for Financial Affairs in Hamburg when he asked to send his son Aron in England 200 marks every month.*



## Appendix 4 – Carl's reply letter to the German official



## Appendix 5 – Letter confirming that Carl was awarded the Iron Cross



### Translation of the letter

**In the name of the Führer and Chancellor of the Reich**

*To the businessman Carl Ellern  
In Hamburg*

Awarded by order of July 13, 1934, in memory of World War 1914-1918

**The Cross of Honor for the Fighters at the front**

Which was founded by the Reich President, General Feldmarschall von Hindenburg

[Round stamp: Hamburg Police]

Hamburg, April 13, 1935

Chief of Police

J.B.  
(-)

No. 033065/35

## Appendix 6 – Concentration of Jews in European Cities 1933

*SOURCE: From an exhibit found in The German-Speaking Jewry Heritage Museum, Tefen*

### Jewish population in some European Cities, 1933

Berlin	160,564	3.8%	of total population
Breslau	20,202	2.5%	of total population
Dusseldorf	5,053	1.2%	of total population
Hamburg	19,900	1.7%	of total population
Worms	1,100	2.2%	of total population
Vienna	201,500	11%	of total population
Trier	1,000	1.5%	of total population
Munchen	9,000	1.2%	of total population
Prague	35,463	4.17%	of total population
Frankfurt	29,385	6.3%	of total population
Kenigsberg	3,200	1%	of total population
Stettin	2,500	1%	of total population

*SOURCE: From an exhibit found in The German-Speaking Jewry Heritage Museum, Tefen*



# Appendix 7 – Advertisement in Germany on the obligation of the Jews to carry a Jewish name, August 23, 1938

## Jüdische Vornamen

Meldung unseres Büros

□ Berlin, 23. August

Im Reichsgesetzblatt I 1938 Nr. 130 ist die zweite Verordnung zur Durchführung des Gesetzes über die Änderung von Familiennamen und Vornamen erschienen, die die Führung von Vornamen durch Juden regelt. Sie bestimmt, daß den Juden, die deutsche Staatsangehörige oder staatenlos sind, in Zukunft nur solche Vornamen beigelegt werden dürfen, die den vom Reichsminister des Innern herausgegebenen Richtlinien entsprechen. Diese Richtlinien sind in dem Rundverlaß vom 23. August 1938 bekanntgegeben, der im Reichsministerialblatt für die innere Verwaltung veröffentlicht ist. Wie die unten abgedruckte Zusammenstellung ergibt, sind darin nur solche Vornamen enthalten, die im deutschen Volk als typisch jüdisch angesehen werden. Juden, die eine fremde Staatsangehörigkeit besitzen, werden von der Vorschrift nicht betroffen.

Soweit Juden zurzeit Vornamen führen, die nicht in den Richtlinien verzeichnet sind, müssen sie vom 1. Januar 1939 ab zusätzlich einen weiteren Vornamen annehmen, und zwar männliche Personen den Vornamen Israel, weibliche Personen den Vornamen Sara. Sie müssen hiervon bis zum 31. Januar 1939 den Standesbeamten, die ihre Geburt und ihre Heirat beurkundet haben, sowie der für ihren Wohnsitz oder gewöhnlichen Aufenthalt zuständigen Ortspolizeibehörde schriftlich Anzeige erstatten. Bei geschäftsunfähigen oder in der Geschäftsfähigkeit beschränkten Personen trifft die Verpflichtung zur Anzeige den gesetzlichen Vertreter. Sofern es im Rechts- und Geschäftsverkehr üblich ist, den Namen anzugeben, müssen Juden stets auch wenigstens einen ihrer Vornamen führen. Sind sie zur Annahme des zusätzlichen Vornamens Israel oder Sara verpflichtet, so haben sie auch diesen Vornamen zu führen. Auf diese Weise wird einer Tarnung der jüdischen Abstammung durch den Namen vorgebeugt. Bei Zuwiderhandlungen gegen diese Vorschriften sind Gefängnis- oder Geldstrafen angedroht.

Als jüdische Vornamen sind in dem Rundverlaß des Reichsministers des Innern bekanntgegeben:

### a) Männliche Vornamen:

Abel, Abieser, Abimelech, Abner, Absalom, Ahab, Ahasja, Ahasver, Akiba, Amon, Ansel, Aron, Asahel, Asaria, Ascher, Aziel, Assur, Athalia, Awigdor, Awrum;  
 Bachja, Barak, Baruch, Benaja, Berak, Berl, Boas, Bud;  
 Chaggai, Chai, Chajin, Chamor, Chananja, Chanoch, Haschel, Chawa, Chiel;  
 Dan, Dennh;  
 Esim, Esraim, Ehub, Esig, Eli, Elias, Elibu, Eliser, Eljakim, Elkan, Enoch, Esau, Esra, Ezechiel;  
 Faleg, Feibisch, Feirel, Feitel, Feiwel, Feleg;  
 Gad, Gdaleo, Gedalja, Gerson, Gideon;  
 Habakuk, Hagai, Hemor, Henoch, Herodes, Hesekiel, Hillel, Hiob, Hosea;

Isaac, Isai, Isachar, Isobofeth, Isidor, Ismael, Israel, Isig;  
 Jachiel, Jasse, Jatar, Jatusiel, Jecheskel, Jechiel, Jehu, Jehuda, Jhustel, Jeremia, Jero-beam, Jesaja, Jethro, Jiftach, Jizchal, Joab, Jochanan, Joel, Jomteb, Jona, Jonathan, Josia, Juda;  
 Kainan, Kaiphas, Kaleb, Korach;  
 Laban, Lazarus, Leem, Leiser, Levi, Lewel, Lot, Lupu;  
 Machol, Maim, Malchisua, Maleachi, Manasse, Mardochai, Mechel, Menachem, Moab, Mochain, Mordechai, Mosche, Moses;  
 Nachschon, Nachum, Naftali, Nathan, Naum, Nazary, Nehab, Nehemia, Nissim, Noa, Nochem;  
 Obadja, Orem, Osher, Osiar;  
 Peisach, Pinchas, Pintus;  
 Rachmiel, Ruben;  
 Sabbatai, Sacher, Sallum, Sallu, Salo, Salomon, Salusch, Samaja, Sami, Samuel, Sandel, Saubit, Saul, Schalom, Schaul, Schinul, Schmul, Schneur, Schoachana, Scholem, Sebulon, Smi, Sereb, Schem, Sirach, Simson;  
 Teit, Tewele;  
 Uri, Uria, Uriel;  
 Zabel, Zedetia, Zephanja, Zeraja, Zewit.

### b) Weibliche Vornamen:

Abigail;  
 Baschewa, Beile, Bela, Bescha, Bihri, Bilba, Breine, Briewe, Brocha;  
 Chana, Chawa, Cheisc, Cheiche, Cheile, Chinte;  
 Deiche, Dewaara, Driesel;  
 Egele;  
 Faugel, Feigle, Feile, Fradchen, Fradel, Frommel;  
 Geilchen, Gelea, Gindel, Gittel, Gole;  
 Habasse, Hale, Hannacha, Hikel;  
 Jachel, Jachewad, Jebibja, Jente, Jezabel, Judis, Jyate, Jytel;  
 Keile, Kreindel;  
 Lane, Leie, Libsche, Libe, Livie;  
 Machle, Mathel, Millele, Mindel;  
 Nacha, Nachme;  
 Peirche, Peshchen, Pesse, Pessel, Pirle;  
 Rachel, Raufe, Rebecka, Rechel, Reha, Reichel, Reisel, Reizge, Reizsche, Rivki;  
 Sara, Scharne, Scheindel, Scheine, Schewa, Schlämche, Semche, Simche, Slowe, Sprinze;  
 Telze, Tirze, Treibel;  
 Zerel, Zilla, Zimle, Zine, Zipora, Zirel, Zorthel.

Abgesehen von diesen Sondervorschriften über die Vornamen der Juden sollen nach dem sonstigen Inhalt des Rundverlasses Kinder deutscher Staatsangehöriger in Zukunft grundsätzlich nur deutsche Vornamen erhalten. Namen, ursprünglich ausländischer Herkunft, die seit Jahrhunderten in Deutschland als Vornamen verwendet werden und völlig eingedeutscht sind — wie Hans-Joachim, Peter, Julius, Elisabeth, Maria, Sofie, Charlotte —, gelten als deutsche Vornamen. Nichtdeutsche Vornamen sollen nur dann zugelassen werden, wenn ein besonderer Grund dies rechtfertigt, z. B. Zugehörigkeit zu einem nichtdeutschen Volkstum, Familienüberlieferung, verwandtschaftliche Beziehungen.



## Appendix 7 - Translation of the advertisement in Germany on the obligation of the Jews to carry a Jewish name, August 23, 1938

Berlin, August 23, 1938

### Jewish first names

Message from our office

In the Reich's Law Journal of 1938, No. 130, the Second Order for the implementation of **changing Surnames and First Names** Law was published, which regulates the obligation of Jews to carry a Jewish name. It states that Jews who are now German citizens or those without citizenship **will only be given first names in the future** that comply with the Reich Interior Minister's instructions. The instructions were published in an order dated August 23, 1938, which was published in the Reich Ministry of Internal Affairs newspaper. As is evident from the list below, only first names which are known among the Germans as **typical Jewish names** are included. The instruction does not apply to Jews with foreign citizenship.

To the extent that Jews bear first names which are not included in the directives, **as from January 1, 1939, another first name will be added**. The males will add the name **Israel** and the females will add the name **Sarah**. They will have an obligation **to notify in writing**, by January 31, 1939, to the **Residents Registrar** who have documented their birth and marriage, as well as to the **competent police** at their homes or place of residence.

As for those who are legally incompetent or whose legal competence is limited, the duty of notification applies to their representatives by law. **In any case or situation that is acceptable to specify the name of the person**, Jews must indicate at least **one** of their first names. If they are required to add the new first name Israel or Sarah, they will have to specify **that name**. In this way, the Jewish source cannot be hidden by the name. Failure to comply with these provisions will result in **penalties for imprisonment or fines**.

Jewish names published in the Reich Interior Minister's decree:

#### a) Men's first names

Abel, Aviezer, Avimelech, Avner, Abshalom, Ahab, Ahaziah, Achashwar, Akiva, Amon, Anshel, Aharon, Asael, Azaria, Asher, Ariel, Addor, Athalia, Avigdor, Abrum, Bechia, Barak, Baruch, Banaya, Berl, Boaz, Bob, Hagai, Hai, Haim, Hamor, Hananiah, Hanoach, Jezkiel, Hiel, Dan, Dani, Afim, Ephraim, Abub, Eizig, Eli, Elias, Eliahu, Eliezer, Elyakim, Elkan, Enoch, Esav, Ezra, Ezekiel, Flagg, Feibish, Feirel, Feitel, Faibel, Peleg, Gad, Glad, Gedaliah, Gershon, Gideon, Habakkuk, Hordus, Hezekiel, Hillel, Yioh, Hosh, Itzhak, Ishay, Ishahar, Yevolt, Yibur, Ishmael, Israel, Itzik, Yechiel, Yaffe, Yakar, Yekutiel, Yehezekel, Yechiel, Yeho, Yehuda, Yebushel, Jeremiah, Jerobam, Ishahiu, Jethro, Iftach, Isaac, Yoav, Jochanan, Joel, Yomtov, Yona, Jonathan, Yossia, Yoda, Konen, Caipes, Kalev, Korach, Laban, Lazarus, Lev, Laser, Levi, Levak, Lot, Lupo, Machol, Maim, Malchei Shua, Malachi, Menashe, Mordechai, Mahal, Menachem, Moab, Mohain, Moshe, Moses, Nahshon, Nahum, Naphtali, Nathan, Naum, Nazri, Nahav, Nehemiah, Nissim, Noah, Ovadia, Oreb, Osher, Uziah, Peisaj, Pinchas, Pinkus, Rahmiel, Reuben, Shabtai, Sajar, Salom, Salome, Sali, Salomon, Slush, Shmiah, Sami,

Samuel, Sandal, Saubig, Shaul, Shalom, Seoul, Shimol, Shmuel, Schneur, Shawachna, Shulam, Zvulun, Demi, Serv, Sihem, Sirech, Simion, Tate, Tabele, Uri, Uriah, Uriel, Tzavk, Tzbekia, Zephaniah, Tzaria, Tzvit.

**b) Women's first names**

Abigail, Bat Sheva, Beila, Bella, Basha, Bibri, Bilbe, Braine, Briva, Bracha, Hana, Hava, Haike, Haiele, Hinte, Daiche, Dwora, Dridel, Egele, Foigel, Feigale, Feyla, Pardeshan, Perdel, Frommel, Geileshan, Galah, Ginnabel, Gitl, Gula, Hadassah, Hela, Hanacha, Heitzel, Yehel, Yahwab, Yedidia, Yente, Yizabel, Yudis, Yosl, Kayle, Creinbel, Lana, Lahle, Libshe, Liba, Liby, Mahale, Maidle, Milkala, Mindel, Ncha, Pairshe, Paseshen, , Passa, Pesel, Pirele, Rojel, Rautha, Rivka, Rachel, Raha, Raichel, Raisel, Reitzga, Ritsche, Re ..., Sarah, Sharna, Sheindel, Sheina, Sheva, Shlomsha, Dainshe, Simcha, Salo .., Shpritz, Tielza, Tirza, Treidle, Tzarl, Tzila, Tzimla, Tzina, Zipporah, Zirel, Zurivel.

Regardless of the special instructions regarding Jewish first names, the content of the decree states that in the future, **children of German citizenship will only be called by German first names**. Names derived from foreign names which have been used for centuries in Germany and became German names for everything- such as Hans-Joachim, Peter, Julius, Elizabeth, Maria, Sophie, Charlotte - will be considered German first names. **Non-German first names** will only be accepted with a justified explanation for a **particular reason**, such as belonging to a non-German community, family tradition, family ties.

### MY YOUTH IN NAZI EUROPE

I was born on 23 December 1927, when my parents, Alexander Ellern and Lotte, née Guttman, lived in Eschersheim, a northern suburb of Frankfurt/Main. My father was the fourth (and youngest) child of Sigmund (Aharon Meir) Ellern, and Caroline, née Bing. My mother is the younger daughter of Heinrich Guttman and Emmi, née Stavenhagen. My brother Heinrich (Heinz, Chaim) was born three years later, on 24 February 1931.

When I was five, we moved further out to Römerstadt, near Hedderheim. I remember bags of sweets being handed out at the old Hedderheim synagogue on Simchat Torah, and the terrace house with garden, where Heinz played in a sandbox.

At age six, after three months at school where I learned the German angular writing, we moved again. My father, after working for 15 years with a rare-metal firm, lost his job in 1933 when the Nazis came into power, and decided to start privately in Hamburg. In summer 1934 we moved into a flat in Oderfelderstrasse, N Hamburg, with 5 rooms and garden. The Jewish girls' school, which I attended for four years (1934-38), was an hour's walk away. There I learned German and Hebrew simultaneously. On Shabbat we walked half an hour to the big synagogue near the Jewish quarter, and visited my grandmother (Omama) on father's side, and uncle Carl, also meeting his children Margot and Heini (Aaron was already in England). On Sundays we visited our other grandmother (Omi) and aunt Käti, and walked with them in the park by the Aussen Alster lake, feeding the swans.

Memories include my first films, with Shirley Temple, and short films about Palestine — but because of the tropical climate, it was considered a hard and undesirable place to go to.

For holidays: In 1935 for a month at Fanø, near Esbjerg, Denmark; in 1936 a month again, on the island of Bornholm in the Baltic (train ferry from Sassnitz to Rønne). In 1937, the future in Germany looking more and more threatening, my father took a trip to London to explore the possibility of starting a business in England, and then joined us on our summer holiday at Bergen in Holland.

When I was ten, Father decided in favour of emigrating to Holland. In March 1938, the furniture, including my bicycle, was loaded into a container and we went by train via Osnabrück to Bentheim, where we found the Dutch had closed the border on 31 March. We tried phoning our relatives the Benjamins in Amsterdam, but no permits could be obtained. After a week in a hotel, we went south to Aachen, stayed the night, and at dawn took a taxi illegally across the border. By morning we were in Holland. Warned not to talk, so that we should not be identified, we boarded a train to Amsterdam.

We stayed for several weeks at the Wertheim pension, while Father tried to get a yellow card (permit to stay). For the Seder we were invited by relatives in Amsterdam. Then we moved to Sarfati St. in a less expensive district. On Friday nights we walked to the Portuguese synagogue, all lit up by candles. After 3 months the permit was obtained. Then we rented a 5-room flat with garden in the Zuider Amstellaan, S Amsterdam — this was in July 1938. Meanwhile, the furniture container arrived, with my skates and bike.

On a Transition Course, Heinz and I began to learn Dutch; then we went to a local elementary school. Shabbat we had free; at Sunday school we learnt prayers only, then we continued with private Jewish lessons by my father's former teacher, Mr. Ochsenmann. One Shabbat on the way home from Lekstraat synagogue, I met Ursel Löwenbach from Hanover, also a new immigrant, one year older and good at all kinds of games, including chess. We became close friends and spent much time together, cycling and playing ping-pong etc. Later, Ruth Nathan from Hamburg joined us. I met Gerda Benedict, another new friend, in 1941 at the Jewish high school.

In early 1939 my grandmother Caroline came from Hamburg to live with us. Having been born in Amsterdam in 1860, she left for Germany on her marriage.



## Appendix 8 – Diary of Ruth Frumkin nee Ellern- 2nd page

When coming back to Holland after more than 50 years, she prided herself on still being able to speak Dutch with her nurse. Erna, our housekeeper, looked after her and cooked for us. Then Uncle Carl and Margot arrived in Amsterdam, leaving again, for Palestine, in April 1940. In 1939 we spent the summer holidays on Texel island.

In May 1940 the Germans invaded: parachute landings and three days' hard fighting. On 10 May the Dutch surrendered. Leaving everything behind, we tried in vain to reach IJmuiden to get a boat to England, as others were already coming back.

In summer 1940 we could take a holiday by the sea at Zandvoort (German soldiers in the barracks opposite), and in 1941 still use a holiday flat at Blaricum near Hilversum (where we visited a family friend, Dr. Auerbach, who was our lawyer after the war for claims from the Germans). From there we cycled to the Zuider Zee.

In September 1941 I started at the old-established Jewish Secondary School (H.B.S.) after passing an entrance examination. 3 months later Jewish children were forbidden to go to non-Jewish schools, and had to attend an improvised Jewish high school.

My father had a private business, dealing in rare metals (cadmium, magnesium, quicksilver, etc.) and chemicals, importing them from various sources, storing them in warehouses, and supplying them to local laboratories and manufacturers from stock. As maintaining the firm's name "Alexander Ellern" became hazardous, he decided to take in a non-Jewish partner and changed the name of his firm to Stehower & Co. One of his Jewish secretaries went into hiding with her husband, and my father continued to pay her salary, so that they could live on it. Meanwhile he did all the work himself from a small room in the office, and Mr. Loehning, the Dutch partner, sat in the big front room, behind my father's desk, although he was new to the business and knew nothing about it. During the next two years, my father gradually transferred most of his Jewish books and valuables, as well as family albums, to the office, taking a small case with a few books with him each day.

From then on came decrees, one after another: First I went to school by bus, until public transport was prohibited for Jews. Then I cycled, until bikes were confiscated, and we had to walk one hour to school. Jews had to give up cars, were barred from going to public places of entertainment, parks or swimming pools, had to wear Yellow Stars, buy food only between 3 and 5 when hardly any was left, and stay indoors after 8 p.m., thereby facilitating the arrest of Jews according to lists.

In 1941-2 all Jewish youth aged 16 to 19 were called up to be sent to labour camps, and warned that if they did not report, they would endanger their families. Confident that they could endure any hardships, they assembled — among them Ursel's brother Ernst Löwenbach, my youth group leader Ruth Eva Asch, and the elder son of our neighbours the Heilbutts. After 4 weeks the latter received a printed letter, stating that their son had died in Mauthausen of pneumonia. Thus, the cream of Amsterdam's Jewish youth was lost; none were ever heard of again...

Meanwhile, in Hamburg my aunt Käti had received an affidavit for the US in 1939, and gone with the last train before the outbreak of war. By way of Siberia and Yokohama she reached New York, leaving my grandmother Emmi Guttmann alone in Hamburg. My mother regularly sent her food parcels until 1942, when we were informed that she had been taken from her home in Hamburg to Theresienstadt, and from there to Auschwitz. She was 70 years old.

During 1942 my father planned our escape from Amsterdam with a lorry driver who was ready to take us across the border with Belgium against payment. Unfortunately a close friend of my father, who tried to do this a few days before, and paid the driver a large sum of money, was taken by him straight to the Gestapo headquarters and arrested. Thereupon my father cancelled our escape plan.



## Appendix 8 – Diary of Ruth Frumkin nee Ellern- 3rd page

During 1942 there were many times searches for valuables, by Dutch Nazis, after 8 o'clock in the evening, when among other items a stamp collection and binoculars were taken away. In summer 1942, all Jews in Amsterdam who had no exemption were taken to the Schouwburg, the assembly centre for transport to the transit camp Westerbork in north Holland. One evening, the black-uniformed Dutch police knocked at our door, after having found that our next-door Jewish neighbours, whom they were looking for according to lists, had disappeared. They arrested my parents and the housekeeper Erna, whom we never saw again. In reply to our objections, they said that we children could look after our grandmother. My parents were released thanks to intervention by Mrs. van Tijn, the head of the Jewish Council in Amsterdam, who had previously worked with Anna Schwab, my father's sister, for the Jewish Refugees' Committee. From then on, my father was active in the Jewish Council, and every Sunday collected blankets and clothes for Jews being sent away.

At the time of the High Holydays in 1942, it was dangerous to congregate at the synagogue in Lekstraat, where the Jews might be rounded up. Therefore, my parents placed our apartment at the disposal of Jews in our neighbourhood for prayers.

In December 1942 we were ordered to leave our home and move to East Amsterdam. At school (a bit nearer) teachers and pupils were all the time getting less in number. Meanwhile we heard that old people and invalids were being collected for transport, and we put our grandmother into the Jewish hospital, hoping that she would be safe there. However, it soon transpired that Jewish hospitals were being emptied, so we took her home again. After Pesach 1943, she was taken away by ambulance and transported to Westerbork.

On 20 June 1943 (we had our packed rucksacks ready), all Jews in the "ghetto" were ordered by loudspeakers to the Amstel railway station, and crowded into cattle vans for the 6 to 8-hour journey to Westerbork. There, we found grandmother in the hospital barrack, barely conscious. At first, having first-degree relatives in Palestine, she was exempt from transport. But a month later this was cancelled; only those with Palestine certificates remained exempt, so she would have to go east by the next train. Father appealed to the Commandant, presenting her Mutter-Ehrenkreutz (Mother's Cross of Honour, her physician son having fallen in World War I for Germany), but to no avail. Later we heard she had died after 3 days in the train. She was 83 years old.

Each Monday night a cattle train arrived at Westerbork, leaving on Tuesday morning with 2000 Jews on board (picked by Jewish camp leaders who compiled the lists according to instructions from the Germans). The Dutch Jews, without any kind of "protection", were sent away immediately. We were in Westerbork for nearly 8 months, seeing the train leave each week with people whom we got to know. We were told they were going to labour camps in the East, maybe to Riga. No one imagined that there could be extermination camps...

In summer 1943 my old teacher, Mr. Seligmann, collected his former pupils in the camp and continued to teach us Jewish history (he survived Theresienstadt and later became a professor in Jerusalem). Of my friends, Ruth Nathan and her mother were sent away. Gerda lived in the Birnbaums' orphanage, functioning at Westerbork since 1939. Ursel, still in Amsterdam, sent us a much appreciated food parcel.

The certificates for all of us, including the one meant for grandmother, arrived a month after her departure. Father had his Iron Cross (Frontkämpfer) — the medal given by the Germans to soldiers wounded in battle during World War I — and could choose between Bergen-Belsen (for exchange to Palestine) and Theresienstadt, a camp for the privileged. But in the latter, children over 15, my age then, were not protected, so he chose Bergen-Belsen.

On 1st February 1944 a passenger train arrived to take us to the exchange camp (Austauschlager) Bergen-Belsen. Mother travelled in a sick compartment.



## Appendix 8 – Diary of Ruth Frumkin nee Ellern- 4th page

Provided with such “luxurious” transport, we were optimistic, but my father was not, because we were being taken to the heart of Germany in mid-winter, while the Germans were by then clearly losing the war. Our optimism evaporated when we arrived at Celle, NE of Hanover. Green-uniformed Gestapo with huge dogs awaited us on the platform and chased us from the train, shouting “raus, raus!” (out, out!). We set out on a 2-hours’ march through woods and snow to the camp, between the villages Bergen and Belsen. Over the gate, were the words “Arbeit macht frei” (work liberates). Within, was a long street with different camps, enclosed by barbed wire, their inmates in striped clothes, their heads shaven. Directed into a camp at the end, we found Jews from Westerbork already there; they had arrived three weeks earlier — the first transport of holders of Palestine certificates. Men and women were put in separate huts with 2-storey bunks in one half, while in the other half were tables, benches, and cupboards for mugs and soup-bowls, all checked daily by SS officers, who meted out punishment if the utensils were not clean. We could continue wearing our own clothes.

Every morning we went to work at 7 a.m. after a parade (Appell), at which everybody had to stand in a large circle, 5 deep. At 9 a.m. a second Appell was held for those left behind. If all were not accounted for, those on the second Appell had to stand till 5 p.m. when the workers returned, for a recount. Once this happened in mid-winter snow and ice; everyone, also the old people, had to stand outside for 8 hours because a little child, in a hut under a blanket, was missing (the barrack leader should have included it). A Greek Jew named Albala (the Camp Leader) counted with the German Commandant. Heinz still had some pea soup powder, from which he then prepared hot soup for our older relatives, cousins of my father, which they greatly appreciated.

At work outside our camp, dusty old shoes without soles were laid out on tables. Seams had to be cut open with pocket knives, and the pieces sorted out into large and small ones, for new shoes to be made. A Jewish overseer recorded how much each table produced. One had to work from the age of 16; I was together with other young girls, and he didn’t count our table too exactly. The main topic of discussion among the men at work was food and recipes.

Later on we had to cut up white underwear with scissors in the same way. When many of the white pieces of material were found in the ditch of the latrine, after having been used as WC paper, the women were ordered by the WC Commandant to take turns fishing them out.

Every week a loaf of bread, a small piece of margarine and a spoonful of jam were rationed out to each person. If someone’s bed was not properly made up, the margarine ration was withdrawn. Each midday we got turnip soup, and in the evening three small unpeeled cooked potatoes and a thin semolina soup.

In late February 1944 Heinz’s Bar Mitzva was “celebrated” after work, but women could not attend because the men’s barracks were closed in the evenings. All the relatives collected their jam ration in a jar as a present for him.

Once a week we were taken to the bath-house, outside our camp about 15 minutes’ march away. All the women had to hang up their clothes on a long moving rail with hooks. The clothes were moved into a hot container, supposed to kill lice, if any, but actually only warm enough to hatch their eggs. Then we were herded into a medium-sized room with a dozen or so water outlets in the ceiling. About 4 women crowded under each, and the green-uniformed Gestapo men walked up and down among the naked Jewish women, shouting orders and opening the water for 2 minutes only, during which all of us had to wash as well as we could. I had a small piece of shaving soap from my father and tried to soap myself all over with it.

In April 1944, a high SS officer came from Berlin and called out the names of over 200 out of the 1000 or so persons with Palestine certificates, including our elderly relatives. They were due to be exchanged for Templars in Palestine. For this purpose they were moved into a separate hut. Father (aged 44 and so



## Appendix 8 – Diary of Ruth Frumkin nee Ellern- 5th page

still eligible for army service against the Germans) was not called. Of the 4000 inmates from Westerbork, the remaining 3000 mostly had foreign passports or had double nationality (Dutch/Portuguese). Three weeks later the exchange plan was cancelled, and the selected people were returned to their former barracks. The disappointment was enormous. But four weeks later, those due for exchange were recalled, and this time despatched at once. They went by train via Vienna, Budapest, Istanbul and Syria, to Palestine. 222 persons from Bergen-Belsen arrived, in July 1944, at Atlit camp. On 6 June 1944 during Appell, a guard on the watchtower shouted the news of the Normandy invasion down to us. Everyone thought that soon the war would be over and all of us liberated.

In summer 1944 we had our turnip soup outside the huts. Once during that time a parcel of Portuguese sardines arrived, which we shared with our relatives. I used to wash our clothes, even in icy water, with the inferior soap provided, and hang them up for drying. In July my father could send a brief postcard to the Lühings in Hamburg, Christian business friends of Uncle Carl, to ask for food. They sent us a parcel of white beans, which I, in my culinary ignorance, tried to cook without soaking!

Father, like everybody, received a loaf of bread a week, but he finished it early. Being of large physique, he suffered terribly from hunger pains. I cut part of my bread ration into thin slices, which I offered to him at tea time. For Father's 45th birthday, 5 November 1944, I soaked bread and formed it into a "cake", decorated with margarine. Gerda's father, very ill and suffering from bedsores, died in the camp hospital, after she had nursed him devotedly. Gerda then rejoined the Birnbaums.

So far we had lived in harsh working-camp conditions, but these drastically worsened from then on. In October began a complete change. 3-high bunks were introduced, and our huts crammed with them. Newcomers from Auschwitz, with shaven heads and striped clothes, were accommodated in huge tents adjacent to our camp, reducing our living space all the time. Conditions became cramped. The original 24 huts in our camp were gradually reduced. Men and women were ordered to move in together. I shared a bed with Heinz, and Father and Mother shared another elsewhere in the hut. At the very end there were two huge barracks (men and women separate again) full of 3-storey bunks, 6 persons in each bunk, and one large hospital barrack.

On 31 December, a "commando unit" of young strong men was sent to the woods outside our camp to pull out trees for firewood for the SS huts. Father was included. He couldn't do the hard physical work, so the Capos (Ukrainian sadistic criminals, collaborators of the Nazis) beat him with rifle butts. He was carried back by his mates, half naked, with swellings on his face, and unconscious, from the woods to the camp hospital, where Dr. Nordheim received him, but held out little hope. We were allowed to see him. On regaining consciousness after several hours, his first words were: "The dogs were the worst" (meaning the Capos or actual dogs?).

Father's condition improved gradually. I procured soup for him, my only thought being to keep him alive until the liberation. Hungarians in an adjoining camp, newcomers and still relatively fit, gave us bread in exchange for our ration of cigarettes. In the hospital room, next to my father, lay my mathematics teacher, Mr. Pakkedrager, who died soon after. There, like all the others in turn, my father enjoyed preparing a talk about his occupational interests — the origin and use of rare metals.

Later all the sick were transferred to one large hospital barrack, as mentioned above. By then, Father was very weak. When a Swedish Red Cross parcel of Knackebrot (Ryvita) and milk powder arrived, he was unable to eat any. His head and legs were swollen from Oedema. Dr. Nussbaum gave him a clean blanket, and I washed him and looked after him.

Hanneli told me that she had spoken to her friend Anne Frank through the barbed wire of the neighbouring camp. Ten days later, among the daily list of the succumbed was Hanneli's father, Dr. Goslar. She was left alone with her little sister.



## Appendix 8 – Diary of Ruth Frumkin nee Ellern- 6th page

Heinz shared a bunk with Meir Beer, of his own age, in the huge men's barrack, where the men died like flies every day, while I shared a bunk with my mother in the huge crowded women's barrack. One day, hurrying through the barrack to my father's bedside, I passed Mrs. Strupp, a Dutch widow who had slept below me in the early days at Bergen-Belsen. She had two teen-age sons, one of whom was at that time punished for picking up a potato, being made to stand naked all night in winter near the barbed wire; he caught pneumonia and died. Now she asked me to look for her other son, whom I found dying in the hospital barrack. I told his mother that I had seen him. Next day she also died.

Lice were everywhere, mainly in clothes, causing Flecktyphus (spotted fever), a fatal disease, from which most inmates eventually suffered. I used to wash myself with ice-cold water to keep myself clean as far as possible. There was no longer any work and hardly any food. The German staff were needed at the front, and we were left to rot.

On Purim, Heinz and I sat on Father's bed listening to the reading of the Megilla. Afterwards, Father said: "I would so much have liked to see you grow up". The barrack door being always open, Father then probably caught pneumonia. One night, on 19 Adar (4 March 1945), we were called to his bedside, but he had already passed away. He was taken to the crematorium; we accompanied him till the gate. I lost all desire to get up. Then Gerda brought some soup for my father and found his bed empty. Immediately she came to my barrack and persuaded me to get up.

Around that time we were given mussels, which we fried and ate, since there was nothing else to eat. In early April US planes were flying low overhead. On 6 April 1945, we heard a command by loudspeaker, ordering every person who could do so, to assemble at the gate. We were marched back to Celle station (14 months after coming from there) and, passing a pile of beetroots, we filled our pockets with them. Then we were crowded into a passenger train, on which there were about 2500 people, mostly Hungarians; from our camp some 400 only.

The train stopped at night and every few hours in daytime (the Hungarians had been "stealing" the coal from the engine). Each time we got out and boiled beetroots. This went on for 6 days; then, during the night in a wood, we heard anti-aircraft fire from the train and on 13 April we saw brown helmets behind the trees. US soldiers emerged and the train guards, hands up, surrendered to them. The Yankees threw sweets to the children, and one called a few of us together, including myself, led us to the nearby village of Farsleben, 20 km from Magdeburg, and ordered the local bakery and restaurant to prepare loaves and soup for the 2500 people on the train, to be supplied by evening, as we could not be evacuated immediately. Next morning we found some potatoes at a nearby farm. While cooking them, the people on the train were being evacuated, and we were among the last. By horses and carts we were taken to a deserted camp together with a few Hungarians from the train.

In the morning we went to a nearby village, where a German housewife invited us into her kitchen and gave us some bread crusts. She asked us with amazement: "Why were German-speaking children for 7 days in a train without food?". I was then 17 but looked like 12, and Heinz, aged 14, looked like 9. At a US army camp we used our only English: "We are hungry". A soldier greeted us in Yiddish — he had just received a packet of rusks from home, which he presented to us. From the canteen we obtained two plates of food. Mother was very sick, suffering from diarrhoea, and could not eat. Every morning we went to look for food at the village. Another housewife provided us with plum stew. Then an incident happened: one evening in the almost empty barrack a solitary US soldier came in and started touching me all over. I had no idea what he wanted and asked him: "Are you a doctor?", whereupon he left. Heinz and Mother were in the barrack at the time.

Early next morning we met an American officer in a jeep. Again we said: "We are hungry". He produced tins of meat and peas, and invited us to sit



## Appendix 8 – Diary of Ruth Frumkin nee Ellern- 7th page

on a tree trunk and eat. Then we explained to him that we had been liberated but dumped in a deserted camp, and that we wanted to join the rest of our group. He told us to get into the jeep, and we showed him the way to the camp. He promised to send an ambulance to take my mother to a hospital, and a bus to collect us, which he did.

The following day we were taken by bus to Hillersleben, a small German town evacuated by pensioners to make room for us, where we found the rest of our group. Heinz and I were given a room in a flat with a bathroom. Centrally distributed food was available. We were given a DDT spraying, and received identity cards from the American authorities.

After a couple of days I became very ill with a high fever, and cried deliriously for my father. Heinz summoned an ambulance and brought me to the improvised hospital, converted from a school. A nurse bathed me — that was the last I remembered. I had Flecktyphus and was unconscious for many days. When I awoke it was May the First. I was lying on a stretcher, receiving a plasma infusion from a container hanging on the wall, thanks to the well-equipped US medical services. Around me I saw, on some 20 stretchers, older women, either dead or dying. I, being younger and stronger, survived.

The US army had collected German girls in the area to nurse us. One of them fed me and brought me some clothes from her home. Heinz came to see me, and told me that he had been to the British Commandant (the British had by then taken over), demanding that he find out the whereabouts of our mother. She was located in a nearby German hospital in critical condition, and we were told that when fit enough she would be transferred to our hospital. When I could get up, Heinz became ill and was hospitalised. We were visited by an Aliyat Hanoar representative and told that if we were orphans we could go to Palestine. But, our mother being alive, we were not eligible. After a while our mother arrived, and told us that in the German hospital nobody wanted to touch her because of her condition. However, in our hospital she regained strength and recuperated.

We heard that President Roosevelt had died, and that on 8 May the European war had ended. When we heard of a transport going back to Holland, the three of us were not fit enough yet, so we had to wait for the next train a month later.

In June 1945 we travelled to Maastricht, SE Holland. Being “enemy aliens”, we were detained at the border and imprisoned in a monastery (Mamelisk) with Dutch Nazis, though on a separate floor. Dutch Jews on the train promised to apply to the government in Den Haag to try and secure our release. To our surprise, the Birnbaums, including Gerda, were already there; their train had been liberated by the Russians at Tróbitz (between Berlin and Dresden). After 6 days we were released. Mother was again taken to hospital. I asked Heinz to help me shake the blankets, but he had no strength, and could hardly sit up. Heinz had tuberculosis, due to the starvation, and was taken to a sanatorium in Vaals near Maastricht. I got a place in a Youth Hostel in Maastricht, where I met Anne Frank’s father, who had survived. As soon as my mother could be released from hospital, we went by train to Amsterdam, getting a room at the home for Opdaklosen (roofless), where we stayed for a while.

We contacted our relatives the Schwabs in London, Uncle Carl in Tel Aviv and Aunt Káti in New York. We also went to the flat we had lived in last, but were not admitted. Then we went to Mr. Loehning (my father’s Dutch partner) on the Prinsengracht. Our reception was cold, as if to say “Why have you come back?”. Our silver cutlery, jewellery etc. were all stolen during the severe final winter of the war (our old friend Mr. Vyth verified at the police that this was true), but the Jewish books and photo albums were there waiting for us.

Káti sent us a clothes parcel from New York. Then one day we were surprised to see Harry Schwab, son of my father’s sister, who came from London in a British captain’s uniform to visit us. He informed us that he was engaged



## Appendix 8 – Diary of Ruth Frumkin nee Ellern- 8th page

to Anne Levy, our second cousin. He stayed a couple of days at a hotel and took snapshots of us before leaving. Then we heard that the rest of the Jews who had returned (the Birnbaums etc.) had received accommodation at the 8-storey Joodse Invalide. We were allowed to transfer, and lived there in a dormitory. I visited Heinz in Vaals. Finally he was also transferred to the Joodse Invalide hospital wing.

Father had told us that there were £2000 put away in an account at the Kaufmann Bank — registered abroad and therefore safe from the Nazis. At the bank we were received well. They told us we would have to be “deNazified” before we could be paid out; however, they could give us a small advance. I bought myself a coat without buttons, and had to sew them on myself. An elderly Dutch lady in our dormitory watched me and wrote a little poem about my efforts.

Then I was offered to resume my studies at the Jewish H.B.S., which had been restarted by some surviving teachers. However, two Jewish Brigade soldiers, Shlomo Meir and Israel Türkel (later killed in the Independence War) started a seminar at the Joodse Invalide, teaching Zionist history and Hebrew (also songs) in preparation for Aliya. I decided to join this, rather than the high school, which I would have had to attend another 3 years. On Friday nights I was invited by Gerda to be with the Birnbaums. For my 18th birthday (Dec. 1945) Heinz, then 14, wrote a beautiful poem in Dutch for me from his sick bed. Then Uncle Carl arranged for Heinz to be transferred by Red Cross train to a sanatorium at Leysin near Montreux, Switzerland, where he stayed for two years to recuperate.

Also at the Joodse Invalide was Shlomo Kaiser (later at Ein Hanatziv), who had been in hiding during the war. All of us joined the youth movement She’ar Yashuv. There to my great surprise I again met my old friend Ursel, who had been in hiding with her parents. They had a flat in south Amsterdam, where we visited them, as well as the Vyths.

Then came news from Erika Lunzer, UNRRA relief worker in Amsterdam: Auntie Anna had asked her to provide tickets for my mother and me to come to England. For a farewell present I received from Gerda a silver Gulden with the Luchot haBrit and my name engraved on it. We sailed from Hook of Holland to Harwich, and arrived at Liverpool St., London, on 6 February 1946, where we were met by Uncle Julius and Auntie Anna Schwab.

Ruth Frumkin  
5b Reines Street  
95427 Jerusalem, Israel  
Tel. 02-6524179

September 1997

**Ruth Frumkin is the daughter of Alex Ellern, Carl’s brother**

## Appendix 9: Carl's application to the Red Cross regarding his mother Caroline

Tel-Aviv, Palestine, 21st. August 1946.  
8 Dizengoff Street

Het Nederlandsche Roode Kruis  
Afwikkelingsbureau Concentratiekampen  
Afd. Inlichtingen  
Burnierstraat 1  
s'Gravenhage

Dear Sirs,

re: Mrs. Caroline Ellern, Amsterdam, 195 Zuider Amstelsteen  
transferred from temporary residence Laings Nekstraat,  
Amsterdam-Oost in April 1943 to Kamp Westerbork and on  
20th. July 1943 departed from barak 85 Kamp Westerbork  
to unknown destination. Born June 9th. 1960

May I ask for your help in the following matter:

My mother, Mrs. Caroline Ellern has been deported on July 20th. 1943  
from the Westerbork Kamp to unknown destination and never heard of  
since. She was then 83 years old and unfortunately there is no hope  
at all that she could have survived. But it may give some degree of  
consolation to the family to know the fate of the transport in ques-  
tion and especially what the fate of our dear mother has been after  
she had to leave the Westerbork Camp.

I would therefore be most grateful to you for any report you may  
be able to give me.

Thanking you in advance and enclosing a reply coupon for your  
kind answer I beg to remain, dear Sirs,


Yours respectfully





Appendix 9 –

The Red Cross's answer to Carl's application regarding his mother Caroline


HET NEDERLANDSCHE ROODE KRUIS  
**AFWIKKELINGSBUREAU  
CONCENTRATIEKAMPEN** 

'S-GRAVENHAGE, 17.9.46.-  
Burnierstraat 1  
Tel. 182057\*

Afd. Information.  
No. *80064*. I 24518/RvG/R.-  
Onderwerp: C.Ellern.  
Bijlagen:  
Bij beantwoording Afd.  
en nummer vermelden.

Referring to your request for information about  
Caroline Ellern,  
born 9.6.1860,  
last known address Amsterdam,  
Lekstraat 18,  
I have to tell you that she was transported  
from Westerbork to Sobibor on 20.7.43 and died  
there on 23.7.43.-

*23/9. 48*  
*Friday*  
*20 SINP*  
*"EJ"*

For the Head of the Liquidation  
Office for Concentration Camps.  
H. Duzink. 

Mr. C. Ellern,  
8 Dizengoff Street,  
Tel-Aviv.-  
Palestine.

*Jahreszeit von*  
*Th. Messer*  
*20.7.43*

**DIENST**  
Departement van  
Binnenlandse Zaken



Volnummer 1207

  
HET NEDERL. ROODE KRUIS  
—  
**AFWIKKELINGSBUREAU  
CONCENTRATIEKAMPEN**  
BURNIERSTR. 1, 'S-GRAVENHAGE

Mr. C. Ellern,  
8 Dizengoff Street,  
TEL AVIV.-  
Palestine.


*5 M*



**Appendix 10 – Approval of Anna Schwab's visit to Aron Ellern at the quarantine camp**

S.H.8. 12

10



962.

## PERMIT

HOME OFFICE (B.3),  
SCOTLAND HOUSE,  
LONDON, S.W.1.

THE COMMANDANT. (Date) 26th August, 1940 .  
Prees Heath Internment Camp.

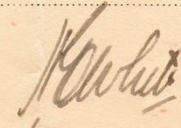
Please admit on presentation of this Permit .....

Mrs. A. Schwab,  
.....  
180, Goldhurst Terrace,  
.....  
London, N.W.6.  
.....

to visit the internee Sigmund Ellern.  
.....

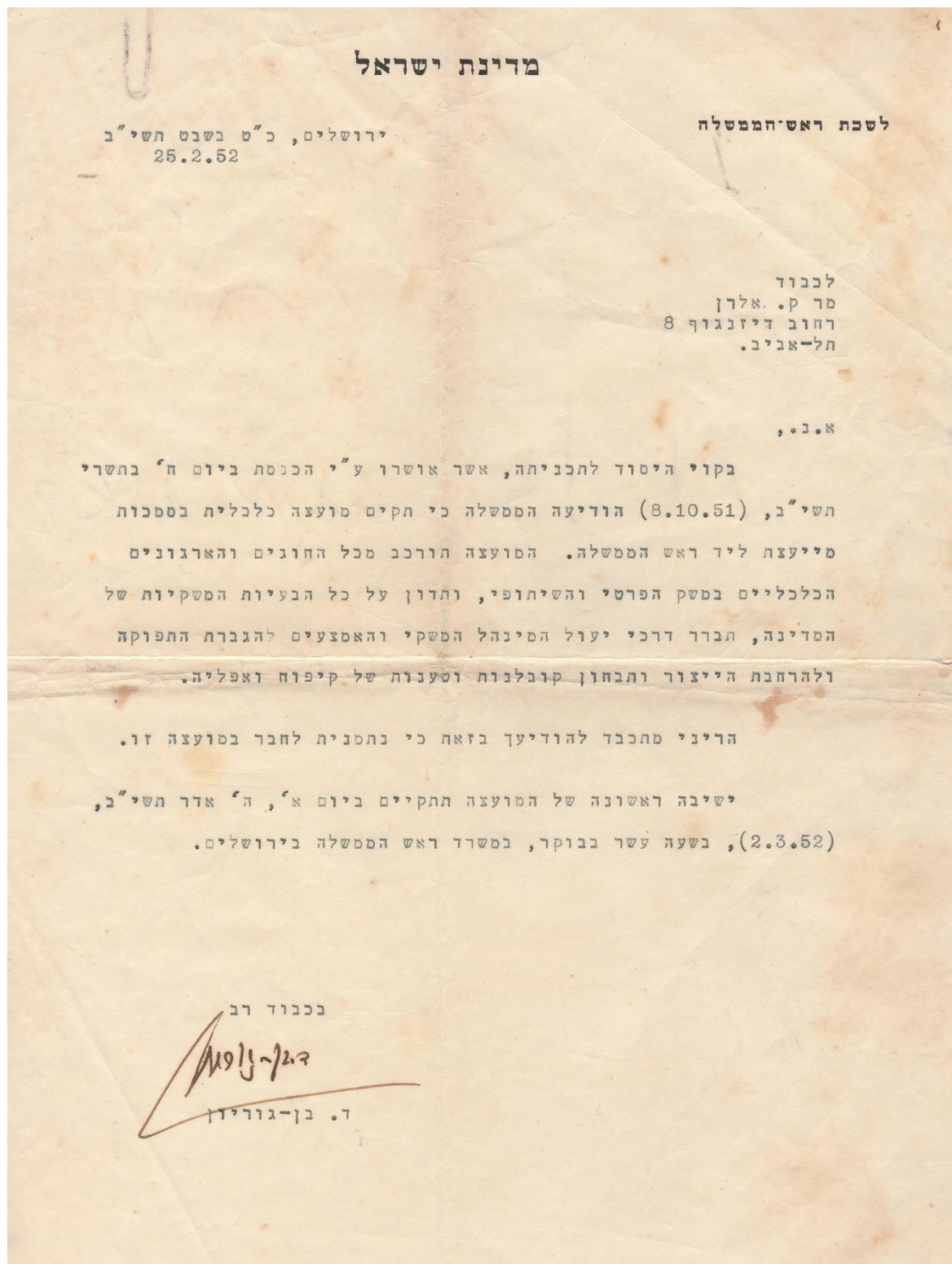
on 28th August, 1940. Between 2. and 6.p.m.  
.....

under the usual camp supervision.

  
Liaison Officer.

M.P.-21172/10,000 Aug./1940 w25

## Appendix 11 – The Prime Minister invites Carl to be a member of the "Economic Council for the Prime Minister"





# Appendix 12 – Carl's appointment as a member of the Postal Bank Board



שר התחבורה

ב"ה, ירושלים, סיון תשי"ב  
10 יוני 1962

20/1/9

לכבוד  
מר קרל אלרון  
מנהל בנק אלרון  
ח ל - א ב י ב .

מר אלרון הנכבד,

בהחאם להסכמתך, הנני ממנה אותך בזה  
כחבר מועצה בנק הדאר במקום השר פרץ נפתלי.

הועדה עומדת להחכים לפני סוף חודש זה  
כדי לדון סופית בעסק החקנות.

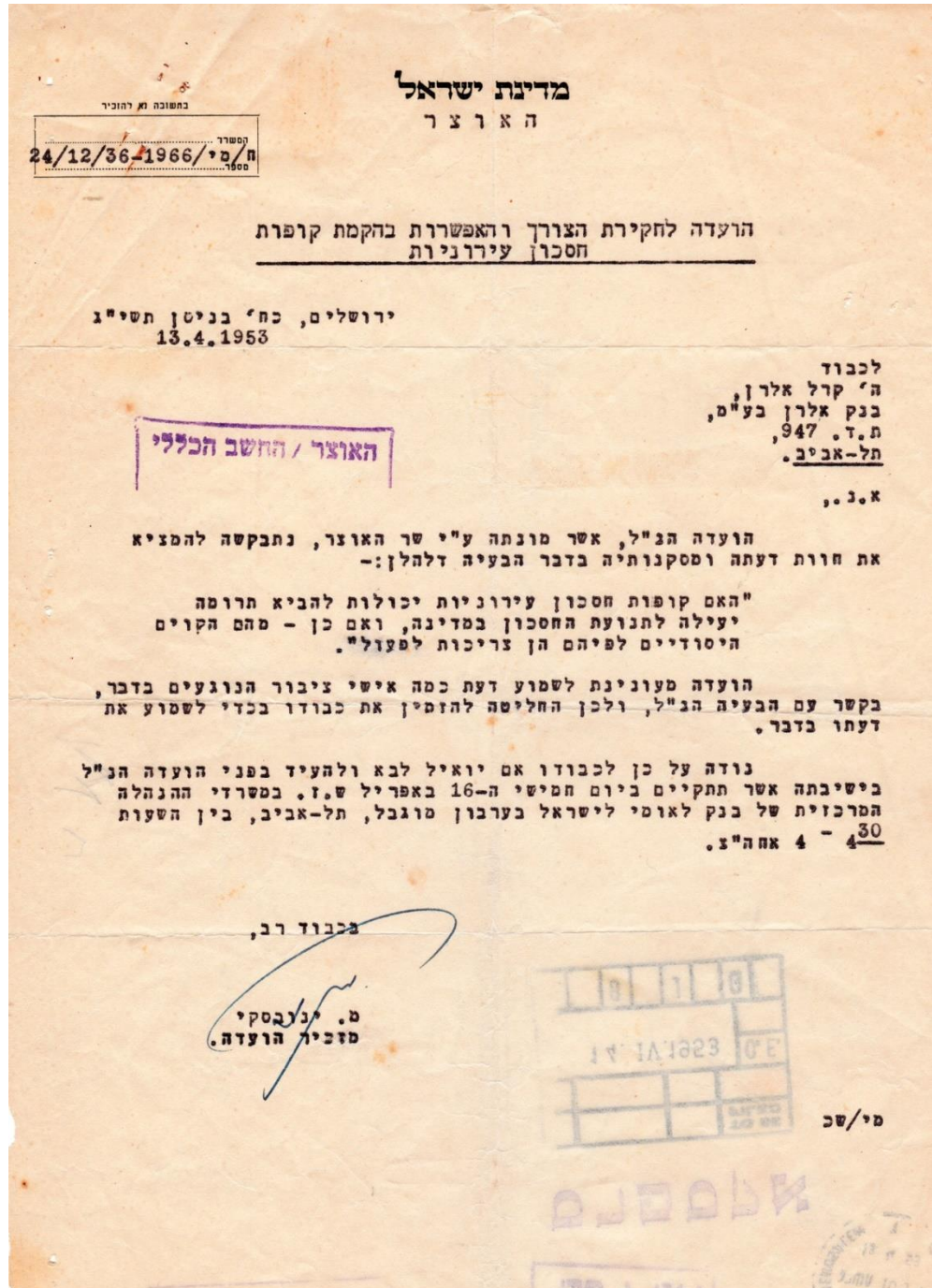
יו"ר הועדה, סיר ליאון סימון יודיעך  
על התאריך המדויק בו תחכים המועצה.

בכבוד רב,

ד. צ. פנקס  
שר התחבורה



**Appendix 13 – Invitation received by Carl to appear and testify before a committee appointed by the Minister of Finance "... to investigate the need to establish Municipal Savings Funds" and to voice his opinion**



Appendix 14 – The highlights prepared by Carl for his testimony at the "Committee to investigate the need to establish Municipal Savings Funds"

אני מחייב בהחלט את חשיבותן של פעולות חסכון על-ידי האוכלוסיה וידוע לי היטב שבארצות אחרות קופות חסכון עירוניות סיעו בהרבה לפחות הערים והשכונים, על-ידי מתן משכנתאות וכו'. למרות זאת, אינני חושב שלעת עתה, ובתנאים של היום קופות חסכון כנ"ל יכולות להביא תרומה יעילה לתנועת החסכון במדינה. הסיבות בקצור הנן כדלקמן:-

א. כל עוד שקיימים תנאי אינפלציה והמחירים עולים, אין כספים בידי הקהל למטרות חסכון. רק בימים האחרונים קראנו שוב בעהונות כי אנו עומדים לפני עליית נוספת של המחירים ואינני חושב שהקמת קופות חסכון עירוניות יכולה להצליח. האיש הפשוט, אשר מחזיק ב-100 ל"י מעדיף להוציאן היות והוא חושב כי היום יוכל לקנות דבר מה בכסף, ואפילו באם הוא ייקבל כמה אחוזים רבית ז. א. אם אחרי שנה במקום -100 ל"י יהיו בידו -103 ל"י, כח הקניה של ה-103 ל"י יהיה הרבה פחות מכה הקניה של הסכום שבו הוא מחזיק כיום.

ב. קיים, בעיקר בין אנשים אלה, הפחד שיטילו שוב מס או מלווה-חובה על הפקדונות, כמו שעשו זאת ביוני אשתקד.

ג. יש די בנקים בכל חלקי הארץ שהם מוכנים לקבל פקדונות ולשלם עליהם רבית מתאימה, ונוסף על-כך עומד הדואר בפני הקמת בנק הדואר אשר יפעל בשתי מחלקות:

(1) מחלקת הסלוקים,  
(2) מחלקת החסכון.

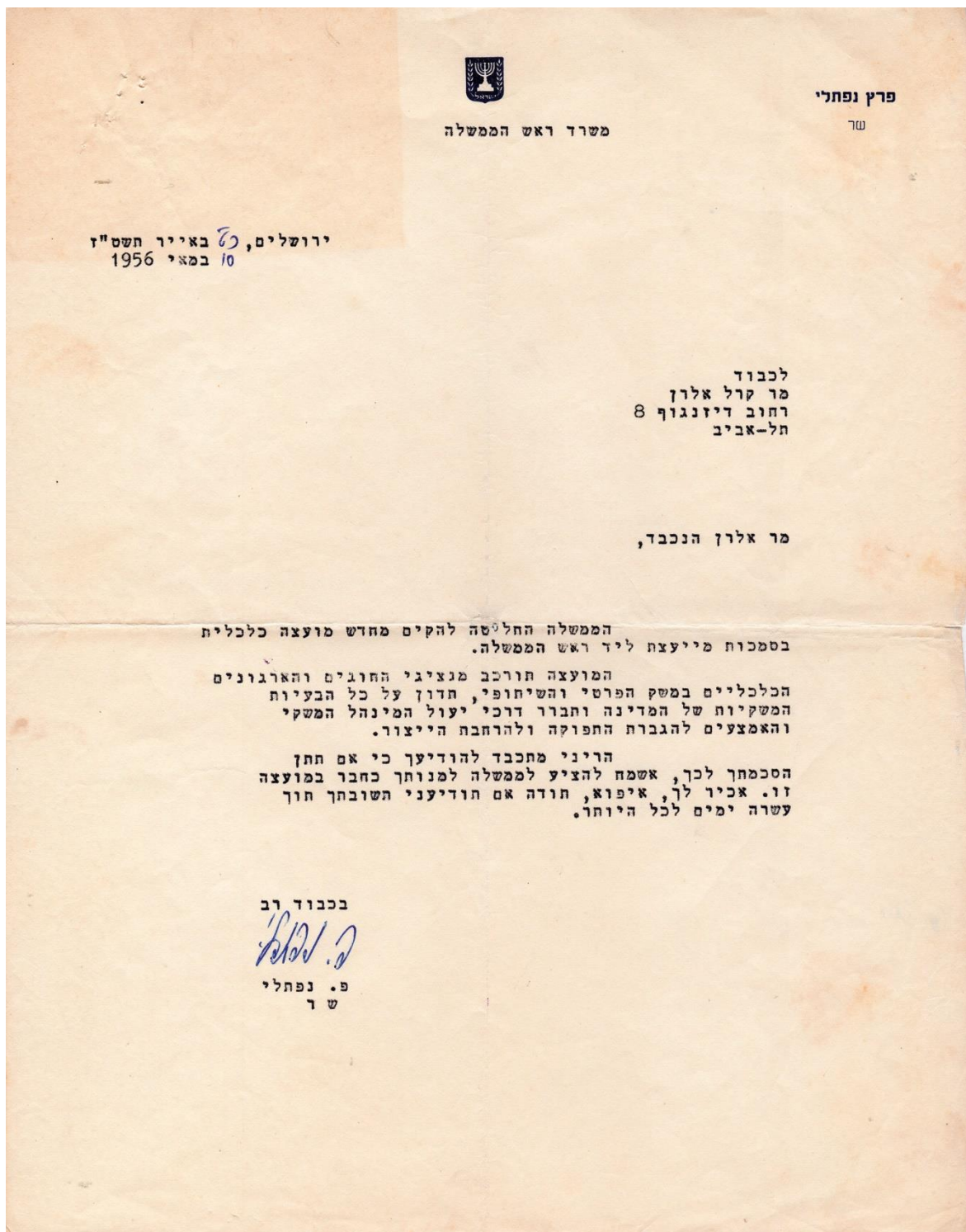
ז. א. לכל אלה שיש בידם כסף, ניתנת האפשרות להפקיד את הכסף בבנקים או בבנק הדואר, ללא כל קושי.

ד. בקהל אין אמון רב בהנהלת הכספים והפיננסים של העיריות. אני יודע על כמה מקרים שאפילו שטרות שעליהם חתמו העיריות, לא שולמו בזמן הפרעון והמצב הזה עודנו נמשך. שמעתי גם על מקרה שעיריה מסוימת קבלה כסף לשם בצוע עבודות צבוריות מהממשלה והשתמשה בכספים אלה למטרות אחרות, מצב שהביא לזה שהקבלן צריך לחכות זמן רב לסלוק חשבוננו. אחרי שאי אפשר לתת לעיריה אחת את הזכות להקמת קופת חסכון ולשלול זכות זו מעיריה אחרת. יותר טוב, לפי דעתי, לא לתת אשורים כאלה בכלל, עד שהמצב הכספי של העיריות ישפר. יש לי גם ספק אם בקרב העיריות יש די מומחיות כדי לנהל עסקי בנק וכדומה ואני פוחד שאם תינתן לעיריות זכות לנהל קופות חסכון, יוכל מצב זה לגרום אחריו בקלות אי ליקוידיות, במקרה של דרישות רבות להחזרת פקדונות. בודאי יש בדעת העיריות להשתמש בכספי הקופות למטרותיהן הן ובה אני רואה סכנה, ביחוד אם איזה קופה אינה יכולה למלא את התחייבויותיה, דבר שיגרום ל"רץ" בבנקים אחרים.

ה. אם הכונה לשלם את המשכורות של הפקידים דרך קופות חסכון עירוניות או לשלם לספקים ולקבלנים דרך קופה כזו, אני בדעה כי לא טוב לכפות על מישהו מוסד בנקאי מטוים.

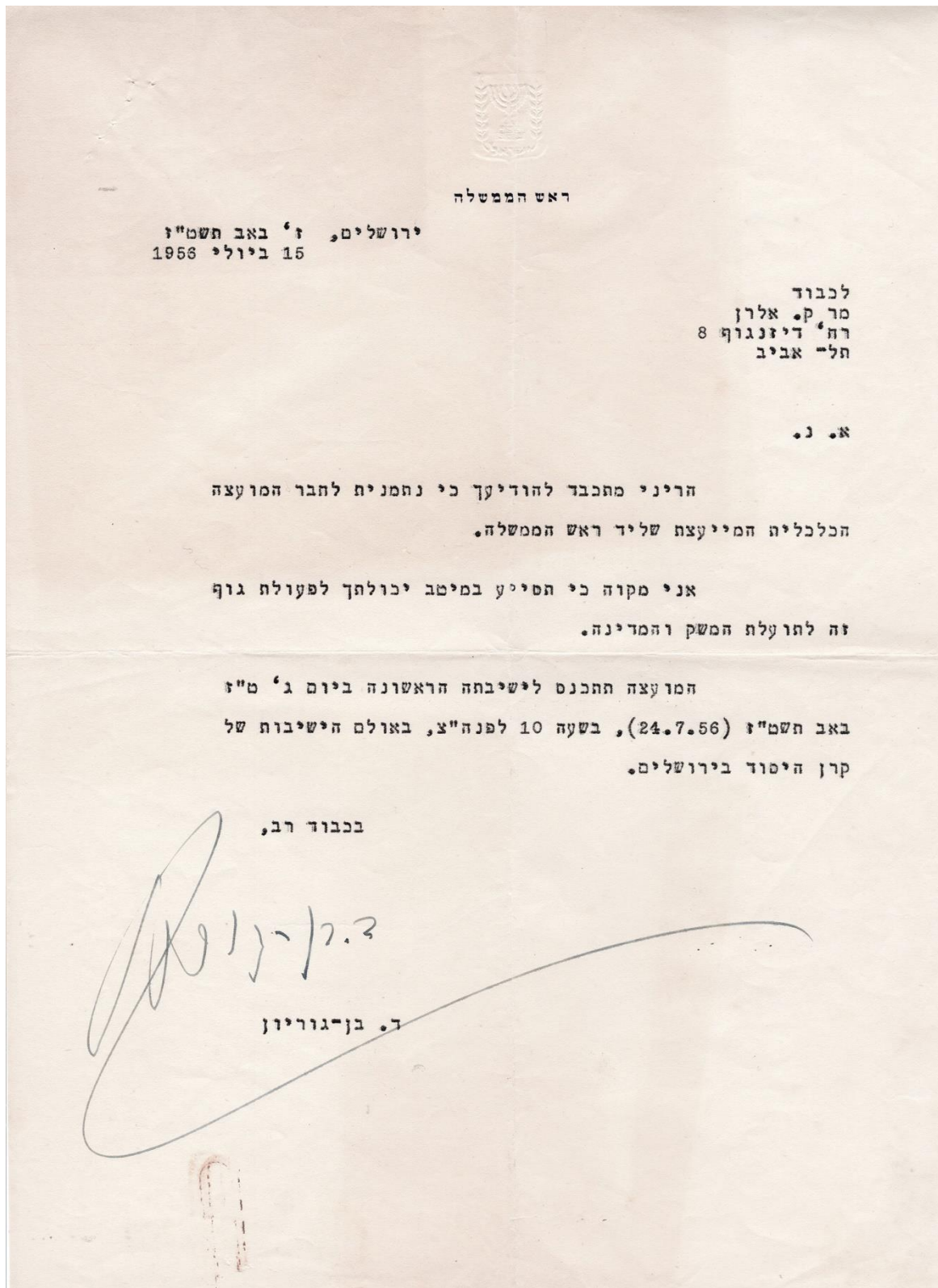


**Appendix 15 – Invitation letter received by Carl from the Minister Peretz Naftali asking him to be a member of the Advisory Committee again**





**Appendix 16 – Carl's recurring appointment letter as a member of the Advisory Committee on behalf of the Prime Minister**



## **Appendix 17 – List of the measures taken against Jews in Germany from the Nazi rise to power until the end of World War II (extracted from the website of the Hamburg Municipality)**

This list only includes part of the measures taken against Jews. Further information can be found in Joseph Walk, Das Sonderrecht für die Juden im NS-Staat. Eine Sammlung der gesetzlichen Maßnahmen und Richtlinien, Heidelberg 1981.

**1 Apr. 1933** - Boycott of Jewish businesses and action against doctors and lawyers.

**7 Apr. 1933** - The Law for the Restoration of the Professional Civil Service makes it possible to dismiss "non-Aryan" civil servants.

**1933-1934** - Adoption of the "Aryan paragraphs" in professional associations, in legislative bodies, gymnastics and sport clubs, military and degree programs, etc. leads to Jews being shut out of professional work, branches of industry and prohibits them from attaining training in trades and advanced degrees.

**15 Sept. 1935** - The Nuremberg Laws ban marriage between Jewish and non-Jewish partners and make extramarital sexual intercourse between Jewish and non-Jewish partners a punishable offense ("racial defilement"); they prohibit Jews from employing non-Jewish women under the age of 45 as domestic help and raising the Reich flag or national flag. The implementation decrees deny Jews the right to vote and the capacity to hold public office. Other rules apply to "half-breed Jews of the first and second degree" (see glossary).

**1936, 1937, 1938** - Further exclusion of Jews or Germans married to Jews from professions, training programs, etc. Emigration is impeded through stricter financial regulations.

**26 Apr. 1938** - Jews are forced to register any assets in excess of 5,000 RM.

**June 1938** - During the "June Operation", "asocial elements" are arrested throughout the Reich and taken to concentration camps, including several thousand Jews (in Hamburg 200 of 700 arrested in total).

**23 July 1938** - From 1 Jan. 1939 Jews are obliged to carry an identity card with them.

**25 July 1938** - Jewish doctors are denied their license to practice medicine as of 30 Sept. 1938. In exceptional cases they are authorized as "sick person medical personnel" to treat Jewish patients.

**5 Oct. 1938** - Passports are revoked. Authorized passports are re-issued and marked with a "J".

**28 Oct. 1938** - Between 12,000 and 17,000 Jews of Polish descent are deported from Germany and left in Poland along the border.

**7 Nov. 1938** - 17-year-old Herschel Grynszpan, whose parents were deported in the group of Polish Jews, shoots the German diplomat Ernst vom Rath in Paris.

**9–10 Nov. 1938** - The NSDAP uses vom Rath's death as an excuse to incite a nationwide pogrom which is presented as "spontaneous public anger". Roughly 30,000 Jewish men are arrested and sent to concentration camps.

**12 Nov. 1938** - Göring orders all Jews collectively to raise 1 billion Reich Marks as an "atonement payment". In addition, Jews have to pay for the damage done during the pogrom.

**15 Nov. 1938** - Jewish children have to go to Jewish schools. Jewish shops and businesses have to be "Aryanized" or shut down.

**30 Nov. 1938** - Jewish lawyers are banned from their profession. Only in exceptional cases are they authorized to represent Jewish clients as "Jewish consultants".

**1 Jan. 1939** - Jews are forced to use the name "Israel" or "Sara" (if their given name is not one of the authorized "Jewish names").

**17 Jan. 1939** - Jewish dentists, pharmacists and veterinarians lose their license to practice.

**30 Apr. 1939** - The law regulating tenancy arrangements for Jews strip Jews of tenant protection and paves the way for consolidating them in "Jewish houses".

**Sept. 1939** - Due to the outbreak of war, a night-time curfew is imposed on Jews. They can only shop at special grocery stores and they have to surrender their radios and perform forced labor. Polish Jews are imprisoned in concentration camps.

**1940 to spring 1941** - First deportations of Jews from Szczecin (Stettin), Pomerania, Baden, the Palatinate region and the annexed country of Austria.

**1 Sept. 1941** - Decree: As of 19 Sept., Jews 6 years of age and older must wear the "Jewish star"; they are no longer allowed to use public transportation, except by permission granted to Jewish forced laborers.

**Oct. 1941** - Systematic deportations start from the "Old Reich." at the same time, Jews are banned from emigrating and an order is issued declaring that the assets of deported Jews are to become the property of the German Reich. Non-Jewish people who helped Jews are threatened with "protective custody" in a decree from the Reich Main Security Office.

**Oct. 1941 to Jan. 1942** - Jews not yet deported have to continue doing forced labor; they have to surrender their typewriters, bicycles, cameras, woolen goods, furs, skis and mountain boots, among other belongings. Jews are forced to move into "Jewish houses".

**20 Jan. 1942** - At the Wannsee Conference – which should have taken place in Dec. 1941, representatives of the Reich authorities and the SS plan the extermination of Europe's Jews.

**13 Mar. 1942** - Jewish residences have to be marked by a star on white paper.

**2 June 1942 to Apr. 1945** - Jews over 65, widowed or divorced Jewish partners from mixed marriages, Jews who received medals during World War I, and celebrities are deported to Theresienstadt concentration camp, which for many turns out to be a way station along their journey to an extermination camp. Thousands die of starvation, illnesses and from the cold in Theresienstadt itself.

**27 Feb. 1943** - Start of the "Factory Operation" (Fabrik-Aktion) during which approximately 11,000 Jewish forced laborers and other Jews remaining in the "Old Reich" are arrested and if not living in a mixed marriage, are deported. After that operation, no more "full-blooded Jews" officially remain in Germany (except those in mixed marriages).

**Jan. to Apr. 1945** - Protections provided by mixed marriage are removed: Over 2,000 individuals are deported to Theresienstadt, even though Soviet troops have already liberated Majdanek (20 July 1944), Auschwitz (27 Jan. 1945) and US troops Buchenwald (11 Apr. 1945).

**8 May 1945** - The German Wehrmacht surrenders.



## Appendix 18 - Recha Ellern's resume on the Hamburg Municipality website - source translation

### Biographies from A to Z - **By way of Recha Ellern**

*In North Altona, in 2016, a street was named after **Recha Ellern (1898 Nuremberg - 1973 Tel Aviv)**, a social worker of the Altona Jewish community. She took care of people who were supposed to be deported through the Altona train station as part of the "Polish Operation," helping several people to emigrate. She immigrated to Eretz Israel in 1939.*

*There is a stone in memory of Recha Ellern in front of the former Greena Strasse 5, now Kirchen Strasse. Then, the community school was founded at number 5, as well as a "Jewish humanitarian women's organization."*

In one article written about Recha Ellern it says: "Recha Ellern, who was born in Nuremberg, was 24 when she began her work in the small community near Hamburg in 1922. Among the people she took care of were many Jewish immigrants from Poland who had been living in Altona since the First World War. The brave Recha Ellern, who was born in Nuremberg, was a graduate of a women's professional school, with experience in the commercial field. She dedicated herself to her work with constant commitment, especially to the younger generation. Her office was in what was then Greena Strasse 5. Recha Ellern won everybody's sympathy and respect, but also everyone's fear, and this was because of her assertiveness. People who knew her spoke of how very cleverly and with great ingenuity she managed to save many Polish Jews from the police. Early on the morning of October 28, 1938, they began to arrest Polish Jews, by collecting their passports and holding them in a large hall.<sup>40</sup>

The same article said: "On October 28, about 1000 Jews with Polish citizenship were deported to the small border town of Goshen. Recha Ellern, the social worker of the Jewish community in Altona, saved many of them that day from an uncertain fate.

She was also active in the Jewish Humanitarian Women's Organization. Later she became the director of the entire Welfare Department of the Jewish community. She was also for many years the head of "a group of women working in the Municipal Association of Jewish Women's Organizations."

In an article entitled "Memories of Recha Ellern: A Nurse in the Jewish Community during the Nazi Period", Susanna Goldberg, Ola Heinenberg, and Erica Hirsch told the story of Rudolf Gerber and Recha Ellern. At that time, Rudolf Gerber was the person in charge of the care of older boys at the daycare center for children in Greena Strasse 5. During the "Polish Operation" in the fall of 1938, when Recha Ellern was 38 years old and single, he said: "We could move freely in the Great Hall. We could even make phone calls. At noon, Recha Ellern came in. She was dressed as a nurse, wearing a hat with the letters ZJW (in German "Jewish Welfare Center.") Everybody ran to Recha Ellern. No one knew what would happen and they all asked for information. This is where her work began."

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<sup>40</sup> History of Hamburg workshops: Helping the persecuted in Hamburg 1933-1945. Booklet accompanying exhibition 2013. Hamburg 2013, p. 30.

As a representative of the Jewish community, she contacted the Police Chief, who held all the passports taken from the detainees. Here are some examples of her activities: A woman fainted and a policeman exclaimed: "Nurse, someone has fainted here!" (He thought she was a nurse because of her outfit). Recha Ellern said, "I know this woman. She suffers from severe heart disease and must go straight to the hospital." An ambulance was called, the woman was taken to the Jewish hospital, thus saving her from deportation. One of the families, the parents and two or three small children, were due at the US Consulate in a month's time to obtain visas for entry into the United States. Recha Ellern asked the Police Chief for their passports. Then she went to the US Consulate, explained the circumstances, and said if this family got their visas now, they would not be deported. The consul was persuaded and signed the entry visas in the passports. From there, she went to a travel office, booked tickets for the ship, and paid the bill. And so, the same family could return home and quietly prepare for their migration.

Another case: She obtained the release of a man with business and financial commitments which he had to fulfill by presenting documents showing that he suffered from a severe illness that could endanger his life if transported. I do not understand how she was physically able to do all this at all. She would run to the Police Chief in his office, from there to the offices and consulates, return to the Police Chief, etc.<sup>41</sup> Mr. Gerber recalls the fate of Recha Ellern: "Recha Ellern remained in Germany for a while until she had to leave. There were no certificates. Then they said just a group of children could leave. Recha Ellern was appointed escort of the group. When the group was assembled and were scheduled to leave, Recha was already in Berlin to receive her passport from the Israeli offices there. However, the passport suddenly disappeared, as noted by Mr. Gerber. So Recha Ellern said: "If my passport doesn't arrive in two hours, I'll go to the Gestapo, and we'll see who gets more respect there, you or me!" They realized that she was very serious, so they turned everything around, and the passport was found. Since the group had already begun its journey, she boarded a plane and joined the children in Munich. From Italy, they continued to Israel on a ship, and landed at Tel Aviv in Israel. Mr. Gerber, the Englishmen said, "Well, you were the escort of the group. You have done your part, so go back from where you came". Then she said in English: "Do you think I made such a trip just to see the Land of Israel from the ship?" But nothing helped and she was to be sent back. Recha stayed on the ship and continued toward Haifa. Meanwhile, acquaintances and relatives in Israel heard that Mrs. Ellern had arrived, and they were trying to make sure that she could leave the boat in Tel Aviv. Thanks to banker Ellern, her cousin, they attempted to raise the huge amount at that time, of sixty pounds to obtain a tourist license with a limited stay for Recha. When the ship docked in Haifa, the inhabitants of Israel disembarked first. Among them was Mr. Gerber who was a doctor. What did Recha do? She wore her hat with the letters ZJW, a Jewish Welfare Center, and just followed the doctor. They thought she was his assistant or nurse and let her pass." So, she immediately telephoned Tel Aviv and said, "Don't pay any money. I'm here."

Recha Ellern settled in Tel Aviv. She lived in Israel for the rest of her life. She became seriously ill in the early 1970's, was unable to walk, and died in 1973.<sup>42</sup>

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<sup>41</sup> Quote from Susanna Goldberg, Ola Heinenberg, Erica Hirsch: *Memoirs of Recha Ellern, Nurse of the Jewish Community during the Nazi period*. In the *Minster-Westphalia Dampfboot History Workshop*, Booklet 15, 1988, Page 43 onwards.

<sup>42</sup> Susanna Goldberg see above page 46 onwards.

**Appendix 19 – First Announcement of Heiny's Death by the Divisional Medical Officer, March 7, 1916**

A b s c h r i f t !

Westlicher Kriegsschauplatz, 7.3.16.

Sehr geehrte Frau Ellern !

Ihr Sohn hat von einer schweren Granate getroffen am 6.3.16 den Heldentod erlitten.

Zu dem schweren Verluste, der Sie betroffen, nehmen Sie von mir und den Sanitätsoffizieren der 25. Infanterie-Division den Ausdruck der herzlichsten Teilnahme entgegen!

Er war ein ausgezeichneter Arzt, stets eifrig bemüht und besorgt für seine Il7er, uns immer ein treuer Kamerad in bösen wie in guten Stunden.

Seien Sie überzeugt, dass das Andenken an ihn bei den Sanitätsoffizieren der 25. Infanterie-Division dauernd fortleben wird.

Wir haben ihn heute zur letzten Ruhe gebettet.

Seine Ruhestätte befindet sich in VILLE auf dem Friedhof der Sanitätskompanie 2 des 18. Armeekorps.

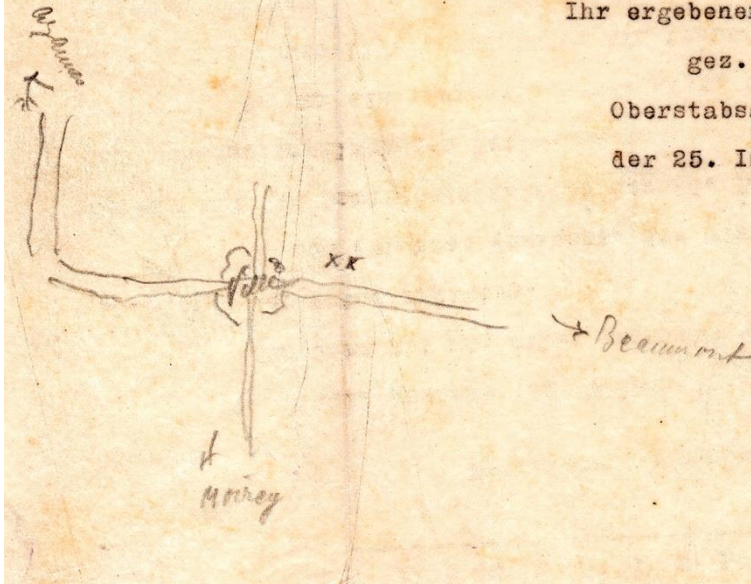
Die nächste grössere Bahnstation ist Montmedy.

Mit aufrichtigem Beileid

Ihr ergebener

gez. Zemke

Oberstabsarzt und Divisionsarzt  
der 25. Inf. Division.





Appendix 20 – Second Announcement of Heiny's Death by the Regimental Medical Officer, March 8, 1916

A b s c h r i f t !

Inf.=Leib-Rgt. No. 117.

8.3.16.

Regimentsarzt.

Hochverehrte gnädige Frau !

Es ist mir eine sehr schmerzliche Aufgabe, Ihnen die Mitteilung machen zu müssen, dass Ihr Sohn, unser braver Hllern nach schwerer Verwundung am 8.3. den Heldentod gefunden hat. Den tiefen Schmerz, den der schwere Verlust Ihnen bringen wird, teilt das ganze Regiment. Mit ihm hat das Regiment einen seit seiner Zugehörigkeit zu uns in unermüdlicher Pflichttreue tätigen, in jeder Beziehung hervorragend tüchtigen Bataillonsarzt, zu dem Vorgesetzte und Untergebene, Offiziere wie Mannschaften, unbedingt Vertrauen hatten und haben durften, verloren. In ganz besonders aufopferungsvoller Weise hat er, ohne Rücksicht auf Gefahr - nur das Wohl der Verwundeten im Auge - unseren Verwundeten unschätzbare Dienste geleistet. Und so hat er gewirkt, bis er selbst ein Opfer seines edlen Pflichteifers wurde. Sein tragisches Geschick, dessen Zeuge ich war, hat mich aufs Tiefste erschüttert. Zum vollen Bewusstsein ist er nicht mehr gekommen. Nach seiner Ueberführung auf den Hauptverbandplatz ist er sanft verchieden.

Gestern, am 7.3., ist er beerdigt worden, und heute, wo wir nach VILLE, - seinem Bestattungsorte - zurückgezogen sind, haben wir seinen mit ihm gefallenen Burschen und Krankenträger MERZ neben ihm bestattet. Sein Grab habe ich, soweit es die primitiven Mittel zulassen, schmücken lassen. So ruht er unter einer kleinen Schar gefallener Helden, jeden an Heldentum ebenbürtig, an einem kleinen Hange, der auf die Höhen blickt, von denen aus der Sturm auf Verdun am 22/2 begann. Ich hoffe, Ihnen in absehbarer Zeit eine photographische Aufnahme des Grabes schicken zu können. So schlicht das Kriegergrab Ihres Sohnes ist, so wird das Andenken an ihn im Regiment in tiefster Dankbarkeit für seine Tätigkeit und in aufrichtiger Trauer um den Verlust eines stets gleichmässig lebenswürdigen, allseits beliebten Kameraden fortleben.

Gestatten Sie, hochverehrte gnädige Frau, den Ausdruck meiner grössten Verehrung.

In herzlichster Mittrauer

Ihr sehr ergebener  
gez. Schwahn

*Habsarat*



Appendix 21 – A condolence letter to Caroline from Major Henrichi, an officer in the regiment where Heiny served, March 10, 1916

A b s c h r i f t !

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10. 3. 16.

Sehr geehrte gnädige Frau !

Es drängt mich, Ihnen anlässlich des Heldentodes Ihres Sohnes den Ausdruck meines innigsten Mitgeföhls zu übermitteln.

Wenn das Wort " Held " für einen anzuwenden ist, dann ist es auf Ihren Sohn, der in geradezu hervorragernd<sup>tapferer</sup> Weise sein Leben eingesetzt hat für seine Kameraden und seine Kunst und seine ganze Kraft für die Verwundeten. Er ist mir während der langen Zeit seiner Zugehörigkeit zum 1. Btl. eine hervorragend tüchtige ärztliche Stütze gewesen, unermüdlich praktisch tätig im Dienst der Hygiene und der Kranken und Verwundeten.

Als Mensch habe ich ihn schätzen gelernt als einen vornehmen aufrechten Charakter, dem ich stets ein ehrendes, treues Gedenken bewahren werde.

In aufrichtiger Teilnahme

Ihr sehr ergebener

gez. Henrichi

Major.



Appendix 22 – A condolence letter to Caroline from Warner Grill, who was Heiny's physician assistant, April 16, 1916

Im Fossewald d.16.IV 16.

Sehr geehrte gnädige Frau !

Seit mehreren Tagen liegen wir wieder warm und es war mir leider nicht eher möglich Ihren Brief zu beantworten. Ich kann Ihren Wunsch voll und ganz verstehen nähere Einzelheiten über die letzten Stunden Ihres tapferen Sohnes zu erfahren. Ich war mit Ihrem Sohne die schweren Tage in Louvemont mit ihm zusammen. Sein Unterstand lag dicht neben dem meinigen. Am vorletzten Tage unserer Ablösung ging ein Volltreffer in seinen Unterstand, als er sich gerade mit seinen Krankenträgern darin befand. Dabei wurden zwei Soldaten verschüttet. Ihr Sohn rief noch um Hilfe und wir halfen ihm bei den leider vergeblichen Rettungsarbeiten der beiden Unglücklichen. Das war das letzte Mal als ~~xx~~ ich Ihren Sohn sah. Wie ich hörte soll er dann zum Regimentsunterstand gegangen sein und dies dem Bataillon gemeldet haben. Er wollte dann wieder zu seinen Krankenträgern zurück. Man riet ihm doch noch einige Zeit im Unterstand zu bleiben, bis das schwere Artilleriefeuer nachliess. Doch liess er sich nicht halten und äusserte noch den Gedanken im Unterstand verschüttet zu werden sei ihm schrecklich, da wollte er lieber im Freien sein. Ein Gefühl das man nach der kurz vorausgegangenen Katastrophe voll und ganz verstehen konnte. Kurz nachher wurde er mit seinem Krankenträger von dem Volltreffer einer Granate dicht bei dem Regimentsunterstand tödlich getroffen. Er wurde vom Regimentsarzt Dr.Schwan verbunden und lebte nur noch einige Zeit. Aber ich glaube nicht, dass er sich über die Schwere seiner Verwundung noch bewusst war und das war sicher ein Glück für ihn.

- 2 -



**Appendix 22 – A condolence letter to Caroline from Warner Grill, who was Heiny's physician assistant, April 16, 1916 – cont.**

Wenn es für Sie verehrte gnädige Frau ein schwacher  
Trost sein kann, so kann ich Ihnen versichern, dass ich seine  
hervorragende Tapferkeit, seine grenzenlose Selbstaufopferung  
bei der Sorge um die Verwundeten, bewundert habe und als vorbild-  
lich ansehen muss. Wie ich höre wäre ihm, wenn er noch am Leben  
geblieben wäre, das eiserne Kreuz I Kl. sicher gewesen als ein  
Zeichen seiner hervorragenden Leistungen.

Mit vorzüglicher Hochachtung

Ihr ergebener

Werner Grill

Ass. Arzt I/117

# **Family Album**



*Carl and Jenny Ellern*



*From the right Martha Levy and Jenny Ellern*



*Caroline and Jenny in the mid-20s*



*Carl with Jenny's mother on the right and Martha Loffler on the left*





*From the right: Jenny, Caroline, Margot, Aron and Harold*



*Jenny Ellern with Aron, Margot and Harold, 1928*



*Margot, Aron and Harold*



*Margot, Harold and Aron*



*Margot with Paul Forchheimer and Carl around 1933*



*Margot, Carl, Harold, and Aron*



*Decorations in the family Sukkah in Hamburg 1934  
as a tradition of Ida Goldberg nee Mainz*



*Margot*



*Aron and Harold*

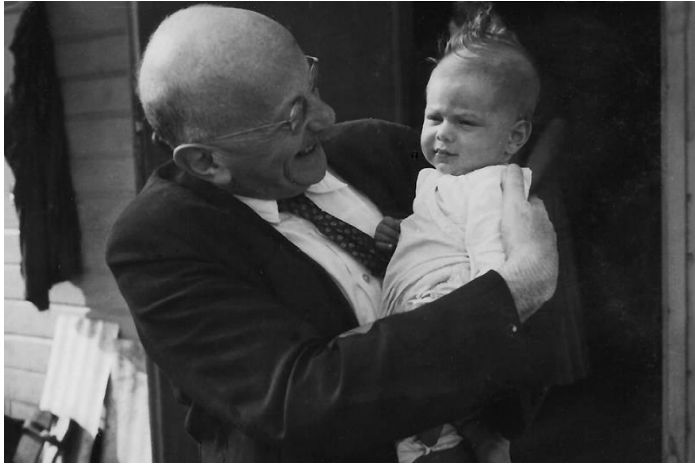


*Harold is getting married,  
August 30, 1949*



*The bus that brought guests to Ruth and Aron  
Ellern's wedding in Kibbutz Yavne*





*Carl Ellern and me, his eldest grandson*



*From the right: Martha, Carl, Aron, Raanan, Grete and Ruth*



*From the right: Aron, Harold, Ruth and Grete on the "Chimavir"*

*Jeep during Grete and Harold's visit to Israel, 1950*



*From the right: Carl and Martha Ellern with Siegfried Bruenn and his wife (Jenny Ellern's sister)*



*Top row from the right: Grete (Harold's widow), Martha Ellern and Anna Schwab  
Bottom row: Judy Ellery, Diana (Paul Bachmann's daughter, Grete's second husband), Hannie (Grete's sister's daughter, Ruth) Debbie Ellery.*



*At Rieck's house on 132 Moriah Street, Haifa, 1961.  
Top row to the right: Sidi Dasberg (Jul's sister) Miriam (Miris) Bar-Daroma (Sidi's niece), Carl, Martha,  
Margot, Aron, Ruth, and Jul. Below are the children, Jonathan Ellern, Miki and Ruth Rieck.*



*Martha and Carl Ellern*



*Carl Ellern at a family event, 1961*





*Chen Schreiber's circumcision, January 27, 1966*

*Standing from the right: Rafael Schreiber, Margot Gross, Martha Ellern, Esther Many, Carl Ellern, unidentified, Aron Ellern, Hermann, and Bessi Ellern, unidentified.*

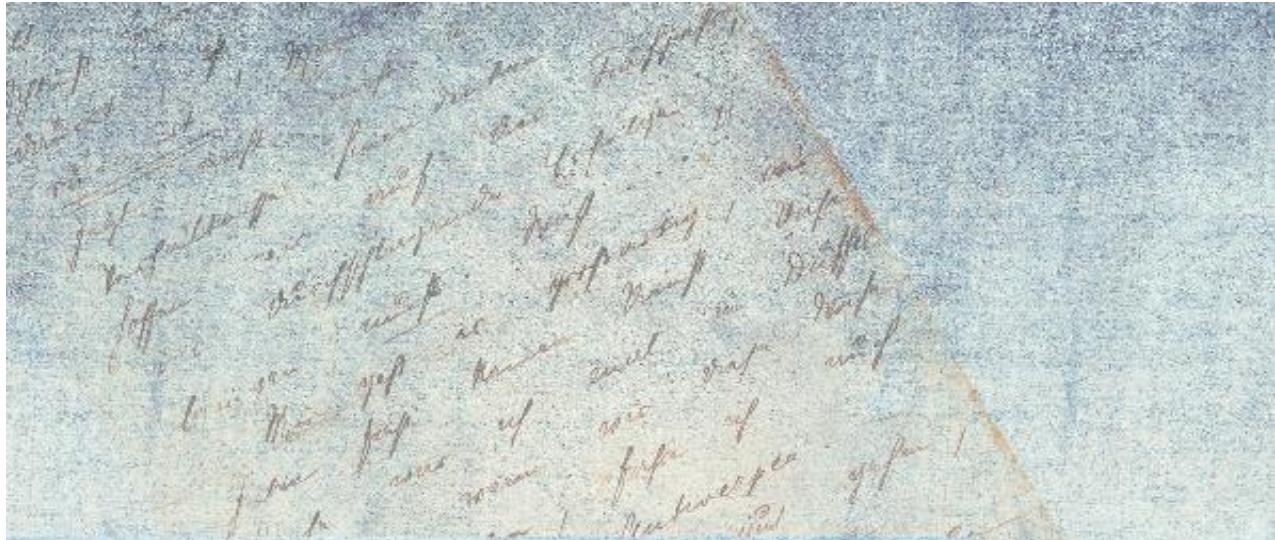
*Seating from the right: Recha Forchheimer, Recha Ellern, Elishevah Schreiber, Herta's second husband (Eugen's widow), Herta Ellern*

## **Epilogue**

**In spite of the tremendous hardships he faced throughout his life - two World Wars, the persecution for being a Jew, financial stress and grief that repeatedly hit him - Carl Ellern, father of our family, was greatly admired for his exceptional achievements which were due to his moral strength, his varied talents and his doctrine of values. The contribution of his descendants, in Israel and the world, to the society in which they live, shows that his superior qualities continue to inspire their lives and their surroundings.**

**Carl Kalonimus, you can rest in peace.**





Carl Ellern, a gifted banker (1890-1966), was born in Germany, served as a soldier in the German army during World War I, worked as a banker in the city of Hamburg and was a member of the local Stock Exchange management. Carl immigrated to Israel in 1940, was a member of the Board of Directors of Ellern's Bank, a member of the Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister, a member of the Board of Directors of the Postal Bank, member of the Advisory Committee on commercial banking matters at the Bank of Israel, and served in many other public positions. This book describes his life and the lives of the people who were close to him, for the sake of his descendants and especially those who did not know him.



**Raanan Ellran, grandson of Carl, son of Ruth and Aron Ellran, born in Kibbutz Lavi, lives in Israel.**

