

Key Highlights of Edith's Story

- Provides the perspective of a young adult girl in Czechoslovakia, newly married and building a life with her husband, Ernst.
- Unfortunate, but common occurrence of trying to escape or immigrate, but not being able to find refuge elsewhere.
- Edith's story includes experiences in a ghetto, concentration camps, a death march, and repatriation camp.
- Edith's story provides examples of how Nazi policies disrupted society. Edith and her family had lived in a predominately Catholic community with no problems until Nazi ideology and antisemitism began to be encouraged among non-Jews.
- Describes how the Nazis deceived the Danish Red Cross and the International Red Cross by making it look as though people were not suffering in Theresienstadt. Also illustrates that the Nazis cared how the international community perceived their regime.
- Edith's determination to survive kept her going so that she could be reunited with her husband.
- Edith and her friends risked their lives by escaping a death march.
- Describes the heartbreaking process of returning home and finding that she was the sole survivor of her family.
- Process of immigrating to the United States and rebuilding one's life.

Further Resources

USHMM Holocaust Encyclopedia: Theresienstadt

<https://encyclopedia.ushmm.org/content/en/article/theresienstadt?series=18010>

USHMM Holocaust Encyclopedia: Auschwitz

<https://encyclopedia.ushmm.org/content/en/article/auschwitz>

USHMM Holocaust Encyclopedia: Death Marches

<https://encyclopedia.ushmm.org/content/en/article/death-marches-1>

Artifacts for Edith

(Digital files are numbered to match this list)

1. Photograph; pre-war, Edith and Ernst on their wedding day.
2. Photograph; pre-war, two friends, Edith (back center), and her sisters Mizzi and Liserl (hugging).
3. Photograph; pre-war, family portrait including father and mother, Otto and Olga, siblings, Mizzi, Paul, Liserl, and Ernst.
4. Photograph; pre-war, Edith's husband, Ernst.
5. Postcard; an illustration of Olmutz, Edith's hometown.
6. Displaced Persons (DP) Identification Card; belonged to Edith. She was in multiple displaced person's camps before returning to Olmutz.