Christian Groh
(Online) Access of Holocaust-related documents
Agenda

1  What is Arolsen Archives?
   1.1 New Branding
   1.2 From a Tracing Service to an Archive

2  Records of the Arolsen Archives
   2.1 Incarceration
   2.2 Displaced Persons
   2.3 Others

3  Challenges for Online Access
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What is Arolsen Archives?
New Branding

ITS
International Tracing Service
Service International de Recherches
Internationaler Suchdienst
New Branding

Arolsen Archives

International Center on Nazi Persecution
From a Tracing Service to an Archive
Enquiries 2017

16,786

Enquiries in total about...

23,513

individuals

90

Returns of effects („Stolen Memory“)
National background of enquirers 2017

- Germany: 3321
- Russian Federation: 5767
- Poland: 1631
- United States: 1627
- France: 1113
- Netherlands: 871
- Israel: 623
- Ukraine: 531
- Australia: 509
- Italy: 405
- Others (65): 388

Total: 12,359
Enquirers 2017

16% Researchers and teaching staff
8.4% Survivors
5.5% Media
70.1% Relatives
2

Records of the Arolsen Archives
Records of the Arolsen Archives

- Finding aids, card files
- Incarceration Documents
- (Wartime) Registrations
- Post-war Registrations
- NSDAP organizations
- Miscellaneous
- Records of ITS and predecessors
- Document Acquisition

0 - Global Finding Aids

1 - Incarceration Documents

2 - Registration of Foreigners and German Persecutees by Public Institutions, Social Securities and Companies (1939 - 1947)

3 - Registrations and Files of Displaced Persons, Children and Missing Persons

4 - Special NSDAP organizations and actions

5 - Death Marches, identification of unknown dead and Nazi trials

6 - Records of the ITS and its predecessors

7 - Archival records of microforms (new material / document acquisition)
Records of the Arolsen Archives

- Incarceration Documents (originals)
- more than 12 million documents
- original documentation, copies, microfilms etc.
- Documentation from Concentration camps, German authorities of NS state, transport lists
- available online
Records of the Arolsen Archives

• Incarceration Documents (copies)

• more than 12 million documents
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Arolsen Archives  Bad Arolsen, 28.05.2019
Records of the Arolsen Archives

- Postwar Registrations (DP‘s)
- more than 7 million documents
- registration of displaced persons
- emigration
- UNRRA, IRO etc.
- most of it online available
Records of the Arolsen Archives

• Miscellaneous (Death marches)

• more than 70,000 documents
• early ITS research project on death marches and exhumation of victims of death marches
• documentation on war crimes proceedings at Nuremberg
Archival tree of the Arolsen Archives

0 - Global Finding Aids

1 - Incarceration Documents

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Welcome to the Online Archive!
The Arolsen Archives are the world’s most comprehensive archive on National Socialist persecution. The documents were collected to help clarify the fates of the victims of persecution. They contain information on victims of the Holocaust and concentration camp prisoners, on foreign forced laborers and on the survivors who were trying to rebuild their lives as displaced persons.

Today, over 30 million original documents are listed on the UNESCO’s Memory of the World documentary heritage register. They are an important source of knowledge while at the same time serving as a warning for society today.

More and more holdings are being published in the online archive and the number of searchable names and keywords is also growing all the time.

Useful information for your search in the online archive.

Some search functions are not yet available in the new online portal. For this reason, please use the following links to the existing portal...

... if you want to look at the personal effects held by the Arolsen Archives.

Go to personal effects
Challenges for Online Access

• Dissolution of provenances
• Originals side by side with copies
• Copyrights of other archives
• Personal data
• Cataloguing, indexing oriented towards tracing
• Complexity
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