

**Lotte Stern, deported to Riga in 1941.  
Hildegard Stern, murdered in Grafeneck in 1940.**

Lotte was born in Horb on April 17th 1914. She was the third and youngest daughter of the merchant Heinrich Stern and his wife Jenny, née Glück. Lotte did an apprenticeship in Sterns' Clothing Factory which had been founded by her grandfather, Lippmann Stern. Her father and her uncle, Siegfried Stern, were co-owners of the factory.

When the Nazis took over, Lotte could see no future for herself in Germany. She wanted to emigrate to Palestine and gained the required knowledge and certificates of employment by working in several households. Her plans to emigrate failed due to lack of money. Her father Heinrich Stern died two days after his release from the concentration camp in Dachau on December 25th 1938. Lotte lived for a while with her sister Else who was preparing to flee to South Africa with her non-Jewish husband, her daughter and mother, Jenny Stern. They left Germany in August 1939. Lotte,



*The Stern family: Heinrich Stern with his wife Jenny and daughters, Hildegard (at back), Else (on right) and Lotte.*

who remained behind, had not given up her plans to emigrate to Palestine.

In September she moved into the home for the aged in Herrlingen where she worked as a chambermaid. After a year she moved back to Stuttgart where she was employed by a lawyer. She was deported from Stuttgart to Riga together with her cousin Alice Esslinger, née Stern, Alice's husband Viktor and their little son Helmut.

Lotte's oldest sister, Hildegard, born on September 2nd 1905, was mentally retarded. She grew up in the protective atmosphere of the family until she was admitted to the Catholic Mental Hospital in Rottenmünster near Rottweil. On September 25th 1940 she was taken from there to Grafeneck and murdered in the gas chamber, probably on the same day.

Heilanstalt R o t t e n m ü n s t e r				
Grafeneckaktion: Transport am 25.9.1940				
Nr. Vor-u. Zuname des Pat.:	Geburts-tag:	Diagnose:	Letzter Wohnort (vor Aufnahme in die Heilanstalt)	Bemerkungen.
1. Butta Marta	20.11.1889	Schizophrenie	Stuttgart	
36. Steidle Rosa	8. 2.1901	Schizophrenie	Augsburg	
37. Stern Hilda	2. 9.1905	Schizophrenie	Horb a.H.	
38. Stütze Josefine	29. 7.1887	Schizophrenie	Ennetach Kra. Saulgau	
39. Stump Emma	5. 5.1886	Schizophrenie	Karlsruhe/Baden	

*Extracts from the three-page list of 46 patients transported from Rottenmünster Mental Hospital to Grafeneck. Hilde Stern is listed as number 37. Schizophrenia is quoted as the "diagnosis" for all those murdered.*