

GOLDSTEIN FAMILY PAPERS, 1914-1982

1989.89

United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives
100 Raoul Wallenberg Place SW
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Descriptive Summary

Title: Goldstein family papers

Dates: 1914-1982

Accession number: 1989.89

Creator: Goldstein family (Berlin, Germany)

Extent: 0.1 (4 folders, 1 oversized folder)

Repository: United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives, 100 Raoul Wallenberg Place SW, Washington, DC 20024-2126

Abstract: The Goldstein family papers, 1914-1982, contain photographic postcards of Herman Goldstein (1889-1943) serving as a German soldier in World War I; four photographs of Herman, Rita, and Heinz Goldstein (b. 1928) at a celebration aboard the MS *St. Louis*, 1939; a printed wedding invitation for Herman Goldstein and Rita Goldstein (née Grubner, 1893-1979) held on November 6, 1927 at the Lutzow Strasse Synagogue in Berlin; and a typed letter regarding the publication of the book *Voyage of the Damned*, April 18, 1974. Also included are newspaper clippings and magazine articles relating to the MS *St. Louis* as well as a *Life* magazine, May 6, 1946, and *The Southern Israelite*, April 16, 1982.

Languages: German, French, English

Administrative information

Access: Collection is open for use, but is stored offsite. Please contact the Reference Desk more than seven days prior to visit in order to request access.

Reproduction and use: Collection is available for use. Material may be protected by copyright. Please contact reference staff for further information.

Preferred citation: (Identification of item), Goldstein family papers (1989.89), United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives, Washington, DC

Acquisition information: Henry Gallant donated the Goldstein family papers to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in 1989.

Accruals: Accruals may have been received since this collection was first processed, see archives catalog at collections.ushmm.org for further information.

Related materials: *No Reply: A Jewish Child Aboard the MS St. Louis and the Ordeal That Followed* by Pamela Sampson, 2017.

Processing history: Katelynn Vance, February 2019

Biographical note

Herman Goldstein (1889-1943) was born on June 29, 1889 in Herford, Germany to Veterinarian and Eugenie Goldstein. He had two brothers, Arthur and Erwin Goldstein. Arthur Goldstein died while serving as a German soldier during World War I. Herman also served as an officer in the Germany Army and was awarded the Iron Cross medal.

On November 6, 1927, Herman married Rita (Recha) Grubner (1893-1979) at the Lutzow Strasse Synagogue in Berlin, Germany. Rita was born in Berlin on May 15, 1893 to David Grubner and his wife. On October 30, 1928, Herman and Rita's son Heinz Goldstein (later Henry Gallant) was born in Berlin. When Heinz was nine years old an SS officer accosted him and wrote the word "Jude" on his forehead. Afterwards, his parents sent Heinz to a Kinderheim in Potsdam, Germany. During Kristallnacht 1938, a group of Hitler Youth stormed the camp and terrorized the children. Heinz, who had been playing soccer at the time of the attack ran through streets littered with glass back to his parents' house. On May 13, 1939, the Goldstein family set sail for Havana, Cuba aboard the *MS St. Louis*. After being denied entry into the Cuba and the United States, the family disembarked in France. Heinz was sent to a school outside of Paris. Rita Goldstein was settled in Le Mans, France and Herman Goldstein was interned in Laval prison and later Gurs internment camp. By 1940, Rita and Heinz were living in Paris. Following the German army's entry into Paris, Rita and Heinz moved to Nice, France. There Heinz had his Bar Mitzvah. His father, still held in an internment camp, was unable to attend the celebration, despite several requests for his release. On August 5, 1942, Herman was deported from Gurs internment camp to Auschwitz concentration camp on transport 17, train 901-12. He perished at Auschwitz concentration camp in either 1942 or 1943. Late in 1942, Rita and Heinz hid in the attic of a Gentile family with three other families. After several days they were able to obtain false identification papers and escaped to Switzerland. A taxi drove them to the French-Swiss border where they crossed the border on foot. They were arrested by Swiss border guards and placed in a refugee internment camp. Heinz was sent to live with a Swiss family for the next two years but was able to visit his mother every six weeks. In 1947, Rita and Heinz Goldstein immigrated to the United States.

Erwin Goldstein and his wife, Herman Goldstein's brother and sister-in-law, were deported from Berlin to the Theresienstadt concentration camp, where they died. Erwin Goldstein's daughter, Liesel Goldstein left Germany for Israel on a Kindertransport in 1939, and eventually settled in Israel.

Scope and content of collection

The Goldstein family papers contain photographic postcards of Herman Goldstein serving as a soldier in the German Army during World War I and include handwritten notes on the reverse side. These photographs include Herman Goldstein riding a warhorse, a group photograph of soldiers including Herman Goldstein holding a baton, and a studio portrait of Herman Goldstein in his uniform. Also included are four photographs and copy prints of a celebration aboard the *MS St. Louis*, 1939. The photographs include the Goldstein family and various unidentified passengers. The child blowing the horn in one of the photographs is Heinz Goldstein.

The papers also include a printed wedding invitation for Herman Goldstein and Rita Grubner which was held on November 6, 1927 at the Lutzow Strasse Synagogue in Berlin, and a typed letter regarding the publication of the book *Voyage of the Damned*, signed by Gordon Thomas and Max Morgan-Witts, April 18, 1974.

Printed materials within the papers includes newspapers clippings and magazine articles about the *MS St. Louis* published in French, German, and English, as well as a complete *Life* magazine, May 6, 1946 and *The Southern Israelite*, April 16, 1982.

System of arrangement

The Goldstein family papers are arranged in three series.

- Series 1: Photographs, circa 1914-1939
- Series 2: Personal materials, 1927-1974
- Series 3: Printed materials, circa 1942-1982

Indexing terms

People:

Goldstein, Herman, 1889-1943.
Goldstein, Rita, 1893-1979.
Gallant, Henry, 1928-
Goldstein, Arthur.
Goldstein, Eugenie.
Goldstein, Veterinarian.
Grubner, David.
Thomas, Gordon, 1933-

Corporate:

St. Louis (Ship)

Geography:

Germany.
Berlin (Germany)

Topics:

Families.
Holocaust survivors.
Holocaust victims.
Holocaust, Jewish (1939-1945)
Jewish children in the Holocaust.
Jewish children.
Jewish refugees.
Refugees.
Soldiers.
Wedding.
World War, 1914-1918.
World War, 1939-1945.
World War, 1939-1945--Refugees.

Gene / Form:

Photographs.
Correspondence.
Newspaper clippings.
Magazine articles.
Newsletter.

CONTAINER LIST

Series 1: Photographs, circa 1914-1939

Box / Folder	Title
1 of 4	Herman Goldstein, circa 1914-1918
2 of 4	Aboard the MS <i>St. Louis</i> , 1939

Series 2: Personal materials, 1927-1974

Box / Folder	Title
3 of 4	Goldstein family, 1927-1974

Series 3: Printed materials, circa 1942-1982

Box / Folder	Title
4 of 4	Newspaper clippings, circa 1942-1977
OS 1	Magazines and articles, circa 1946-1982