

**United States Holocaust Memorial Museum**  
**Finding Aid**  
**RG-10**  
**Small Collections**

**RG-10.404**  
**Acc. 1990.86.1**

**Title:** Michael A. Diamond Papers, 1919-1956.

**Extent:** 8 documents.  
98 photoprints: b&w.

**Provenance:** The papers were donated to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum by Michael A. Diamond in 1990.

**Restrictions on access:** No restrictions on access.

**Restrictions on use:** No restrictions on use.

**Organization and arrangement:** Arrangement is in series. Series 1: Documents.  
Series 2: Photographs.

**Language:** Czech, Russian, and English.

**Preferred citation:** Standard citation for the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Collections Division, Archives Branch.

**Biographical/historical note:** Michael Diamond was born Miklaus Diamant in Bratislava, Czechoslovakia (now Slovakia), on July 10, 1919. In 1939, he was drafted into the Czech Army, but when the Slovak state was created, the Slovaks forced Jews into army working camps. Michael and about 500 Jewish males were forced to clear snow off roads and highways. He was sent to Liptovsk'ý Mikul'as, Czechoslovakia (now Slovakia) where he repaired weapons and became a Slovak-German language interpreter. He was then transferred to Vr'utky, Czechoslovakia (now Slovakia), where he had to clean old uniforms. As an electrician, Michael was then sent to Cemern'e, in eastern Slovakia. He went into hiding in the forest but was soon captured by the Gestapo. He was transported to Sered, a "Sommerlager" in Slovakia. After attempting to escape from a transport train, the SS sent him to Sachsenhausen concentration camp. Michael was then transported to a number of concentration camps and factories, including Heinkelwerke (an airplane factory in Poland), Buchenwald (a concentration camp in Germany), Bergen-Belsen (a concentration camp in Germany), and Mauthausen (a concentration camp in Austria). He worked as an engineer and repaired railroad engines. Towards the end of World War II, he ended up in Württemberg, Germany. He was marched deeper into Germany as the Allied forces approached. He ended up hiding in a peasant's empty house in Germany until he was liberated by Soviet soldiers.

**Scope and content note:** The papers consist of documents and photographs pertaining to Michael Diamond's experiences before, during, and after the Holocaust. The photographs mainly consist of images of Michael Diamond and his family and friends in Czechoslovakia before and after World War II, of his emigration to Israel with his wife, Ilse, after the war, and of his daughter, Naomi, as a baby.

## **Inventory**

### **Series 1-Documents**

1. Document, 1945 July 13. Permission granted by the Soviet authorities to Frantiset Plesko (Michael Diamond) to travel. In Russian.
2. Document, 1945 June 24. Registration card for Frantiset Plesko (Michael Diamond).
3. Document, Bratislava, 1945 June 25. Registration certificate issued by the Czech repatriation Office to Frantiset Plesko (Michael Diamond). Certifies that he was interned in Sachsenhausen and Ravensburg.
4. Document, 1945 June 25. Certification that Frantiset Plesko (Michael Diamond) is in quarantine.
5. Document, 1945 July 1. Certification that Mikulas Diamant (Michael Diamond) was disinfected.
6. Document, Bratislava, 1945 July 25. Registration certificate for "Mikulaus Diamant" (Michael Diamond).
7. Document, 1946. Certification that Mikulas Diamant (Michael Diamond) was a "political prisoner."
8. Document, 1945 ? Date Illegible. States that Michael Diamond was hospitalized in Röbel, Germany.

### **Series 2-Photographs**

1. 1 photoprint: b&w of Michael Diamond as a soldier in the Slovak army, 1941.
2. 1 photoprint: b&w of Michael Diamond in the Slovak labor camp, 1941.
3. 1 photoprint: b&w of Michael Diamond's mother and his sister, 1919.
4. 1 photoprint: b&w of members of Michael Diamond's family before World War II.
5. 1 photoprint: b&w of Michael Diamond's family home in Czechoslovakia.

6. 1 photoprint: b&w of Michael Diamond's parents. Last photograph taken before they were deported, 1943.
7. 1 copyprint : b&w. Wedding portrait of Michael Diamond and his bride, Ilse, n.d.
8. 1 copyprint: b&w. Wedding portrait of Michael Diamond and his bride, Ilse, n.d.
9. 1 photoprint: b&w. Caption reads, "Hlohvec, 1919. Father with friend."
10. 1 photoprint: b&w. Caption reads, "Hlohvec, 1924. Dvorak and me."
11. 3 photoprints: b&w. Three group photographs, school picture. Caption reads, "Hlohvec, 1926-1927; 1928-1929; 1930-1931."
12. 3 photoprints: b&w. Captions read, "Trencianske Teplice 1931" and "Luhacovice 1930."
13. 1 photoprint of six women: b&w. Caption reads "Luhacovice (relatives), 1930."
14. Photomontage representing Michael Diamond's life. Caption reads, "Life chart from 1933 to 1962."
15. 1 photoprint: b&w. A group of men in uniform. Caption reads, "VI Prapor, 1940-1942. Oremlaz, Sv. Peter, Tuirc. Sv. Martin, Cemerne."
16. 5 photoprints: b&w. Caption reads "World War II: Parents in Bratislava, Fritzi in London, Miki in Tel Aviv and British navy, Lolo, Fricko, Gerti, Laco. 1941-1943."
17. 5 photoprints: b&w. Caption reads "after the war, 1945-1947, Praha."
18. 10 photoprints: b&w. Caption reads : "After the war 1945-1947, Praha, and 1948, Bratislava. Marticka, Jozinka, Bella, Ciganka, Eva Back, Marci Back, Rita, Eva, Fricko, Ilse, Praha, Karmelitska 12, Bratislava, Suche Myto."
19. 4 photoprints: b&w. Caption reads "Bratislava, 1947-1948. Eltra Co. with Miki and employees, Hanka."
20. 7 photoprints: b&w. Caption reads "Bratislava 1947-1948. With our gang party, beach, Ilse engaged. Miki, Olga, Agi Lakos, Agi P., Foci, Lilly, Martin, Magda, Jitka, Vesely, Ilse, Dicka."
21. 3 photoprints: b&w. Captions read "Praha, 1949."

22. 3 photoprints: b&w. Caption reads, "Good-bye Praha 1949. Destination: Future, Praha, Vienna, Naples, Haifa, Israel."
23. 6 photoprints: b&w. Caption reads, "Israel 1949. Jerusalem, Tel Aviv, Haifa, Merchavia."
24. 9 photoprints: b&w. Caption reads, "Gav-Yam 'G' 1951-1956. Neighbors: Lilly and Ary, Klary, Olko, and Avy."
25. 6 photoprints: b&w. Caption reads, "Jerusalem 1952; Chevrath Chasmal Haifa; Mother arriving 1953; Ilse giving birth Naomi."
26. 6 photoprints: b&w. Caption reads, "Gav-Yam, 1953-1954."
27. 5 photoprints: b&w. Caption reads, "Gav-Yam 'G' 1954, Shikun Amidar 203/4."
28. 10 photoprints: b&w. Caption reads, "Gav-Yam 1956, Naomi and friends Leah and Avi."