

KLOPSTOCK FAMILY PAPERS, 1902-1945 1997.12

United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives
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Descriptive summary

Title: Klopstock family papers

Dates: 1902-1945

Accession number: 1997.12

Creator: Klopstock (Family: Berlin, Germany)

Extent: 0.6 linear feet (1 box and 1 oversized folder)

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

Abstract: The Klopstock family papers include biographical material, emigration and immigration material, correspondence, publications, and photographs documenting Johanna Klaus and Norbert, Hilda, Ruth, and Liselotte Klopstock's immigration to the United States from Berlin in 1940. The collection also includes documents and correspondence from Norbert Klopstock while imprisoned at Sachsenhausen concentration camp in Germany and the Kitchener internment camp in Richborough, Kent.

Languages: German, 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: Klopstock family papers (1997.12), United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives, Washington, DC.

Acquisition information: Lillian Cohn donated the Klopstock family papers to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in 1997.

Related archival materials: Lillian Cohn also donated a booklet of the ship *Italia* (1997.12.2) and two negatives to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum.

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

Processing history: Morgan Voth, October 2017

Biographical note

Norbert Klopstock (b. 1896) was born in Berlin and owned a retail plumbing supply store that was confiscated under the Nazi regime. He married Hilda Klaus (b. 1894) and had two daughters Ruth (b. 1922) and Liselotte (b. 1931). On Kristallnacht, Norbert was arrested and imprisoned at Sachsenhausen concentration camp. After his release, he managed to escape to England, where he was interned in the Kitchener internment camp. Hilda, Ruth, and Liselotte fled Germany through Italy and arrived in the United States in early 1940. Norbert joined his family in March 1940.

Scope and content of collection

The Klopstock family papers include biographical material, emigration and immigration material, correspondence, publications, and photographs documenting Johanna Klaus and Norbert, Hilda, Ruth, and Liselotte Klopstock's immigration to the United States from Berlin in 1940. The collection also includes documents and correspondence from Norbert Klopstock while imprisoned at Sachsenhausen concentration camp in Germany and the Kitchener internment camp in Richborough, Kent.

Biographical materials include a copy of Hilda Klopstock's birth certificate and a German passport and identity card for Johanna Klaus (Hilda's sister).

Emigration and immigration materials include correspondence, immigrant questionnaires, affidavits, and packing lists documenting Hilda, Ruth, Liselotte, and Johanna's successful effort to obtain visas and immigrate to the United States from Berlin. Also included in the series are correspondence, applications, and money transfers relating to Norbert's effort to leave Kitchener in England and immigrate to the United States.

Klopstock family correspondences include a postcard from Norbert while imprisoned at Sachsenhausen concentration camp, telegrams sent to Kitchener for Norbert informing him of his family's safety, and correspondence between family members about daily life and plans to leave Germany.

Subject files include report cards, certificates, and reference letters for Ruth from various schools and institutions and report cards for Liselotte and Norbert. This series also includes records documenting Norbert's time in the Kitchener internment camp, including a pamphlet titled, *While you are in England: Helpful Information and Guidance for Every Refugee*, an identity card, documents regarding transit to the camp, a letter of reference, and a permit to leave the camp.

Publications include a magazine titled *Some Victims of the Nazi Terror*, which contains photographs and propaganda information about the Kitchener camp in Richborough, England. The series also includes newspapers *Aus alter und neuer Zeit* and *N.Y. Saats-Zeitung und Herold*.

Photographic materials consist of a photograph of Hilda Klopstock's cousin.

System of arrangement

The Klopstock family papers are arranged as six series. Each series is arranged alphabetically:

- Series 1: Biographical materials, approximately 1922-1939 and undated
- Series 2: Emigration and immigration materials, approximately 1921-1945
- Series 3: Klopstock family correspondence, approximately 1920-1941
- Series 4: Subject files, 1902-1940
- Series 5: Publications, approximately 1930-1945
- Series 6: Photographic material, undated

Indexing terms

Klopstock, Norbert

Klopstock, Hilda

Klopstock, Ruth

Klopstock, Liselotte

Klaus, Johanna

Sachsenhausen (Concentration camp)

Holocaust, Jewish (1939-1945)

Jews--Germany--Berlin.

Jewish refugees—Great Britain.

Berlin (Germany)

England.

Germany--Emigration and immigration--History--1933-1945.

Chicago (Illinois)

Correspondence.

Photographs.

Newspaper.

CONTAINER LIST

Series 1: Biographical materials, approximately 1922-1939 and undated

Box/Folder	Title
1.1	Klaus, Johanna, 1939
1.2	Klaus, Siegbert Israel, undated
1.3	Klopstock, Hilda, 1922
1.4	Koratkowski, Paul, 1934

Series 2: Emigration and immigration material, approximately 1921-1945

Box/Folder	Title
1.5	The American Red Cross, 1943

1.6	Klaus, Johanna, approximately 1939
1.7	Klopstock, Hilda, 1921-1940
1.8	Klopstock, Liselotte, 1939
1.9	Klopstock, Norbert, approximately 1938-1940
1.10	Klopstock, Norbert, Hilda, Ruth, and Liselotte, approximately 1938-1940
1.11	Klopstock, Ruth, approximately 1939-1945
1.12	Smith, Zekie and Sam, approximately 1939-1939
1.13	Miscellaneous, approximately 1937-1940

Series 3: Klopstock family correspondence, approximately 1920-1941

Box/Folder	Title
1.14	Epstein, Hedwig, 1941
1.15	Freund, Moritz, 1941
1.16	Hagemann, Carl, 1921-1924
1.17	Klaus, Fritz, 1939
1.18	Klopstock, Hilda, 1940
1.19	Klopstock, Norbert, 1938-1940
1.20	Singlmann, Eva, 1941
1.21	Miscellaneous, approximately 1920-1939

Series 4: Subject files, 1902-1940

Box/Folder	Title
1.22	Kitchener camp, approximately 1939-1940
1.23	Klopstock, Liselotte education documents, 1938-1940
1.24	Klopstock, Norbert education documents, 1902-1909
1.25-1.26	Klopstock, Ruth education documents, 1929-1940 (2 folders)

Series 5: Publications, approximately 1930-1945

Box/Folder	Title
1.27	<i>Aus alter und neuer Zeit</i> , 1930
OS 1	<i>N.Y. Saats-Zeitung und Herold</i> , 1940
1.28	<i>Some Victims of the Nazi Terror</i> , approximately 1939-1945

Series 6: Photographic material, undated

Box/Folder	Title
1.29	Klopstock family, undated