

DUBLON FAMILY PAPERS, 1933-1939
2000.106.2

United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives
100 Raoul Wallenberg Place SW
Washington, DC 20024-2126
Tel. (202) 479-9717
e-mail: reference@ushmm.org

Descriptive Summary

Title: Dublon family papers

Dates: 1933-1939

Accession number: 2000.106.2

Creator: Dublon family papers

Extent: 2 folders

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

Abstract: The Dublon family papers consists of a diary written in German regarding the Dublon family's experiences aboard the MS *St. Louis*, May-June 1939; a translation of the diary in English; photographs of the Dublon and Heimann families, circa 1933-1939; and a postcard, 1936.

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: (Identification of item), Dublon family papers (2000.106.2) United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives, Washington, DC.

Acquisition information: Peter S. Heiman donated the Dublon family papers to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in 2000 and 2010. The Dublon family papers is comprised of two accessions, 2000.106 and 2010.299.

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

Related materials: Photographs relating to the Dublon family can also be found in the museum's Photo Archive collection (PN 99136, PN 30787, PN 30786). The MS *St. Louis* registration card issued to Erich Dublon is also available (N 07522).

Processing history: Katelynn Vance, June 2019

Biographical note

Otto Wilhelm (Willi, 1889-1944?) and Erna Dora Dublon (née Beerman, 1903-1944?) had two daughters, Lore (1927-1994?) and Eva (1933-1944?). The family lived in Erfurt, Germany where Willi owned Salamander Schuhe, a local shoe store and Erna was a housewife. In 1938 the family applied for visas to the United States. The family booked passage to Cuba where they could safely wait until they received their American visas. They sailed to Cuba aboard the MS *St. Louis* in May 1939. Erich Dublon (1890-1942), Willi's brother, also sailed with them. After being denied entry to Cuba and the United States, the family disembarked in Belgium, where Erna had relatives.

On August 8, 1942, Erich Dublon was deported to Auschwitz concentration camp where he perished on September 3, 1942. The rest of the Dublon family was held at the Mechelen transit camp before deported to Auschwitz concentration camp on transport XXIII on January 15, 1944. They were assigned transport prisoner numbers: Willi, 675; Erna, 698; Lore, 699; Eva, 700. Eva and her parents likely perished at Auschwitz concentration camp around 1944 or 1945. Records show that Lore Dublon was sent to Auschwitz and then to Golleschau, a sub-camp of Auschwitz, where she likely perished.

Scope and content of collection

The Dublon family papers consists of a diary written in German regarding the Dublon family's experiences aboard the MS *St. Louis*, May-June 1939; a translation of the diary in English; photographs of the Dublon and Heimann families, circa 1933-1939; and a postcard, 1936.

The photographs include a photograph of a children's kindergarten performance in Erfurt, Germany, circa 1933. The kindergarten was operated by Frau Topf. Lore Dublon is seated second from the left and Peter Heimann is the first boy on the left. A photograph of the Dublon and Heimann families in Finowfurt, Germany in 1937. Front row (L to R, seated): Lore Dublon, Peter Heimann, "Fife" Dublon (Lore's sister), Lili Doernberg, Ernie Dublon (mother of the girls), and unknown. Rear row (L to R, standing): unknown, Solomon Heimann (father of Peter), Willi Dublon (husband of Ernie), unknown, unknown. A photograph of the Dublon family standing on the deck of the MS *St. Louis* on their way to Cuba, May 22, 1939. Willi Dublon stands second from the left, Erna Dublon and Erich Dublon sit on the railing, Eva Dublon and Lore Dublon stand in front.

The diary in the Dublon family papers consists of diary fragments written in German by Erich Dublon while aboard the MS *St. Louis*, May 13, 1939 to June 19, 1939. The diary entries contain descriptions of the MS *Louis*, the Dublon family's experience aboard the ship, accounts of a man overboard, descriptions of Havana harbor, immigration negotiations while anchored in Havana harbor, visits of friends and family, the mental health of the passengers denied entry to Cuba, descriptions of the Florida coast, negotiations with the United States, seasickness on the return trip to Europe, and eventual disembarkation in Belgium. An English translation is also available.

System of arrangement

The Dublon family papers are arranged in two series.

Series 1: Photographs and postcard, circa 1933-1939

Series 2: Diary and translation, May - June 1939

Indexing terms

People:

Doernberg, Lili.

Dublon, Erich, 1890-1942.

Dublon, Erna Dora, 1903-1944.

Dublon, Ernie.

Dublon, Eva, 1933-1944.

Dublon, Lore, 1927-1944.

Dublon, Willi, 1889-1944.

Heimann, Peter.

Heimann, Solomon.

Corporate:

St. Louis (Ship)

Topic:

Children.

Families.

Holocaust survivors.

Holocaust victims.

Holocaust, Jewish (1939-1945)

Jewish children in the Holocaust.

Jewish refugees.

Refugees.

United States--Emigration and immigration.

World War, 1939-1945.

World War, 1939-1945--Refugees.

Geography:

Finowfurt, Germany.

Germany.

Genre / Form:

Photographs.

Diaries.

Postcards.

CONTAINER LIST

Folder:	Title:
1 of 2	Photographs and postcard, circa 1933-1939
2 of 2	Diary and translation, May - June 1939