

IMRE PATAI DIARIES AND ALBUMS, approximately 1924-1995 (bulk 1924-1949) 2000.155

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

Title: Imre Patai diaries and albums

Dates: approximately 1924-1995 (bulk 1924-1949)

Accession number: 2000.155

Creator: Patai, Imre, 1894-1949

Extent: 5.0 linear feet (4 boxes, 4 oversize boxes, and 5 book enclosures)

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

Abstract: The collection includes 27 diaries written from 1924-1949 by Imre Patai, a Jewish Hungarian physicist, inventor, and factory owner. In his diaries Imre writes about the daily events of his life in Hungary, events of the war, the siege of Budapest, experiences in an international ghetto, Jewish homes under Swedish protection, and the struggles of living in a country occupied by the Red Army. The collection also includes albums of family photographs, mainly from the 1920s and 1930s, depicting the travels of Imre and his wife, Agi Jambor, and Imre's work in his factory producing electric instruments and special bulbs as well as a small amount of correspondence.

Languages: Hungarian

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), Imre Patai diaries and albums (2000.155), United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives, Washington, DC.

Acquisition information: Joseph Stephens donated the Imre Patai diaries and albums to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in 2000.

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 2018.

Biographical note

Imre Patai (1894-1949) was born in Budapest, Hungary and was a factory owner, inventor, and physicist. He graduated from Technical University in Budapest in 1924 and founded the Vatea Company later the same year. In 1930 he worked as the Technical Director for the Philips Corporation before returning to Budapest to start a vacuum factory. In 1933 he married Agi Jambor (1909-1997), a Hungarian concert pianist and music teacher. They lived in Budapest and the Netherlands. In 1940, after the German invasion of the Netherlands, Imre and Agi moved back to Hungary and joined the underground resistance until 1946 when they moved to Sweden. In 1947 Imre and Agi immigrated to the United States and settled in Pennsylvania. Imre work at George Washington University and the Franklin Institute Bartol Laboratory and Agi played with various orchestras and was a teacher at the Philadelphia Musical Academy. After Imre's death in 1949, Agi continued her career as a pianist and recorded five albums between 1955 and 1957. They had one son (1943-1944).

Scope and content of collection

The collection includes 27 diaries written from 1924-1949 by Imre Patai, a Jewish Hungarian physicist, inventor, and factory owner. In his diaries Imre writes about the daily events of his life in Hungary, events of the war, the siege of Budapest, experiences in an international ghetto, Jewish homes under Swedish protection, and the struggles of living in a country occupied by the Red Army. The collection also includes albums of family photographs, mainly from the 1920s and 1930s, depicting the travels of Imre and his wife, Agi Jambor, and Imre's work in his factory producing electric instruments and special bulbs as well as a small amount of correspondence.

System of arrangement

The Imre Patai diaries and albums is arranged as two series.

Series 1: Albums, approximately 1920s-1995

Series 2: Diaries, 1924-1949

Indexing terms

Patai, Imre, d. 1949

Jambor, Agi.

Biophysicists.

Holocaust, Jewish (1939-1945)--Germany--Personal narratives.

Jews--Budapest--Hungary.

Mechanical engineering--Laboratories.

Budapest (Hungary)

United States--Emigration and immigration--History--1933-1945.

Diaries.

Photographs.

Correspondence.

CONTAINER LIST

Series 1: Albums, approximately 1920s-1995

Folder	Title
1.1	Album 1, approximately 1920s-1930s
BE 1 1.2	Album 2, approximately 1920s-1930s (2 folders)
BE 2 1.3	Album 3, approximately 1920s-1930s (2 folders)
BE 3 1.4	Album 4, approximately 1920s-1930s (2 folders)
5.1 1.5	Album 5, approximately 1920s-1930s (2 folders)
BE 4 1.6	Album 6, approximately 1920s-1995 (2 folders)
BE 5 1.7	Album 7, approximately 1920s-1970 (2 folders)
6.1 1.8	Album 8, approximately 1920s-1930s (2 folders)
7.1 1.9	Album 9, approximately 1930s-1960s (2 folders)
1.10	Album 10, approximately 1920s-1930s

Series 2: Diaries, approximately 1932-1935

Folder	Title
8.1	Diary, 1924
1.11	Diary, 1936-1938
1.12	Diary, 1938-1939
1.13	Diary, 1939-1940
1.14	Diary, 1940
2.1	Diary, 1940
2.2	Diary, 1940
2.3	Diary, 1940
2.4	Diary, 1940-1941
2.5	Diary, 1941
2.6	Diary, 1941-1942
2.7	Diary, 1942
2.8	Diary, 1942-1943
3.1	Diary, 1943
3.2	Diary, 1943-1944

3.3	Diary, 1944
3.4	Diary, 1944
3.5	Diary, 1944
3.6	Diary, 1944-1945
3.7	Diary, 1945
3.8	Diary, 1945
3.9	Diary, 1945
3.10	Diary, 1945-1946
4.1	Diary, 1946
4.2	Diary, 1946-1947
4.3	Diary, 1947
4.4	Diary, 1947-1948
4.5	Diary, 1948-1949