

FRANZ SOBOTKA PAPERS, 1939-1945
2001.123.1

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

Title: Franz Sobotka papers

Dates: 1939-1945

Accession number: 2001.123.1

Creator: Sobotka, Franz

Extent: 0.5 linear foot (9 folders)

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

Abstract: The Franz Sobotka papers consist primarily of letters Franz wrote to his family while imprisoned at Buchenwald. The collection also includes letters to him from his wife and son as well as a 1944 map of the Weimar SS garrison command (*Standortbereich*), stamped "*SS-Kraftfahr Ausbildungs und Ersatz regiment!*"

Languages: German

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), Franz Sobotka papers, United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives, Washington, DC

Acquisition information: Melcher de Wit sold the Franz Sobotka papers to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum via eBay in 2001.

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

Processing history: Julie Schweitzer, June 2014

Biographical note

Franz (František) Sobotka was born January 10, 1896 in Dlouhá Lhota (Czech Republic) and lived in Klattau (Klatovy) with his wife Rosa (Růženka) and son Vladimir (Vláda). He was a high school teacher and gave anti-Nazi lectures to political and labor organizations. He was arrested by the Gestapo in September 1939 and transferred to Buchenwald, where he remained under prisoner number 5243 until liberation in April 1945.

(Source: National Archives and Records Administration, WWII Captured German Records, Buchenwald Inmate Cards, <http://www.fold3.com/image/234699785/>)

Scope and content of collection

The Franz Sobotka papers consist primarily of letters Franz wrote to his family while imprisoned at Buchenwald. The letters relate how Sobotka misses his family, include instructions for sending him packages, and inquire about news of relatives and friends. The collection also includes letters to him from his wife and son, many with draft replies from him on the versos, as well as a 1944 map of the Weimar SS garrison command (*Standortbereich*), stamped "*SS-Kraftfahr Ausbildungs und Ersatz regiment!*"

System of arrangement

The Franz Sobotka papers are arranged as a single series:

- Series 1: Franz Sobotka papers, 1939-1945

Indexing terms

Buchenwald (Concentration camp)

Concentration camp inmates--Germany--Weimar (Thuringia)--Correspondence.
Political prisoners--Germany--Weimar (Thuringia)--Correspondence.

Weimar (Thuringia, Germany)

Klatovy (Czech Republic)

CONTAINER LIST

Series 1: Frank Sobotka papers, 1939-1945

Folder	Title
1-7	Letters from Franz Sobotka, 1939-1945 (7 folders)
8	Letters from Rosa and Vladimir Sobotka, 1944-1945
9	Map, Standortbereich Weimar, Kdtr. Befehl Nr. 57/44 Zi. 4, 1944