

LOEWENSTEIN FAMILY PAPERS, 1936-1943
2001.65.1

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

Title: Loewenstein family papers

Dates: 1936-1943

Accession number: 2001.65.1

Creator: Loewenstein (Family : Koblenz, Germany)

Extent: 0.5 linear foot (12 folders)

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

Abstract: The Loewenstein family papers consist of biographical materials, emigration and immigration correspondence, and photographic materials documenting the Loewenstein family of Koblenz, Ernest and Guy Loewenstein's refuge in Belgium, Hede and Sali Loewenstein's refuge in England, and their efforts to immigrate to the United States and be reunited. The collection also includes a handful of Red Cross correspondence documenting the Loewensteins' efforts to trace someone named Kathi Loeb.

Languages: English, German, Dutch

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), Loewenstein family papers, United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives, Washington, DC

Acquisition information: Ernest and Guy Loewenstein donated the Loewenstein family papers to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in 2001.

Related archival materials: Ernest and Guy Loewenstein also donated a Star of David badge to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in 2001. The Museum also holds an oral history interview conducted with Ernest Loewenstein on October 30, 2001. An oral history interview conducted with Guy Loewenstein on November 17, 1998 that forms part of the USC Shoah Foundation Institute Visual History Archive can be viewed onsite at the Museum under the name Gunter Loewenstein.

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

Ernest (1926-2012) and Günter (Guy) Loewenstein (1931-2005) were born in Koblenz to Sali Löwenstein and Hedwig (Hede) Anshel Löwenstein. Sali was imprisoned in Dachau for about six weeks following Kristallnacht. He and Hede arranged for their sons to be relocated via Kindertransport to Antwerp, Belgium, where they were placed with the Levi and Weinberg families, while Sali and Hede traveled to Great Britain on temporary visas awaiting immigration papers to the United States. After the German invasion of Belgium in 1940, the Levi and Weinberg families fled the country, leaving the boys to fend for themselves. They slept in abandoned attics, in a synagogue under the protection of Mr. Rosenbaum, a cantor there, and with a Belgian woman named Madame Marion until Guy was placed with the Best family and Ernest returned to the synagogue. Ernest and Guy traveled to Berlin to obtain Spanish transit visas in September 1941, traveled to Barcelona to receive American visas in October, missed the last ship out of Barcelona, and immigrated to the United States aboard the *MS Serpa Pinto* out of Lisbon in December. They were reunited with their parents in New York.

Scope and content of collection

The Loewenstein family papers consist of biographical materials, emigration and immigration correspondence, and photographic materials documenting the Loewenstein family of Koblenz, Ernst and Guy Loewenstein's refuge in Belgium, Hede and Sali Loewenstein's refuge in England, and their efforts to immigrate to the United States and be reunited. The collection also includes a handful of Red Cross correspondence documenting the Loewensteins' efforts to trace someone named Kathi Loeb.

Biographical materials include identification, registration, and travel papers and vaccination certificates documenting Ernest, Guy, and Hede Loewenstein, their emigration from Germany, and immigration to the United States.

Emigration and immigration records consist of correspondence with American government agencies and American and British aid organizations about arrangements for Ernest and Guy Loewenstein's immigration to the United States. American government agencies include the State and Treasury Departments and Immigration and Naturalization Service, and aid organizations include the Movement for the Care of Children from Germany, Selfhelp of Emigrés from Central Europe, the National Refugee Service, and the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee. These files also include a clipping from the February 5, 1942 issue of the *Jewish Review* about Ernest and Guy Loewenstein's reunion with their parents in New York.

Photographic materials include loose photographs and a photograph album documenting the Loewenstein family in Koblenz as well as Ernest and Guy Loewenstein and their benefactors in Antwerp. The photograph album includes photographs of Ernest and Guy Loewenstein, their father, and their friends Paul Sonnenberg, Kurt Oster, Hans Kaufman, Bernhard (Mogges) Berndt, Fred Faber, Walter Treidel, and Ernst Haiman.

Red Cross correspondence documents the Loewensteins' efforts to trace Kathi Loeb (1883-1942), who was deported from the French internment camp at Noé to Auschwitz, where she was killed.

System of arrangement

The Loewenstein family papers are arranged as four series:

- Series 1: Biographical materials, 1937-1941
- Series 2: Emigration and immigration records, 1940-1942
- Series 3: Photographic materials, 1936-1941
- Series 4: Red Cross correspondence, 1942-1943

Indexing terms

Jews--Germany--Koblenz.

Jewish children in the Holocaust--Belgium.

Jewish refugees--Belgium--Antwerp.

Hidden children (Holocaust)--Belgium--Antwerp.

Kindertransports (Rescue operations)--Belgium.

Koblenz (Germany)

Berlin (Germany)

Antwerp (Belgium)

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

CONTAINER LIST

Series 1: Biographical materials, 1937-1941

Folder	Title
1	Loewenstein, Ernest, 1940-1941
2	Loewenstein, Guy, 1941
3	Loewenstein, Hede, 1937

Series 2: Emigration and immigration records, 1940-1942

Folder	Title
4-5	Correspondence regarding emigration and immigration planning for Ernest and Guy Loewenstein, 1940-1942 (2 folders)

Series 3: Photographic materials, 1936-1941

Folder	Title
6	Loewenstein, Ernest and Guy, with friends in Koblenz and Berlin, 1936-1941
7	Loewenstein, Ernest and Guy, with Gaby in Antwerp, May 25, 1939
8	Loewenstein family, Koblenz, May 1939
9	Loewenstein, Guy, with Mr. and Mrs. Best in Antwerp, 1941
10	Mr. Olinsky and Ms. Dessau, Antwerp, 1941
11	Photograph album, 1938-1941

Series 4: Red Cross correspondence, 1942-1943

Folder	Title
12	Red Cross correspondence tracing Kathi Loeb, 1942-1943