

ROBERT AND LOUISE BRUNNER PAPERS, 1901-1956 2002.152

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

Title: Robert and Louise Brunner papers

Dates: 1901-1956

Accession number: 2002.152

Creator: Brunner, Robert (1901-1969)

Additional creator: Brunner, Louise (1909-1992)

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

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

Abstract: The Robert and Louise Brunner papers consist of biographical materials, correspondence, emigration and immigration files, and printed materials documenting Robert Brunner and Louise Koblitz's efforts to flee to France, immigrate to the United States, and establish their life in America. The collection also includes correspondence between immediate family members and photographs of the Brunner and Koblitz families.

Languages: German, English, French

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), Robert and Louise Brunner papers (2002.152), United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives, Washington, DC.

Acquisition information: Tom Brunner donated the Robert and Louise Brunner papers to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in 2002.

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, September 2017

Biographical note

Robert Brunner (1901-1969) was born in Vienna to Richard and Hermine Brunner. He attended trade school and started his own business selling books. At the beginning of the war Robert was questioned by the Gestapo and went into hiding at a beekeeping school while arrangements were made to flee with his fiancée, Louise Koblitz. Some of his family stayed in Vienna while other fled to various countries. His father passed away in 1934 and his mother was deported to Kielce in 1941. Robert's cousins, Leo Lederer and Fritz Fink, survived the war by fleeing to the United States and Argentina.

Louise Brunner (1909-1992) was born in Vienna to Julius Koblitz and Agatha Delicat. Louise fled to France with her fiancée, Robert Brunner, in 1938 where they worked until they were able to obtain visas to the United States in 1939. They settled in New York, were married, and had a son, Thomas Brunner, in 1945. Many of Louise's family members stayed in Vienna. Her father passed away in 1922 and her mother, brother Rudolf, niece Erika, nephews Heinz and Felix, and Uncles Oskar and Arthur were deported to Wlodawa in 1942

Scope and content of collection

The Robert and Louise Brunner papers consist of biographical materials, correspondence, emigration and immigration files, and printed materials documenting Robert Brunner and Louise Koblitz's efforts to flee to France, immigrate to the United States, and establish their life in America. The collection also includes correspondence between immediate family members and photographs of the Brunner and Koblitz families.

Biographical materials include a birth certificate for Robert, Louise, and Leopold (Leo, Robert's cousin), identification card for Robert, and marriage certificate for Julius and Agatha.

Brunner family correspondence includes wartime letters among Robert, Louise, Hermine, and other immediate family members discussing life in Vienna, France, and the United States, and growing concerns for their family.

Koblitz family correspondence includes wartime and postwar letters from Agathe and Rudolf (Louise's brother) regarding life in Vienna and increasing concerns over the war. Included is a postcard from Agathe stating that the SS is down the street from her house

Emigration and immigration materials include affidavits, visa applications, education and work papers, and letters documenting Robert and Louise's escape to France, immigration to the United States, and efforts to establish careers and a life in America. This series also includes affidavits and documents attempting to bring family member to the United States.

Printed materials include newspapers and clippings from *Aufbau* and *Arbeiter=Zeitung*, a report on German and Austrian refugees in France, a directory for immigrants in business, and advertisements and invitations for various activities in New York City.

Photographic materials consist of prewar and wartime photographs of the Brunner and Koblitz families.

System of arrangement

The Brunner and Koblitz family papers are arranged as six series:

- Series 1: Biographical materials, approximately 1901-1939
- Series 2: Brunner family correspondence, approximately 1938-1956
- Series 3: Koblitz family correspondence, approximately 1938-1956
- Series 4: Emigration and immigration materials, approximately 1938-1946
- Series 5: Printed materials, approximately 1940-1945
- Series 6: Photographic materials, approximately 1932-1943

Indexing terms

Brunner, Robert
Brunner, Louise
Brunner, Hermine
Koblitz, Agathe
Delicat, Leopold
Brunner, Alice
Brunner, Peter
Lederer, Leopold
Koblitz, Rudolf

Holocaust, Jewish (1939-1945)
Jewish refugees--France.
Jewish refugees--New York (State)--New York.

Paris (France)
Vienna (Austria)
New York (N.Y)
Chicago (Ill.)
Austria--Emigration and immigration--History--1933-1945.

Correspondence.
Photographs.

CONTAINER LIST

Series 1: Biographical materials, 1901-1939

Box/Folder	Title
1.1	Brunner, Robert, 1901-1939
1.2	Brunner, Louise, 1938

1.3	Delicat, Leopold, 1937
1.4	Koblitz, Agathe, approximately 1938

Series 2: Brunner family correspondence, approximately 1938-1956

Box/Folder	Title
1.5	Brunner, Robert, approximately 1938-1956
1.6	Brunner, Louise, approximately 1940
1.7	Brunner, Robert and Louise, 1940
1.8-1.11	Brunner, Hermine, approximately 1940 (4 folders)
1.12	Brunner, Alice, 1940
1.13	Brunner, Peter, 1940
1.14	Lederer, Leo, approximately 1940
1.15	Miscellaneous, approximately 1940-1945

Series 3: Koblitz family correspondence, 1938-1956

Box/Folder	Title
1.16	Koblitz, Agathe, approximately 1939-1942
1.17	Koblitz, Alexander, 1940-1956
1.18	Koblitz, Rudolf, 1940
1.19	Miscellaneous, approximately 1938-1945

Series 4: Emigration and immigration material, approximately 1938-1946

Box/Folder	Title
1.20	Brunner, Robert, approximately 1938-1940
1.21	Brunner, Louise, 1938-1946
1.22	Brunner, Hermine, approximately 1939
1.23	Koblitz, Agathe, approximately 1939-1940
1.24	Budschowitz, Ernest, Katie and Ruth, 1939
1.25	Miscellaneous, approximately 1940

Series 5: Printed materials, approximately 1940-1945

Box/Folder	Title
1.26	<i>The Situation of German and Austrian Refugees in France since the Outbreak of the War</i> , approximately 1940
1.27	<i>Directory for Immigrants in Business</i> , 1940
1.28	Advertisements, approximately 1940-1944
1.29 OS 1	Newspaper clippings, 1940 (2 folders)

Series 6: Photographic materials, approximately 1932-1943

Box/Folder	Title
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1.30	Brunner, Robert and Louise family photographs, approximately 1932-1943
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