

United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives
Finding Aid
RG-10

RG-10.248
Acc. 2002.486.1

Title: Szlifersztejn and Mitelsbach Family Collection, 1938-1943.

Extent: 1 box.
9 microfiche.

Provenance: Debbie Nadolney and Arlene Stein donated the collection to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in July 2002. Ms. Nadolney is the granddaughter of Joseph and Tola Stein, the original recipients of the bulk of the correspondence contained in the collection.

Restrictions on access: No restrictions on access.

Restrictions on use: No restrictions on use.

Organization and arrangement: Organized into three series: RG-10.248*01: Family correspondence (1938 - June, 1939); RG-10.248*01: Family correspondence (July, 1939 - December, 1939); RG-10.248*01: Family correspondence (January, 1940 - June 1940); RG-10.248*01: Family correspondence (July, 1940 - December, 1940); RG-10.248*01: Family correspondence (January, 1941 - June, 1941); RG-10.248*01: Family correspondence (July, 1941 - December, 1941, 1943); RG-10.248*02: Official 3rd Party Inquiries (Red Cross, HIAS, 1940); RG-10.248*03: Miscellaneous (certificates, newspaper clippings, family photo, envelopes, etc.).

Language: Polish, with English, German, Yiddish and Hebrew.

Preferred citation: Standard citation for the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Collections Division, Archives Branch.

Biographical note: Joseph Szlifersztejn (later Joseph Stein), tenth child of Moshe and Rachel Szlifersztejn, was born in Warsaw, Poland circa 1906. Joseph, his wife Tola, and his young daughter immigrated to New York. The remainder of the family was imprisoned in the Warsaw ghetto. They never escaped. Of Joseph's family in Warsaw, only his nephew Lutek (or Lawrence), son of Joseph's brother David, survived, fleeing to Kiev and later to Luck. In 1941, Lawrence moved east once again to escape the Nazi advance. Captured and consigned to the Sverdlovsk labor camp and then into the Red Army, Lutek contacted his uncle, Joseph Stein, in New York in 1941. After liberation, Joseph Stein helped Lutek emigrate to Sweden, Cuba, and eventually in 1951, to the United States. The exact fate of the Warsaw Szlifersztejns and Mitelsbachs is unknown. All are presumed to have perished during the Holocaust.

Scope and content note: Contains documents pertaining to the Szlifersztejn and Mitelsbach families, living in the Warsaw ghetto from 1939-1941. Primarily contains correspondence written to

Joseph and Tola Stein in New York. Also includes a family photo of the Szlifersztejns, several official marriage contracts, a notarized property document, newspaper clippings regarding a member of the family who emigrated to the U.S. and died before the war, and several Red Cross or other official third party inquiries into the well-being of the family.

Inventory:

RG-10.248*01: Folder 1 of 6:

Letters and postcards from family members to Joseph and/or Tola Stein (October 1938 - June, 1939).

1. Letter in German to "Dear Jack?" from "Samuel Joffe," Warsaw, 10 October, 1938.
2. Letter to "Dear Mr. Joseph" from "M. Grynszpan," Warsaw, 11 December, 1938.
3. Letter to "Dear Mr. Josek" from "Milrad," Warsaw, 1 January, 1939.
4. Letter to "Dear Mr. Schliferstzejn," from "M. Goldwasser," Warsaw, 8 January, 1939.
5. Postcard to "Dear Mr. Stein," from "J. Lerner," Warsaw, 17, January, 1939.
6. Letter on "Wholesalers of Sports Equipment" letterhead, to Dear Friends" from "Feldblum," Warsaw, 4 February, 1939. Addition to the letter: To "Schlifersztejn" from "Shmuel," 5 February, 1939.
7. Letter to "Dear Josef" from "J. Flinker," Warsaw, 13 February, 1939.
8. Letter to "My Dear Tola" from "Irka," Warsaw, 6 March, 1939.
9. Letter to "To Tola" from "Irka," Warsaw, 29 March, 1939.
10. Letter to "My dear Josek," from "Your Zygmunt," Warsaw, 29 March, 1939.
11. Letter to "My Dear Josek" from "Your Artek," Warsaw, 2 April, 1939.
12. Letter to "My Dear Josek" from "Your Artek," Warsaw, 9 April, 1939, cont'd 10 April, 1939.
13. Letter to "Dear Jozek" from "Henryk," Warsaw, 10 April, 1939.
14. Letter to "My dear Josek" from "Artek," Warsaw, 16 April, 1939, cont'd 17 April, 1939.
15. Letter to "Dear Josek" from "Artek," Warsaw, 17 April, 1939.
16. Letter to "My Dear Josek" from "Artek," 2 May, 1939.
17. Letter to "My Dear Josek" from "Zygmunt," Warsaw, 16 June, 1939.
18. Letter to "My Dear Josek!" from "Your Artek," 17 June, 1939.

RG-10.248*01: Folder 2 of 6:

Letters and postcards from family members to Joseph and/or Tola Stein (July, 1939 - December, 1939).

19. Letter to "My dear Jozku" from "Your loving Artek," 26 July, 1939.
20. Letter to "Dear Jozek!" from "Your Zygmunt," Warsaw, 2 August, 1939.
21. Letter to "My Dear Tola and Josek!" from "Uncle Haim and Gemau and Aunt Ide," Radosc, 12 August, 1939.
22. Letter to "My dear Leon" from "Your loving Mother," Warsaw, 12 August, 1939.
23. Letter to "My Dear Jozek!" from "Artek," Bialystok, 15 October, 1939.
24. Letter in German to "J. Stein" from "Adam," 20 November, 1939.
25. Letter to "Natan" from "Mordka," Warsaw, 10 December, 1939. Addition to "My Dear" from "Your Mordka, Manicu, Bela , Rita, Jurek."

RG-10.248*01: Folder 3 of 6:

Letters and postcards from family members to Joseph and/or Tola Stein (January, 1940 - June 1940).

26. Postcard to "My Dear Jozek!" from "Artek," Lwow, 28 January, 1940.
27. Letter to "My Dear: Jozek, Tola, and sweet Domuiulko(?)" from "Stefa," Warsaw, 4 February, 1940.
28. Letter to "Dear Jozek!" from "Your Zygmunt(?)," 5 February, 1940. (Untranslated)
29. Letter, Paris, 7 February, 1940. (Untranslated)
30. Letter, to "Mr. J. Stein," Vilnus, 8 February, 1940. (Partially translated)
31. Photocopy of letter to "Dear Jozek!," undated, followed letter of 8 February, 1940 in translation packet.
32. Postcard, to "My dear" from "Irena," Warsaw, 4 March, 1940.
33. Postcard to "Mr. J. Stein" from "Mr. Rantensztein(?)," Vilno, 8 March, 1940.
34. Postcard to "Mr. J. Stein!" from "E. Lublinskis," Vilnius, 16 March, 1940.
35. Postcard to "My Dear" Obodjanikoff, 20 March, 1940.
36. Postcard to "My Dear" from "Your Danusia," 20 March, 1940.
37. Letter in English to "Joseph Stein" from "Arthur," 30 March, 1940
38. Postcard to "Dear Mr. Stein" from "H. Pajewski," Vilnus, 4 April, 1940.
39. Letter in English to "Joseph Stein" from "Arthur," 11 April, 1940.
40. Letter to "My Dear Jozek!," Lwow, 30 April, 1940. (Untranslated)
41. Postcard from Warsaw, 3 May, 1940. (Untranslated)
42. Letter to "My Dear Jozek!(?)" from "Artek(?)," Lwow, 8 May, 1940. (Untranslated)
43. Postcard to "My Dear Jozek!(?)" from "Artek(?)," 24 May, 1940. (Untranslated)
44. Postcard to "Sir!" from "E. Lublinskis," Vilnus, 25 May, 1940.
45. Letter from Warsaw, 28 May, 1940. (Untranslated)
46. Postcard to "My Dear Joe" from "Your Zygmunt," Warsaw, 31 May, 1940.
47. Letter to "Dear Doctor(?)," 1 June, 1940. (Untranslated)
48. Letter from Warsaw, 4 June, 1940. (Untranslated)
49. Letter to "My Dear Jozek(?)," Lwow, 7 June, 1940. (Untranslated)

RG-10.248*01: Folder 4 of 6:

Letters and postcards from family members to Joseph and/or Tola Stein (July, 1940 - December, 1940).

50. Letter from Warsaw, 16 July, 1940. (Untranslated)
51. Letter from Warsaw, 30 July, 1940. (Untranslated)
52. Letter, September 20, 1940. (Untranslated)
53. Letter from Warsaw, 2 October, 1940. (Untranslated)
54. Letter from Warsaw, 22 October, 1940. (Untranslated)
55. Letter from Warsaw, 24 October, 1940. (Untranslated)
56. Letter to "My Dear!" from "Always yours – Zygmunt," 25 October, 1940.
57. Letter from Warsaw, 6 December, 1940. (Untranslated)
58. Letter to "My dear Jozek!" from "Your Adam," Warsaw, 23 December, 1940.
59. Letter to "Dear Jozek!" from "Your devoted brother and brother-in-law D. Szliferstein," Warsaw, 26 December, 1940.

60. Letter from "Bela and Jurek," undated, circa late 1940 from placement in packet with other letters. (Untranslated)

RG-10.248*01: Folder 5 of 6:

Letters and postcards from family members to Joseph and/or Tola Stein (January, 1941 - June, 1941).

61. Letter in translation packet, not found in collection, to "My dears" from "Your loving Father," Warsaw, 6 January, 1941.
62. Letter in German to "Dear Joe!" from "Your Ignac," Warsaw, 8 January, 1941.
63. Postcard to "Dear Mr. Stein" from "Your good friend, Mojzesz [?]," Warsaw, 5 April, 1941.
64. Postcard and letter with envelope to "My dear Jozio" from "Adam," sent by Romana Warszawaska in Wlochy, near Warsaw, 6 April, 1941.
65. Letter to "My beloved" from "Bela," Warsaw, 29 April, 1941.
66. Letter in three parts to "S. Haber" from "Bela," to "Your honorable Mr. Habergut" from "Yours, Szlifersztejn," and copy of message from "H. Francis Cunningham, Jr. Deputy US Consul" at "American Embassy." Marked undated by translator and follows 29 April, 1941 letter in translation document, but the embassy missive appears to have been dated 13 March, 1941.
67. Letter to "My Dears" from "Bela," Warsaw, 10 May, 1941.
68. Postcard to "Dear Jozek" from "Your Mother," 27 May, 1941.
69. Letter to "My dear beloved Josek" from "Your Dussa(?)," Warsaw, 27 June, 1941. Enclosed: Previously unsent letter to "My Dear ones, Tola and Jozek" from "Your loving Dora," written 5 May, 1941.

RG-10.248*01: Folder 6 of 6:

Letters and postcards from family members to Joseph and/or Tola Stein (July, 1941 – December 1941, one postcard from 1943).

70. Letter to "My dears" from "your Mother," July 1941 (arrived NY 25 July, 1941).
71. Letter to "My dear Jozek" from "Adam" and "Ira," Warsaw, 6 July, 1941.
72. Letter to "My dearest" from "Bela" and to "My Dear Jozek" from "Your Zygmunt," Warsaw, 19 July, 1941.
73. Letter to "My Dear Jozio" from "Adam," Warsaw, 27 August, 1941.
74. Letter to "My dear Leon" from "your loving Father" and "Mother," Warsaw, 10 October, 1941.
75. Letter to "My dears," from "Father" and "your loving Mother," Warsaw, 18 October, 1941.
76. Letter to "My Dearest Jozio," Warsaw via Lisbon, 21 October, 1941.
77. Letter to "My beloved, my treasure" from "your loving you forever wife Rita" and "your loving Bela" Warsaw, 25 October, 1941.
78. Letter to "My dear" from "Yours, Zygmunt," Warsaw, 23 November, 1941.
79. Letter to "My beloved children" from "your loving Mother," Warsaw, 24 November, 1941.
80. Letter in translation packet, not found in collection, to "Dear Tobka" from "Nei(?)," 19 September, 1942. Content and names do not appear to relate to Stein collection.
81. Reply postcard to "My dear ones" from Mitchlobach, Mirla, Marjein Tyrunewich, Warsaw 15 August, 1943.

RG-10.248*02: Folder 1 of 1:

Official 3rd Party Inquiries (Red Cross, HIAS, 1940).

82. Inquiry from the Red Cross in Geneva by Tola Stein in Brooklyn about Bella and Jurek Tyzmund in Warsaw, 12 January, 1940.

83. Inquiry from the Red Cross in Geneva by Tola Stein in Brooklyn 20 April, 1940. (Untranslated)

84. Inquiry from the Red Cross in Geneva by Tola Stein in Brooklyn 25 June, 1940. (Untranslated)

85. Inquiry from the Red Cross in Geneva by Tola Stein in Brooklyn, undated, circa 1940.
(Untranslated)

86. Notification from HIAS, Warsaw, 20 August, 1940.

RG-10.248*03: Folder 1 of 1:

Miscellaneous (certificates and contracts, newspaper clippings, Szlifersztejn family photo, envelopes, Western Union cablegram, etc.).