

**WALTER KAMLET PAPERS, 1928-2007**  
**2014.332.1**

United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives  
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**Descriptive summary**

Title: Walter Kamlet papers

Dates: 1935-2007 [bulk 1940-1956]

Accession number: 2014.332.1

Creator: Kamlet, Walter, 1922 -

Extent: .5 linear feet (1 box)

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

Abstract: Consists of original pre-war, wartime, and post-war documents, restitution paperwork, and photographs related to the life and Holocaust experiences of Walter Kamlet, originally of Berlin, Germany. The collection includes information regarding Kamlet's life as a teenager at the Château de la Hille children's home run by the Oeuvre de Secours aux Enfants (OSE), as well as a large number of photographs of the other children in the home, and documents regarding his escape into Switzerland in April 1944. Also includes documents about Kamlet's parents, Benno and Mila Kamlet, who survived the Holocaust in hiding in Belgium.

Languages: German, French, English

**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), Walter Kamlet papers (2014.332.1), United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives, Washington, DC.

Acquisition information: The Estate of Walter Kamlet donated this collection to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum on June 2, 2014.

Related archival materials:

- Nachlass Anne-Marie Im Hof-Piguet (United States Holocaust Memorial Museum accession 2017.47.1, RG-58.038) includes photographs of Walter Kamlet
- Lilly Felddegen papers (United States Holocaust Memorial Museum accession 2005.473, RG-19.066) include a file on Walter and Manfred Kamlet

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

Processing history: Rebecca Erbelding, May 2014. Revised by Jen Wachtel, February 2018.

### **Biographical note**

Walter Kamlet was born in Berlin, Germany, on October 22, 1922, to Benno and Mila Kamlet. He had a younger brother, Manfred. Benno Kamlet owned a sporting goods store in Berlin. During the war, the family moved to Belgium where Benno and Mila survived the Holocaust in hiding while Walter and Manfred were placed in a children's home. In May 1940, the children's home was evacuated to France, ending up at Château de la Hille, near the Spanish border. Walter was a skilled musician and played concerts for the other children at la Hille, and received treatment for tuberculosis. In April 1944, he and Manfred escaped into Switzerland, as did Manfred. Walter remained in Switzerland for the rest of his life, living with his companion, Christa Salanthe.

### **Scope and content of collection**

Consists of original pre-war, wartime, and post-war documents, restitution paperwork, photographic negatives, and photographs related to the life and Holocaust experiences of Walter Kamlet, originally of Berlin, Germany. The collection includes information regarding Kamlet's life as a teenager at the Château de la Hille OSE home, as well as a large number of photographs of the other children in the home, and documents regarding his escape into Switzerland in April 1944. Also includes documents about Kamlet's parents, Benno and Mila Kamlet, who survived the Holocaust in hiding in Belgium.

### **System of arrangement**

The Walter Kamlet papers are arranged as two series:

- Series 1: Documents, 1928-2007
- Series 2: Photographs, 1942-1944 and undated

Folders are arranged chronologically. Negatives removed for conservation.

### **Indexing terms**

Person:

Kamlet, Walter  
Kamlet, Manfred  
Kamlet, Benno  
Kamlet, Mila

Corporate:

Schweizerisches Rotes Kreuz

Œuvre de secours aux enfants (France)

La Hille (Montegut-Plantaurel, France)

Topical Subjects:

Hidden children (Holocaust)--France.

Jewish children in the Holocaust--France.

World War, 1939-1945--Jews--Rescue--France.

Orphanages--France--Montegut-Plantaurel--1940-1950.

Tuberculosis.

Restitution--Germany.

Holocaust, Jewish (1939-1945) -- Reparations -- Germany.

World War, 1939-1945--Jews--Germany--Berlin.

World War, 1939-1945--Jews--Rescue.

World War, 1939-1945--Switzerland.

World War, 1939-1945--Belgium.

Refugee children--France.

Geography:

Hille (Montégut-Plantaurel, France)

Davos, Switzerland

Berlin, Germany

Brussels, Belgium

Genre/Form:

Photographs.

Negatives.

Correspondence.

Personal narratives.

## CONTAINER LIST

Box/Folder	Title
	<b>Series 1: Document, 1928-2007</b>
1.1	Expulsion from Germany and flight to Brussels, 1928-1939
1.2	French travel passes, 1941-1942 and 1944
1.3	Attestations of tuberculosis treatment and life in Switzerland, 1940-2007
1.4	Benno and Mila Kamlet restitution paperwork, 1947-1956
1.5	Correspondence with lawyer Bruno Hoppen, 1952-1957

Box/Folder	Title
	<b>Series 2: Photographs, 1942-1944 and undated</b>
1.6	OSE Chateaux de la Hille photographs, 1942-1944 and undated
1.7	Family photographs, undated