

**GUNTHER RICE AND HARRY RICE CORRESPONDENCE, 1913-1948**  
**IRN# 95231**

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

Title: Gunther Rice and Harry Rice correspondence

Dates: 1913-1948

Accession number:

Creator: Rice, Gunther, 1924-

Additional creator: Rice, Harry, 1895-1978

Extent: 0.5 linear feet (29 folders)

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

Abstract: The Gunther Rice and Harry Rice correspondence consists primarily of letters Gunther and Harry Rice received from family and friends in Germany and Poland. The correspondence details efforts made by Gunther's mother, Lea Esther, and his uncle, Harry Rice, in trying to bring Lea Esther's children to the United States. Much of the correspondence dates from 1938-1941, when Gunther's family was deported to Poland from their home in Hamburg, Germany. Letters to Gunther describe the difficulties the family faces after their move to Poland, whereas the letters to Harry consist primarily of efforts to bring the Zloczower children to the United States. Also includes pre-war family correspondence to Harry Rice as well as documents related to family events.

Languages: German, Yiddish, 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), Gunther Rice and Harry Rice correspondence, United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives, Washington, DC

Acquisition information: Gunther Rice donated the Gunther Rice and Harry Rice correspondence to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives in 2015.

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

Processing history: Michael Folkerts, January 2015; Rebecca Erbelding, March 2015

### **Biographical note**

Gunther Rice (1924 - ) was born Gunther Zloczower in Hamburg, Germany in October, 1924 to Chaim Zloczower and Lea Esther (nee Fruchter). He was the youngest of nine children. Seven of his brothers and sisters had left Germany before the October 1938 Polenaktion, when Gunther was forced out of Germany and into Poland with his parents and sister Betti. Gunther lived with them in Zbaszyń until he was directed to Otwock in July 1939 to join a Kindertransport to England. He lived in Cardiff and London before immigrating to the United States in 1946 and changing his last name to Rice. Meanwhile, Gunther's parents and sister lived in Lwow until the German invasion of the Soviet Union in June of 1941. They were not heard from again.

Lea Esther's stepbrother Harry Rice (born Herman Reiss) had immigrated to the United States in 1913 and lived in Chicago. In 1918, he married Bessie Itzkovitz. As a naturalized citizen, he was able to obtain affidavits for immigration into the U.S. for Gunther and his older brothers Simon and Julius. Simon arrived in 1938 from Germany, and Julius arrived in 1948 from Israel.

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

The Gunther Rice and Harry Rice correspondence consists of letters and postcards received by both Gunther Rice and his uncle Harry Rice, from family members living in Germany, Poland, and England. The correspondence mainly documents the efforts in trying to bring family members from Germany to the United States from 1938-1941.

The correspondence collected by Gunther Rice are from his time living in Otwock, Poland and Cardiff, England, and consists mainly of letters written by his parents (Chiam and Lea Esther) and sister, Betti, while they lived in Zbaszyn and Lwow, Poland (L'viv, Ukraine). They contain family news and document the family's hardships while living in Poland from 1939 to 1941.

The correspondence collected by Harry Rice are mainly from his time living in Chicago, Illinois, though there are some letters from friends while he was living in Bolechow, Germany before he emigrated to the United States. Much of the correspondence are from his siblings, Fanny Kauf (nee Fruchter), Lea Esther Zloczower (nee Fruchter), and Nathan Fruchter. The letters from Fanny and Nathan contain mainly family news from Germany from before and after World War II, whereas the letters from Lea Esther primarily concern the emigration of her son, Simon, to the United States. Also in this series are correspondence from Gunther and his siblings. Correspondence from Simon Rice document his journey to the United States, and later his role in the U.S. army, while Gunther's and Julius' letters are dated

post-World II and update Harry on their lives. Lastly, there are several letters from Hersch Kleinbard, Harry's cousin, whom he helped to bring over to the United States, as well as additional correspondence from friends wishing him well on his immigration to the United States in 1913.

The documents include letters from businesses which had worked with Harry Rice; family wedding and birth announcements, and empty envelopes.

### **System of arrangement**

The Gunther Rice and Harry Rice correspondence is arranged into two series:

- Series 1: Gunther Rice correspondence, 1939-1941
- Series 2: Harry Rice correspondence, 1913-1948
- Series 3: Documents, 1917-1949

### **Indexing terms**

Rice, Gunther  
Rice, Simon  
Rice, Harry  
Rice, Julius  
Zloczower, Lea Esther  
Zloczower, Chaim  
Zloczower, Betti  
Kauf, Fanny (Fruchter)  
Fruchter, (Nathan)  
Kleinbard, Hersch

Kindertransports (Rescue operations)--Great Britain.  
Jewish refugees--Poland--Zbąszyń.  
Jewish refugees--Poland--Lwow.  
Jews--Germany--Hamburg.

Zbąszyń (Poland)--History--20th century.  
Jews--Ukraine--History--20th century.  
Germany--Emigration and immigration.  
United States--Emigration and immigration

## **CONTAINER LIST**

### **Series 1: Gunther Rice correspondence, 1939-1941**

<b>Folder</b>	<b>Title</b>
1-5	Zloczower, Lea Esther, Chaim, and Betti, 1939-1941
6	Zloczower, Sam, 1939-1940

**Series 2: Harry Rice correspondence, 1913-1948**

<b>Folder</b>	<b>Title</b>
7-8	Fruchter, Fanny, 1913-1947
9	Fruchter, Nathan, 1914-1948
10	Hoffman, Simon, 1913
11	Kleinbard, Hirsch, 1938-1939
12	Kleinbard, Isak, 1919
13	Reiss, Gitel, 1919
14	Reiss, Rifka (Marion), 1926-1932
15	Rice, Gunther, 1946
16	Rice, Julius, 1947
17-19	Rice, Simon, 1937-1948
20	Rosenfeld, Yosef, 1927-1928
21-22	Zloczower, Lea Esther (Laura), 1916-1939
23	Various, 1913-1938
24	Envelopes

**Series 3: Documents 1917-1949**

<b>Folder</b>	<b>Title</b>
25	Baby announcements, 1944-1949
26	Business letters, 1948-1949
27	Envelopes, 1919-1947
28	Wedding announcements, 1917-1947