

LAURA STERNBERGER AND ALBERT PREIZLER PAPERS, circa 1900-2014 2015.362.1

United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives
100 Raoul Wallenberg Place SW
Washington, DC 20024-2126
Tel. (202) 479-9717
e-mail: reference@ushmm.org

Descriptive summary

Title: Laura Sternberger and Albert Preizler papers

Dates: circa 1900-2014

Accession number: 2015.362.1

Creator: Sternberger, Laura, 1930-

Additional creator: Preizler, Albert, 1929-2007

Extent: 0.5 linear foot (1 box, 3 oversize folders)

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

Abstract: The Laura Sternberger and Albert Preizler papers include biographical materials, correspondence, and photographs documenting the Sternberger family from Kostrina, Czechoslovakia, their Steinberg relatives who had immigrated to the United States, the Preizler family from Sighetu Marmăției, Romania, and their Einhorn relatives who had moved to England and the United States.

Language: Hungarian, English, Czech

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), Laura Sternberger and Albert Preizler papers (2015.362.1) United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives, Washington, DC.

Acquisition information: Julie Preizler donated the Laura Sternberger and Albert Preizler papers to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in 2015.

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

Related material: Julie Preizler also donated a handkerchief (2015.362.2) to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum.

Related material: Oral history interviews conducted with Laura Preizler and Albert Preizler can be viewed onsite at the Museum.

Processing history: Julie Schweitzer, November 2019

Biographical note

Laura Preizler (b. 1930) was born Laura Sternberger in Kostrina, Czechoslovakia (now Ukraine) on January 14, 1930 to Julie (nee Steinberg, 1899-1944) and Adolf Sternberger. Julie Steinberg's father was Mordecai (Marcus) Steinberg (b. 1898), and she had at least four siblings: Louis (b. 1903), Rudolf, Izak (Irving, 1912-1999), and Bertha (1901-1981). Louis immigrated to the United States in 1923, Rudolf by 1928, Izak in 1937, and Bertha probably during the 1930s. Bertha married Joseph Weitzen, and had three children: Lorraine, Sheldon (Shelley), and Jerry.

Laura Sternberger had three siblings: Morris (b. 1928), Ludwig (b. 1924), and Alex (b. 1926). The Sternberger family was forced into the Ungwar ghetto (Ungvár/Uzhhorod) on April 14, 1944 and then deported to Auschwitz in May. Laura survived Auschwitz, Neuengamme and Bergen-Belsen concentration camps. Her brother Morris survived Auschwitz and forced labor in Silesia and Ebensee. Their parents and their brothers Ludwig and Alex perished. Laura was liberated at Bergen-Belsen in April 1945 and traveled to Sweden in June. Through a newspaper advertisement she discovered her mother's brother Izak (Irving) Steinberg in America and began corresponding with him, his sister Bertha, and her own brother Morris. She immigrated to the United States from Gothenburg, Sweden in April 1947 aboard the SS *Drottningholm*. She married fellow Holocaust survivor Albert Preizler (1929-2007), and they had three children: Julie, Sanford, and Theodore.

Albert Preizler (1929-2007) was born Adolf Preizler in Sighetu Marmăției, Romania (Siget/Máramarossziget) on April 14, 1926 or 1929 to Tovya and Rivka Preizler. He had two sisters, Pintzi and Szimi, and two brothers, Shimon and Usher. His mother had at least two brothers, Samuel and Shulem Einhorn. The family was forced into the local ghetto in April 1944 and deported to Auschwitz in May. Rivka, Pintzi, and Szimi were sent to their death. Usher, his wife, and their two children also perished. Albert and Shimon were selected for labor and survived Auschwitz and Mauthausen. They were then transferred to Melk, where Shimon perished in January 1945. In April 1945 Albert was sent back to Mauthausen and liberated there in May. After the war he spent time in German displaced persons camps at Feldafing and Prien. His uncle Shulem Einhorn, who was living in England, found Albert in Germany, and put him in touch with his uncle Sam Einhorn, who was living in New York. The Einhorn family wanted to sponsor Albert's immigration, but Albert chose to immigrate as an orphan, believing the wait time would be shorter. He immigrated to the United States in 1947 aboard the SS *Marine Perch* and changed his name to Albert. He married fellow Holocaust survivor Laura Sternberger, and they had three children: Julie, Sanford, and Theodore.

Scope and content of collection

The Laura Sternberger and Albert Preizler papers include biographical materials, correspondence, and photographs documenting the Sternberger family from Kostrina, Czechoslovakia, their Steinberg relatives who had immigrated to the United States, the Preizler family from Sighetu Marmăției, Romania, and their Einhorn relatives who had moved to England and the United States.

Biographical materials include Izak Steinberg's Czechoslovak military booklet, transatlantic ticket, and United States immigrant identification card, and Laura Sternberger's Brit Chaluțim Datiim membership card, notebook containing addresses and notes, menu from her Atlantic crossing, and poetry notebook. This series also includes photocopies of Markus and Lena Steinberg's marriage registration, a photograph of Laura Sternberger with her aunt Golda, a postcard from Laura's and Albert's honeymoon, and a Lefkowitz family tree.

Most of the correspondence series consists of postwar letters from Bertha Steinberg in New York to Laura in Sweden; from Izak Steinberg to Laura; from Laura to Bertha, Izak, and Lorraine; and from Morris Sternberger at Bad Gastein to Laura, Bertha, Izak, and a niece. There are additional postwar letters from Rudolph Steinberg, Lorraine and Sheldon Weitzen, and Aunt Millie. Many of the Hungarian letters are accompanied by English translations. This series also includes two prewar letters from Izak Steinberg and a translation of a prewar letter from Louis Steinberg.

Photographs depict members of the Preizler and Steinberg families primarily in postwar Europe and America, including Laura in Sweden and Albert in Feldafing and Prien. This series also includes a map depicting the progress of the 4th Infantry Division from Luxembourg to Bavaria.

System of arrangement

The papers are arranged as three series:

Series 1: Biographical materials, 1935-1947

Series 2: Correspondence, 1923-1947

Series 3: Photographs, circa 1900-2014

Indexing terms

Preizler, Albert, 1929-2007.

Preizler, Laura, 1930-

Steinberg, Bertha, 1901-1981.

Steinberg, Izak, 1912-1999.

Sternberger, Morris, 1928-

Bad Gastein (Displaced persons camp)

Feldafing (Displaced persons camp)

Jews--Kostrina--Czechoslovakia.

Jews--Romania--Sighetu Marmăției.

Holocaust survivors--Germany.

Holocaust survivors--Sweden.

Kostrina (Czechoslovakia)

Prien am Chiemsee (Germany)

Sighetu Marmăției (Romania)

Sweden.

United States--Emigration and immigration.

Correspondence.

Maps.

Photographs.

Poems.

CONTAINER LIST

Series 1: Biographical materials, 1935-1947

Box/Folder	Title
1.1, OS 1	Steinberg, Izak, 1935-1937
1.2	Sternberger, Laura, circa 1945-1947
1.3	Sternberger, Laura, poems, circa 1944-1947
1.4	Photocopies

Series 2: Correspondence, 1923-1947

Box/Folder	Title
1.5-1.6	Steinberg, Bertha, to Laura, 1945-1947 (2 folders) (to Laura and one money order to Morris)
1.7	Steinberg, Izak, 1931, 1937, 1945-1946 (to Bertha in the 30s and Laura in the 40s)
1.8	Steinberg, Louis, translation of 1923 letter
1.9-1.10	Sternberger, Laura, 1945-1947 (2 folders) (mostly Bertha, also Izak and Lorraine)
1.11-1.12	Sternberger, Morris, circa 1946-1947 (2 folders) (Bertha, Laura, Izak, and a niece)
1.13	Miscellaneous, 1945-1947 (Rudolph Steinberg, Lorraine and Sheldon Weitzen, friends in Sweden, Aunt Millie)

Series 3: Photographs and map, circa 1900-2014

Box/Folder	Title
1.14	Preizler family photographs, 1945-1949, 1989
1.15	Preizler family photographs, album, 1945-1949
1.16	Steinberg family photographs, circa 1910-1965
1.17	Steinberg family photographs, copy prints with annotations, circa 1900-2014
OS 2	Signal Training Battalion, 4 th Division, Fort Benning, GA, April 1941

OS 3	Progress of the 4 th Infantry Division from Luxembourg to Bavaria (map), circa 1945
------	--