

LUDWIG HISS COLLECTION, 1935-1961

2017.124.1

United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives
100 Raoul Wallenberg Place SW
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Descriptive summary

Title: Ludwig Hiss collection

Dates: 1935-1961 (bulk 1945-1947)

Accession number: 2017.124.1

Creator: Hiss, Ludwig, 1929-2016.

Extent: 8 folders

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

Abstract: The collection documents the post-war experiences of Ludwig Hiss of Boryslaw, Poland in the Zeilsheim displaced persons camp; other DP camps in Linz, Austria; and the Bellfaire orphanage in Cleveland, Ohio. Documents include a civilian transportation pass from Linz; a newspaper clipping describing Ludwig's story; and two writings of Ludwig describing his experiences during and after the war. Photographs include depictions of the DP camps, Ludwig's immigration to the United States onboard the *SS Marine Perch*, and the Bellfaire orphanage he lived in after he arrived. There are also a few pre-war photographs of the Hiss family in Boryslaw.

Languages: English, Yiddish

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), Ludwig Hiss collection (2017.124.1), United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives, Washington, DC

Acquisition information: The collection was donated to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum by Laura Ginns in 2017.

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

Processing history: Adam Fielding, May 2017

Biographical note

Ludwig Hiss (1929-2016) was born on 1 December 1929 in Lwów, Poland (present day Lviv, Ukraine) to Joseph (1900-1945) and Ida (née Sigulim) Hiss. The family moved to Borysław, Poland (present day Boryslav, Ukraine) when Ludwig was 1. Joseph was an engineer and worked for the Carpathian Oil Company. In 1942 the Jews of Borysław were moved to a ghetto. Ludwig was a forced-laborer, and was detained several times. The family was then deported to the Plaszow concentration camp. Ludwig and his father were deported to the Mauthausen concentration camp in 1943. Ludwig's mother was later deported from Plaszow to the Auschwitz concentration camp where she perished. While at Mauthausen, Ludwig worked in the kitchen, and his father briefly worked in the stone quarry. After about 3 months Ludwig and his father were deported to another concentration camp in Linz, Austria. Ludwig's father died 2 days before the camp was liberated.

After liberation, Ludwig lived in a displaced persons camp in Linz and got a job working for the United States Army. After the camp was shut down, Ludwig went to a DP camp in Salzburg, Austria. From there he went to the Zeilsheim DP camp near Frankfurt, Germany. In 1947, he immigrated to the United States on the *SS Marine Perch*. He went to the Bellfaire Jewish orphanage in Cleveland, Ohio where he learned English and went to school. In 1948 Ludwig joined the United States Army. After the army, he eventually founded a custom home building company. He and his wife Carolyn, along with their two children Laura and Joseph, later settled in Kalamazoo, Michigan.

Scope and content of collection

The collection documents the post-war experiences of Ludwig Hiss of Borysław, Poland in the Zeilsheim displaced persons camp; other DP camps in Linz, Austria; and the Bellfaire orphanage in Cleveland, Ohio. Documents include a civilian transportation pass from Linz; a newspaper clipping describing Ludwig's story; and two writings of Ludwig describing his experiences during and after the war. Photographs include depictions of the DP camps, Ludwig's immigration to the United States onboard the *SS Marine Perch*, and the Bellfaire orphanage he lived in after he arrived. There are also a few pre-war photographs of the Hiss family in Borysław.

System of arrangement

The collection is arranged as one series.

Indexing terms

Person:

Hiss, Ludwig, 1929-2016.

Corporate:

Zeilsheim (Displaced persons camp)

Plaszów (Concentration camp)

Mauthausen (Concentration camp)

Topical Subject:

Jewish families--Poland.

World War, 1939-1945--Refugees--Personal narratives, Jewish.

Emigration & immigration--United States--1940-1950.

Holocaust Jewish (1939-1945)--Poland.

Orphanages--United States.

Geography:

Linz (Austria : Refugee camp)

Zeilsheim (Frankfurt am Main, Germany : Refugee camp)

Cleveland (Ohio)

Boryslav (Ukraine)

Genre/Form:

Photographs.

CONTAINER LIST

Folder	Title
1	Documents, 1946-1948
	Photographs:
2	Cleveland Ohio, 1947-1951
3	Displaced persons camp, Linz, Austria, 1945-1946
4	Displaced persons camps, unidentified, circa 1945-circa 1946
5	Hiss family, Boryslaw, Poland, 1935-1939 and undated
6	Miscellaneous post-war, 1948-1961
7	<i>SS Marine Perch</i> , 1947
8	Zeilsheim displaced persons camp, 1946