

WERNER JAKUBOWSKI PAPERS, 1940-1943

2019.61.1

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: Werner Jakubowski papers

Dates: 1940-1943

Accession number: 2019.61.1

Creator: Jakubowski, Werner, 1895-2020

Extent: 7 folders

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

Abstract: The Werner Jakubowski papers primarily consist of correspondence between Werner Jakubowski while he was a refugee in France and his brother Stephan Jakubowski in New York City. Werner's letters are from Gurs or from Meillon par Assat, in the Basses Pyrenees. The correspondence describes Werner's family situation in France and documents efforts by family and friends to transfer funds to them from New York and to aid their immigration to the US.

Languages: German, French, English

Administrative Information

Access: There are no known restrictions on access to this material.

Reproduction and use: The donor, source institution, or a third party has asserted copyright over some or all of the material(s) in this collection. You do not require further permission from the Museum to use this material. The user is solely responsible for making a determination as to if and how the material may be used.

Preferred citation: (Identification of item), Werner Jakubowski papers (2019.61.1), United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives, Washington, DC

Acquisition information: Walter Jaye donated the Werner Jakubowski papers to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in 2019. Walter Jaye is the son of Werner Jakubowski. The donation was facilitated by Walter Jaye's son, Eric Jaye.

Related material: The United States Holocaust Memorial Museum also holds the Eva and Jack Lewin family papers (2000.550.5), which includes a photograph of Walter Jakubowski (Jaye) in Le Chambon-sur-Lignon, France, in 1942.

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

Processing history: Julie Schweitzer, February 2023.

Biographical note

Werner Jakubowski (1895-2020) was born August 30, 1895 in Berlin and served in German Army during WWI. His wife Wally (or Willy, 1896-1942) was born Wally Wolf on July 15th 1896 in Rottweil. They had two children, Ruth Henriette Gottlob-Jakubowski (1922-?) and Walter (later Walter Jaye, 1925-2020). The family relocated to Belgium in 1933 or 1934 following the Nazi rise to power in Germany and then fled to France when Germany invaded Belgium in May 1940. Werner was interned as an enemy alien at Saint Cyprien and then at Gurs. Werner and Wally were deported on September 4, 1942 via Drancy to Auschwitz and killed. Their daughter Ruth made her way to Switzerland in February 1943 and found refuge. Their son Walter escaped to Le Chambon-sur-Lignon and obtained false papers. He made his way to Perpignan to join the Free French. Basque guides helped him cross into Spain at the end of 1942 and beginning of 1943. He made his way through Spain, arrived in Gibraltar, and crossed the Atlantic to England in March 1943. He joined the Free French in England and adopted the name Wilfred Janey. He was assigned to the 501 RCC of the French 2nd Armored Division and stationed in Rabat, Morocco in December 1943. The Division was transferred to England in March 1944 and was incorporated into a US Army Corps. Walter served on the continent for the duration of the European war, immigrated to the United States in 1949, and became a naturalized citizen in 1959.

Scope and content of collection

The Werner Jakubowski papers primarily consist of correspondence between Werner Jakubowski while he was a refugee in France and his brother Stephan Jakubowski in New York City. Werner's letters are from Gurs or from Meillon par Assat, in the Basses Pyrenees. The correspondence describes Werner's family situation in France and documents efforts by family and friends to transfer funds to them from New York and to aid their immigration to the US.

System of arrangement

The Werner Jakubowski papers are arranged chronologically.

Indexing terms

Gurs (Concentrations camp)

Saint Cyprien (Concentration camp)

Jews--Germany--Berlin.

Jewish refugees--France--History--20th century.

France.

Correspondence.

CONTAINER LIST

Box/Folder	
1 of 7	Werner Jakubowski papers, August 1940-March 1941
2 of 7	Werner Jakubowski papers, April-May 1941
3 of 7	Werner Jakubowski papers, June 1941
4 of 7	Werner Jakubowski papers, July-September 1941
5 of 7	Werner Jakubowski papers, October-December 1941
6 of 7	Werner Jakubowski papers, 1942-1943
7 of 7	Werner Jakubowski papers, circa 1940-1943