

**GLUCK FAMILY PAPERS, circa 1908-circa 2012
2019.634.1**

United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives
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Descriptive summary

Title: Gluck family papers

Dates: circa 1908-circa 2012 (bulk 1938-1946)

Accession number: 2019.634.1

Creator: Gluck family

Extent: 6 boxes, 3 oversize boxes, 2 oversize folders; 5.5 linear feet.

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

Abstract: The Gluck family papers consist of biographical material, correspondence, and restitution claims primarily regarding siblings David, Herman, Hermina, Irving, and Maria Gluck, all of whom immigrated to the United States from Polyán, Hungary (Polyán, Slovakia) between 1938-1940.

Languages: Hungarian, English, Yiddish

Administrative Information

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

Physical access note: in Series 2, correspondence transcriptions and translations are available as digital-only material

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Preferred citation: (Identification of item), Gluck family papers (2019.634.1), United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives, Washington, DC

Acquisition information: The collection was donated to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum by Sherwin Gluck in 2019.

Processing history: Processed by Adam Fielding, March-April 2024

Biographical note

Irving Gluck

Irving Gluck (1921-2016) was born Ignác Gluck on November 14, 1921 in the small village of Polyán, Hungary (sometimes referred to as Bodrogmező, later Polyán, Czechoslovakia, currently Polyán, Slovakia) to Jeremias Gluck and Lena Gluck (née Schwartz). He had five siblings: Lajos Gluck, David Gluck, Hermina Gluck, Maria Gluck, and Herman Gluck.

Irving's family was religious and lived in Polyán where his father owned a small business. In April 1938, Irving's fraternal uncle Julius Gluck sponsored David's immigration to the United States. He settled in Columbus, Ohio where other Gluck relatives were living. Irving, his brother Herman, and sisters Maria and Hermina all joined him in Columbus in February 1940.

Irving worked at a paint factory and registered for the draft in 1942. He reported for military service in March 1943 and trained as an infantry soldier at Camp Wolters in Texas. He served with 1st Armored Division, 6th Armored Infantry Regiment/Battalion. He was initially in North Africa, and later served in Italy where his unit fought at Monte Porchia and the Battle of Anzio in 1944. He later served in France and Germany with the 67th MP Company.

Irving was discharged in November 1945 with the rank of Private First Class. He earned his bachelor's degree in Economics from Ohio State University in 1949, and moved to New York around the same time to join his siblings Herman, Hermina, and Maria. Irving initially worked in the vending machine business and later moved into real estate. He married Barbara Nagel in 1960, and they had two sons: Sherwin and Jerritt.

Gluck family

The Gluck family lived in the small village of Polyán, Hungary (sometimes referred to as Bodrogmező, later Polyán, Czechoslovakia, currently Polyán, Slovakia). Jeremias Gluck (1875-1944) was married to Lena Schwartz (1884-1932) and they had six children: Lajos Gluck (1904-1944), David Gluck (1912-1991, born Dezső Gluck), Hermina Gluck (1914-1993, born Hencsu Gluck, later Hermine Solomon), Maria Gluck (1916-2013, born Marcsa or Mariska Gluck), Herman Gluck (1918-2005), and Irving Gluck (1921-2016, born Ignác Gluck). The family was religious, and Jeremias owned a small business in Polyán.

Three of Jeremias's brothers immigrated to the United States prior to World War I: Martin Gluck (1866-1926), Julius Gluck (1868-1941, also known as Jonas Gluck), and Henry Gluck (1872-1931). Numerous Gluck relatives settled and lived in Columbus, Ohio.

In April 1938, Jeremias's brother Julius sponsored David's immigration to the United States. He settled in Columbus. His siblings Irving, Herman, Maria, and Hermina all immigrated to the U.S. in February 1940 aboard the *Vulcania*, and initially settled in Columbus with David. Throughout World War II, the Gluck siblings corresponded frequently with each other, their father and brother Lajos in Polyán, and relatives in Europe and the United States.

David moved to California around 1943. He opened a series of businesses and restaurants. David and his wife Dorothy had one son, Frederick. The family moved to New York in 1959.

Herman enlisted in the United States Army in 1942 but was discharged shortly after. He later moved to New York and briefly was an investor in the stock market.

Hermina moved to New York. She married Eugene Solomon in 1950, and they had two daughters.

Irving registered for the draft in 1942 and reported for military service in March 1943. He served in North Africa, Italy, France, and Germany. After he was discharged in 1945, he earned his BA in Economics. He later moved to New York and married Barbara Nagel in 1960.

Maria moved to New York in 1946.

Lajos remained in Polyán with his wife Etelka Gluck (b. 1905, née Klein) and their five children: Emil, Lenke, Mityuka, Gyuszika, and Zoli. In 1944, Lajos, his family, and his father Jeremias were deported to Auschwitz. Lajos was transferred to the Ebensee subcamp of Mauthausen where he was murdered. The rest of the family were murdered at Auschwitz, likely shortly after their arrival. Of 23 immediate family members who were deported from their homes during the Holocaust, Emil Schwartz was the only known survivor.

Scope and content of collection

The Gluck family papers consist of biographical material, correspondence, and restitution claims primarily regarding siblings David, Herman, Hermina, Irving, and Maria Gluck, all of whom immigrated to the United States from Polyán, Hungary (Polyán, Slovakia) between 1938-1940. The bulk of the collection consists of wartime correspondence exchanged between the siblings, as well as with their father and brother who remained in Polyán during the Holocaust. Other material includes immigration paperwork, military records, and photographs.

Series 1. Biographical material primarily consists of personal papers of David, Herman, Hermina, Irving, and Maria; immigration paperwork; and photographs. Personal papers include naturalization materials, financial documents, passports, identification cards, employment papers, and education documents. There are also papers related to Irving's military service. Photographs include prints and two albums with depictions of the Gluck family, relatives, and friends in prewar Europe and wartime/postwar in the United States. Additionally, there are tracing requests and documents from the American Red Cross and other organizations regarding the fates of family members during the Holocaust.

Series 2. Correspondence primarily consists of wartime correspondence between the Gluck siblings who immigrated to the United States: David, Herman, Hermina, Irving, and Maria. A significant portion of this correspondence includes letters sent by Irving after he was drafted into the United States Army in March 1943, and includes letters sent from basic training in Camp Wolters, Texas as well as his overseas posts in North Africa, Italy, France, and Germany. Included with his correspondence are V-Mail (Victory Mail) prints. Other letters include wartime correspondence with the Gluck siblings' father, Jeremias Gluck, and their brother Lajos Gluck and his family, all of whom remained in Polyán during the war, and were subsequently murdered in the Holocaust. There are also letters from friends and relatives including the Klein family, Schwartz family, and Bertha Weingarten. Digital-only transcriptions and translations of the correspondence supplied by the donor are also available as part of the collection.

Series 3. Restitution claims include restitution paperwork spanning 1947-2008. There are multiple claims including the Foreign Claims Settlement Commission, Holocaust Victims Assets Litigation, and claims against the Hungarian government.

System of arrangement

The collection is arranged as three series.

Series 1. Biographical material, circa 1908-circa 2012, undated

Series 2. Correspondence, 1932-1994, undated

Series 3. Restitution claims, 1947-2011

Indexing terms

Person:

Gluck, Irving.

Gluck, Maria.

Gluck, Herman.

Gluck, Hermina.

Gluck, Lajos.

Gluck, David.

Gluck, Jeremias.

Weingarten, Bertha.

Corporate:

United States. Army

Topical Subject:

Jews--Czech Republic.

Veterans--United States.

Restitution and indemnification claims (1933-)

Geography:

Slovakia.

Czech Republic.

United States--Emigration and immigration.

Genre/Form:

Correspondence.

Photographs.

Photograph albums.

CONTAINER LIST

Series 1. Biographical material, circa 1908-circa 2012, undated

Box/Folder	Title
1.1	Gluck, David: personal papers, 1940-1961
7	Gluck, Julius: framed photograph, undated
1.2	Gluck, Herman: personal papers, 1939-1947
1.3	Gluck, Hermina: personal papers, 1940-circa 1942
1.4	Gluck, Irving: personal papers, 1939-1949, undated
8	Gluck, Irving: photograph album, 1943-1946
1.5	Gluck, Irving: souvenir postcards, circa 1943-circa 1945
1.6, OS 2	Gluck, Irving: United States Army, 1943-1947
1.7	Gluck, Irving: Veterans History Project, 2008
1.8	Gluck, Maria: "As I Remember...a memoir", 2009
1.9	Gluck, Maria: personal papers, 1940-1946
9	Gluck, Maria: photograph album, circa 1920-1963
6.8	Address books, calendars, and other printed material, circa 1940-circa 1945
OS 1	Clippings, circa 1938-circa 1990
1.10	Family photographs, circa 1908-circa 1945
1.11	Family tracing records, 1945-circa 2012
1.12	Gluck properties in Czechoslovakia, 1927-1947
1.13	Immigration paperwork, 1938-1939
1.14, 6.9	Immigration paperwork, 1940 (2 folders)
1.15	Immigration to the United States handbook in Hungarian, 1924
1.16	Miscellaneous family papers, circa 1940-circa 1945

Series 2. Correspondence, 1932-1994, undated

Box/Folder	Title
2.1	Gluck, David, 1938-1950
2.2	Gluck, Hermina, 1939-1946
2.3	Gluck, Irving, 1940-1944
2.4	Gluck, Irving, 1945
2.5	Gluck, Irving, 1946-1951
2.6	Gluck, Irving: V-Mail prints, 1943
2.7-2.9	Gluck, Irving: V-Mail prints, 1944
2.10-3.1	Gluck, Irving: V-Mail prints, 1945
3.2	Gluck, Jeremias, 1938
3.3	Gluck, Jeremias, 1939
3.4	Gluck, Jeremias, 1940
3.5	Gluck, Jeremias, 1941-1945, undated
3.6	Gluck, Lajos and family, 1940-1945, undated
3.7	Gluck, Maria, 1940-1946
3.8	Gluck siblings, 1938-1941

3.9	Gluck siblings, April 1943
3.10	Gluck siblings, May 1943
3.11	Gluck siblings, June 1943
3.12	Gluck siblings, July-September 1943
3.13	Gluck siblings, October 1943
3.14	Gluck siblings, November-December 1943
4.1-4.2	Gluck siblings, postcards 1943 (2 folders)
4.3	Gluck siblings, January-February 1944
4.4	Gluck siblings, March-May 1944
4.5	Gluck siblings, June-July 1944
4.6	Gluck siblings, August 1944
4.7	Gluck siblings, September 1944
4.8	Gluck siblings, October-November 1944
4.9	Gluck siblings, December 1944
4.10	Gluck siblings, January 1945
4.11	Gluck siblings, February-May 1945
4.12	Gluck siblings, June-December 1945
5.1	Gluck siblings, 1946
5.2	Gluck siblings, 1948-1953
5.3	Gluck siblings, fragments and undated
5.4	Klein family, 1932-1948, undated
5.5	Schwartz, Louis, 1940-1946
5.6	Schwartz family, 1938-1952
5.7	Schwartz family, 1968-1994, undated
5.8	Weingarten, Bertha, 1938-1940
5.9	Weingarten, Bertha, 1941-1947
5.10	Family and friends, 1937-1947
5.11	Family and friends, fragments and undated
5.12	Empty envelopes, circa 1938-circa 1946
	Correspondence transcriptions and translations, 1937-1947 [digital only]

Series 3. Restitution claims, 1947-2011

Box/Folder	Title
6.1-6.2	Foreign Claims Settlement Commission, 1947-2008 (2 folders)
6.3	Holocaust Victims Assets Litigation, Swiss Banks Litigation, 1999
6.4	Holocaust Victims Assets Restitution, 1998-2011
6.5-6.6	Hungarian restitution claims, circa 1956-2008 (2 folders)
6.7	Swiss Funds for Needy Victims of the Holocaust/Shoa, 1998