

Isi and Lilly Leuwenkroon




Jewish Resistance and Resilience in World War II

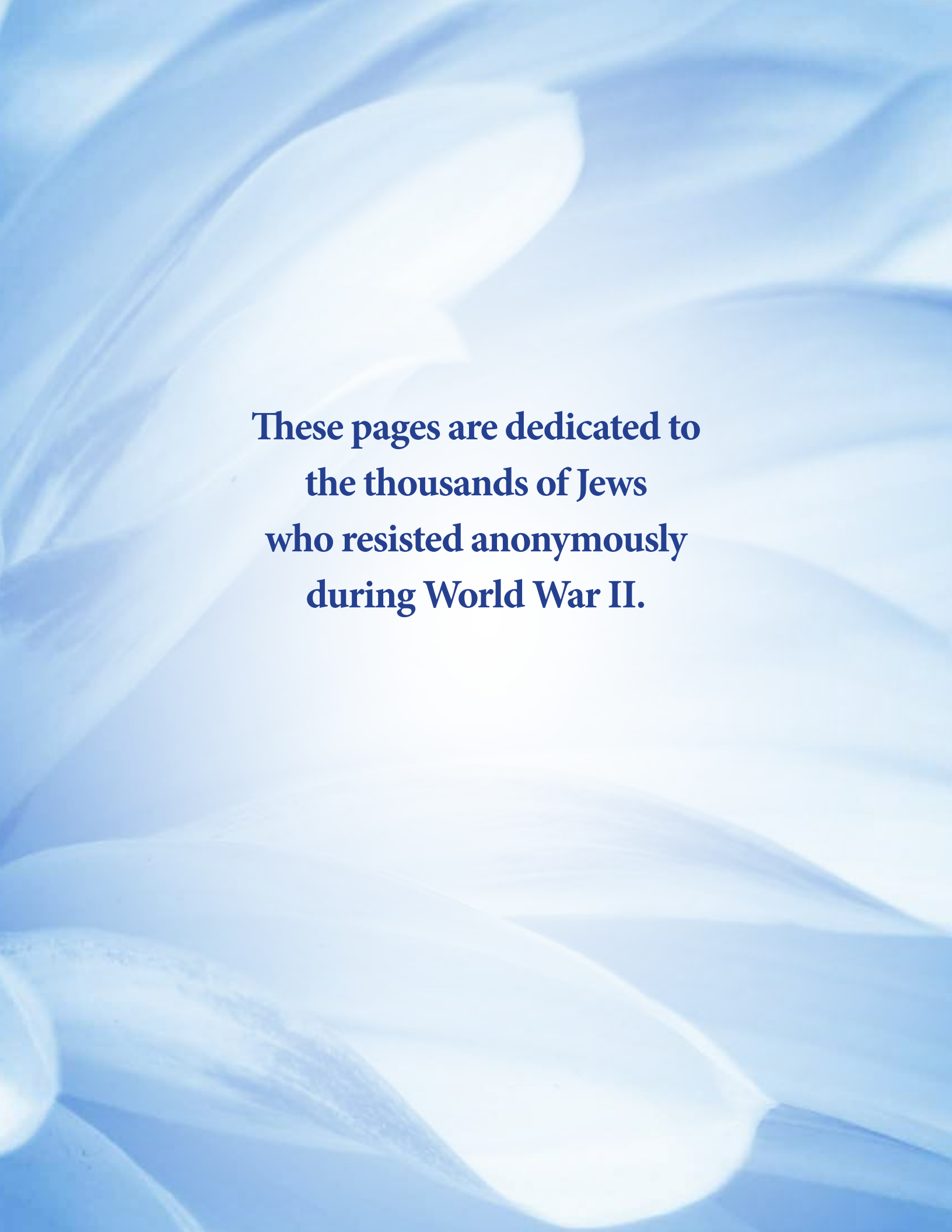
Eliane Leuwenkroon Strosberg wrote the text in this book.
Robert Leuwenkroon collected the archival documents over several decades.

The Leuwenkroon family is immensely grateful to Nancy Lefenfeld
for her remarkable research on the rescue operation of 274 Jews
at the French-Swiss border in 1943, which she published in *The Fate of Others*,
Timbrel Press, 2013. We thank Sarah McFadden for her precious editorial suggestions and
Amy Golditch Bernard for the graphic design of this book.
We are also very grateful to Joshua Sadun for his useful contributions.

**Donation by Robert, Rosette, Lucien and
Eliane Leuwenkroon in memory of Isi and Lilly.**

The original photos and documents marked  in this book,
and the book itself, have been donated to United States Holocaust Memorial Museum,
Washington D. C. (www.ushmm.org).

Cover, 1, 2, 4, 6 (middle), 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 19,
22-30, 33, 34, 36, 38, 39-41, 44.



**These pages are dedicated to
the thousands of Jews
who resisted anonymously
during World War II.**

Letter from Eliane Leuwenkroon Strosberg and her grandson Joshua Sadun
to the grandchildren and their friends

ZAKHOR!

(REMEMBER, in the Hebrew Bible)

Throughout history large scale tragedies have happened to other people.
Crimes against humanity are perpetrated across the planet as we write this.

Totalitarian barbarism can happen anytime and anywhere,
including in the USA.

Several thousand Jews joined the armed
and non-armed resistance during WWII.

Every child born to a Jewish WWII survivor
has a miracle story to tell.

Isi and Lilly risked their lives multiple times.

In 1943, they could have crossed the Swiss border to safety.

Yet, they chose to help others first.

Other family members, and many we will never know about,
resisted during WWII as well.

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Jewish Resistance during World War II (Timetable pp. 56-59, Bibliography pp. 60-61)

Over 6 million Jews, including 1.5 million-children, perished at the hands of the Nazis who rolled out a Machiavellian plan with lightning speed, unleashing terror upon civilians unaware of what awaited them.

While it is widely thought that Jews did not resist the Nazis murderous agenda, much evidence showed that they did. The scope of the Jewish Resistance remains hard to estimate as many resisters never mentioned their courageous acts to their families; most suffered from survivor's guilt and were not inclined to talk about WWII.

For Jews, just to survive was an act of resistance. Resilience was a form of resistance and many chose unarmed humanitarian resistance by saving the lives of others.¹ The American Jewish Joint Distribution, (Joint), was the major organization subsidizing the rescue operations in Europe: Oeuvre de Secours aux Enfants (OSE) was the major rescue organization in France, and there were quite a few in other countries too.

Jewish resistance in the concentration camps of Sobibor, Treblinka and Auschwitz, and in 18 different work camps, is well documented ². 'Let us not go like sheep to the slaughter' was the motto of Abba Kovner, the young commander of the Resistance in the Vilna ghetto. Major uprisings took place in large ghettos such as Vilna, Warsaw, Kovno, Lodz, Bialystok, as well as in many smaller ghettos.³

Hundreds of very young women participated as couriers between the ghettos; many belonged to Jewish youth movements.⁴ The role of youth movements was paramount in the Jewish Resistance. In the Warsaw ghetto alone, there were an estimated 800 chanichim (youths) from Hashomer Hatsair (Young Guards), 300 from Dror (Freedom), 160 Hanoar Hatzioni, (Zionist youth) and several hundred from Betar (Fortress). Many of them participated in the uprising.⁵

Some 30,000 Jews resisted in the forests in the Ukraine, Poland, Lithuania and Belarus. The Bielsky brothers are a leading example, but there were many others.⁶ Jews were well represented in the ranks of the Soviet Army. The Lithuanian division of the Red Army was 70% Jewish and its language was Yiddish.⁷

Jewish resistance in Western Europe, in France in particular, has been difficult to document because Jews operated under assumed names. But several prominent Jews went to London in direct response to de Gaulle's call to join the French Resistance there.⁸ Some of the most famous French resisters were Jewish, like Pierre Mendes-France, Marc Bloch, Raymond Aubrac and Jean Cavailhes; and among de Gaulle's elite were numerous Jewish figures such as Joseph Kessel, Romain Gary, Maurice Druon, Andre Gillois, Jacques Bingen and Andre Weill-Curiel.⁹

Of the 23 members in one of the most famous French Resistance group, FTP Manouchian, arrested after a series of spectacular attacks against the Germans, 12 were Jewish.¹⁰ Jews represented 15 to 20 % of the Resistance in the Maquis (French underground in the mountains and forests).¹¹

40% of the Jewish French resisters were women and they performed equally dangerous missions as their male comrades, particularly as their Jewish identity could not as easily be proven.¹²

Jews constituted 6% of the French Resistance, globally, while they accounted for less than 1 % of the nation's population. ¹³ Only 2% of the French population participated in the Resistance.¹⁴

Similar levels of Jewish Resistance were seen in other European countries. For example, within the Red Orchestra, the intelligence service of the Soviet army for Western Europe led by Leopold Trepper, whose main center of activity was in Belgium¹⁵, there were 15 Jews, about half of the Belgian group.

Also, 108 Jewish prisoners escaped from convoy XVI to Auschwitz, and 33 more from convoy XVII, a rare feat during WWII. And an attack by the Belgian Resistance on convoy XX was masterminded by a young Jew, Hersch Jospa, with the help of other Resisters. Although only seventeen escaped, theirs was the only such attack staged on the thousands of deportation trains crossing Europe. Further along the journey to Auschwitz,¹⁶ the complicity of the deportation center inmates who had provided them with tools allowed for 232 more to jump from convoy XX.

Jewish Resistance in Italy was represented by remarkable figures such as Carlo Levy, Leone Ginzburg and Sion Segre.¹⁷ Illustrious Jews in Denmark, such as physicist Niels Bohr and his brother Harald, played a leading role in helping many scientists escape from Germany.¹⁸

Jews from all over Europe joined the Resistance in North Africa to prepare for the massive US led invasion. Of the 377 members of the underground who participated in the November 1942 preparations, 315 were Jews.¹⁹ The Yishuv, Jewish Palestine before the creation of the State of Israel, sent 30,000 men and women to fight in the British army.²⁰

More than 1.5 million Jews served in the Allied forces, and over half a million Jews served in the United States armed forces.²¹ The 11,000 Ritchie Boys, most of whom were 'alien' German Jewish immigrants in the US, went back to Germany as spies and interrogators after being trained in Fort Ritchie (Maryland). They generated an estimated 60% of all combat intelligence during WWII.

In the last 20 years, a body of research has emerged that specifically documents Jews rescuing Jews, as there were countless individuals, social support networks, and resistance organizations operating in Europe such as CDJ, OJC, MJS, AK, AOB, Bund, GL, PKB, ZOB, and ZZW, to name a few.

It has been estimated that 5 to 10 % of the 3 million surviving Jews from Europe were rescued.²² While Jews participated to the Resistance in disproportionately high numbers, the success of the various forms of Jewish resistance depended on numerous non-Jewish organizations such as local resistance movements, churches, convents and orphanages, which played an invaluable role in saving Jews.

In addition, the wide-scale operations by non-Jewish diplomat heroes, Japanese, Swiss, Swedish, Spanish, Papal and Portuguese, who forged documents at great risk to their career and lives, saved tens of thousands of Jewish people.²³

Most of all, the role of the countless non-Jews who helped anonymously, in myriad small ways on a daily basis, can never be adequately appreciated. In truth, Jews and non-Jews mostly acted together, and their efforts, whether in the form of resilience, simple acts of kindness, humanitarian support, intelligence, passive or armed resistance are inseparable.

Isi and Lilly's family stories of resilience and resistance during WWII

The intertwining resistance stories of various family members mentioned in this book can, on their own, serve as a timeline for the Holocaust narrative.

In the summer of 1941, as the German units advanced East towards the Soviet Union, **Lilly's grandparents** were buried alive, perhaps after being shot, as were an estimated one and a half million Jews, in what is known now as the 'Holocaust by Bullets,' which preceded the massive deportations to the extermination camps.

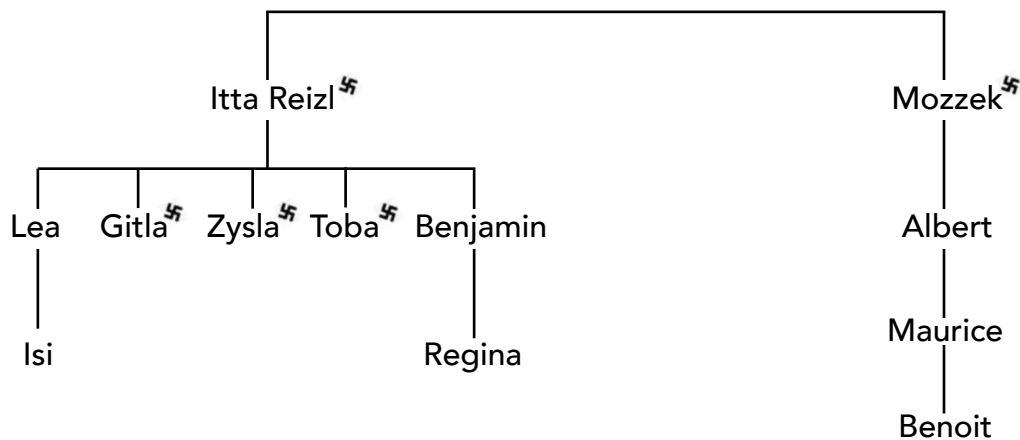
In the summer of 1942, the Germans requested that Jewish males of working age in western Europe 'volunteered' in their labor camps. After 3 months in a labor camp in Northern France, Lilly's father **Baruch** was deported and murdered in Auschwitz.

In the fall of 1942, massive deportations to concentration camps ramped up. Isi's grandmother **Itta Reizl** and her three daughters, **Zysla**, **Gitla** and **Toba** were murdered in Auschwitz. So was Itta Reizl's brother **Mozzek**.

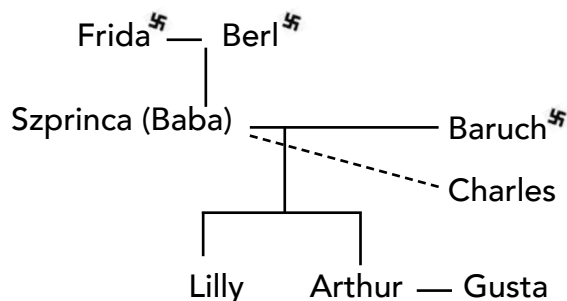
Isi's cousin **Albert** deported by convoy XVI from Belgium jumped of the train and survived the war.

Itta Reizl's son **Benjamin** survived the concentration camp and the Death March from Auschwitz in 1945.

Isi's family members mentioned in this book



Lilly's family members mentioned in this book



Isi and Lilly were in the Free Zone in France where they participated in the Resistance. Isi in particular, played a major role in the children's rescue operation across the Swiss border in the summer of 1943.

Lilly's brother **Arthur** (Thur) and his later wife **Gusta** (Gus) participated in the French communist Resistance throughout the war.

In 1946, **Baba** opened a canteen in Antwerp where she served soup to anybody in need. She later married **Charles** who had volunteered in the French Legion in Northern Africa throughout the war.

Benjamin's daughter, **Regina**, hoping to emigrate to Israel on board of the Exodus 1947 ship landed back in another camp.

Isi and Lilly's family journal

After WWII, The Jewish community in Antwerp was essentially made of Holocaust survivors. The subject of what happened during the war remained largely unspoken for more than half a century and still is. Lilly was 88 when she shared her WWII family stories with her daughter Eliane Leuwenkroon Strosberg and researcher Nancy Lefenfeld (Nan). By then, most of the other family survivors had passed away. As many details are forever lost, this book is aimed at connecting the dots and give a hint of what life was like for tens of thousands of refugees erring from place to place, all over Europe. It focuses on Isi Leuwenkroon rescuing Jewish children for which he received a posthumous citation from the JEWS RESCUING JEWS Committee, delivered by B'nai B'rith World on February 14, 2020, in Antwerp. Isi would then have been 100 years old.



1. **Isak Meyer (Isi) LEUWENKROON**

(11 February 1920 Jaroslav, Poland-7 February 2006 Antwerp, Belgium)

Acknowledgements

We thank Alan Schneider, Director of B'nai B'rith World, for his help and patience.

We are very grateful to Genya Markon for presenting Isi Leuwenkroon's file to the JEWS RESCUING JEWS committee in Jerusalem and for arranging contacts with the curatorial staff of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington.

We thank Norbert Weisz for his very kind introductions.



הוועדה להוקרת גבורתם של המצילים היהודיים בשואה
The Committee to Recognize the Heroism of Jews
who Rescued Fellow Jews During the Holocaust



מרכז העולמי של בני ברית-ירושלים
B'nai B'rith World Center-Jerusalem

אות המציל היהודי

Jewish Rescuer's Citation

לא תעמוד על דם רעך (ויקרא י"ט) כל ישראל ערבים זה לזה (חז"ל)

זאת לתעודה

כי אות המציל היהודי

הוענק להוקרת הפסידות, התעוזה והגבורה שגילה

יצחק מאיר לעווענקראן

בהצלת יהודים אחרים במהלך השואה

This is to Certify that a

Jewish Rescuer's Citation

has been conferred in recognition of
the devotion, courage and heroism exhibited by

Isak Meyer Leuwenkroon

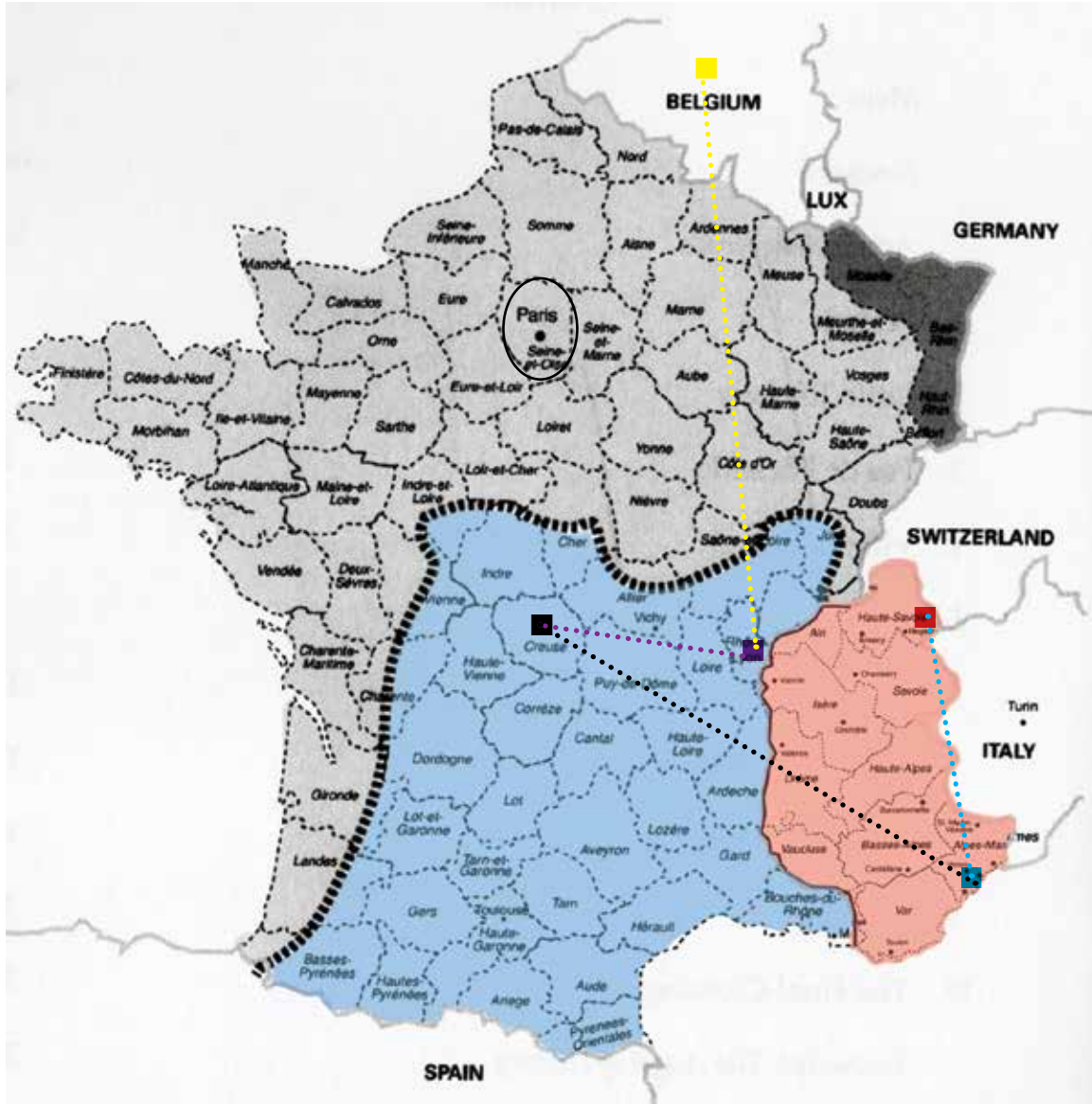
in rescuing fellow Jews during the Holocaust

חיים רוט, יו"ר
Haim Roet, Chairman

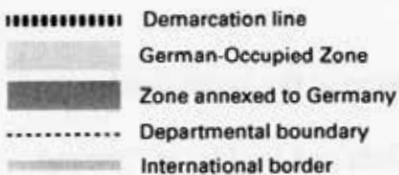
ד"ר חיים כ"ץ, יו"ר
Dr. Haim V. Katz, Chairman

בית הכנסת "ואן דה נסט", אנטוורפן, בלגיה, 11 בפברואר 2020
Synagogue Van de Nest lei, Antwerp, Belgium, 11 February 2020

Map of Isi and Lilly's Journey in France during WWII



OCCUPIED FRANCE
June 1940 - December 1942



- ANTWERP (until June 1941)
- LYON (winter 1942)
- LADAPEYRE (summer 1942)
- NICE (summer 1943)
- ST GERMAIS (fall 1943-winter 1944)

FRANCE, SO-CALLED FREE ZONE
Until November 1942 after which it was occupied by the Germans.

ITALIAN OCCUPATION ZONE
December 1942-September 1943 after which it was occupied by the Germans.

Rescue operations at the French/Swiss border in the summer of 1943

Between May 1943 and June 1944, an estimated 1,500 Jewish children were smuggled to safety across the French-Swiss border.

Between August and October 1943, at the height of WWII, members of MJS (Mouvement de Jeunesse Sioniste), the Young Zionist Movement, smuggled 274 people, 239 of them children, in 24 convoys over the border between France and Switzerland.

This story was recounted by Nancy Lefenfeld in her book *The Fate of Others*. According to Lefenfeld's account (pp 23, 27, 69 and 70), Isi Leuwenkroon participated in organizing the first 3 convoys and bringing the children to safety, under Mila Racine's leadership.

In 2008, during the course of her research, Lefenfeld interviewed some of the rescued children, such as Lydie Weisberg, who had been taken to safety in convoy #1 and had vivid memories of Isi in the context of the rescue operations. Lydie also remembered Isi and his wife Lilly as a very glamorous couple.

Maurice Glassman, who was 14 at the time of the rescue in convoy #2, suggested to Nan that she contacted the Leuwenkroon family. This is how Nan got in touch with Eliane Leuwenkroon Strosberg, Isi and Lilly's older daughter, who tells their survival story during WWII in this book.



2. Lilly in the 1940's.
(24 August 1922 Nowosiolky Poland-17 November 2020 Antwerp, Belgium)


ISI'S FAMILY

Isi was born in Jaroslaw, Poland, in 1920. His last name, Lewenkron was misspelled Lowenkraut, Lowenkron and Levenkron by various administrators. He changed his name to Leuwenkroon in 1963. Isi was orphaned at age 4 when his mother Lea probably died. Five years later, he came to Antwerp with his grandmother Itta Reizl Lewenkron, her daughters Zysla, Gittla and Toba, and her son, Benjamin.



3. Lea Lewenkron, Isi's mother.



4. Itta Reizl Lewenkron, Isi's grandmother, May 1941. 



5. Benjamin Lewenkron, Isi's uncle.



6. Zysla (left), Gittla (center) and Toba (right), Isi's aunts.

In the 1930s, Itta Reizl raised Isi in very difficult circumstances. As a young boy he went to Heder, the religious school where he learned Hebrew and Yiddish. After attending elementary school he began working in farms and mines.

Isi's uncle Benjamin surviving the Death March from Auschwitz

Isi's grandmother and her three daughters died in Auschwitz. Benjamin survived the infamous Death March from Auschwitz towards Buchenwald (the largest of several death marches). As the Soviet Army advanced in 1944, the SS realized that they were going to lose the war and began marching 56,000 starved prisoners out of Auschwitz mostly to Germany in well below freezing temperatures. Up to 15,000 died during that Death March.

B. Jude 3 122335

Vor- und Zuname: Benjamin Lewenkron Haft-Nr. 122335

Beruf: Schneider geboren am: 1.12.01. in: Brüssel

Anschrifts-Ort: _____ Straße Nr. _____

Eingel. am: 26.1.45 Uhr von KL, Auschwitz am _____ Uhr nach _____

Bei Einlieferung abgegeben:

<input type="checkbox"/> Hut/Mütze	<input type="checkbox"/> Paar Schuhe/Stiefel	<input type="checkbox"/> Kragenknöpfe	<input type="checkbox"/> Feuerzeug	<input type="checkbox"/> Wehrpaß
<input type="checkbox"/> Mantel	<input type="checkbox"/> Paar Strümpfe	<input type="checkbox"/> Halstuch	<input type="checkbox"/> Tabak	<input type="checkbox"/> Fremdenpaß
<input type="checkbox"/> Rock	<input type="checkbox"/> Paar Samafchen ^{Sub Leber}	<input type="checkbox"/> Taschentuch	<input type="checkbox"/> Zigarren/Zigaretten	<input type="checkbox"/> Arbeitsbuch
<input type="checkbox"/> Weste/Kleiderweste	<input type="checkbox"/> Kragen	<input type="checkbox"/> Paar Handschuhe ^{Sub Leber}	<input type="checkbox"/> Zigaretten	<input type="checkbox"/> Invalidentarte
<input type="checkbox"/> Hose	<input type="checkbox"/> Brieftasche mit ^{Sub Leber}	<input type="checkbox"/> Zierbuch		
<input type="checkbox"/> Pullover	<input type="checkbox"/> Winter/Hüte	<input type="checkbox"/> Papiere	<input type="checkbox"/> Messer	<input type="checkbox"/> Schere
<input type="checkbox"/> Oberbekleid.	<input type="checkbox"/> Paar Armbalger	<input type="checkbox"/> Sportkemb/Hofen	<input type="checkbox"/> Weißblech/Drehblei	
<input type="checkbox"/> Unterbekleid.	<input type="checkbox"/> Paar Sockenbalger	<input type="checkbox"/> Abzeichen	<input type="checkbox"/> Weibbeife	
<input type="checkbox"/> Unterhosen	<input type="checkbox"/> Paar Manich.-Knöpfe	<input type="checkbox"/> Schlüssel a. Ring	<input type="checkbox"/> Kamm	Wertfächer: ja - nein

Abgabe bestätigt: Benjamin Lewenkron

Effektentverwalter: 1587
I.T.S. FORONO

KL. BUCHENWALD (Männer) T/D Nr. 878554

LEWENKRON Benjamin
NAME NACHNAME

1.12.1901 Brüssel 122.335
Geb.-Datum geb.-Ort Haft-Nr.

Häft. Pers. Karte <input type="checkbox"/>	Mil. Gov. Quest. <input type="checkbox"/>	Dokumente: <table border="1" style="display: inline-table;"><tr><td>3</td><td></td><td></td></tr></table>	3		
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Schreibz.-Karte <input type="checkbox"/>	Zahnbehandlungskarte <input type="checkbox"/>				
Häft. Pers. Bogen <input type="checkbox"/>	Korrespondenz <input type="checkbox"/>				
Ravierskarte <input type="checkbox"/>					
Krankensblätter <input type="checkbox"/>					
Arbeitskarte <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>					
Geldverw.-Karte <input type="checkbox"/>					
Nummernkarte <input type="checkbox"/>					

Umschlag-Nr.: _____

7 & 8.

Bad Arolsen records documenting Benjamin Lewenkron's arrival at Buchenwald from Auschwitz.

LILLY'S FAMILY

Lilly (Lieba Brenig) was born in Poland in 1922. Her family came to Antwerp when she was seven. Although she was 88 at the time she told us this story, she vividly remembered seeing, smelling and tasting an orange for the first time. A passenger gave it to her on the long train journey to Belgium.



9. Baba (Szprinca Gleicher) with her children, Lilly and Arthur, in the 1920s.



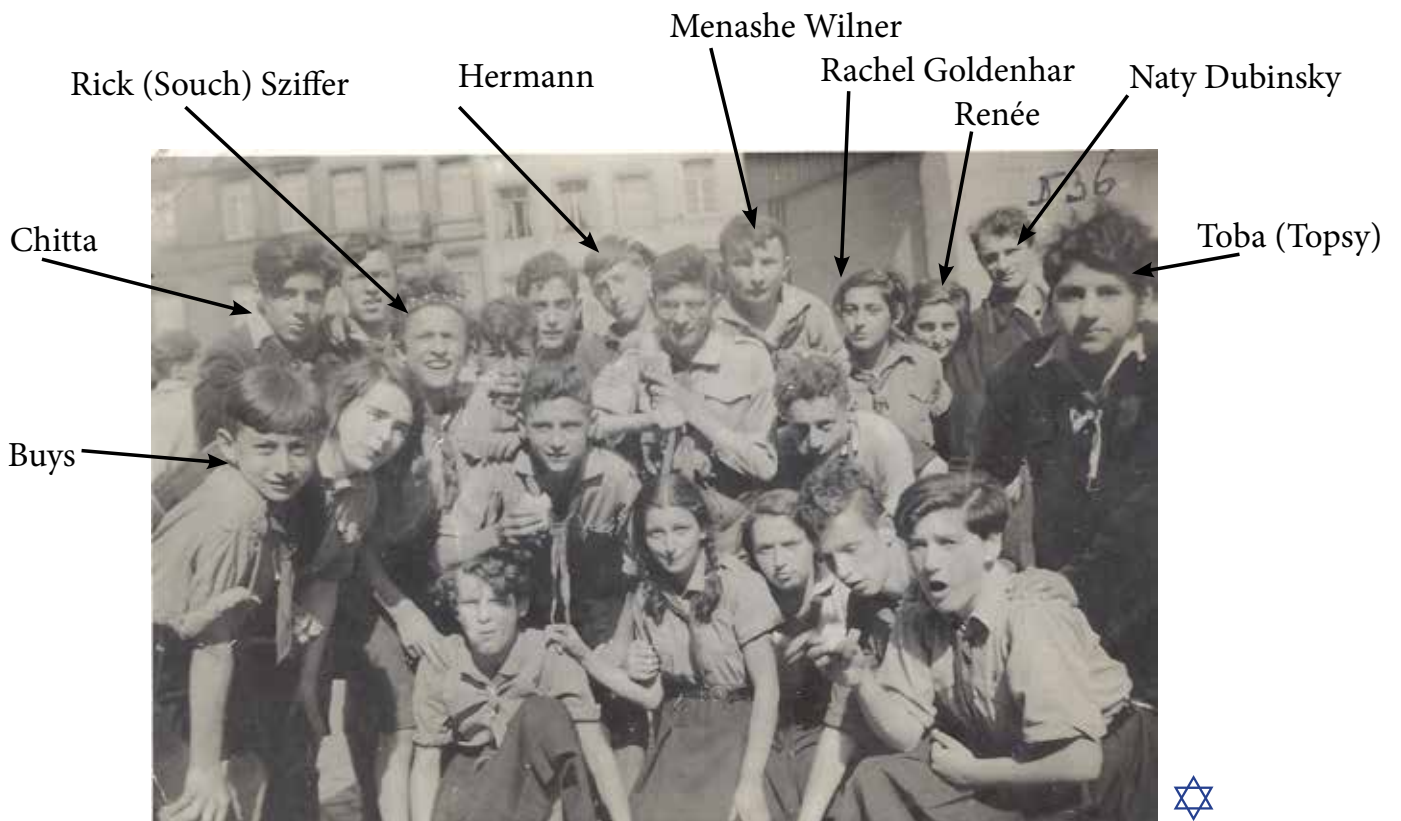
10. Lilly, Baba, Arthur and Baruch Brenig in Antwerp on the Keyzerlei, in the 1930s.

In Antwerp, Lilly's parents, Szprinca (Baba) and Baruch had a small vegetable store in the Kievitstraat. Lilly remembered that it was sacked by the Nazis, who shouted at her to clean everything up.

ISI AND LILLY'S FRIENDS

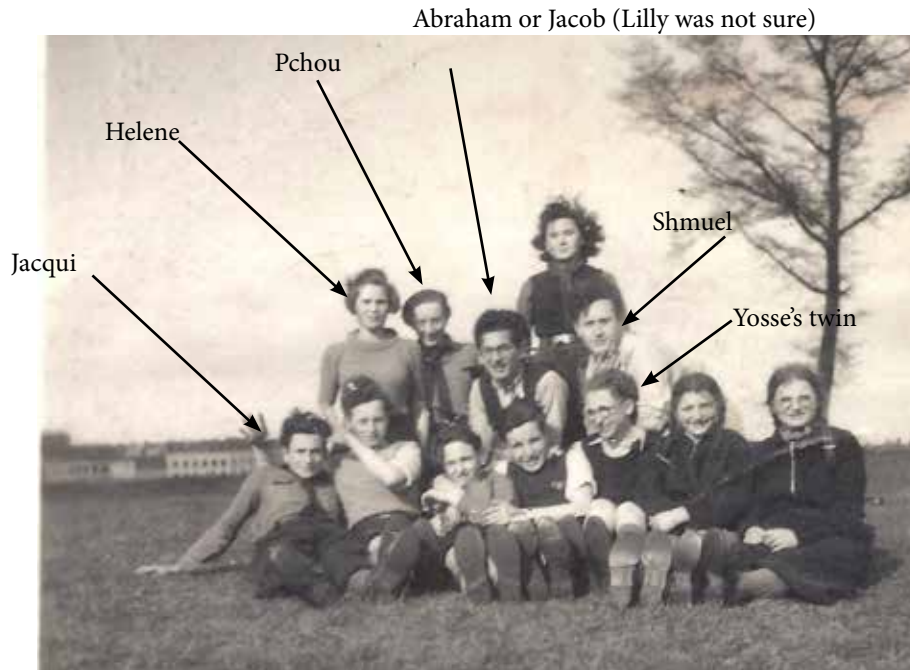


11. Two of Lilly's friends who died in Auschwitz.



12. Hashomer Hatsair 1936, Isi's group (Kvutsa).

ISI AND LILLY'S FRIENDS



13. Hashomer Hatzair 1937, Kvutsa of Lilly. Tioul Lapidim Nachtegalen Park. Inscription on reverse: 'See you again in better times.' Reggus June 1941.



14. Isi's friends, Tchou, Yossel, Isi (upper row, 1st on the right), Iny Dunkelblum (next to Isi), Israel De Schiester (upper row, 2nd on the left), and Leo Fischewitz (bottom row, 1st on the right).

Isi and Lilly met in Antwerp at the youth movement Hashomer Hatzair (Young Guards), of which Isi developed another branch in Liège, Belgium. Hashomer values were at the core of the kibbutz movement in Israel at the beginning of the 20th century. Hundreds of kibbutzim, collective communities based on agriculture, formed the economy of the future state of Israel. Hashomer's motto was, and still is, Hazak V'Amatz, 'Be Strong and Courageous,' the Biblical words that Moses said to Joshua as he assumed leadership.

ISI AND LILLY'S WEDDING ON MAY 10, 1941



15. Isi and Lilly's wedding, May 10, 1941, Antwerp, (exactly one year after the invasion of Belgium by the Germans).



16. Isi and Lilly's wedding certificate.



17. Inscribed on the reverse: Honeymoon-Herentals; Belgium (20 miles from Antwerp).

BARUCH BRENIG: LABOR CAMP



18. Baba and Baruch wearing the yellow star.

Lilly and Isi were married in May 1941 and fled to France sometime after they registered in the compulsory Joden Register (Jewish Registry, see p. 74), on June 3, 1941. Baba stayed with Isi and Lilly during most of the war.

Baruch hoped that he would save his family by turning himself in to the Germans and working on the Atlantic Wall they were building along the European coast. The so-called Wall was a series of bunkers and watch towers that extended all the way down the coast, from Norway to Spain.

The Germans had promised that the families of those who spontaneously participated in their labor force would be spared. Prisoners in labor camps at the Wall were allowed to write to their loved ones because the Germans expected to locate the families through their correspondence.

20. Forced labor certificate of Baruch Brenig at German companies in the North of France: Stutzenberger, July 12 - October 17, 1942; Leonhard Hambuch and Sohne, October 17-31, 1942.



19. Baruch Brenig.

MINISTRE DE LA SANTE PUBLIQUE
ET DE LA FAMILLE.

1070 Bruxelles le 28 juin 1972
31, Square de l'Aviation.

Administration des Victimes de la Guerre.
Direction : Recherches, Documentation et Décès.
N° : 126/YA/AG

ATTESTATION

Nous certifions, sur base de notre documentation, que le nommé :

BRENIG Baruch,
né le 4.7.1893 à Lisko,

a été mis au travail forcé dans le Nord de la France (O.T.), sur ordre de l'autorité occupante.

Il figure sur les listes de salaires (établies par quinzaines)
de la firme "STUTZENBERGER" du 12.7.1942 au 17.10.1942 ;
de la firme "Leonhard Hambuch et Sohne" du 17.10.1942 au 31.10.1942.

SOURCE : Documents originaux provenant de la Banque de Paris et des
Pays-Bas.

Cette attestation est délivrée pour servir à l'introduction d'une
demande de réparation auprès des tribunaux allemands.

AU NOM DU MINISTRE,
LE CHEF DE SERVICE,
BRAUER.

DEPORTATIONS FROM ANTWERP IN 1942

Baruch wrote that he was starving, and Lilly sent him several eggs that she had found, with great difficulty, at farms. Baruch wrote back that he had not been able to cook and eat them. Some 60 years later Lilly, who never heard from her father again, still regretted not having cooked those eggs. Until 2007, she believed that her father died of starvation at the Atlantic Wall. In fact, Baruch was sent to Auschwitz three months after arriving at the labor camp.

MINISTÈRE DE LA SANTÉ PUBLIQUE
ET DE LA FAMILLE

Administration des Victimes de
La Guerre

Direction : Recherches, Documentation
et Dées

Réf. : 126/YA/AG

1070 Bruxelles, le 28 juin 1972
Square de l'Aviation, 31

A T T E S T A T I O N

Délicré au Tribunal Allemand de Réparation.
Pour l'obtention d'une indemnité de réparation.
D'après les documents suivants : - Liste du Convoi de Malines
- Fiche originale allemande
~~- Fiche de l'Administration des Victimes de la Guerre~~
~~- Fiche de l'Administration des Victimes de la Guerre~~

Il résulte que
Monsieur BRENIG Baruch,
né le 4.7.1893 à Lisko,
domicilié à Antwerpen, Vestingstraat 68,

- a été déporté du camp de rassemblement de Malines ~~Dossy~~ vers le C.C. Auschwitz,
le 31.10.1942 par le convoi 17 sous le numéro 105 ;

- n'a pas été rapatrié à ce jour
~~- a été rapatrié le~~

AU NOM DU MINISTRE,
LE CHEF DE SERVICE,

/ . BRAEM

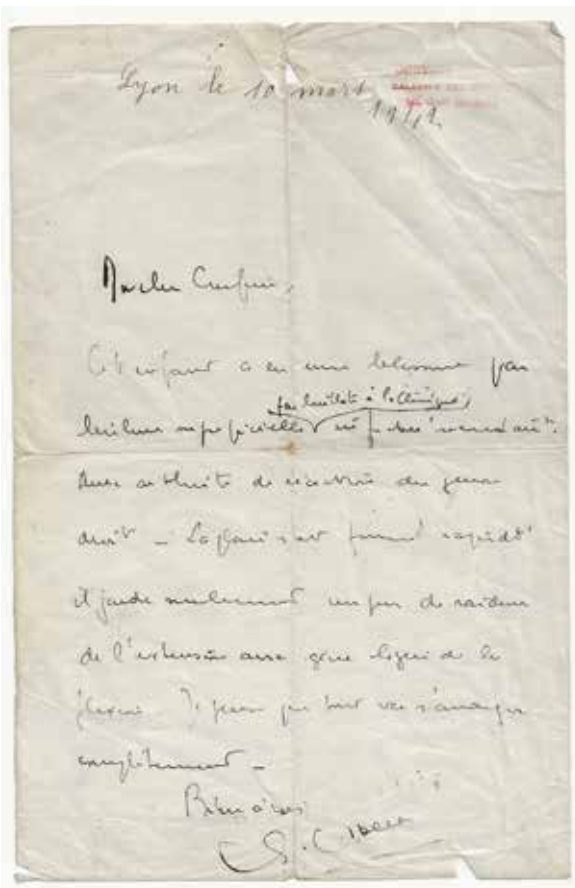
ANNEXE : photocopie de la fiche allemande

21. Baruch Brenig's deportation certificate from Mechelen, Belgium, to Auschwitz on October 31, 1942 on convoy XVII.

WINTER 1942 IN LYON: ROBERT'S BIRTH

During the very cold winter of 1942, Isi and Lilly were living in Lyon, France. At some point, Isi was arrested by the French police and imprisoned in Fort Montluc, which later became the headquarters of the infamous Nazi Commander, Klaus Barbie. Isi screamed for days and days, as he wanted to be with his pregnant wife. Considered to be insane by the guards, he was thrown out of the prison.

Lilly gave birth to their first child, Robert on January 19, 1942. In the Catholic hospital, newborns were separated from their mothers most of the time. The Sisters kept the babies warm with heated irons that were kept nearby. One morning when Lilly went into the nursery, baby Robert was screaming because his knee was badly burned from having come in contact with a hot iron. The doctor had little advice on how to care for the wound other than pulling and stretching the leg often. At the time, the doctor told Lilly, age 19, that he was not sure Robert would be able to walk. At nearly 80, Robert is still walking despite the fact that his left leg is atrophied.



22. Doctor's letter to a colleague about baby Robert's burned knee, dated March 10, 1942. Eight weeks after the wound occurred. Translation: 'This child had a wound caused by superficial burning ... at the clinic where he was born... with reactive arthritis of the left knee ... The wound healed quickly but stiffness during knee extension with limitation of knee flexion persists. I believe it will eventually heal... All yours!'

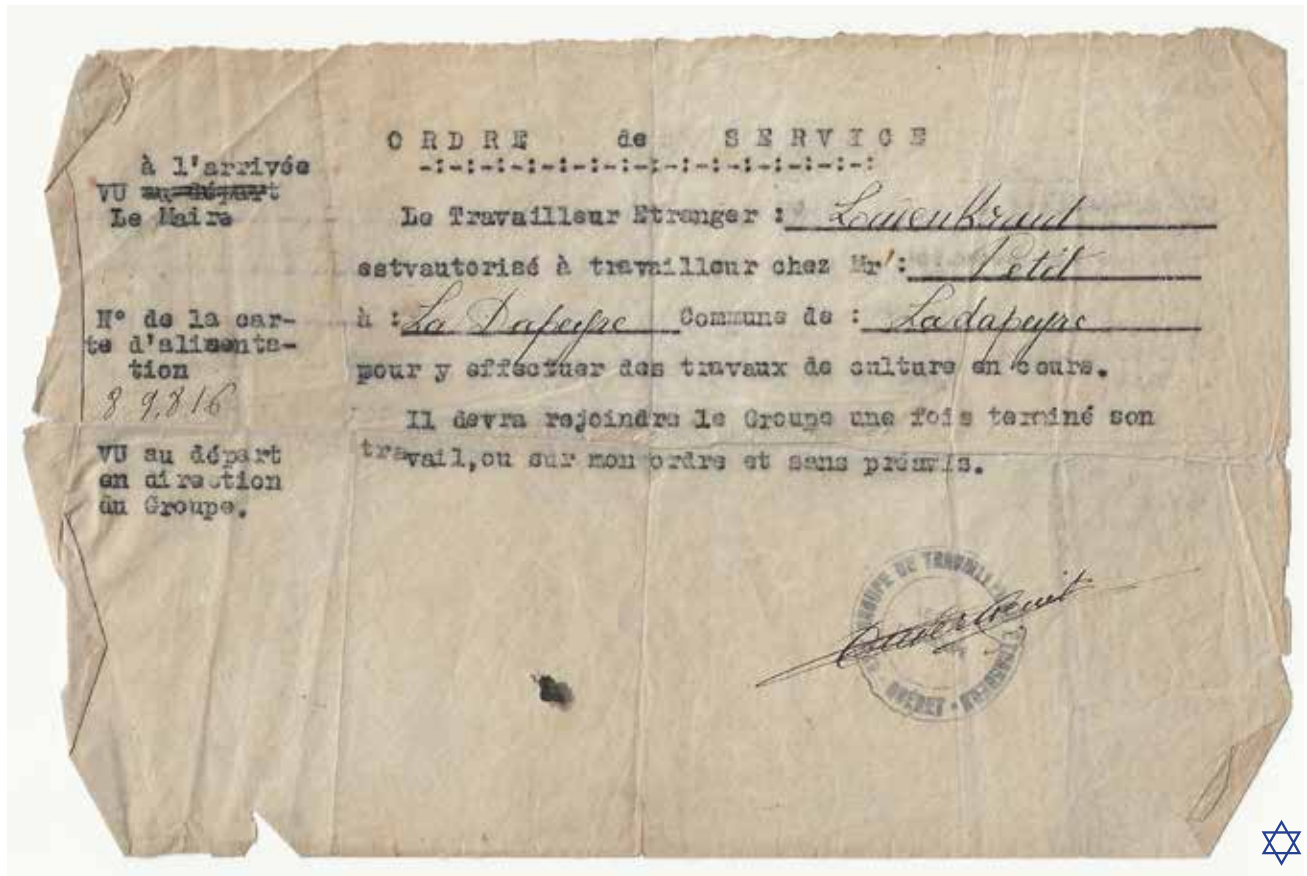


23. Isi, Lilly and Robert in Lyon, 1942.



SUMMER 1942: WORK IN LADAPEYRE

Isi and Lilly spent part of 1942 in Ladapeyre, in central France, part of the so-called 'Free Zone,' controlled by the Vichy anti-semitic government, not yet occupied by the Germans (see map p. 12).



24. Isi's work permit in Ladapeyre, in the Creuse region of central France in 1942.



25. Work in Ladapeyre in 1942.

SUMMER 1942: WORK IN LADAPEYRE



26. ✧



27. ✧



28. ✧

26, 27 & 28. Life in Ladapeyre in 1942.

SUMMER 1943: MJS AND VAL JOLY IN ST. GERVAIS

The following pages on the wartime experience of Isi and Lilly in the Haute-Savoie region were compiled by Eliane for researcher Nancy Lefenfeld, who conducted an interview with Lilly in April 2010. Isi had passed away in 2006. Nan's interest in speaking with Lilly stemmed from the fact that she and Isi lived in St. Gervais during the summer of 1943.

Lilly's recollections of their time in Haute-Savoie were helpful to Nan, enriching her understanding of the period. Eliane developed the preliminary notes through discussions with Lilly and her brother Arthur and wife Gusta who also lived in St. Gervais during the summer of 1943.

In Haute-Savoie, Isi contributed to the creation of the local MJS, Mouvement de Jeunesse Sioniste (Young Zionist Movement). With MJS, Isi helped transfer children and adults from St. Gervais to the Swiss border so they could be smuggled to freedom. Switzerland, a neutral country during the war, was never occupied by the Germans.



29. Lilly and Arthur, St. Gervais, 1943. Arthur and his wife Gusta joined the Communist Resistance throughout the war.



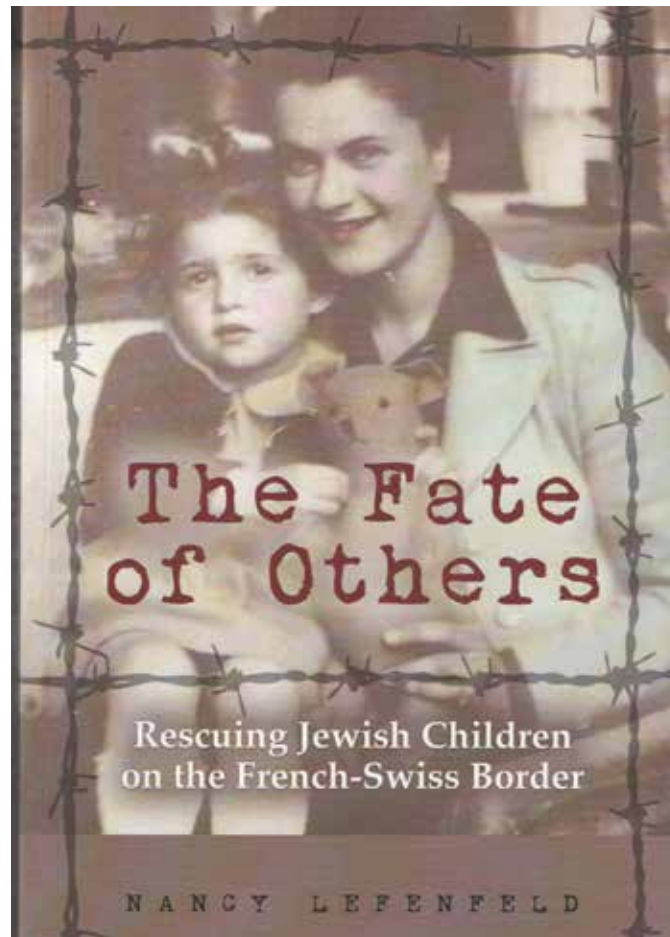
30. MJS group with Gus (left), Mila Racine (middle) and Lilly (right).

SUMMER 1943: MJS AND VAL JOLY IN ST. GERVAIS

Until November 1942, the southern part of France was referred to as the Zone Libre (Free Zone). After that, the Germans occupied most of what had been the Zone Libre but ceded a small part of the country to their ally, Italy. (see map p. 12).

It quickly became apparent that the Italians were not cooperating in the deportations. Jews living elsewhere in France and Europe soon learned of this, and thousands made their way to the Italian Occupation Zone.

In early 1943, Isi and Lilly having learned of the greater measure of safety in the Italian Occupation Zone, made their way there, too. In Nice, it was difficult for them to find food, but someone gave them ration tickets so that they could buy boxes of milk.



31. Cover of 'The Fate of Others' by Nancy Lefenfeld.

In 2013, Nan published her book on the smuggling of Jewish children from France into Switzerland. Isi's story and pictures are mentioned on pages 23, 27, 69, 70.

SUMMER 1943: MJS AND VAL JOLY IN ST. GERVAIS

In the spring of 1943 under pressure from the Germans, Italian authorities transferred some of the Jews living in Nice to centers of forced residence away from the Mediterranean coast.

Approximately 900 people, including Isi and Lilly, Baba and young Robert, were sent to St. Gervais-les-Bains (St. Gervais), a ski resort at the foot of the Mont Blanc. A few hundred Jews were sent to the neighboring town of Mégève.

St. Gervais was the place where Mila Racine and MJS operated initially. The young Jews were helped by an ecumenical network in Haute-Savoie which included Catholic and Protestant clergy as well as lay people.

Smuggling people across the border, helping or even just knowing of such activities meant risking your life. If caught by the French Police, people assisting Jews would be turned in to the Gestapo, who would punish them severely.

Isi and Lilly were part of a group of about 50 people aged 18-25 that met almost every night at the Val Joly Inn, a hotel that also served as the headquarters of the MJS group in St. Gervais. They sang Jewish songs and created funny French tunes, which Lilly spontaneously started humming during Nan's interview.

At Val Joly, Hersch Fenster organized cultural evenings and taught Yiddish. He later wrote *Nos Artistes Martyrs*, a book prefaced by Marc Chagall, about the lives of deported Jewish artists.

32. Hersch Fenster.



Isi organized sports activities in St. Gervais.

Isi and Lilly met people from many other countries. Georges Schnek, also from Belgium, had come to recruit young people for the MJS brigade in Grenoble, of which he became a Commander. Georges was later decorated for his work in the Resistance. He was a chemist who perfected the art of the Synthé, the 'True Fake' identity cards that saved so many lives. Georges gave Eliane her first job ... as a chemistry technician. Isi and Arthur remained lifelong friends with Georges.

SUMMER 1943: MJS AND VAL JOLY IN ST. GERVAIS



33. Group photo with Isi and Lilly near St. Gervais, Mont Blanc Plage, August 1943.



34. Group photo with Isi, Lilly and Robert near St. Gervais, St Martin 1943. (Little boys' hair was kept long back then).

SUMMER 1943: MJS AND VAL JOLY IN ST. GERVAIS

The Jews living in St. Gervais were treated as refugees under surveillance; they had to check in with the Italian authorities each day and were not allowed to leave town without written authorization. Despite this status, they felt relatively safe because they were under the protection of the Italian army and therefore not threatened with immediate deportation.

Lilly remembered that the Italians were extremely kind and had beautiful uniforms with all kinds of eccentric hats with feathers, and that they sang opera arias. She also recalled their time in St. Gervais as the only happy moment of the war, even though their lives were at risk at all times.



35. Robert and Baba in 1943.

Robert then had a big belly and looked chubby, which made Lilly very proud, considering how difficult it was to find food. However, when she took him to the doctor, he told her that his 'chubbiness' was due to rickets caused by severe lack of vitamin D.

Lilly's brother, Thur, met his future wife, Gus (Gusta Glazman), in St. Gervais. Gus's brother Maurice (later Dr. Glazman), was in the second children's convoy organized by MJS, which crossed into Switzerland at the end of August 1943. The MJS team was then still struggling to figure out how to pass the children across the border which was very dangerous.

MILA RACINE: CHRONOLOGY OF THE RESCUE OPERATION NEAR ST. GERVAIS

When Nan interviewed Maurice in 2008, he spoke of the difficulties encountered by Mila Racine and the network that organized the smuggling. They operated until late October 1943. Maurice remembers Mila very well and specifically mentioned Isi organizing convoys.



36. Isi, Lilly, and Mila Racine dancing the Hora in St. Gervais, 1943.

Lilly also remembered Mila and especially that they sometimes danced the Hora together. She said that Mila had long hair and was taller than her sister, Sacha. Mila spoke to Lilly about her brother Emmanuel, who was not living in St. Gervais. Although Lilly's memory at 88 was faltering, she clearly remembered numerous details of that special wartime experience.

In 1943, Swiss authorities permitted certain categories of refugees who had entered Switzerland illegally to remain there. Others were deported. Among the categories of 'hardship cases' allowed to remain in the country were unaccompanied boys under 16 years of age, girls up to 18, and parents with children younger than 6.

As Lilly explained during the interview, Isi helped Mila and others by 'fabricating' families and then accompanying them to the border. A 'fabricated' family was comprised of a man and a woman paired together and a child placed with the couple. These families were made up in order to maximize the number of people who would be allowed to remain in Switzerland.

MILA RACINE: CHRONOLOGY OF THE RESCUE OPERATION NEAR ST. GERVAIS

In mid-August 1943, Mila Racine was asked to organize the first MJS convoy (group) in St. Gervais. She did so and went with the children (MJS convoy #1) to the border on August 16. With the help of Isi and others, she managed to pass them walking across on August 17. Lydie Weisberg was a part of the first convoy.

After mid-August, Tony Gryn was sent from Grenoble to join Mila in St. Gervais. Together with others, they organized the MJS convoy #2. After a few days of difficulty, on August 28, they managed to pass that convoy across in three sub-groups, of which Maurice Glazman was a part.

They passed convoy #3 across the border on September 6.

On September 8, the Jewish community that had been living in St. Gervais was evacuated.

It was on or around that date that Mila, Tony and other young men and women relocated to Annecy, where MJS would continue to receive children sent from many other parts of France.

Even though the Germans had a headquarters in Annecy, the MJS worked from there until the night of October 21, 1943, when a convoy led by Mila Racine and Roland Epstein was intercepted. Mila was arrested while attempting to smuggle a group of children and adults across the border.

After her arrest, she was incarcerated in prisons in France (including Fort Montluc) and then deported to Ravensbrück, in Germany, as part of a convoy of French women, many of whom were résistantes.



The Germans did not know Mila was Jewish because her false papers indicated that she was a French Catholic. She survived many months of captivity in Ravensbrück, the largest camp the Nazis built specifically for women, and was later sent to Mauthausen, in Austria.

On March 20, 1945, Mila was killed near the town of Amstetten, Germany, during an aerial bombardment carried out by American forces; her body was never found.

At Yad Vashem, in Jerusalem, there is a *Mémorial de la Résistance juive en France*, Memorial to the Jewish Resistance in France, that contains dossiers for Jewish martyrs. Mila's file is number 13.

37. Mila Racine (Leo Baeck Institute, New York City).

FALL 1943 AND WINTER 1944 IN SALLANCHES

Toward the end of August 1943, the Jews in St. Gervais and Mègeve heard that the Italian Occupation Zone was not going to last and that the Italians were soon going to depart.

On September 8, most of the Jewish refugees living in those towns traveled in trucks to Nice, where many were caught and sent to concentration camps.

On that same day General Eisenhower announced to the world that Italy had entered into an armistice with the Allies. Italian soldiers left France and returned to their homeland. German soldiers replaced them throughout southeast France and started a ferocious hunt for Jews.

After the Italian soldiers left, Isi, who as an orphan had grown up street smart and independent, did not join the others in Nice but remained in Haute-Savoie with his small family. He managed to rent an apartment in Sallanches, near St. Gervais, from a person named Gerfaud, who worked for a notary.

Nan Lefenfeld looked up this name on lespagesjaunes.fr and found that there still is a 'Gerfaud V' listed in Sallanches and many others in nearby towns. Gabriel Grandgacques, the local historian, is devoting his life to documenting this period.

Isi and Lilly hid in Sallanches for several months, venturing out very little. The notary helped them pass the time by lending them books. Isi and Lilly would sometimes come out to ski despite the great danger, since the Germans were everywhere by then.

After leaving Sallanches, Isi and the family went on from place to place, keeping their clothes on at night in case they might have to run through the back door if the French police showed up.



38. Villa Du Tilleul, Sallanches, 1943.



39. Lease of December 1943 from Me Gerfaud V to Isi under cover name Mr. Gandaux. Handwritten note: 'Water is paid until 10 February 1944'.



FALL 1943 AND WINTER 1944 IN SALLANCHES



40. Isi and Lilly skiing near Sallanches, 1943-44.

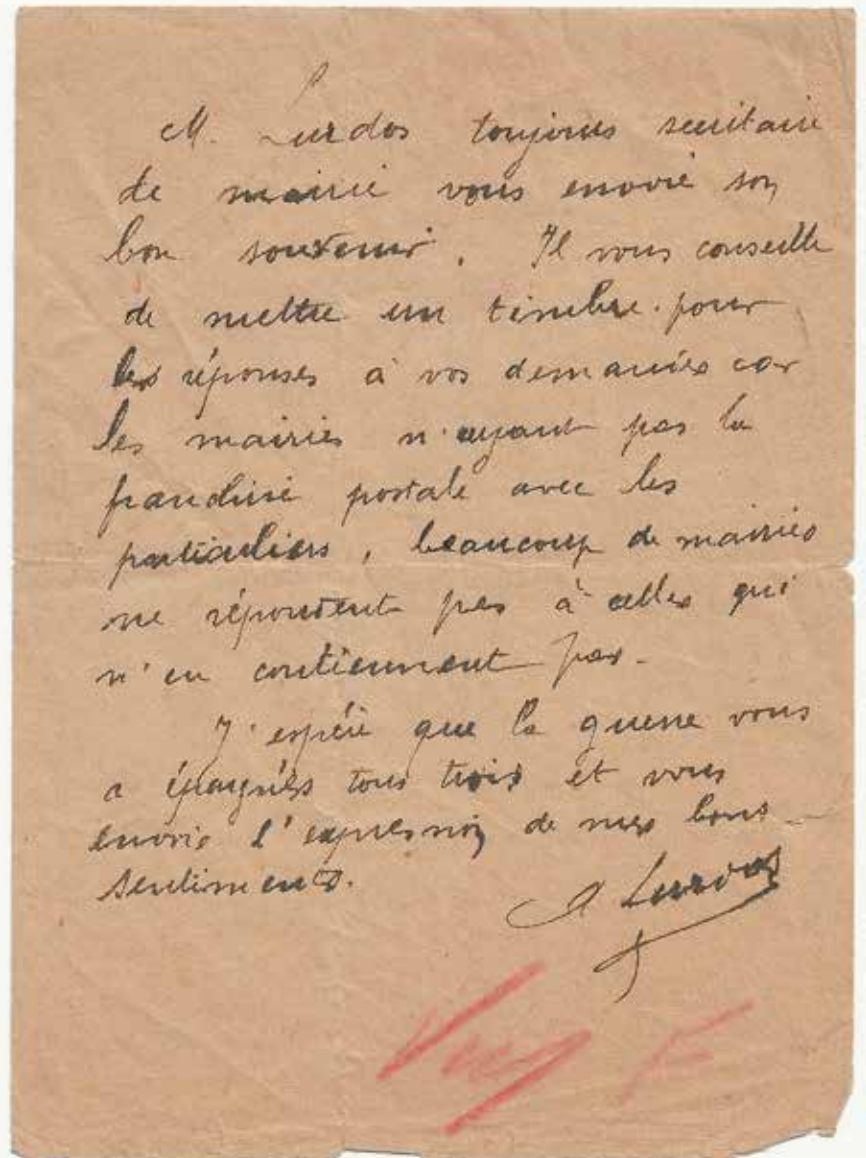


During 1943-44, Isi fabricated false papers for himself and Lilly and for many others. He would read the newspapers, pick up a name of an individual at random, and the name of the town in which he or she lived. He wrote to the mairie (town hall) in the name of this individual, explaining that his identity papers had been lost, and requested another set. Once he got the documents, he changed the photos so that they could be used by someone else. On occasion, Isi and Lilly would 'rob' the mairie. Obviously this kind of activity required support from the Resistance inside some mairies. Lilly recalled being terrified as she was once stopped by the French police, while carrying a bag of fake IDs under her coat.

41. Letter from town hall employee, a resistor, to Isi:

'M. Lurdos still secretaire de la mairie sends his best regards. He suggests that you include a postage stamp for the answers to your requests, because the mairies do not have a postal franchise with individuals, many can not answer without a return stamp.

I hope the war has spared all three of you and I send you my best wishes.'



RETURNING TO ANTWERP AFTER THE WAR

Throughout the war, Isi was arrested several times, but he always escaped by ingenuity, persistence, plus a huge dose of luck. Isi and Lilly survived the war and in 1945 returned to Antwerp, where they found out that most of their friends and family had been murdered in concentration camps.

In 2007, when the archives became available to the family, they discovered that Lilly's father, Baruch Brenig and Isi's grandmother, Itta Reizl Lewenkron and her daughters had been sent to Auschwitz in 1942.

MINISTRE DE LA SANTE PUBLIQUE
ET DE LA FAMILLE.

Bruxelles, le 23.9.1957.
155, rue de la Loi.

Administration des Dommages aux Personnes.
Direction : Recherches, Documentation et Dées.
Réf. : 126/YA/MD.

ATTESTATION.

Délivrée au TRIBUNAL ALLEMAND DE REPARATION.
Pour l'obtention d'une indemnité de réparation.
D'après les documents suivants : - Liste du convoi de Malines
- Fiche originale allemande
- Liste microfilmée du convoi
de Brancy (documents originaux)

il résulte que :

Mme. Itta REIZL, née à Varsovie, le 13.5.1875,
domiciliée successivement à ANVERS, Lange Rivierstraat, 103.

- a été déportée du camp de rassemblement de Malines - Brancy
le 24.10.1942 par le convoi 14 sous le numéro 518.
- n'a pas été rapatriée à ce jour .
~~- a été rapatriée le~~

Gesehen!
Generalkonsulat der
Bundesrepublik Deutschland.
Antwerpen, 1.1957

LE MINISTRE,
Par déléation,
DIRECTEUR,
DOSSIER.

ASSEX : photocopie de la fiche allemande

42. Itta Reizl's deportation certificate from Mechelen on convoy XIV on October 24 of 1942.

Nr. GERECHTELIJKE VERKLARING VAN OVERLIJDEN

Ondergaande kennisgeving overgemaakt aan de heer Prokureur des Konings bij de rechtbank van eerste aanleg zitting houdende te Antwerpen ingevolge artikel 16 de wet van 20 Augustus 1948.

Uit een verzoekschrift

Bij vonnis nr. 2/25 der eerste kamer der rechtbank van eerste aanleg zitting houdende te Antwerpen in datum van : 22 DEC 1949 verleend op verzoekschrift aangeboden op : 22 DEC 1949

door de heer Prokureur des Konings bij de rechtbank van eerste aanleg zitting houdende te Antwerpen

doet :

handelende voor :

BIJKT DAT :

WERD GERECHTERLIJK VASTGESTELD DAT :

werd voorgeschreven dat de eis strekkende tot gerechtelijke verklaring van overlijden van

NAAM EN VOORNAAM : BRENIG, Baruch ,
GEBORTEPLAATS EN DATUM : Lisko, Polen, 4 Juli 1893
ZON (SCHOONZON) VAN : Tanchem,
EN VAN : Gross Gitla,
ECHTGENOOT (SCHOONWIJF) VAN : Gleicher Szprinc
LAATSTE WOONPLAATS : Antwerpen, Vestingstraat, 66.
VERMOEDEN OVERLEDEN IS TE : Auschwitz-Polen,
Op : tussen 1 Januari 1943 en 8 Mei 1945;

het voorwerp van uitmaken van een korte aankondiging in het Belgisch Staatsblad mede in een dagblad der Provincie en werd de bijeenroeping van de familieraad bevestigd en werd de overschrijving van gemeld vonnis van verklaring van overlijden, wanneer kracht van dezelfde zal hebben plaatsgevonden.

43. Baruch Brenig's Auschwitz death record.

Until his death at 86, Isi refused war compensation money from the German government, Wieder Gut Machung, (Making Good Again), which he called 'blood money.'

BABA OPENS A CANTEN FOR SURVIVORS AND MARRIES CHARLES



44. Wedding of Thur and Gus in the presence of Isi, Lilly, Robert, Baba, Maurice, and his parents.



45. Baba and Charles Drapisz in the 50s.

In 1946 Baba opened a canteen where she offered soup to anyone in need and she would always ask if they had heard from Baruch. Her canteen became a Jewish restaurant, *Au Buffet du Centre*, on the Pelikaanstraat, in Antwerp's diamond district. That is where Eliane would eat delicious unhealthy Jewish food after school, and that is where she did her homework while her parents were working. Baba remarried; her second husband, Charles Drapisz became a true grandpa to Isi and Lilly's children. Charles had joined the French Foreign Legion in Africa where he was a cook throughout the war.

MEETING 60 YEARS LATER...

Until 1998, all of us thought that Isi's family had been nearly totally annihilated. Then, one day, Robert was called by a friend who mentioned that he was given a speeding ticket by a young policeman named Benoit Lewenkron. Robert at first thought his friend was joking but eventually called the police station in Brussels and found out that there was indeed a policeman named Lewenkron.

Benoit Lewenkron told Robert that his grandfather Albert, son of Itta Reizl's brother Mozzek, lived in Nice. Before WWII, Isi and Albert had shared a room in Liège where they worked in the nearby mines.

Eliane took Isi and Lilly to Nice where Albert told them that he had jumped from the train to Auschwitz.

Albert, too, believed that everyone else in the family had died, including Isi. Both Isi and Albert had made searches for surviving family members, but with the name changes and limited access to archives until 2007, they did not find each another until half a century later... after Robert's friend received his speeding ticket.



46. Mozzek Lewenkron, Albert's father.



47. Albert Lewenkron, early 1930s.



48. Albert's grandson, policeman Benoit Lewenkron.

... UNCLE ALBERT JUMPED FROM THE TRAIN TO AUSCHWITZ

Another amazing coincidence happened in the summer of 2019. While Eliane was preparing this document for submission to the **Jews Rescuing Jews** committee, she mentioned it to a childhood friend, Rosette Gross, who in turn explained that her own father, Baruch Gross, had also jumped from the train to Auschwitz.

Rosette Gross and Eliane had known each other for more than half a century, yet that's the time it took them to have this conversation.

Their unbelievable common family story is documented by Serge Klarsfeld and Maxime Steinberg in *Mémorial de la Déportation des Juifs de Belgique*, indicating that Albert and Baruch Gross jumped from the same convoy XVI on October 31, 1942.

108 Jewish prisoners jumped from convoy XVI and 33 more from convoy XVII that same day. Unfortunately, Lilly's father, Baruch Brenig, also deported on convoy XVII, was not one of them.

The exceptionally high number of prisoners who jumped from convoys XVI and XVII can be explained by the fact that escapees were mostly young Jews who had been in German Labor Camps in Northern France, where they experienced Nazi brutality of Organization Todt (named after Fritz Todt, a civil and military engineering company, active from 1933 to 1945).

LEW	Jacob, Majer	22.9/8.06	XVI/605
LEWALD	Else	23.5.23	évadé III/533
LEWAZER Epee Echtg. : PELTEN	Szewa	28.12.81	VIII/91
LEWICHOVIK	Albert	17.6.24	XV/215
LEWENBERG	Estera	18.8.08	XI/2439
LEWENBERG	François	28.9.30	XI/2440
LEWENBERG	Moszek	22.9.01	XV/6
LEWENKRON	Albert	14.6.24	XVI/926 évadé

49. Albert Lewenkron's evasion record from convoy XVI, from Mechelen to Auschwitz.

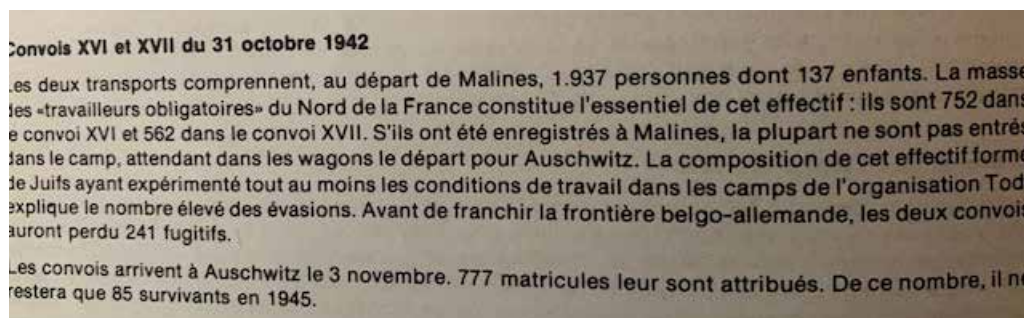
50. Baruch Gross' evasion record from convoy XVI, from Mechelen to Auschwitz.

GROSS	Anna	voir zie : MANDEL Anna	
GROSS Epee Echtg. : LUYTING	Anna	30.7.03	XXI/1021
GROSS	Ascher	31.12.98	XIII/458
GROSS	Baruch	25.7.08	XVI/806 évadé
GROSS	Bernat	11.4.35	
GROSS	Berta	8.3.20	XI/2382
GROSS	Berta	15.9.23	II/753
GROSS Epee Echtg. : DORLICH	Breidla	24.7.04	V/432

UNCLE ALBERT JUMPED FROM THE TRAIN TO AUSCHWITZ



51. Mémorial de la déportation des Juifs de Belgique, by Serge Klarsfeld and Maxime Steinberg, documenting the escapes from deportation convoys from Mechelen to Auschwitz in 1942.



52. Convoys XVI and XVII, October 31, 1942
ThesetwoconvoysfromMechelentransported1,937peopleofwhom137werechildren. Thetextreads'ForcedlaborprisonersfromtheNorthofFranceconstitutedthemajority ofpassengersonthese2convoys:752inconvoyXVIand552inconvoyXVII.Although registeredinMechelen,mostofthesepersonsdidnotenterthecampandwaited in their wagons to be deported to Auschwitz'

ESCAPING FROM THE TRAIN TO AUSCHWITZ: EVA FASTAG

EVADÉS DES CONVOIS - PLUS REPRIS PAR L'AUTORITÉ OCCUPÉE			
C. XII	du 10.10.42		1
C. XIII	du 10.10.42		4
C. XIV	du 24.10.42		1
C. XVI	du 31.10.42		108
C. XVII	du 31.10.42		33
C. XVIII	du 15.1.43		31
C. XIX	du 15.1.43		10
C. XX	du 29.4.43	Abattus	115 26
C. XXI	du 31.7.43	Abattus	5 3
C. XXII	du 20.9.43		5
C. XXIII	du 15.1.44	Abattu	1
TOTAL			343
Convoi de Drancy du 11.11.1942			1
Convoi de Drancy du 4.3.1943			1

Suite au travail de statistique 154 évadés non repris ont été retrouvés

The escapees had been warned by a young Jewish secretary, Eva Fastag (see picture, page 53). Since she was very skilled at typing in German, the Nazis kept her busy at the Mechelen Deportation Center, registering thousands of deportees.

Eva noticed that these were mostly families with children and elderly, including her own family, and they could not possibly be sent to work in camps in the East, as they were repeatedly told by the Germans. Eva thus concluded that these families could only be sent to their death.

When the Nazis decided to deport the prisoners from the labor camps in Northern France, via Mechelen, they brought Eva to these camps to register them. At great risk to her life, she took every opportunity to tell them to escape, by every possible means, and she also helped detainees at the deportation center in Mechelen by removing compromising papers from their files.

Eva Fastag survived the war and died peacefully at 104 in Kibbutz Maagan Michael, in Israel. She also happened to be the maternal aunt of Dani Spiellman, Eliane Leuwenkroon's best friend while they both worked in Paris for some 30 years. During all that time, neither the subject of Eva's heroic deeds nor the story of the courageous escapees ever came up in their conversations.

53. Out of a total of 343, an estimated 154 prisoners who escaped from Belgian convoys to Auschwitz were not recaptured.

Eliane only heard of this recently as she was working on this book, from a documentary by Robert Neys, *Les Evades du Convoi XVI*, in which survivors described how thousands of young Jewish men had been tricked by the Germans into 'volunteering' to go to labor camps, and how Eva Fastag saved their lives by telling them to jump from the deportation convoys.

Incidentally, Belgium was also the only country where a deportation train, convoy XX, was attacked, amid thousands of trains crossing Europe. This unique attack was masterminded by a young Jew, Hersch Jospa and carried out with the help of the Belgian Resistance.

FROM POLAND...



54. Frida Shekter (1892-1943)-Berl Gleicher (1860-1943),
Baba's parents in Poland in the 1920s.

In the 1990s, Lilly's family inquired into the fate of their relatives who had remained in Poland in the early 20th century. They found out that during World War II, many had been buried alive with the complicity of neighbors and that all their property had been seized by the locals. Thousands of young Jewish men and women then fled and fought in the forests.

Before the war, 3 million Jews lived in Poland; only some 350,000 survived, mostly in the Soviet-occupied territories. After the war, a few thousand attempted to resettle in Poland, where they were greeted with antisemitic attacks. Not only did the Polish government never return their property, but in 2018 it passed a law that criminalized any reference to Polish guilt in the genocide.

In 1941-42 as the Germans advanced East toward Russia, the Einsatzgruppen (deployment groups) followed the army and systematically massacred the Jews and Romani (Gypsies). These mass murders are documented village by village all over Europe in Father Desbois' remarkably researched work, *The Holocaust by Bullets*. Nearly 1.5 million Jews perished that way. Whereas earlier it was estimated that 6 million Jews perished during the Holocaust, recent statistical compilation suggests that many more Jews, and 200,000-500,000 Romani, were murdered during World War II.

... BEN FERENCZ DOCUMENTING THE EINSATZGRUPPEN IN THE 1946 NUREMBERG TRIALS

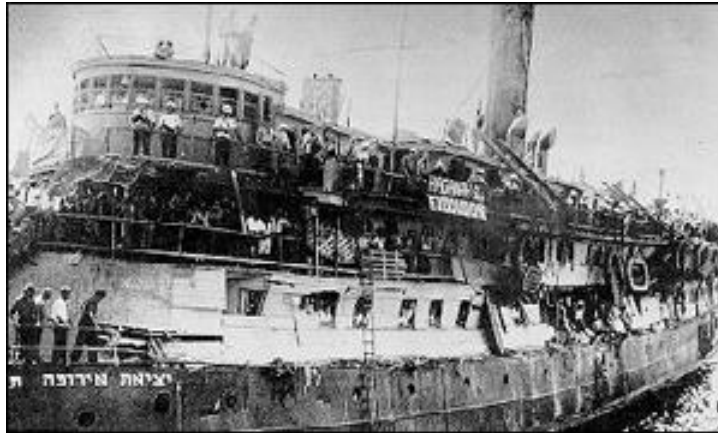
In 1946 Benjamin Ferencz, a then 26-year old Jewish American, was appointed chief prosecutor of the Nuremberg Trial of the Einsatzgruppen leaders of which 22 were convicted and 13 received death sentences; only 4 were carried out.

Ferencz later became instrumental in the establishment of the International Criminal Court in The Hague, in the Netherlands, to ensure that Crimes against Humanity and genocide perpetrators never again go unpunished.



55. Ben Ferencz (middle right), who turned 100 years-old on March 11 2020, with Joshua Sadun, Isi's great grandson (middle left); Isi's granddaughter Muriel(right) and daughter Eliane (left).

TO ISRAEL...



56. Exodus 1947.

After the war, some 250,000 European Jewish Displaced Persons, DPs, were living in camps in Germany and Austria. Zionist organizations largely supported by Americans began to organize underground networks to help these Jews immigrate to then British-occupied Palestine. The British prepared a massive military force to turn back the refugees, who were sent again into detention camps.

In the 1960s, when as a teenager Eliane traveled to Israel for the first time, she met Regina, the daughter of Benjamin Lewenkron who had survived the Death March from Auschwitz. Regina told her that at the age of 17, she had attempted to come to Israel on the Exodus 1947 ship.

On July 11 of 1947, the Exodus carried 4,500 Jewish immigrants to Palestine. Most were Holocaust survivors who had no legal immigration documents. The ship was boarded by the British, who killed three of those on board and injured ten people.

Of the 64 vessels with illegal immigrants bound for Palestine, the Exodus 1947 carried the largest group. After being sent back to France, where in a major act of resistance the refugees refused to disembark, the ship eventually ended up in Germany, where most passengers had come from.

The plight of the refugees aboard the Exodus gained international attention and generated strong support for the Jewish community in Palestine. This solidarity demonstration contributed to the creation of the State of Israel, which declared independence on May 14, 1948.

Since Jews prayed daily during two thousand years for their return to Jerusalem, the creation of the State of Israel was an existential event for Jews around the world. However this was a Catastrophe (Nakba, in Arabic) for the Palestinians who lived there. Ever since, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict is in search of a peaceful solution acceptable to both parties.

...BENJAMIN'S DAUGHTER REGINA ON THE EXODUS 1947 SHIP

Lowenkron, Razin- Arbeli	ר	לונקרין רזין-ארבלי
Levy Yaaakov Aviram 14	ר	לוי יעקב-אבירם
Levy, Miri; z"l		לוי מירי ז"ל
Lewinger, Shoshana-Flam; z"l		לוינגר שושנה-פלם ז"ל
Lewitan, Nissan		לויטן ניסן
Lomp, Aharon 15	ר	לומפ אהרון
Lomp, Haya-Zarnatchni	ר	לומפ חיה-זרנצ'ני
Lomp, Mordechai 13	ר	לומפ מרדכי
Lewengan, Ytzhak		לונגן יצחק
Levengar, Anna-Vardi 15	א"ר	לונגר אנה-ורדי
Lutzky, Idka		לוצקי אידקה
Lutzky, Naftali		לוצקי נפתלי
Lutzki, Eda-Benisho	א"ר	לוצקי עדה-בנישו
Lutzky, Freidl- Horenshtein, 10 Rina		לוצקי פרידל - הורנשטיין רינה
Luria, Arie		לוריא אריה
Lazarowitz, Shimon	א	לזרוביץ שמעון
Leibowitz, Aharon Leshem	ר	ליבוביץ אהרון-לשם
Leibowitz, David		ליבוביץ דוד
Leibowitz, Pesah		ליבוביץ פסח
Litman, Hinda		ליטמן הינדה
Leichter, Yosef		ליכטר יוסף
Lihtman, Avraham	א"ר	ליכטמן אברהם
Lilan, Edith-Kislok		לילאן אדית-קיסלוק
Linboim, Shaul		לינבוים שאול
Lindenbaum, Zalman; z"l	א	לינדנבאום זלמן ז"ל
Lindenbaum	א	לינדנבאום שאול
Lisberg, Manik		ליסברג מניק
Lifshtein, Masha Reihental	ר	ליפשטיין מאשא-רייכנטל
Lifshitz, Abe (Avi Levni)		ליפשטיץ איב (אבי לבני)
Lamrowitz, Shimon		למרוויץ שמעון
Lan Josefson	א"ר	לן ג'וספסון
Langanauer, Madelein-Tiser Mahala		לנגואר מדלן-טיסר מחלה
Langantal, Kalman; z"l		לנגנטל קלמן ז"ל
Langantal, Shimon; z"l		לנגנטל שמעון ז"ל
Langer, Miriam, Reiber 15	א	לנגר מרים-רייבר
16Landesman, Hava Ilan		לנדסמן חוה-אילן
Lender, Gerald (Jerry)		לנדר גרלד (ג'רי)
Lask, Dov		לסק דב
Lask, Dov; z"l		לסק דוד ז"ל
Lask, Shura; z"l		לסק שורה ז"ל



57. Regina Lewenkron
(November 3, 1930 Belgium-April 9, 2019 Israel).

Regina Lewenkron's name appears as Razin-Lowenkron on p. 13 of the list of passengers on board the Exodus 1947.

www.ushmm.org

RIGHTEOUS AMONG THE NATIONS

The RIGHTEOUS AMONG THE NATIONS are the non-Jewish people who risked their lives or their liberty and position to help Jews during the Holocaust. Some suffered death as a result. Since 1963, the commission headed by a justice from the Supreme Court of Israel has been charged with awarding the honorary title.

As of January 1, 2020, Yad Vashem, the Holocaust Martyrs' and Heroes Remembrance Authority in Jerusalem, has recognized 27,712 RIGHTEOUS AMONG THE NATIONS, from 51 countries. As of 2021, 341 JEWS RESCUING JEWS have been honored.

In his email dated September 18, 2019, Alan Schneider, director of B'nai B'rith World Center and Secretary of the 'Jewish Rescuer' Citation Committee announced Isi Leuwenkroon's citation.

The JEWS RESCUING JEWS Committee has been awarding citations since 2011. These late recognitions are mainly due to the fact that most Jews never spoke about their heroic deeds, or very late in life. The window for telling the Jewish rescuers' stories is fast closing and thousands will remain unrecognized.

In Isi's family alone, many displayed incredible courage. Lilly concealed fake IDs, her brother Arthur and his wife Gusta joined the Communist Resistance. Isi's cousin Albert jumped from convoy XVI to Auschwitz and Isi's uncle Benjamin survived the Death March from Auschwitz.

Among the recognized Jewish rescuers, there are extraordinary people such as Eva Fastag, Mila Racine, Hannah Szenes, Marcel Marceau, Herz Jospa or Leopold Trepper, just to name a few.

The heroic rescue activities of Jews and non-Jews were so often intertwined that it is hard to separate them. Therefore, making a difference between THE RIGHTEOUS AMONG THE NATIONS from THE JEWS RESCUING JEWS citations may not always be relevant.

As discussed by Judith Tyler Baumel-Schwartz in *All Our Brothers and Sisters* when describing the heroic deeds of her father incarcerated in 'Kibbutz Buchenwald,' among the personality traits of the rescuers, she acknowledges positivity, efficacy, cooperation, rapid and intuitive decision making, and above all, a strong sense of shared humanity with a unwavering moral compass.

In the case of Isak (Isi) Mayer Leuwenkroon, all the above personality traits describe him perfectly. Isi's personality was forged by his upbringing as a small child at Heder.

To these traits we, Isi's children, would add independence, responsibility, management skills and a sense of leadership acquired during his formative years at Hashomer Hatsair.

Youth movements played a major role in shaping Jewish personalities throughout the the XXth century in Europe, and sadly enough, so did the Hitler Jugend (Hitler Youth) in Germany.

What binds many of these men and women who rescued others most strikingly is modesty and especially the fact that most of them never mentioned their heroic deeds. Like many of their descendants, Isi's children found out posthumously and entirely by chance.

JEWES RESCUING JEWES CITATIONS



58. Eva Fastag and her group at Hashomer Hatsair in the late 1930s.

Jewish rescuers citation

25 messages

Etti - Bnai Brith <worldcenter@012.net.il>
To: Eliane Strosberg <strosbergeliane@gmail.com>

Wed, Sep 18, 2019 at 12:12 PM



B'NAI B'RITH WORLD CENTER - JERUSALEM

I wish to advise you that the Committee to Recognize the Heroism of Jews who Rescued Fellow Jews During the Holocaust (JRJ) and the B'nai B'rith World Center have decided to honor your father with their joint "Jewish Rescuer's Citation" in recognition of his brave actions to ensure the survival of persecuted Jews in France.

The Jewish Rescuers Citation was established in 2011 in an effort to help correct the generally held misconception that Jews failed to come to the aid of fellow Jews during the Holocaust. To date 279 heroes has been honored for their rescue activities in Germany, France, Hungary, Greece, Slovakia, Yugoslavia, Russia, Lithuania, Poland, Holland, Italy, Ukraine, Latvia, Austria and Belgium.

We look forward to presenting the citation at the earliest appropriate opportunity.

Sincerely,

Alan Schneider, Director, B'nai B'rith World Center
Secretary, Jewish Rescuers Citation Committee

Isi Leuwenkroon Jews Rescuing Jews Citation Ceremony, February 2020



In the presence of Willy Kahan, President of B'nai B'rith Belgium,
and his Excellency Emmanuel Nahshon, Ambassador of the State of Israel



TIMETABLE OF WWII

1933	January	Hitler becomes chancellor
1938	March 12 Sept 30	German Anschluss of Austria Munich Treaty, cession of the Czech Sudetenland
1939	March August 23 September 1 September 3	Hitler invades Czechoslovakia Russia and Germany sign non-aggression pact Germany invades Poland Britain and France declare war on Germany
1940	April 9-june 10 May 10 May 26 June 11 June 22 July 10-October 31 September 22 December	Germany invades Denmark and Norway Germany invades the Netherlands, Belgium and France Dunkirk Operation Dynamo Italy enters war on the Axis side France signs the armistice with Germany Battle of Britain, the RAF defeats the Luftwaffe Tripartite alliance between Germany, Italy and Japan British defeat Italian divisions in North Africa
1941	April June 22 December 7 December 8	Germany invades Yugoslavia Germany attacks Russia Pearl Harbor attack US declares war on Japan
1942	February 15 June 42 August 42 October 23 November 8	Japan takes Singapore Battle of Midway, turning point in the Pacific war Allies begin invade North Africa Allies defeat Rommel at El Alamein in North Africa Beginning of battle of Stalingrad (Volgograd) Allies deploy invasion in North Africa

TIMETABLE OF THE HOLOCAUST AND JEWISH RESISTANCE

1933

1938 November 10 Kristallnacht

1939 September 21 Ghettos established in Poland

1940 May 7 Lodz ghetto sealed

May 20 Auschwitz camp established

November 16 Warsaw ghetto sealed

Between 1941 and 1944, as the Nazis invaded the Soviet Union, nearly 1.5 Million Jews were massacred in what was later called the Holocaust by Bullets.

1941 July 31 Preparation of the Final Solution

Sept 28-29 Babyn Yar massacre of 32,000 Jews near Kiev, Ukraine

October Auschwitz camp set up for massive extermination

1942 January 20 Final Solution adopted at Wannsee

May Extermination by gas begins in Sobibor

June Jewish partisan units in the forests of Belarus and the Baltic states

Summer Deportations from the Netherlands, Belgium, France, and Poland

Armed resistance in the ghettos of Kletsk, Kremenets, Lakhva, Mir, Tuchin, Weisweiz

October 31 108 prisoners jump from convoy XVI from Belgium to Auschwitz

33 prisoners jump from convoy XVII from Belgium to Auschwitz

November Deportations from Germany, Greece and Norway

Jewish partisan units in forests near Lublin, Poland

1943 Liquidation of the Cracow ghetto

April 19 Warsaw ghetto revolt begins as Germans attempt to liquidate it

On the same day, partisans attack convoy XX from Belgium to Auschwitz: 232 prisoners escaped later from that same convoy.

TIMETABLE OF WWII

1943	February	Germans surrender in Stalingrad
	May 13	Axis surrenders in North Africa
	July 9-August 17	Allies invade Sicily
	September 3	Italy surrenders
	November 28-	
	December 1	Allies meet in Teheran to discuss opening the 2nd front
1944	January	Leningrad is rescued
	March 19	Germany occupies Hungary
	June 5	Rome is liberated
	Spring-summer	Red Army repels Nazi forces
	June 6	D Day, allies invade Normandy
	July 20	German officers attempt to assassinate Hitler
	August 25	Paris is liberated
	September 8	Long range V2 flying bombs reach London
	December 16	Battle of the Bulge begins
1945	February 4-11	Roosevelt, Churchill and Stalin meet in Yalta
	March 23	Allies cross the Rhine
	April 15-23	Russians reach Berlin
	April 28	Mussolini is captured and executed
	April 30	Hitler commits suicide
	May 8	V Day, Germany surrenders
	August 14	Japan surrenders

TIMETABLE OF THE HOLOCAUST AND JEWISH RESISTANCE

1943	Mid-August-October 21	274 Jewish people, 239 of them children, smuggled over the French-Swiss border near St Gervais. An estimated 5,000 children were smuggled over that border throughout the war.
	October 14	Armed revolt in the Sobibor concentration camp
1944		Himmler orders the liquidation of all ghettos in Poland and occupied Soviet Union
	Summer	Armed resistance in Bedzin, Bialystok, Czestowa, Lvov and Tarnow
	Fall	Liquidation of large ghettos in Minsk, Vilna, Riga Rescue of 90 % of the Danish Jews who find safety in Sweden
	May 15-June 27	Deportation of 380,000 Hungarian Jews to Auschwitz
	July 22-23	Russians liberate the first concentration camp, Majdanek near Lublin, Poland
	October 7	Revolt by Auschwitz inmates, one crematorium blown up
	November 8	Death March of 40,000 Hungarian Jews begins
	November	Last Jews deported from Theresienstadt (Terezin)
1945	January 17	Evacuation of Auschwitz, Death March to Austria
	April 6-10	Death March from Buchenwald

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List of pictures and documents

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4. Itta Reizl Lewenkron, Isi's grandmother, May 1941.
5. Benjamin Lewenkron, Isi's uncle.
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7. Bad Arolsen Records documenting Benjamin Lewenkron's arrival at Buchenwald from Auschwitz.
8. Bad Arolsen Records documenting Benjamin Lewenkron's arrival at Buchenwald from Auschwitz.
9. Baba, Szprinca Brenig, with her children, Lilly and Arthur, in the 1920s.
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12. Hashomer Hatsair 1936, Kvutsa (group) of Isi.
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19. Baruch Brenig.
20. Forced labor certificate of Baruch Brenig at German companies in the North of France: Stutzenberger, from July 12 until October 17 of 1942, and Leonhard Hambuch and Sohne, from October 17 until October 31 of 1942.
21. Baruch Brenig's deportation certificate from Mechelen to Auschwitz on October 31 of 1942, by convoy XVII.
22. Doctor's letter to a colleague about baby Robert's burnt knee, written on March 10 of 1942. Translation: 'This child had a wound caused by superficial burning ... at the clinic where he was born... with reactive arthritis of the left knee ... The wound healed quickly but stiffness during knee extension with limitation of knee flexion persists. I believe it will eventually heal... All yours.'
23. Isi, Lilly and Robert in Lyon in 1942.
24. Isi's work permit in Ladapeyre, in the Creuse region in central France in 1942.
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29. Lilly and Arthur, St. Gervais in 1943.
30. Group photo with Gus (left), Mila Racine (middle) and Lilly (right), St. Gervais, in 1943.
31. Cover of the book by Nancy Lefenfeld, *The Fate of Others*.
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33. Group photo with Isi and Lilly near St. Gervais, Mont Blanc Plage, August 1943.
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40. Isi and Lilly skiing near Sallanches, 1943-44.
41. Letter from town hall employee to Isi: 'M. Lurdes still secretaire de la Mairie sends his best regards. He suggests that you include a postage stamp for the answers to your requests, because of the mairies not having a postal franchise with individuals, several cannot answer without a return stamp. I hope that the war has spared all three of you and I send you my best wishes.'
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50. Baruch Gross' escape record from convoy XVI, from Mechelen to Auschwitz.
51. *Mémorial de la déportation des Juifs de Belgique* by Serge Klarsfeld and Maxime Steinberg documenting the escape from deportation convoys from Mechelen to Auschwitz in 1942.
52. Convoys XVI and XVII on October 31, 1942
These two convoys from Mechelen transported 1,937 people of which 137 were children. 'Forced labor prisoners from the North of France constituted the majority of passengers on these 2 convoys, 752 in convoy XVI and 552 in convoy XVII. Although registered in Mechelen, most of these prisoners did not enter the camp and waited in their wagons to be deported to Auschwitz.'
53. Out of a total of 343, an estimated 154 prisoners who escaped from Belgium convoys to Auschwitz were not recaptured.
54. Frida Shekter (1892-1943) and Berl Gleicher (1860-1943), Baba's parents in Poland in the 1920s.
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56. Exodus 1947.
57. Regina Lewenkron (March 10, 1930, Belgium - April 9, 2019, Israel). List of passengers on the Exodus 1947.

58. Eva Fastag and her group at Hashomer Hatsair in the late 1930s.
59. Isi's Citation Ceremony, February 2020.
60. Letter from Nancy Lefenfeld to Alan Schneider in support of Isi Leuwenkroon's recognition of heroism during WWII, based on the testimonies of rescued children.

APPENDIX

61. Isak Mayer Lowenkraut (Isi Lewenkron)'s Polish birth certificate. (The dark horizontal stripes are old sticky tape)
62. December 12, 1929, Isak Lowenkraut received a passport from the Polish Consul in Cologne (Germany). He arrived in Belgium on October 15, 1930 to live with his grandmother Itta Reizl Lewenkron, in Antwerp.
63. Isak Lowenkraut's identity card in Antwerp dated March 18, 1935. Inscription on the back: 'Souvenir a mon ami Moshe', Isi.
64. December 3, 1935, Isak Lowenkraut leaves his grandmother's address 4 Lange Kievitstraat in Antwerp, to live at 17 Usinestraat in Liège, with his uncle Mozzek and cousin Albert.
65. October 26 1940, Isak Lowenkraut leaves 67 rue Lairesse, Liège.
66. January 11, 1941, Isak Lowenkraut moves to Antwerp 68 Vestingstraat, Lilly's parents address. After the war, Baba opened a restaurant at that address and lived there until the 1980s.
67. June 1, 1941, Isi and Lilly registered in the Joden Register.
68. Isi is # 6383 and Lilly is # 1128 in the Joden Register.
69. December 10, 1941, Isi is liberated from the Lyon jail.
70. June 7, 1945 in Lyon is Lilly's last known town of residence in France at the end of WWII.

APPENDIX

Nancy Lefenfeld
5800 Clipper Lane, #304
Clarksville, MD 21029
U.S.A.

June 17, 2019

Mr. Alan Schneider
Director, B'nai B'rith World Center
22 King David Street
Jerusalem 91074
Israel

Re: Consideration of Isy Leuwenkroon for Jewish Rescuer Citation

Dear Mr. Schneider,

I am writing to you at the request of Eliane Strosberg, the daughter of Isy Leuwenkroon (1920 – 2006). Eliane wishes to bring to the attention of the JRJ Committee the work of her father in helping to rescue Jews in the Haute-Savoie region of France in 1943. In the fall of that year, when the Italian Occupation Zone of southeast France ceased to exist and fell under German occupation, Isy aided a group of Jewish resisters who were members of the MJS (Mouvement de jeunesse sioniste, Zionist Youth Movement). The MJS group was working to transfer Jewish families and unaccompanied children from Saint-Gervais and Megève to the Swiss border, from whence they sought to cross illegally and seek refuge.

I am an independent scholar who conducted extensive primary research on the humanitarian resistance work carried out by the MJS group in the Haute-Savoie in 1943. I have enclosed a copy of the book that documents the results of this work, entitled *The Fate of Others: Rescuing Jewish Children on the French-Swiss Border* (Timbrel Press, 2013). The book was translated into French and published in Paris by L'Harmattan in 2016 under the title *Le sort des autres: Le sauvetage des enfants juifs à la frontière franco-suisse*.

The Mouvement de jeunesse sioniste was founded by Simon Lévitte in May 1942 in Montpellier, France. Branches of the new organization – called gdoudim – were set up in several cities in the south of France. When the Italian Occupation Zone was established in November 1942, Lévitte moved the organization's headquarters to Grenoble. In the spring of 1943, Mila Racine took the initiative of setting up an MJS gdoud in Saint-Gervais, a small town in the French Alps. She had been a key assistant to Jacques Wajntrob, the leader of the vibrant MJS gdoud in Nice. Beginning in March of that year and continuing throughout the spring and early summer, Italian authorities in cooperation with Jewish leaders effectuated the relocation of a few thousand Jews – including Mila and her sister – from Nice to Saint-Gervais, Megève, and a few other remote towns and villages. During the summer of 1943, Mila recruited young adults living in Saint-Gervais to form the new gdoud. Isy Leuwenkroon and his wife, Lilly, were among those who actively participated.

In August 1943, it became apparent to Jewish leaders in France that the future of the Italian Occupation Zone, which had shielded Jews from German and French persecution, may not last. Mila and members of the MJS group in Saint-Gervais were recruited by Simon Lévitte and leaders of OSE (Œuvre de secours aux enfants) to begin smuggling unaccompanied children and families with young children across the border to Switzerland. (At that time, Swiss policies stipulated that individuals who had crossed the border illegally but who met their criteria regarding “hardship cases” would be permitted to remain in Switzerland, i.e., not sent back to France.) *The Fate of Others* chronicles the work of Mila Racine, Tony Gryn, and other

members of the group who organized twenty-four convoys, comprised mainly of unaccompanied children, and managed to clandestinely pass these groups across the border.

In addition to the twenty-four convoys of mainly unaccompanied children specified in my book, MJS activists accompanied some families from Saint-Gervais and Megève to the border so that they could make the crossing. On pages 228-229, I provide detailed information on what I refer to as eight "family convoys" that succeeded in crossing the border and entering Switzerland in late August and early September. These eight convoys encompassed at least 121 people. As I mention on pages 69-70 of my book, Isy Leuwenkroon participated in this work, helping to transfer the families from the mountaintop villages to the border area outside of Geneva. Because of the topography, the nature of transportation at the time, and the threat of being stopped by civilian authorities or soldiers, making the trip from Saint-Gervais to the border area outside of Geneva was not a quick or easy undertaking.

Isy was about the same age as Mila and older than most of the members of the MJS group. Three individuals whom I interviewed during the course of my research spoke of the fact he was an important member of the group, someone whom others looked up to and who played an important role. Lydie Weissberg was one of these individuals. The fifteen-year old Lydie lived with her mother in Saint-Gervais during the summer of 1943 and was in the first convoy that Mila Racine organized and passed over the border (August 17, 1943). At Mila's request, Lydie served as her helper/assistant throughout the ordeal. I originally interviewed Lydie at length at her home in Paris in 2006. I met her on subsequent occasions and spoke with her further regarding events in 1943. (I present a summary of Lydie's story on pages 52-56.) The second individual was Dr. Maurice Glazman, who, in 1943, was a fourteen-year old boy living with his family in Saint-Gervais. Maurice was in the second convoy that Mila organized and passed over the border. (By then, Simon Lévitte had sent Tony Gryn to work alongside Mila.) I interviewed Dr. Glazman at his apartment in Paris in 2008. (I relate the key elements of his story on pages 57-62.) The third was Isy's wife, Lilly, whom I interviewed by phone in 2010.

I am enclosing, in addition to a copy of *The Fate of Others*, a printed copy of a 30-page booklet prepared by Eliane Strosberg for her descendants that relates key biographical and historical information pertaining to Isy.

My thanks to you and your associates for working to bring to light the sacrifices that so many Jews made during the years of the Shoah in order to come to aid of their fellow Jews. I have also endeavored to shed light on this subject over the past two decades through publication of my work on Jewish humanitarian resistance in various books and periodicals and through presentations to survivors and descendants and to students. Attending conferences of the World Federation of Jewish Child Survivors of the Holocaust and Descendants (WFJCSHD) over many years, I had the pleasure and privilege of meeting several longtime advocates of recognizing the contributions of Jews who rescued Jews, including Chana Arnon and Haim Roet.

Thank you for your consideration of the enclosed materials and the of the rescue work of Isy Leuwenkroon.

Sincerely,



Nancy Lefenfeld
5800 Clipper Lane, #304
Clarksville, Maryland 21029
U.S.A.

Urząd metrykalny izraelicki *Jarossław* L. 3171

Świadectwo urodzin

księgi urodzin okręgu metrykalnego *Jarossław* Tom *XVI* Stronic

1 Liczba doradczo		1. 227.	
2 Urodzila	Dzień	<i>11 Grudnia</i>	
	Miesiąc	<i>Lutego</i>	
	Wiek	<i>1920</i>	
	Miejsce	<i>Jarossław</i>	
3 Obrzezania lub nadania imienia	Nr domu	<i>22</i>	
	Dzień	<i>20 Grudnia</i>	
	Miesiąc	<i>Lutego</i>	
	Rok	<i>1920</i>	
4 Dziecięcia	Miejsce	<i>Jarossław</i>	
	Nr domu	<i>22</i>	
	Imię	<i>Isak Mayer</i>	
	Płeć	<i>Chłopiec</i>	
7	Imię i nazwisko, stan miejsce zamieszkania matki i jej rodziców <i>Lea Lowenkron i jej rodzice</i>		
8	kumów lub świadków Sandeka lub Szamesa <i>Meir S. Miller kupiec z Jarossławia</i>		
9	Własnoręczny podpis obrzezającego lub wyzerczającego <i>Arcybiskup</i>		
10	akuserski lub akuserek <i>akuserek z Jarossławia</i>		
11	Dzieci nieżywo urodzone		

Isak Mayer

Isak Mayer

Lea Lowenkron i jej rodzice

Meir S. Miller kupiec z Jarossławia

Arcybiskup

akuserek z Jarossławia

61. Isak Mayer Lowenkraut (Isi Lewenkron)'s Polish birth certificate. (The dark horizontal stripes are old sticky tape).

Bureau A.
1.656.999.

20

Monsieur le Consul Général de
République de Pologne,
Avenue Brequevann, 174.
Bruxelles.

Monsieur le Consul Général

Comme suite à votre lettre
du 12.1.1950 n° 411/5284/B. j'ai l'honneur
de vous faire savoir que le nommé
LOWENKRAUT, Isak, né à Jaroslaw
(Pol.) le 11.2.1920, est arrivé en Belgique
le 15.10.1950 pour le motif d'un état de son acte de
naissance délivré à Jaroslaw le 13 août 1923 sous le n° 317/23
enfant naturel de LOWENKRAUT
Lea, décédée, l'intéressé n'avait rapin-
tré sa grand-mère LEWENKRON, Itta,
née à Wroclaw (Pologne), le 15.5.1875,
qui était ^{citoyenne de} ~~citoyenne de~~ l'ancien port
polonais qui l'a été.
Le dit acte a été délivré, le 12.12.1929,
par le Consulat de Pologne à Cologne
sous le n° 476/11778/1929, valable
jusqu'au 12.6.1950.

Expédition
1 copie pour le dossier
n° 1.656.999

© Celle-ci qui a
quitté la Belgique,
825 février 1949, pour
une interdiction mormme,
clat en action


M. p. 87.
di/autres
h

1.2.1950
Veuillez agréer, Monsieur
le Consul Général, l'assurance
de ma considération
très distinguée.

2/50
1/2/50
9/2/50

62. December 12, 1929, Isak Lowenkraut received a passport from the Polish Consul in Cologne (Germany). He arrived in Belgium on October 15, 1930 to live with his grandmother Itta Reizl Lewenkron, in Antwerp.


11. Is hij politiek uitge- weken	
12. Gedrag, bestaanmid- delen, gerechtelijk verleden in België of in het buitenland.	Geene veroordelingen in België.
13. Is hij voornemens meer dan 6 maanden in België te verblijv.	Bevestigend.
14. Opmerkingen.	Belanghebbende zal in het bezit gesteld worden der Identiteits- kaart geldig tot 11-2-1937.

FOTO van den MAN	FOTO van de VROUW
	

Ik ondergeteekende verklaar geen enkele veroordeling te hebben opgelopen.
Handteekening van den vreemdeling.

Antwerpen, den 18 Maart 1935.
De Hoofd politiecommissaris.

Lowenkraut *Mudant*

GEROLDE AFDRUK van den RECHTER WIJSVINGER	
van den echtgenoot	van de echtgenote
	

183
Souvenir
à mon
ami
Moshe
Isi



63. Isak Lowenkraut's identity card in Antwerp dated March 18, 1935. Born in Jaroslaw, Poland on February 11, 1920. Inscription on the back: 'Souvenir a mon ami Moshe', Isi.

STAD ANTWERPEN

60
2425

5

cl

Doss. 216742

fr



BUREEL VAN DEN
BURGERLIJKE STAND

BERICHT VAN VERTREK VAN EEN VREEMDELING

Doss. Openbare Veiligheid

Nr.

De verder genoemde Poolsche (nationaliteit)

onderdaan, waarover het ging in mijn inlichtingsbulletijn van 12-3-35
bericht van aankomst

N^o 216742, werd den (in voorkomend geval van ambtswege)

geschrapt uit het bevolkingsregister Lange Kievitsstraat N^o 4

en heeft als nieuw adres opgegeven Luik(Luik)

Usinestraat n^o17

Bezit I.K. { Hij N^o 69849 van Antwerpen geldig tot 11.12.1941
Zij N^o van geldig tot

NAAM	VOORNAMEN	PLAATS EN DATUM VAN GEBORTE	BURGERLIJKE STAND	BEROEP
L. ^H LOWENKRAUT	Isak, Mayer	^a Jaroslów (Polen) 11.2.1920	Ongehuwd.	verkooper
1686999				

Antwerpen, den 12 maart 1940

De Burgemeester,

[Signature]

64. December 3, 1935, Isak Lowenkraut leaves his grandmother's address 4 Lange Kievitstraat in Antwerp, to live at 17 Usinestraat in Liège, with his uncle Mozzek and cousin Albert.

ROYAUME DE BELGIQUE
Province de LIEGE
Arrondissement de LIEGE
VILLE DE LIEGE

56
POLICE DES ÉTRANGERS

Numéro du dossier
de la Sûreté publique :

Avis de départ d'étranger

.....
Numéro du dossier
du Service des Étrangers :
136.494

Le ressortissant.....
objet du bulletin
avis d'arrivée du..... 2 mars 1940, n° 136.494

a été rayé, le 14 octobre 1940

du registre des étrangers, rue.....
1656999

..... ANVERS....., rue.....

Nom	Prénoms	Lieu et date de naissance	Etat civil	Profession
LÖWENKRAUT	Isak Mayer	Paris France le 19 février 1920	célib.	seigneur et artiste de l'industrie

Ce..... étranger..... en possession d'une carte d'identité valable

jusqu'au

11 février 1941 (c. n. 69.49 2010)

A Liège, le 28 octobre 1940
Pour le Bourgmestre,
Son délégué,

M. Bouw

A Monsieur l'Administrateur
de la Sûreté publique,
Place Poelaert, 4,
Bruxelles

65. October 26, 1940, Isak Lowenkraut leaves 67 rue Lairesse in Liège.

V.R.
STAD ANTWERPEN



Hoofdcommissariaat van Politie

Vreemdelingenbureau

DOSSIER
OPENBARE VEILIGHEID

Nr. 1.656.999.

00

6/

Nr. 216742

cl
al

BERICHT van AANKOMST van een vreemdeling

De verder genoemde Poolsche (nationaliteit) onderdaan

wordt den 4 October 1940 ingeschreven in het **vreemdelingen** register

dezer stad Vestingstraat n°68 straat, Nr

komende van Luik Rue Lairesse n°67 straat, Nr

NAAM	VOORNAMEN	Plaats en datum van geboorte	Burgerlijke stand	BEROEP
LOWENKRAUT	Isak, Mayer	Jaroslaw (Pol) II/2/1920	Ongehuwd	Verkooper in Breigoederen
Zoon van: en van:	LOWENKRAUT, Lea		

Deze vreemdeling is (~~zijn~~) in het bezit van :

~~een bewijs van inschrijving in het vreemdelingenregister~~ } geldig tot 11-1-1941.
eene identiteitskaart van Antwerpen

Antwerpen, den 4 October 1940.
De Hoofdcommissaris van Politie, d. d.

66. January 11, 1941, Isak Lowenkraut moves to Antwerp 68 Vestingstraat, Lilly's parents address. After the war, Baba opened a restaurant at that address and lived there until the 1980s.

11. Is hij politieke uitgeweken?
 12. Gedrag, bestaanmiddel, gerechtelijk verleden in België of in het buitenland.
 13. Is hij voornemens meer dan 6 maanden in België te blijven.
 14. Opmerkingen.

Zya Rosenkrantz
 N°1. Pol. Antwerpen, 19-2-1940, vervoer, 51fr+ 50 dec.
 Boet. Nijvel, 31-3-1941, verkoop aan woekerPr, 200fr+ 50 dec.
 N°2. Geene veroordeelingen in België.
 Zijn er woonachtig bij de ouders. Hij is magazijnbediende, thans werkloos. De vrouw is steno dactyl, thans zonder. De ouders voorzien in hun onderhoud.

Bevestigend

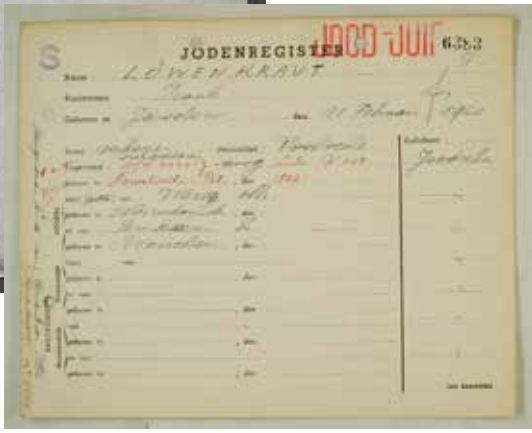
Zya ingeschreven in het jodenregister te Antwerpen de man onder N°6383 en de vrouw onder N°1128

Zya in bezit van de identiteitskaart de man N° 92483 afgeleverd te Antwerpen geldig tot 11-2-1943 en de vrouw N°71406 afgeleverd te Antwerpen geldig tot 26-9-1941



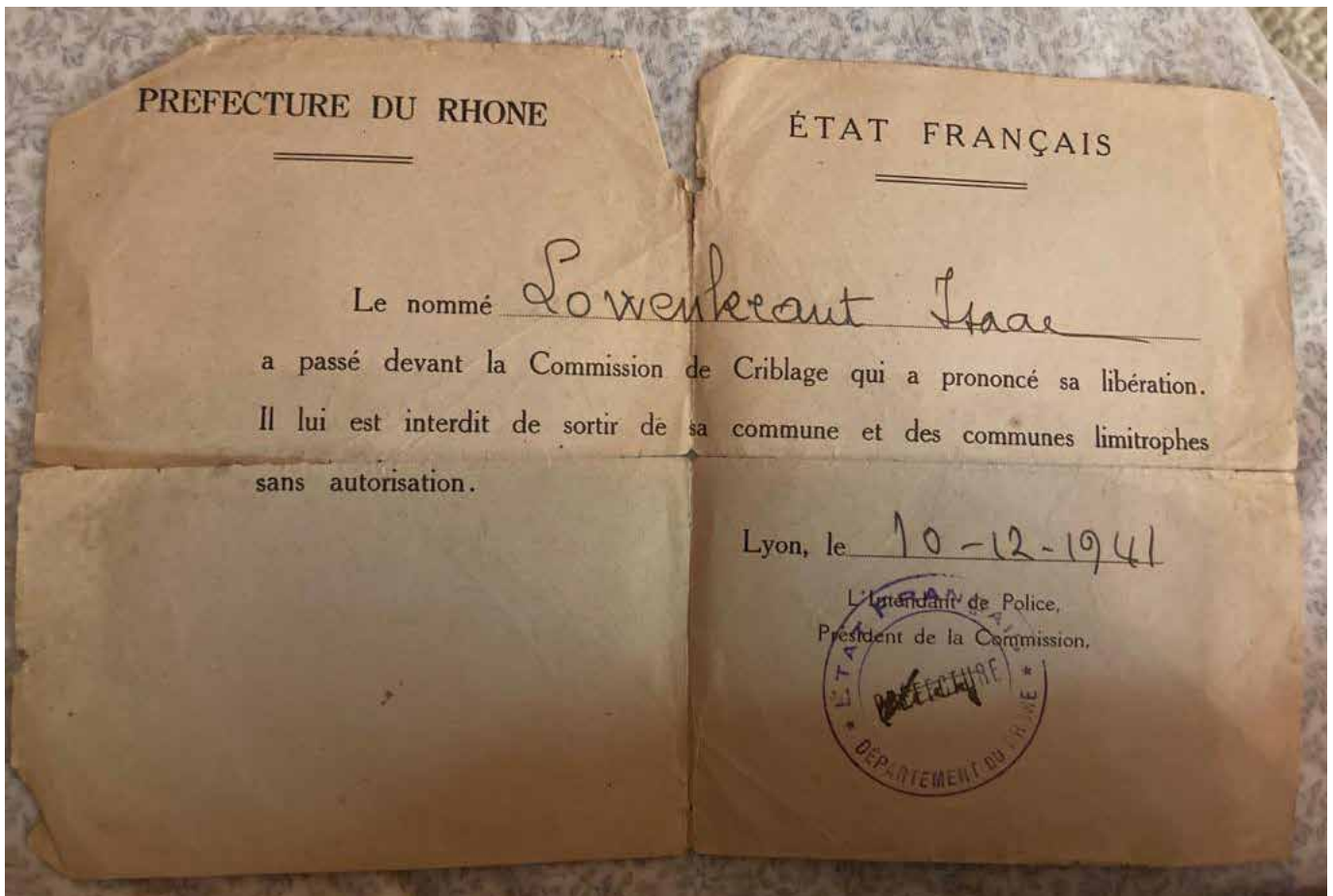
Ik ondertekende verklaar geen enkele veroordeeling te hebben opgelopen. Antwerpen, den 3 Juni 1941.
 De Hoofd Commissaris van Politie, d. d.

Handtekening van den vreemdeling.
Zya Rosenkrantz
[Signature]



67. June 3, 1941, Isi and Lilly registered in the Joden Register (Jewish Registry).

68. Isi is # 6383 and Lilly is # 1128 in the Joden Register.



69. December 10, 1941, Isi is liberated from the Lyon jail.

FICHE N° 35666
DE RECENSEMENT

Nom : LOVVENKRAUT
IRENIA

Prénoms : Lieba

né le 24 Août 1928
à Nowosiolki Lodz

Nationalité : Polonaise

Fait à Lyon, le 7 juin 1945
Le Préfet,
Commissaire de Police


Cachet de la Préfecture

Ce document, pour être valable,
doit être accompagné
du titre de séjour de l'étranger.

Recensement
des
étrangers

70. June 7, 1945 in Lyon is Lilly's last known residence in France at the end of WWII.



Portrait of Isi by his grandson