

# World War II Arrivals in Switzerland

by Peter Landé

The Geneva (Switzerland) Cantonal Archives has posted a list of 25,604 names of persons who entered Switzerland through Geneva during World War II at <[http://etat.geneve.ch/dt/archives/a\\_votre\\_service-liste\\_refugies-1700.html](http://etat.geneve.ch/dt/archives/a_votre_service-liste_refugies-1700.html)>. Specific dates are not given. The information for each individual includes name, (including maiden name of women), date of birth, and nationality (including "stateless"). The list includes names of Swiss citizens who returned to Switzerland during that period of time, but these do not constitute a large percentage of the total. The project is described as ongoing, so, presumably, more names will be added in the future.

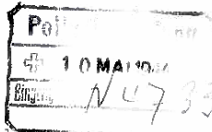
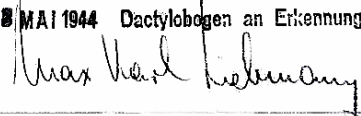
The Geneva collection is different from and far larger than the list of all Jews admitted to Switzerland that the Swiss Embassy donated to the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum (USHMM) some years ago. The USHMM collection, RG 58.001M, identifies 10,962 Jews admitted to Switzerland between 1936 and 1946, consists of 534 reels of film, and includes extensive files on each individual. The donation agreement between the Swiss Embassy and USHMM specifies that entire reels may not be posted on the web or copied, but individual entries may be copied and given to individuals in response to inquiries.

A letter has been sent to the Geneva Archives asking the following questions:

- Would the Archives object to downloading the Geneva list and placing it on a public website such as JewishGen?
- Does the Archives retain the case files that were developed on each individual during the course of their sojourns in Switzerland, or were these records centralized and held in Bern?
- If files on individuals are held in the Geneva Cantonal Archives, will these be made available in response to requests from individuals?
- Can the Archives estimate when this project might be completed and/or how many more names might be added?

The reply will be shared with AVOTAYNU readers when received.

(right) One of 34 pages of documentation about Max Karl Liebmann in the Geneva Cantonal Archives. Liebmann, born in Mannheim, Germany, fled to France and then Switzerland where he crossed the border at the Geneva Canton. After the war he came to the United States. Today he is senior vice-president of the American Gathering of Jewish Holocaust Survivors and Their Descendants. Used with permission.

Signalementsblatt für die Erstellung von Flüchtlingsausweisen		Foglio dei connotati per il rilascio di libretti per rifugiati	
<b>Feuille de signalement</b> pour l'établissement de livrets de réfugiés		<b>Foglio dei connotati</b> per il rilascio di libretti per rifugiati	
<small>Die ausgefüllten Signalementsblätter sind mit zwei Photos, die in einem Briefumschlag dem Signalementsblatt angeschlossen sind, an die Polizeibehörde des Eidg. Justiz- und Polizeidepartementes einzusenden.</small>		<small>Les feuilles de signalement dûment remplies doivent être envoyées avec deux photographies à la Division de police du Département fédéral de justice et police. Les photographies seront mises sous enveloppe et agréées à la feuille de signalement.</small>	
<small>Il foglio dei connotati debitamente riempito deve essere inviato, con due fotografie, alla Divisione delle police del Dipartimento federale di giustizia e polizia. Le fotografie saranno messe in una busta e approntate al foglio dei connotati.</small>			
<b>Name<sup>1)</sup></b> Nom <sup>1)</sup> Cognome <sup>1)</sup> Vorname Prénom Nome	I. I. B. M. A. N. N.  Max Karl	<b>in</b> à a	
<b>Geboren den</b> Né le Nato il	3 septembre 1921	<b>Name und Vorname der Mutter</b> Nom et prénom de la mère Cognome e nome della madre	Jeanne Lévy
<b>Vorname des Vaters</b> Prénom du père Nome del padre	Alfred		
<b>Staatsangehörigkeit</b> (Bei Staatslosigkeit frühere Staatsangehörigkeit) Nationalité (Dans les cas d'apatridie, ancienne nationalité) Cittadinanza (Per gli apolidi, cittadinanza precedente)	...		
<b>Beruf</b> Profession Professione	secrétaire		
<b>Zustand<sup>2)</sup></b> Etat civil <sup>2)</sup> Stato civile <sup>2)</sup>	célibataire		
<b>Grösse</b> Grandeur Statura	178	<b>Haare</b> Cheveux Capelli	blonds-roux
<b>Statur</b> Corpulence Corpatura	svelte	<b>Augen</b> Yeux Occhi	1 cl.
<b>Besondere Merkmale</b> Signes particuliers Segni particolari			
<b>Daktyloskopie am</b> Dactyloscopie du Dattiloscopio del	8. MAI 1944 Dactylobogen an Erkennungsdienst gesandt		
<b>Unterschrift des Flüchtling</b> Signature du réfugié Firma del rifugiato			
<b>Datum</b> Date Data	11. MAI 1944	<b>Unterschrift des Polizeiborgans</b> Signature de l'organe de police Firma dell'autorità di polizia	
<b>Beilagen:</b> 2 Photos <b>Annexes:</b> 2 photographies <b>Annessi:</b> 2 fotografie	2 L. Frolova		
<small><sup>1)</sup>Wenn das Signalementsblatt nicht mit Maschinenschrift ausgefüllt wird, so ist der Name in Blockschrift zu schreiben. Bei verheirateten Frauen ist auch der Mädchennamen anzugeben.</small>	<small><sup>2)</sup>Lorsque le feuille de signalement n'est pas rempli à la machine, le nom doit être écrit en caractères d'imprimerie. Chez les femmes mariées, indiquer aussi le nom de jeune fille.</small>	<small><sup>3)</sup>Quando il foglio dei connotati non è riempito a macchina il nome deve essere scritto in stampatello. L'eventualità di donne sposate indicare anche il nome da ragazza.</small>	
<small><sup>2)</sup>Es ist anzugeben mit wem verheiratet, von wem geschieden oder verwitwet.</small>	<small><sup>3)</sup>Indiquer le nom du conjoint, de l'époux (se) divorcé ou décédé.</small>	<small><sup>4)</sup>Le persone sposate, vedove, divorziate o separate, devono indicare con chi o rispetto di o de chi.</small>	
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