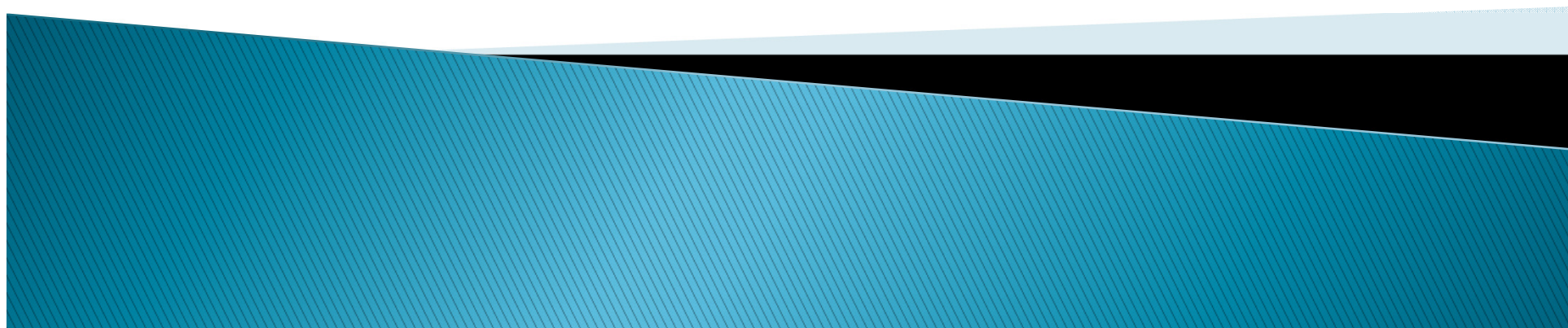


# Genealogical Resources for Holocaust Research

Jewish Genealogical Society of Georgia

David Bader

April 2014



# International Tracing Service (ITS)

- ▶ <http://www.its-arolsen.org/>
- ▶ Was focused on tracing missing persons, clarifying people's fates, and finding survivors, after the war
- ▶ Central Name Index contains over 50 million reference cards for over 17.5 million people and is the main key to the documents and the correspondence files
- ▶ Access was limited until 2007 and has been broadly available since 2012



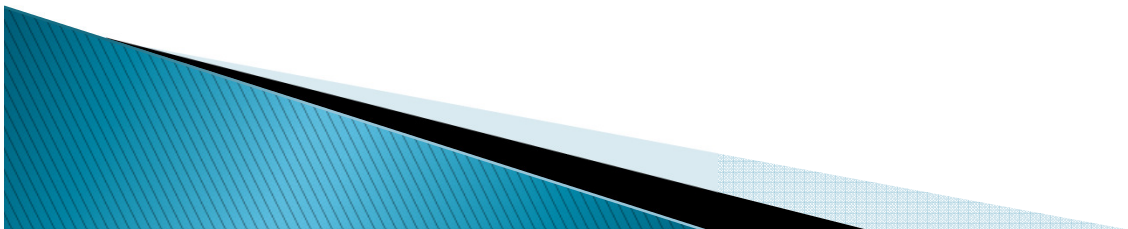
# ITS Archive



45 • Michael Prebur

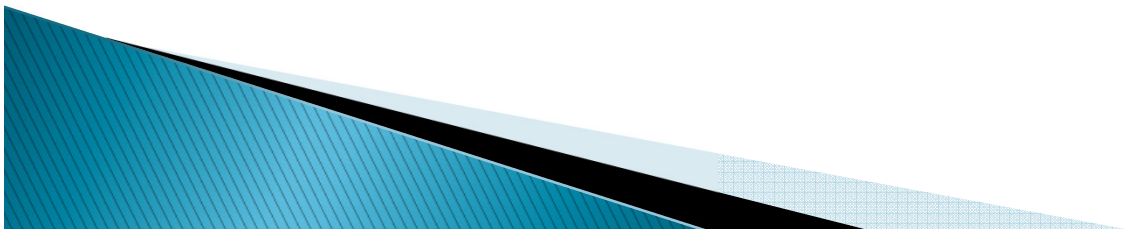
# ITS Archives

- ▶ Placed end-to-end, the documents in the ITS archives would extent to a length of about 26,000 metres. The archives are divided into three main sections:
  - [Incarceration](#)
  - [Forced Labour](#)
  - [Displaced Persons](#)
- ▶ In addition to this there are smaller sections associated with the work of a tracing service:
  - [Central Name Index](#)
  - [Child Tracing Branch](#)
- ▶ The ITS also keeps correspondence files containing incoming and outgoing correspondence with victims of Nazi persecution, family members and governmental organisations. This correspondence has also been made available for historical research, provided the written correspondence is more than 25 years old.



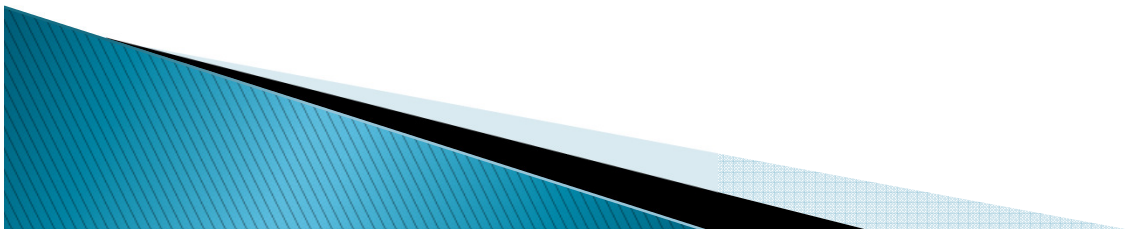
# Access to the ITS Archive

- ▶ Personal Access:
  - Bad Arolsen, Germany
- ▶ Through the Internet
  - <http://www.its-badarolsen.org> has request forms
  - (responses often take from months to years)
- ▶ In the United States, a single digital copy of the ITS Archive is available at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum (USHMM), in Washington, DC.



# Digital Access (Berlin Agreements)

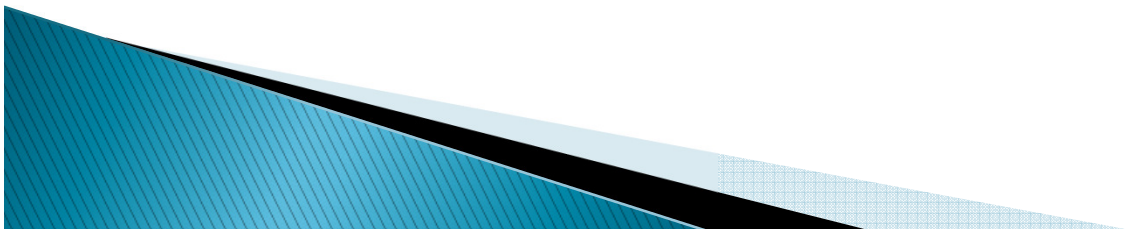
- ▶ The International Tracing Service is legally based on the Berlin agreements from December 9th, 2011. These agreements replace the Bonn agreement on the ITS from 1955 and the amendment from 2006 which were in place until December 31, 2012.
- ▶ On June 6, 1955, the governments of Belgium, France, the Federal Republic of Germany, Greece, Israel, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom and the USA signed an agreement to set up an International Commission to supervise the ITS. The Federal Republic of Germany undertook financial responsibility for the ITS.
- ▶ The International Commission, now consisting of eleven member states, monitors the activities of the ITS. On foundation the ITS was given the humanitarian tasks of providing information about the fate of those persecuted by the Nazi regime and reuniting families torn apart by the war.
- ▶ On May 16, 2006, the Commission decided to amend the Bonn Agreements to make the information stored in the archives also available for research purposes. The ratification process has been completed on November 28, 2007. Digital copies of the database are accessible in individual member states.
- ▶ The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) held on behalf of the International Commission the management of the institution from 1955 until 2012. The German Federal Archives have become an institutional partner of the ITS in January 2013. Subject to an unanimous approval, the International Commission appoints the Director of the ITS for a period of five years.





# Inquiries by survivors and family members

- ▶ Survivors, next of kin, local or other authorities as well as estate executors may file an online application for obtaining information on the fate of Nazi persecutees.
- ▶ The following data are indispensable for treating your request:
  - Step 1: Name und address of the applicant
  - Step 2: Data on the sought person
  - Step 3: Purpose of the request
  - Step 4: Previous experience
- ▶ The more information is known, the higher is the chance of a clear identification of the sought person.



# Example: Dobe Leia Honig (my great-grandmother)

- ▶ born 20 September 1863 in Krakow





# Central Names Index cards

Date 13.7.50/HelM		Name <b>H O N I G, Doba Leia Sara</b> File VCC 148	
BD 20.9.63	BP	Nat Jew.	
<del>Photoc. of orig. Gestapo-Files. Transp. from</del>			
Source of Information Wien to the East. (28. Transport)			
Last kn. Location Wien 2, Rote Kreuzg. 5/12 Date d 20.6.42			
CC/Prison	Arr.	lib.	
Transf. on 20.6.42	to	Theresienstadt	
Died on	in		
Cause of death			
Buried on	in		
Grave	D. C. No.		
Remarks Page No. 11			

Name: <i>HONIG, Doba, Leia,</i>	
geb. am: <i>20.9.18:63,</i> -	
Letzter Wohnort: -	Ghetto Theresienstadt (Kartei)
Transport-Nr.: -	
Nähere Angaben siehe Original	

Name  
(+Sara or Israel)

File location

To Terezín Concentration Camp

Taken on **20 June 1942** from Vienna, Austria to Theresienstadt (Terezin)

# Transport record (VCC 148)

- ▶ 3 months later (19 September 1942– a day shy of her 79<sup>th</sup> birthday), transported from Terezin to Treblinka extermination camp

ÚSTŘEDNÍ KARTOTÉKA — TRANSPORTY.  
Osoby došlé do Terezína z různých území

*Henig Doba Leia*  
rodná data *20. 9. 1963*

adresa před deportací

Deportace na východ: Číslo *Bo - 1930*  
dne *19. IX. 1942*

(původní transportní číslo: *104 - IV / 1 -*)

III.

104

Henig Doba Leia Sara

2. Rote Kreuzg. 5/12

20.9.63