



INSTITUTE OF MODERN LANGUAGES RESEARCH

University of London

IDENTITY STATEMENT

Reference:	HL
Title:	Herbert Löwit papers
Dates:	1910-2003
Level:	fonds
Extent and Medium:	4 boxes
Name of Creator:	Löwit, Herbert (1923-2012) German-Czech refugee

Archival History:

This Archive forms one of the Exile Studies collections acquired through the Research Centre for German and Austrian Exile Studies at the Institute for Modern Languages Research.

CONTEXT

Biographical/Administrative History: Herbert Löwit was born in Teplitz (now Teplice) in north-western Bohemia (Czechoslovakia), and spent his formative years in Reichenberg (now Liberec). He was a member of the socialist youth group, the 'Rote Falken' and his family were active members of the Deutsche Sozialdemokratische Arbeiterpartei in der Tschechoslowakischen Republik (DSAP). They were also Jewish. When German troops occupied the Czechoslovakian borderlands in 1938, the family fled to England as political refugees, where they joined the Treuegemeinschaft Sudetendeutscher Sozialdemokraten, the exile social democratic successor organisation of the DSAP founded by Wenzel Jaksch. HL spent 1939 in Brook Lodge refugee camp in Surrey and later completed his education at Kingston Day Commercial school. His father, Karl Löwit, found work in Mirfield, Yorkshire, and the family moved there for the duration of the war, but in 1941 HL joined the Czechoslovak Independent Brigade in 1941 and remained with it until he was de-mobbed in 1945. He played a key role in the surrender of Dunkirk in May 1945. Dunkirk had been besieged since August 1944 by the Czech Independent Brigade. HL's fluency in German, Czech and English allowed him to act as the telephone link between the headquarters of the Germans and the Czechs. HL worked briefly in Czechoslovakia after the war but, after marrying another Czech-German refugee, Theresie Schneider, he settled in England. He worked as German

teacher in adult education and also for a number of commercial firms run by exiles.

CONTENT

Scope and Content: The archive consists of a relatively small amount of material (less than half a box) created by German-Czech exile Karl Löwit and his son Herbert Löwit, which includes personal correspondence and research notes and copies of published articles by HL. The majority of the collection consists of the papers accumulated by Josef Schneider, an official of the Internationaler Metallarbeiterverband from the German-Czech borderlands, who came to the UK as a political exile. His papers include correspondence with Josef Ladig, Josef Lenk, Josef Zinner, Wenzel Jaksch, Karl Werner and Fanni Blatny, all of whom had originally been involved in the German-Czech trade union movement and/or the Deutsche Sozialdemokratische Arbeiterpartei in der Tschechoslowakischen Republik (DSAP) prior to going into exile. As well as the correspondence there are memoranda, declarations and resolutions passed by the successor parties to the DSAP (the Treuegemeinschaft and the Auslandsgruppe) and the trade unions in exile. The main subject matter of these papers is the split of the so-called Zinnergruppe from the Treuegemeinschaft Sudetendeutscher Sozialdemokraten in 1940 in the UK and in 1942 in Sweden, and the related issue of the fate of the Sudeten Germans after the Second World War.

ACCESS AND USE

Language of Scripts: English, Czech, German.

System of Arrangement: Original order (at least as found by archivist in 2014) was largely preserved. The material in HL 1, HL 2 and HL 3 relates to Herbert Löwit and his father Karl Löwit. This was all previously in Box 1. The material in HL 4, designated as Josef Schneider's papers, was all previously in boxes 6 and 7.

Conditions of Access: Open. At least 48 hours' notice is required for research visits.

Conditions of Reproduction: Copies may be made subject to the condition of the original. Copying must be undertaken by the Special Collections Reading Room staff, who will need a minimum of 48 hours to process requests. Some of the material in this collection is still in copyright; responsibility for gaining permission to use such material rests with the user.

- HL 1 Correspondence to and from Karl Löwit, Herbert Löwit and others 1918-1998**
 Includes correspondence between Karl Löwit and John & Edward Bumpus booksellers and the Left Book Club (1946-1947); a field postcard (fragment) from KL to his wife, Johanna Löwit (21 June 1918); two letters from Josef Hofbauer in Malmö, Sweden to KL in Mirfield, UK (6 April 1946 and 2 February 1948); one letter from S.E. Keeble of 'Berins', Barnett Lane, Womersley, Guildford to KL (17 July 1944); one letter from Karl Löwit to Siegfried Aufhäuser (1 May 1964) and one thank you card from SA to KL (8 May 1964); postcard from Dr Wolfgang Haferkorn, Düsseldorf, to Herbert Löwit (3 May 1998); correspondence and attachments from and concerning Otfried Preussler (1992-1993); copy of letter from Hans Schütz, President of the Sudeten German Council, to the Secretary General to the United Nations Organisation (received 1 April 1962). Previously in HL Box 1.
- 1 folder
- HL 2 Research notes and articles by Herbert Löwit 1945-2003**
 Includes miscellaneous notes, review articles and related correspondence, as well as photocopies of published articles by Herbert Löwit. Previously in HL Box 1 files 1, 3 and 5.
- 2 folders
- HL 2/1a Copies of articles by Herbert Löwit published in the Sudeten-Jahrbuch 1980-2003**
 22 articles on different aspects of Herbert Löwit's experiences of Sudeten German history. Previously in Box 1 file 1.
- 1 folder
- HL 2/2a Miscellaneous research notes and articles 1945-1997**
 Includes loose leaves of a handwritten text in English entitled 'Programme of the Czechoslovak Government' (undated, c. 1945); notes, review article and related correspondence relating to a book by Carol Skalnik, 'National conflict in Czechoslovakia' (Princeton University Press, 1988); loose leaves of notes in Czech

and English; German-English vocabulary lists; review by Herbert Löwit dated January 1996 of Volkmar Gabert and Emil Werner's 'Wir wollten nicht mit den Massen irren'. Die sudetendeutschen Sozialdemokraten von der Verteidigung der Republik bis zu ihrer Vertreibung' (Munich, Seliger-Gemeinde, 1995); and short biographical account of Alfred Frenzel by Herbert Löwit, published in Ein Sohn des Volkes - Ernst Paul zum 100. Geburtstag, ed. by Olga Sippl (Munich, 1997). Previously in HL Box 1 files 3 and 5.

1 folder

HL 3 Personal and miscellaneous items of the Löwits

**1910-
undated
[c1995]**

Includes Karl Löwit's visiting card from Reichenberg (1933) and his invitation card to the Labour Party's conference as a delegate from the Mirfield Labour Party (1946); a pencil sketch portrait of Otto Bauer [Austrian Social Democrat, one of the leading thinkers of the left-socialist Austro-Marxist grouping] by Rudolf Hanusch (undated, c.1938); a b/w photograph of Herta Lindner [anti-Nazi resistance fighter] (undated, c. 1942); programme of a memorial service held in Dachau and Munich by the Seliger-Gemeinde for Sudeten German Social Democratic Party victims of National Socialism (June 1960); a typescript of the address delivered by Rabbi Dr Georg Salzberger on being awarded the Buber-Rosenzweig medal (1972); a leaflet for an exhibition by the Koestler Trust (1988); two business cards of the Seliger-Gemeinde annotated 'for Herbert Löwit, with thanks for your contribution' (undated, c.1995); and three books belonging to KL: Dienstvertrag der Handlungsgehilfen und anderer Dienstnehmer... [Contract of Service for commercial tradesmen] by Dr Felix Mayer and Dr. Siegmund Grünberg von Wien (Manzsche k. u. k. Hof-Verlags- und Universitäts-Buchhandlung, 1910); Handbuchlein über die Leistungen aus der Invaliditäts- und Altersversicherung (Prague: Verband 'Arbeiterfürsorge', 1937); and the annual diary produced for members of the Allgemeinen Angestellten Verband, Reichenberg (blank, except for KL's name in the 'owner' field) (1938). [In 1937 KL took charge of the legal protection section of his union, the Allgemeinen Angestellten-Verband (the Association of General Employees), and was responsible for the editing of the last two items.]

Previously in Box 1.

1 folder and 3 books

- | | | |
|---------------------|--|---|
| HL 4 | Papers of Josef Schneider | 1938
December-
1965 |
| | 3.5 boxes (40 folders) | |
| HL 4/1 | Correspondence to and from Josef Schneider | 1938
December-
1949
February |
| | <p>Correspondence between JS and refugee organisations such as the Czech Refugee Trust Fund and the Anglo Refugee Friendship Club, as well as circulars and individual letters to and from JS and other Czech-German political refugees, of whom the latter were mainly members of the Deutsche Sozialdemokratische Arbeiterpartei in der Tschechoslowakischen Republik and/or trade unionists. Of particular note is the file of 139 letters between JS and Josef Ladig, who, like JS, was an official of the Internationaler Metalarbeiterverband, but who was in exile in Sweden. Previously in HL Box 6.</p> <p>25 folders</p> | |
| HL
4/1/1 | Letter to Josef Schneider from Fanni Blatny, London | 1940
February 24 |
| | <p>Congratulating Josef Schneider on his clear thinking, and contrasting his position with that of [Eugen] De Witte and [Wenzel] Jaksch.</p> <p>1 leaf</p> | |
| HL
4/1/2 | Correspondence between Josef Schneider and the Czech Refugee Trust Fund | 1941
September-
1943
October |

Correspondence with attachments on a range of subjects, including: 1) the suicide of Mr Richard Geyer, a Czech refugee from National Socialism, on 4 October 1941 in Mirfield, Yorkshire. One of the attachments is a list of RG's belongings (October-November 1941); 2) a settlement scheme in Brazil for refugees with farming experience (22 October 1943); 3) Josef Schneider's successful repayment of a £10 furniture loan (24 September 1941).

1 folder

**HL
4/1/3**

Circular letter to members of the Deutsche Sozialdemokratische Arbeiterpartei in der Tschechoslowakischen Republik (Auslandsgruppe) from Josef Lenk and Josef Zinner

**1946
January 15**

Circular letter to members of the Auslandsgruppe der DSAP in der Tschechoslowakischen Republik, sent by Party leaders J[osef] Zinner and J[osef] Lenk.

1 leaf

**HL
4/1/4**

Letter to Josef Schneider from Lincoln Evans of the British Section of the International Metalworkers' Federation

**1941 March
20**

Informing Josef Schneider of the amount the IMF had paid to Czech refugees during the period February 1939 to June 1940.

1 leaf

**HL
4/1/5**

Correspondence between Josef Schneider and Josef Ladig

**1938
December
07-1949
February 13**

Correspondence between JS in exile in the UK and JL in exile in Sweden. Before going into exile JS and JL worked together in the Internationaler Metallarbeiterverein (IMS) in Komotau (Chomutov), where JS was a branch(?) secretary and JL was General Secretary. During their years of exile, the letters were their main means of maintaining contact, and in them they discussed local, national and international political and social developments in some detail. Subjects covered include (but are not limited to) the work they are doing in their respective countries to support other members of the IMV in exile (for example

arranging financial support from the International Metalworkers' Federation); the changing position of the refugees with regard to rights and their integration into the host society; the exiled unions' relations with the UK and Swedish social democrat parties and trade unions; international developments such as the Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact and the outbreak of war in September 1939; news of friends and acquaintances still in Czechoslovakia; the organisation and activities of the IMV in exile and relations between it and other exiled trade unions from Czechoslovakia; relations between the trade unions and Wenzel Jaksch's Treuegemeinschaft; their reasons for breaking away from the Treuegemeinschaft (which the UK group did in October 1940 and the Swedish group did in 1942); their views on the role of the trade unions in post-war Czechoslovakia; their views on the relationship between the Sudetenland and Germany, and the extent of their support for the Czechoslovakian government in exile. They also report on their personal circumstances in exile, and their plans for maintaining contact through occasional meetings and further correspondence.

15 folders (139 items)

HL
4/1/5/1

Letter from Josef Ladig to Josef Schneider

1938
December
07

Handwritten letter in Sütterlin script from Josef Ladig in Prague to Josef Schneider in the UK. JL escaped to Prague when the Czechoslovakian borderlands (also known as the Sudetenland) were annexed by Nazi Germany in 1938. An obituary for Franz Kaufmann, former Chair of the International Metalworkers' Federation in the Czechoslovakian Republic, published in the union's Mitteilungsblatt, is attached to the letter, with a handwritten annotation from JL (although this may not have been originally attached to the letter as FK died in April 1939).

5 leaves

HL
4/1/5/2

Letter from Josef Ladig to Josef Schneider

1938
December
15

Typed letter from Josef Ladig in Prague to Josef Schneider in the UK. He escaped to Prague when the Czechoslovakian borderlands (also known as the Sudetenland) were annexed by Nazi Germany in 1938. The letter discusses his work supporting other members of the Internationaler Metallarbeiterverband who had gone into exile in the remaining Czechoslovakia territory. He also asks JS, another official of the same union to keep in close contact with him and to let him have any information available about union members in exile in the UK.

2 leaves

**HL
4/1/5/3**

Letter from Josef Ladig to Josef Schneider

**1938
December
31**

Handwritten letter in Sütterlin script from Josef Ladig in Eskilstuna, Sweden, to Josef Schneider in the UK. Describes how he escaped to Prague when the Czechoslovakian borderlands (also known as the Sudetenland) were annexed by Nazi Germany in 1938, and his recent journey from Prague into exile in Sweden, where his wife and son were already living.

1 leaf

**HL
4/1/5/4**

Letter from Josef Ladig to Josef Schneider

**1939
January 11**

Handwritten letter in Sütterlin script from Josef Ladig in Eskilstuna, Sweden, to Josef Schneider in the UK.

1 leaf

**HL
4/1/5/5**

Letter from Josef Ladig to Josef Schneider

**1939
January 17**

Handwritten letter in Sütterlin script from Josef Ladig in Eskilstuna, Sweden, to Josef Schneider in the UK.

2 leaves

**HL
4/1/5/6**

Letter from Josef Ladig to Josef Schneider

**1939
February 02**

Typed letter from Josef Ladig in Eskilstuna, Sweden, to Josef Schneider in the UK. Discusses plans for getting financial support from the IMV for members of the CSR branch in exile with the help of [Konrad] Ilg [then Vice President of the Swiss Trade Union Federation and Secretary of the Internationaler Metallarbeiterbund]. A list of members of the CSR branch of the IMV thought to be in England was originally attached but was not with the letter when it was catalogued.

1 leaf

HL
4/1/5/7

Letter from Josef Ladig to Josef Schneider

1939
February 21

Typed letter from Josef Ladig in Eskilstuna, Sweden, to Josef Schneider at Brook Lodge, England. Discusses plans for getting financial support from the IMV for members of the CSR branch in exile with the help of [Konrad] Ilg [then Vice President of the Swiss Trade Union Federation and Secretary of the Internationalen Metallarbeiterbundes]. Says that he has been told that Britain has agreed to accept the remaining refugees in the CSR.

1 leaf

HL
4/1/5/8

Letter from Josef Ladig to Josef Schneider

1939 March
03

Typed letter from Josef Ladig in Eskilstuna, Sweden, to Josef Schneider at Brook Lodge, England. Asks for further information about members of the IMV who have gone into exile in the UK, and states that he wants to get into contact with other IMV officials who are there. Also discusses integration of refugees into Swedish society and support of Swedish Social Democrat Party, and the most recent information on getting financial support from the IMV for members of the CSR branch in exile with the help of [Konrad] Ilg [then Vice President of the Swiss Trade Union Federation and Secretary of the Internationalen Metallarbeiterbundes]. There is a 2-leaf attachment to the letter outlining JL's views on current international political developments and whether the Sudeten German emigrants should take part in political activities in Sweden. He regards the fact that the party [the Deutsche Sozialdemokratische Arbeiterpartei] has not expressed any views on developments or made any suggestions about political action as a failure.

Typed letter from Josef Ladig in Huvudsta, Sweden, to Josef Schneider at Brook Lodge, England. States that he feels that it is important that the German Social Democrat Party makes its position clear. [With regard to what subject it is not stated, but probably in relation to the future of the Sudetenland.] Also states that he expects the war to be over within a year, and that his work for the ASG and IMV keeps him extremely busy.

1 leaf

HL
4/1/5/30

Letter from Josef Ladig to Josef Schneider

1939
December
25

Typed letter from Josef Ladig in Huvudsta, Sweden, to Josef Schneider at Brook Lodge, England. Discusses what should happen to the Sudetenland, arguing that federal state arrangement would be best, probably as part of Czechoslovakia. The German Social Democratic Workers' Party (of Czechoslovakia) (DSAP) should not be ambiguous about what it wants. JL is happy that he and JS hold same views on these issues. Also discusses union member [Gustav] Neumann and DSAP members [Franz] Kögler and [Wenzel] Jasksch with whom he has disagreements, and reports dissatisfaction with the recently-formed ASG. Asks JS to discuss these matters with [Josef] Zinner

3 leaves

HL
4/1/5/31

Letter from Josef Ladig to Josef Schneider

1940
January 06

Typed letter from Josef Ladig in Huvudsta, Sweden, to Josef Schneider at Brook Lodge, England. Discusses financial support of Internationaler Metallarbeiterverein for members in exile and gratitude to [Thomas] McKenna and Little [first name not given] for their support. Suggests that other trade unions have not done half as much to support their members as the IMV. Strongly critical of [Wenzel] Jaksch for having writing foreword for book by [former National Socialist Party leader] Otto Strasser and wonders how WJ will justify this. Also asks JS to give details of other rumours [about WJ].

1 leaf

- HL** **Letter from Josef Ladig to Josef Schneider** **1940 March**
4/1/5/34 **10-March 11**
- Typed letter from Josef Ladig in Huvudsta, Sweden, to Josef Schneider at Brook Lodge, England. Short cover note accompanying draft manifesto with a request for feedback. Also a longer letter sent 10 March 1940, in which JL states that he was very happy to receive letter from JS confirming that, having held talks with [IMV and German Social Democratic Workers' Party] colleagues, they have reached agreement in their views.
- 2 leaves
-
- HL** **Letter from Josef Ladig to Josef Schneider** **1940 March**
4/1/5/35 **24**
- Typed letter from Josef Ladig in Huvudsta, Sweden, to Josef Schneider at Brook Lodge, England. Expresses regret that some of the letters he had sent to other comrades have been passed on to others without his knowledge or consent. Discusses case of IMV members, notably [Max] Koutnik, who have been expelled from the German Social Democratic Workers' Party, as well as they attitude and loyalty of some members towards the Party.
- 2 leaves
-
- HL** **Letter from Josef Ladig to Josef Schneider with a** **1940 April**
4/1/5/36 **circular letter to all officials of the Internationaler** **07**
Metallarbeiterverband in der CSR in exile
- Typed cover letter from Josef Ladig in Huvudsta, Sweden, to Josef Schneider at Brook Lodge, England. Attached is a letter to all IMV officials in exiles, informing them that the [German Social Democratic Workers'] Party had now formally set out its political position and asking them to think about the next step: how the trade unions would take action to support the position and goals set out by the Party. He would like to hear their ideas before writing his own suggestions. He also encourages them to discuss [issues and information generally?] with members of other unions.
- 1 leaf
-
- HL** **Letter from Josef Schneider to Josef Ladig** **1939**
4/1/5/37 **November**

Typed letter from Josef Schneider of Brook Lodge, England, to Josef Ladig [Sweden]. Attached to the letter was a copy of a list of all IMV members who had emigrated, showing which administrative region of Czechoslovakia they had come from, but this was not attached when the archive was catalogued in 2014. JS also responds to JS's request [for IMV members] to express their political views on the international situation and the relationship of the Sudetenland to Czechoslovakia and German, and also sets out his views on what the IMV and other German-Czech unions should be doing whilst in exile. Reports that tensions still exist within the Party and mentions in this context [Wenzel] Jacksch, [Gustav] Neumann, [Franz] Kögler, [Josef] Zinner, [Willi] Werner. Also criticises WJ for writing foreword for book by Otto Strasser. Says that trade union work will be difficult as many of the leaders are in exile in Sweden, and discusses issue of financial support for members and a recent change in rules concerning permission to work in the UK.

4 leaves

HL
4/1/5/38

Letter from Josef Schneider to Josef Ladig

1939
December
11

Typed letter from Josef Schneider of Brook Lodge, England, to Josef Ladig [Sweden]. Concerns increasing tensions between German-Czech unions officials such as [Josef] Zinner, and German Social Democratic Workers' Party (DSAP) officials including [Franz] Katz and [Eugen] de Witte. Originally attached was a copy of a letter from [Wenzel] Jaksch to JZ, written after a meeting where some of the issues were discussed, but this was not present when the archive was catalogued in 2014. Suspects FK and EdW negatively influencing WJ and complains about DSAP officials interfering in union affairs.

2 leaves

HL
4/1/5/39

Letter from Josef Schneider to Josef Ladig

1939
December
23

Typed letter from Josef Schneider of Brook Lodge, England, to Josef Ladig [Sweden]. Concerns arrangements for financial support of IMV for members in exile. Compares situation of metalworkers with that of textile workers, who had so far received only £1.00 from their union. Also asks for JL's views on [Wenzel] Jaksch's writing of foreword for Otto Strasser's book, and says that he has heard various other rumours about WJ's character.

2 leaves

HL
4/1/5/40

Letter from Josef Schneider to Josef Ladig

1940
January 06

Typed letter from Josef Schneider of Brook Lodge, England, to Josef Ladig [Sweden]. Reports that he has met with other trade union officials ([Josef] Zinner and [Sigmund] Löwi) and that they are in agreement over views on future of Sudetenland and role of trade unions. However, he is concerned that the views of the trade unions do not match those of leaders of the [German Social Democratic Workers'] Party (DSAP). Gives two examples of actions of DSAP leaders which illustrate this: 1) propaganda sent to DSAP members by leaders which was intended to damage the reputation of the Czechoslovak military, in order to strengthen leaders' argument that Sudeten Germans in exile should not join the Czechoslovak military; and 2) writing of foreword of book by former Nazi leader Otto Strasser by [Wenzel] Jaksch.

6 leaves

HL
4/1/5/41

Letter from Josef Schneider to Josef Ladig

1940
January 13

Typed letter from Josef Schneider of Brook Lodge, England, to Josef Ladig [Sweden]. Originally attached was a memorandum from Czech trade unionist [Josef] Belina which showed, according to JS, 'wie eingehend gerade die Frage einer Föderation diskutiert wird' (how thoroughly the question of a federation was being discussed). Also gives further information on how the German Social Democratic Workers' Party leaders were attempting to discredit the Czech military in order to persuade Sudeten Germans not to join it, and briefly outlines the rumours he has heard concerning [Wenzel] Jaksch.

3 leaves

HL
4/1/5/42

Letter from Josef Schneider to Josef Ladig

1940
January 24

Typed letter from Josef Schneider of Brook Lodge, England, to Josef Ladig [Sweden]. Reports on a meeting between [Wenzel] Jaksch, [Sigmund] Löwi and [Rudolf] Storch in which German Social Democratic Workers' Party leader (DSAP), WJ, spoke about a number of issues of concern to JS. These included the future relationship of the Sudetenland to Germany and Czechoslovakia, negotiations with [Edvard] Beneš, WJ's foreword to Otto Strasser's book. However, JS does not seem convinced by WJ's responses and is suspicious of WJ's ideological stance.

4 leaves

HL
4/1/5/43

Letter from Josef Schneider to Josef Ladig

1940
February 12

Typed letter from Josef Schneider of Brook Lodge, England, to Josef Ladig [Sweden]. Reports on three meetings that have taken place in last week. Firstly, a meeting of trade union officials on 8 February 1940, which included [Josef] Zinner as miners' representative, [Gustav] Neumann as textile workers' representative, [Franz] Kögler as public employees' representative, [Josef] Lenk as private employees' representative and JS himself as the metalworkers' representative. They discussed relations and communication with trade union leaders in Sweden and concluded that it was difficult to plan trade union priorities when the German Social Democrat Party had still not clarified its overall political aim with regard to the future of the Sudetenland. JS records some figures relating to numbers of trade unionists in exile which were presented during this meeting. Secondly, JS reports on talks held with union and DSAP leaders on 9 February. These covered five areas: 1) events at Margate Refugee Camp; 2) the question of whether Sudeten Germans in exile should join the Czechoslovak army; 3) negotiations with [Edvard] Beneš; 4) the relationship between the DSAP and the trade unions and 5) the overall political vision and aims of the DSAP. There was also more discussion of why [Wenzel] Jaksch agreed to write the foreword for Otto

Strasser's book. The third meeting on which JS reports was one with IMV members. He states that members told him that they did not trust him and believed him to be one of those plotting to split the DSAP. JS explained his position and that he had had very little contact with people thought to be plotting against the DSAP. He believes his is a victim of his own honesty and declares to JL that he has always stated his position clearly, and that the letters he has sent to JL are the most open and honest statement of his views that he has given.

10 leaves

HL
4/1/5/44

Letter from Josef Schneider to Josef Ladig

1940
February 28

Typed letter with additional letter attached from Josef Schneider of Brook Lodge, England, to Josef Ladig [Sweden]. Reports on aftermath of events at Margate Refugee Camp described in previous letter, after which 11 members of the German Social Democrat Party (DSAP) were expelled. JS has been to visit camp and found it split into two opposing groups and with a bad atmosphere. An additional letter is attached which addressed only to 'Pepp' [Joseph] and not signed but is probably also from JS to JL. In it he explains that he has now worked out why his letters, in which he expressed political views different to those of the official DSAP line, were shown to DSAP leader [Wenzel] Jaksch. He now realises that there has been suspicion that the unions were plotting against the DSAP, and that he had been seen as a ringleader in this plot. He argues that there is no plot and that the accusations are ridiculous, although he is critical of individuals on both sides of division.

5 leaves

HL
4/1/5/45

Letter from Josef Schneider to Josef Ladig

1940 March
23

Typed letter from Josef Schneider of Brook Lodge, Albury Heath, England, to Josef Ladig [Sweden].

5 leaves

HL
4/1/5/46

Letter from Josef Schneider to Josef Ladig

1940 April
07

Typed letter from Josef Ladig, Stockholm, Sweden, to Josef Schneider, Mirfield, Yorkshire.

2 leaves

HL Letter from Josef Ladig to Josef Schneider 1942
4/1/5/53 August 30

Typed letter from Josef Ladig, Stockholm, Sweden, to Josef Schneider, Mirfield, Yorkshire.

3 leaves

HL Letter from Josef Ladig to Josef Schneider 1942
4/1/5/54 October 25

Typed letter with two attachments from Josef Ladig, Stockholm, Sweden, to Josef Schneider, Mirfield, Yorkshire.

5 leaves

HL Letter from Josef Schneider to Josef Ladig 1942 April
4/1/5/55 27

Typed letter from Josef Schneider in Mirfield, Yorkshire, to Josef Ladig, Sweden.

2 leaves

HL Letter from Josef Schneider to Josef Ladig 1942 June
4/1/5/56 30

Typed letter from Josef Schneider in Mirfield, Yorkshire, to Josef Ladig, Sweden.

2 leaves

HL Letter from Josef Schneider to Josef Ladig 1942
4/1/5/57 September
14

Typed letter from Josef Schneider in Mirfield, Yorkshire, to Josef Ladig, Sweden.

5 leaves

HL Letter from Josef Schneider to Josef Ladig 1942
4/1/5/58 November

17

Typed letter from Josef Schneider in Mirfield, Yorkshire, to Josef Ladig, Sweden.

3 leaves

**HL
4/1/5/59**

Letter from Josef Ladig to Josef Schneider

**1943
January 10**

Typed letter from Josef Ladig, Stockholm, Sweden, to Josef Schneider, Mirfield, Yorkshire. Discusses whether the Sudeten Germans have the right to make demands in the negotiations over the shape of post-war Czechoslovakia, and the loyalty of the Sudeten Germans to the Czechoslovakian state. Also reports on a dispute he has had with former officials of the unions of the German Trade Union Confederation of Czechoslovakia over claims he made about the role of the trade unions in future Czechoslovakia, which were agreed at an assembly of metal workers in October 1942.

6 leaves

**HL
4/1/5/60**

Letter from Josef Ladig to Josef Schneider

**1943 June
27**

Typed letter from Josef Ladig, Stockholm, Sweden, to Josef Schneider, [Mirfield, Yorkshire]. Announces that he, Franz Krejčí and a number of other former members of the Treuegemeinschaft Sudetendeutscher Sozialdemokraten in Sweden have now completely broken off from the Party, and explains reasons for doing so.

6 leaves

**HL
4/1/5/61**

Letter from Josef Ladig to Josef Schneider

**1943 June
28**

Typed letter from Josef Ladig, Stockholm, Sweden, to Josef Schneider, Mirfield, Yorkshire.

1 leaf

**HL
4/1/5/62**

Letter from Josef Ladig to Josef Schneider

**1943
August 03**

Typed letter from Josef Ladig, Stockholm, Sweden, to Josef Schneider, Mirfield, Yorkshire.

4 leaves

HL Letter from Josef Ladig to Josef Schneider 1943
4/1/5/63 October 03

Typed letter from Josef Ladig, Stockholm, Sweden, to Josef Schneider, Mirfield, Yorkshire.

5 leaves

HL Letter from Josef Ladig to Josef Schneider 1943
4/1/5/64 December 31

Typed letter with attached copy of letter to Josef Zinner from Josef Ladig, Stockholm, Sweden, to Josef Schneider, Mirfield, Yorkshire.

7 leaves

HL Letter from Josef Ladig to Josef Schneider 1944 March
4/1/5/65 17

Typed letter from Josef Ladig, Stockholm, Sweden, to Josef Schneider, Mirfield, Yorkshire.

3 leaves

HL Letter from Josef Ladig to Josef Schneider 1944 June
4/1/5/66 28

Typed letter from Josef Ladig, Stockholm, Sweden, to Josef Schneider, Mirfield, Yorkshire.

7 leaves

HL Letter from Josef Schneider to Josef Ladig 1943
4/1/5/67 January 26

Typed letter from Josef Schneider in Mirfield, Yorkshire, to Josef Ladig, Sweden.

3 leaves

HL Letter from Josef Schneider to Josef Ladig 1943
4/1/5/68 February 10

Typed letter from Josef Schneider in Mirfield, Yorkshire, to Josef Ladig, Sweden.

2 leaves

HL Letter from Josef Schneider to Josef Ladig 1943 May 10
4/1/5/69

Typed letter with attachment from Josef Schneider in Mirfield, Yorkshire, to Josef Ladig, Sweden.

13 leaves

HL Letter from Josef Schneider to Josef Ladig 1943 July
4/1/5/70 08

Typed letter from Josef Schneider in Mirfield, Yorkshire, to Josef Ladig, Sweden.

4 leaves

HL Letter from Josef Schneider to Josef Ladig 1943
4/1/5/71 August 02

Typed letter from Josef Schneider in Mirfield, Yorkshire, to Josef Ladig, Sweden.

2 leaves

HL Letter from Josef Schneider to Josef Ladig 1943
4/1/5/72 August 16

Typed letter from Josef Schneider in Mirfield, Yorkshire, to Josef Ladig, Sweden.

2 leaves

HL Letter from Josef Schneider to Josef Ladig 1943
4/1/5/73 August 29

Typed letter from Josef Schneider in Mirfield, Yorkshire, to Josef Ladig, Sweden.

2 leaves

HL Letter from Josef Schneider to Josef Ladig 1943
4/1/5/74 September
29

	<p>Typed letter from Josef Schneider in Mirfield, Yorkshire, to Josef Ladig, Sweden.</p> <p>1 leaf</p>	
HL 4/1/5/75	<p>Letter from Josef Schneider to Josef Ladig</p> <p>Typed letter from Josef Schneider in Mirfield, Yorkshire, to Josef Ladig, Sweden.</p> <p>2 leaves</p>	<p>1943 October 26</p>
HL 4/1/5/76	<p>Letter from Josef Schneider to Josef Ladig</p> <p>Typed letter from Josef Schneider in Mirfield, Yorkshire, to Josef Ladig, Sweden.</p> <p>2 leaves</p>	<p>1943 November 07</p>
HL 4/1/5/77	<p>Letter from Josef Schneider to Josef Ladig</p> <p>Typed letter from Josef Schneider in Mirfield, Yorkshire, to Josef Ladig, Sweden.</p> <p>2 leaves</p>	<p>1943 December 08</p>
HL 4/1/5/78	<p>Letter from Josef Schneider to Josef Ladig</p> <p>Typed letter from Josef Schneider in Mirfield, Yorkshire, to Josef Ladig, Sweden.</p> <p>3 leaves</p>	<p>1944 March 15</p>
HL 4/1/5/79	<p>Letter from Josef Schneider to Josef Ladig</p> <p>Typed letter from Josef Schneider in Mirfield, Yorkshire, to Josef Ladig, Sweden.</p> <p>3 leaves</p>	<p>1944 April 03</p>
HL 4/1/5/80	<p>Letter from Josef Schneider to Josef Ladig</p>	<p>1944 April 25</p>

	<p>Typed letter from Josef Schneider in Mirfield, Yorkshire, to Josef Ladig, Sweden.</p> <p>2 leaves</p>	
HL 4/1/5/81	<p>Letter from Josef Schneider to Josef Ladig</p> <p>Typed letter from Josef Schneider in Mirfield, Yorkshire, to Josef Ladig, Sweden.</p> <p>2 leaves</p>	1944 June 29
HL 4/1/5/82	<p>Letter from Josef Schneider to Josef Ladig</p> <p>Typed letter from Josef Schneider in Mirfield, Yorkshire, to Josef Ladig, Sweden.</p> <p>4 leaves</p>	1944 September 05
HL 4/1/5/83	<p>Letter from Josef Schneider to Josef Ladig</p> <p>Typed letter from Josef Schneider in Mirfield, Yorkshire, to Josef Ladig, Sweden.</p> <p>5 leaves</p>	1944 October 29
HL 4/1/5/84	<p>Letter from Josef Schneider to Josef Ladig</p> <p>Typed letter from Josef Schneider in Mirfield, Yorkshire, to Josef Ladig, Sweden.</p> <p>2 leaves</p>	1944 November 20
HL 4/1/5/85	<p>Letter from Josef Schneider to Josef Ladig</p> <p>Typed letter from Josef Schneider in Mirfield, Yorkshire, to Josef Ladig, Sweden.</p> <p>1 leaf</p>	1944 December 06
HL	Letter from Josef Ladig to Josef Schneider	1944

4/1/5/86		October 11
	Typed letter from Josef Ladig, Stockholm, Sweden, to Josef Schneider, Mirfield, Yorkshire.	
	4 leaves	
HL 4/1/5/87	Letter from Josef Ladig to Josef Schneider	1944 October 12
	Typed letter from Josef Ladig, Stockholm, Sweden, to Josef Schneider, Mirfield, Yorkshire.	
	2 leaves	
HL 4/1/5/88	Letter from Josef Ladig to Josef Schneider	1945 January 13
	Typed letter from Josef Ladig, Stockholm, Sweden, to Josef Schneider, Mirfield, Yorkshire.	
	3 leaves	
HL 4/1/5/89	Letter from Josef Ladig to Josef Schneider	1945 March 14
	Typed letter from Josef Ladig, Stockholm, Sweden, to Josef Schneider, Mirfield, Yorkshire.	
	2 leaves	
HL 4/1/5/90	Letter from Josef Ladig to Josef Schneider	1945 May 04
	Typed letter from Josef Ladig, Stockholm, Sweden, to Josef Schneider, Mirfield, Yorkshire.	
	1 leaf	
HL 4/1/5/91	Letter from Josef Ladig to Josef Schneider	1945 June 25
	Typed letter from Josef Ladig, Stockholm, Sweden, to Josef Schneider, Mirfield, Yorkshire.	
	3 leaves	
HL 4/1/5/92	Letter from Josef Ladig to Josef Schneider	1945 October 10

	<p>Typed letter from Josef Ladig, Stockholm, Sweden, to Josef Schneider, Mirfield, Yorkshire.</p> <p>1 leaf</p>	
<p>HL 4/1/5/93</p>	<p>Letter from Josef Ladig to Josef Schneider</p> <p>Typed letter with attachment from Josef Ladig, Stockholm, Sweden, to Josef Schneider, Mirfield, Yorkshire.</p> <p>4 leaves</p>	<p>1945 November 11</p>
<p>HL 4/1/5/94</p>	<p>Letter from Josef Ladig to Josef Schneider</p> <p>Typed letter from Josef Ladig, Stockholm, Sweden, to Josef Schneider, Mirfield, Yorkshire.</p> <p>1 leaf</p>	<p>1945 December 02</p>
<p>HL 4/1/5/95</p>	<p>Letter from Josef Schneider to Josef Ladig</p> <p>Typed letter from Josef Schneider in Mirfield, Yorkshire, to Josef Ladig, Sweden.</p> <p>1 leaf</p>	<p>1945 January 31</p>
<p>HL 4/1/5/96</p>	<p>Letter from Josef Schneider to Josef Ladig</p> <p>Typed letter from Josef Schneider in Mirfield, Yorkshire, to Josef Ladig, Sweden.</p> <p>2 leaves</p>	<p>1945 March 20</p>
<p>HL 4/1/5/97</p>	<p>Letter from Josef Schneider to Josef Ladig</p> <p>Typed letter from Josef Schneider in Mirfield, Yorkshire, to Josef Ladig, Sweden.</p> <p>1 leaf</p>	<p>1945 April 23</p>
<p>HL</p>	<p>Letter from Josef Schneider to Josef Ladig</p>	<p>1945 May 22</p>

4/1/5/98

Typed letter from Josef Schneider in Mirfield,
Yorkshire, to Josef Ladig, Sweden.

3 leaves

HL Letter from Josef Schneider to Josef Ladig
4/1/5/99

Typed letter from Josef Schneider in Mirfield,
Yorkshire, to Josef Ladig, Sweden.

2 leaves

1945 June
03

HL Letter from Josef Schneider to Josef Ladig
4/1/5/100

Typed letter from Josef Schneider in Mirfield,
Yorkshire, to Josef Ladig, Sweden.

1 leaf

1945 June
13

HL Letter from Josef Schneider to Josef Ladig
4/1/5/101

Typed letter from Josef Schneider in Mirfield,
Yorkshire, to Josef Ladig, Sweden.

1 leaf

1945 July
12

HL Letter from Josef Schneider to Josef Ladig
4/1/5/102

Typed letter from Josef Schneider in Mirfield,
Yorkshire, to Josef Ladig, Sweden.

2 leaves

1945
October 16

HL Letter from Josef Schneider to Josef Ladig
4/1/5/103

Typed letter from Josef Schneider in Mirfield,
Yorkshire, to Josef Ladig, Sweden.

1 leaf

1945
November
20

HL Letter from Josef Schneider to Josef Ladig
4/1/5/104

1945
December

- 17**
- Typed letter from Josef Schneider in Mirfield, Yorkshire, to Josef Ladig, Sweden.
- 1 leaf
- HL 4/1/5/105 Letter from Josef Schneider to Josef Ladig 1945 December 20**
- Typed letter from Josef Schneider in Mirfield, Yorkshire, to Josef Ladig, Sweden.
- 1 leaf
- HL 4/1/5/106 Letter from Josef Ladig to Josef Schneider 1946 March 02**
- Typed letter from Josef Ladig, Stockholm, Sweden, to Josef Schneider, Heckmondwike, Yorkshire.
- 1 leaf
- HL 4/1/5/107 Letter from Josef Ladig to Josef Schneider 1946 April 19**
- Typed letter with attachment from Josef Ladig, Stockholm, Sweden, to Josef Schneider, [Heckmondwike, Yorkshire]. Letter is a note to JS accompanying an attached copy of a report by JL on his 4-week visit to Prague, which he undertook to see whether it was possible for members of the German Social Democratic Workers' Party to return and re-settle in Czechoslovakia.
- 4 leaves
- HL 4/1/5/108 Letter from Josef Ladig to Josef Schneider 1946 June 26**
- Typed letter from Josef Ladig, Stockholm, Sweden, to Josef Schneider, [Heckmondwike, Yorkshire].
- 1 leaf
- HL 4/1/5/109 Letter from Josef Ladig to Josef Schneider 1946 August 11**

Typed letter from Josef Ladig, Stockholm, Sweden, to Josef Schneider, [Heckmondwike, Yorkshire].

1 leaf

- | | | |
|-------------------------|---|-----------------------------|
| HL
4/1/5/110 | Letter from Josef Ladig to Josef Schneider
Typed letter from Josef Ladig, Stockholm, Sweden, to Josef Schneider, [Heckmondwike, Yorkshire].

2 leaves | 1946
August 21 |
| HL
4/1/5/111 | Letter from Josef Schneider to Josef Ladig
Typed letter from Josef Schneider in Mirfield, Yorkshire, to Josef Ladig, Sweden.

2 leaves | 1946
January 02 |
| HL
4/1/5/112 | Letter from Josef Schneider to Josef Ladig
Typed letter from Josef Schneider in Mirfield, Yorkshire, to Josef Ladig, Sweden.

2 leaves | 1946
January 12 |
| HL
4/1/5/113 | Letter from Josef Schneider to Josef Ladig
Typed letter from Josef Schneider in Heckmondwike, Yorkshire, to Josef Ladig, Sweden.

1 leaf | 1946
February 17 |
| HL
4/1/5/114 | Letter from Josef Schneider to Josef Ladig
Typed letter from Josef Schneider in Heckmondwike, Yorkshire, to Josef Ladig, Sweden.

2 leaves | 1946 April
26 |
| HL
4/1/5/115 | Letter from Josef Schneider to Josef Ladig | 1946 July
01 |

- | | | |
|-------------------------------|--|--|
| HL
4/1/5/121 | Letter from Josef Ladig to Josef Schneider

Typed letter from Josef Ladig, Dolní Branná, Czechoslovakia, to Josef Schneider, Heckmondwike, Yorkshire.

1 leaf | 1947 April
03 |
| HL
4/1/5/122 | Letter from Josef Ladig to Josef Schneider

Typed letter from Josef Ladig, Dolní Branná, Czechoslovakia, to Josef Schneider, Heckmondwike, Yorkshire.

1 leaf | 1947 April
15 |
| HL
4/1/5/123 | Letter from Josef Ladig to Josef Schneider

Typed letter from Josef Ladig, Dolní Branná, Czechoslovakia, to Josef Schneider, Heckmondwike, Yorkshire.

1 leaf | 1947 May
12 |
| HL
4/1/5/124 | Letter from Josef Ladig to Josef Schneider

Typed letter from Josef Ladig, Dolní Branná, Czechoslovakia, to Josef Schneider, Heckmondwike, Yorkshire.

1 leaf | 1947
August 01 |
| HL
4/1/5/125 | Letter from Josef Ladig to Josef Schneider

Handwritten letter from Josef Ladig, Dolní Branná, Czechoslovakia, to Josef Schneider, Heckmondwike, Yorkshire.

1 leaf | 1947
August 19 |
| HL
4/1/5/126 | Letter from Josef Ladig to Josef Schneider | 1947
September
01 |

Handwritten letter from Franz Tscherney in Guildford to Josef Schneider, thanking JS for his letter about Richard Geyer, who had committed suicide in Mirfield, Yorkshire, where JS lived, on 4 October.

1 folder (8 leaves and 1 envelope)

**HL
4/1/8**

Letter to Pepp and Anni [Josef and Anna Schneider] from Walter Werner

1943 May

Typed letter from Walter Werner (WW), who had been Secretary of Karlsbad (Karlovy Vary) branch of Internationaler Metallarbeiterverband der CSR, to Joseph Schneider. Discusses a meeting with [Rudolf] Hantusch, a member of the Treuegemeinschaft sudetendeutscher Sozialdemokraten, and a letter from Josef Ladig in Sweden, a copy of which is attached.

4 leaves

**HL
4/1/9**

Letter to Pepp and Anni [Josef and Anna Schneider] from Karl and Elsa Werner

**1948
October 30**

Typed letter from Karl and Elsa Werner in Gross Gerau, Hesse, Germany. They describe in some detail the physical hardship of living there at this time, discussing the 'Hungerjahr' of 1947, food rationing, the effects of the currency reform, the impotence of the trade unions, the SPD's house-building programme, the increasing popularity of the Christian Democrats and the integration of the refugees from Czechoslovakia into the German community in Hessen. At the end of the letter KW and EW send best wishes to Cilli and Willi [Werner].

4 leaves

**HL
4/1/10**

Letters to Josef Schneider from Josef Zinner

**1944
January 20-
1946 June
08**

Four letters to Josef Schneider from Josef Zinner, founding member and leader of the Auslandsgruppe der Deutschen Sozialdemokratischen Arbeiterpartei in der Tschechoslowakischen Republik, which was also known as the Zinnergruppe.

1 folder

- | | | |
|----------------------|--|---|
| HL
4/1/11 | Letter to Josef Schneider from unknown [illegible script] | [1943]
November
28 |
| | Letter to Josef Schneider containing the names and addresses of 21 members of the Sudentendeutscher Ausschuss who live in his area (Mirfield, Yorkshire). It includes JS himself. There is also a list of 6 Sudetendeutsche who 'belong to economic circles', to whom the Buro wants to apply [for help?]. | |
| | 1 leaf | |
| HL
4/1/12 | Circular letter to Josef Schneider from the British Czechoslovak Friendship League | undated
[c1945] |
| | Concerns a subscription to a new newspaper published by the Czechoslovak Ministry of Information, the 'Czechoslovak Weekly Bulletin' (undated). | |
| | 2 leaves | |
| HL
4/1/13 | Letter to Josef Schneider from the Huddersfield and District Committee for Refugees | 1944
January 25 |
| | Invitation to a party in the Mayor's Reception Room, Town Hall on 5 February 1944 from Secretary R.H. Brook. | |
| | 1 leaf | |
| HL
4/1/14 | Letter to Josef Schneider from R.H. Brook | undated [c
1943] |
| | Circular letter informing recipients that Mr R.H. Brooks has been appointed case worker and agent for the Czech [Refugee] Trust Fund and offering the services of the Anglo Refugee Friendship Club. | |
| | 1 leaf | |
| HL 4/2 | Correspondence relating to other members of the Deutsche Sozialdemokratische Arbeiterpartei in der Tschechoslowakischen Republik (Auslandsgruppe) (also known as the 'Zinnergruppe' | 1939
November-
1946
February |

Includes two letters from Wenzel Jaksch, one to all members of the Treuegemeinschaft sudetendeutscher Sozialdemokraten, explaining why he had agreed to write the foreword of a book by Otto Strasser, a former member of the National Socialist Party, and the other to Josef Ladig and Franz Krejci after they split from the Treuegemeinschaft; also a letter from Rudolf Hantusch to JL, criticising the split from the party; and copies of three letters from JL to Josef Zinner, the leader of the UK splinter party from the Treuegemeinschaft: the Auslandsgruppe der Deutsche Sozialdemokratische Arbeiterpartei. It is not clear how all these letters came to be in Josef Schneider's possession, but it seems likely that they were sent as copies for his information by Josef Ladig. Previously in HL Box 6.

5 folders

- | | | |
|---------------------|---|---------------------------------|
| HL
4/2/1 | Letter from the Lagergemeinschaft Brook Lodge ([Refugee] camp community at Brook Lodge [Albury, Surrey]) to [Wenzel] Jaksch
Letter to the leader of the Treuegemeinschaft Sudetendeutscher Sozialdemokraten, [Wenzel] Jaksch, setting out the political views of the refugees living at Brook Lodge refugee camp in Albury, Surrey, on the future of the Sudetenland. | 1939
November
27 |
| | 1 leaf | |
| HL
4/2/2 | Copy of letter from Wenzel Jaksch to Franz Krejci and Josef Ladig
Letter from the leader of the Treuegemeinschaft Sudetendeutscher Sozialdemokraten, Wenzel Jaksch, in London, expressing his disapproval of the path Franz Krejci and Josef Ladig, in Stockholm, Sweden, were taking in breaking away from WJ's party. | 1942
October 07 |
| | 3 leaves | |
| HL
4/2/3 | Copy of letter from [Rudolf] Hantusch to [Josef] Ladig
Copy of a letter from [Rudolf] Hantusch, an official of the Treuegemeinschaft Sudetendeutscher Sozialdemokraten, in Kidderminster, responding to a letter from JL and expressing his disagreement with JL's political views on the future of the Sudetenland. | 1942
December
30 |

tschechoslowakischer Sozialisten on 14 March 1943.

4 leaves

**HL
4/2/5**

Letter from Josef Zinner to ?Heinrich ?Wondrak

**1946
February 16**

Copy of a letter from Josef Zinner. The recipient is not clearly stated, but at the bottom of the page the name and address in the UK of Heinrich Wondrak have been annotated, as has the name 'J[osef] Schneider' at the top of the page on the left. JZ acknowledges the recipient's membership of the SPD in England and states that he has no objection to him joining the Sander-gruppe.

1 leaf

HL 4/3

Other papers relating to the Deutsche Sozialdemokratische Arbeiterpartei in der Tschechoslowakischen Republik (Auslandsgruppe) (also known as the 'Zinnergruppe')

1939-1965

Includes membership lists of the Treuegemeinschaft (TGM) before Josef Zinner's group split from it, and of the Auslandsgruppe der Deutschen Sozialdemokratischen Arbeiterpartei in der Tschechoslowakischen Republik (DSAP); some of these include employment and other details. Also includes declarations and resolutions of the Auslandsgruppe der DSAP, and some records relating specifically to members of the Internationaler Metallarbeiterverband who were based in Mirfield, Yorkshire, including names and details of family members and assets in the UK and Czechoslovakia. Previously in HL Box 7.

10 folders

**HL
4/3/1**

List of professions, occupations and trades of members of the Jaksch group [Treuegemeinschaft Sudetendeutscher Sozialdemokraten] in the UK

1939

List of members of [Wenzel] Jaksch's group [the Treuegemeinschaft Sudetendeutscher Sozialdemokraten], ordered by occupational sector (e.g. electrical and metal-workers, building trade workers, glass industry workers etc). Within these sector divisions, members are listed by surname and first names, and ages and occupations are given along

with the names, occupations and ages of their spouses and dependent children.

1 folder (33 leaves)

- HL 4/3/2** **Verzeichnis der sich in England befindlichen Metallarbeiter (Register of [German-Czech exile] metalworkers in England)** **1939**
Register of metalworkers in exile in the UK from the Sudetenland, Czechoslovakia The register gives their first and surnames, their age, their marital status, their jobs [?prior to going into exile] and the administrative district to which they belonged in Czechoslovakia. It is likely that this is in fact a list of members of the trade union, the Internationaler Metallarbeiterverband in der CSR (IMV), and it is therefore possible that the administrative districts listed are those of the IMV's administrative divisions rather than of the industry itself.
1 folder (2 leaves)
- HL 4/3/3** **Circular letter from Gustav Neumann, Cheshire [to members of Czech-German trade unions in exile in the UK]** **1939
October 05**
Circular letter from Gustav Neumann, Cheshire, of 5 October 1939, addressed to his colleagues [members of the free employee and workers' trade unions of the German-language regions of the former Czechoslovakian Republic]. Attached to it is a letter from some of the leading figures of this movement which was sent to [Edvard] Beneš, offering him their support in fighting National Socialism and rebuilding Czechoslovakia. The signatories are GN, Josef Zinner, Max Koutnik and Franz Kögler.
3 leaves
- HL 4/3/4** **Einige Grundprinzipien in Sache C.S.R. und Sudetenland (copy). [Declaration of basic principles concerning Czechoslovakia the Sudetenland by Eugen de Witte and Franz Katz]** **1939
October 18**
Declaration by Eugen de Witte and Franz Katz, in Walmer, Kent, of eight principles which, they argue, should form the basis of the stance of the Treuegemeinschaft Sudetendeutscher Sozialdemokraten on the future of the Sudetenland and Czechoslovakia.

2 leaves

- HL**
4/3/5 **Verhandlungsschrift über die erste Sitzung des Landesausschusses England der deutschen Freigewerkschaftlichen Arbeiter- und Angestelltenorganisationen in der Tschechoslowakischen Republik [Minutes of the first meeting of the England branch committee of German workers' and employees' free trade union organisations in the Czechoslovakian Republic]** **1940**
February 08
- Meeting took place at Bloomsbury House. Those present included Josef Zinner, Franz Kögler, Max Koutnik, Josef Lenk, Gustav Neumann and Josef Schneider. Topics under discussion included the preparation for the creation of a regional office for the England branch committee, collaboration with the German Social Democratic Workers' Party, appeal to trade union members in England and the publication of a newsletter.

4 leaves

- HL**
4/3/6 **Information circulated by Wenzel Jaksch to members of the Treuegemeinschaft Sudetendeutscher Sozialdemokraten in England about his foreword to a book by Otto Strasser** **1938**
September
19-undated
[c1940]
- Includes a typescript written by Wenzel Jaksch in Prague in September 1938 attempting to justify writing the foreword for a book by former Nazi Otto Strasser, entitled 'Masaryk - ein Führer zum neuen Europa'; and a series of extracts from the book and some notes addressed to members of 'the Treuegemeinschaft] in England.

8 leaves

- HL**
4/3/7 **Aufzeichnungen über die Besprechung mit [Wenzel] Jaksch über die Gewerkschaften [Notes on the discussion with [Wenzel] Jaksch about the trade unions]** **1940 April**
04
- The discussion took place at the flat of [Doreen] Warriner in London. Present were Wenzel Jaksch, Josef Schneider, Franz Kögler and Josef Zinner. The main subject under discussion was the relationship between the trade unions and the German Social

Democratic Party in the Czechoslovakian Republic.
The text is signed by Josef Schneider and Josef Zinner, and JS's views on the meeting are set out in a separate section at the end of the notes.

5 leaves

HL **Gedächtnisprotokoll über die Aussprache bei** **1941 June**
4/3/8 **[Edvard] Beneš in London [Minutes of a discussion** **10**
 at [Edvard] Beneš's office in London]

Present at the meeting were Edvard Beneš, [Josef] Lenk, [Irene] Kirpal, [Franz] Kögler and [Josef] Zinner. Discussions concern the following topics: the future of the Sudetenland; the possibility that the Sudeten Germans would be forced to leave Czechoslovakia and move to Germany after the war; whether EB had been negotiating with Wenzel Jaksch, and whether the Czechoslovakian government in exile in London regarded WJ as the leader of the Czech Germans.

4 leaves

HL **Gedächtnisprotokoll über die auf Einladung des** **1942**
4/3/9 **Präsidenten erfolgten politischen Aussprache in** **January 22**
 London [Minutes of a political discussion following
 an invitation from the [Czechoslovakian] President]

The meeting took place [at Edvard Beneš's offices] in Grosvenor Place, London. Likely participants were Edvard Beneš, Franz Kögler and Josef Zinner, but as first initials only are used, this is not certain. Discussions concern the following topics: the entry of the Soviet Union and the US into the war, and the possibility that the war will soon be over; and the transfer of Sudeten Germans to Germany after the war.

4 leaves

HL **Typescript entitled Meine Stellungnahme an** **1942 May 17**
4/3/10 **[Wenzel] J[aksch] (My personal stance towards**
 [Wenzel] J[aksch])

Treatise on the Munich Agreement and Czechoslovakia's borders and the future relationship of the Sudeten Germans to the state of Czechoslovakia. No author given, but the views expressed suggest that s/he was likely to have been a member of the Auslandsgruppe der Deutschen Sozialdemokratischen Arbeiterpartei in der Tschechoslowakischen Republik.

2 leaves

**HL
4/3/11** **Typed notes on relationship between Franz Kögler and Max Koutnik and Auslandsgruppe der Deutschen Sozialdemokratischen Arbeiterpartei in der Tschechoslowakischen Republik** **undated
[c1942
December]**

The notes trace the writer's increasing frustration with Franz Kögler and Max Koutnik towards the Auslandsgruppe der Deutschen Sozialdemokratischen Arbeiterpartei in der Tschechoslowakischen Republik (DSAP). The writer sets out numerous examples of how FK and MK had ignored the political principles agreed by the party when it split from the Treuegemeinschaft Sudetendeutscher Sozialdemokraten, and how they had attempted to set their own agenda. The first example is from July 1941; in December 1942 FK and MK were expelled from the party. The identity of the writer is not given, but it is likely to have been a leading member of the Auslandsgruppe der DSAP who was in the UK, so possibly Josef Schneider.

5 leaves

**HL
4/3/12** **Abschrift. Beschluss der in Schweden lebenden ehemaligen Funktionäre der Verbände des Deutschen Gewerkschaftsbund in der CSR [Copy. Resolution of former officials of the unions of the German Trade Union Confederation of the Czechoslovakian Republic now living in Sweden]** **undated
[1942
December
06]**

This resolution was agreed by former officials of the unions of the German Trade Union Confederation of the Czechoslovakian Republic who were then living in Sweden [such as Wilhelm Weigel and Emil Haase]. The resolution rejects the proposal in the report by Josef Ladig, which was presented to and passed by an assembly of metalworkers in Stockholm on 18 October 1942 and concerned the German trade unions in post-war Czechoslovakia.

1 leaf

**HL
4/3/13** **Abschrift. Stellungnahme der Arbeitsausschuss der Metallarbeiter zu dem Beschluss der in Schweden lebenden ehemaligen Funktionäre der** **undated
[1942
?December]**

Verbände des Deutschen Gewerkschaftsbund in der CSR [Copy. Response of the working committee of metalworkers to the resolution of the former functionaries of the unions of the Deutsche Gewerkschaftsbund of the Czechoslovakian Republic now living in Sweden]

This is the response of the working committee of metalworkers to the resolution of former officials of the unions of the German Trade Union Confederation of the Czechoslovakian Republic then living in Sweden [see HL 2/3/12]. The working committee had been unanimously elected at an assembly of metalworkers in Stockholm on 18 October 1942. This response counters the arguments by the former union officials in their resolution of 6 December 1942, which were concerned with the legitimacy of the assembly, the right of the metalworkers to act independently from the German Trade Union Confederation and the organisation of German trade unions in post-war Czechoslovakia.

4 leaf

HL
4/3/14

Abschrift: Stellungnahme der in Schweden lebenden ehemaligen Funktionäre der Verbände des Deutschen Gewerkschaftsbund in der CSR zur Zuschrift des Arbeitsausschuss der Metallarbeiter [Copy. Response of the former functionaries of the unions of the German Trade Union Confederation of the Czechoslovakian Republic now living in Sweden to the letter of the working committee of metalworkers]

This is the response of former officials of the unions of the German Trade Union Confederation of the Czechoslovakian Republic then living in Sweden to a letter sent to them by the working committee of metalworkers to the resolution of 18 October 1942 [see HL 2/3/13]. This response counters the arguments of the working committee, which were concerned with the legitimacy of the assembly, the right of the metalworkers to act independently from the German Trade Union Confederation and the organisation of German trade unions in post-war Czechoslovakia.

6 leaves

undated
[1942
?December]

HL
4/3/15

Copy of circular letter to members of the England group of the Treuegemeinschaft Sudetendeutscher

1943 May

Sozialdemokraten, from the London representatives of the German Social Democratic Party

Circular letter from Wenzel Jaksch and Richard Reitzner to members of the Treuegemeinschaft Sudetendeutscher Sozialdemokraten. Explains their political stance on future of Sudetenland and Czechoslovakia, and why they would urge Sudeten German exiles to join British Army, not Czechoslovakian. Makes repeated negative references to the splinter groups in both the US and Sweden.

8 leaves

HL 4/3/16 Circular letter to all members of the Treuegemeinschaft Sudetendeutsche from Josef Ladig 1943 June

Circular letter from Josef Ladig to members of the Treuegemeinschaft Sudetendeutscher Sozialdemokraten, explaining why he and others have broken away from the Treuegemeinschaft and its leader Wenzel Jaksch. Names allies of Jaksch as Ernst Paul, [Wilhelm] Weigel, [Karl] Kern, Elsa Paul, [Emil] Haase, Dr [Carl] Heller.

9 leaves

HL 4/3/17 Typescript of Zur Geistesverfassung der Deutschen by Karl Kneschke 1943 May

A contribution to the discussion of the subject of 'Our Weltanschauung' ('Our World View'), given at the Youth Conference of German Antifascists from the Czechoslovakian Republic (dated not given). The piece was also published in 'Die Stimmen aus Böhmen. Eine Sammlung' (London, 1944).

8 leaves

HL 4/3/18 Circular letter to all Czechoslovakian trade union members in Sweden from Josef Ladig undated [c1944]

Written by Josef Ladig as Chair on behalf of the Landesleitung vereinigter tschechoslowakischer Gewerkschafter in Schweden. Letter is headed 'Czechoslovak Trade Union Centre in Great Britain. Landesgruppe Schweden'. Concerns Wenzel Jaksch's instruction to members of the Treuegemeinschaft Sudetendeutscher Sozialdemokraten to end their

membership of the trade union organisations in the UK and Sweden which had been established to represent all trade union members in Czechoslovakia, regardless of nationality. These were the Landesgruppe vereinigter tschechoslowakischer Gewerkschafter in Schweden, and the Czechoslovak Trade Union Centre in Great Britain.

1 leaf

HL 4/3/19 **Typescript 'Fragen des Marxismus und Leninismus und seine Anwendung in diesem Krieg'** **undated [c1944]**

Author not given, but the top of the first leaf is annotated with the name Kneschke, possibly a reference to Karl Kneschke.

20 leaves

HL 4/3/20 **Typescript 'Volkssozialismus: eine Marxistische Lehre und ihre Folgerung'** **undated [c1944]**

Author not given, but the top of the first leaf is annotated with the name Dr Klein, possibly a reference to Walter Klein. Critique of Wenzel Jaksch's conception of Volkssozialismus.

14 leaves

HL 4/3/21 **Typescript of the first draft of a declaration by former functionaries of the German Social Democratic Workers' Party in the Czechoslovakian Republic, concerning the transfer of Germans from Czechoslovakia to Germany and the Communist takeover of power in February 1948.** **undated [c1948]**

Author not given. Marked as confidential. Concerns the transfer of Germans from Czechoslovakia to Germany and the fate of the German population remaining in Czechoslovakia as it increasingly came under Communist control.

1 leaf

HL 4/3/22 **Mitglieder Verzeichnis [Register of members] [of the Auslandsgruppe der Deutschen Sozialdemokratischer Arbeiterpartei in der CSR]** **undated [c1943]**

List of around 106 members of the DSAP in the UK before the Zinner group (Auslandsgruppe) broke away in October 1940. Members are in alphabetical order of surname, with an addition list of 9 Soldatenfrauen [soldiers' wives].

2 leaves

HL 4/3/23 Membership subscription records of the DSAP (Zinnergruppe), Mirfield Branch 1944-1946

Gives the full names and records of payments of members of the Mirfield branch of the Auslandsgruppe der Deutschen Sozialdemokratischen Arbeiterpartei in der Tschechoslowakischen Republik (also known as the Zinnergruppe). Some of the members' addresses are also given. Covers the period October 1944 to April 1946.

1 file

HL 4/3/24 Short biographical notes on six Sudeten German in the UK 1944-1946

The six people listed are Josef Schneider, Karl Richter, Alois Axman, Johann Maier, Adolf Schober and Elsa Zaruba, of who all but one (Alois Axmann) were listed as members of the Sudetendeutscher Ausschuss in 1943 (see HL 2/1/11). The notes contain details of their family members, their income and their assets in England and Czechoslovakia, as well as their preferred future employment [on their return to Czechoslovakia].

1 file

HL 4/3/25 Questionnaires completed by German-Czech refugees in the UK as part of the repatriation process 1945

Includes one in Czech for the Czechoslovakian Embassy in London in Czech by Josef Schneider (no date); three in English for the Repatriation Department of the Ministry of Social Welfare (UK) by Josef Schneider, Anna Schneider (wife of JS, housewife) and Theresie Schneiderova [daughter of JS & AS] (WAAF), (8 March 8 March 1945; and six in German, but not clear for which authority, possibly in preparation for migration to Germany, since the forms ask for information about family members living in 'der Republik' [Czechoslovakian] if the intention is for them

