

## Siegfried LEVY

11 Dec 1882 – 3 Sep 1942

Dina Levy's brother, **Siegfried Levy**, was born on 11 Dec 1882 in Hohenbostel, and later lived in Köln (Cologne). He married **Miriam Cossmann**. They had two children: **Kurt Levy** (b. 20 Mar 1910) and **Ruth Levy** (b. 1912).



**Miriam Cossmann - enhanced**



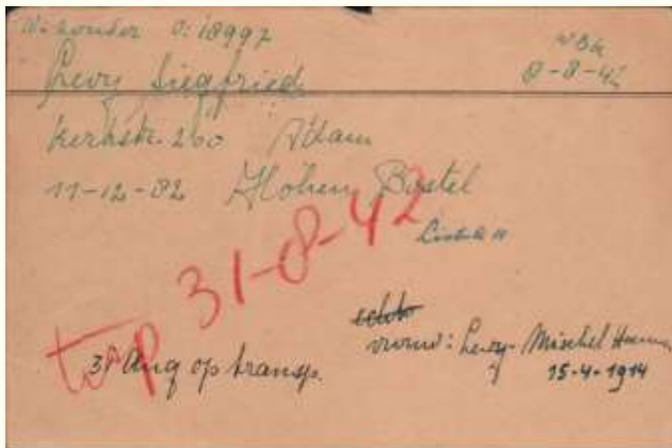
**Siefried Levy - enhanced**

Siegfried and his son Kurt fled to Holland prior to WWII, and daughter Ruth went to Palestine. Records from the Arolsen Archives and the Dutch Holocaust Memorial give information on what happened to Siegfried and Kurt after they came to Holland, but there is no mention of Miriam. Perhaps she died before they emigrated from Germany.

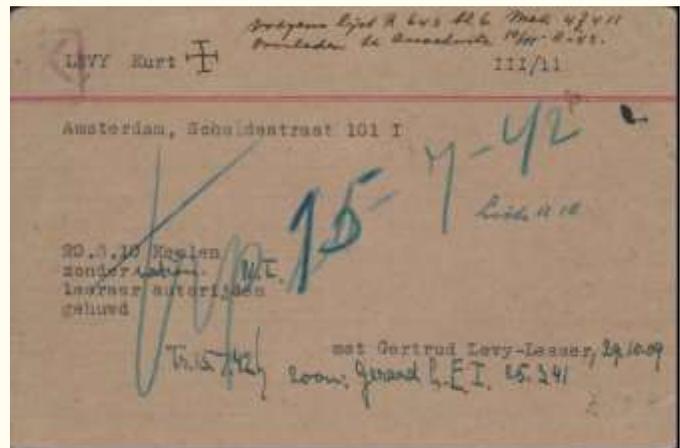
The date of Kurt's emigration to the Netherlands is recorded as 31 Jan 1935. Documentation from the Arolsen Archives gives his occupation as "driving instructor".

The photo on the right shows Kurt and his wife **Gertrud Lesser** (b. 29 Oct 1909 in Hamburg).

The partially obscured sign on the front of the car is probably *RIJLESWAGEN* which means "Driving Lesson Car" in Dutch.



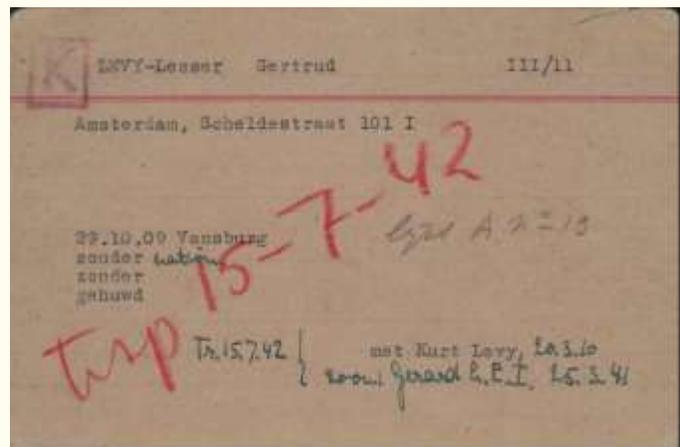
**Siegfried Levy's record card**



**Kurt Levy's record card**

Above and to the right are record cards obtained from the Arolsen Archives. The language on these cards is Dutch. There is a substantial amount of information, including the street addresses in Amsterdam where they lived, their date and place of birth, and occupation. The writing in red or blue is the date on which they were deported out of the Netherlands.

They revealed that Kurt and his wife Gertrud had a son named Gerard, born on 25 Mar 1941.



**Gertrud Levy-Lesser's record card**

The records also revealed that Siegfried had a second wife – Hanna Levy-Mischel (b. 15 Apr 1914 in Berlin). In July 1942 she was a seamstress at the address *Oosteinde 16* in Amsterdam, which is a hotel today. Maybe it was some institution of the Germans in 1942, because Hanna had a specific function and was designated as *gesperrrt* (meaning: not to be deported). Siegfried was not *gesperrrt*, and in August 1942 he was deported to Auschwitz.

Hanna survived the Holocaust. Her name appears on a list of Dutch survivors. Siegfried's daughter Ruth did not learn of her father's second marriage until the 1960s.



**Hanna Levy-Mischel's record card**

The Dutch Holocaust Memorial site provides the following information: Kurt Levy and Gertrud Lesser had a child named **Gerard Louis Edgar Levy** (b. 25 Mar 1941 in Amsterdam). After the Nazis invaded the Netherlands Siegfried, Kurt, Gertrud and their baby Gerard were arrested and sent to the Westerbork transit camp. Kurt is recorded as a prisoner at Westerbork for just one day - 15 Jul 1942. Kurt, Gertrud and Gerard were deported from Westerbork to Auschwitz on a train with 1135 deportees that departed Westerbork on 15 Jul 1942 and arrived at Auschwitz on 16/17 Jul 1942.

According to the *Gedenkbuch* (German Federal Archive Memorial Book), Kurt's declared death date is given as 10 Aug 1942. This suggests that on arrival at Auschwitz he was selected for work, but after approx. 3 weeks he was sent to the gas chambers. Gertrud's declared date of death is 17 Jul 1942, suggesting that she was selected for the gas chambers immediately after arrival. Their baby Gerard is not listed in the *Gedenkbuch* - I assume that he was gassed together with his mother, but I am surprised the *Gedenkbuch* has no record of him.

Siegfried was transported on a train with 560 deportees that departed Westerbork on 31 Aug 1942 which arrived at Auschwitz on 1 Sep 1942. The *Gedenkbuch* gives the date of Siegfried's death as 3 Sep 1942, indicating that he was gassed upon arrival.



