Overview of the Radomír Luža papers

Finding aid prepared by Hoover Institution Archives Staff.
Hoover Institution Archives
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Title: Radomír Luža papers
Date (inclusive): 1907-2000
Collection Number: 85038
Contributing Institution: Hoover Institution Archives
Language of Material: In Czech, English and German.
Physical Description: 200 manuscript boxes, 6 oversize boxes (90.2 linear feet)
Abstract: Speeches and writings, correspondence, reports, memoranda, notes, radio broadcast transcripts, interview transcripts, and printed matter, relating to twentieth-century Czechoslovak history, resistance movements in Czechoslovakia and Austria during World War II, socialism in Czechoslovakia, the International Union of Socialist Youth, the postwar communist régime in Czechoslovakia, economic conditions in Austria, and Czech émigré affairs. Includes reports and radio broadcast transcripts prepared by Radio Free Europe.
Physical Location: Hoover Institution Archives
Creator: Luža, Radomír.
Access
Collection is open for research.
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Preferred Citation
[Identification of item], Radomír Luža papers, [Box number], Hoover Institution Archives.
Acquisition Information
Acquired by the Hoover Institution Archives in 1985.
Accruals
Materials may have been added to the collection since this finding aid was prepared. To determine if this has occurred, find the collection in Stanford University’s online catalog at http://searchworks.stanford.edu/. Materials have been added to the collection if the number of boxes listed in the online catalog is larger than the number of boxes listed in this finding aid.
Biographical Note
Radomír Luža was a Czech-American historian and poet, as well as a member of the anti-Nazi resistance in Czechoslovakia. Luža was born on October 17, 1922 in Prague. Like his father, Vojtech Luža, Radomír was a member of the partisan movement. At the end of World War II, Luža began to study law at Masaryk University in Brno. Due to his political beliefs, he was forced to go into exile and spent much of his life living in France and the United States.
During his exile in France, Luža continued his education at the Sorbonne and fully dedicated his life to academics, with a specific focus on the history of the Czech and German people. During his time in the United States, he worked in New Orleans at Tulane University, while also being heavily involved in the International Union of Socialist Youth.
Post Velvet Revolution, Luža dedicated himself to the effort of restoring the Czechoslovak Social Democratic Party and was widely recognized for his patriotic involvement in attaining party goals. As a result, in the late 1990s he was awarded the Order of Tomáš Garrigue Masaryk, which is presented to persons who have made outstanding contributions to the development of democracy and human rights.
Radomír Luža died on November 26, 2009.
Scope and Content of Collection
The collection covers two broad categories: family background and the Home Resistance during the World War II German occupation, and the period of Luža’s exile in France and the United States between March 1948 and 1990.
The family documents are of particular interest and include the World War I diaries of Vojtech Luža, Radomír Luža’s father. The diaries begin in 1914 and focus mainly on Vojtech Luža’s stay in Siberia, where he was a member of the Czechoslovak legion in the fight against the Bolsheviks. The diaries also describe some of his activities at the head of the Operation Section of the Czechoslovak General Staff between 1925 and 1926.
The majority of the material in the second category relates to twentieth-century Czechoslovak history, resistance movements in Czechoslovakia and Austria during World War II, socialism in Czechoslovakia, the International Union of
Socialist Youth, the post-war communist regime in Czechoslovakia, economic conditions in Austria, and Czech émigré affairs.

The collection also includes unique written communications that were exchanged in the underground; correspondence, including personal letters of prominent Czechoslovak exile politicians; speeches and writings; reports; memoranda; notes; transcripts of radio broadcasts prepared by Radio Free Europe; interview transcripts; and printed matter.

**Subjects and Indexing Terms**
International Union of Socialist Youth.
Komunistická strana Československa.
Komunistická strana Slovenska.
Radio Free Europe.
Austria--Economic conditions--1945-
Communism--Czechoslovakia.
Czechoslovakia--Emigration and immigration.
Czechoslovakia--History.
Radio broadcasting--Czechoslovakia.
Slovakia.
Socialism--Czechoslovakia.
World War, 1939-1945--Austria.
World War, 1939-1945--Czechoslovakia.
World War, 1939-1945--Underground movements.