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**Bulmash Family Holocaust Collection** 

Special Collections

March 2016

## Australian Commemorative Stamps of Raoul Wallenberg

The Bulmash Family Holocaust Collection consists of images, documents, and artifacts related to the Holocaust. The collection contains materials that depict a number of topics that may be difficult for viewers to engage with, including: antisemitic descriptions, caricatures, and representation of Jewish people; Nazi imagery and ideology; descriptions and images of German ghettos; graphic images of the violence of the Holocaust; and the creation of the State of Israel. For more information, see our policy page.

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## **RAOUL WALLENBERG** רָאוּל וָלֵנְבֶּרָג

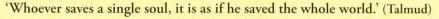
B'nai B'rith International



Raoul Wallenberg - A Hero of our Time 4 August 1912 -

An initiative of Raoul Wallenberg Unit of B'nai B'rith, Melbourne, Australia, established 1985

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AUSTRALIA

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Born in Sweden in 1912.

- 1931: studied Architecture at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, USA, where he learned to speak English, German and French.
- 1935: received a Bachelor of Science degree.
- Worked in Cape Town, South Africa, for a Swedish construction materials company.
- 1935/36: employed by Holland Bank, Haifa, Israel.
- 1936: returned to Sweden to work for an export-import company trading between Stockholm and central Europe, owned by a Hungarian Jew, Kalman Lauer.
- 1941 on he travelled regularly as a trusted representative to Budapest, Hungary; within a year, he was a joint owner and International Director of the company.
- 9 July 1944: Wallenberg travelled to Budapest as the First Secretary to the Swedish legation in Budapest. A Christian diplomat, in a six-month period, he saved 100,000 Jewish lives from the Nazis. He issued 'special' Swedish protective passports (German: Schutzpass), established protective housing, soup kitchens, hospitals, orphanages and schools. He rescued Jews from sealed deportation trains and, ultimately, in one night, saved 70,000 Jews by having Eichmann's final orders to bomb a Jewish ghetto, countermanded.
- Arrested in January 1945 by Russian troops, his whereabouts have remained a mystery.
- 1981: named an Honorary Citizen of the USA.
- 1985: named First Honorary Citizen by Canada.
- 1986: named First Honorary Citizen by Israel.
- Five stamps have been issued in honour of Raoul Wallenberg: Israel was the first (1983), followed by Sweden (1987), Argentina (1996), the United States (1997), and Uruguay (2000).













AUSTRALIA



## SCHUTZ-PASS

Issued by Raoul Wallenberg during 1944-45 to Jews in Budapest, Hungary, a Schutz-Pass was a document which supposedly placed the recipient under the protection of neutral Sweden. During the final months of the Second World War, more than 30,000 such Swedish diplomatic papers were issued to Hungarian Jews preventing their deportation and murder by German Nazis and the Hungarian fascist Arrow Cross, who believed the Schutz-Pass to be genuine.

This Schutz-Pass was received by the late Susan Reichman (née Feher) in Budapest in 1944; later, she became a member of Raoul Wallenberg Unit of B'nai B'rith, Melbourne. It has been reproduced here with the kind permission of her family.

Stamp sheet images: Left: Raoul Wallenberg, 24 years old/©AAP. Right: Monument, Raoul Wallenberg Garden, Kew, Victoria. Artist: Karl Duldig. Photo/© 2010 The Duldig Studio. Stamp sheet tab images, left to right, top to bottom: 1 and 2) As a baby with his mother, Maj Wising Wallenberg/courtesy Wallenberg family albums; 3 and 4) Aged three with his grandfather, Gustav Wallenberg/ courtesy Wallenberg family albums; 5 and 6) As a twelve-year-old schoolboy/courtesy Wallenberg family albums; 7 and 8) Bike riding/courtesy Wallenberg family albums; 9 and 10) Member of the Swedish Army Reserve in 1943/© AAP.

**Envelope image:** Schutz-Pass image/courtesy family of Susan Reichman.