

THE AHRONHEIM BROTHERS



Stolpersteine in Hamburg

Egla Emma Ahronheim (geb. Kallmes)

born on 28th February 1896 in Hamburg / - / Hansestadt Hamburg

resident of Hamburg

Ahronheim, Max

born on 19th August 1888 in Waren / - / Mecklenburg

resident of Hamburg

Ahronheim, Adolf Max

born on 19th November 1923 in Hamburg / - / Hansestadt Hamburg

resident of Hamburg

Ahronheim, Karl Max

born on 11th August 1926 in Hamburg / - / Hansestadt Hamburg

resident of Hamburg¹



¹ <https://www.bundesarchiv.de/gedenkbuch/directory.html>

² Grindelallee 79, Frau „Stolpersteine in Hamburg Grindel II, Biographische Spurensuche“, F. Steinhäuser, U. Sparr, s. 80

The exact same address and house number (Grindelallee 79, Hamburg) as the following photo taken on April 1st, 1933, the Nazi boycott of Jewish businesses in Germany³.



There were several Jewish families living in this street. In number 79 the Ahronheim family lived as well as the Jewish couple Else & Max Behr⁴.

³ <http://www.akg-images.fr/C.aspx?VP3=SearchResult&ITEMID=2UMDHU2U2U2U&LANGSWI=1&LANG=German>

⁴ http://www.stolpersteine-hamburg.de/index.php?p=2&r_name=&r_strasse=grindelallee&r_bezirk=&r_stteil=&recherche=recherche&MAIN_ID=7&r_sort=Strasse_AUF&submitter=suchen&VIEW=PRINT

THE INFLUENCE OF THE NATIONAL SOCIALIST SYSTEM ON THE GERMAN SCHOOLS ABROAD (*AUSLANDSSCHULEN*)

Gleichschaltung of the teachers

The doctoral thesis by Jens Waibel "*Die deutschen Auslandsschulen – Materialien zur Außenpolitik des Dritten Reiches*"⁵ has shown that the German foreign schools were significantly influenced by the developments of the German Reich and the seizure of the National Socialists. Most of the schools up to 1936 had been *gleichgeschaltet*⁶. The rise of this milieu is also attributable to parts of the German teaching staff (*Auslandslehrerschaft*). In addition to this, many Germans abroad already before 1933 sympathized with the national socialist movement. Already in 1932, the foreign organization (*Auslandsorganisation*) of the NSDAP party had a total of 2,720 party members.

The question of the teachers' political suitability was determined by groups of the teachers in Germany. Teachers who failed this test were not sent to the foreign schools. All the teachers, who were sent from 1934 onwards, are therefore to be seen as followers and *Mitläufer* of the national socialist movement. Thus, the goal of the *Gleichschaltung* of the teaching staff of the German schools abroad was almost reached. In 1935, the final *Gleichschaltung* of the teaching staff had been reached, as the local leaders of the foreign organization (*Auslandsorganisation*) of the NSDAP reported regarding the political attitude of the teachers who had been sent to the schools before 1933.

Thus, only teachers remained at the German schools abroad whose national reliability had no doubt. After a circular directive of the school department of the Foreign Ministry in April in 1936, the heads (*Schulleiter*) of the German schools abroad (*Auslandsschulen*) wrote the reports on retiring teachers with the opinions of the responsible foreign representatives (*Auslandsvertretungen*) still being obtained. The reports included professional aspects as well as points on national socialist reliability, the involvement of the concerned teacher at the party services, and a vote regarding reuse at an international school.

The teachers in the Third Reich had to for their political education participate at so-called training camps hosted by the NSLB. The new teachers who were to be sent abroad also visited these 14-day ideological courses before they went. In 1934, the *Gauobmann* of the NSLB, Ehrlich, recommended all foreign teachers to participate in these camps so that they could be familiarized with the spirit of National Socialism in Germany. The propagandist influence of the teachers took place not only through the training camps of the NSLB. Already as from 1933, the NSLB had taken over the *Auslandslehrertagung* (meeting for teachers abroad) of the old Association for teachers abroad (*Auslandslehrerverein*).

In terms of content, the shares of foreign-educational topics fell in favor of party political issues. The purpose of this convention was summarized in 1936 by the journal "*Der deutsche Erzieher*": "May the conventions for teachers abroad help to tear apart the great lies of the Jews and *Freimaurer*, the political and ideological opponents of the National Socialists, and let each individual German teacher abroad return clearer and happier to his second home country".

⁵ https://opus4.kobv.de/opus4-euv/frontdoor/deliver/index/docId/60/file/Waibel_Jens.pdf

⁶ Gleichschaltung was the process of Nazification by which Nazi Germany successively established a system of totalitarian control and coordination over all aspects of society, "from the economy and trade associations to the media, culture and education".

Finances

In the network of the German foreign schools, there was no school that could act financially independently. For this purpose, the schools were funded by the school fund administered by the Foreign Ministry. Thus, the school department paid support payments for the procurement of teaching material, construction work measures and for teachers' costs. The schools on their part depended existentially on these payments. Thus, the Foreign Ministry had a tried and tested means of putting pressure on the schools to implement national socialist measures. With the official threat of the withdrawal of school aid, individual measures could be taken at the schools, as was the case in Guatemalas and Alexandria.

New subjects

The development in the German schools abroad is not in harmony with the results of Hans-Ulrich Wehler, according to whom the higher schools in the Reich in the period up to 1937 "had a remarkably small influence on the teaching". In addition, with the new regulations issued in 1935, new subjects were made exam relevant and single examination contents were new regulated. Subjects such as *Rassenkunde* under the "cover" of the subject biology and sports were made as an examination subject for *Reifeprüfung* respectively for the final examination to the attainment of the *Obersekundareife*.

The demand of the Minister of the Interior, Frick, that the pupils should again grow up in the Prussian tradition was also binding for the German schools abroad. The aim of the Frickian demand was a soldier's training of the students in the sense of Adolf Hitler. Tangible, the number of gymnastics hours should be given at least two and in addition two hours of sports per week. The ideal goal should daily lessons in the German schools abroad. The new importance of sport lessons was documented by the introduction of it as a new examination subject from 1935 onwards.

Jewish pupils

The Jewish students were from 1933 by targeted measures pushed out by the German schools. A memorandum from the Reich Ministry of Education (*Reichserziehungsministerium*) from 1941 clearly showed that, with the approval of the party services (*Parteidienststellen*), "by means of measures that were not too conspicuous, even if they were slow, were made." On one hand, developments in the Third Reich led to Jewish parents taking their children from the schools. On the other hand, individual measures did not allow Jewish children to attend the schools. The Jewish students of the German schools abroad were the only closed religious group of students to suffer from the repression of Nazi propaganda.

Hitler Jugend

The *reichsdeutschen* and *deutschstämmigen* pupils of the German schools abroad joined together in separate HJ sections. The task of the HJ abroad was, as in the Third Reich, both physical training (ground sports, working groups, etc.) as well as the ideological education of German youth. The leadership of the Hitler Jugend was in the hands of the teachers. Thus, the HJ-Schar was mostly taken over by the gym instructor and the *Bund deutscher Mädchen* (BDM) by the female gym teacher (if available). The HJ abroad took over the ideological training of the pupils. In the HJ-hours the racial ideological values were taught, which was not taught at the German schools abroad. If the laws of the host country hindered the establishment of HJ groups, then the *reichsdeutsche* children joined together to form National Socialist pupils federation who had the character of a boy scout group.

The Ahronheim family moved to Denmark in 1933 and the brothers started in the German Sct Petri School in August 1933.

Adolf Max is to be 10 years old in November this year and Karl Max has just turned 7 years old.

Adolf Max ends up in a class with **Axel Andresen** and **Helmuth Löppke** who "made a career" within Hitler Jugend and the NSDAP party.

Karl Max ended up in a class with **Wolfgang Modis** (son of Landesvertrauensmann Gustav Modis) and **Horst Grohn**, son of Parteigenosse Paul Grohn⁷.

Following remarks regarding Adolf Max were made in the class list, probably by the Danish class teacher cand. Theol. Gunnar A Engberg: "Abgegangen 21.12. 1934; "Bleibt bis Ostern 1935!"; "endgültig weg 1. III 1935".

The Ahronheim family moved to Amsterdam on April 8, 1935.

This photo, the only we've got of the family, may have been taken in Amsterdam⁸.

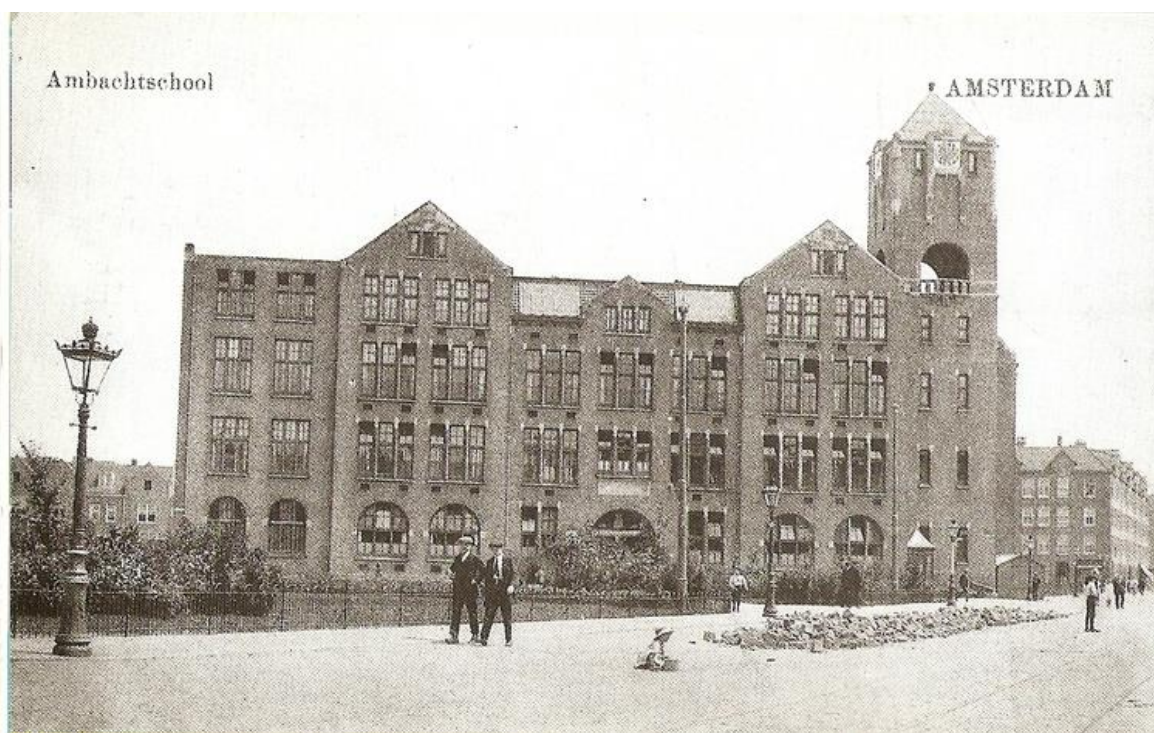


⁷ Landesgruppe Dänemark, Ole Brandenburg Jensen, 2017, s. 121

⁸ <https://www.joodsmonument.nl/nl/page/175782/max-ahronheim>

Karl Max lived in with his parents in Nieuwe Herengracht 179 I and was an apprentice/pupil in Class 2 (Electricity) of the 3rd School of Crafts Ambachtsschool in Amsterdam-East in August 1941⁹.

Hier verwoont aan het geestesweld. (Lidder voornamen volst.)	Datum van afschrijving en nieuwe woonplaats.	Hier verwoont aan het geestesweld. (Lidder voornamen volst.)	Datum van afschrijving en nieuwe woonplaats.
Goldfisch, Samuel 11.12.1904	11.12.1904	1. T. van der Borch 17.12.1904	17.12.1904
1. T. van der Borch 17.12.1904	17.12.1904	2. T. van der Borch 17.12.1904	17.12.1904
2. T. van der Borch 17.12.1904	17.12.1904	3. T. van der Borch 17.12.1904	17.12.1904
3. T. van der Borch 17.12.1904	17.12.1904	4. T. van der Borch 17.12.1904	17.12.1904
4. T. van der Borch 17.12.1904	17.12.1904	5. T. van der Borch 17.12.1904	17.12.1904
5. T. van der Borch 17.12.1904	17.12.1904	6. T. van der Borch 17.12.1904	17.12.1904
6. T. van der Borch 17.12.1904	17.12.1904	7. T. van der Borch 17.12.1904	17.12.1904
7. T. van der Borch 17.12.1904	17.12.1904	8. T. van der Borch 17.12.1904	17.12.1904
8. T. van der Borch 17.12.1904	17.12.1904	9. T. van der Borch 17.12.1904	17.12.1904
9. T. van der Borch 17.12.1904	17.12.1904	10. T. van der Borch 17.12.1904	17.12.1904
10. T. van der Borch 17.12.1904	17.12.1904	11. T. van der Borch 17.12.1904	17.12.1904
11. T. van der Borch 17.12.1904	17.12.1904	12. T. van der Borch 17.12.1904	17.12.1904
12. T. van der Borch 17.12.1904	17.12.1904	13. T. van der Borch 17.12.1904	17.12.1904
13. T. van der Borch 17.12.1904	17.12.1904	14. T. van der Borch 17.12.1904	17.12.1904
14. T. van der Borch 17.12.1904	17.12.1904	15. T. van der Borch 17.12.1904	17.12.1904
15. T. van der Borch 17.12.1904	17.12.1904	16. T. van der Borch 17.12.1904	17.12.1904
16. T. van der Borch 17.12.1904	17.12.1904	17. T. van der Borch 17.12.1904	17.12.1904
17. T. van der Borch 17.12.1904	17.12.1904	18. T. van der Borch 17.12.1904	17.12.1904
18. T. van der Borch 17.12.1904	17.12.1904	19. T. van der Borch 17.12.1904	17.12.1904
19. T. van der Borch 17.12.1904	17.12.1904	20. T. van der Borch 17.12.1904	17.12.1904
20. T. van der Borch 17.12.1904	17.12.1904	21. T. van der Borch 17.12.1904	17.12.1904
21. T. van der Borch 17.12.1904	17.12.1904	22. T. van der Borch 17.12.1904	17.12.1904
22. T. van der Borch 17.12.1904	17.12.1904	23. T. van der Borch 17.12.1904	17.12.1904
23. T. van der Borch 17.12.1904	17.12.1904	24. T. van der Borch 17.12.1904	17.12.1904
24. T. van der Borch 17.12.1904	17.12.1904	25. T. van der Borch 17.12.1904	17.12.1904
25. T. van der Borch 17.12.1904	17.12.1904	26. T. van der Borch 17.12.1904	17.12.1904
26. T. van der Borch 17.12.1904	17.12.1904	27. T. van der Borch 17.12.1904	17.12.1904
27. T. van der Borch 17.12.1904	17.12.1904	28. T. van der Borch 17.12.1904	17.12.1904
28. T. van der Borch 17.12.1904	17.12.1904	29. T. van der Borch 17.12.1904	17.12.1904
29. T. van der Borch 17.12.1904	17.12.1904	30. T. van der Borch 17.12.1904	17.12.1904



⁹ <https://archief.amsterdam/> , Woningkaarten 1924-1989 and the memory of the dead Jewish students of the Ambachtsschool is kept alive by this piece of art.

Leerlingen van de 3e Ambachtsschool:

J. Aalsvel	geb. in Amsterdam	Overleden in Sobibor op 9 april 1943.
K.M. Ahronheim	geb. in Hamburg.	Overleden in Polen op 31 maart 1944.
U. d'Ancona	geb. in Amsterdam.	Overleden in Sobibor op 11 juni 1943.
M. Batavier	geb. in Amsterdam.	Overleden in Auschwitz op 10 sept. 1942.
A. Beek	geb. in Amsterdam.	Overleden in Midden-Eur. op 31 okt. 1943.
H. Bialek	geb. in Antwerpen.	Overleden in Sobibor op 15 maart 1943.
M. Blitz	geb. in Amsterdam.	Overleden in Auschwitz op 31 maart 1943.
J. Blitz	geb. in Amsterdam.	Overleden in Sobibor op 14 mei 1943.
A. Bohemen	geb. in Groningen.	Overleden in Midden-Eur. op 28 febr. 1945.
H.L. Bonte	geb. in Amsterdam.	Overleden in Auschwitz op 17 sept. 1942.
G. Brandon	geb. in Amsterdam.	Overleden in Blechhammer op 21 jan. 1945.
W.L. Bruckheimer	geb. in Frankfurt/Main.	Overleden in Sobibor op 4 juni 1943.
H. de Bruin	geb. in Amsterdam.	Overleden in Auschwitz op 30 sept. 1942.
A.L. van Buren	geb. in Amsterdam.	Overleden in Auschwitz op 17 sept. 1942.
C. Cohen	geb. in Amsterdam.	Overleden in Auschwitz op 31 maart 1944.
H. Cohen	geb. in Amsterdam.	Overleden in Sobibor op 11 juni 1943.
R. Cohen	geb. in Keulen.	Overleden in Auschwitz op 31 jan. 1943.
I. Coopman	geb. in Amsterdam	Overleden in Sobibor op 11 juni 1943.
J. Coppens	geb. in Amsterdam.	Overleden in Sobibor op 2 juli 1943.
J. Degen	geb. in Amsterdam.	Overleden in Sobibor op 9 juli 1943.
J. Druyf	geb. in Amsterdam.	Overleden in Auschwitz op 8 okt. 1942 .
L. Ephraim	geb. in Amsterdam.	Overleden in Sobibor op 21 mei 1943.
J. Ereira	geb. in Amsterdam.	Overleden in Sobibor op 20 maart 1943.



Adolf Max lived in Rijnstraat 124 III, Amsterdam. On October 9, 1941 he went to the police to report his bicycle "Alemania" stolen. The bike was worth 30 Dutch guilders which was a lot of money (one weeks pay at that time was 4 Dutch guilders)¹⁰.

124 Rijnstraat

Bedrijf	Omschrijving en beschikkingen	Van	Tot	Daarom, van waar:	Daarom, waartoe:
1	Verdachte gebeld en aangehouden door	10.10.41	11.10.41	10.10.41	11.10.41
2	Verdachte gebeld en aangehouden door	10.10.41	11.10.41	10.10.41	11.10.41
3	Verdachte gebeld en aangehouden door	10.10.41	11.10.41	10.10.41	11.10.41
4	Verdachte gebeld en aangehouden door	10.10.41	11.10.41	10.10.41	11.10.41
5	Verdachte gebeld en aangehouden door	10.10.41	11.10.41	10.10.41	11.10.41
6	Verdachte gebeld en aangehouden door	10.10.41	11.10.41	10.10.41	11.10.41

6 uur Dienst overgegeven. B.P. Starreveld.
 6 uur Dienst overgenomen. B.P. Kruijk.
 7 uur Dienst overgegeven. B.P. Kruijk.

overgenomen J. W. W. W. W.

Peeters AGRIELLE PERLSTEIN, empl. Joodsche Raad, oud 25 jaar, woont Rubensstraat No. 22 huis, alhier, doet aangifte van diefstal van haar rijwiel, gepleegd op 9/10.41 tussen 21 en 21.30 van voor N. Amstellaan No. 177. Geen vermoeden. Waarde f 40.-

Nibbering WILLEM MARCUS SJOEW, 34 jaar, Kerkbuurt No. B130, Oostzaan, doet aangifte van diefstal van zijn transportrijwiel, gepleegd op 9.10.41 tussen 22.30 en 23 uur van voor Vechtstr. 61. Geen vermoeden. Waarde f 30.-

idem ADOLF MAX AHRONHEIM, 17 jaar, woont Rijnstraat No. 124 III, doet aangifte van diefstal van zijn rijwiel ALLEMANIA, waarde f 30.- gepleegd op 9.10.41 tussen 21.30 en 22 uur voor Rijnstraat No. 80. Geen vermoeden.

idem HERMAN GERHARD NIJENHUIS, 23 jaar, woont Pretoriusstraat No. 24 III, doet aangifte van diefstal van zijn rijwiel merk BURGERS, gepleegd op 9.10.41 tussen 22.15 en 22.45 uur van voor Amstelkade No. 4. Waarde f 65.- Geen vermoeden.

¹⁰ <https://archief.amsterdam/>, Woningkaarten 1924-1989 and Politierapporten 1940-1945

They ended up in Westerbork and were

Imprisoned 26th August 1942 - 07th September 1943 (Max, Emma Egla, Karl Max)

Imprisoned 15th July 1942 - 15th July 1942 (Adolf Max)

For the Jews of Holland, Westerbork was a camp which offered little comfort. Only they did not know it or see it that way. Using a scheme of trickery and deceit the camp was made to look like a place of vitality and even hope. Unlike other camps, the inmates were made to believe that life was not all that bad. Even the internal policing was not done by the SS, but by Dutch constables who belonged to the *Marechaussee* - Constabulary. The Nazi overseers allowed an almost near normal existence complete with medical attention. Weddings took place, circumcision, even synagogue life and classes for children provided they had not been deported yet. There was entertainment, sport, and work provided. The only exception to all this was the reality of the dreaded, regular transports which served as a constant reminder that nothing was normal at all in camp Westerbork. Over 104,000 Jews and 250 Sinti passed through its gate.

Deported to Auschwitz on¹¹:

Whoever hesitated, faltered, or wavered, quickly received convincing help from the *OD* - *Ordnungsdienst* - camp police and from the SSers in the form of pushing, shoving, driving, or kicking. All this to ensure a quick embarkation. Don't forget, the train had to leave on schedule. Each Tuesday morning at eleven the departure whistle would sound, come rain or shine. Each box-car came equipped with one small waste barrel to be used by all. Without privacy, of course. No beds for the weary travellers, not even straw to sleep on during the two to three day ordeal. Travel time depended on whether the destination was Birkenau or Sobibor, and of course the availability of tracks. War effort had the right of way. Cattle fared much better. The condemned received no food nor was water made available to quench the thirst during the long gruelling journey.

The train trip is three days long. In the wagon is a bucket that must serve as a toilet. Within a short time the stench is unbearable. The prisoners can barely breathe. Janny Brilleslijper: "If by chance you landed next to such an air hole, you had some relief from the stench, but you could catch a cold because it was so drafty." One moment the train picks up speed and the next moment it slows down once again.

Rosa de Winter-Levy later says of her journey: After two days, we were exhausted, a man died, and there was an old woman, crying children that couldn't take it anymore.



¹¹ <http://www.holocaust-lestweforget.com/westerbork-transport-schedule.html>

July 15, 1942 (Adolf Max)

<i>Date:</i>	<i>Year:</i>	<i>Deportees:</i>	<i>Destination:</i>
15 July	1942	1137	Auschwitz

September 7, 1943 (Max, Emma Egla, Karl Max)

<i>Date:</i>	<i>Year:</i>	<i>Deportees:</i>	<i>Destination:</i>
7 September	1943	987	Auschwitz

where they were murdered.

They died:

Max Ahronheim:

September 10, 1943

Place of death: Auschwitz, extermination camp

Egla Emma Ahronheim:

Date of death: 10th September 1943

Place of death: Auschwitz, extermination camp

Destiny: officially declared dead

Adolf Max Ahronheim:

Date of death: 10th August 1942

Place of death: Auschwitz, extermination camp

Destiny: officially declared dead

Karl Max Ahronheim:

Date of death: 31st March 1944

Place of death: unknown

Destiny: officially declared dead