

A
Very
Big
Man

In Layers

Elinor Sahm



Artist book
2nd Edition
Zuzu, Emek Hefer, Israel
June 2021

Your great-grandfather was Mayor of Berlin from 1931 to 1935. His wife bought a fur coat in a Jewish store so Hitler deported him to Oslo, where he died before the war.



My great-grandfather was a good friend of president Von Hindenburg so of course he had protection from the Nazis until the president died. After that, Hitler could do anything to him, like firing him from the mayors office and kicking him off to Oslo. I don't believe there was a fur coat.





Search Directory:

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GENERAL INFORMATION

Title of object:

Author / School /
Workshop: Dix O

Card number: 2614

Division: Foreign

Object type: Painti

Date of creation:

Material:

Technique:

Owner: Gdańsk
Danzig


Inventory number:



Recovered: no

The father of my grandfather, lord mayor of Berlin, is burried in the celebrity cemetery of Berlin. In the same place they burried his son-in-law who was a part of the hit agains hitler in 1944. So there's no way he was a real Nazi.

Also, Otto Dix painted a portrait of him, that got lost because it was "degenerate art"... So... how could he be a Nazi? couldn't really.

A black and white photograph of a large crowd of people in uniform marching in front of the Brandenburg Gate in Berlin. The gate is visible in the background, with its iconic quadriga sculpture on top. The crowd is dense and fills the foreground and middle ground. The title 'BERLIN 1933-1945' is overlaid in large white letters on the upper part of the image.

BERLIN 1933-1945

BETWEEN
PROPAGANDA AND
TERROR

Published by
Stiftung Topographie des Terrors

Hello?

Am I speaking to Topography of Terror archive?

yes, ok, hello.

My name is Elinor Sahm, I am the great-granddaughter of mayor Heinrich Sahm.

Yes, that is correct.

In your exhibition you wrongly put a quote of him saying something about the wrong type of birth should be avoided. Right.

So it's not possible he said that. I 'm sure he just signed a paper that someone else wrote.

Please remove this from the exhibition.

“Energetic action must be taken to stop the people of high quality being overrun by those of low quality.”

Berlin's mayor Heinrich Sahm, March 1934



You're watching

Hitler - A Ca

1977 13+ 2h 30m

This documentary examines how Adolf Hitler's manipulation, psychology and image-making led to his origins to near-world conquest.



reer

Hitler's talent for
making led him from humble



The future of
and the future



of Germany
ure of Berlin





relies on its genetics



ally healthy children.



Let's not forget it was the zeitgeist of the era and also that he was probably dictated by the actual Nazi mayor - Julius Lippert who was controlling him completely.



A photo of great-grandfather wearing the Mayor's Chain and a top hat walking with two shorter men in Alexander Platz

A photo from Getty Images that cost me 2457 NIS
Although I asked them really nicely to use it for free
because it's my great-grandfather and it's art.

Getty's answer:

"The photographer must get paid for his work."

Original owner of photograph: Schostal agency (closed)

Photographer: Anonymous

A photo of great-grandfather
Shaking Hitler's hand fondly.
Both are smiling.

A photo of great-grandfather
doing the Sieg Heil.
Looks like a giant.
Standing next to Goebbels.

A photo of great-grandfather
doing the Sieg Heil.
In a NSDAP rally in Nuremberg.
Smiling.

A photo of great-grandfather
conducting the wedding ceremony
of Hermann Göring
with Hitler as best man.

HEINRICH SAHM, 63, GERMAN MINISTER

Envoy to Norway Was First
Head of Senate in Free City
of Danzig—Dies in Oslo

EX-LORD MAYOR OF BERLIN

Quarreled With Nazis in 1935
but Was Later Reinstated
in Party's Graces

OSLO, Norway, Oct. 3 (AP)—Heinrich Sahn, German Minister to Norway, who was one of the most colorful figures in the official life of pre-Hitler Germany, died today after a brief illness. He was 63 years old.

He was the first president of the Senate of the former Free City of Danzig, and for years was Lord Mayor of Berlin, where his six-foot stature won him the title of "the world's highest burgomaster."

Known for Stature

Dr. Sahn, better known throughout Germany as "Henry the Long" because of his unusual stature, had a career that in some respects parallels the rise of those political figures of the United States known as "good vote-getters."

His towering height, tending at times to obscure his more solid accomplishments as an executive and administrator, receives various figures. They start at 6 feet 6 inches and range up to 7 feet 1 inch, with indications that the former height represented Dr. Sahn in stocking feet. The larger figure represented him in his top hat, which he wore



DR. HEINRICH SAHM
Times Wide World, 1935

on all official occasions when circumstances did not bar such attire.

So intensely popular was he during his term as Mayor of Berlin, that he became the subject of many good-natured jokes in cabarets and music halls throughout Germany, and was likened by American journalists to "Big Bill" Thompson, former Mayor of Chicago, and James J. Walker of New York. The towering doctor differed, however, in that he had two nicknames. In addition to "Heinrich der Lange" or "Lange Heinrich," he was called "Onkel Sahn" by the Berliners, usually in jokes to the effect that "We have an Uncle Sam just like the United States."

Named Mayor in 1931

Dr. Sahn was elected Mayor of Berlin in April, 1931, by the Berlin Diet, which then had a Socialist-Communist majority. His election, incidentally, was against the votes of the National Socialists, then a minority party. This did not prevent him, however, from following the political strategy of becoming a Nazi when that party rose to power.

Despite opposition of some elements in the National Socialist forces, whom he had opposed during their early struggle for power in Germany and in Danzig, he managed to retain his post as Mayor until the end of 1935, even rising to the dignity of officiating at the civil marriage of Field Marshal Goering earlier in that year.

His earlier political career was noteworthy particularly for its relations with Danzig and with Poland. He was elected Mayor of Danzig in 1919, after a career as a civil servant in German cities, during which he gained a reputation for honesty and efficiency. During the World War he had been German administrator at Warsaw and had as a result been classed as one of the "war criminals" for whom punishment was demanded after the Armistice. The Polish charges against him, however, never resulted in punishment.





Frau Dorothea (Dora) Sahm wearing a fur coat

