



Smithsonian

National Museum of African Art

Herbert F. Weiss Collection

Haley Steinhilber

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Eliot Elisofon Photographic Archives, National Museum of African Art
National Museum of African Art
P.O. Box 37012
MRC 708
Washington, DC 20013-7012
Business Number: Phone: 202-633-4690
Fax Number: Fax: 202-357-4879
elisofonarchives@si.edu
<https://africa.si.edu/collection/eliot-elisofon-photographic-archives/>

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Eliot Elisofon Photographic Archives, National Museum of African Art
Title:	Herbert F. Weiss Collection
Date:	1940s-1980s
Identifier:	EEPA.2020-005
Creator:	Weiss, Herbert F. (Photographer) Weiss, Lisa, 1903-1997 (Photographer) Weiss, Richard P., 1898-1980 (Photographer)
Extent:	1 Photograph (1 box ; B/w; 5 x 7 in.) 1 Postcard (1 box; B/w ; 3 x 5 in.) 1 Photograph (1 box ; B/w Portraits)
Language:	English .

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Donated by Herbert Weiss, 2020.

Other Finding Aids

Herbert F. Weiss papers, Hoover Institution Library and Archives. Writings, notes, correspondence, government documents, bulletins and issuances of Congolese political organizations, reports, studies, conference materials, and printed matter relating to nationalism in and independence of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the Parti Solidaire Africain, Patrice Lumumba, civil war and political opposition groups in the Congo, and political conditions elsewhere in Africa. Used in part as research material for the book by H. F. Weiss, *Political Protest in the Congo: The Parti Solidaire Africain during the Independence Struggle* (Princeton, 1967).

Preferred Citation

Herbert F. Weiss Collection, EEPA 2020-005, Eliot Elisofon Photographic Archives, National Museum of African Art, Smithsonian Institution.

Conditions Governing Use

Use of original records requires an appointment. Contact Archives staff for more details.

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Biographical / Historical

Herbert F. Weiss is an Emeritus Professor of Political Science at City University of New York and Senior Fellow at the Ralph Bunche Institute for International Studies, CUNY. His research has revolved around nationalism, independence struggles, mass mobilization, protest, democratization, elections, decentralization, and the role of militia. He has also made contributions to African studies with his analysis of "rural radicalism," the radical protest of rurally based populations in the Democratic Republic of Congo as illustrated by the independence struggle (1959-1960), the Congo Rebellions (1963-1968), and from the 1990s to the present, by various rurally based militia groups. Weiss has also consulted with the World Bank, the UN, the US Government, the Conflict Prevention and Peace Forum of the Social Science Research Council and other various US and international NGOs. He is a member of the African Studies Association since 1961 and a senior policy scholar at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars.

Richard and Lisa Weiss were Jewish refugees to Anglo-Egypt and Sudan during World War II. Along with their son, Herbert, they fled Vienna, Austria on July 25, 1938, following the arrival of the Nazis. They lived in a house in Khartoum, next to the Palace of the Mahdi. Lisa was a photographer and worked as a manicurist for English women, which allowed her to get customers for portraits. She took many photographs during her time in Sudan.

After immigrating with his family to the United States, in 1950, Richard Weiss returned to Africa as a New York-based businessman to buy rubber, gum Arabic, spices, and other imports from Nigeria.

Content Description

Collection of b/w photographs by Richard Weiss and historic postcards from Nigeria, Sudan, and Sierra Leone; portrait photographs from Sudan by Lisa Weiss; and 35mm b/w negatives and color slides from the Congo, 1960 by Herbert Weiss.

Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

Places:

- Belgian Congo
- Nigeria
- Sudan

Container Listing

Republic of the Congo, 1960s - 1980s

139 Slides (photographs) (color; 35 mm)

24 Negatives (photographic) (b/w; 35 mm)

2 Color prints (Color; 55 x 70 mm)

Photographer: Weiss, Herbert F.

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Names: Blouin, Andrée, 1921-1986

Place: Congo (Democratic Republic)

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Postcards

56 Postcards (B/w)

Place: Sudan
Africa, Eastern
Sierra Leone

Topic: Pipe smoking
Pregnancy
Domestic and family life
Body arts
Scarification (Body marking)
Jewelry

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Nigeria, 1950

32 Photographic prints (b/w)

Photographer: Weiss, Richard P., 1898-1980

Topic: Carving
Towns, villages and other settlements
Looms
Dyes and dyeing -- Nigeria
Mat weaving

Place: Kano (Nigeria)

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Sudan, 1939-1947

1 DVD

80 Photographic prints (b/w)

Photographer: Weiss, Lisa, 1903-1997

Genre/Form: Color prints (prints)

Topic: Jewelry

Place: Africa -- Colonization

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