

ROLF AND HANNAH WARTENBERG PAPERS, 1930-2004
1991.221.12

United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives
100 Raoul Wallenberg Place SW
Washington, DC 20024-2126
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Descriptive summary

Title: Rolf and Hannah Wartenberg papers

Dates: 1930-2004

Catalog number: 1991.221.12

Creator: Wartenberg, Rolf, 1912-1996

Additional creator: Wartenberg, Hannah, 1921-2012

Extent: 2.4 linear feet (4 boxes, 4 oversize boxes, and 12 oversize folders)

Repository: United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives, 100 Raoul Wallenberg Place SW, Washington, DC 20024-2126

Abstract: The Rolf and Hannah Wartenberg papers include biographical materials, Nuremberg trials materials, photographs, and printed materials documenting Rolf and Hannah Wartenberg's work at the Nuremberg war crimes trials. The papers also include audiocassettes, speaking engagement records, and subject files documenting lectures and testimony given by Rolf and Hannah Wartenberg about the Holocaust and Nuremberg trials, and related Holocaust research and memorialization.

Languages: English, German, Yiddish

Administrative Information

Access: There are no known restrictions on access to this material.

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Preferred citation: (Identification of item), Rolf and Hannah Wartenberg papers, United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives, Washington, DC

Acquisition information: Rolf, Hannah, and Thomas Wartenberg donated the Rolf and Hannah Wartenberg papers to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in 1991, 1995, 2005, 2011, and

2013. The accessions numbered 1991.221.3-.7, 1995.A.0925, 2005.347, 2011.462.1, and 2013.554.1 have been incorporated into this collection.

Processing history: Julie Schweitzer, September 2015; Revised by Morgan Voth, January 2024

Biographical note

Rolf Wartenberg (1912-1996) was born in Berlin, Germany in 1912 to Ernst (1878-1934) and Hedy (née Zender, 1884-1975) Wartenberg and had a brother, Henry (1908-1971). Rolf fled Germany for San Salvador in late 1938 and immigrated to the United States in 1940. He joined the United States Army in 1942 and served with the Seventh Army Interrogation Center in 1944 and 1945, as executive officer of the Bodyguards of the Allied Judges and Prosecutors at the International Tribunal in Nuremberg in 1946, and, as a civilian, as Senior Interrogator for the Chief of Counsel for War Crimes at Nuremberg on the Einsatzgruppen case. He met Hannah Schiller, who worked as a translator for the Nuremberg trials, in March 1947 and married in Nuremberg. They had two children.

Hannah Wartenberg (née Schiller, 1921-2012) was born in Berlin, Germany in 1921 to Edwin (1891-1948) and Rosa (née Olejnicki, 1890-1965) Schiller and had one brother, Rudolf (1923-1931). She left for Palestine with her parents in 1935, and then moved to Switzerland in June 1936, to be close to a dying grandparent. They immigrated to the United States in September 1936. During the war, Hannah worked for the Office of War Information as a propaganda analyst and for CBS as a news writer. After the war, she worked as a simultaneous translator for the Nuremberg trials, and worked on the "Justice" trial from October 1946-October 1947. She met Rolf Wartenberg, who also worked for the Office for War Crimes, while they were both working on the Nuremberg trials and married in 1947. They had two children.

Scope and content of collection

The Rolf and Hannah Wartenberg papers include biographical materials, Nuremberg trials materials, photographs, and printed materials documenting Rolf and Hannah Wartenberg's work at the Nuremberg war crimes trials. The papers also include audiocassettes, speaking engagement records, and subject files documenting lectures and testimony given by Rolf and Hannah Wartenberg about the Holocaust and Nuremberg trials, and related Holocaust research and memorialization.

Biographical materials include identification papers documenting Rolf Wartenberg during his work at the Nuremberg trials, a phonebook page and family trees documenting the Wartenberg family, and a photocopy of Hannah Wartenberg's diary documenting her move to Palestine in 1935-1936. This series also includes a pass Wartenberg made for his German shepherd dog as a way to test Nuremberg tribunal security.

Nuremberg trials materials consist of court records, reports, name lists, and visitors' passes documenting the International Military Tribunal, US Military Tribunal Case 3 (the Justice Case), and US Military Tribunal Case 9 (the Einsatzgruppen Case). This series includes a calling card for Heinrich Himmler with a 1937 note written on its reverse and a draft order about a special jurisdiction for criminal cases concerning SS relatives signed by Himmler.

Photographs depict Rolf and Hannah Wartenberg and their relatives, the Nuremberg Palace of Justice and scenes from trials, and Hermann Goering and other defendants. This series includes two small photo albums documenting the Wartenbergs' honeymoon in Prague in March 1947 and excursions from Nuremberg in the summer of 1947.

Printed materials consist of clippings about Rolf Wartenberg, the Holocaust, World War II, and the Nuremberg trials; bound copies of the International Military Tribunal, Justice case, and Einsatzgruppen case indictments; Nuremberg court cartoons by Günter Peis; copies of *Aufbau* from 1948 and 1967; and articles about the Nuremberg trials and the Holocaust.

Speaking engagement records document lectures given by Rolf and Hannah Wartenberg about the Holocaust and the Nuremberg trials. Records include correspondence about scheduling speeches and fees, particularly with the Jewish Welfare Board Lecture Bureau and Yad Vashem, speeches, notes, programs, announcements, bulletins, and biographical data about Rolf and Hannah Wartenberg. The series also includes audio cassette tapes which include Rolf's oral testimonies.

Subject files consist of correspondence, notes, brochures, research materials, and reports on topics such as antisemitism, Holocaust memorialization, Holocaust denial, Sepp Dietrich's SS Honor Sword (which Rolf Wartenberg owned and later sold), Ben Swearingen's research into how Hermann Goering obtained the cyanide capsule he used to commit suicide, and sheet music written by Hedy Wartenberg (Rolf's mother).

System of arrangement

The Rolf and Hannah Wartenberg papers are arranged as six series:

Series 1: Biographical materials, 1935-1948

Series 2: Nuremberg trials materials, 1937-1958

Series 3: Photographs, circa 1946-1985

Series 4: Printed materials, 1945-2002

Series 5: Speaking engagements, 1974-1992

Series 6: Subject files, 1930-2004

Indexing terms

Jews--Germany--Berlin.

Jewish refugees--United States.

Nuremberg Trial of Major German War Criminals, Nuremberg, Germany, 1945-1946.

Einsatzgruppen Trial, Nuremberg, Germany, 1947-1948.

Justice Trial, Nuremberg, Germany, 1947.

Nuremberg (Germany)

Photographs.

Lectures.

Newspapers.

CONTAINER LIST

Series 1: Biographical materials, 1935-1948

Box/Folder	Title
1.1-1.3	Wartenberg, Rolf, circa 1938-1948 (3 folders)
1.4	Wartenberg, Hannah, "Diary of Emigration," 1935-1936 (photocopy)
1.5	Family trees, 1938, 1988

Series 2: Nuremberg trials materials, 1937-1958

Box/Folder	Title
1.6	Case 3, Chronological Summary of Documentary Proof Received in Evidence on the Issue of "Nacht und Nebel," Appendix 5, 1947
1.7	Case 3, Official transcript, 1947 December 3
1.8	Case 9, Basic Information on the SS, SD, Gestapo, RSHA and the Einsatzgruppen, 1947
1.9	Case 9, Closing Brief for the United States of America Against Gustav Adolf Nosske, 1948
1.10	Case 9, Closing Brief for the United States of America Against Feliz Ruehl, 1948
1.11	Case 9, Indictment, 1947
1.12	Case 9, Linguistic note on the word "Einsatz," circa 1947
1.13	Case 9, List of defendants and sentences, circa 1958
1.14	Case 9, Opening statement, 1947
1.15-1.23	"First Part of the Judgment," circa 1948 (9 folders)
2.1	Himmler, Heinrich, 1937-1940
2.2	Justice Telephone Directory, Office of Chief of Counsel for War Crimes, Nurnberg, 1947
2.3	Name lists: Germans and their positions under the Nazi regime, circa 1946
2.4	Name lists: International Military Tribunal defendants, verdicts, and sentences, circa 1946
2.5	Name lists: Nuremberg prisoners, circa 1947
2.6	Name lists: Visitation log for families of Nuremberg defendants
2.7	Reports by Rolf Wartenberg on conditions in internment camps and on prisoner contacts, 1946
2.8	Signatures of Nazi defendants (photocopies), circa 1946
2.9	Spitz, Rudolph, "Proceedings Before Military Tribunals," circa 1945
2.10	Visitors gallery pass, 1946-1947

Series 3: Photographs, circa 1946-1985 and undated

Box/Folder	Title
2.11	Maxwell-Fyfe, David with Roberts, G.D., undated
2.12	Nuremberg trials, Palace of Justice, Rolf Wartenberg, and Hermann Goering, circa 1946-1948
2.13	Wartenberg, Rolf, alone and with Hermann Goering, circa 1946 and 1976
2.14	Photo envelopes, undated
5	Album: "Excursion from Nuremberg Summer 1947," 1947
6	Album: "Honeymoon in Prague March 1947," 1947
2.15	Nuremberg: city, courts, defendants, Rolf Wartenberg, etc., circa 1945-1948
OS 9-11	Nuremberg defendants and bombed out city, mounted for presentation, circa 1945-1948
2.16 & 7	Photographs: Wartenberg, Rolf and Hannah, and family members, circa 1948-1985

Series 4: Printed materials, 1945-2002

Box/Folder	Title
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2.17	Articles, circa 1955-1984
OS 1	<i>Aufbau</i> , 1948 March 5
OS 2	<i>Aufbau</i> , 1967 May 12
2.18-2.22 OS 3-7	Clippings, 1947-2002 (5 folders)
2.23-2.24	<i>Dimensions: A Journal of Holocaust Studies</i> , 1985-1986 (2 folders)
2.25	Dreyfuss, Allan, <i>These 21</i> , 1946
2.26	Fein, Helen, "The Holocaust - What it Means, What it Doesn't," in <i>Present Tense</i> , 1987 November/December
2.27	<i>LBI News</i> , 1988, 2002
2.28	<i>Military Tribunals, Case No. Three, Nurnberg Germany, 1946-1947</i> , circa 1947
2.29	<i>Military Tribunals, Case No. 6, The United States of America against Krauch et al, Indictment</i> , 1947
3.1	<i>Nürnberg Today</i> , circa 1985
3.2	Peis drawings, <i>Nürnberger Extra-Blatt</i> , 1946
3.3	Peis drawings, <i>Nuremberg Court Cartoons by Peis</i> , circa 1945
3.4	Peis drawings, photocopies, circa 1980
3.5	Taylor, Telford, <i>Robert H. Jackson and the Nuremberg Trials</i> , 1955
3.6	<i>War-Crime Trials, Nurnberg Germany, Nov. 20, 1945-</i> , circa 1945
3.7	Zeck, William Allen, <i>Nuremberg: Proceedings Subsequent to Goering et al</i> , 1948

Series 5: Speaking engagements, 1974-1992

Box/Folder	Title
3.8	Correspondence, 1976-1992
3.9	Jewish Welfare Board Lecture Bureau, 1976-1977
3.10-3.11	Programs, announcements, and bulletins, 1974-1977, 1986-1988 (2 folders)
3.12-3.16	Speeches and notes, circa 1976-1991 (5 folders)
3.17	Wartenberg, Hannah, Biographical data, circa 1991
3.18 8	Wartenberg, Rolf, Biographical data, circa 1982-1991 (includes cassette tapes)
3.19	Yad Vashem, 1975-1978
3.20	Speeches and notes, circa 1991 2013.554.1

Series 6: Subject files, 1930-2004

Box/Folder	Title
3.21	Anti-Defamation League, 1976-1978
3.22	Anti-Semitism, circa 1985-1990
3.23	Chagal House Haifa, 1969
3.24	Convoy 14 from Pithiviers to Auschwitz, circa 1975-1990
3.25	Convoy 16 from Pithiviers to Auschwitz, circa 1975-1990
3.26	Correspondence, miscellaneous, 1948, 1976, 1982-1984, 1990-1992
3.27	Deutsches Historisches Museum, 1991-1992
3.28	Einsatzgruppe Teilkommand Sk 4a, 1967
3.29	Gedenkstätte Deutscher Widerstand, circa 1989
4.1	Goering, Emma, Fragebogen and notes (reproductions), circa 1945

4.2	Hilberg, Raul, "The Role of the German Railroads in the Destruction of the Jews," 1976
4.3	Holocaust denial, circa 1969-1975
4.4	Holocaust Documentation and Education Center, 1991
4.5	Illustrative documents from Yivo Library, circa 1975-1990
4.6	New World Club, 1947
4.7	Report, "Summary of the mass dying in the KZ and reasons for it," bearing the name of Konrad Morgan, circa 1946
4.8	Sepp Dietrich SS Honor Sword, 1984-1985
4.9-4.10	Swearingen, Ben, 1981-1992 (2 folders)
4.11	Swearingen, Ben, "The Plot That Saved Hermann Goering from the Gallows," 1985
4.12	United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, 1991
4.13	Yevtushenko, Yevgeni, <i>Babi Yar</i> , 1961
4.14	"The Jews of Czestochowa: Coexistence, Holocaust, Memory," circa 2004
4.15	Map, Von Der Einsatzgruppe A Durchgefuehrte Judenexekutionen, annex to Stahlecker report, 1942
4.16 & OS 12	Sheet music, circa 1930-1970