JOHN AND MARGOT LOEWENBERG PAPERS, 1938-1947 1995.A.0265.1

United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives 100 Raoul Wallenberg Place SW Washington, DC 20024-2126 Tel. (202) 479-9717 e-mail: reference@ushmm.org

Descriptive summary

Title: John and Margot Loewenberg papers

Dates: 1938-1947

Accession number: 1995.A.0265.1

Creator: Loewenberg, John and Margot

Extent: 0.5 linear foot (6 folders)

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

Abstract: The John and Margot Loewenberg papers contain documents related to John Loewenberg, a Jewish man who immigrated to the United States just prior to World War II; and Margot Stern Loewenberg, a Jewish woman who escaped Germany via the Kindertransport, and later immigrated to the United States. Documents include correspondence, an identity card and visa requests for Margot, and inquiries into John Loewenberg's family after the war.

Languages: English, German

Administrative Information

Access: Collection is open for use, but is stored offsite. Please contact the Reference Desk more than seven days prior to visit in order to request access.

Reproduction and use: Collection is available for use. Material may be protected by copyright. Please contact reference staff for further information.

Preferred citation: (Identification of item), John and Margot Loewenberg papers, United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives, Washington, DC

Acquisition information: Margot Loewenberg donated the John and Margot Loewenberg papers to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in 1994. The accessions previously cataloged as 1995.21 has been incorporated into this collection.

Related archival materials: An oral history interview conducted with Margot Loewenberg on April 6, 1997 that form part of the USC Shoah Foundation Visual History Archive can be viewed onsite at the Museum.

Accruals: Accruals may have been received since this collection was first processed, see archives catalog at collections.ushmm.org for further information.

Processing history: Mike Folkerts, June 2015

Biographical note

Margot Loewenberg was born in 1922 to Julius and Lily Stern in Frankfurt, Germany. She also had a younger brother named Werner. Her family managed a wholesale clothing store in downtown Frankfurt. As anti-Semitic laws began to take hold in Germany in the 1930s, the Hebrew schools which Margot attended were closed. She was sent to a children's home in Cologne, where she learned child care. She stayed there until the Kristallnacht, where many nearby Jewish synagogues and businesses were destroyed. Margot was then sent back to her family in Frankfurt, where the Germans had confiscated Julius' business. With not many options, Margot was accepted on a Kindertransport, and was sent by herself to Holland, and took a boat to London. Once in England, she helped acquire affidavits for her brother and parents. After the family had made it to England, they acquired visas for immigration to the United States, and set sail in March, 1940. It was while living in Chicago that Margot met her future husband John, and they were married after his return from deployment in the U.S. Army. Margot passed away in 2013.

John Loewenberg was born in 1912 to Hermann and Ella Loewenberg in Bielefeld, Germany. He had one sister named Edith. In 1941, John escaped Germany and sailed for America out of Portugal. After staying in Chicago, Illinois, he met his future wife Margot, and enlisted in the Army, where he served in the D-Day invasion of Normandy. When he returned from service in 1946, he learned that his sister Edith and brother-in-law Rudi were killed in the Poniatowa concentration camp, while his parents were killed in Auschwitz. He later married Margot and opened a candy store in Chicago. John passed away in 1992.

Scope and content of collection

The John and Margot Loewenberg papers contain documents related to John Loewenberg, a Jewish man who immigrated to the United States just prior to World War II; and Margot Stern Loewenberg, a Jewish woman who escaped Germany via the Kindertransport, and later immigrated to the United States. Documents include correspondence, an identity card and visa requests for Margot, and inquiries into John Loewenberg's family after the war.

System of arrangement

The John and Margot Loewenberg papers are arranged as a single series:

• Series 1: John and Margot Loewenberg papers, 1938-1947

Indexing terms

Loewenberg, John.

Loewenberg, Margot.

Loewenberg, Hermann.

Loewenberg, Ella.

Feder, Rudolf.

Feder, Edith.

Schlaupitz, Minny.

Seelig, Hedwig.

Straus, Emma.

Stern, Julius.

Stern, Lily.

Stern, Werner.

Poniatowa (Concentration camp)

Auschwitz (Concentration camp)

Jewish refugees--England.

Jewish refugees--United States.

Holocaust, Jewish (1939-1945)--Children.

Kindertransports (Rescue operations)--England.

Unaccompanied refugee children--England.

Holocaust survivors--Germany.

Jews--Germany--Frankfurt am Main.

Holocaust, Jewish (1939-1945)

Frankfurt am Main (Germany)

United States--Emigration and immigration--History--20th century.

Cologne (Germany)

Photographs.

CONTAINER LIST

Series 1: John and Margot Loewenberg papers, 1938-1947

1	Correspondence, approximately 1941-1947
2	Family and property inquiries, 1946
3	National registration identity card, 1939
4	Photographs and postcard, approximately 1941-1945
5	Red Cross correspondence, 1942
6	Visa requests, 1938