

BETTY COHEN PAPERS, 1927-1977

1995.A.0514.1

United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives
100 Raoul Wallenberg Place SW
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Descriptive summary

Title: Betty Cohen papers

Dates: 1927-1977

Accession number: 1995.A.0514.1

Creator: Cohen, Betty, 1920-

Extent: 0.3 linear foot (3 folders)

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

Abstract: The Betty Cohen papers document the Dutch families who concealed her during the Holocaust. Records include a personal narrative Betty wrote for Yad Vashem describing her rescuers, Tieme and Alie Beuving and Johannes (Joep) and Agnes Garben; photographs of herself, her parents, her brothers and sister, her husband, and the Garbens; and a poem she composed describing her hiding space on the Garbens' farm in Azewijn, Gelderland.

Languages: English, Dutch

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), Betty Cohen papers, United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives, Washington, DC

Acquisition information: Betty Cohen donated the Betty Cohen papers to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in 1995, 1997, and 2013. Accessions formerly cataloged as 1997.27 and 2013.286.1 have been unified with this collection.

Related materials: An oral history interview conducted with Betty Cohen on September 27, 1995 that forms part of the USC Shoah Foundation Institute 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: Julie Schweitzer, March 2016

Biographical note / Administrative history

Betty Cohen (1920-) was born in 's-Heerenberg, Netherlands, to Dutch-born *shochet* Benjamin Straus (1881-1943) and German-born Hedwig Levita Straus (1882-1943). She had three older siblings, Harry, Joseph, and Dini. During the Nazi period, Benjamin Straus helped organize the crossing of German refugees into the Netherlands, and Betty would bring them from the German border to the Straus home. Joseph Straus served in the Dutch Army and was imprisoned in a concentration camp. In February 1943, the rest of the family was warned that they would be deported, so the children were sent into hiding. Their parents were deported to Auschwitz and murdered. Betty and Dini were rescued by Tieme Beuving and Alie Van Gessel Beuving and stayed with Alie's family for about a year in a small room in Dieren, Gelderland. When one of Tieme's friends from the underground was arrested in January 1944, Betty and Dini joined their brother Harry hiding in a barn on the farm of Joep and Agnes Garben in Azewijn, Gelderland until liberation in April 1945. After the war, Betty married Rudi Cohen (1918-1995), another Dutch Jewish survivor, and immigrated to the United States in 1956. She and her siblings arranged for Tieme and Alie Beuving and Joep and Agnes Garben to be recognized by Yad Vashem as Righteous Among the Nations.

Scope and content of collection

The Betty Cohen papers document the Dutch families who concealed her during the Holocaust. Records include a personal narrative Betty wrote for Yad Vashem describing her rescuers, Tieme and Alie Beuving and Johannes (Joep) and Agnes Garben; photographs of herself, her parents, her brothers and sister, her husband, and the Garbens; and a poem she composed describing her hiding space on the Garbens' farm in Azewijn, Gelderland.

System of arrangement

The Betty Cohen papers are arranged as a single series.

Indexing terms

Beuving, Tieme.

Beuving, Alie.

Garben, Johannes (Joep).

Garben, Agnes.

Jews--Netherlands--Gelderland.

World War, 1939-1945--Jews--Rescue--Netherlands--Gelderland.

Hiding places--Netherlands--Dieren.
Hiding places--Netherlands--Gelderland.
Holocaust, Jewish (1939-1945)--Netherlands--Poetry.

Dieren (Netherlands)
Gelderland (Netherlands)

Photographs.

CONTAINER LIST

Series 1: Betty Cohen papers, 1927-1977

Folder	
1	Personal narrative, 1977
2	Photographs, 1927-1963
3	Poem, " <i>Onze cabine. . .</i> " 1944