

ABRAHAM AND MINA WINIGER PAPERS, circa 1934-1971 1998.34.3

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

Title: Abraham and Mina Winiger papers

Dates: circa 1934-1971

Accession number: 1998.34.3

Creator: Winiger, Abraham, 1905-1993

Additional creator: Winiger, Mina, 1913-1979

Extent: 0.5 linear foot (7 folders)

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

Abstract: The Abraham and Mina Winiger papers consist of identification papers, correspondence, and photographs documenting Abraham and Mina Winiger's families before the Holocaust in Nadwórna, Poland, their survival, their postwar life in the Föhrenwald displaced persons camp, and their efforts to receive restitution for their wartime suffering. The papers include two registration certificates for Abraham and Mina Winiger from the Jewish Agency for Palestine dated 1948; postwar letters from Ajzik Feder, Sara Rosenheck, the United Restitution Organization, and other friends made at Föhrenwald; and photographs of Abraham and Mina Winiger and their families before and during the war in Poland and after the war in Föhrenwald.

Languages: Polish, Yiddish, Hebrew, German, English

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), Abraham and Mina Winiger papers (1998.34.3), United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives, Washington, DC

Acquisition information: Lily Bink, daughter of Abraham and Mina Winiger, donated the Abraham and Mina Winiger papers to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in 1998, 2003, and 2005. The accessions formerly cataloged as 1998.34, 2003.141, and 2005.317.1 have been incorporated into this collection.

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

Processing history: Rebekah Valentine and Julie Schweitzer, March 2019

Biographical note

Abraham (Abram) Winiger (1905-1993) was born December 21, 1905 in Nadwórna, Poland (now Nadvirna, Ukraine) to Israel and Sarah Winiger. Mina Winiger (1913-1979) was born May 5, 1913 in Majdan Górny, Poland to Markus and Sobel Händel and moved to Nadwórna. The couple were married in 1938, and their son Jakob (Jankl) was born March 1, 1941. Following the German invasion of the Soviet Union, a ghetto was established in Nadwórna in April 1942, and the family was forced to move into the ghetto. Jakob was forcibly taken from his parents and is believed to have been killed at Bełżec. Abraham and Mina escaped before the end of the year and found a Catholic woman and her teenage son who were willing to hide them in their cellar without the knowledge of their husband and father. When he discovered them, his son convinced him to let them stay. Following liberation in 1945, Abraham and Mina were refused the return of their home and spent time in Chernivtsi, Kolomyia, and Katowice. They slowly found their way to the Föhrenwald displaced persons camp in 1946, where their daughter Sara (Sharon Maybach, 1946-1989) was born. The family immigrated to the United States aboard the USAT *General Holbrook* via Bremerhaven in September 1949. Their daughter Lela (Lily) was born in Elmira, NY in 1950, and the family moved to Buffalo in 1953. Abraham's and Mina's extended families were killed in the Holocaust.

Scope and content of collection

The Abraham and Mina Winiger papers consist of identification papers, correspondence, and photographs documenting Abraham and Mina Winiger's families before the Holocaust in Nadwórna, Poland, their survival, their postwar life in the Föhrenwald displaced persons camp, and their efforts to receive restitution for their wartime suffering. The papers include two registration certificates for Abraham and Mina Winiger from the Jewish Agency for Palestine dated 1948; postwar letters from Ajzik Feder, Sara Rosenheck, the United Restitution Organization, and other friends made at Föhrenwald; and photographs of Abraham and Mina Winiger and their families before and during the war in Poland and after the war in Föhrenwald.

System of arrangement

The Abraham and Mina Winiger papers are arranged as a single series.

Indexing terms

Personal Names

Winiger, Abraham.
Winiger, Mina.

Corporate Name

Föhrenwald (Displaced persons camp)
United Restitution Organization.

Topical Terms

Jews--Poland--Nadwórna.
Holocaust, Jewish (1939-1945)--Reparations.
Refugees, Jewish--Germany--Föhrenwald.
World War, 1939-1945--Refugees--Germany--Föhrenwald.

Geographic Name

Nadvirna (Ukraine)

Genre/Form

Correspondence.
Photographs.

CONTAINER LIST

Series 1: Abram and Mina Winiger papers, circa 1934-1971

Folder	Title
1 of 7	Winiger, Abraham and Mina, Jewish Agency for Palestine certificates, 1948
2 of 7	Feder, Ajzik, 1957-1958
3 of 7	Rosenheck, Sara, circa 1952-1968
4 of 7	United Restitution Organization, 1957-1958
5 of 7	Mixed correspondence, circa 1956-1971
6 of 7	Photographs, prewar and wartime, circa 1934-1942
7 of 7	Photographs, postwar, circa 1945-1949