

**United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives**

**Finding Aid**

**RG-10**

**Small Collections**

**RG-10.206**

**1999.A.0252**

**Title:** Isaac and Masha Chomski papers.

**Extent:** 3 boxes.

**Provenance:** The U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum received the collection from the Trust U/W/O. Masha Chomski on a twenty-five year loan beginning on 21 May 1999.

**Biography:** In June 1941, 111 mostly Jewish children were rescued from Nazi occupied France and settled safely in America for the duration of World War II. Over the course of four days and five nights, and with the assistance of the Ouvre de Secours des Enfants (OSE), the American Friends Service Committee, and a variety of persons and organizations in France, Spain, Portugal, and the United States, Isaac and Masha Chomski assembled, organized, and transported the orphan children well over three thousand miles. Isaac Chomski, a medical doctor and journalist, and Masha Chomski, an employee of the OSE, were saving the children from the likelihood of Nazi extermination. The collection contains a variety of materials that detail the evacuation from the point of its inception, to the children's safe arrival in New York aboard the S.S. Mouzinho.

**Restrictions on Access:** Access is limited to the USHMM staff. Persons other than the USHMM staff desiring access to the collection require the consent of the Trust U/W/O Masha Chomski. (See section b7 of loan agreement.)

**Restrictions on use:** Restrictions apply. Restrictions apply pursuant to the loan agreement. Access only by written permission of the Trust U/W/O Masha Chomski. For permission contact Trust counsel, Eleanor Smith, Esq., Zuckerman, Spaeder, LLP.

**Summary:** The collection contains materials assembled by Isaac and Masha Chomski before, during, and after World War II. The materials primarily deal with the Chomski's efforts in evacuating 111 orphan children from occupied France. The Chomski's successfully evacuated the children on the S.S. Mouzinho, which brought them to the United States in June 1941. Also includes oral history audio tapes of both Isaac and Masha Chomski detailing Jewish ghetto and shtetl life during the interbellum, as well as the escape from France.

**Organization and arrangement:** Thematic. Arranged into two series. Series one is paper based material largely concerning the Chomski's escape from occupied France with 111 orphan children. Series two is audio tape containing the oral histories of Isaac and Masha Chomski concerning a variety of topics, ranging in time from the outbreak of World War I to the late 20th century.

**Language:** Primarily in English and French with some Spanish, Portuguese, Yiddish, and Hebrew.

**Preferred citation:** Standard citation for U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives.

**Source:** The U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum received the collection from the Trust U/W/O Masha Chomski on a twenty-five year loan beginning on 21 May 1999.

## **INVENTORY:**

### **RG-10.206.01 Chomski Paper Records**

#### **RG-10.206.01\*01**

##### **“Translation of Isaac Chomski’s Yiddish**

1. Copies of two (2) articles, in Yiddish
2. 7 pages of handwritten text in English entitled “The French Antisemites Knew Nothing.”
3. 7 pages of handwritten text in English entitled” Jews Are Not Nearly So Weak.”
4. 20 pages of typed text in English entitled “translation of three Yiddish articles.” Includes “The Sick Murderer”, “I Won The Million”, and “Too Many Jewish Trials.”
5. 1 page typed letter from Stanley Bergman to Joe Chomski on December 1, 1992, regarding payment for the twenty pages of typed text.
6. 7 pages of handwritten text in English entitled “The Pockets are Empty and The Haman is Great.”

#### **RG-10.206.01\*02**

**“Masha and Isaac Chomski, escape Europe with 111 orphans under Eleanor Roosevelt plan ...”**

1. 1 page typed document in French addressed to “Messieurs” from Albert Nussbaum from the Transmigration Bureau. Undated.
2. 1 page typed itinerary in French of trip (by train) from Marseilles to Lisbon (undated).
3. Certification of employment, in French, for Macha [sic] Chomski, signed by J. Millner. May 28, 1941. Original + 1 copy
4. Certification of employment, in English, for Masha Chomski, signed by J. Millner, May 24, 1941,. Original + 2 copies
5. Certification of employment for Masha Chomski, in French, signed by J. Millner May 24, 1941. Original + 4 copies
6. Certificate of Employment for Madame Chomski, signed by L. Gurvic, in French, May 28, 1941. Original + 3copies
7. Certificate of Employment for Dr. Chomski, signed by L. Gurvic. May 28, 1941. Original + 3 copies
8. Certificate of Employment for Dr. Chomski signed by J. Millner. May 28, 1941. Original + 1 copy
9. Certificat d’Engagement signed by J. Millner, General Secretary of OSE, regarding Masha Chomski. Oct. 30, 1939.
10. 1 document to Dr. Chomski from Gurevic, 1941 June 3.
11. 1 page typed letter in English from unnamed cousin of Masha Chomski to Frederick B. Lyon c/o The Washington Apts., Washington, D.C. Regarding questions about how to obtain visas for Isaac and Masha Chomski (Sept. 12, 1940).
12. 2 page typed letter in English from Masha Chomski’s cousin to Dan Regan, [sic] [Reagan] Commercial Attaché, American Embassy, Paris, France. Requesting advice about how to get Isaac and Masha Chomski to the United States (Sept. 13, 1940).
13. 1 page typed letter in English from Abraham Kalvin, Masha Chomski’s cousin, to Masha Chomski requesting that she cable him (September 14, 1940).
14. Western Union cable, 1940 Sept. 30, 12:55A.M.
15. 1 page typed letter in English from A. Kalvin to Hon. Christopher D. Sullivan, regarding visitors permits for Isaac and Masha Chomski (October 14, 1940).
16. 1 page typed, unsigned letter in English from Peter A. Reilly c/o The Manufacturers Trust Co., 513 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY regarding visitors permits (October 14, 1940).

17. Western Union cable in English to Mrs. Isaac Chomski at the Hotel de' Esperance Gueret (Creuse), France from "Natkal" asking if she had contacted Mathews or Reagan (October 14, 1940).
18. Western Union cable in English to Nathan Kalvin from Western Union Telegraph Company saying that the cable that was sent to Masha Chomski was not received because she was not there (Oct. 21, 1940).
19. 1 page typed letter in English from D.J. Reagan, Commercial Attaché, to Joseph Kalvin saying he received his letter and had contacted the officials in the non-occupied zone (Oct. 28,1940).
20. 1 page typed letter in English from "your cousin" to Masha Chomski, saying he was doing his best to get her a visa (Nov. 7, 1940).
21. Radiogram cable to Naktal from Masha Chomski in French (December 6, 1940 8:54 p.m.).
22. Western Union cable from Kalvin to Masha Chomski telling her to register her name with nearest American consul and then cable him (Dec. 18, 1940).
23. Radiogram cable from Chomski to Naktal saying she had registered with consulate in Marseilles (Dec. 30, 1940).
24. 1 page typed letter in English from unnamed to Ruth Styles c/o Transportation Building in Washington, D.C. regarding visitors permits for Isaac and Masha Chomski (Dec. 31, 1940).
25. Western union cable from Kalvin to Masha Chomski, telling her to see American consul in Marseilles because visas were granted (Dec. 31, 1940).
26. 2 page typed letter in English to "Joe" from unsigned writer giving the address of Isaac and Masha Chomski in French (Jan. 3, 1941).
27. 4 page handwritten letter in English from Masha Chomski to "Jessie dearest," regarding the plight of the Chomskis (July 31, 1940).
28. 1 page typed letter in English to Frederick B. Lyon with no signed author regarding Isaac and Masha Chomski and their plight (Jan. 3, 1941).
29. Western Union cable from Kalvin to Masha Chomski in English suggesting she contact American Express for advice (Feb. 6, 1941).
30. Radiogram cable from Chomski to Natkal in English saying that consul promised visas (March 6, 1941).
31. Western Union cable in English from Kalvin to Masha Chomski (March 8, 1941).

32. Radiogram cable from Chomski to Natkal saying visas granted (April 8, 1941).
33. Western Union cable from Kalvin to Masha Chomski, saying ask Regina to arrange passage (April 9, 1941).
34. Western Union cable from Western Union Telegraph Company to Nathan Kalvin, saying cable undelivered because addressee unknown (April 15, 1941).
35. 1 page typed letter in English to Dr. Julius Klein with no signed author, saying he/she received bill from State Department to cover rest of cablegrams (April 24, 1941).
36. Western Union cable from Kalvin to Chomski on steamship Mouzinho, saying “welcome love” (June 16, 1941).
37. Western Union cable from Chomski to Natkal, saying “arriving Saturday,” 1941 June 15.
38. 1 page typed letter in English from unnamed author to Peter Reilly, saying that Isaac and Masha Chomski received visas (June 19, 1941).
39. French cent francs note.
40. 2 business cards in French of Philip A. Conard, Delegee. (American Friends Service Committee).
41. Business card of “Hospitais Sivas de Lisbon” with handwritten note in Portuguese.
42. Certificate of identity for Isaac Chomski, 1941 Mar. 3.
43. Bill from a hotel in Madrid, in Portuguese, n.d.
44. Document from Lisbon dated June 10, 1941 in Portuguese. Document allowing passage for Isaac and Masha Chomski from Lisbon to New York. (Ticket for boat trip)
45. Menu from Hotel Du Pargue.
46. Document in French: “Sauf Conduit, Valable Pour Un Seul Déplacement” regarding Masha Chomski, 1941 May 29.
47. 2 page handwritten letter in French, to “Chers Amis” with no signed author (undated).
48. Certificate of Medical Inspection certifying that Isaac Chomski has no illnesses, signed by the ship surgeon of the Mouzinho, 1941 June 16.
49. Certification that Isaac Chomski was vaccinated against smallpox on June 19, 1941 on the ship Mouzinho
50. Torn piece of paper with Portuguese writing on it.
51. 3 identical documents “Dirreccion General de Seguridad,” n.d.

52. ½ page typed letter in French from L. Gurevic to Isaac Chomski in Lisbon (June 6, 1941).

53. Brown envelope containing :

Certificate of medical inspection, 1941 June 19.

Scrap of paper with address of Lena Reynolds, n.d.

1 bill, 1941 June 6.

7 pages of handwritten notes and address, n.d.

2 empty envelopes.

16 business cards.

2 scraps of paper with addresses, n.d.

### **RG-10.206.01\*03**

#### **“Papers and photos regarding orphans”**

1. Radiotelegram to Masha Chomski from Bruazkus Wulman in English requesting that she prepare all biographical documents about the orphans (June 20, 1941).
2. 2 photos of orphans (presumably) playing in a yard.
3. Photo of orphans standing under a porch. ( one photograph and one half-photograph)
4. Photo of orphans with Masha Chomski. (One photograph and one half-photograph)
5. Photo of orphans sitting with Masha Chomski (June 1941).
6. 1 photograph of orphans sitting on the ground along a fence, n.d.
7. 3 photos of orphans in dining hall.
8. Photo of orphans standing around bus.
9. 3 Photos of orphans in a bus
10. Small photo of woman (N.P.) with French writing on the back., 5/13/41
11. Photo of woman marked 18/5/41 “Votre Niece Regina”
12. 4x6 photo of Masha Chomski.
13. 4x6 photo of Isaac Chomski.

14. OSE I.D. of Masha Chomski with photo.
15. 2 photos of orphans on buses.
16. 4 photographs of orphans with Isaac Chomski, n.d.
17. 1 photograph of orphans in what appears to be a movie theater, n.d.
18. 2 page handwritten description in French of orphans Evelyne Fuchs and Fanny Safrin (June 3, 1941).
19. Brown envelope with fifteen "Bulletins de Salaires" in French.
20. Radiotelegram from Troper to Chomskis in English sending best wishes (with envelope) (June 19, 1941).
21. 1 page typed letter in Spanish from Morris Troper to Snr. Joao Perebia de Rosa (June 7, 1941).
22. Two pages of pharmaceutical inventory in French (May 30, 1941).
23. Business card of Canes Alberto Pereira da Rosa of O Seculo", Lisbon.
24. Business card of Isaac Chomski, doctor.
25. Business card of A.M. Campus Soares.
26. Business card of Dr. Maximilian Weinberger.
27. 2 page handwritten letter in French from Marga to "Cher Directeur" (June 17, 1941).
28. 2 page handwritten letter from Paula Weiss to M. Directeur, in French (Undated).
29. 1 page handwritten letter to M. Directeur, the author, in French (June 17, 1941).
30. 2 page handwritten letter in French from Margot Weinberg to Cher Directeur (June 17, 1941).
31. 15 page typed inventory of biographical information of 100 orphans from the American Friends Service Committee (May 27, 1941. Includes date and place of birth, nationality, and a brief family record
32. Handwritten records in French about orphans (4 sheets)
33. 4 page list in French of items to purchase for orphans. Includes copies of pp. 1-2.
34. 1 typed page in French "objets à acquérir".
35. 34 pages of handwritten notes on orphans in French.

36. 2 page checklist of clothing needs of male and female orphans, n.d.
37. "Effets qui doivent être achetés pour les enfants" 4 pages
38. "Objets à acquérir" 1 page
39. Éffets qui doivent être achetés pour les enfants. 4 pages
40. 2 pages of handwritten notes ("2000 enfants ..."), n.d.
41. Another copy of American Friends Service Committee list of orphans. 15 pages w/annotations. Additional list attached.
42. 5 pages of travel notes, n.d.
43. 17 pages, cover page in French "American Express;" "Iteneraire et Horaire;" "List of 100 USCOM children, 1941 May 27. Poor.
44. 11 printed forms in Portuguese, "Policia de Vigilancia ..." presumably for the orphans. Fair.
45. 1 letter, 1941 June 16, on blue paper, "Très honoré monsieur le Directeur Chomski!" by F. Heumann. With envelope. Fair.
46. 1 letter, n.d., in French, "Cher Monsieur le Directeur .... Chomski!" by Gerti Vulkson, Brooklyn, N. Y. Fair. (with a blue envelope)
47. 1 letter, 1941 July 11, typed in English. "This is to confirm ... Dr. Chomski." Fair.
48. 1 letter, 1941 June 25, in German. "Sehr geehrter Herr Doktor," by R. Wozasek. Good.
49. 1 business card, Josiah P. Marvel. Good.
50. 1 New Years card and envelope, Manfred and Evelyne Fuchs. Good.
51. 1 postcard, 1941 Aug., by Sigi, in German. Fair.
52. 1 business card, Adolphe Gourevitch. Good.
53. 1 note, 1941 July 2, in French. "Mrs. Sissman." Fair.
54. 1 letter with envelope, n.d., in French by Edith Vulka, with envelope. Fair.
55. 1 letter, 1941 June 17, in German, by Manfred Rosenthal. Fair.
56. 1 letter, 1941 June 17, in German, from "No. 51 Albert Eisenmainz. Fair.
57. 1 letter, 1941 June 17, in French, from Marguerite Wolf. Fair.

58. 1 letter, n.d., in French, to Walter Lonnerstadter et al. Good.
59. 1 item, n.d., "The Star-Spangled Banner" in French. Part of song in English on the reverse.
60. 1 letter, 1941 June 17, in Dutch?, by Frieda Weiss, "No. 100" Fair.
61. 1 letter, n.d., in French, by Eckhaus Sigi. Fair.
62. 1 letter, n.d., in German, to "Geehrter Herr Direktor!" from J. D. (name illegible). Good.
63. 1 letter, 1941 June 17, in French, signed "PS Goldberg No. 53." Fair.
64. 1 letter, 1941 June 17, in French, by Liselotte Hafner. Fair.
65. 3 handwritten notes, n.d., in French, "OSE 12 ..." "Amerose Newyork ... children arriving" Poor.
66. 1 typed document, n.d., in English, "Copy of telegram from Philadelphia," signed AFSECO. Fair.
67. 1 handwritten note (small square paper), n.d., in French, signed "Pierre." Fair

#### **RG-10.206.01\*04**

##### **Labeled "In Lisbon, Portugal"**

1. 1 page document of the U.S. Comm. for the Care of European Children, Inc. certifying receipt of 10 dossiers of orphans, vaccination certificates, and 6 passports (dated 1941 June 23).
2. 3 cables to Troper from Lisbon about orphans (Undated).
3. One page typed letter in English from unsigned author to Robert Lang regarding clothing for orphans (June 24, 1941).
4. 6 page typed letter in English from A. Kalvin to Lang regarding orphans (June 24, 1941).
5. 3 page typed letter from Morris Troper to Eleanor Roosevelt regarding orphans (June 7, 1941).
6. letter, 1940 Oct. 28, to J. Kalvin from D. J. Reagan. Poor.
7. 3 newspaper clippings, 1941 June 21, World Telegram articles concerning orphans. Severely damaged.
8. 1 business card, Guilherme Cardim. Good.

9. 1 handwritten note, n.d., address of Manuel O. Costa. Good.

**RG-10.206.01\*05**

**“O Seculo”**

1. 6 tattered copies of “O Seculo” from June 1941, containing articles about orphans.
2. Seculo, full issues from 1941 June 4-1941 June 9. Two of each.

**DAMAGE IS SEVERE! UNFOLD ONLY WHEN NECESSARY!**

**RG-10.206.01\*06**

**“After Arriving in U.S.”**

1. Brown envelope labeled “USA legal” containing the following: certificate of immunity to smallpox for Masha Chomski from the surgeon aboard the Mouzinho (June 19, 1941), 3 torn cables, a typed note from the American consulate in Marseilles (February 28, 1941) and a stamped document in French “Feuillets Supplementaires” for Masha Chomski. (and other small notes.)
2. 2 receipts for Isaac and Masha Chomski from the U.S. government for receipt of money orders (undated).
3. 2 page handwritten letter in English from Esther Olson to Masha Chomski (July 5, 1941).
4. 1 page typed letter in English from Robert Lang to Mr. & Mrs. Chomski thanking him for their help with the orphans (July 15, 1941).
5. 13 postcard brochures of Isaac Chomski speech at Stevens Hotel (November 24, 1941).
6. Flyer for Isaac Chomski speech at Community Center (October 7, 1941).
7. November - December, 1941 issue of Women’s Ort News (in English, four typed pages).
8. 2 page handwritten letter in French to Masha Chomski. Name of author illegible (undated).
9. 3 page letter to “Cher Amis” from Masha Chomski, 1942 Feb. 28.
10. Check receipt for \$87.95 for Isaac and Masha Chomski from U.S. Comm. for the Care of European Children (undated).

11. 10 page handwritten letter in French from Isaac and Masha Chomski to unnamed recipient (July 20, 1941).
12. September 1941, issue of American Ort Journal (four typed pages). Article about orphans. 3 copies of the issue.
13. Fifteen page brochure of the U.S. Committee for the Care of European Children (June 1941).
14. 10 page Report on "Ort's Work in Professional Training Among Refugees in France" in English (undated).
15. Unaddressed invitation from Maldwin Fertig, Chairman of American Ort Federation to general meeting (undated).
16. 7 flyers in English and Yiddish for Isaac Chomski speech at Ort (undated).
17. 2 identical flyers for Isaac Chomski speech for stars of Jewish radio and Theater (July 12, 1941).
18. 1 page typed letter in English from Hilda Robertson to Masha Chomski regarding orphans arrival (Oct. 30, 1941).
19. December, 1941 issue of Magazine Digest. (Chomski article p. 91.)
20. Copy of published "Children in Exile" by Isaac Chomski. In English, three pages.
21. October, 1942 issue of Jewish Mirror.
22. 1 article, "Children in Exile," by I. Chomski, from Seven Arts Feature Syndicate, 1941 Oct. 9, four typed pages. Fair.
23. 1 galley print, five typed pages, "Child Refugees" Contemporary Jewish Record. Poor.

**RG-10.206.01\*07**

**"Early Years in U.S."**

1. University of Paris I.D. of M. Chomski undated, in French. Includes photograph.
2. "Carte de Circulation temporaire" of M. Chomski, including photograph (Feb. 1940).
3. 1 page typed memo in English to the staff from Miss Murray (October 7, 1941).
4. 1 page typed letter in English from Samuel Englander, publicity department of Ort to M. Chomski (October 31, 1941).

5. Ripped copy of typed minutes of meeting of executive board – Women’s American Ort (November 5, 1941).
6. 25 small pages of handwritten notes about meetings in English (1941 Oct. 28).
7. November - December, 1941 issues of Women’s Ort News (4 identical copies). (Vol, No. 3)
8. 2 war ration books for M. Chomski (undated).
9. 1 page typed letter, in English, from J.C. Colcord to M. Chomski. Deals with possible employment of American Social Workers Hospitality Group. (1941 July 14).
10. 1 page typed letter from Irene Lowy to M. and I. Chomski about dinner party August 20, 1941, and envelope.
11. 2 copies of one page typed letter, in English, from M. Chomski to U.S. Nationalization Bureau about possible citizenship (September 15, 1941). 1 signed and 1 unsigned.
12. Handwritten work schedule, undated, unnamed.
13. ½ page typed memorandum, in English, from Mrs. Young to M. Chomski, telling her she can join Associated Hospital Service (Oct. 3, 1941).
14. 1 page typed letter, in English, from Alice Clemons to Miss Young, returning application (October 20, 1941).
15. 1 page typed letter, in English, from Charles Muller, U.S. Dept. of Justice, to M. Chomski saying naturalization process is slowed (Oct. 24, 1941).
16. 1 page typed letter, in English, from Donald Stralem, Pres. of Travelers Aid Society, to M. Chomski relating the death of Ms. Murray (Dec. 23, 1941).
17. 2 prescriptions and directions for Masha Chomski, 1942 June 26.
18. 1 page typed letter from Pearl Salsberry of Travelers Aid Society to M. Chomski asking about her health (Feb. 11, 1942).
19. Information booklet of Mount Sinai Hospital (undated).
20. 1 page typed letter to M. Chomski from Rita Donnelly, Travelers Aid Society, saying she is missed (July 17, 1942).
21. 1 page typed letter to I. Chomski from Katherine Young, Travelers Aid Society, about sick leave policy (July 20, 1942).
22. 1 page typed letter from Muriel Frizzell, Travelers Aid Society, to M. Chomski about her job (Aug. 8, 1942).

23. 1 page typed letter from Muriel Frizzell to M. Chomski saying she will not be reemployed after sickness (September 4, 1942).
24. Certification card that M. Chomski is employee of United Seamens Service (Nov. 8, 1942).
25. 1 page letter from Douglas Falconer, U.S. Seamens Service, to M. Chomski, saying her job is cut (November 27, 1942).
26. 1 check receipt, \$84.30. Good.
27. 1 letter, 1943 Aug. 23, from Leyendecker, United Seamen's Service. Fair.
28. 1 letter, 1944 Jan. 31, from James Moore. United Seamen's Service. Fair.
29. 1 letter, 1944 Mar. 10, from Leyendecker, United Seamen's Service. Fair.
30. 1 letter (torn in half), 1942 Oct. 30, from Marshall Field to Margaret Sidney. Poor.
31. 1 letter (torn in half), 1942 Oct. 27, to M. Sidney, signature portion missing. Poor.
32. 1 receipt, \$199.50 from Manufacturers Trust Company. Fair.
33. 1 letter, 1942 Oct. 9, to M. Chomski from J. C. Colcord. Fair.
34. 1 letter, Sept. 26, to Mrs. Chomski from Pearl Salsberry. Good.
35. 1 letter, 1942 Sept. 16, to M. Chomski from Rita Donnelly, Travelers Aid Society. Fair.
36. 1 letter, 1942 Sept. 8, "Office of the Controller of Foreign Exchange ..." Poor.
37. 1 letter, 1942 June 30, to M. Chomski from Rita Donnelly. Fair.
38. 1 letter, 1942 Feb. 19, to M. Chomski from Pearl Salsberry. Good.
39. 1 letter, 1942 July 3, to M. Chomski from Paul Keller. Fair.
40. 1 letter, 1942 July 17, to M. Chomski from Sylvia Polsky, The Mount Sinai Hospital. Good.
41. 1 business card, n.d., Herman Goodman. Good.
42. 1 note, n.d., address for Breslaw Lapowski. Fair.
43. 1 document, n.d., Manufacturers Trust Co. Good.
44. 1 note, 1941 Nov. 8, to M. Chomski from K. E. Young, USO. Fair.
45. 1 letter, 1941 Nov. 25, to A. Kalvin from A. M. Warren, Dept. of State. Fair.

46. 1 letter, 1941 Oct. 27, "To whom it may concern:" Poor.
47. 1 letter, 1941 Nov. 6, to Calvin from Leonard Price. Fair.
48. 1 payroll deduction application, 1941 Oct. 16, for Masha Chomski. Good.
49. 1 card, n.d., United Seamen's Service, Inc., N. Y. Port Area, "Interviewer Mrs. Chomski. Good.

**RG-10.206.01\*08**

**"I. Chomski Published"**

1. October 1941 issue of Contemporary Jewish Record, includes "Children in Exile" by I. Chomski.
2. 1 page typed letter from Cecile Arm to I.Chomski about check from Contemporary Jewish Record for \$26.25 (Sept. 19, 1941).
3. One page typed letter from Roman Slobodin of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Comm. to Dr. Chomski (Oct. 21, 1941).
4. 1 page typed letter from Allen Lesser to Dr. Chomski about check for \$7.50 (Jan. 6, 1942).
5. 1 page of text in French "Monsieur le President, mes ..." (five copies) (undated).
6. 1 page + 3 copies, "Monsieur le President, mes chers Maîtres ...", n.d.
7. Photocopy of 1929 newspaper page in foreign language. Chwila Akademicka.
8. N.Y. Times clipping about Ex-Israeli military leader (January 4, 1974).
9. "Contribution a l' étude des conclusions tardives par brides apres appendicetomie" booklet by I.Chomski, 39 pages (2 copies) (November 21, 1941).
10. 4 typed pages of Topics of Lectures of the Peoples University for Medicine and Hygiene, in English and Yiddish.
11. 5 pages of a short story. No author, in English (undated). "Vichy France drives her Jews" 2 copies.
12. 7 pages of typed text entitled "Hitler's Starvation of the French" by I. Chomski, in English (undated).

13. 5 pages, 2 copies typed pages entitled "Extension Courses in Vichy, France" by I. Chomski.
14. 1 letter, n.d., in Yiddish, "M. Z. Frank c/o Jewish Frontier." Fair.
15. 1 letter, 1941 Nov. 17, from M. L. Polin and M. Wexler, American Ort Federation. Fair.
16. 1 letter, 1942 Jan. 22, from Isaac Chomski to Allen Lesser. Fair.
17. 1 letter, 1942 Jan. 28, to Isaac Chomski from Allen Lesser. Fair.
18. 1 newspaper clipping, n.d., American Examiner-Jewish Week, "Stricken Israeli general ..." Fair.
19. 1 page, E5977, 1978 Nov. 9, from Congressional Record, "Tribute to Isaac Chomski" by Hon. Ted Weiss. Fair.

#### **RG-10.206.01\*09**

##### **"Student photos"**

1. Photograph identified as "Mom's Last Picture in Kovna Real Gymnasium - Mom - 14." Group of students standing in front of building.

#### **RG-10.206.01\*10**

##### **"Group photos"**

2. 1 photograph identified as "Conference of Jewish Students From Poland Studying in Foreign Countries Because of The Famous Numerus Clausus Baring Jewish Students from Attending Polish Universities". Group of students standing in front of building, 1929 Sept.

#### **RG-10.206.01\*11 Chomski Transcripts**

**RG-10.206.01\*11.1 "Journal: Russia-Lithuania Trip"** (1989) by Joseph and Masha Chomski. 79 pages of typed text. Ruminations and descriptions of their trip to Russia and Lithuania. Journalistic but also like a letter, often addressing "Mom" in the text, then "Mom" answers in text.

**RG-10.206.01\*11.2 "Chomski Trip to Israel"** by Joseph Chomski. 40 pages of transcribed conversations between Joe and Masha that took place April 23, 1988 at the house in Israel where Joe's grandfather lived beginning in 1925, April 1988.

**RG-10.206.01\*11.3** Unlabelled manuscript, presumably about a trip by Masha and/or Joe in August 1986, to Paris. Transcription without identifying who is speaking, apparently. 3 versions, first has 111 pages, second has 34 annotated pages, and the third has 82 pages.

**RG-10.206.01\*11.4** Transcription of conversation between Joe and Masha. "Mom #1 6/22/85." 20 pages, #2 has 18 pages and #3 has 11 pages.

**RG-10.206.01\*11.5 "Masha Chomski's Memoirs."** Divided into three parts: before the war, the First World War, what it was like in the beginning of the war (April 5, 1980, transcription).

**RG-10.206.01\*11.6 "Mom's Tapes."** Transcription starting with pregnancy. Discusses pregnancy and state of life at that time; then discusses earlier times, growing up, etc.

### **RG-10.206.01.12 Issac Chomski Transcript**

Seven numbered folders, labeled "Isaac Chomski's Memoirs." Approximately 800 unnumbered pages of transcription from audio tapes (undated).

### **RG-10.206.02 Chomski Sound Recordings**

#### **RG-10.206.02\*01 6 microcassettes from Joe and Masha Chomski's 1986 trip to Paris:**

- 1 of 6** "Paris" Male voice, son of M. Chomski, announces that it is August 27 and talks about "mom and dad". M. Chomski starts to talk in a cracked voice about life in Paris before the war, meeting with friends and other related memories. Talks about war breaking out, how the city blacked out in the late 30's. There is much dialogue between Masha and her son, as he questions her extensively about her life as a student in Paris and how she met his father in 1929.
- 2 of 6** Chomski discusses working for the Jewish Panel League and staying at Hotel George. More talk about Paris life, certain buildings, and her proposed thesis.
- 3 of 6** "Mom-Joe" M. Chomski talks about 1940's, the worsening war, the newspaper ceasing publication.
- 4 of 6** taped while M. Chomski and son walk around Versailles.
- 5 of 6** "Mom-Queret" M. Chomski talks about conditions in France worsening, difficulty of acquiring basic articles. Talks about orphans and trip to Lisbon and the logistics of arranging passage to America.
- 6 of 6** "Joe" M. Chomski talks about times at the Baubourg Center, evening strolls and dinner

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**Issac Chomski's autobiographical oral history:**

1. "Isaac 7/14/72" I. Chomski speaking of his father's knowledge of the Russian language and how this skill helped the family during Imperial Russian occupation. Life under Czarist rule.
2. "7/22/72 Isaac" I. Chomski talking about being young, poor, and Jewish in Paris. His life in France and childhood in Poland. The various forms of Yiddish in Eastern Europe during the interbellum and his childhood in Poland.
3. "7/23/72 Isaac" I. Chomski talking about his father, childhood, life in gymnasium, and general childhood memories.
4. "Isaac (3) full" I. Chomski talks about his childhood memories of heder, gymnasium, Poland, his family, and World War I.
5. "11/3/74" I. Chomski discussing yeshiva students, shtetl life, childhood memories, and the cruelty of children.
6. "11/3/74" I. Chomski discussing wandering minstrels and storytellers who came to shtetl and various characters from his childhood.
7. "12/15/74" I Chomski discusses gypsy camps and his distaste for gypsies. Extensive discussion of farm animal sex and equine castration.
8. "6/13/74" Isaac speaks of childhood memories in 1911 and shtetl life.
9. "12/13/74 Adventures" I. Chomski talks of the hatred of Jews in Poland and elsewhere. His life in heder.
10. "11/12/74" I. Chomski discusses Warsaw, before and during World War I.
11. Chomski discusses pre-war Paris and student life in the Latin Quarter. The beginning of his own journalism career with La Journale Parisienne, a Yiddish language newspaper.
12. Chomski discusses the fate of his family in Warsaw, his aborted service with the French Foreign Legion, the trip to Montpellier for a visa, and the trip to Marseilles for travel documents.
13. I. Chomski discusses his early U.S. journalism career with The Jewish Daily Forward and his ORT sponsored lectures.
14. Chomski discusses the difficulties in setting up a medical practice in the United States and learning English.

15. Continuation of previous tape. Also discusses Masha's family (the Kalvins), their stories, and how they helped Issac and Masha in France.
16. Chomski discusses his career at Israel-Zion hospital.
17. Chomski discusses Jewish family life and shtetl life in the cities of Kobryn and Brest (Poland).
18. *11/24/74* I. Chomski talks of his childhood in Warsaw and Kobryn; privations and poverty, the life of Jews in general.
19. *10/13/74* I. Chomski discusses the nature and celebration of the Sabbath in shtetl life, and childhood recollections of heder and town life. The role of his faith in his childhood, and recollection of Hassidism in town.
20. *4/2/75* I. Chomski discusses the conditions in Warsaw during World War I; affects on the population, the occupying German army and their influence.
21. *9/13/74* I. Chomski discusses the Chomski family genealogical history. Refers to his family as "charming underachievers".
22. "*Box 4, #9 1975*" I. Chomski speaks of life in World War I Poland, the privations and poverty, the lodgers his family took in, his Aunt Mirrele.
23. "X". Broken tape; needs respooling.

### **RG-10.206.02\*03**

#### **Masha Chomski's autobiographical oral history:**

1. "*7/23/72 Masha*". M.Chomski talks of her life in Kovno, Lithuania, family stories and anecdotes, and her father's various businesses.
2. "*Masha-7/13 7/15*" M. Chomski talking about life before World War I, the outbreak of war, and the resulting social upheaval. Her life in Kovno, Lithuania during German occupation (W.W.I).
3. "*Mom-Sorbonne tapes*" Joe Chomski interviews his mother (Masha) about her family's move to Palestine (age 14), and her subsequent education at the Sorbonne. Talks of life in British Mandate Palestine, and Paris.
4. "*4/5/80 Mom-Palestine*" Joe interviews Masha about British Mandate Palestine and the fate of Masha's family left behind in Lithuania.

5. “*Early Kovnah-End Kovnah*” Joe interviews Masha about Kovno during the first World War and the family’s emigration to Palestine.
6. “*Mom Family Recollections*” Joe interviews M. Chomski about her childhood, early education, and life in Kovno.
7. “*Box 4, #6 Mom...18 mos.*” Joseph Chomski interviews his mother about her pregnancy in 1946 and her helping Issac in setting up his medical practice. Masha relates how her parents came to the U.S. via Palestine. Masha speaks of Joseph’s first few years of life and early health problems.

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**The escape with the children**

1. “*Portugal-Voyage*” Joe interviews I. and M. Chomski about the orphan’s escape from the point of Spain onwards.
2. “*3/4*” Joe interviews Masha about the children’s escape, the situation in France, her husband’s defense of his thesis, and the ensuing flight from France.
3. Chomski discusses the quest for travel visas to get out of France, the black market trade of Latin American visas, and passing his medical boards. Also discusses France’s acceptance of German occupation.
4. Chomski discusses getting travel visas for the children, organizing and provisioning the children, and the flight from France.
5. Chomski discusses the arrival in Spain and Portugal, the refugee station in Portugal, the ship’s crossing, the birth of a baby onboard, and first impressions of the United States.
6. Chomski discusses the arrival in the United States, going through customs, problems with sick children on arrival, the Committee for the rescue of European Children and their aide, the Kalvin family, adjusting to America, and the search for employment.
7. *1932-1940 Dad medicine*. I. Chomski and M. Chomski interviewed by their son Joseph Chomski regarding Isaac’s medical career and the escape from France.
8. “*Box 4, #6 Mom/Spain-Portugal*” M. Chomski speaks of leaving Spain with the orphans and the aid of the many Spanish people and organizations that helped them. 10 minutes.

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### **The Philosophy of Issac Chomski:**

1. "3/18/75 *Mixed Marriages*" Isaac Chomski talking about Joseph's engagement to Beth St. John, a gentile, and the theme of "mixed marriages".
2. "12/18/74" Isaac speaks of his early desire to work in obstetrics and his motivation for choosing medicine. The beauty of the "happy disease" of pregnancy.
3. "9/3/74 *My Name*" Isaac talking of his depression and old age. Childhood memories of Poland. Broken tape; needs respooling.
4. "*Aikufka (full)* 3/8/73" Isaac speaking of Russian and Yiddish folksongs and their life-long influence on him.
5. "10/26/74 *Nightmares end*" I. Chomski discusses his deepening depression.
6. "*Nightmares*" I. Chomski discusses dreams about not being prepared for exams and the fate of his family during the Holocaust.
7. Chomski discusses the destructive nature of man, his first romantic infatuations, the persistence of memory and the fog of old age, and his motivation for conducting these oral histories.
8. 10/5/74 I. Chomski talking philosophically about the childhood illusion of God and other illusions of childhood. Childhood memories of Poland and Jewish community life. The tensions between Jews and Poles.
9. 11/13/74 I. Chomski discusses Arafat's visit to the United Nations and his personal, negative reaction to it. Relates a story of how a member of the Israeli Foreign Ministry came into his office that day for treatment of severe hemorrhoids.
10. Chomski discusses retirement and old age as well as his own hypochondria. The situation in Paris in 1940, the coming war, the social conditions in Paris and Poland.
11. "*Nightmares 10/20/74*" I. Chomski discusses how he has nightmares when he is stressed out and melancholic. Talks of studying for the medical boards, his life in heder, childhood memories, and his persistent fear of abandonment.

### **RG-10.206.02\*06**

#### **Chomski family personal matters:**

1. "9/18" Isaac talking about his own chronic, profound, depression and marital strife.

2. “*Sept. 5/72 Joseph*” Isaac speaking of his depression and strained relationships with his wife and son.
3. “*3/23/75*” Isaac speaks of going to France to study medicine, his relationship with his father, his son’s engagement and his (Isaac’s) resistance to it.
4. *4/15/81* I. Chomski talks about Fannie Goldenberg, his cousin who had brain cancer and underwent several surgeries. Also speaks of his early medical career.