

DAVID SIEGEL PAPERS, 1931-1983
2003.92

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

Title: David Siegel papers

Dates: 1931-1983

Accession number: 2003.92

Creator: David Siegel

Extent: 1 box

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

Abstract: The David Siegel papers document Siegel's time working for the Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC), serving as a liaison to the Canadian immigration department, assisting with Jewish displaced persons from 1948-1949. Included in the records are documents from Siegel's time with the CJC, such as his diary, address book, and travel documents. In addition, a photograph album documents Siegel's travels across Europe. The biography series contains Siegel's reflections on his time with the CJC, both in written responses to questions via mail, and an historical narrative that Siegel gave that broke down his day-to-day activities with the CJC. Also included are personal items that Siegel kept, including some event programs and news clippings concerning displaced persons after World War II.

Languages: English, Hebrew, Romanian

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: David Siegel papers, United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives, Washington, DC

Acquisition information: The David Siegel papers were donated to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in 2002 by David's daughter, Esther Siegel.

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

Processing history: Michael Folkerts, April 2015

Biographical note

David Siegel (1909-2004) was born and raised in Toronto. Prior to World War II, he worked as a middle school teacher in England. David enlisted in the Canadian Air Force in 1940 and served four years in Europe as a radar technician. After the war, Siegel joined the immigration department of the Canadian civil service, and in 1948 was asked to serve as the liaison between the Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) and Canadian immigration to facilitate immigration of Jewish displaced persons to Canada. David served in Europe in 1948 and 1949, visiting various displaced persons camps in Germany, Austria, and Italy. His main duties revolved around helping to expedite the processing of immigrants, finding relatives or designated people and help them qualify for immigration to Canada, and provide the CJC with advance information on families proceeding to Canada for adequate preparations were made for their reception. After his time in Europe with the CJC, David Siegel became a synagogue administrator.

Scope and content of collection

The David Siegel papers contain mainly items from Siegel's time with the Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC), for which he served as a liaison for the Canadian immigration department in 1948-1949. This includes a diary Siegel kept during his time in Europe, a photo album, an address book, and other notes and travel documents. The diary documents Siegel's activities, while his photograph album shows the places he visited and the people he helped. The biography series contains material created by Siegel well after his time with the CJC, in which he reflects on his time there and details his activities. Included are responses to questions Siegel received via mail, and a narrative history in which Siegel gives detailed accounts of day-to-day duties. In the personal items series are some news clippings from 1983 about Jewish organizations and displacement camps, and also some event programs from Siegel's college graduation and from a play he performed in.

System of arrangement

The David Siegel papers are arranged into three series:

- Series 1: Canadian Jewish Congress, 1948-1949
- Series 2: Biographies, 1972
- Series 3: Personal items, 1931-1983

Indexing terms

Siegel, David (1909-2004)
Ptaschowskaja, Maria

Silcoff, Maurice
Roeder, Gisel
Goslar, Lisa
Goslar, Lisle
Goslar, Manny
Levinson, Lottie
Berger, Bernard
Kraicer, Shirley
Kraicer, Perry
Baignee, Margot
Maiksin, Bella
Maiksin, Ellen
Lipinsky, Lisa
Spiro, Roman
Bodziak, Danny

Canadian Jewish Congress
American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee
Bergen-Belsen (Concentration camp)
Bindermichl (Displaced persons camp)
Ebelsberg (Displaced persons camp)
Landeck (Displaced persons camp)
Steyr-Münichholz (Concentration camp)

Jewish refugees--Government policy—Canada

Canada--Emigration and immigration.
Canada--Emigration and immigration--History—20th century.
Amberg (Germany : Landkreis)
Hamburg (Germany)
Heidelberg (Germany)
Ebelsberg (Linz, Austria)
Vienna (Austria)

CONTAINER LIST

Series 1: Canadian Jewish Congress, 1948-1949

Box	Folder	Title
1	1	Address book, 1948-1949
1	2-3	Diary, 1948-1949
1	4	News clippings, 1949
1	5	Notes and correspondence, 1948
1	6	Photographs, 1948-1949 [see photo album box 2]
1	7	Travel documents, 1948-1949

Series 2: Biographies, 1972

Box	Folder	Title
1	8	Historical narrative, undated
1	9	Interview response, 1972

Series 3: Personal items, 1931-1983

Box	Folder	Title
1	10	Event programs, 1931-1939
1	11	News clippings, 1983

Series 1: Canadian Jewish Congress, 1948-1949

Box	Folder	Title
2	1	Photographs, 1948-1949