

SNATAGER FAMILY PAPERS, approximately 1871-1943 2013.451.1

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

Title: Snatager family papers

Dates: approximately 1871-1943

Accession number: 2013.451.1

Creator: Snatager (Family: Hague, Netherlands)

Extent: 0.3 linear feet (8 folders)

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

Abstract: The Snatager family papers include biographical material, correspondence, documents and journals relating to Bernard, Olga, and Leonie Snatager's pre-war and wartime experiences in the Netherlands. The collection includes Bernard's birth certificate and telegram announcing his birth, documents relating to his business, and records relating to his death as well as Olga's birth certificate, vaccination certificates, marriage certificates, and letters regarding her pension. The collection also includes a Dutch ID card for Leonie, poetry written by Leonie for her father, papers relating to her time at the University of Amsterdam, and 15 journals written by Leonie in 1943 while she was in hiding in the Netherlands.

Languages: Dutch, 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. Bernard Penney requests that the Museum notify him when possible if a researcher requests the collection.

Reproduction and use: Collection is available for use. Bernard Penney retains copyright. Please contact reference staff for further information.

Preferred citation: (Identification of item), Snatager family papers (2013.451.1), United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives, Washington, DC.

Acquisition information: Bernard Penney donated the Snatager family papers to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in 2013.

Related material: Bernard Penney also donated Nazi records relating to the Jewish Question in the Netherlands and Deutsch resistance (1995.A.0316) and a bronze bust of Etty Hillesum (1995.80.1 a-b).

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

Processing history: Morgan Voth, August 2018

Biographical note

Bernard Snatager (1871-1935) was born in the Netherlands and married Olga Stern (1877-1945) in 1912. They had one daughter, Leonie Snatager (later Penny, 1918-2013) born in the Haag, Netherlands. Bernard passed away in 1935 from heart complications. In the early 1930s, Leonie began studying economics at the University of Amsterdam. After the German invasion of the Netherlands in 1940, Leonie and Olga decided it would be best for Leonie to come home. Leonie continued to go to school and graduated in 1940. Olga and Leonie were soon forced from their apartment and they decided to separate and go into hiding. Leonie obtained false papers and went into hiding in the Netherlands under the name Jane Lambert. She stayed with various family members posing as a student looking for work as a housekeeper. While in hiding she kept a journal about her thoughts and experiences. Olga and her sister were in hiding in Amsterdam, but were found and sent to Auschwitz where they perished. After the war Leonie volunteered for an American Jewish organization where she interviewed survivors. Leonie immigrated to the United States in 1948. In 1953 she married Walter Penney (1913-2000) and they had three children, Walter F. Penny Jr, Bernard, and Olga. Leonie was close friends with Etty Hillesum and worked to ensure Etty's diaries were published. Leonie mentions Etty often in her own journals.

Scope and content of collection

The Snatager family papers include biographical material, correspondence, documents and journals relating to Bernard, Olga, and Leonie Snatager's pre-war and wartime experiences in the Netherlands. The collection includes Bernard's birth certificate and telegram announcing his birth, documents relating to his business, and records relating to his death as well as Olga's birth certificate, vaccination certificates, marriage certificates, and letters regarding her pension. The collection also includes a Dutch ID card for Leonie, poetry written by Leonie for her father, papers relating to her time at the University of Amsterdam, and 15 journals written by Leonie in 1943 while she was in hiding in the Netherlands.

System of arrangement

The Snatager family papers are arranged as a single series.

Indexing terms

Snatager, Leonie.

Snatager, Olga.

Hiding places--Netherlands.

World War, 1939-1945--Personal narratives.

Netherlands.

Diaries.

CONTAINER LIST

Series 1: Snatager family papers, approximately 1871--1943

Box/Folder	Title
1 of 8	Snatager, Bernard, approximately 1871-1941
2 of 8	Snatager, Leonie, 1931-1942
3 of 8	Snatager, Olga, 1877-1942
4-8 of 8	Journals, 1943 (5 folders)