

ITZHAK NACHMANI PAPERS, 1929-1967
2013.491.1

United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives
100 Raoul Wallenberg Place SW
Washington, DC 20024-2126
Tel. (202) 479-9717
e-mail: reference@ushmm.org

Descriptive summary

Title: Itzhak Nachmani papers

Dates: 1929-1967

Accession number: 2013.491.1

Creators: Nachmani, Itzakh, 1909-?

Extent: 0.5 linear foot (8 folders)

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

Abstract: The Itzakh Nachmani papers include two diaries Nachmani composed in 1942 and 1943 describing his family's escape from German-occupied Poland, his internment in a Soviet labor camp, his release into the Polish Army, and his service in Palestine, Egypt, and Iraq; a misdated Palestine Identity Card issued to Nachmani; and photographs depicting Nachmani and his Rumpler and Krzepicki relatives in Poland before World War II and in Israel after the war as well as with fellow soldiers in Egypt, Iraq, and Palestine during the war.

Language: Polish, English, Hebrew

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), Itzakh Nachmani papers (2013.491.1) United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives, Washington, DC.

Acquisition information: Itzakh Nachmani's children, Alec Nachmani, Dalia Nachmani Talmy, and Miriam Nachmani Ram, and Dalia's daughter in law, Sarit Nachmani Talmy, donated the Itzakh Nachmani papers

to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in 2013 (diaries) and 2014 (photographs and identity card).

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, February 2018

Biographical note

Itzhak Nachmani was born Ignacy Krzepicki in Krakow, Poland, in 1909. Following the German invasion of Poland in September 1939, Krzepicki and his brother Adolf escaped to Lwów, which was then occupied by the Soviets. His wife Pola and their son Aleksy (Alec) joined Ignacy in November 1939. In 1940 the family was deported to a forced labor camp in the Ural Mountains. After captured Poles were “amnestied” following the German invasion of the Soviet Union in 1941, the family travelled to a kolkhoz near Tashkent. Ignacy joined the Polish Army of General Władysław Anders and was stationed in Egypt, Iraq, and Palestine. Pola and Alec made their way to Teheran and then Palestine where Ignacy rejoined them following his military service. He changed his name to Itzhak Nachmani, and remained in Israel.

Scope and content of collection

The Itzhak Nachmani papers include two diaries Nachmani composed in 1942 and 1943 describing his family’s escape from Poland, his internment in a Soviet labor camp, his release into the Polish Army, and his service in Palestine, Egypt, and Iraq; a misdated Palestine Identity Card issued to Nachmani; and photographs depicting Nachmani and his Rumpler and Krzepicki relatives in Poland before the war and in Israel after the war as well as with fellow soldiers in Egypt, Iraq, and Palestine during the war.

Itzhak Nachmani began his diaries on August 4, 1942, during his military service in Palestine. He describes fleeing Kraków during the German invasion in September 1939, life in Lwów (L’viv), deportation to a Soviet labor camp in the Ural Mountains in June 1940, forestry work, the “amnesty” of deported Polish citizens, relocation to Tashkent, work at a forge on a kolkhoz, mobilization in the Polish Army in March 1942, separation from his wife and son, and travel by sea from Krasnovodsk to Iran and then by foot to Palestine. He then began regular diary updates in the summer of 1942 describing daily activities, two months in Egypt, missing his wife and son, his joy on learning they had arrived in Teheran, relocating to Iraq, finally receiving his first letter from his wife in January 1943, and his joy on learning his wife and child had arrived in Palestine. The diaries are in Polish, and the last entry is dated September 4, 1943.

System of arrangement

The Nachmani family papers are arranged as a single series.

Indexing terms

Nachmani, Itzhak, 1909-?

Poland.--Polskie Siły Zbrojne.--Polski Korpus, 2.

Jews--Poland--Kraków.
Forced labor--Soviet Union.
World War, 1939-1945--Participation, Polish.
World War, 1939-1945--Personal narratives, Polish.
Holocaust, Jewish (1939-1945)--Personal narratives, Polish.

Kraków (Poland)
L'viv (Ukraine)
Tashkent (Uzbekistan)
Iran.
Iraq.
Palestine.
Egypt.

Diaries.
Photographs.

CONTAINER LIST

Series 1: Itzakh Nachmani papers, 1929-1967

Folder	Title
1 of 8	Diary volume I, September 1939 to July 1943
2 of 8	Diary volume II, July and August, 1943
3 of 8	Government of Palestine identification card for Itzhak Nachmani, (1940)
4-5 of 8	Photographs, family, 1929-1967 (2 folders)
6 of 8	Photographs, military, approximately 1943-1945
7 of 8	Photographs, military, Egypt, 1942
8 of 8	Photographs, military, Iraq, 1942-1943