

JOHN BOGDAN PAPERS, 1926-2002
2016.163.1

United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives
100 Raoul Wallenberg Place SW
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Descriptive summary

Title: John Bogdan papers

Dates: 1926-2002

Accession number: 2016.163.1

Creator: Bogdan, John (1916-2002)

Extent: 7 folders.

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

Abstract: Identification, professional and other documents related to the life and career of John Bogdan (Iancu Berman), originally of Bucharest, Romania, including documentation of his time as a Jewish forced laborer during the regime of Ion Antonescu during World War II.

Languages: Romanian, 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), John Bogdan papers (accession number), United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives, Washington, DC.

Acquisition information: Gift of Adriana Livianu, the daughter of John Bogdan, 2016.

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

Processing history: Processed by Brad Bauer, March 2016.

Biographical note

John Bogdan (1916-2002) was born Iancu Berman, the son of Fisel and Roza (nee Bruckner) Berman, on 11 May 1916 in Bucharest, Romania. From 1933 to 1940, he was employed by the petroleum company Astra Romana, S.A., working out of their headquarters in Bucharest, working initially as a trainee, and then an accountant. From 1941 to 1943, during the regime of Ion Antonescu, Berman was conscripted to be a forced laborer for the Romanian National Railway (CFR) in Grecii di Sus, and other locations in Romania. Following the war, he was employed once again by Astra Romana, returning to work in the accounting and insurance departments, until he left that firm in 1946, when, as a member of the Communist Party, he was able to obtain a post working for the government in the ministry of trade. He held this position until anti-Semitic policies during the 1950s caused him to lose his job. He returned to university, and in 1962, he obtained a degree in foreign commerce from the Institute of Economic Sciences "V.I. Lenin" in Bucharest, and worked in a number of positions for textile and oil companies in Romania after that. In retirement, he worked for the Federația Comunităților Evreiești (Mozaice) din România (Federation of Jewish Communities in Romania), and helped administer a Jewish care home, the "Sevastopol," in Bucharest. He left Romania in 1980, since the sister of his second wife lived in New York, and he immigrated there. Although he had used the name "Jean Bogdan," it was at this point when he began to refer to himself as John Bogdan. During the 1970s, his two children, Radu and Adriana, left Romania as well, eventually settling in the United States. John Bogdan died in Queens, New York, on 1 January 2002.

Scope and content of collection

The John Bogdan papers consist of identification documents, passports, and about biographical documents about the life and career of John Bogdan (born Iancu Berman), originally of Bucharest, Romania. The collection includes certificates documenting Bogdan's work as a Jewish forced laborer for the Romanian National Railway during the regime of Ion Antonescu from 1941-1944, his post-war career working in the Romanian ministry of commerce, his later work as an administrator for the Jewish Federation of Romania, and his immigration to the United States in 1980.

System of arrangement

Collection is arranged in alphabetic order, by folder title.

Indexing terms

Corporate:

Federația Comunităților Evreiești din România.

Topical:

Jews--Romania--Bucharest.

World War, 1939-1945--Jews--Romania.

World War, 1939-1945--Conscript labor--Romania.

Geographical:

Bucharest (Romania)

CONTAINER LIST

- 1 Birth certificates: copies issued in 1926, 1961, and 1976
- 2 Death certificate, New York, 2002
- 3 Federation of the Jewish Community of Romania, 1977
- 4 Forced labor certificates, 1941, and later notarized copies (circa 1970)
- 5 Identification documents, United States, 1987-1998
- 6 Passports, Romania and United States, 1987-1994
- 7 Professional documents, 1946-1962