

## **SCHOFFELEN FAMILY PAPERS, 1937-2007**

### **2017.245.1**

United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives  
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Washington, DC 20024-2126  
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#### **Descriptive summary**

Title: Schoffelen family papers

Dates: 1937-2007 (bulk 1940-1965)

Accession number: 2017.245.1

Creator: Schoffelen family (Sittard: the Netherlands)

Extent: .5 linear feet (1 box)

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

Abstract: The collection documents the experiences of Jan Marie Schoffelen and Ingrid Köke (later Ingrid Schoffelen) of Sittard, the Netherlands during World War II as members of the Dutch resistance. Included are false identification papers, forged documents and stamps, blank ration coupons and forms, and propaganda leaflets. Correspondence of Jan includes two letters written by him while imprisoned in Maastricht in 1940. Other material includes identification, education, immigration, and employment papers; a handwritten memoir by Jan describing his wartime experiences; photographs of Jan and Ingrid; clippings; family genealogy research; and a typewritten diary of Herman Hofte (relation unknown) describing his wartime experiences in Sittard.

Languages: Dutch, German, 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), Schoffelen family papers (2017.245.1), United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives, Washington, DC

Acquisition information: The collection was donated to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum by Esther Schoffelen Rada in 2017.

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

Processing history: Adam Fielding, May 2017

### **Biographical note**

Jan Marie Schoffelen (1921-2007) was born on 14 July 1921 in Heerlen, the Netherlands to Emile (1891-1982) and Sophia (née Custers, 1893-1954) Schoffelen. He had nine siblings: Jeanne (b. 1917), Joseph (1919-1990), Rudolph (b. 1920), Cecile (b. 1923), Henricus (b. 1924), Paul (b. 1925), Wilhelm (b. 1927), Alice (b. 1930), and Emile (1932-1994). Emile was a teacher and school principal and Sophia was the daughter of a wealthy businessman.

Jan lived in Sittard, the Netherlands since the 1930s, and was a student when Germany occupied the Netherlands in May 1940. On 5 September 1940 Jan, along with three others, was accused of being a spy. He was arrested and sent to the prison in Maastricht. He was interrogated and kept in solitary confinement. Jan was released in November 1940 but remained under surveillance by the Germans and the National Socialist Movement in the Netherlands (Nationaal-Socialistische Beweging or NSB). He went to Wageningen to attend school, but returned to Sittard in spring 1941 due to ongoing depression related to his imprisonment. He learned that he was still wanted by the Germans for other student activism activities he wasn't involved with, and went into hiding for several months.

After returning to Wageningen, he learned that the Germans demanded the students to sign an oath of allegiance, and that failure to sign would mean deportation to a labor camp. Jan and his brother Paul went into hiding. Paul remained in hiding for the duration of the war. Jan moved around, hiding with different relatives. He returned to Sittard where he met Reverend Pex and the Köke family, both of whom were involved in the Dutch Resistance. He became friends with Ingrid Köke, whom he would later marry. He obtained false identities from Reverend Pex, and got involved with resistance activities that included smuggling Jews and others from Germany into Limburg province, smuggling Allied pilots to Belgium, manufacturing forged food stamps and other documents, and helping get Dutch men out of labor camps in Germany.

After the war, Jan worked with American and English security, and briefly became a member of the Special Police Force in Sittard. He then went to law school. He and Ingrid married in 1949, and immigrated to the United States in 1953. They had four children, Esther, Emilius, Michael, and Paul.

Ingrid Schoffelen (born Ingrid Maria Josephine Köke, 1926-2009) was born on 13 February 1926 in Holthausen, Herne, Germany to Albert Ludwig Köke and Anna Francisca Mathilde Linde.

### **Scope and content of collection**

The collection documents the experiences of Jan Marie Schoffelen and Ingrid Köke (later Ingrid Schoffelen) of Sittard, the Netherlands during World War II as members of the Dutch resistance. Included are false identification papers, forged documents and stamps, blank ration coupons and forms,

and propaganda leaflets. Correspondence of Jan includes two letters written by him while imprisoned in Maastricht in 1940. Other material includes identification, education, immigration, and employment papers; a handwritten memoir by Jan describing his wartime experiences; photographs of Jan and Ingrid; clippings; family genealogy research; and a typewritten diary of Herman Hofte (relation unknown) describing his wartime experiences in Sittard.

### **System of arrangement**

The collection is arranged as two series:

Series 1: Biographical material, 1937-2007

Series 2: Wartime documents, 1940-1944

Folders are arranged alphabetically, and documents are arranged chronologically.

### **Indexing terms**

Person:

Schoffelen, Jan Marie, 1921-2007.

Schoffelen, Ingrid Maria Josephine Köke, 1926-2009.

Corporate:

Nationaal-Socialistische Beweging der Nederlanden.

Topical Subject:

Identification cards--Forgeries--Netherlands.

Resistance movements--1940-1950.

Netherlands--History--German occupation, 1940-1945.

Propaganda, Anti-Nazi.

Emigration & immigration--United States.

Prisons--Netherlands.

Geography:

Sittard (Netherlands)

Maastricht (Netherlands)

Genre/Form:

Photographs.

Diaries.

Memoirs.

## **CONTAINER LIST**

### **Series 1: Biographical material, 1937-2007**

<b>Folder</b>	<b>Title</b>
1	Clippings, 1953-circa 2005
2	Photographs, 1943-1953
3	Schoffelen family genealogy, circa 1995-circa 2000
	Schoffelen, Ingrid:

4	Identification papers, 1943-1953
5	Immigration papers, 1953-1959
	Schoffelen, Jan:
6	Address book, circa 1945
7	Correspondence, 1940-1986
8	Correspondence with Air Forces Escape and Evasion Society, 2002-2003
9	Education, 1940-1955
10	Employment, the Netherlands, 1944-1945
11	Employment, United States, 1959-1965
12	Identification papers, 1937-2007
13	Immigration papers, 1953-1959
14	Memoir, undated

**Series 2: Wartime documents, 1940-1944**

Folder	Title
15	Diary of Herman Hofte, 1940-1945
16	Forged documents, circa 1941-1944
17	Forged stamps and blank documents, circa 1941-1944
18	Instructions on how to smuggle Jews and others out of Germany, circa 1943
19	Propaganda leaflets, 1941-1943
20	Schoffelen, Ingrid: False identification papers and forged documents, 1941-1944
21	Schoffelen, Jan: False identification papers and forged documents, 1941-1944
22	<i>Trouw</i> , 1943