

Records of South African Jewish Board of Deputies RG-78.001M

United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives
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Descriptive summary

Title: Records of South African Jewish Board of Deputies

Dates: 1900-1986

Accession number: 2006.290

Creator: South African Jewish Board of Deputies

Extent: 28 microfilm reels (16 mm)
1 microfilm reel (35 mm)

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

Languages: English

Scope and content of collection

Contains selected records related to government efforts to limit immigration through legislation, correspondence and lists of the Jewish Immigration Officer at the Cape, naturalization applications, shipping lists, anti-Jewish agitation in South Africa, post-war Holocaust Commemoration, as well as selected photographs of Jewish immigrants arriving in South Africa and of the South African Jewish community assisting refugees.

Administrative Information

Restrictions on access: No restrictions on access.

Restrictions on reproduction and use: No restrictions on use.

Preferred citation: Preferred citation for USHMM archival collections; consult the USHMM website for guidance.

Acquisition information: From the South African Jewish Board of Deputies. The United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives received the filmed collection from the South African Jewish Board of Deputies via the United States Holocaust Museum International Archives Project in Feb. 2006.

Existence and location of originals: South African Jewish Board of Deputies

Processing history: Finding aid revised by Ron Coleman, 2019.

Historical note

The South African Jewish Board of Deputies is the central representative institution of the Jewish Community in South Africa. It was founded in the Transvaal in 1903 and the Cape in 1904. Its purpose was "to watch and take action, with reference to all matters affecting the welfare of Jews as a community"; the two entities merged into one body in 1912.

System of arrangement

Arrangement is thematic

Indexing terms

Restitution.

Holocaust, Jewish (1939-1945)--South Africa.

Refugees--South Africa.

South Africa--Emigration and immigration--History--20th century.

South Africa--Foreign relations.

South Africa--Politics and government--1914-1944.

Correspondence.

Registers.

CONTAINER LIST

Reel 1:

World War II Jewish Telegraphic Agency (J.T.A.) news bulletins, 1942-1945.

Tragedy Documents.

J.T.A. bulletins on refugees 1942-1945.

World War II refugees, J.T.A. reports and press releases 1946-1947.

Reel 2:

World War II foreign affairs documents.

Tragedy documents.

Berlin News Service and Radio Zeesen broadcasts.

Berlin Afrikaans News Service 1944-1945.

World War II South African Jewish Board of Deputies Information Series press releases.

Ovedoff, A. Correspondence and reports concerning activities of Jewish Economic Bond Movement for boycott of German goods, 1934-1935.

Reel 3:

Ovedoff, A. Correspondence and reports concerning activities of Jewish Economic Bond Movement for Boycott of German Goods 1934 - 1935.
South African Trades and Labor Council Non-Sectarian Boycott Committee 1935.
World Non-Sectarian Anti-Nazi Council to Champion Human Rights: correspondence regarding boycott of German goods.
Jewish Economic Bond Overseas correspondence and reports 1934-1935.
Naturalization Forms: general correspondence re: applications and lists 1944-1947.
Refugees: general correspondence 1945-1959.
Alphabetical lists of applications from refugees 1948-1959.
Naturalization correspondence, reports, and government gazettes 1939-1959. World War II aliens and refugees: 1940-1945: Status, naturalization process and restrictions.
South African Jewish Board of Deputies: aliens and refugees: correspondence and reports 1944-1945.
Parliamentary debates.

Reel 4:

War refugees' immigration to Israel from Shanghai, 1949.
Aliens and refugees 1941-1945.
Romanian Jews, 1954.
Lithuanian Refugees in Israel - correspondence 1981-1986.
Board of Deputies of British Jews correspondence 1938-1940.
Austrian and Polish Jewish Relief Fund Cape Council correspondence 1938-1940.
Joint Emergency Appeal general correspondence. 1938-1939.
Anglo Jewish Association London Conference of Jewish Organizations February 1946.
Central Council for Jewish Refugees, London: correspondence with Council for German Jewry, 1939-1940.
Austrian and Polish Relief Fund: Joint Emergency Appeal for Refugees.
Correspondence, reports and lists of donors, 1938-1939.
Financial statements: 1939-1940.
Minute book.
Austrian and Polish Relief Fund 1939.

Reel 5:

Austrian and Polish Jewish Relief Fund 1938-1941.
Correspondence 1940-1983.
Joint Emergency Appeal: minutes and financial statements 1939-1940.
World War II Italy: treatment of Jews.
World War II Council for Refugee Settlement Austrian and Polish Relief Funds correspondence 1934-1956.
Aliens and refugees survey of legislation concerning naturalization and employment in various countries 1938-1949.

Reich's Law Journal re: German immigrants 1941-1942.

Reel 6:

Immigration legislation 1924-1925 Quota Act 1930.
Aliens and Refugees Legislation and Correspondence 1936-1939.
The Jewish Problem in South Africa: Speech delivered by Eric H. Louw 1939.
Alien Amendment and Immigration Bill: Congressional Record and news clippings 1939-1940.
South African Jewish Board of Deputies statements on naturalization 1941-1947.
Aliens: parliamentary debates 1948.
Act to amend the Aliens Registration Act 1949.
Jewish Immigration to South African: Statistics 1924-1947.
Aliens and Refugees: general correspondence 1939-1945.
Newspaper clippings.
Debates of House of Assembly and Senate.
Articles and speeches on Jewish Post-War Problem: 1940-1942.
Restrictions on Aliens 1934-1947.
J. Carasov, Immigration Officer, correspondence and immigration files 1924-1925.

Reel 7:

J. Carasov immigration files 1924-1925.
Correspondence with sponsors re: immigrants, 1925.
Immigration correspondence 1926-1942.
Correspondence with South African Jewish Board of Deputies 1926.
Correspondence regarding applications from sponsors of immigrants 1926.
Applications by South African residents to sponsor relatives from overseas.
Correspondence with HICEM 1940-1941.
Statistics.
Emigration from Europe 1936-1941.
J. Carasov-Personal File.
Jewish Welfare Officer, Cape Town, 1939.
Immigrants correspondence 1938-1939.
Passengers on SS Wangoni, SS Bloemfontein 1939-1940.
Immigration records, immigrants shipping lists 1934-1939.
Immigrants' naturalization applications 1930-1949.
Immigration: rabbis and teachers.
Permanent residence: government policies and views of Immigrants Selection Board.
South African Jewish Board of Deputies Cultural Affairs

Reel 8:

Immigration and naturalization applications (A-Z) 1900-1949.
Jewish Aliens: completed questionnaire forms, 1939.

Reel 9:

Jewish Aliens: completed questionnaire forms 1939.

Aliens and Refugees Committee Reports.
Statistics of Jewish immigration 1926, Legislation re: naturalization 1926-1942.
Naturalization and education.
'Enemy Aliens' naturalization.
Interview with Secretary of the Interior, 1942.
Laws, regulations, and official forms.
Council for German Jewry, South African Fund for German Jewry 1933-1940.
Government correspondence 1933-1939: German refugees and Anti-Semitism, Public Opinion, Anti-Nazi Protest.
Correspondence with Hilfsverein der Juden in Germany 1936-1937.
Dr. Mark Wischnitzer Report on possible Jewish settlers in South Africa.
Correspondence regarding arrival of Stuttgart (German emigrant ship) 1936-1937.
News clippings 1938-1945.
German immigrants: Confiscation of Assets, naturalization in South Africa.
South African Central Committee for German Refugees 1939-1943.
Jewish Immigrants Help, Correspondence 1940-1948.
Correspondence re: arrival of passenger ships (1939).
German immigrants.
National Council for Research.
Correspondence, memoranda, minutes, personal documents.
Sichel F. *Study of the History of German Immigrants from Hitler Germany in South Africa.*

Reel 10:

German Immigrants: applications to join the South African Defense Force 1940-1944.
Applications for Certificates of Loyalty for Enlistment Purposes 1940-1941.
Polish refugees: correspondence, applications to government 1941-1946.
Poland Jewish Telegraphic Agency News Bulletins 1941-1945.
Applications for Trading Licenses 1945-1946.
Employment Difficulties.
Lithuanian Refugees 1937-1948.

Reel 11:

World War II child refugees.
Overseas Children Reception Administration 1940-1941.
Refugees correspondence re: registration and employment problems 1940-1942.
Aliens and refugees 1943-1944 applications, correspondence, minutes, interviews.
South African Jewish Board of Deputies: Welfare Work, Refugees 1940-1944.
Correspondence (alphabetical arrangement by name of refugee).
Council for Refugee Settlement in Africa Outside the Union: correspondence, minutes, reports, finance (1939-1956).
Refugees: transmigration through Durban Harbor correspondence (1942-1943).

Reel 12:

Council for Refugee Settlement in Africa outside the Union.
Minutes of meetings 1942-1946.

Aliens and immigrants correspondence 1948-1953.
Aliens, newspaper clippings 1948.
Unclaimed monies from bequests to institutions and individuals overseas 1950.
World War II Jewish internees in South Africa 1940-1943.

Reel 13:

Refugee Settlement in Swaziland 1939-1946.
World War II detention camps in N & S Rhodesia, Mauritius, East Africa, Australia, and Kenya.
Refugees: funds 1944-1948.
American Joint Distribution Committee.
Council for Refugee Settlement.
Swiss Refugee Fund 1964.
Lorenco Marques Refugee Fund 1946-1948.
South African Jewish Board of Deputies: Aliens and Refugees: general correspondence 1945-1947.
Refugees relief: correspondence (1941-1961) (Includes refugees in France, North and South America, Cuba, Cyprus, North Africa, Isle of Rhodes, Tanganyika, Congo, Kenya, Rhodesia, Mauritius, Swaziland, and Central Council for Refugees in London).
World War II Jews of North Africa 1942-1944.
Falasha Jews, Ethiopia, correspondence 1941-1950.

Reel 14:

World War II reports on Jews in France, Jews in Belgium.
Parcels to Russia 1943-1945.
Relations with Soviet Russia (1944).
German Jewish Auxiliary Committee: completed questionnaires of immigrants A-Z.
World War II, post-war problems J.T.A. Extracts.
Correspondence re: restitution of property in Europe 1944-1950.
World War II reparations: Jewish Trust Company for Germany claims for property in Germany 1940-1947.
Austria restitution and compensation 1953-1962.
Material claims against Germany: South African Jewish Board of Deputies correspondence 1945-1951.
Conference on Material Claims against Germany (1951-1955).
United Restitution Office: correspondence (1951-1955).
German refugees' claims.

Reel 15:

Conference on Jewish Material Claims against Germany: applications and reports (1954-1955).
Conference on Jewish Material Claims against Germany 1956.
Conference on Jewish Material Claims against Germany 1957: recommendations made by the conference.
Conference on Jewish Material Claims against Germany 1958-1959.

Correspondence regarding claims from individual South African Jewish institutions 1959-1962. Conference on Jewish Material Claims against Germany: Annual Reports 1960-1964.

Reel 16:

Conference on Jewish Material Claims against Germany: Annual Reports (1954-1959).
Conference on Jewish Material Claims against Germany 1963-1977.
Memorial Edition *Ten Years of German Indemnification* by Nehemiah Robinson 1964.
Twenty Years Later: activities of the Conference on Jewish Material Claims against Germany (1952-1972).
Jewish Trust Corporation for Germany Ltd.: annual reports (1955-1960).

Reel 17:

Material Claims against Germany, claim forms.
Correspondence and lists regarding claimants (1946-1961).
Information issued by the Association of Jewish Refugees in Great Britain, January 1954-August 1956.
United Restitution Organization correspondence (1949-1984).
Germany: Statue of Limitations correspondence 1969-1979.
South African Jewish Board of Deputies Restitution Office, Johannesburg, correspondence and reports, financial records, list of claimants 1955-1956.
Claims (alphabetically arranged) 1972-1979.
South African Jewish Board of Deputies Restitution Department: passports of German Jewish Refugees in South Africa Book 7.
South African Jewish Board of Deputies United Restitution Organization official correspondence 1955-1984.
Reparation claims: samples of questionnaires and official forms.
Alphabetical list of claims and awards 1972-1979.
Hans Bergheim financial records: German refugee claims.

Reel 18:

United Restitution Organization correspondence (1955-1989).
Contributions to the Restitution Office.
Claims (alphabetically arranged) 1972-1979.
H. Bergheim financial records: German refugee claims.
Missing relatives Information services: formation, aims, correspondence, report (1943-1946).

Reel 19:

Correspondence regarding missing relatives.
Cables to survivors of concentration camps 1946.
Correspondence organized alphabetically by name of enquirer (1939-1958).
Jewish War Victims Relief Fund correspondence 1939-1940.
Refugees from Lithuania.
South African Jewish War Appeal financial statements (1939).

Joint Emergency Appeal and Council for Refugee Settlements reports (1939-1941).

Reel 20:

World War II South African Jewish War Appeal (1939-1949): constitution and history (1940-1948).
Soviet Jewry's Appeal (1943-1945).
Overseas Parcels Committee (1945-1947).
Parcels for Russia, lists of senders.
Assistance to German Holocaust survivors.
Romanian orphans (1947).
South African Jewish War Appeal conference and minutes 1940-1943, correspondence 1940-1943.
South African Jewish War Appeal Joint Emergency Appeal Women's Committee (1939).
Soldiers' Assistance (1941-1942).
Ways and Means Committee.
Establishment of the Jewish War Appeal (1942).
Transvaal Committee Minutes (1942-1945).

Reel 21:

South African Jewish War Appeal correspondence regarding refugees (1941-1953).
Correspondence with Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society (HIAS) Switzerland regarding remittances (includes refugees in Latvia, Estonia, Romania, Shanghai, Thailand, Singapore, France, Italy, India, Japan, Manchukuo, Spain, Greece, Holland, Hungary, Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society of Switzerland, Romania).
Refugee Rabbis and Yeshivath 1943-1954.
American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee remittances to World War II refugees.
South African Jewish War Appeal Committees 1940-1945 correspondence, financial statements, and minutes.

Reel 22:

South African Jewish War Appeal correspondence and minutes 1943-1945.
South African War Appeal.
Refugees: Bulgaria, Romania.
South African Jewish War Appeal correspondence and reports (1946-1948).
Balance sheets (1946-1948).
Correspondence re: Orphans Project (1947-1948).
Correspondence with American Joint Distribution Committee.
South African Jewish War Appeal Poland 1946-1949.
Correspondence re: relief work in Poland (1946-1949).

Reel 23:

United South African Jewish War Appeal: financial statements (1941-1949).
South African Jewish War Appeal: newspaper clippings (1944-1949).
South African Jewish Appeal: Young Men's Association Minute book 1948.

Ways and Means Committee 1958, 1970.
Clothing Depot correspondence 1957-1976 (including clothing shipments to Israel).
South African Jewish Appeal constitution: history 1949-1974, correspondence with Registrar of Welfare Organizations (1945-1965), members of South African Jewish Appeal National Council 1949-1952.

Reel 24:

World War II relief organizations.
Jewish State War Relief Association.
Jewish Committee for Relief Abroad.
Council for Relief Abroad.
Overseas Jewish Relief Unit volunteers from South Africa.
South African Jewish Appeal 1949-1958.
Overseas Jewish Relief Unit UNRRA training.
UNRRA personnel applications 1944.
UNRRA Relief Units 1944-1945 correspondence and minutes.
World War II Committee on Tragedy of European Jewry, correspondence and reports 1944.
World War II Commemoration Committee on Tragedy of European Jewry: correspondence (1938-1945).
Jewish Day of Mourning, March 1945

Reel 25:

World War II Commemoration Committee on Tragedy of European Jewry: correspondence (1938-1945).
South African Board of Deputies miscellaneous documents re: World War II atrocities 1938-1943.
Isaac Gruenbaum article on German extermination of European Jews, September, 1943.
Holocaust Commemoration and revelation of Nazi Atrocities: correspondence, minutes, programs, newspaper clippings 1942-1952.
Day of Mourning: Jewish Telegraphic Association Bulletins 1942-1943.
Holocaust Exhibition 1985 (contains material on Jewish immigration).
Spiro Exhibition 1994.
Holocaust research and commemoration.
World Jewish Day of Mourning 1954.
Johannesburg Communal Monument, Westpark Cemetery.
She'erith Hapletah Jewish Survivors Association in South Africa, correspondence 1960-1991.
South African Board of Deputies Holocaust Exhibition 1985.
South African Union of Jewish Students Holocaust Resource Center (SHEP) 1985-1987.
Jewish Remembrance Day Celebrations 1943-1967.
Consecration of National Yad Vashem Memorial Erz Chajian Shul 9 August, 1970.
Memorials at Treblinka, Paris, Warsaw.
Major S. Weiser: Public Committee Investigation Genocide of the Jewish People in Europe (1955).
Genocide Convention (1947-1952).

Reel 26:

Holocaust Commemoration: memorials at Treblinka, Paris, Warsaw.
Major S. Weiser: Public Committee Investigation Genocide of the Jewish People in Europe (1955).
Holocaust Commemoration 1947-1952.
Day of Mourning, April 22, 1952.
South African National Yad Vashem Memorial Foundation.
Consecration of Monument to Jewish Martyrs May 10, 1959.
Hebrew and undated material relating to Jewish Day of Remembrance.
Correspondence re: publications '*Did Six Million Really Die?*' 1976-1979.
Holocaust denial.
Capetown Holocaust Center 1999-2002.
Genocide Convention 1947-1952.
South African National Yad Vashem Memorial Foundation correspondence, 1976-1991, 2000.

Reel 27:

South African National Yad Vashem Memorial Foundation correspondence (1976-1991, 2000).
Nazi propoganda in South Africa 1933-1948.
News clippings.
Grey Shirt activities, news clippings 1933-1948.
South African Jewish Board of Deputies correspondence regarding Grey Shirts 1934-1940.
Grey Shirt trial 1934-1935.
Transvaaler correspondence re: Jewish boycotts (1939-1940).
Extracts regarding Jewish Problem (1956-1961).

Reel 28:

South African Anti-Semitism: documents, statements, and incidents (1933-1945).
South African National Peoples Movement (Black Shirts).
Anti-Semitic plays, leaflets, pamphlets, circulars, articles.
Statements by the South African Jewish Board of Deputies.
Carnegie Commission Report on Poor White Question, 1933 with references to Jews.
C.J.H De Wet *Christian Nationalism*.
Manie Maritz activities, trial and banning 1939-1956.
Anti-Semitic publications 1939-1940 including Dries van Schalkwyk, Manie Maritz.
Correspondence regarding proposed legislation to control criminal defamation of certain sections of the population 1935-1946.
Analysis of fascist movements including Black Shirt movements.
South African Jewish War Appeal (1940-1946).
Aliens and Refugees Committee minutes, 1939.

Reel 29:

South African Jewish Appeal: S.A.J.A.-Nat.-Exec.-Minutes.
Grey Shirts brochures.
Rapport newspaper.