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SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

Inventory of the Max Freilich Papers, 1925-2005

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Descriptive Summary

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|------------------------------|--|
| Title: | Max Freilich papers |
| Date(s) | 1925-2005 |
| Creator: | Freilich, Max, 1924- |
| Abstract: | Images, correspondence, and newspaper clippings of Max Freilich, a German Kindertransport refugee interned in England and Canada. Materials relate to the Freilich family's persecution in Nazi Germany, Freilich's rescue by the Kindertransport, subsequent internment in English and Canadian internment camps, and service in the Canadian army. The collection also includes images of Freilich and family members. |
| Extent: | 0.25 linear feet (4 folders, 1 videocassette) |
| Repository: | Jewish Heritage Collection, Special Collections, College of Charleston Libraries 66 George Street Charleston, SC 29424 Phone: (843) 953-8016 Fax: (843) 953-6319 URL: http://archives.library.cofc.edu |
| Call Number: | Mss 1065-004 |
| Language of Material: | Materials in English and German |

Biographical Note

Max Freilich was born in February 1924 in Altenburg, Germany, where he lived until his departure for England on August 8, 1939, with the Kindertransport. In 1940, Freilich was arrested as part of an English policy to detain all German males aged 16 and older living within the British Isles. Freilich was sent to internment camps in Liverpool and on the Isle of Man in Great Britain, then to Canadian internment camps in New Brunswick and Sherbrooke, Quebec. He was released in September 1942 and began learning the trade of tool and die making, as well as English, which had not been necessary among the German speakers in the camps.

In 1944, Freilich joined the Canadian army and volunteered for overseas duty in England, Holland, and Germany as a German interpreter. During this time, he learned of his parents' deaths at Auschwitz and Dachau. In August 1945, Freilich traveled to Nuremberg where he obtained tickets to two sessions of the war crime trials. In 1950, Freilich was reunited with his brother and sister in London, England.

Collection Overview

Images, correspondence, and newspaper clippings of Max Freilich, a German Kindertransport refugee interned in England and Canada. The Kindertransport was a rescue mission to send Jewish children out of continental Europe in 1938 and 1939, prior to the outbreak of war. Materials relate to the Freilich family's persecution in Nazi Germany, Freilich's rescue by the Kindertransport, subsequent internment in English and Canadian internment camps, and service in the Canadian army. The collection also includes images of Freilich and family members, and a videocassette of a short television interview with Freilich and American liberator Paul Bridges, recorded in 1998.

Collection Arrangement

Materials are described at the folder level.

Restrictions

Access Restrictions

This collection is open for research.

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Related Material

Related materials in College of Charleston Special Collections include the Anita Abeles Freilich papers (Mss 1065-005).

Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person, family, or organization, by topical subject, by place, and by types of material.

Names

Freilich, Max, 1924-

Subjects

Germans--Great Britain--Evacuation and relocation, 1940-1945

Germans--Canada--Evacuation and relocation, 1939-1943

Holocaust, Jewish (1939-1945)

Holocaust survivors--Germany

Kindertransports (Rescue operations)--Great Britain

World War, 1939-1945--Atrocities

World War, 1939-1945--Concentration camps--Canada

World War, 1939-1945--Concentration camps--Great Britain

Places

England
Canada

Types of Material

Black-and-white negatives
Clippings (information artifacts)
Correspondence
Digital images
Photocopies
Photographs
Videocassettes

Administrative Information

Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], Max Freilich papers, College of Charleston Libraries, Charleston, SC, USA.

Acquisitions Information

Materials were donated in 2004 by Max Freilich.

Processing Information

Processed by Rebecca McClure, February 2011.

Encoded by Rebecca McClure, November 2011.

Reviewed and uploaded by Martha McTear, January 2012.

Funding from the Council on Library and Information Resources supported the processing of this collection and encoding of the finding aid.

Inventory

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|------------------------|---|
| Folder 1 | General, 1981, 2005 Includes field notes from discussions with Freilich and one newspaper clipping regarding the Canadian internment camps. |
| Folder 2 | Correspondence, 1939-1942 Includes photocopies of correspondence between Nazi officials and Bernhard Freilich, Max Freilich's father, regarding Bernhard Freilich's German property. Also includes photocopies of correspondence between Max and Sala Freilich while both were in England. |
| Folder 3 | <i>Nürnberg War-Crimes Trial</i> program, 1945 Photocopies of program and tickets from the Nuremberg war crimes trial that Freilich attended in November 1945. |
| Folder 4 | Images, circa 1925-1945 Includes black-and-white photographs and negatives of Freilich, his siblings, and his schoolmates, as well as members of his Kindertransport group. Also includes digital images of his entire collection on DVD. |
| Videotape 1065-004-V01 | WYFF interview, 1998 (JHC videocassettes box 1 1 videocassette tape) Videocassette recording of a short television interview with Freilich and American liberator Paul Bridges commemorating Kristallnacht. Both men had settled in Greenville, South Carolina, where the interview aired on WYFF. |