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The University Archives
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A Guide to the
Daniel Isaacman Papers
1940-1958 (bulk 1940-1947)

2.0 Cubic feet

UPT 50 I73

Prepared by Theresa R. Snyder

1992

The University Archives and Records Center
3401 Market Street, Suite 210
Philadelphia, PA 19104-3358
215.898.7024
Fax: 215.573.2036
www.archives.upenn.edu
Mark Frazier Lloyd, Director

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PROVENANCE

Gift of Clara Heller Isaacman, December 1989, November 1992.

ARRANGEMENT

The papers of Daniel Isaacman, educator and President of Gratz College, are arranged in four series. They include correspondence, miscellaneous, photoprints, and monographs. The correspondence is arranged chronologically.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Daniel Isaacman was born in Philadelphia on October 8, 1924, son of Isaac and Esther (Handelman) Isaacman. He attended public schools in Philadelphia and went to the University of Pennsylvania where he earned his B.A. in 1948 and M.A. in 1951. He received his Ed.D. from Dropsie University. Joining the staff of Gratz College in 1951, he served in various capacities: as professor of Education and History, Registrar and Vice-President. In 1973 he was named President and held this post until

his death. In addition to his success at Gratz College, Dr. Isaacman was highly involved with many Jewish associations and philanthropic committees.

During the Second World War, Daniel Isaacman served with the U.S. Army in Europe and worked with the Jewish Brigade in Antwerp, Belgium in an attempt to reunite decimated Jewish families with their children. It was during this time that Isaacman developed his strong ties to the cause of Zionism and met his future wife, Clara Heller, a leader for the Jewish Youth Movements.

Daniel Isaacman died on April 7, 1982 in Philadelphia.

SCOPE AND CONTENT

The bulk of the collection is comprised of personal letters, 1940-1947, 1958, n.d., to and from "Danny" Isaacman during a pivotal period of his life. The collection's strength lies with the way "Danny" comes to terms with some fundamental issues of his day: World War II and its devastating physical and psychological effects on the men with whom he served and their families, his maturing relationship with his parents, his hopes and growing commitment to the cause of international Zionism and a Jewish homeland, as well as the beginnings and growth of a lifelong love for his future wife.

The photoprints are "snapshots" taken during the war and include images of friends, family, and locations. Monographs dealing with the Holocaust, written by Clara Isaacman, finish out the collection.

CONTROLLED ACCESS HEADINGS

Personal Name(s)

- Isaacman, Clara.

Subject(s)

- Holocaust survivors.
- World War, 1939-1945--Personal narratives, American.
- World War, 1939-1945--Religious aspects.
- Zionism.

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INVENTORY

CORRESPONDENCE	Box	Folder
1940	1	1
1941	1	2
1942	1	3
January - July, 1943	1	4
August - December, 1943	1	5
January - February, 1944	1	6
March - April, 1944	1	7
May - June, 1944	1	8
July, 1944	1	9
August, 1944	1	10
September, 1-19, 1944	1	11
September, 20-30, 1944	1	12
October 1-18, 1944	1	13
October 19-31, 1944	1	14
November 1-17, 1944	1	15

November 19-30, 1944	1	16
December 1-14, 1944	1	17
December 15-31, 1944	1	18
January, 1945	2	1
February, 1945	2	2
March, 1945	2	3
April, 1945	2	4
May, 1945	2	5
June, 1945	2	6
July - August, 1945	2	7
September - October, 1945	2	8
1946	2	9
1947	2	10
1958	2	11
n.d. [1943]	2	12
n.d. [1944, from father]	2	13
n.d. [1944, from Bluma]	2	14
n.d. [from Haggai Cohen]	2	15
n.d. [from Charlotte]	2	16
n.d. [from Sylvia Rosen]	2	17
n.d. [from M. Grossman]	2	18
n.d. [from Hilda]	2	19
n.d.	2	20

MISCELLANEOUS**Box****Folder**

Miscellaneous	2	21
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PHOTOGRAPHS	Box	Folder
Friends, family, and civilians	3	1
Friends, Army life	3	2
Friends, Army life	3	3
Friends, Army life	3	4
Friends, Army life	3	5
Friends, Army life	3	6
France	3	7
France	3	8
Unidentified locations and houses		
[taken from Army truck]	3	10
Negatives	3	11

WRITINGS	Box	Folder
Dissertation. One Hundred Years of Jewish Camping in the United States of America, 2 v. University of Pennsylvania, Ph. D., 1970	4	
Monographs		
Isaacman, Clara. Clara's story / by Clara Isaacman as told to Joan Adess Grossman. (Philadelphia, Pa. : The Jewish Publication Society of America), 1984.	4	
Isaacman, Clara. Pathways through the Holocaust : An Oral history by eye-witnesses / by Clara Isaacman illustrated by Janet Katz. ([Hoboken, N.J.] : Ktav Publishing House, Inc.), c 1988.	4	
Sofian, David M. Teaching idea book for pathways through the Holocaust : Lesson-topics, background information, and class activities for the teacher / By David M. Sofian. (Hoboken, N.J. : Ktav Publishing House, Inc.), 1988	4	