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A Guide to the
Daniel Isaacman, 1924 - 1982
Papers, 1940 - 1958 (bulk 1940 - 1947)

2 Cubic ft.

UPT50 I73

Prepared by Theresa R. Snyder

1992

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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 SKETCH

Daniel Isaacman was born and raised in Philadelphia and attended the University of Pennsylvania where he earned his B.A. (C'48) and M.A. degree (GED'51). 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 1982. 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.

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.

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University of Pennsylvania

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INVENTORY

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

(cont.)

Correspondence

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

(cont.)

Correspondence

Box 2	FF 14	n.d. [1944, from Bluma]
	FF 15	n.d. [from Haggai Cohen]
	FF 16	n.d. [from Charlotte]
	FF 17	n.d. [from Sylvia Rosen]
	FF 18	n.d. [from M. Grossman]
	FF 19	n.d. [from Hilda]
	FF 20	n.d.

FF 21 Miscellaneous

Photographs

Box 3	FF 1	Friends, family, and civilians
	FF 2	Friends, Army life
	FF 3	Friends, Army life
	FF 4	Friends, Army life
	FF 5	Friends, Army life
	FF 6	Friends, Army life
	FF 7	France
	FF 8	France
		Unidentified locations and houses
	FF 10	[taken from Army truck]

(cont.)

Photographs

Unidentified locations and houses

Box 3 FF 11

Negatives

Box 4

Dissertation. One Hundred Years of Jewish Camping in the United States of America, 2 v. University of Pennsylvania, Ph. D., 1970

Monographs

Isaacman, Clara. Clara's story / by Clara Isaacman as told to Joan Adess Grossman. (Philadelphia, Pa. : The Jewish Publication Society of America), 1984.

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.

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

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