HENRY R. SACKETT
COLLECTION, 1933-1956

Collection Information
Biographical/Historical Sketch
Scope and Content Note
Series Contents

Processed by
Julia Deros
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Manuscript and Visual Collections Department
William Henry Smith Memorial Library
Indiana Historical Society
450 West Ohio Street
Indianapolis, IN 46202-3269

www.indianahistory.org
COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: 2 photograph boxes, 2 manuscript folders, 1 upright graphics folder

COLLECTION DATES: 1933-1956

PROVENANCE: Donated by Susanne D. Minton

RESTRICTIONS: None

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ALTERNATE FORMATS:

RELATED HOLDINGS:

ACCESSION NUMBER: 2017.0244

NOTES:
BIOGRAPHICAL/HISTORICAL SKETCH

Henry R. Sackett was born on March 9th, 1907 to Homer E. Sackett and Verona Heck Sackett. He married Dorothea Shannon and lived in Gary, Indiana where he worked as an assistant district attorney for northern Indiana. At the end of World War II, Sackett served as a deputy for the U.S War Crimes Commission at the Nuremberg war crime trials before working as part of the prosecution team at the International Military Tribunal for the Far East. He served as the assistant to chief U.S Prosecutor Joseph B. Keenan and as liaison attorney between the tribunals at Tokyo and Nuremberg. After the trials ended, he returned to Gary where he worked at the Sackett, Pyatt, and Waitkus law firm. He died on March 9th, 1988 and is buried in Ridgelawn Cemetery in Gary.

The Nuremberg Trials were a series of trials held from 1945 until 1946 in Nuremberg (Nürnberg), Germany. The International Military Tribunal tried and indicted leading Nazi officials for crimes against peace, crimes against humanity, and war crimes. Twenty-four Nazi leaders were tried beginning on November 20th, 1945 with the final verdicts handed down on October 1st, 1946.

The International Military Tribunal for the Far East (IMTFE), also known as the Tokyo War Crimes Tribunal, convened in Tokyo, Japan on April 29th, 1946 to try twenty-eight Japanese military and political leaders for war crimes and crimes against humanity. The procedures were modeled after the Nuremberg trials. The sentences were delivered from December 4th until December 12th, 1948.

Sources:
Ancestry.com
Materials in collection
SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection consists of photographs and scrapbook pages relating to Henry R. Sackett and World War II. The photographs range in date between 1933 and 1946. Some of the dates labeled on the photographs refer to when the photograph was taken while others refer to when the photograph was released to the public. The photographs were obtained by Henry Sackett during his work with the Nuremberg trials and the IMFTE. Many of the photographs concerning Europe and Nazi officials were taken by Hitler’s official photographer, Heinrich Hoffman, and have captions on the reverse written in German.

Series 1 contains photographs relating to the European Theater during World War II and the Nuremberg trials. Some of the photograph subjects include Adolf Hitler and his meetings with Benito Mussolini, various German officials, or German soldiers; leading members of the Nazi party and German military; foreign diplomats; state events and political meetings; military weaponry and vehicle development.

Series 2 contains photographs relating to Japan during World War II and the IMFTE. The photograph subjects include leading Japanese officials, the IMFTE proceedings, and Henry R. Sackett at work during the prosecution.

Series 3 contains photographs relating to the built environment during World War II. It includes photographs of the German autobahn and roadways, air raid destruction of European cities, and landscapes.

Series 4 contains manuscript materials relating to the photographs and consists of scanned scrapbook pages and correspondence. The scrapbook was created by Henry R. Sackett’s daughter Susanne D. Minton and features 80 pages of newspaper article clippings relating to Sackett’s participation in the Nuremberg and IMFTE trials. It also contains articles relating to his law firm work after the war. The correspondence was written between Sackett and his wife Dorothea (Dot) Sackett as well as his colleagues in Gary, Indiana. They concern his work during the trials as well as local news from Gary and were placed at the back of the scrapbook. Photographs and postcards were removed from the scrapbook for preservation purposes. The photographs were removed from pages 4-6 and 56-57. The postcards were removed from page 37.
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Series 1: European Theater

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Adolf Hitler, ca. 1937-1942

Adolf Hitler, speeches, ca. 1940-1943

Adolf Hitler and German officers and soldiers, ca. 1941-1942

Adolf Hitler and German officers and soldiers, ca. 1941-1942

Adolf Hitler and Benito Mussolini, headquarters, 1941

Adolf Hitler and Benito Mussolini, Reichsmarschall headquarters, ca. 1939-1945

Adolf Hitler and Benito Mussolini, East Front, ca. 1941-1943

Adolf Hitler and Benito Mussolini, unknown location, ca. 1941-1942

Hermann Göring, ca. 1938-1943

Joseph Goebbels, ca. 1936-1941

Wilhelm Keitel, 1941

Heinrich Himmler, ca. 1939-1945

Robert Ley, German Labor Front, 1940

Viktor Lutze, Chief of Staff, 1941

CONTAINER

Photographs

Box 1, Folder 1

Photographs

Box 1, Folder 2

Photographs

Box 1, Folder 3

Photographs

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Photographs

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Hiroshi Oshima, Japanese ambassador to Germany, 1941  Photographs  Box 2, Folder 9

Tomoyuki Yamashita, Lieutenant General, 1941  Photographs  Box 2, Folder 10

Henry R. Sackett, IMTFE, ca. 1946-1948  Photographs  Box 2, Folder 11

William Webb, President of the IMTFE, ca. 1946-1948  Photographs  Box 2, Folder 12

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