Guide to the Irving Salomon Collection

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Overview of the Collection

Collection Title: Irving Salomon Collection
Dates: 1897-1979
Identification: MS-0555
Creator: Irving Salomon, 1897-1979
Physical Description: 3.75 linear ft
Repository: Special Collections & University Archives

Biographical Information:
Originally from Chicago, Irving Salomon served in WWI and then became an industrialist in Chicago and Indiana. His Royal Metal Manufacturing Company invented and produced the first metal folding chair. In Indiana, he was the founder and benefactor of PACT Farm, providing a learning, working and living environment for disadvantaged boys. During World War II, he achieved the rank of Lieutenant Colonel, but was known as Colonel Salomon. After the war he and his wife, Cecile came to San Diego with their daughter Abbe. Cecile was a classical pianist who composed Jewish liturgical music. The Salomons were important philanthropists, providing funds for many and diverse projects. Salomon was very involved in San Diego Boys’ Club and funded numerous projects for children and young adults. He received a knighthood from the Pope for his work with Catholic charities. Very involved with politics on a national level, he called Eleanor Roosevelt and Dwight Eisenhower his friends. In 1953 President Eisenhower appointed him to a position at the United Nations. The Salomons entertained many notables, both political and theatrical at their Lilac Ranch in Valley Center, California. In the 1960’s Salomon founded the local chapter of the American Jewish Committee. Salomon was also an author and world traveler. Their daughter, attorney Abbe Wolfsheimer Stutz was a former San Diego City Council member, law professor and deputy city attorney. (See the Abbe Wolfsheimer Stutz Collection).

Access Terms
This Collection is indexed under the following controlled access subject terms.

Topical Term:
Jews--California--San Diego

Custodial History:
In 2006 Abbe Wolfsheimer Stutz, the daughter of Irving Salomon, donated several photos of her father and others to the Jewish Historical Society of San Diego. In 2015 after her death, her husband, David Stutz donated the bulk of the materials regarding Col. Irving Salomon.

Accruals:
2018-023

Conditions Governing Use:
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This collection is open for research.

**Preferred Citation:**

**Related Materials:**
- Adat Ami Synagogue Collection
- Rabbi Morton J. Cohn Collection
- Lou Dunst Collection
- Mark Freeman Papers
- Deborah Horwitz and Paul Nierman Collection
- Rose Neumann Collection
- Elena Saad Collection
- Irving Salomon Collection
- Tifereth Israel Synagogue Collection
- Abbe Wolfsheimer-Stutz Collection

**Scope and Contents**
This collection comprises Salomon’s papers, documents and photographs, from his birth in 1897 to his death in 1979. Box one contains material covering his personal life, family genealogy, World War I, the PACT Farm for boys, his Royal Metal Manufacturing Company, his service during World War II, his books, correspondence and observations; travels, work for the United Nations and philanthropy. Box two contains diaries, passports, political and military ephemera and artifacts, magazine articles about him and books he wrote.

There is another Salomon collection at the Valley Center History Museum which includes material about Royal Metal Manufacturing, the Lilac Ranch and the family’s life there, including its famous visitors. It also contains material about Salomon’s time in the United Nations, family photos, newspaper clippings and correspondence from public figures.

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**Box 1, Folder 1**
I.S. Salomon - Irving’s grandfather: autobiography and family tree 1910-

**Box 1, Folder 2**
Abraham D. Salomon Irving’s father 1897-

**Box 1, Folder 3**
Irving Salomon Family History & autobiographical 1912-

**Box 1, Folder 4**
I. Salomon Magazine Agency 1912-1917

**Box 1, Folder 5**
Irving Salomon in World War I New London CT & Europe - Photos 1918

**Box 1, Folder 6**
World War I Correspondence 1918

**Box 1, Folder 7**
World War I Correspondence, Stories and Official Documents 1919-1920

**Box 1, Folder 8**
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**Box 1, Folder 9**
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**Box 1, Folder 10**
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**Box 1, Folder 11**
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**Box 1, Folder 12**
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**Box 1, Folder 13**
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**Box 1, Folder 14**
Vacation Cruises Itineraries & Photos 1928-1936

**Box 1, Folder 15**
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**Box 1, Folder 17**
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**Box 1, Folder 18**
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**Box 1, Folder 19**
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**Box 1, Folder 20**
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**Box 1, Folder 21**
Pact Farm Records - Bernard Barish 1937-1940

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