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Margaret Kimmel travel diary6973234

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Description is written in: English.

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Rare Book and Manuscript Library

Butler Library, 6th Floor
Columbia University, Mail Code 1127
535 W. 114th St.
New York, NY 10027
Business Number: (212) 854-5153
Fax Number: (212) 854-1365
rbml@libraries.cul.columbia.edu
URL: <http://www.columbia.edu/cu/lweb/indiv/rbml/index.html>

Table of Contents

Summary Information	3
Biographical Note	3
Summary	4
Administrative Information	4
Controlled Access Headings	5
Collection Inventory	5
Margaret Kimmel travel diary	5

Summary Information

Repository:	Rare Book and Manuscript Library
Creator:	Kimmel, Margaret, 1881-1973
Title:	Margaret Kimmel travel diary
ID:	6973234
ID:	UA#0260
Date:	1939
Physical Description:	1 bound volume
Language of the Material:	English .

Preferred Citation

Identification of specific item; Date (if known); Margaret Kimmel travel diary. University Archives, Rare Book & Manuscript Library, Columbia University Libraries.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Biographical Note

Born in Huntington, Indiana, in 1881, Margaret Kimmel received an AM in 1918 from Columbia University and she worked at the Columbia University Libraries from 1924 to 1948, both in the Political Science and in the Philosophy Library. She was an active member of the Friends of Columbia Libraries and of the Women's Faculty Club. Starting in 1930, Kimmel would travel to Europe at the end of every summer. In August 1939, Kimmel boarded the SS Bremen on what would be the ship's last departure with passengers from New York. From Bremen, this experienced traveler took a train to Bologna to start her holiday trip but quickly noted that there were no tourists in Italy and "none at all in Germany. All afraid of war." She visited Ravenna, Florence, Siena and Milan. With growing tensions and limited information, she was advised to go to Paris but she continued on her journey to Bellagio and Lake Como. Seeing increasing troop movements and refugees crowding trains, Kimmel and the other stranded tourists traveled through the south of France until she was able to board a ship back to the US. On board the SS Shawnee departing from Le Verdum, France, Kimmel arrived back in New York on October 5, 1939.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Summary

The Margaret Kimmel travel diary recounts her struggle, and that of other American tourists, to return to the US as Germany launched its attack on Poland on September 1, 1939. Written mostly in pencil, the leather-bound, pocket-sized diary includes entries related to her everyday affairs (sights, meals, weather), the growing signs of war, and the complicated logistics for the return to New York. It includes an address book in the back with the names of Kimmel's new acquaintances and, for many, how much she had borrowed and had to repay upon her return.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Administrative Information

Publication Statement

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Restrictions on Access

This collection is located off-site. You will need to request this material at least three business days in advance to use the collection in the Rare Book and Manuscript Library reading room.

Restrictions on Access

There are no restrictions on this collection.

Immediate Source of Acquisition

1998.003: Source of acquisition--Marion Jemmot. Method of acquisition--Gift; Date of acquisition--1998.

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[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Controlled Access Headings

- Diaries

Collection Inventory

Margaret Kimmel travel diary, 1939

Title/Description	Instances
Margaret Kimmel travel diary, 1939	box 1

Scope and Contents

The Margaret Kimmel travel diary recounts her struggle, and that of other American tourists, to return to the US as Germany launched its attack on Poland on September 1, 1939. Written mostly in pencil, the leather-bound, pocket-sized diary includes entries related to her everyday affairs (sights, meals, weather), the growing signs of war, and the complicated logistics for the return to New York. It includes an address book in the back with the names of Kimmel's new acquaintances and, for many, how much she had borrowed and had to repay upon her return.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)