

**JOSIE THOMPSON PAPERS**

Mss. 5046

Inventory

Compiled by  
Matthew Jordan

Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections  
Special Collections, Hill Memorial Library  
Louisiana State University Libraries  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana State University

2021

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## SUMMARY

<b>Size</b>	1.25 linear feet
<b>Geographic Locations</b>	Louisiana, West Germany
<b>Inclusive Dates</b>	1944-1995
<b>Bulk Dates</b>	1946-1949
<b>Languages</b>	English, German
<b>Summary</b>	Papers of Josie Thompson, Louisiana State University alumna and press correspondent for United Press International, who covered the Nuremberg Military Tribunals (1946-1949). Collection primarily consists of her typed reports of the trials and other events in post-WWII Germany. Also included are photographs, legal briefs, and personal items.
<b>Access Restrictions</b>	No restrictions on access.
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<b>Related Collections</b>	Margaret Dixon Papers, Mss. 2545 Margaret Dixon Scrapbook, Mss. 3003
<b>Citation</b>	Josie Thompson Papers, Mss. 5046, Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections, LSU Libraries Special Collections, Baton Rouge, La.
<b>Stack Location(s)</b>	X:14

**BIOGRAPHICAL/HISTORICAL NOTE**

Josie Thompson was born on October 6, 1916, in Rohwer, Arkansas, to Trudeau Thompson and Josie Falconer Pettit Thompson. Josie's family moved to Baton Rouge where she attended Louisiana State University (LSU), receiving a B.A. in journalism in 1937. Her older half-sister, Margaret Dixon (who later became another Louisiana journalist), assisted Josie in her early career development.

Throughout her life, Thompson served as a reporter and correspondent for numerous news outlets. In November of 1946, while employed by United Press International, Thompson travelled to Nuremberg, West Germany, to cover the Nuremberg Military Tribunal, a series of twelve military tribunals held between December 1946 and April 1949, which prosecuted German industrialists, military officers, and government officials accused of war crimes and crimes against the peace.

In 1949 she returned to the United States and, in the following year, married Samuel Henry Binder (a captain in the U.S. Army) whom she had met in West Germany. She operated her own Washington news bureau from 1949 to 1952, but later moved to New Mexico sometime thereafter where she worked as a legislative correspondent. Thompson was inducted into the LSU Journalism Hall of Fame on April 2, 1986. She died at her home in Silver City, New Mexico, on October 16, 1998, at the age of 82 and was buried at Ft. Sam Houston National Cemetery, San Antonio, Texas.

**SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE**

The Josie Thompson Papers consist primarily of Thompson's reports on the Nuremberg Military Tribunals and other news stories that she covered while in West Germany from 1946 to 1949. Also included are photographs of the defendants in the Doctor's Trial, copies of official trial documents, writings from other journalists, and related ephemera. Personal items include newspaper clippings, letters related to her 1986 induction into the LSU School of Journalism Hall of Fame, and photos of Thompson.

**LIST OF SERIES**

**Series I. Reports of the Nuremberg Military Tribunals, 1946-1949**

**Series II. Personal Photographs and Documents, 1939-1995**

## INDEX TERMS

Materials relating to these people, places, and things can be found in the series indicated, as represented by their numbers.

Term	Series
Altstötter, Josef, 1892-	I
Baton Rouge (La.)--Newspapers.	II
Beals, Walter B.	I
Brack, Viktor, 1904-1948.	I
Brandt, Karl, 1904-1948.	I
Brandt, Rudolf, 1909-1948.	I
Clay, Lucius D. (Lucius DuBignon), 1897-1978.	I
Concentration camps--Germany.	I
Concentration camps--Poland.	I
Crawford, Johnson T., 1889-1955.	I
Denazification.	I
Einsatzgruppen Trial, Nuremberg, Germany, 1947-1948.	I
Flick Trial, Nuremberg, Germany, 1947-1949.	I
Flick, Friedrich, 1883-1972.	I
Gebhardt, Karl, 1897-1948.	I
Germany (Territory under Allied occupation, 1945-1955 : U.S. Zone). Office of Military Government.	I
Hanging--Germany (West)	I
Hebert, Paul M. (Paul Macarius), 1907-1977.	I
High Command Trial, Nuremberg, Germany, 1948-1949.	I
Himmler, Heinrich, 1900-1945.	I
Hitler, Adolf, 1889-1945.	I
Holocaust, Jewish (1939-1945)	I
Hostage Trial, Nuremberg, Germany, 1947-1949.	I
Hoven, Waldemar, 1903-1948.	I
I.G. Farben Trial, Nuremberg, Germany, 1947-1948.	I
Journalism--Germany (West)--Nuremburg.	I
Journalism--Louisiana.	II
Justice Trial, Nuremberg, Germany, 1947.	I
Justice, Administration of--Germany (West)	I
Knox, Betty, 1906-1963.	I
Krauch, Carl, 1887-1968.	I
Krupp Trial, Nuremberg, Germany, 1947-1948.	I
Krupp, Alfried, 1907-1967.	I
List, Wilhelm, 1880-1971.	I
Milch Trial, Nuremberg, Germany, 1946-1947.	I
Ministries Trial, Nuremberg, Germany, 1948-1949.	I
Morris, James, 1893-1980.	I
Mrugowsky, Joachim, 1905-1948.	I

<b>Term</b>	<b>Series</b>
Musmanno, Michael A. (Michael Angelo), 1897-1968.	I
Nationalsozialistische Deutsche Arbeiter-Partei.	I
Nuremberg Medical Trial, Nuremberg, Germany, 1946-1947.	I
Nuremberg War Crime Trials, Nuremberg, Germany, 1946-1949.	I
Papen, Franz von, 1879-1969.	I
Pohl, Oswald, 1892-1951.	I
Rendulić, Lothar.	I
RuSHA Trial, Nuremberg, Germany, 1947-1948.	I
Schmitz, Hermann.	I
Sears, Charles B. (Charles Brown), 1870-1950.	I
Sebring, Harold L. (Harold Leon), 1898-1968.	I
Shake, Curtis G. (Curtis Grover), 1887-1978.	I
Sievers, Wolfram, 1905-1948.	I
Steinbrinck, Otto, 1888-1949.	I
Taylor, Telford.	I
Thompson, Josie, 1916-1998.	I
Trials (Crimes against humanity)--Germany (West)--Nuremburg.	I
Trials (Genocide)--Germany (West)--Nuremburg.	I
United States. Office of Chief of Counsel for the Prosecution of Axis Criminality.	I
War crime trials--Germany (West)--Nuremburg.	I
War Criminal Prison No. 1 (Landsberg am Lech, Germany)	I
Weizsäcker, Ernst, Freiherr von, 1882-1951.	I
Women journalists--United States.	I, II
World War, 1939-1945--Atrocities.	I

CONTAINER LIST

<u>Stack</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Contents (with dates)</u>
				<b>Series I. Reports of the Nuremberg Military Tribunals, 1946-1949</b>
X:14		1	1A	Coverage of the Doctors' Trial, 11 December 1946-19 February 1947
			1B	Coverage of the Doctors' Trial, 21 February 1947-5 September 1947, 2 June 1948
			2	Coverage of the Judges' Trial, 4 January 1947-20 August 1947
			3	Coverage of the Pohl Trial, 13 January 1947-27 July 1948
			4	Coverage of the Flick Trial, 8 February 1947-22 December 1947
			5A	Coverage of the I. B. Farben Trial, 11 March 1947-21 October 1947
			5B	Coverage of the I. B. Farben Trial, 27 October 1947-3 February 1948
			5C	Coverage of the I. B. Farben Trial, 13 February 1948-[30] July 1948
		2	1A	Coverage of the Hostages Trial, 10 May 1947-28 October 1947
			1B	Coverage of the Hostages Trial, 29 October 1947-25 February 1948
			2	Coverage of the Einsatzgruppen Trial, 2 July 1947-15 April 1948
			3A	Coverage of the Krupp Trial, 12 August 1947-6 January 1948
			3B	Coverage of the Krupp Trial, 16 January 1948-28 May 1948
			3C	Coverage of the Krupp Trial, 2 June 1948-26 August 1948
			4	Coverage of the Ministries Trial, [January] 1948-14 April 1949
			5	Coverage of the High Command Trial, 30 December 1947-29 October 1948
		3	1A	Miscellaneous Stories, 27 January 1947-10 July 1947
			1B	Miscellaneous Stories, 18 July 1947-28 May 1948
			1C	Miscellaneous Stories, 19 June 1948-25 April 1949
			1D	Miscellaneous Stories, circa 1946-1949
				<b>Series II. Personal Photographs and Documents, 1939-1995</b>
			2	Personal Correspondence and Letters of Recommendation
			3	Printed Memorabilia
			4	Copies of Newspaper Articles, Photos of Josie Thompson, and Physical Items



**APPENDIX: Photograph and Physical Item Locations and Descriptions**

<b><u>Box</u></b>	<b><u>Folder</u></b>	<b><u>Contents (with dates)</u></b>
1	1B	Booking photograph of Viktor Brack [1946]
1	1B	Booking photograph of Karl Brandt [1946]
1	1B	Booking photograph of Fritz Fischer [1946]
1	1B	Booking photograph of Karl Gebhardt [1946]
1	1B	Booking photograph of Siegfried Handloser [1946]
1	1B	Booking photograph of Helmut Poppendick [1946]
1	1B	Booking photograph of Wolfram Sievers [1946]
1	1B	Booking photograph of Gerhard Rose [1946]
1	1B	Booking photograph of Siegfried Ruff [1946]
1	1B	Booking photograph of Georg August Wertz [1946]
1	1B	Photograph titled: "Sentencing of Karl Brandt to death by hanging" (19 August 1947)
3	4	Photograph of Josie Thompson titled: "Jo covering Army maneuvers in Louisiana about 1939" 1 of 2
3	4	Photograph of Josie Thompson titled: "Jo covering Army maneuvers in Louisiana about 1939" 2 of 2
3	4	Photograph of Josie Thompson titled: "Jo in Germany about 1946"
3	4	Photograph of Josie Thompson at a social function with a handwritten note and unknown signature. Dated 1 December 1949.
3	4	Photograph of Josie Thompson with unknown fighter pilot and plane.
3	4	Leather bookmark signed "To Jo Thompson..."
3	4	Military style identification tag (dog tag) for "Binder, Josie T."