

## SOUND RECORDINGS

Charles Ulrich WASSERMANN, 1924-1979, writer and freelance reporter.

140 magnetic tapes            89 documents            Approx. 70 h            1950s-1972

Charles Wassermann pursued his journalistic career in two languages: English and German. The sound recordings in this collection consist mostly of the material (news reports, documentaries and interviews) assembled in the course of his career as reporter for the CBC and other broadcasting corporations in Germany and Switzerland.

He has worked for the CBC since the early 1950s, first as a writer-producer, then as a correspondent in Central and Eastern Europe. Most of his early reports relate to the folk music and agriculture of the countries in this region. In the 1960s he covered the political, social and economic situation of Eastern Europe, particularly the evolution of Czechoslovakia before and after the Russian invasion. He also interviewed French celebrities such as Maurice Chevalier, Simone Signoret and Georges Simenon. In 1971 and 1972, he conducted extensive interviews with heads of states whose countries were in the forefront of world affairs: Golda Meir of Israel, Yayah Khan and Ali Bhutto of Pakistan and Indira Gandhi of India.

An important part of his work on the Communist countries of Eastern Europe was devoted to presenting the daily life of their citizens in the broader context of internal and external politics. Of special interest are his interviews with artists, workers and members of the intelligentsia of Czechoslovakia, Hungary and East Germany.

## RESTRICTIONS:

OTHER MATERIAL: The Wassermann Papers are kept in the Manuscripts Division; some film material is kept in the Film Archives. The scripts of certain programs or interviews are appended, along with short biographical sketches in English and German.

Jacques Gagné  
1980.07.29

- [1920s-1930s] Talk by Jacob Wassermann, writer.  
Thomas Masaryk, Czechoslovak statesman.  
T 1980-50/53
- [1950s] Documentary report VISIT TO SWITZERLAND  
Reporter: Charles WASSERMANN.  
Recorded for CBC. T 1980-50/123-126
- [1950s] Documentary report on mountain farming in  
Switzerland.  
Reporter: Charles Wassermann.  
Recorded for CBC. T 1980-50/127
- [1950s] Documentary report on hunting and fishing in  
Austria.  
Reporter: Charles WASSERMANN  
Recorded for CBC. T 1980-50/130
- [195?] Reportage de Jacqueline DESJARDINS-WASSERMANN  
sur le pic de Valuga en Autriche et son téléphérique.  
T 1980-50/130
- [1950s] Report by Charles WASSERMANN on agriculture  
in Alto Adige, Italy.  
Recorded for CBC. T 1980-50/129
- [1950s] Reports by Charles WASSERMANN for program FARM FAIR  
-Slovak folk instrument: Fujara 5 mn 40 s  
-Economic situation of Czech agriculture 4 mn 47 s  
-Swiss mountain farming 5 mn 20 s  
Recorded for BBC. T 1980-50/133
- [1950s] Report by Charles WASSERMANN on mountain farming in Switzerland  
T 1980-50/131-132
- [1950s] Report by Charles WASSERMANN on fresh water fishing  
in Central Europe.  
Recorded for CBC. T 1980-50/163

[1950s]

Report by Charles WASSERMANN on Austrian  
and German folk music (part 1)

Recorded for CBC. 28 mn 50 s T 1980-50/164

[1950s]

Report by Charles WASSERMANN (in German) on  
agriculture in Poland.

T 1980-50/110-111

[1950s]

Short stories by Charles WASSERMANN (in German)

"Der Mann der wenig ist" (Hungary ) and 14 mn 26 s  
"Plauderei im Hotelzimmer" (Poland). 14 mn 20 s

Recorded for Bayerische Rundfunk. T 1980-50/79

[1950s]

Reports for radio program TRANS-CANADA MATINEE

-Interview of Pavla [DLOHA?] University English  
teacher, by Charles WASSERMANN, in Prague

Her career and daily life in Czechoslovakia. 8 mn 07 s

-Interview of Dagmar FIRDOVA, State publishing  
house executive, by C. WASSERMANN, in Prague

Publishing in Czechoslovakia. 8 mn 03 s

-Interview of Johanna STERNBERG, impresario,  
by C. WASSERMANN, in Vienna.

Her career and the music world in Vienna. 7 mn 15 s

-Comments by Jacqueline DESJARDINS-WASSERMANN on  
the situation of women in Czechoslovakia.

Recorded for CBC. T 1980-50/76

[1950s]

Reports for radio program TRANS CANADA MATINEE

Interviews by Charles WASSERMANN

-Margaret WAGNER, Bayerische Rundfunk executive, in Munich.

Her work as a broadcaster, her travels abroad. 8 mn 10 s

-Lise KLATT, social worker.

Social work in Germany. 8 mn 10 s

-Ruth BIELING, Information Service Official for Bavarian  
Farmers Association.

Farm women; farming; reconstruction of West Germany;  
German lifestyle & work ethic. 8 mn 07 s

-Margarita KENNY, opera singer, in Milan.

Her career. 8 mn 05 s .

Recorded for CBC. T 1980-50/75

- [1950s] Report FOOTLOOSE IN SAZBURG by Charles WASSERMANN  
History of Salzburg and music festival  
Recorded for CBC. 28 mn 20 s . T 1980-50/63
- [1950s] Radio program AUSTRIAN CROSS-SECTION  
Comments and songs, with Charles WASSERMANN  
Recorded for CBC. T 1980-50/66-68
- [1950s] Short stories on a French Canadian character  
and "Besuch in Kladno" (Czechoslovakia (in German)  
by Charles WASSERMANN.  
Recorded for Bayerischer Rundfunk. T 1980-50/69.
- [1950s] Radio program MUSIC FROM THE SATELLITES for  
Assignment series with Charles WASSERMANN.  
Hungary- 9 mn  
Poland- 9 mn  
Yugoslavia- 8 mn 57 s  
Czechoslovakia- 9 mn  
Recorded for CBC. T 1980-50/48.
- [1950s] Talk "Kanada als neue Heimat" by Charles WASSERMANN  
in German.  
Immigration to Canada.  
T 1980-50/40. 14 mn 41 s
- [1950s-1960s] Interview of Mrs Leopold INFELD, wife of a physicist,  
by Charles WASSERMANN.  
Emigration from Canada to Poland, insinuations against  
her husband in Canadian press at the time of the move;  
her husband's work in Poland.  
T 1980-50/135.
- [1950s-1960s] Talk by Axel [MELHART ?], German nationalist.  
Defense of German nationalism; interpretation  
of World War II by a nationalist.  
T 1980-50/160.
- [1950s-1960s] Report on the small Austrian town of Altaussee where  
Julius Raab, Austrian Chancellor, retires from public  
life.  
On the occasion of the Chancellor's visit to North  
America.  
Recorded for CBC. T 1980-50/136.
- 1952 Report on Switzerland by Charles WASSERMANN.  
Recorded for CBC. T 1980-50/119-121.

- 1953 Radio program TRADITIONAL MOUNTAIN MUSIC IN EUROPE .  
Narrated and produced by Charles WASSERMANN for CBC.  
T 1980-50/74
- 9 August 1953 Report on agricultural conditions in Austria by Charles WASSERMANN.  
Produced for CBC. 29 mn 02 s . T 1980-50/141
- August 1953 Radio program AUSTRIAN AND SOUTH GERMAN FOLK MUSIC REVIVAL.  
Narrated and produced by Charles WASSERMANN for CBC.  
T 1980-50/73.
- 20 December 1953 Radio program FIDDLE JOE'S YARN "The tree of dreams".  
Cast: G.R. TREMBLAY, Georges TOUPIN & others.  
Writer: Charles WASSERMANN  
CBC. T 1980-50/77
- June 1954 Report on agriculture in Bavaria by Charles WASSERMANN.  
Produced for CBC. T 1980-50/122
- 15 July 1954 Radio program FOOTLOOSE "Visit to Liechtenstein" with Charles WASSERMANN.  
History and economy of Liechtenstein.  
Produced for CBC. 29 mn 14 s . T 1980-50/64 & 70 (in part)
- 6 September 1954 Report on Alpine cattle grazing by Charles WASSERMANN.  
Produced for CBC. 14 mn 06 s . T 1980-50/78.
- [1955-1960] Report on Swiss Atomic Energy program by Charles WASSERMANN.  
Produced for CBC. T 1980-50/142.
- 7 March 1955 Report on holiday-making in Flims, Switzerland, by Charles WASSERMANN (in German).  
29 mn 50 s . T 1980-50/109.
- 1956 Report on folk music in Hungary by Charles WASSERMANN.  
T 1980-50/144.

[1956]

Interview of Jack PICKERSGILL, Minister of Immigration, by Charles WASSERMANN.

Immigration of Hungarian refugees to Canada.

T 1980-50/51.

[1956]

Gauserie de Jack PICKERSGILL, ministre de l'immigration.

La situation des réfugiés hongrois en Autriche; leur immigration au Canada.

T 1980-50/51

1956

Report on Austrian-Hungarian relations, an Exhibition on Mozart in Budapest, the modification of the border between the two countries, by Charles WASSERMANN (in German)

8 mn 24 s . T 1980-50/39.

October 1956

Report by Charles WASSERMANN at the Austrian-Hungarian border.

Austrian help to Hungarian rebels.

T 1980-50/72.

1956

Report by Charles WASSERMANN in German.

Hungarian folk music.

Prepared for Bayerischer Rundfunk. T 1980-50/71.

May 1957

Sound effects and actualities in Poland.

T 1980-50/113.

1959

Report on the Swiss town Flims by Charles WASSERMANN.

Also earlier version- 8 March 1955 T 1980-50/80

Produced for CBC. T 1980-50/65.

[1960s]

Interview of Kay PANKEY, head of Seven Seas Publishers in East Berlin by Charles WASSERMANN.

English language publishing in East Germany.

T 1980-50/139.

[1960s]

Interview of ? LUFT by Charles WASSERMANN in Berlin.

East German communism and protest writers.

T 1980-50/138

[1960s]

Radio program ACTION SET "Young Czechoslovakia Sings"

Music and interviews of three Czechoslovak pop singers by Charles WASSERMANN in Prague.

Produced for CBC. T 1980-50/134,100. Script appended.

[1960s]

Radio program DAS OFFENE FENSTER "Die zwei Pferde" short story by Charles WASSERMANN in German.

15 mn 59 s . T 1980-50/90

24 Feb. 1961

Interview of Martha WASSERMANN,psychanalyst, by Fritz ZEILLINGER at Ottawa,in German.

Canadian identity; multiculturalism;her youth in Austria.

Radio-Canada International. T 1980-50/37.

1964

Interviews in English and German by Charles WASSERMANN.

Bulgaria: its music.economy and religion.

26 mn 55 s . T 1980-50/115

March 1964

Interview of ? BESLER, President of Landwirtschaftliche Produktions Genossenschaft,by Charles WASSERMANN in East-Berlin (in German).

Agricultural production in East Germany.

T 1980-50/55.

Sept. 1964

Various recordings made in Bulgaria.  
See description appended.

T 1980-50/161.

Sept. 1964

Interviews with Bulgarians by Charles WASSERMANN.  
in English and German.

1. Patriarch Kyrill            3. Press conference Bascheff-  
2. Peter Steffanof            Kustopolos  
4. Peter WUTOFF,Minister of Culture  
Religion and culture in Bulgaria

T 1980-50/167-168

December 1964

Recordings made during a trip to Czechoslovakia by Charles WASSERMANN.

1. Jazz orchestra
2. 1 May 1964 Voice of Antonin Novotny, President of Czechoslovakia.
3. Part of interview with Eduard GOLDSTUCKER, Professor of Literature in German

T 1980-50/118 See text appended

1. Part of an interview with Bedrich LEVCIK, Colleague of Otto Schick, Director of the Institute of Economics, Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences.
2. Part of an interview with Otto KLICKA, Acting Minister of Foreign Affairs. See also T 1980-50/162  
Text appended. In German.
3. Part of interview with Josef PLOJHAR, Minister of Health, former Catholic.
4. Interview with H. Kratochvil .

T 1980-50/157.

[1965-1966]

Part of interview of Jacques Van HELMONT, member of the Action Committee for a United States of Europe, by Charles WASSERMANN.

Role of the committee; expansion of the European Common Market; nationalism: French nationalism; his association with Jean Monnet.

T 1980-50/145-146.

Jan. 1965

Report WANDEL IN JUGOSLAVIEN "Der Süden, Treffpunkt zweier Welten" by Charles WASSERMANN in German.

T 1980-50/143. 24 mn 55 s

Summer 1965

Radio program A LOOK AT LIFE with Martha WASSERMANN, psychoanalyst.

Rearing of children in contemporary society; working women and family life; fashion in youth; men and women's roles; youth behaviour; parents-children rapports; teen-age marriage; alcoholism and drinking habits; alcoholism and drug addiction; suicide; healing powers of nature; heterosexuality and homosexuality.

Broadcast by CFRA, Ottawa. T 1980-50/41.

August 1965

Radio program on Rumanian folklore.

Radio Bucarest. T 1980-50/91-95.



- 1966 Radio program DAS OFFENE FENSTER with short story "Ein Felsklotz in der Adria" by Charles WASSERMANN.  
Produced fo Bayerische Rundfunk. T 1980-50/34.  
14 mn 08 s .
- 1966 Interview of Maurice CHEVALIER, comedian, by Charles WASSERMANN in Paris.  
His career in France and abroad; his life.  
T 1980-50/46-47.
- May 1966 Interview of Paul DESSAU, musician, by Charles WASSERMANN, in East Berlin.  
His post-war return to Germany; socialism; his collaboration with Berthold Brecht and musicians from West Germany.  
T 1980-50/116.
- May 1966 Interview of Eduard GOLDSTUECKER, professor of German literature at Charles University, by Charles WASSERMANN in Prague.  
The international conference on Franz Kafka; his life: trial and imprisonment 1951-1955; Slanski trial; history of Czechoslovakia in 20th century; relations between Czechoslovakia and USSR; his emigration to England during the war; communism; his adolescence; conflicts between political rivals amongst Czech emigrants; Russian-German pact; return to Czechoslovakia; diplomatic career ; Stalinist purge in 1951; jail term; his belief in marxism; evolution of communism and capitalism; influences between East and West in the intellectual world; travels abroad; religion; antisemitism; death of his family during the war; university teaching; contemporary youth movements.  
T 1980-50 82-89. Excerpts on T 1980-50/81.
- May 1966 Interview in German of Eduard GOLDSTUECKER, professor of German literature at Charles University, by Charles WASSERMANN.  
Protest literature in Czechoslovakia; nature of Czechoslovak literature and literary life.  
T 1980-50/147,166.
- 12 May 1966 Comments in German by Werner GANSAUGE, Officer of the Volksarmee, German Democratic Republic.  
Tour of the Bandenburg Gate and history of the Berlin Wall.  
Interview in English of an unidentified German by Charles WASSERMANN.  
The Bandenburg Gate as a tourist attraction; evasions from East Germany.  
T 1980-50/99.

May 1966

Interview of Pavel EISLER, economist, by Charles WASSERMANN in Prague.

His education and background; personal inclinations towards socialism; political and social climate in 1930s; political activism; study of economics in England, 1938; work as journalist; stay in prison, 1940-1941; work with the United Nations Organization as press officer and Economic Affairs Officer; work at the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe with Gunnar Myrdahl, Swedish economist; improvement of East-West economic relations; return to Czechoslovakia, 1948; Cold War; stalinisation of communist regimes; trial of Rudolf Slanski, 1951-1954; his experience as a factory worker; as translator; Prague School of Economics 1956; economic theories on socialism and capitalism: market economy, decentralization; economic experiments in Czechoslovakia and resistance by the Establishment; entrepreneurship in socialist countries; evaluation of his role and future plans.

T 1980-50/1-8. Recorded for CBC.

June 1966

Radio program VENTURE "Crisis in NATO" with Charles WASSERMANN, in Paris.

Military policy of France; its possible withdrawal from NATO; Canada and NATO.

T 1980-50/107-108.

June 1966

Interview of Georges SIMENON, novelist, by Charles WASSERMANN, in Lausanne.

His works: writing techniques and style; His life, travels and hobbies.

T 1980-50/106, 24-27. Recorded for CBC.

July 1966

Interview of Simone SIGNORET, actress, by Charles WASSERMANN, in Paris.

Her career in cinema; period of Occupation of France by Nazis; political situation in France; U.S. & U.S.S.R.; life in Paris during the war; acting; religion and agnosticism; Yves Montand.

T 1980-50/9-14. Dupl. T 1980-50/15-16. Recorded for CBC.

7 August 1966

Report on farming in Czechoslovakia by Charles WASSERMANN.

Recorded for CBC. See script appended. T 1980-50/128.

15 August 1966

Report on agriculture in Czechoslovakia by Charles WASSERMANN.

T 1980-50/112.

11 October 1966

Proceedings of a religious service in Alexander Nevski Cathedral in Sofia, Bulgaria. Comments by Charles Wassermann

T 1980-50/52.

1967

Interview of Jean NOVAKOVA, broadcaster, by Charles WASSERMANN in Prague.

Czech shortwave radio service.

T 1980-50/117.

[1967]

Interview of Oscar BRONNER, Austrian journalist, by Charles WASSERMANN in Vienna.

Naziism and antisemitism in Austria; amnesty law for ex-Nazi party members; antisemitism in Austrian political circles.

T 1980-50/44-45. See following recording for other extracts.

[1967]

Documentary GERMAN RADICALISM AND EXTREME NATIONALISM by Charles WASSERMANN

Interviews of Arthur SCHMIDT, National Demokratische Partei, and Andreas RAU, Republican Student Organization of Germany, Hubert WAGNER, student, Eberhard FELS, University professor, Kristine Föppel, professor, and Oscar BRONNER, Austrian journalist.

Conservatism and nationalism in Germany; reunification of Germany; pangermanism; political strength of nationalist movements.

T 1980-50/49-50. 59 mn 26 s .

[1967-1968]

Interview of Willy BRANDT, leader of Sozial Demokratische Partei, by Charles WASSERMANN.

West Germany's foreign policy <sup>and</sup> relations with Eastern Europe; rise of right-wing groups in Germany; future of NATO and WARSAW pact; withdrawal of France from NATO; Canada's role in Europe; Vietnam; renunciation of nuclear arms by Germany; disarmament policies and talks; situation in Berlin; prospects of peace in Europe.

T 1980-50/42-43.

1968

Report on political situation in Czechoslovakia by Charles WASSERMANN.

Self-immolation of Jan Pallach, ~~return~~ of political figures...

T 1980-50/102-103.

January-March 1968

Reports and interviews on the Pestalozzi Children's Village in Switzerland.

Life and education of orphans from several countries, with special emphasis on Tibetan children.

Radio program TRANS CANADA MATINEE. T 1980-50/38  
29 mn 30 s . See script appended.

On Tibetan children T 1980-50/56-58, 148

Report in German T 1980-50/165.

23 August 1968

Interview of HAJEK, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Czechoslovakia, by Charles WASSERMANN and other journalists in German and English at Vienna Airport.

His return to Czechoslovakia and rumours of a political crisis.

T 1980-50/150.

[Spring 1968]

Report by Charles WASSERMANN on the political climate in Prague (in German)

Interviews

T 1980-50/105 , 158

18 October 1968

Comments by Charles WASSERMANN on an interview with Canadian immigration officials on the case of Dr Joseph Court and his wife.

For program PUBLIC EYE. T 1980-50/62.

1969

Report in German by Charles WASSERMANN on the consequences of the Russian invasion of Czechoslovakia.

T 1980-50/137.

[1970s]

Radio program BEGEGNUNGEN AN KRISEENHERDEN "Der Alptraum Nordirland" with Charles WASSERMANN.

Interviews of Jack LYNCH, President of Ireland, Brian Faulkner, Unionist Party and Edward HEATH, Prime Minister of England., in English with German translation.

Civil war in Northern Ireland.

T 1980-50/59-61.

1971-1972

Reports by Charles WASSERMANN in German.

Rumania; border between Poland and East Germany; Czechoslovakia.

T 1980-50/54.

- August 1971                      Speech by Yahya KHAN, President of Pakistan, before a group of foreign journalists.
- Political and economic situation in East Pakistan; flight of refugees to India; reluctance of refugees to return to Pakistan; relations between India and Pakistan; relations between Pakistan and China; explanation of his government's bad image in the international press, work at refugee camps.
- T 1980-50/17-19,104.
- Report by Charles WASSERMANN in German T 1980-50/101.
- 23 December 1971                Interview of Indira GANDHI, Prime Minister of India, by Charles WASSERMANN
- War between India and Pakistan; peace negotiations between Pakistan and India; cases of genocide in Bangla Desh; presence of Indian troops in Bangla Desh; Relations between India and U.S., U.S.S.R.; non-alignment policy; United Nations; return of refugees to Bangla Desh; separatism and unity in Bangla Desh; her involvement in politics; Nehru; private life; reading; emancipation of women in India; traditions of India.
- T 1980-50/31-33.
- December 1971                    Report by Charles WASSERMANN in German about his interview with Indira Gandhi. For Hessischer Rundfunk.
- T 1980-50/35-36.
- 1972                                Radio program BEGEGNUNGEN AN KRISENHERDEN "Pakistan im Umbruch" with Charles WASSERMANN
- Civil war in Pakistan and war between Pakistan and India.
- T 1980-50/151-152.    40 mn 28 s .
- 1972                                Radio program BEGEGNUNGEN AN KRISENHERDEN "Indira Gandhi, die mächtigste Frau der Welt" with Charles WASSERMANN.
- T 1980-50/155-156.    41 mn 25 s
- January 1972                    Interview of Ali BHUTTO, President of Pakistan, by Charles WASSERMANN.
- Future of Pakistan; Pakistan's foreign policy; relations with Bangla Desh, with Moslem countries; ~~NEGOTIATIONS~~ and border disputes between Pakistan and India; Ayah Khan; socialism; social inequalities; his personal wealth; Napoleon; help from Canada; need for economic aid to Bangla Desh.
- T 1980-50/20-22.
- 28 Jan. 1972                    Report in German by Charles WASSERMANN on his interview with Ali BHUTTO, President of Pakistan.
- For Südwestfunk. T 1980-50/23. T 1980-50/23,159

16 February 1972

Interview of Kurt WALDHEIM, Secretary General of the United Nations, by Charles WASSERMANN.

Concept of preventive diplomacy; role and financial situation of U.N.; Vietnam War; meeting of U.N. Security Council in Ethiopia; Africa; situation in Middle East, Cyprus, Kashmir, Bangla Desh; membership of two German states in U.N. ? ; Ireland and possible U.N. intervention; South Africa; prospect of confrontation between rich and poor countries.

T 1980-50/96-98

27 April 1972

Part of an interview of Golda MEIR, Prime Minister of Israel, by Charles WASSERMANN

Israel-Arab relations; peace negotiations; surrendering the Gaza Strip; need for direct talks; relations between Israel and U.S.; resuming of diplomatic relations with U.S.S.R.; secure borders problem; Hussein Plan; living conditions in Israel; her greatest achievements; immigration of Soviet Jews to Israel.

Recorded for CBC. T 1980-50/28-30, 149

April-May 1972

Radio program BEGEGNUNGEN AN KRISENHERDEN "Die Alte Dame auf dem Pulverfass" with Charles WASSERMANN.

Middle East situation and extracts of an interview with Golda MEIR, Prime Minister of Israel.

T 1980-50/153-154. 41 mn 04 s .

18 May 1972

Report in German by Charles WASSERMANN about an interview with Golda MEIR .

Middle East situation and Israel.

Recorded for Hessischer Rundfunk. 29 mn

T 1980-50/140.