

Finding Aid for DIE TOTE VON BEVERLY HILLS Papers

Collection Processed by:

William Coates (June 28, 2017)

Finding Aid Written by:

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Revised, Joel Parham (January 12, 2026)

OVERVIEW OF THE COLLECTION

Origination/Creator: Hansjürgen Pohland (Unverified)
Title of Collection: DIE TOTE VON BEVERLY HILLS Papers
Date of Collection: 1963
Physical Description: 1 box; 0.21 linear feet
Identification: Special Collection #7
Repository: American Film Institute
AFI Archives
2021 N. Western Ave
Los Angeles, CA

RIGHTS AND RESTRICTIONS

Access Restrictions: Collection is open for research. This collection is on loan to the American Film Institute from the Directors Guild of America.
Copyright: The copyright interests in this collection remain with the creator. For more information, contact the AFI Archives.
Acquisition Method: Loaned by the Directors Guild of America (unknown date).

BIOGRAPHICAL/HISTORY NOTE

Swiss German playwright and author Curt Goetz moved to Hollywood in 1939 where he worked as a screenwriter for MGM. He returned to his native Switzerland in 1945, and in 1951 Goetz wrote *Die Tote von Beverly Hills* as a satire on the American way of life in Hollywood. Goetz died in 1960.

In 1963, the West German company Modern Art Film GMBH decided to adapt Goetz's novel. Hansjürgen Pohland was slated as producer and, along with Peter Laregh, wrote the screenplay. Pohland hired Michael Pfléghar, a veteran television director, to direct the film. Since the film took place in Beverly Hills, Pohland sent his crew to film in Los Angeles for 17 days. Filming appears to have begun in September of 1963. The film premiered in Munich on April 9, 1964. It was entered into the Cannes International Film Festival that same year.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The DIE TOTE VON BEVERLY HILLS Papers are all from 1963. The collection contains preproduction material (e.g., script, schedule, and budget). Despite being a German film, the contents of this collection are in English.

The collection is composed of one series: production. It is arranged by subject and organized chronologically therein.

CONTAINER LIST

Series 1: Production

Box 1

- f. 1 Script, [annotated, 150 p.], Pohland, Hansjürgen, and Peter Laregh, 1963
- f. 2 Schedule, re: crew, budget, IATSE, 1963
- f. 3 Budget, re: above the line, below the line, cost report, 1963