

Collection #
DVD 0583-0636

HOLOCAUST SURVIVORS AND LIBERATORS ORAL HISTORY INTERVIEWS, MAY-JULY, 1983

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Processed by

Paul Brockman
December, 2014

Manuscript and Visual Collections Department
William Henry Smith Memorial Library
Indiana Historical Society
450 West Ohio Street
Indianapolis, IN 46202-3269

www.indianahistory.org

COLLECTION INFORMATION

**VOLUME OF
COLLECTION:** 54 DVDs

**COLLECTION
DATES:** May–July, 1983

PROVENANCE: Indiana Jewish Historical Society, Fort Wayne, Indiana,
October, 2013

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NUMBER:** 2013.0350

NOTES: This forms part of the Indiana Jewish Historical Society
Collection.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES

Interviewees in the collection are:

Robert Bridwell (liberator)--member of 94th Division, 301st Infantry, rifle scout. Liberated three labor camps in Ruhr Pocket containing Polish, French and Italian prisoners.

Michael Blain (survivor)--Czechoslovakian Jew who moved from small town to Budapest at age fourteen in 1944. Relates Adolf Eichmann's arrival in Budapest, being a forced laborer digging trenches on the Eastern Front, and experiencing loss of family members who were sent to Auschwitz.

Michael Bornstein (survivor)--Born in 1940. Polish Jew who lived in Ghetto and sent to Auschwitz with grandmother and other family members.

Henry E. Buck (liberator)--Member of 482nd Medical Company. Served as a tech in medical unit that attended to prisoners in Buchenwald for a month.

Ray Clark (liberator)--Served in Third Army, 80th Division. Liberated camps in area around the Saar Basin. Also was first unit into Buchenwald.

Kate Csilag (survivor)--Hungarian Jew. Worked on family farm until German occupation. Sent to various ghettos and finally to Auschwitz.

Sydney Davidson (liberator)--Chief pharmacist with 116th Evac Hospital. Set up hospital at Dachau.

Elizabeth Duvall (liberator)--Nurse with 116th Evac Hospital at Dachau.

Harry Felsher (survivor)--Born in Krakow, Poland. Sent to Krakow Ghetto. Also in work camps in Germany and Poland. Eventually sent to Belsen Belsen.

Sally Felsher (survivor)--Polish Jew who lived in Ghetto and later worked in a concentration camp.

Chester Franklin (liberator)--Member of 14th Infantry, 213 Division, 3rd Army. Staff sergeant whose unit liberated four camps.

Don Franklin (liberator)--Member of 405th Infantry, 102 Division. Sergeant whose unit liberated camp near Gardlagen, Germany.

Elsa (Esther) Adler Friedman (survivor)--Rumanian (Transylvania) Jew. Family sent to ghetto when Germans arrived in 1944. Later went to Birkenau Concentration Camp.

Dr. Charles Gillespie (liberator)--Doctor (surgeon) with 116th Evac Hospital. Helped care for prisoners in Dachau.

Norris Harshey (liberator)--Mess Sergeant with 6th Armored Division. At liberation of Buchenwald.

Ernest Heppner (survivor)--From Breslau, Germany. Went to Shanghai, China to avoid Nazi persecution. Placed in Shanghai Ghetto by the Japanese.

Al Katz (survivor)--from Paderborn, Westphalia, Germany. Family taken to Latvia where he worked in a labor camp in a saw mill.

Dr. Werner Lowenstein (survivor)--born in western Germany and studied medicine, receiving medical degree in 1934 but not allowed to practice. Came to United States in 1937 followed by his family. Settled in Terre Haute, Indiana.

Joe Mills (liberator)--member of 292nd FAOB (field artillery observation battalion). Entered Dachau shortly after liberation.

Dr. Paul Miller (liberator)--9th Troop Carrier Command. Helped with care in Buchenwald.

Merrill Oaks (liberator)--102nd Infantry Division, commander of Company M. Unit caught Germans trying to bury dead prisoners near a barn where they had executed them by setting fire to a barn with them inside near Gardelagen, Germany.

William Sredlecki (liberator)--15th Regiment, 3rd Division, 3rd Army. Entered Dachau a day or two after liberation.

Earl Taylor (liberator)--4th Infantry Division. Liberated two labor camps in Southern Germany around Crailsheim.

Mike Vogel (survivor)--Czechoslovakian Jew who was first sent to work camp in Slovakia and later taken to Auschwitz. Escaped and joined the American Army.

Dr. Jack Vorhies (liberator)--With 405th Infantry. Also at Gardelagen.

Sources:

Information in collection.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The collection contains twenty-four oral history interviews of Holocaust survivors and the American soldiers who liberated concentration camps near the end of the Second World War. The interviews were conducted by Naomi Arffa from May-July, 1983 in interviewees homes and at the Indianapolis Hebrew Congregation.

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