Collection Number: MS-215

Title: Emmanuel Ringelblum Collection of Oral History Memoirs of the Holocaust


Creator: Survivors of the Holocaust Oral History Project

Summary/Abstract: Collection consists of audio-taped interviews with accompanying typed transcripts of 34 Dayton-area individuals who were survivors of the Nazi Holocaust. Not all of the interviewees were incarcerated in concentration camps, but each had his or her life greatly altered by the Nazi regime. Also included in this collection are three video-taped programs produced from the original interviews which are for use in local classrooms to supplement Holocaust curriculum.

Quantity/Physical Description: 6 linear feet

Language(s): English

Repository: Special Collections and Archives, Paul Laurence Dunbar Library, Wright State University, Dayton, OH 45435-0001, (937) 775-2092.

Restrictions on Access: There are no restrictions on accessing material in this collection. Please do not use the original audio cassettes to access the interviews. Instead, access the audio and transcripts online in CORE Scholar at http://corescholar.libraries.wright.edu/special_ms215/, or use the DVD version located in the E-Archives.

Restrictions on Use: Copyright restrictions may apply. Unpublished manuscripts are protected by copyright. Permission to publish, quote, or reproduce must be secured from the repository and the copyright holder.

Preferred Citation: MS-215, Emmanuel Ringelblum Collection of Oral History Memoirs of the Holocaust, Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, Wright State University, Dayton, Ohio.

Acquisition: The Emmanuel Ringelblum Collection of Oral History Memoirs of the Holocaust was officially accessioned into the Wright State University Department of Archives and Special Collections in April 1991. Professor Charles Berry, Wright State University Department of History and Director of the Survivors of the Holocaust Oral History Project, arranged for its deposit.

Alternative Form Available: In 2009 the audio tapes were digitized onto three DVDs, which
are in the E-Archives. Interviews and transcripts are also available online in CORE Scholar, Wright State University’s Campus Online Repository, at http://corescholar.libraries.wright.edu/special_ms215/.

The United States Holocaust Memorial Museum also has copies of these interviews, and the interviews are freely available online from their web site: http://collections.ushmm.org/search/catalog/irn504423.

**Location of Originals:** The original project documentation can be found in MS-239: Dr. Charles R. Berry’s Papers: The Survivors of the Holocaust Oral History Project.

**Physical Characteristics and Technical Requirements:** The original interviews and videotaped programs are on tape and video cassettes. Patrons are asked to use digitized reference copies for research, available in the E-Archives.

**Related Material:**
MS-239, Survivors of the Holocaust Oral History Project Records (Dr. Charles Berry’s Records)

**Processing Information:** Finding aid reformatted in July, 2014.

**Processed by:** Cindy Baker, Julie Orenstein, and Dorothy Smith, April 1991

**Arrangement:** Arranged into 2 series:

I. Audiotaped Interviews and Typed Transcripts

II. Videotaped Programs

**Historical Note:**
The Survivors of the Holocaust Oral History Project was established in 1977 as a joint effort by Wright State University and Antioch College. Its purpose was to interview and preserve the stories of survivors of the Holocaust who settled in the Dayton area. Dr. Charles Berry, Professor of History at Wright State University, directed and coordinated the project. The interviews were conducted by various volunteers.

At the conclusion of the project in 1991, thirty-four individuals had been interviewed on audiotape with typed transcripts prepared for each individual interview. In addition, a series of videotape programs based upon the interviews was produced. The Collection is named for Emmanuel Ringelblum, archivist and historian of the Warsaw Ghetto, who carefully collected material to document all aspects of life in the Ghetto during the years 1939-1943.

**Scope and Content**
The Emmanuel Ringelblum Collection of Oral History Memoirs of the Holocaust is divided into two series: Series I: The Audio-taped Interviews and Transcripts, and Series II: The Videotaped Programs.
Series I consists of thirty-four individual interviews, each with an accompanying typed transcript. The stories of some of the older subjects begin during the early decades of the twentieth century and trace the individual’s life up to the day of the interview. Not all of the interviewees were incarcerated in concentration camps, but each had his or her life greatly altered by the Nazi regime.

Series II consists of three videotape programs based upon the audio interviews. These programs were created to supplement Holocaust curriculum in the classroom, and as a resource for Holocaust education. Ten people appear on the tapes: five survivors of the Holocaust, a daughter of a survivor, two liberators, a protector, and a young German student.

Subject Terms:

**Persons/Families**  
Berry, Charles R.

**Subjects (General)**  
Holocaust, Jewish, (1939-1945) – Oral histories – Ohio – Dayton

**Material Types**  
Audiocassettes  
Videocassettes

Collection Inventory

Series I: Audio Tapes and Transcripts

1. HELEN ABRAMOVITZ – Interviews by: Julie Orenstein (1 cassette)
2. CARMEN APPEL – Interviewed by: Julie Orenstein (2 cassettes)
3. WERNER BECKER – Interviewed by: Stephen Kahn (1 cassette)
4. DONALD BENDER – Interviewed by: Julie Orenstein (1 cassette)
5. MARGARET EBERT – Interviewed by: Barbara Turoff (2 cassettes)
6. HANS ERMAN – Interviewed by: Carole Erich (3 cassettes)
7. HELENE ERMAN – Interviewed by: Carole Erich (2 cassettes)
8. JOHN FARNBACHER – Interviewed by: Julie Orenstein (1 cassette)
9. JOHANNES FEENSTRA – Interviewed by: Willis Stoesz (5 cassettes)
10. ROBERT FEIST – Interviewed by: Charles Berry (2 cassettes)
11. RUTH FEIST – Interviewed by: Ann Hurst (1 cassette)
12. KURT FISH – Interviewed by: Rose Mary Lawson (3 cassettes)
13. LEE FISHMAN – Interviewed by: Julie Orenstein (1 cassette)
14. EMMA FISZLEWICZ – Interviewed by: Cynthia Wolfe (2 cassettes)
15. RACHAEL FRYDMAN – Interviewed by: Willis Stoesz (5 cassettes)
16. FELIX GARFUNKEL – Interviewed by: Carole Erich (2 cassettes)
17. RENATE HARLAN – Interviewed by: Julie Orenstein (1 cassette)
18. ERNEST HEILBRONNER – Interviewed by: Carole Erich (2 cassettes)
19. EUGENE KRAUSS – Interviewed by: Rose Mary Lawson (2 cassettes)
20. ESTHER LAWNER – Interviewed by: Julie Orenstein (2 cassettes)
21. PAUL LEESER – Interviewed by: Cary Kozberg (2 cassettes)
22. LILLIE LEVINE – Interviewed by: Cynthia Wolfe (2 cassettes)
23. HANS LIEBERMANN – Interviewed by: Charles Berry (3 cassettes)
24. LOTTE LIEBERMANN – Interviewed by: Charles Berry (2 cassettes)
25. JERZY LUBELFELD – Interviewed by: Carole Erich (3 cassettes)
26. LYDIA MAY – Interviewed by: Charles Berry (3 cassettes)
27. BEN MULER – Interviewed by: Julie Orenstein (2 cassettes)
28. BERNICE MULER – Interviewed by: Julie Orenstein (1 cassette)
29. HANNA NORTHWAY – Interviewed by: Barbara Turoff (1 cassette)
30. SIG SANDER – Interviewed by: Cary Kozberg (1 cassette)
31. HELGA SILBERMANN – Interviewed by: Rose Mary Lawson (2 cassette)
32. HENRY STEEBER – Interviewed by: Charles Berry (6 cassettes)

33. ABE STINE – Interviewed by: Charles Berry (2 Cassettes)

34. MURRAY WEISMAN – Interviewed by: Allan Spetter (3 cassettes)

Series II: Videotape Programs

Tape #1 – HELGA LEVY, survivor
          MURRAY WEISMAN, survivor
          RACHAEL FRYDMAN, survivor

Tape #2 – BEN and BERNICE MULER, survivors
          CHARLES FROUG, liberator

Tape #3 – RICHARD SIEBEL, liberator
          JOANNA VAN SCHAGEN, protector
          MARLENE STINE, daughter of survivor
          JUDITH, a young German