

RICHARD A. RUPPERT COLLECTION, approximately 1933-1990
1995.A.0109

United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives
100 Raoul Wallenberg Place SW
Washington, DC 20024-2126
Tel. (202) 479-9717
e-mail: reference@ushmm.org

Descriptive summary

Title: Richard A. Ruppert collection

Dates: approximately 1933-1990

Accession number: 1995.A.0109

Creator: Ruppert, Richard A., 1910-1996

Extent: 1.5 linear feet (3 boxes)

Repository: United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives, 100 Raoul Wallenberg Place SW, Washington, DC 20024-2126

Abstract: The Richard Ruppert collection consists of biographical, photographic, and printed materials and subject files documenting Ruppert's role as a court reporter in postwar Germany and Austria for War Crimes Investigation Team (WCIT) 6826 of the Judge Advocate General's Corp of the U.S. Army, which investigated war crimes primarily in the areas around Welzheim, Germany.

Languages: English, German

Administrative Information

Access: Collection is open for use, but is stored offsite. Please contact the Reference Desk more than seven days prior to visit in order to request access.

Reproduction and use: Collection is available for use. Material may be protected by copyright. Please contact reference staff for further information.

Preferred citation: (Identification of item), Richard A. Ruppert collection, United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives, Washington, DC

Acquisition information: Richard A. and Paul R. Ruppert donated the Richard A. Ruppert collection to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in 1994.

Accruals: Accruals may have been received since this collection was first processed, see archives catalog at collections.ushmm.org for further information.

Custodial history: WCIT 6826 Case #7 and WCIT 6826 Case # 8 were suspected to consist of alienated federal records, and the files were returned to the National Archives and Records Administration in February 1996.

Processing history: Julie Schweitzer, November 2014

Biographical note

Richard A. Ruppert (1910-1996) was born in Ohio, obtained an undergraduate degree in law in 1939, entered the U.S. Army in 1943, and initially served with the Transportation Corps in London. In 1945, he joined War Crimes Investigation Team (WCIT) 6826 of the Judge Advocate General's Corp as a court reporter in Germany. In 1946, he was appointed a trial attorney in Dachau and tried more than three dozen murder and mistreatment charges. He also served as Legal Officer of a War Crimes Tribunal in Salzburg, Chief of Technical Operations, and Deputy Chief of War Crimes Units in Austria before returning to the United States.

Scope and content of collection

The Richard A. Ruppert collection consists of biographical, photographic, and printed materials and subject files documenting Ruppert's role as a court reporter in postwar Germany and Austria for War Crimes Investigation Team (WCIT) 6826 of the Judge Advocate General's Corp of the U.S. Army, which investigated war crimes primarily in the areas around Welzheim, Germany.

Biographical materials consist of a resume and notification of promotion for Richard Ruppert, draft correspondence including descriptions of Ruppert's postwar activities related to war crimes investigations and prosecutions, and Ruppert's fictionalized treatment of his postwar experiences for a potential movie or television series.

Photographic materials include wartime German propaganda images, copies of Dachau crematorium reenactment photographs, and photographs depicting Nazi officers, German civilians, and the Rudersberg women's camp. This series also include glass slides related to WCIT 6826 Case #7 about the murder of six American airmen in Neckarsulm.

Printed materials include issues of the German publication *Deutsche Justiz: Rechtspflege und Rechtspolitik* and a copy of the postwar concentration camp pamphlet *Im K-Z: Ein Tatsachenbericht aus dem Konzentrationslager*.

Subject files primarily document WCIT 2862 and its efforts to investigate and prosecute war crimes in the area of Welzheim, near Stuttgart. The collection also documents alleged war crimes at the Neckargartach concentration camp and Rudersberg women's camp, and in Neckarsulm (near Heilbronn), Wülzburg (near Weissenberg) and Ruppertsbuch (Bavaria), as well as Markt Pongau (Sankt Johann im Pongau, Austria). Records include reports, memoranda, interview transcripts, and notes.

System of arrangement

The Richard Ruppert collection is arranged as four series:

- Series 1: Biographical materials, approximately 1944-1990
- Series 2: Photographic materials, approximately 1933-1945
- Series 3: Printed materials, 1941-1952
- Series 4: Subject files, 1934-1949

Indexing terms

United States. Army. Judge Advocate General's Corps.

Holocaust, Jewish (1939-1945)--Germany.

War crimes investigation--Germany.

World War, 1939-1945--Atrocities--Germany.

Holocaust, Jewish (1939-1945)--Austria.

War crimes investigation--Austria.

World War, 1939-1945--Atrocities--Austria.

Welzheim (Germany)

Neckargartach (Heilbronn, Germany)

Rudersberg (Rems-Murr-Kreis, Germany)

Neckarsulm (Germany)

Sankt Johann im Pongau (Austria)

Photographs

CONTAINER LIST

Series 1: Biographical materials, approximately 1944-1990

Box	Folder	Title
1	1-2	Draft correspondence to Dr. Heinrich Menkhaus, 1990 (2 folders)
1	3	"Introduction to <i>War Crimes Investigation Team 8266</i> , its Manhunts, its Trials of War Crimes, and Those of Other Teams, in the Dachau Tribunal, and Some Famous Spy Trials," 1981-1982
1	4	Resume and notification of promotion, approximately 1944

Series 2: Photographic materials, approximately 1933-1945

Box	Folder	Title
1	5	<i>Bildbericht der Woche</i> , 1940-1943 (moved to cold storage by Conservation)
1	6	Dachau crematorium reenactment photographs by former Yugoslav partisans, 1945
1	7	Germans, including Nazi officers and civilians, approximately 1933-1945
1	8	Rudersberg arrest cells, dining room, and wash room, approximately 1945
1	9	Two unidentified German women, approximately 1945

Series 3: Printed materials, 1941-1952

Box	Folder	Title
1	10	<i>Deutsche Justiz: Rechtspflege und Rechtspolitik, 1941-1942</i>
1	11	<i>Im K-Z; Ein Tatsachenbericht aus dem Konzentrationslager, 1945</i>

Series 4: Subject files, 1934-1949

Box	Folder	Title
1	12	Aldendorff, Ruth, repatriation, 1946
1	13	Armbruster, Theodor, 1934, 1945-1946
1	14	Atrocities upon Germans, approximately 1945
1	15	Bauer, Alfred, 1945
1	16	Bauer, Friedrich, 1943-1946
1	17-18	Beating of Marian Karpinski by Hans Konrad Hübner and Ernst Schule, 1945-1946 (2 folders)
1	19	Becker, Luise, 1945
1	20	Camp Marcus W. Orr, 1947
1	21	Eberle, Hermann, 1945
1	22	Furrer, Wolfgang, approximately 1945
1	23	Gerstenmeier, Fritz, approximately 1945
1	24	Knodler, August, 1945
1	25	Hanging of two Russians at Loknja, 1941-1945
1	26	Hans, Heidi and Kurt, 1947
1	27	Hergeth, Emil and Thiele, Joachim, approximately 1946
1	28	Hudelmaier, Wilhelm, 1945
1	29	Lenzner, Herbert, 1947
1	30	Memoranda on policies and procedures related to war crimes prosecutions, 1945-1949
1	31	Neckargartach concentration camp, Hans Gillberg, 1945
1	32	Neckargartach concentration camp, Ernst Poeschke, 1945
1	33	Oechsle, Bruno, Mayor of Welzheim, 1946
1	34	Paternity claims, 1942-1945
1	35	Reckless driver report by Ruppert, 1946
1	36	Requisitioned property and property receipts, 1945-1946
1	37	Rudersberg Frauenlager, 1945
1	38	Sax, Johann, 1945
1	39	Steinebronn, August, 1945
1	40	Unpaid invoices forwarded to the Mayor of Welzheim, 1946
2	1	WCIT 6826 Case #1, Ruppertsbuch, Bavaria, Karl Friedrich Freiherr von Houwald, 1945
2	2	WCIT 6826 Case #2, Markt Pongau, Austria, Georg Helmbrecht, 1945
2	3	WCIT 6826 Case #3, Wülzburg, Bavaria, beating of two Russian generals, 1945
2	4	WCIT 6826 Case #4, Markt Pongau, Austria, Josef Stüger, 1945
2	5	WCIT 6826 Case #5, Markt Pongau, Austria, General camp conditions, 1945

2 3	6-12 1	WCIT 6826 Case #7, Neckarsulm, Germany, Murder of six American fliers, [1945], [photocopies], approximately 1996 (7 folders) (see also glass slides in Box 3, Not Digitized)
2	13-14	WCIT 6826 Case #8, Markt Pongau, Austria, Odd Cases of Atrocities, Mistreatment of American POWs, [1945], [photocopies], approximately 1996
2	15	WCIT 6826 Case #14, Welzheim concentration camp brutalities, 1945
2	16	WCIT 6826 Case #35, Bad Wimpfen, Germany, Salt mine atrocities, 1946
2	17	Welzheim concentration camp chain of command and functions, 1945
2	18	Welzheim concentration camp history and personnel, 1945
2	19	Welzheim concentration camp investigation, 1945-1946
2	20	Welzheim concentration camp lists of deaths, 1943, 1945
2	21	Welzheim concentration camp SS officers and guards, approximately 1945
2	22	Welzheim incidents 1-6, 1945-1946
2	23	Welzheim incidents 7-14, 1945-1946
2	24	Welzheim incidents 15-36, 1945-1946
2	25	Welzheim incidents, miscellaneous, 1945
2	26	Welzheim incidents, new, approximately 1945
2	27	Wurm, Karl, testimony about conditions at Welzheim concentration camp, 1945