

CARTER E. RUBY PAPERS, 1943-2010 (bulk 1943-2010)
2015.163.1

United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives
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Descriptive summary

Title: Carter E. Ruby papers

Dates: 1943-2010 (bulk, 1943-1946)

Accession number: 2015.163.1

Creator: Ruby, Carter E.

Extent: 8 folders.

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

Abstract: Documents, publications, photographs, correspondence, DVD recording, and memorabilia that document the service of Lieutenant Carter E. Ruby, U.S. Army, at the International Military Tribunal at Nuremberg, April-May 1946. Includes booklet issued by the Public Relations Department of the International Military Tribunal, describing the defendants and the trial, in which Ruby collected autographs of the main Nazi defendants, as well as a shoulder patch worn by the guards of the 6850th Internal Security Detachment.

Languages: English

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), Carter E. Ruby collection, 2015.163.1, United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives, Washington, DC.

Acquisition information: Gift of Dale Ruby, February 2015, on behalf of his sister, Chris Ruby Stubbs, and in honor of their father, Carter E. Ruby (Lieutenant, U.S. Army) and their uncles, William Stentz Ruby (Lieutenant, U.S. Marine Corps) and Robert Barton Ruby (Lieutenant, U.S. Navy).

Related archival materials: The Carter E. Ruby papers are part of a larger collection that includes recorded interviews (2015.163.2), and several artifacts, described in the scope and content note below and cataloged separately as 2015.163.3, 2015.163.4, 2015.163.5, and 2015.163.6.

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

Processing history: Processed by Brad Bauer, April 2015.

Biographical note

Carter E. Ruby was born on 30 December 1920 in Canada. His family moved to Los Angeles when he was a boy, and he grew up near Culver City, attending Hamilton High School and the University of California, Los Angeles, where he was a captain in the ROTC. Upon graduation from college in 1943, he was inducted into the U.S. Army and sent to officer training school at Fort Benning, Georgia, from which he graduated with the rank of 2nd Lieutenant, entering active service in September 1943.

He was subsequently sent Scotland and England, and he followed the first wave of the Allied invasion at Normandy in June 1944, being assigned to the 69th Infantry Division and the 98th Infantry Division, serving as a headquarters and supply officer in France (Paris, Biarritz) and Belgium (Liege) in 1944-1945. In early 1946 he was reassigned to Nuremberg, where he worked as a guard with the 6850th Internal Security Detachment at the International Military Tribunal, from April through May, 1946. Shortly after that, he was sent back to the United States, and was discharged from the Army in September 1946, returning to Los Angeles. He later worked in the petroleum industry, in the sales department of General Petroleum, Mobil Oil, and ExxonMobil.

Scope and content of collection

The collection consists of documents, publications, photographs, and correspondence that document the service of Lieutenant Carter E. Ruby, U.S. Army, at the International Military Tribunal at Nuremberg, April-May 1946.

Included are letters that Ruby sent to his parents from Nuremberg, during the period when he served as a guard at the International Military Tribunal, describing his experiences there and what he had witnessed. Personal identification documents include a card issued by the Department of War in 1945, the identification card issued to him during his service at Nuremberg, and his discharge documents from 1946.

While at Nuremberg, Ruby took a printed booklet titled "International Military Tribunal, Nuremberg, Germany, 1945-1946," and as a number of other guards did, asked the main Nazi defendants to sign the booklet, which most did, and in some cases, handwritten notes from the defendants are tipped into the booklet (in folder 5). Such items include a note from Rudolf Hess asking for a piece of bread with marmalade in place of ice cream, a note from Karl Dönitz asking for a red sleeping pill, and one from Julius Streicher, asking to speak with the officer on duty due to an incident that had taken place in the courtyard. In addition, Ruby pasted onto the inside cover of this booklet the cloth shoulder patch worn

by soldiers assigned as guards to the 6850th Internal Security Detachment, consisting of the scales of justice, balanced above a smashed German eagle in a field of flames, and beneath broken staff with a smashed swastika on one of it. This item has been removed from the Carter E. Ruby papers and is cataloged separately as an artifact, under the accession number 2015.163.3. Ruby also kept a decal of the same insignia, along with shoulder patches for other units that he served with in the U.S. Army, the 69th Infantry Division and the 98th Infantry Division, and these are also housed separately as artifacts, under the accession numbers 2015.163.4, 2015.163.5, and 2015.163.6. Other items collected or created by Ruby while at Nuremberg include a sketched diagram of the prison cells where the main Nazi defendants were housed, and photographs of the courtroom proceedings, including ones that may show Ruby guarding the defendants.

Ruby maintained an interest in the Nuremberg trials throughout his life, and the collection also contains newspaper clippings and magazine articles that he saved in later years. Two interviews conducted with Ruby, one in 2005, and another that was conducted by a grandson in 2010, are also included in the larger collection, under the accession number 2015.163.2.

System of arrangement

Files are arranged in alphabetic order by folder title.

Indexing terms

Corporate:

International Military Tribunal.

Topic:

Nuremberg Trial of Major German War Criminals, Nuremberg, Germany, 1945-1946.

Soldiers--United States--Correspondence.

CONTAINER LIST

- 1 [Correspondence with parents, April-May 1946](#)
- 2 [Identification card \(Department of War\) and discharge documents \(Army\), 1945-1946](#)
- 3 [Newspaper clippings about Ruby, undated, circa 1943-1945](#)
Nuremberg: International Military Tribunal
- 4 [Diagram of prison cells and defendants](#)
- 5 [Identification card and pass, 1946](#)
- 6 [Newspaper clippings about tribunal, 1946-2007](#)
- 7 [Photographs of courtroom and defendants](#)
- 8 [Trip to Germany and Nuremberg, 1985](#)