

## **Oral history interview with Peter Wirths**

### **RG-50.030.0815**

#### **Summary**

Peter Wirths describes living near Auschwitz while his father, SS-Standortarzt Dr. Eduard Wirths, was stationed at the camp; going to school with five or six other children; being instructed by his parents to not have contact with anyone from the camp or to go close to its grounds; not knowing his father's role at Auschwitz until later in life; his grandfather's, uncle's, and mother's knowledge of and interest in his father's work; what he has learned over the years about Auschwitz; the roles of his father and Rudolf Höss at Auschwitz; his father's interactions with a political prisoner, or "Häftling;" his decision to donate an album containing original photos of his father to the USHMM; Fritz Bauer, a German justice official involved in identifying the whereabouts of Adolf Eichmann after his postwar escape to Argentina; his father's journal from the 1930s and 1940s; and his views on his father and his father's actions today.