

RG#: RG-50.120*093

TITLE: Oral history interview with Otto Lingfelder

DATE: 22 October 1993

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 2 videocassettes (U-Matic), Protection copy
1 videocassette (VHS), User copy

SUMMARY: Born in 1915 at Gacko, Yugoslavia. As a highschool student moved to the city of Osijek. Following the German occupation in 1941, he tried to escape to the Italian occupied territory with false documents but was captured and imprisoned probably due to informers. Together with other Jewish prisoners was transported by freight train to Gospic, and worked several weeks for the local peasants. In August or September of 1941 he was transported by rail to the concentration camp Jasenovac, where he was employed in building, fencing, and enlarging the camp. He reports of hunger, illness, beatings, torturing, and murders by the Croatian guards (Ustashe) at Jasenovac camp. Worked in various jobs among them chopping wood, construction, shoemaking, and in the local factory that produced chains to tie down the prisoners' feet during work. Survived a massacre of the prisoners by the Croatian guards. The massacre occurred as a reaction to an attack of a partisan plane. At the end of 1944 he was transported to a factory of tanks and worked in manufacturing armoured vehicles. In April 1945, the Ustashe tried to set fire to the camp with its prisoners, and the witness with a group of other prisoners escaped to the forests and were liberated by the partisans.