

RG#: RG-50.120*125

TITLE: Oral history interview with Walter Reichmann

DATE: 3 September 1991

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 7 videocassettes (U-Matic), Protection copy
4 videocassettes (VHS), User copy

SUMMARY: Born in 1918 in Vienna. At the age of two, his family moved to Braclav, in the Sudetenland, he was staying at Petrovice (Petrowitz), outside the region, but his mother remained in the occupied area and was expelled. When the Germans captured Czechoslovakia he was arrested by the Gestapo at Prerov. He was sent to a prison at Brno but was recruited by the Slovakian army and was reported at Bratislava. Being a Jew he was released from the army and was sent to Zvolen Labour Camp, where he was a forced labourer for two and a half years. In July 1942 he was liberated, but a few days later was arrested by the Slovakian Hlinka Guard, and transported to Zilina concentration camp and from there by train to Auschwitz. Was at Auschwitz-Birkenau until January 1945, and worked with several working groups, such as Kommando Beton (working with concrete), building, draftsmanship, digging, installation, equipment stores, and on Canada ramp, where he worked a long time. Since he stayed for a long time in various camps in Auschwitz in the Death March, escaped to Czechoslovakia and hid there till the end of the war.