

Ernest Heilbronner (EH), born on April 9, 1906 in Stuttgart, Germany, describes his family and home he grew up in; leaving high school and working at a bank during post-war, high inflation; becoming a salesman at a department store in 1923, the same year his father died; moving to Heidelberg in 1926 for three years while working at a department store; moving to Nuremberg and working at Kaufhaus Schuken; moving back to Stuttgart and having his own business from 1931 to 1933; closing his business due to restrictions from the Nazis; leaving Germany for France on 04/25/1933; his life in France as a foreigner; his brother, Harry, who was sent to Dachau in 1938; his mother committing suicide in 1939; being held at Stade d'Colombe in Paris for 10 days when the war broke out in 1939 due to his German citizenship; being sent to camps throughout France including Sep Pau and Orion; the camps being made up Jewish German and Austrian citizens; one camp being abandoned by the English soldiers in charge of it; making his way to Marseilles and his life there; his journey to the United States from Marseilles from 05/05/1941 to 06/09/1941; his enlistment in the United States Army in 1941; his marriage to Miriam Hotkins; life after the war working for the United States Navy in Chicago, IL and Defense Electronic Supply Center in Dayton, OH; and his social life and the Jewish community in Dayton, OH.