

## Bay Area Holocaust Oral History Project

P.O. Box 25506, San Mateo, CA 94402

**Name of interviewee:** Colvin, Kenneth

**Date of interview:** 7/11/1990

**Summary:** Born 1924 S.F., CA. Jewish. As a result of perceived anti-Semitism, changed last name from Cohn to Colvin. An older brother was trying to get commission in US Army and felt he was rejected because he was Jewish. Ken knew that he would be drafted so he joined the army in 1943. In 1945, he went overseas. He was assigned to 3rd Army, 515th Medical Clearing Company to set up emergency medical treatment in liberated camps. He was with company who attended the ex-prisoners medically after the area was liberated.

Entered 8 camps including: Ebensee, Hemar, Oberhausen, Altmunster, Hohenfelz in Germany; Ranshofen in Austria. He describes himself as a witness to the horror that was done. He reports on the terrible scenes he saw which stay with him to this day. He saw lots of disease and remembers that it was impossible to treat all those who needed help.

He has written a book about his experiences for his grandchildren.