

Collection #
M 0978
OMB 0117

ERNEST G. HEPPNER COLLECTION CA. 1962-2001

[Collection Information](#)

[Biographical Sketch](#)

[Scope and Content Note](#)

[Series Contents](#)

[Cataloging Information](#)

Processed by

Ashley Lichtenbarger
June 2009

Manuscript and Visual Collections Department
William Henry Smith Memorial Library
Indiana Historical Society
450 West Ohio Street
Indianapolis, IN 46202-3269

www.indianahistory.org

COLLECTION INFORMATION

**VOLUME OF
COLLECTION:** 1 manuscript box, 1 oversized manuscript box, 2 folders of
black and white images, 2 folder of color photos, and 10 VHS
videos

**COLLECTION
DATES:** Ca. 1962-2001

PROVENANCE: Gift from Illo L. Heppner, Indianapolis, 2008

RESTRICTIONS: None

COPYRIGHT:

**REPRODUCTION
RIGHTS:** Permission to reproduce or publish material in this collection
must be obtained from the Indiana Historical Society.

**ALTERNATE
FORMATS:**

**RELATED
HOLDINGS:** Pam F BM225. I53 I55 1957

**ACCESSION
NUMBER:** 2008.0231

NOTES:

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Ernest Heppner was born in Breslau, Germany in 1921. In 1939, amidst persecution of the Jewish people in Germany, he and his mother fled to Shanghai, China. He was interned in the Shanghai Ghetto by Japanese armed forces after Pearl Harbor and liberated by U.S. troops at the end of WWII. From 1945 to 1947 Heppner was a civilian employee of the U.S. Advisory Group to the Chinese Armed Forces. Then, in 1947 he came to the U.S. and settled in Indianapolis, IN in 1954.

Ernest Heppner met and married his wife, Illo, in 1945 in the Shanghai Ghetto. They had 1 daughter, Anita. In 1993, Heppner authored the book, *Shanghai Refuge: A Memoir of the World War II Jewish Ghetto*. Heppner made many speeches, gave lectures and wrote articles about the Holocaust, extremism, and racism. He was active in a number of different organizations including the Anti-Defamation League and the Indianapolis Jewish Community Relations Council. Heppner died on 6 October 2004.

Sources:

Information found in collection materials.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

Series one contains information about Ernest Heppner's speeches, awards, and book publication. It begins with some copies of speeches that Heppner made with some photographs from those events. Then, there is some correspondence between Heppner and people who appreciated his story and information from lectures and other events. Three folders (4-6) contain publicity and announcements for events where Heppner will be featured. These are at a number of different venues for a variety of audiences. There are two folders about open debates of history that Heppner played a key role in. The last part of this series contains a scrapbook and some loose materials that went with that. The scrapbook contains certificates, clippings, announcements, photographs, and correspondence about Heppner's accomplishments and events. It also contains materials dealing with his efforts on behalf of Vietnam POWs and the "Angel of Curaco."

Series two has 10 VHS videos. These were recordings of Heppner's interviews and documentaries. The two main subjects are the Final Solution in Germany (including Kristallnacht) and the Ku Klux Klan in Indiana.

SERIES CONTENTS

Series 1: Speeches and speech materials

CONTENTS

Speeches given by Heppner (1 of 2)

Speeches given by Heppner (2 of 2)

Public Events Color Photographs

Public Events Photographs

Correspondence about lectures, 1976-98, n.d.

Correspondence and publicity for presentations

Book publicity and reviews

Publicity for books and publications

Papers on debate about "Passion" Plays, 1982-85

Papers on debate about Dutchman who saved Jews

Scrapbook of Ernest Heppner's accomplishments

Loose items from OMB 0117 (scrapbook)

Loose color photos from OMB 0117 (scrapbook)

Loose photos from OMB 0117 (scrapbook)

CONTAINER

Box 1, Folder 1

Box 1, Folder 2

Color Photographs:
Box 1, Folder 1

Photographs:
Box 1, Folder 1

Box 1, Folder 3

Box 1, Folder 4

Box 1, Folder 5

Box 1, Folder 6

Box 1, Folder 7

Box 1, Folder 8

OMB 0117

Box 1, Folder 9

Color Photographs:
Box 1, Folder 2

Photographs:
Box 1, Folder 2

Series 2: Videos

CONTENTS

"Consider this... 'Holocaust Revisionism' IUPUI,
5/1/88

CONTAINER

Videotape Box 1, tape 1

“Final Solution: Preface, Auschwitz, Hungary- JCRC Production, Alex Lande and Michael Vogel, part I”	Videotape Box 1, tape 2
“Final Solution: Germany, Ohrdruf, Liberation- Ernest Heppner, Morris Layton part II”	Videotape Box 1, tape 3
“EGH and Goldbach-Wolfsie Show on “Crystal Night, etc”	Videotape Box 1, tape 4
Heppner at University of Indianapolis, May 1, 1990	Videotape Box 1, tape 5
Interview with “Across Indiana”	Videotape Box 1, tape 6
“Follow-up to KKK presentation/Freedom Sunday/March on Washington-Ch. 13 to 315/Washing to 405”	Videotape Box 1, tape 7
“Interview on TV show “Kristianna” with Tom Cochrum and E. Heppner on “Victory-Heppner” Documentary	Videotape Box 1, tape 8
Dick Wolfsie “Night Talk” on Documentary “KKK in Indiana produced by Tom Cochrum	Videotape Box 1, tape 9
“Visible Empire: The Ku Klux Klan in Indiana, 1921-1927” Cook, WFYI-TV Indianapolis	Videotape Box 1, tape 10

CATALOGING INFORMATION

For additional information on this collection, including a list of subject headings that may lead you to related materials:

1. Go to the Indiana Historical Society's online catalog:
<http://opac.indianahistory.org/>
2. Click on the "Basic Search" icon.
3. Select "Call Number" from the "Search In:" box.
4. Search for the collection by its basic call number (in this case, M 0978).
5. When you find the collection, go to the "Full Record" screen for a list of headings that can be searched for related materials.