

ARMY COMPLETES MASSIVE DIGITIZATION MISSION

More than 350 civilians and soldiers recently gathered at the Post Theater at Ft. Meade, Maryland, to celebrate the completion of an unusual U.S. Army mission. The U.S. Army Intelligence and Security Command (INSCOM), with help from about 150 soldiers and civilians, digitized some 1.2 million documents from more than 11,500 reels of microfilm at the Army's Investigative Records Repository (IRR) at Ft. Meade, and they completed the job in less than 12 months.

The mission was conducted in response to the Nazi War Crimes Disclosure Act, which mandates the declassification and release to the public of records related to war crimes and criminals of World War II Axis Governments.

The presenters at the October 25 ceremony included IWG Chair Michael Kurtz, IWG member Elizabeth Holtzman, and U.S. Army Assistant Chief of Staff for Intelligence Maj. Gen. Robert A. Harding, each of whom presented citations to the individuals involved in the declassification. It was an opportunity to applaud the group's work and to reflect on the historical backdrop of the effort.

Speaking for the IWG, Dr. Kurtz said, "I want to show our appreciation and respect for the effort of the Department of the Army. It has been truly impressive and one that is a model for all the other agencies of the Federal Government to match.... We should also remember the historical context and the victims of war crimes. This is what motivates us."

The Records

The U.S. Army's Intelligence and Security Command first initiated a plan to digitize its IRR holdings in 1992. It languished until the 1998 Nazi War Crimes Disclosure Act made the work even more necessary and timely, since a preliminary review of IRR records found that thousands of files—mostly from the Foreign Personnel and Organizational Files on microfilm—were responsive to the Act.

The records form part of the Army's Counter Intelligence Corps Central Registry, which was compiled and microfilmed in Frankfurt, Germany, by the 66th Military Intelligence Group and other military groups from 1946 to 1968. They contain information on foreign personnel and organizations of interest to the Army's intelligence and counterintelligence officers. With reports, studies, and debriefings of enemy prisoners of war and civilian internees, the files cover a host of subjects and include more than 1,009,999 dossiers.

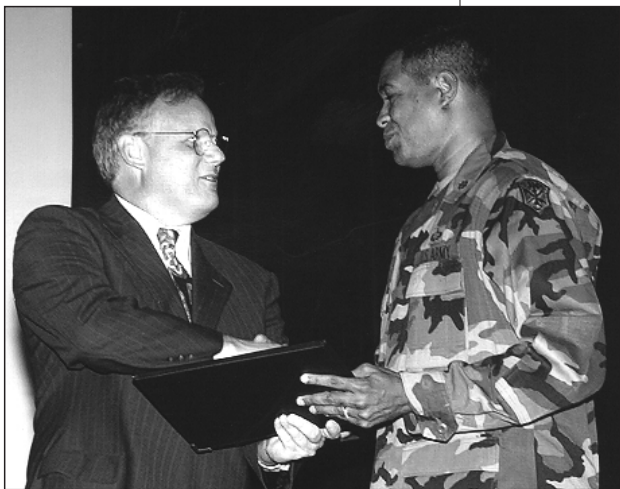
Although used extensively and continuously by the U.S. Government for investigations and background checks, the records were in poor physical condition and lacked a single comprehensive index. The original documents were microfilmed beginning in 1946 by noncommissioned Army officers with little training for the work. Later, many of the original files were destroyed, so the microfilm serves as the surviving record copy for many of the files.

Today the document images on the microfilm are often out of focus, scratched, or askew. After years of poor handling practices and storage in unstable environmental conditions, much of the microfilm has deteriorated. Some are in such poor shape that the images not only cannot be read, they barely can be seen.

A General's Promise

After the passage of the Nazi War Crime Disclosure Act, it was clear to Lt. Gen. Robert Noonan, then Commander of INSCOM, that the relevant records needed to be identified, declassified, and made available to the public. At an October 1999 meeting of the IWG, he announced that he would deliver relevant files in digital form to the National Archives within a year's time. It was an astonishing pronouncement. There was no proven tech-

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Dr. Michael Kurtz presents an award to Lt. Col. Jasey B. Briley, Commander of the 310th Military Intelligence Battalion.

Army Completes Massive Digitization Mission

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nology capable of capturing, indexing, and searching so many microfilmed records, and a manual search would take an estimated 181 man-years to complete.

Ultimately the mission would require an extraordinary combination of human resources and technology. "This represents what happens when National Government agencies, the Major Command, Headquarters, sister brigades, garrison command, military and civilian personnel, and contractors work together," said Col. Ginger T. Pratt, commander of the 902nd. Indeed, the mission required the coordination of the National Archives and Records Administration, contractor support from two corporations, Department of Army civilian personnel, and at least nine military units and agencies, with the 310th Military Intelligence Battalion forming the backbone of the mission.

"What makes this digitization effort different is the scale," said Mary Eybs, project officer for the Investigative Records Information Systems. "It's huge," she said. The work was labor intensive and required a great deal of manpower. Eybs estimates that over the course of the mission about 150 people were involved. Three shifts of 30 to 40 people were set up to work 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to scan and index the microfilm. "We were living this day in and day out. It was nearly 24-7," Eybs said.

Creating and Using Digital Documents

Scanning was processed in batches on three high-speed Wicks and Wilson microfilm scanners. The strings of images were then manually separated into electronic documents and enhanced using software by Kofax, Incorporated. Indexing the documents was one of the most labor-intensive steps, entailing entering information on subject, organization, individuals, and file name. The high-speed equipment and high-volume software application enabled the team to index 60,000 documents and capture more than 1 million images a week.

The next step was to verify the index information and to check the images for quality. The documents could then be "released" to the document management system for review for relevancy to the list of 60,000 possible war criminal names provided by the IWG. Relevant documents, about 16,000 files in all, underwent a final four-stage review and declassification before being prepared for transfer to the National Archives.

In addition to being searchable and easy to retrieve, the digital document format provides other benefits. "Because you have the image digitally, you can enhance it," said Richard Myers, National Archives IWG staff member. "It's technology that was inconceivable 20 years ago." The digital improvements of the IRR records are dramatic, rendering legible some documents that were once barely visible.

This is good news given the interest in these records. Myers notes that previously declassified records from the IRR at the National Archives are heavily used. Archivists receive up to 100 requests a week for these records. The newly declassified material promises to be equally useful. Between 20,000 and 30,000 possible matches were found to the IWG list of 60,000 names.

Myers estimates that the files will be ready for release to the public in the spring of 2001, after an additional review by the Office of Special Investigations (OSI). The National Archives plans to maintain the documents on a computer server in electronic format and provide researchers a more complete finding aid. For the foreseeable future, archivists at the National Archives will perform searches requested by researchers and provide copies of responsive records. At present, security regulations prevent the furnishing of electronic copies.

A Model Effort

In addition to the mountain of microfilm and the inevitable hardware and software glitches, the Ft. Meade digitization effort encountered a host of more mundane challenges. At the awards ceremony, the impediments seemed to be already part of the mission's folklore: lightning storms, power outages, blown transformers, and cranky gasoline generators.

There was only one way to overcome the obstacles: teamwork. "Teamwork is the story behind the story," Maj. Gen. Harding told the group of soldiers and civilians at the awards ceremony. "You pulled together and organized as a team, focusing on one effort. That is tremendously significant." ●

IRR DOSSIERS REVEAL NEW HISTORICAL DETAILS

Among the nearly 1,400 dossiers drawn from the Foreign Personnel and Organization Files, maintained by the U.S. Army's Investigative Records Repository (IRR), and transferred to the National Archives under the Nazi War Crimes Disclosure Act are the following significant files. The files round out the record regarding several key World War II figures.

Wernher von Braun

The IRR file of German rocket specialist Wernher von Braun, who had developed the Nazi V-2 rocket used to attack London, contains one item of particular interest for students of the history of espionage. Von Braun was brought to the United States after the war; he went to work on rocket development for the U. S. at a plant in Fort Bliss, Texas. In a 1948 interview there, a German journalist managed to extract von Braun's understanding of why V-2 production was delayed until it was too late to make a difference in the war.

According to von Braun, while in Switzerland in December 1943, a German industrialist boasted of Germany's forthcoming secret weapons, giving enough details so that the Allies were able to bomb the facilities at Peenemunde, delaying development and production of the V-2.

Even in 1948 Braun did not understand what had really happened. The German industrialist, whose name was Eduard Schulte, was actually a dedicated anti-Nazi who gave information to the Allies to help shorten the war. Schulte also leaked an early report that the Nazis were planning to exterminate the Jewish population of Europe. Schulte's wartime activities and his intelligence about V-2 production were brought to light in the 1986 book *Breaking the Silence*, by Walter Laqueur and Richard Breitman.

Oskar Schindler

Oskar Schindler, a German businessman who rescued Jews from the Plaszov concentration camp by employing them as laborers outside the camp, is well known today as the hero of Steven Spielberg's award-winning film *Schindler's List*. But there are few contemporary records of Schindler's activities, particularly after the war. According to the IRR file on the Plaszov camp, in March 1946, Schindler helped some of the Jewish survivors track down Nazi camp officials and guards who had escaped punishment at the end of the war. He provided information about the specific functions of more than 30 camp officials and guards, among them the infamous commandant Amon Goeth, who was later tried and executed. Schindler also knew the whereabouts of Nazis from Plaszov hidden in the American-occupied zone of Germany. Jews in a Displaced Persons Camp near Linz, Austria, relayed this information to Army intelligence officials.

Theodor Dannecker

Theodor Dannecker was a top associate of SS Lieutenant-colonel Adolf Eichmann. His involvement in the deportation of Jews from countries dependent upon Germany is well known to scholars. His fate following the war, however, has been less clear, with the rumor that he somehow managed to escape capture by the U.S. Army. The IRR records provide an answer to these lingering questions regarding Dannecker's final days.

Dannecker went into hiding at the end of the war. In December 1945, he was captured and jailed by the Army's Counterintelligence Corps in Bad Toelz, in the American-occupied zone of Germany. One day after Dannecker testified to an American interrogator, he committed suicide in jail. The IRR file includes affidavits from the jailer and the doctor in residence about Dannecker's death.

The Dannecker file also indicates that Dannecker's wife, at his instruction, poisoned their two children as Germany's defeat neared. One of the children died, the other was saved. Dannecker's last letter before his suicide is preserved with the other IRR records in the file. It was a request to his wife to kiss their surviving child.

Franz Konrad (Conrad)

A lawyer who joined the Nazi Party in 1932, Konrad rose to the rank of SS Hauptsturmführer and served as "Leiter für Werterfassung in the Warsaw Ghetto" (official in charge of seizing possessions in the Warsaw Ghetto). He took charge of many of the personal effects of Adolf Hitler and Eva Braun following their deaths, and his dossier provides information on his involvement with the destruction of the Warsaw Ghetto earlier in the war. It also includes detailed information on his capture by Army CIC personnel, his escape, and recapture. He was extradited to Poland in 1947, tried for war crimes, and executed. ●



In the 34 years following the end of World War II, the efforts of the U.S. Government to investigate, denaturalize, and deport Nazi war criminals were notably unsuccessful. Just one Nazi persecutor was denaturalized and just two Nazi persecutors were removed from the United States; numerous other cases were lost. With the creation of the Office of Special Investigations (OSI) under the Criminal Division of the Department of Justice in 1979, however, the success rate turned around. Since then, OSI, which the *Washington Post* has called “the world’s most aggressive and effective Nazi-hunting operation,” has denaturalized 63 Nazi persecutors and has removed 53 from the United States.

Prior to OSI’s creation, the Federal Government’s efforts in the Nazi cases were handled by the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) and by U.S. Attorney’s Offices around the country. These agencies, however, lacked the historical and other highly specialized expertise to investigate and prosecute these complex cases.

Congressional hearings in 1977 and 1978 and the publication of two GAO studies put the Government’s record in the spotlight. The studies showed that several Federal agencies had employed Nazi suspects through programs such as Project Paperclip, which involved the placement of German scientists in the U.S. aerospace industry. The study revealed that the U.S. Government had even helped some of these Nazi persecutors gain U.S. citizenship.

OSI was created in 1979 to detect, investigate, and take legal steps to denaturalize or deport Nazi war criminals or other Axis persecutors of World War II. The unit assists the INS and the Department of State in screening applicants for entrance in the U.S. and petitioners for naturalized U.S. citizenship. OSI created a list of more than 60,000 suspected persecutors, which has been added to the border control and visa denial “watch-

Eli Rosenbaum

Eli Rosenbaum first learned of the Office of Special Investigations (OSI) when he was a student at Harvard Law School in 1978. On a weekend trip to Philadelphia he noticed a brief article in a local newspaper. It described a new unit set up within the Department of Justice to investigate and prosecute Nazi war criminals in the United States. Since he recently had read Howard Blum’s book, *Wanted! Nazis in America*, the article captured his attention. The next morning, Rosenbaum made it his mission to convince the new OSI director to hire him as OSI’s first summer intern. Thus, a random encounter with a short newspaper notice sparked a quest that would shape the life of one of the world’s most successful Nazi hunters.

An Early Interest

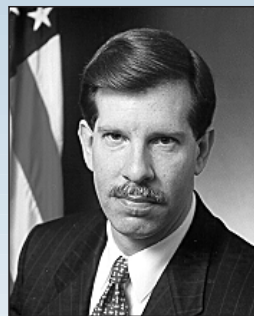
When Rosenbaum was a child in Westbury, New York, the Holocaust was rarely discussed at home. Rosenbaum’s father had served as an intelligence officer in the U.S. Army’s psychological warfare unit and had entered the Dachau concentration camp a day after its liberation. On the one occasion he tried to tell his teenage son what he saw there, Rosenbaum said, “His tears and inability to speak, more than anything else, impressed upon me the significance of the Holocaust.”

After earning a B.S. and an M.B.A. from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania, Rosenbaum entered

Harvard Law School. It was in Washington, during the summer internship at OSI, where he found his professional calling. “I fell in love with the work at OSI. There were extraordinarily dedicated people who were racing against the clock and fighting daunting odds to succeed in that work,” he said.

During his final year of law school, Rosenbaum read a book describing life as a slave laborer in the Dora-Nordhausen concentration camp, home of Germany’s V-2 rocket factory. The prisoners’ conditions were brutal, and thousands died there. His readings elsewhere revealed that the production manager, Arthur Rudolph, had immigrated to America. Rudolph, in fact, became a lead figure in America’s space program as the director of NASA’s Saturn V project. Rudolph would become one of Rosenbaum’s first major cases at OSI.

Upon graduation in 1980, Rosenbaum returned to OSI as a trial attorney. On his first day on the job he asked to investigate Rudolph further. His investigation led him to the National Archives, where he began years of research, tracing document trails to confirm his suspicion of Rudolph’s criminal activity. The realities of the Dora-Nordhausen camp came in focus for him. “Prisoners were abducted from all over Europe, sent to a giant underground factory, and put to work on a secret weapon that had previously existed solely in the realm of science fiction,” he said.



Eli Rosenbaum

Staff:

35 (including 12 attorneys and 11 historians)

Budget:

\$4,172,497 FY1999

Results:

Persons denaturalized: **63**

Persons removed from USA (including 3 extradited to stand trial abroad): **53**

Persons excluded from U.S. ports of entry since 1989: **157**

Cases in litigation: **18**

Investigations opened to date: **1,494**

Investigations closed to date: **1,261**

lists” of these agencies. OSI also helps extradite accused Axis criminals to stand trial abroad, since the U.S. Government cannot criminally prosecute cases involving World War II crimes that took place on foreign territory.

The opening of archives in the former Soviet-bloc countries in eastern and central Europe has been a boon for OSI investigative staff, who depend on historical records to build OSI’s cases. In the archives of Lithuania, Estonia, Ukraine, Russia, and elsewhere are captured German records documenting all aspects of Nazi activity. OSI investigators have combed through the wealth of evidence to build more compelling cases against existing suspects and to locate additional suspects in the United States. While tedious, the work has been productive. During 1994, the unit filed seven new cases in Federal courts, its highest annual total in a decade.

In 1996, when President Clinton ordered a multiagency investigation into the fate of gold and other assets looted by the Nazis, OSI put its investigative power to the task. The unit was instrumental in uncovering records at the National Archives showing that gold from Nazi war victims was transferred by Germany to Switzerland during the war and became part of the gold held by the Tripartite Gold Commission after the war for distribution to European central banks. OSI also uncovered documents revealing that the Nazis implemented a secret program of shipping to Switzerland jewelry taken from Jews. And the unit made the initial identification of possibly looted artwork at the National Gallery of Art and completed a major investigation of Nazi-looted books at the Library of Congress. In September 1997, OSI’s “Holocaust Assets” team received the Assistant Attorney General’s Award for Special Initiative in recognition of their accomplishments.

As part of the Nazi War Criminal Records Interagency Working Group, OSI is again at the table with other Federal agencies to disclose to the public the record of Nazi criminality. •

By 1982, Rosenbaum had acquired enough evidence to question Rudolph, but he still had to track him down. In many early cases, the search for the perpetrator required extensive research through immigration files and telephone books. In this case, it was a matter of a single telephone call. Rosenbaum called another rocket scientist who had worked with Rudolph at the Huntsville, Alabama, space flight center. The scientist, who was completely unaware of the reason for the call, said that Rudolph was retired and offered Rosenbaum Rudolph’s telephone number in California. The case finally came to a close in 1983 after Rosenbaum questioned Rudolph and then presented some of his evidence to Rudolph’s lawyer. Rudolph agreed to renounce his U.S. citizenship and leave America.

Overcoming the Challenges

OSI was established in 1979 after the passage of Rep. Elizabeth Holtzman’s legislation barring Nazi criminals from entering the U.S. and enabling their deportation. While OSI supporters were pleased about the comprehensive effort to root out Nazi criminals, the early expectations for the office were modest. “We were told that the obstacles were enormous and daunting. By then, nearly 35 years had passed since the end of World War II,” said Rosenbaum. The crimes took place on the other side of the Atlantic Ocean. “We wouldn’t have the kind of evidence that prosecutors the world over were accustomed to having,” said Rosenbaum. “We wouldn’t have a murder weapon, we wouldn’t have a fingerprint, and—except for one case—we wouldn’t have DNA.” Rosenbaum knew that victims, if he could find them, could rarely be able to recognize

perpetrators after so many years. Other witnesses, such as accomplices, would be unlikely to talk for fear of incriminating themselves.

Despite the challenges, Rosenbaum helped bring success to OSI. During his days as trial attorney at OSI, from 1980 to 1984, Rosenbaum served as co-counsel on numerous major cases. His work on the Rudolph case earned him the first of six Justice Department Special Achievement Awards.

A New Direction

In 1984, Rosenbaum felt he was burning out from the long hours at OSI. He tried his hand at corporate law with the Manhattan law firm of Simpson Thatcher & Bartlett. It was a short-lived respite from Nazi hunting. In November of 1985, he was appointed General Counsel of the World Jewish Congress and was soon sent to Vienna to investigate the wartime history of former U.N. Secretary General Kurt Waldheim. Months of investigation revealed Waldheim’s hidden Nazi past, linked him to brutal Nazi crimes, and resulted in his worldwide exposure. Rosenbaum then turned his attention to writing his book *Betrayal: The Untold Story of the Kurt Waldheim Investigation and Coverup*, which won critical acclaim.

In May of 1988, Rosenbaum returned to OSI as Deputy Director. He was appointed Principal Deputy Director in 1990 and Director in 1995, following the departure of longtime OSI Director Neal M. Sher.

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“With tens of thousands of documents, digitization is an issue of resources.”

The Cleveland Museum of Art was the setting for a highly charged public forum of the IWG on August 21, 2000. Senator Mike DeWine, the principal Senate sponsor of the Nazi War Crimes Disclosure Act of 1998, chaired the meeting and energized the proceedings with questions to the panel of IWG members, historians, and subject area experts.

Six members of the IWG and Chair Michael Kurtz participated in the event. Other panelists were IWG historian Dr. Richard Breitman; Holocaust restitution expert Dr. Jonathan Cohen from Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion; World War II historian Dr. Norman Goda from Ohio University; and U.S. *News and World Report* Managing Editor Victoria Pope.

The audience filled the 150-seat auditorium and included many Holocaust survivors who came to learn of the U.S. Government's effort to open classified records related to the Holocaust and to comment on the undertaking.

Dr. Kurtz provided details on what was described as the largest single declassification of Government documents in American history. “The high level of support [from the Federal Government],” he said, was critical to the group's work. The Department of Army appointed 60 reservists to go through their material. The Directorate of Operations at the CIA has agreed to release materials previously exempt from disclosure. And the FBI has assigned 35 to 40 people to work on the declassification.

Senator DeWine asked IWG members questions that highlighted the challenges facing the group. In response to one question, Dr. Kurtz noted that the group would not be able to complete the massive undertaking without an extension of the statutory deadline of January 2002. So far more than 1.5 million pages have been declassified, and the IWG expects to open 5 to 8 million pages of records related to Nazi and Japanese war crimes.

The group was asked whether a digital archive was planned, and Dr. Kurtz explained that, “With tens of thousands of documents, digitization is an issue of resources.” He said that the IWG was putting key documents online and that the work of the Department of Defense would result in the digitization of 11,000 rolls of microfilm, which will both facilitate the review of the material for relevant records and prepare the way for future Internet access.

The historians presented their views of the impact of the declassification on the historical record. Dr. Cohen stressed the importance of opening archives for restitution. “When it comes to the Second World War and the Holocaust, we find ourselves in a unique situation. The looting is not something that is incidental. Today we know that it was central, that it partly funded the war efforts of the Germans,” he said.

Dr. Goda focused on what information the records may shed on how Federal agencies used suspected war criminals in the postwar period for their expertise in aeronautics, especially rocketry, and for their intelligence backgrounds to counter the spread of communism in Europe. “The information will fill in many gaps concerning the careers of many famous and more obscure German criminals,” he said. He added, “It will complete the intriguing picture of the Faustian bargain—in this case, the exchange of freedom for information—conducted between the United States Government on the one hand and Germans who might well have been convicted of war crimes on the other.”

Dr. Brietman described in detail how intercepted messages of the Nazis, recently released with 400,000 pages of OSS records, clarify the record regarding Nazis plans for Italian Jews. The records revealed that British and American officials knew of the Nazi order for “the immediate and thorough eradication of Jews in Italy” a week before the planned action in October 1943, leading historians to understand that some intelligence officers knew more than Italian Jewish leaders. [See August issue of *Disclosure*] “These documents raise a moral issue,” he said. “What is the goal of gathering intelligence? Is it only to win a war, or to advocate wider, more humanitarian goals?”

Victoria Pope spoke of her struggles as a journalist to report on new information from declassified records. She described research requiring hours on end combing through boxes of documents. She said that while getting the information to the public is critical, most news publications cannot afford to cover the declassification of records.

Despite the varying perspectives of the panelists and the audience, there was a common agreement on the importance of the work to declassify these records. Many members of the audience seemed filled with gratitude. One woman shared her story of the Holocaust and said, “It's been 55 years since the war. But there is a saying: Better late than never. And we thank you for it.” ●

PANEL OF EXPERTS ADVISES IWG

A panel of university professors, historians, and experts on Nazi Germany and Imperial Japan meets periodically to advise the IWG in the effort to identify, declassify, and release relevant records. The panel, which was founded a year ago, provides the IWG critical historical background regarding the records.

Dr. Michael Kurtz, Chair of the IWG, appointed the panel members with the concurrence of the IWG. Kurtz emphasized the role of the panel, saying, "The panel advances the mission of the IWG. Its contributions have become indispensable to its work."

The panel advises the IWG and the IWG historical consultants on the historical significance of records being declassified and released under the Nazi War Crimes Disclosure Act. It develops guidelines for locating and identifying records held by Federal agencies and it recommends strategies for the dissemination of released records.

Panel members are:

- Noted historian Gerhard Weinberg, Chair of the IWG Historical Advisory Panel and professor emeritus at the University of North Carolina. His writings include *A World At Arms: A Global History of World War II*
- Dr. Rebecca Boehling, professor of history at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County and author of *A Question of Priorities: Democratic Reform and Economic Recovery in Postwar Germany*
- Mr. James Critchfield, a U.S. Army officer from 1939 until 1956, who subsequently served as head of Eastern European Operations for the Central Intelligence Agency
- Dr. Peter Hayes, professor of history at Northwestern University and author of *Industry and Ideology: IG Farben in the Nazi Era*
- Professor Christopher Simpson, who teaches at the American University's School of Communication and is the author of *Blowback: America's Recruitment of Nazis and Its Effects on the Cold War*
- Dr. Ronald W. Zweig, who is a senior lecturer in Jewish History at Tel Aviv University and is the author of *German Reparations and the Jewish World*

To assist with the declassification of records related to Japanese war criminality, two additional members were added to the panel:

- Linda Goetz Holmes, who spent two decades writing and researching records of prisoners of war in the Pacific Theater of World War II and authored the book *4000 Bowls of Rice: A Prisoner of War Comes Home*
- Dr. Edward J. Drea, who headed the Research and Analysis Division of the U.S. Army Center of Military History for 7 years and specializes in Japanese military history. His writings include, *In the Service of the Emperor: Essays on the Imperial Japanese Army* •

Historical advisory panelists and affiliated historians, from left to right: Gerhard Weinberg, Panel Chair; Robert Wolfe; Ronald Zweig; Robert Hanyok; Rebecca L. Boehling; Christopher Simpson; Linda Goetz Holmes; Timothy Naftali; Michael Kurtz, IWG Chair; James Critchfield; Richard Breitman.
Not pictured: Peter Hayes, Edward J. Drea.



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IWG Member Profile Eli Rosenbaum

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OSI's Impact

With 16 years of investigating Nazi war crimes under his belt, Rosenbaum shows no signs of slowing down. His work has put him in the public spotlight and in the national news. He has garnered a number of awards from such groups as B'nai B'rith International. Recently, he was named a "Hero in Blue" by the Anti-Defamation League and was recognized at a National Symphony Orchestra concert at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. He has helped make OSI the most successful Nazi-hunting unit in the world, one that has denaturalized 64 people and removed 53 from the U.S.

Regarding the IWG, Rosenbaum said, "The IWG is part of the process of remembering and learning—a process that is preventing the repetition of crimes against humanity." He added, "Too much has been secret for far too long." The message that would-be perpetrators of such crimes should glean from the work of both OSI and the IWG, he said, is that "if they dare act on

their criminal impulses, there is a real chance that the civilized world will pursue them for the rest of their lives, if necessary." If this message isn't a deterrent, Rosenbaum's tenacity should be. •



Rudolph's wartime German identity booklet with swastika stamps and a stamp of the U.S. military allowing him to use the Nazi document during the initial period of his employment by the United States Government. Courtesy of OSI.

Disclosure is a free publication of the Nazi War Criminal Records Interagency Working Group (IWG).

Established by President Clinton in January 1999 in accordance with the Nazi War Crimes Disclosure Act (P.L. 105-246), the IWG is charged with locating, identifying, inventorying, recommending for declassification and making available all classified Nazi war criminal records. The group is made up of officials from seven Federal agencies and three presidentially appointed public members.

Story suggestions and submissions should be sent to: IWG Staff Director, National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Road, College Park, MD 20740.

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