

HOLOCAUST TESTIMONY

OF

WALTER CAHN

Transcript of Audiotaped Interview

Interviewer: Philip G. Solomon

Date: March 31, 1989

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Holocaust Oral History Archive

Gratz College

Melrose Park, PA 19027

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WC - Walter Cahn [interviewee]

PS - Philip G. Solomon [interviewer]

Date: March 31, 1989

Tape one, side one:

PS: This is Phil Solomon interviewing Mr. Walter Cahn for the Holocaust Oral History Archive of Gratz College. The date is March 31st, 1989. [tape off then on] Mr. Cahn, can you please tell me where in Europe, and in what unit you were serving before you arrived at the site of the first concentration camp?

WC: Well, I was attached to the Third Army, General Patton's army, and then I was dispersed to different units, different divisions, as the need arose, you know.

PS: And your duties were?

WC: It was mainly in combat, interpreting, and mainly interrogation of prisoners of war.

PS: When did you enter combat in Europe?

WC: When?

PS: Say, in reference to...

WC: It was June, 1944.

PS: [unclear]. June?

WC: Well, yeah.

PS: And, D-Day was June the 6th.

WC: Yeah. Well, it musta been 7th or 8th.

PS: [unclear]. Yeah, so you were in...

WC: Yeah.

PS: There like D, D-plus, just one or two...

WC: Yeah, yeah.

PS: Did you know of the existence of the particular camp that you would see? Did you know of the existence before you arrived there?

WC: I don't quite understand your question.

PS: The concentration camp that you saw and participated in the liberation...

WC: Oh, did I know of the existence.

PS: Yeah.

WC: There were a few that I knew, of course at that time you weren't as fluent with the knowledge of any concentration camp except the big ones—Dachau and Buchenwald and Mauthausen. I think I knew about those. But, because I heard them mentioned from people even before the war that they existed, in 19 [tape off then on] thirty-seven.

PS: You were aware then of the existence...

WC: Yes, I was.

PS: Of concentration camps.

WC: I was [unclear].

PS: You were aware that what turned out to be six million Jews had been rounded up, shipped off to what was, what most people thought at that time was that these people were being shipped as slave laborers, dis-, well, displaced persons. But you had heard of the existence...

WC: Well, I had...

PS: Of concentration camps?

WC: Yes, I had.

PS: Would you say that you had heard of the existence of gas chambers and the crematorium?

WC: I really don't know at this time whether I heard about it that early, whether that was a known fact, whether I actually heard about it or not. At this time I couldn't remember any more.

PS: Well...

WC: I knew, later on I certainly found out about it.

PS: Yeah, so at that time you said you did, you had heard about the existence of like Mauthausen and Buchenwald...

WC: Yeah.

PS: And, but even having heard of the existence, did you realize the mass murder that was taking place at that time? The mass murders...

WC: There were rumors about it there. There were rumors about it, but I'd been in the army since 19-, late 1942, actually, and you don't hear so many of these things when you're, you know, you don't get in contact with any individuals. But I heard about it. Yes, I did.

PS: Before arriving at the site of the concentration camp, and seeing as a witness, did you, up until that time, did you see any evidence of German atrocities against civilians or soldiers such as mistreatment of captured...

WC: Yes.

PS: American soldiers?

WC: Yes, I did. I certainly did. As a matter of fact I witnessed some of them during the campaign of the Battle of the Bulge where we ran into various SS divisions which were very bad, very bad.

PS: Can you describe what you saw?

WC: Well, for one matter, what we seen some of our air borne troops, I believe it was the 82nd Airborne which jumped, where the Germans just waiting for them and they just chewed them up like flies and hung them on telegraph poles. Other cute things they done with them, which was I mean atrocities.

PS: In your advance through France, did you see anything there that [unclear] reasonably that these atrocities such as the world had never seen, were you aware then of...

WC: Yes, we were aware of that then.

PS: In France?

WC: That sort of opened our eyes. I mean we seen to it, we seen that we're not dealing with any, how should I say it, human element. Because these people were not human beings.

PS: So you saw it even before you got into Germany.

WC: Yes.

PS: Atrocities against...

WC: That's right.

PS: Soldiers and French citizens within...

WC: Right. Right.

PS: Within France.

WC: Right.

PS: To the best, oh, can you please give the name of the camp that you liberated, and its location?

WC: Well, this is gonna be rough, because I don't know which came first. I remember, I think one of the first camps that we got into was, I believe it was Dachau, if I'm not mistaken.

PS: Down near Munich.

WC: Near Munich, right.

PS: Do you recall the date, approximately?

WC: No, I don't remember, no, I don't have the slightest idea any more.

PS: I believe, I think Dachau was liberated—I happened to be there myself—I think it was around April 26th.

WC: I wouldn't say I liberated it. I was with the forces that...

PS: ...yeah, you saw, and, yeah.

WC: ...went in. A matter of fact I was on top of a tank when we got in through the front doors.

PS: Would you say too, that it was very amazing to hear that one of the first concentration camps you saw, which was liberated about I think April 26th, 1945...

WC: Is that what it was?

PS: Was only like 10, about 10 days before the Germans surrendered. It was that late in the war that you saw the actual evidence and the, you were on the site and witnessed the concentration camp.

WC: And I got some pictures here which, I have some others but I'll be darned if I know where they came from, where they are at the present time.

PS: I'm looking now at a small album.

WC: You can take them out. I don't need them anymore.

PS: Yeah, that Mr. Cahn has just shown me, showing thousands, what must be thousands and thousands of bodies, carcasses, some just laying on the ground, some laying

shoulder to shoulder in a trench ready for burial. Horrible, horrible. These were all civilians?

WC: They were, one of the concentration camps— right off I don't know whether it was Mauthausen or Buchenwald, I forget which one that was.

PS: What a set of pictures. Mauthausen was quite a distance below Dachau.

WC: In Austria.

PS: In Austria.

WC: Yeah.

PS: Yeah, I saw.

WC: Now we also got, talking about Austria, we got into one little concentration camp which we seen, and I don't think anybody ever heard of that. It was called, that was between Linz and Steyr¹. Wels? You ever hear of that?

PS: Nnn [negative].

WC: And that concentration camp had nothing but Hungarian Jews in there.

PS: Oh I have heard of that.

WC: Right. And that was one of the most horrible things that I ever seen.

PS: Were there any survivors...

WC: [unclear]...

PS: When you arrived there? When you saw...

WC: Just about surviving, just about.

PS: Getting back to Dachau, which was your first experience. Can you describe what you saw at the camp, and what you felt at the time?

WC: Well, we seen an unbelievable condition of human beings. We seen bodies all over the place. Apparently they must have tried to eliminate some of them. There were just a few German guards left. I don't even think there were SS or anything but— I don't know whether they were or not. I don't remember at this time. The only thing I know is that we tried to give some of the inmates which were able to walk some [unclear] beans and clean up a little bit in there. And, but they couldn't even, they were so weak they couldn't even carry a gun. I mean they were— we seen dead people all over the place, the skeletons. A dirty, filthy camp. And there, just a, as far as I can remember it was a horrible sight.

PS: Yeah the, these pictures, photographs that you've just shown me...

WC: M[unclear], mass graves, you know.

PS: Yeah.

WC: The burials, they were just open and, what we done after we got in there we got hold of the, a German mayor of this particular town whoever it was, and we got all these civilians in town, we rounded them up to clean up in there.

PS: Yeah. So they could never say that they...

WC: Right.

¹Linz and Steyr were subcamps of Mauthausen

PS: They never saw, they never knew.

WC: Yeah. We, they had them working shifts.

PS: Most of them were from Munich?

WC: Well I forget now which camp it was. But we [unclear]...

PS: Oh, it wasn't necessarily Dachau?

WC: No, not necessarily. We just rounded up the, all the civilians that we could, the German civilians, and then had them clean up, bury them, and care for the survivors there. And that, done a regular clean up job.

PS: Now you mentioned that the number of dead that you saw probably ran into the thousands.

WC: Right.

PS: Can you estimate, do you have any estimate at all as to the number of living? The surviv-, living survivors?

WC: I don't have the slightest idea. I don't remember that.

PS: Most of them, can you describe the condition of most of the survivors that you saw?

WC: They were not too good. They were not too good.

PS: Was your unit, when you arrived there, were there units in there with supplies such as medical supplies...

WC: Yes.

PS: To administer to...

WC: Yes, yes. [unclear].

PS: And food to feed the...

WC: Yeah, right.

PS: Do you know if this particular camp Dachau was set up for Jews only, or if it was a mixed camp?

WC: No, that was a mixed camp—political prisoners and Jewish prisoners. There were, they rounded up Gypsies, even Catholic priests as far as I can remember. But they all looked the same. There was no difference in, I believe that they had different colored markings on their so-called uniforms. I forget already what it was. The Jews were yellow and if there was a political I think they were purple or something like that. I forget what it was.

PS: Being something of a linguist, Mr. Cahn—English, German and French—were you able to communicate with some of those survivors?

WC: Oh yes.

PS: Did you communicate with...

WC: Yes.

PS: Them...

WC: Yes.

PS: With no language barrier?

WC: Now, mostly German. A lot of them spoke Jewish or, Jewish from people from Poland or Russia.

PS: Yeah.

WC: And my knowledge of that is not all that good. But we made ourselves understood.

PS: Did you, among the survivors, or among the bodies, did you see any children?

WC: Eh, I don't, I really don't remember now that you ask me, whether I did or not. [tape off then on]

PS: Did you have any personal responsibilities in arranging for transfer or care of living survivors?

WC: Well, I was in charge of the certain sections of men that took care of some of these. Paperwork, delousing. We had to see that they were taken care of. Well one did what one could. I mean there was no particular, you know, whatever we were told we were supposed to do, we done.

PS: All right...

WC: I supervised, mostly supervised clean up and stuff like that.

PS: With your medical, you had something of a medical background during your army training.

WC: Yeah, I was...

PS: With that background, do you think that a good majority of these living survivors that you saw were saved? Were able to be treated, and...

WC: Yeah, a lot of them were, and a lot of them weren't...

PS: Yeah.

WC: Because I seen a lot of them which, they just dropped like flies. They, when after not getting any food for such a long time, then all of a sudden. That's one mistake that we made, this is, feed them...

PS: And that mistake, somehow or other even at the end...

WC: That killed them.

PS: They still, evidently the information wasn't spread because I think most units, as soon as they came upon living survivors, the first thing they wanted to do was feed them.

WC: Yeah.

PS: And...

WC: Well, we were, we came up with chocolate bars and all that sort of stuff.

PS: Yeah, yeah.

WC: And forget it. They were...

PS: Oh yeah, within, a lot of times too late they found out that they had so little left of a digestive system.

WC: Really.

PS: That they killed them.

WC: Exactly.

PS: Even, we heard that Russians, the Russian troops, which had a very, they had a very, very weak soup, with a very little fat content, and even the, this very weak soup that the Russians fed them killed many.

WC: Yeah. I remember they came up with chicken soup and that...

PS: Yeah.

WC: That didn't do a job [unclear].

PS: Can you describe the reactions of the living survivors as you entered the camp?

WC: Well they were overwhelmed naturally to see that they're finally, they have a chance to be free.

PS: You mentioned earlier, Mr. Cahn, that there were a few German guards still left in the camp.

WC: Yes.

PS: Was anything done to them physically, well, to your knowledge?

WC: Well...

PS: Or...

WC: To my knowledge, no. No. I don't know, we, they were, oh, how would you say it? We did not handle them with kid gloves, let's put it that way.

PS: Yeah. Yeah, the reason I ask the question was that, you would think with all the...

WC: I know some of them didn't make it back to their...

PS: Yeah.

WC: To their hometown, I know that.

PS: Well, with all the cruelty suffered by those who lived, who survived, certainly their reaction on freedom must have been expressed with some violent emotion against these guards.

WC: Oh yes, yes.

PS: Can you describe the behavior, Walter, did you have a chance to observe the behavior of the German guards who were still remaining within the camp?

WC: Well, they were, naturally they were very, very scared, and they were very meek and they didn't have much to say and as far as I can remember—I don't remember any details, but—they didn't have that much to tell. They didn't get a chance to say much, let's put it that way.

PS: No, this was your first experience, that is, liberating, being a part of the liberation of Dachau. Then after you left Dachau, you mentioned that there were a few other concentration camps...

WC: Right.

PS: That you saw, that you witnessed?

WC: Right.

PS: Can you name the...

WC: Well, I believe that one was, I spoke of it earlier, between Linz and Steyr was called, a little town called Wels. In the outside was a camp, a very small camp. I don't know of anymore, how many inmates it had, but they were mostly all Hungarian Jewish people in there. And the condition of that was, oh, the worst I ever seen. One of the worst.

PS: Going back to Dachau for just one moment, when you were there, how long were you, can you recall how long you were at Dachau?

WC: It was only a few days, two or three days.

PS: During that period did you see gas chambers?

WC: No.

PS: Ovens?

WC: I really don't know, to be, because I should be exact that I seen any there. I know I seen in Mauthausen.

PS: [unclear].

WC: I seen gas chambers. But...

PS: This, the one you were just describing that was for...

WC: I don't know if the Dachau, whether Dachau had a gas chamber or not.²

PS: I believe they did.

WC: Did they? I really, I would not, I wouldn't attempt to say that I did. Maybe I did. I don't know.

PS: The, then you started to describe this, the next camp that you saw, set up for you think mostly Hungarian Jews.

WC: Right.

PS: Were there surviv-, living survivors there?

WC: There was living survivors.

PS: And they, you said that that was the worst...

WC: Well, one of the worst that I have seen, as far as the condition of the people, the sanitary conditions of the camp. There were no German guards left any more. They had the Hungarian troops there. And I didn't see any Germans there at all.

PS: The Hungarian troops were working for...

WC: For the Germans.

PS: For the Germans, yes.

WC: And when the Germans took off, when they seen the American troops come, they just took off, and left them in charge. But, they were more or less forced to do it. I

²In Dachau there was a crematorium that was used to burn bodies. In 1942 a gas chamber was built, but it was not put into use. (*Encyclopedia of the Holocaust*, Vol. 1, pp.340-342 and <https://www.kz-gedenkstaette-dachau.de/en/historical-site/virtual-tour/crematorium-area/>)

don't know what the outcome, what we done with the Hungarian prison-, not prisoners, but the guards that guarded the camp.

PS: But the prisoners themselves, the survivors, had not attacked these Hungarian guards?

WC: Let's put it that way, they didn't have any, they didn't have the strength to...

PS: Yeah.

WC: To attack anybody. I mean their condition was such that they were barely alive when we got there.

PS: Can you estimate how many dead and living you saw there?

WC: I really don't know how many people were in that camp. To me there were five, six hundred people at least.

PS: Still living?

WC: Still living.

PS: And you saw many, many...

WC: And in that time many of the dead were...

PS: Dead bodies?

WC: Piled up, I'd say.

PS: Yeah.

WC: Yes.

PS: Then from there was your next experience Mauthausen?

WC: Mauthausen, right.

PS: Can you describe it?

WC: [unclear], all of them seemed to be about the same...

PS: Yeah.

WC: The experience that I had. It could be the same conditions, the same, we ran into the same circumstances with any of them. The people, the- they all looked the same after a while.

PS: At Mauthausen, I understand that many, many of the, many survivors died even as they were being treated.

WC: Right, right.

PS: I understand an entire medical battalion arrived at Mauthausen either right about the time that it was discovered, and I interviewed one of the, actually the commanding officer of this medical battalion that was part of an armoured division, and he reported that even while he was operating on survivors, they would die just...

WC: Yeah, we...

PS: [unclear...]

WC: I think we sent in the regular, the mobile hospital to treat some of those people.

PS: Yeah, that's probably the one I'm referring to.

WC: Yeah, right, right.

PS: The gentleman I interviewed was the commanding officer...

WC: I've got a very, very...

PS: Dr...

WC: Faint recollection of that. To be very honest with you, I was glad when we pulled out there because the conditions were such, even for us. We got a, it was horrible.

PS: Did you say that that was the worst of...

WC: That was one of the worst ones...

PS: Yeah, we had heard...

WC: Yeah. That was one of the worst.

PS: And I believe that was the, after the German surrender, wasn't it? A few days after...

WC: I don't recall exactly the date. Because we never went into Czechoslovakia, so I don't know what, the exact date. It was some time in May, I remember that.

PS: Yeah.

WC: Sometime.

PS: I believe from what I've read or heard, I think it was around May the 10th. May the 8th, 9th.

WC: It could be, could be.

PS: 8th or 9th I believe.

WC: Right.

PS: Were you, did you spend much time there at Mauthausen with your...

WC: No, no, no, that was a passing thing.

PS: And you say from there you went, you must have headed then east through Austria into...

WC: We were sent into...

PS: Czechoslovakia.

WC: Czechoslovakia, right.

PS: The war at that time had ended?

WC: We didn't know about it, because when the war ended we were still facing a SS division, so the word didn't come, we heard rumors about it but the bullets were still flying where we were.

PS: Yeah. But then you ended up in Czechoslovakia.

WC: Right.

PS: Did you see, did you, is there anything that you would like to add as to what you saw, say on the way from Mauthausen through Austria. There was quite a few hundred miles I guess there between Mauthausen and the Czechoslovakian border. Did you see anything there that would be connected with the atrocities, with other...

WC: No, not— after that we didn't see that much anymore. We didn't, because we were, it was, we were rapidly shipped back after we met the Russians and I was transferred into a different unit altogether.

PS: How long did you stay in Europe after the war ended?

WC: Well, I came home in April, 1946, almost a year over, yeah.

PS: It was...

WC: Yeah, that made the difference. I met my wife in Europe, which was a survivor of one of the concentration camps. She was liberated in the British Zone, in Bergen-Belsen.

PS: Oh, the north, the British Zone.

WC: Right. And, I met her, and she was, after she left the camp there she came, who, with friends of hers, into the little town where I was stationed. And I was instrumental to get her lodgings there and—with her friends—and get her settled. It was quite an experience.

PS: So you spent almost a year, just possibly...

WC: Well, then she had a lot to do with it...

PS: [unclear].

WC: Because there was an, I felt sorry for her more or less that the condition she was in after she came and...

PS: She must have been very, very young when she was first interned.

WC: Oh, she was...

PS: As a...

WC: When I met her she was 20.

PS: And she had been how many years in concentration camps?

WC: Well she started out in Theresienstadt, and she'd done the whole tour: I think seven or eight of them, from 19-...

PS: Over...

WC: '41 I believe till 1945, four years.

PS: So when she was interned initially she probably was only about 15 years old.

WC: Sixteen, I believe, right.

PS: Witnessing, oh, the many, many bodies, carcasses that you saw, and witnessing the horrible, terrible, unbelievable condition of the living survivors, did that have any effect on your feeling about being part of the war and fighting Germany?

WC: Certainly it did. It developed a certain, I wouldn't call it a hate, but a certain, I don't, really don't know what, how I could name that, that there are people still today, well at that time, which are responsible for all these, you know, they're worse than animals in our belief. Naturally there was a certain hatred and there was always a saying that, "The only good German is a dead one."

PS: Did all of this make you feel that you were very glad to have been a part of the liberation?

WC: Yes, yes, yes, it sure did.

PS: Even though war is such a horrible thing, did you have...

WC: Right.

PS: A feeling that you were glad that you were...

WC: For every, we always had a certain, a certain kind of a feeling that we got in contact with some of the people, that anything you'd done for the survivors, as little as you could do—and I don't think that I'd done any more than anybody else, but I certainly tried to help wherever I could—it does, did give you a feeling that you've done something.

PS: Now how, the other men in your unit that is, those within your immediate contacts...

WC: Yes.

PS: Who were not Jewish, do you think that they felt, oh, reactions similar to your feelings?

WC: They had the same reactions as I did.

PS: Yeah. Now, surely having seen all that you saw, certainly a hatred was built up against the German people, naturally those who were participating actively as guards and all, but did you ever, certainly among all the fighting troops who witnessed, certainly a lot of anger, and hate and resentment was built up against the Germans in general. Did you ever witness a German civilian being mistreated by an American soldier?

WC: Oh yes, yes, we did.

PS: Just the resentment [unclear].

WC: Oh yes.

PS: Not to the point though of really roughing them?

WC: I seen that too.

PS: Yeah.

WC: I seen that too.

PS: You remained in the camps just shortly, possibly no more than a few days in each.

WC: Right, that's correct.

PS: Let me ask, when you saw Dachau, the first prison, the first concentration camp, were you at that point aware that there were many, that this was only one? Of course you had heard of Mauthausen...

WC: And then we heard...

PS: Bergen-Belsen...

WC: Yeah.

PS: But at that, even at that time, did you in your wildest imagination think or dream that this was part of a system that had slaughtered 12-13 million?

WC: By that time we heard about that, when the tales came back from other, from people that, as a matter of fact, we were lectured on that. And we were told about that. And we were given the history of all this.

PS: Mr. Cahn, having been born in Germany, and coming to the United States and immediately, [unclear] attempting to get into the service so you could be part of the

battle, can you explain in, any of the German decisions that led to the setting up of concentration camps and the system of extermination?

WC: Well, I, there's only one man that I blame for that, and then that is Hitler, which, who was a deranged animal in my opinion which had a, for some reason or another, a hate for the Jews. I don't know exactly what brought that up, but why, the man was just a complete-

Tape one, side two:

PS: ...Solomon, continuing the interview with Mr. Walter Cahn. Walter, if you recall, you were just speaking about your feelings and the, what brought all this about, the systematic, the planning of the systematic exterminations. You had expressed, started to express your thoughts.

WC: Well it's, the, like I said before, I blame this right back to Hitler, which had a hate for the Jews, and he wanted to, as far as I know, rid the European continent of all Jewish people. And I'm sorry to say partly he's, he was successful with it. And whatever brought that on, whatever made him do it, and all these people that were with him, all these, I won't call them any names, because the names are not good enough to be made public. I don't know, they were, the mentality of these people which, is unbelievable. And it's just, one just shakes their head and said, "How come something like that ever happened?"

PS: Did you ever think too that certainly what was the worst genocide ever committed on this planet was committed in a country that for years, for decades, for generations, had been one of the leading, one of the most highly-developed societies...

WC: Right.

PS: In the world. The German culture, the German education, the German manufacturing, probably, almost everything they produced, was superior to almost anything that any other country could do. They gave the world the Albert Einsteins, and yet this society was responsible for breeding these genocidal maniacs, monsters. That...

WC: Well, I often thought about that, and I always came to the conclusion that one has to deal with the history of this particular incident. And being that, I believe that's how it came, the Germans lost World War number One, and the conditions were not too good at that time. And they had this very bad inflation. And they had this difference of parties and internal strife in their government when this paper hanger came up and he promised them the world. And the German people as such are very gullible, and they follow the leader. And he promised them everything and anything. And that's how things developed. And he became so powerful and this organization which he controlled was so powerful that the inhabitants, the people themselves, were actually afraid to say anything. Of course there were many people what, when we came across many of these camps, and I made it my business to inquire about it, and in a radius of let's say 10 miles from that camp and they were not aware—so they said—that there were any such camps around. Because I personally didn't believe it. And of course when you talk to these people, they said they were never Nazis and they couldn't understand. Of course I didn't believe that either. And, they were just, they just followed that idiot and we seen what happened. And...

PS: Walter, you, oh I'm sorry.

WC: That's all right, that's all right.

PS: You left Germany and came to the United States you say around 1937?

WC: '37.

PS: At which time you were probably no more than 15...

WC: Fourteen-and-a-half.

PS: Fourteen and, did you, at that time, well the fact that you and your family left Germany was probably foresight that you had at that time reasons to believe that some things were gonna happen that would not be pleasant.

WC: Well, it was—I was not able to go to school any more. Even, I was thrown out of school.

PS: When you were 14 years old.

WC: Right. I went to high school and they threw me out of there. And of course my father was not able to follow his business any more. And there were things that—there was just not a future any more. I guess we were lucky in the respect, in that respect that we did get out a little ahead. But, we, like I said, we were lucky to get out in '37, and [unclear] about the poor people that didn't get out at all, and then we always thought about that. We were, still can count our blessings we did get out that early.

PS: Yeah, Walter, I think that I have reached the end of questions that I have for you, which has been I believe a very, very fine interview. Before closing, do you have anything that you would like to add, anything at all that we haven't covered through my questionings?

WC: Well, I, it's not really anything to add. Of course this whole business is well-known [unclear] in the whole world, but I'd just like to bring out that there are still people today which don't want to believe that anything like that happened. And whether they know that it happened or don't know, or they just don't want to know that things like that, but what I'm trying to get is, we have to make sure that, and try very hard, that things like that will not happen again. And there are quite a few outfits here in the United States which imitate these Nazis which were in power in the '30s. And we have to make sure that we cut their water off right at the beginning, like the Skinheads and all these perverted...

PS: Right.

WC: Human beings that are still running around today. And I hope we will succeed.

PS: It is so important. In fact, that is one of the reasons that I am here today interviewing you.

WC: Right.

PS: To preserve, we all know that, even now there are many, many who wish to revise history and disclaim that there ever was a Holocaust. And they're doing this even while hundreds of thousands of us who were eye witness to the Holocaust are still living. So we can imagine what will be claimed when there are no longer any living witnesses to the Holocaust. That really is the reason that Gratz College, the Holocaust Oral History Archives is preserving oh, about 700 interviews, audio tape interviews such as this, with survivors and liberators, in other words, eye witnesses to the Holocaust. And there'll be transcripts of this, and the purpose of which of course is to combat all the revisionists.

Walter, this has been Phil Solomon interviewing Mr. Walter Cahn, on March 31st, 1989, and I want to let you know, Mr. Cahn, we thank you very, very much for certainly a most informative testimony, which will immediately become a part of the Holocaust Oral History Archives of Gratz College. And on behalf of Gratz, we thank you very, very much.

WC: You're welcome I'm sure.