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SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

## **Inventory of the Mike Prayzer papers, 1982-1995**

Addlestone Library, Special Collections  
College of Charleston  
66 George Street  
Charleston, SC 29424 USA  
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## Descriptive Summary

<b>Title:</b>	Mike Prayzer papers
<b>Date(s)</b>	1982-1995
<b>Creator:</b>	Prayzer, Mike, 1922-1995
<b>Abstract:</b>	The collection consists of newspaper clippings and a videotaped interview of Mike Prayzer, a Jewish native of Bendzin, Poland, who survived imprisonment in ten concentration camps, including Auschwitz and Dachau. Prayzer immigrated to the United States in 1949.
<b>Extent:</b>	0.25 linear feet (1 folder, 1 videocassette)
<b>Repository:</b>	Jewish Heritage Collection, Special Collections, College of Charleston Libraries 66 George Street Charleston, SC 29424 Phone: (843) 953-8016 Fax: (843) 953-6319 URL: <a href="http://archives.library.cofc.edu">http://archives.library.cofc.edu</a>
<b>Call Number:</b>	Mss 1065-043
<b>Language of Material:</b>	Materials in English

## Biographical Note

Mayer "Mike" Prayzer was born in Bendzin, Poland, in 1922. Prayzer, his parents, four brothers, and a sister, were all arrested following the Nazi invasion of Poland at the beginning of World War II. Over the course of the war, he was imprisoned in ten different concentration camps, including Auschwitz. He was in Dachau concentration camp when it was liberated by American troops in April 1945.

Prayzer stayed in Germany after the war to look for relatives who survived. He found three of his brothers, but his fourth brother, his sister, and his parents were all dead. While searching, Prayzer met Esther Fromovitz, a native of Romania and a fellow survivor. They were married in Rehau, Germany, in August 1946, and immigrated to the United States in 1949 with their young son Morris. In 1951, after settling in Lorain, Ohio, their daughter, Bernice, was born, followed by son Kenneth in 1960.

## Collection Overview

The collection consists of newspaper clippings and a videotaped interview of Mike Prayzer, a Jewish native of Bendzin, Poland, who survived imprisonment in ten concentration camps, including Auschwitz and Dachau. Prayzer immigrated to the United States in 1949.

## Collection Arrangement

Materials are described at the folder level.

## Restrictions

### Access Restrictions

This collection is open for research.

### Copyright Notice

The nature of the College of Charleston's archival holdings means that copyright or other information about restrictions may be difficult or even impossible to determine despite reasonable efforts. Special Collections claims only physical ownership of most archival materials.

The materials from our collections are made available for use in research, teaching, and private study, pursuant to U.S. copyright law. The user must assume full responsibility for any use of the materials, including but not limited to, infringement of copyright and publication rights of reproduced materials. Any materials used for academic research or otherwise should be fully credited with the source.

## Related Material

Related materials in College of Charleston Special Collections include an oral history interview with Prayzer's daughter, Bernice Rubin (Mss 1035-301).

## Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person, family, or organization, by topical subject, by place, and by types of material.

### Names

- Prayzer, Mike, 1922-1995
- Auschwitz (Concentration camp)
- Dachau (Concentration camp)

### Subjects

- Holocaust, Jewish (1939-1945)
- Holocaust survivors--Poland
- World War, 1939-1945--Atrocities
- World War, 1939-1945--Concentration camps--Germany
- World War, 1939-1945--Concentration camps--Poland

### Places

- Bendzin (Poland)

### Types of Material

- Clippings (information artifacts)
- Photocopies
- Videocassettes

## Administrative Information

### Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], Mike Prayzer papers, College of Charleston Libraries, Charleston, SC, USA.

## **Acquisitions Information**

Materials were donated in 2005 by Bernice Prayzer Rubin.

## **Processing Information**

Processed by Rebecca McClure, April 2012.

Encoded by Rebecca McClure, July 2012.

Reviewed and uploaded by Martha McTear, July 2012.

Funding from the Council on Library and Information Resources supported the processing of this collection and encoding of the finding aid.

## Inventory

Folder 1

Newspaper clippings, 1982-1995

Included are photocopies of newspaper articles about the Holocaust that contain interviews with Prayzer. Also included is a photocopy of *The obligation to remember: the American Gathering of Jewish Holocaust Survivors, Washington, D.C., April 11-14, 1983: an anthology*, published by the *Washington Post*.

Videotape 1065-043-v01

Videocassette, 1982

(JHC Videocassette Box 4 | 1 videocassette)

Oral history interview of Prayzer recorded during a program presented by the Cleveland section of the National Council of Jewish Women.