LESSONS AND LEGACIES V
LAW, EVIDENCE AND CONTEXT
INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON THE HOLOCAUST

November 6, 7, 8, 9, 1998
Hosted by Florida Atlantic University
at the Barry and Florence Friedberg
Lifelong Learning Center
Boca Raton, Florida

Keynote Speakers:
SAUL FRIEDLÄNDER
GITTA SERENY

Sponsored by
THE HOLOCAUST EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION
Panel A:
Jewish Life Before the Holocaust
Moderator:
Susannah Heschel, Dartmouth College
David Engel, New York University:
"Polish-Jewish Relations Before the Rise of Hitler: Evidence from the Morgenthau Commission, 1919."
Sam Kassow, Trinity College:
"Warsaw and Vilna: Two Jewish Communities in the Interwar Period."
Commentator: Robert Gellately, Clark University

Panel B:
The SS as Holocaust Perpetrators
Moderators:
Ron Smelser, University of Utah,
Jonathan Petropoulos, Loyola College in Maryland
Peter Black, United States Holocaust Memorial Museum:
"Officials of the Reich Central Office for Security."
Henry Friedlander, City University of New York at Brooklyn:
"Camp Administrators and Guards."
Michael Allen, Georgia Technological Institute:
"Technocrats of Extermination: Perpetrators and Ideology in the Engineering of Genocide"
Commentator: George Browder, State University of New York at Fredonia

Workshops
10:15-11:45 a.m.
Lunch
11:45 a.m.-12:45 p.m.
Saturday, November 7, 12:45-2:45 p.m.

Panel C:
Jewish Life During the Holocaust
Moderator:
Michael Marrus, University of Toronto
Dalia Ofer, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem:
"Between Solidarity and Dismemberment: the Jewish Family in East European Ghettos."
Renee Poznanski, Ben Gurion University of the Negev
"Jews and Non-Jews in France During World War II: A Daily Life Interpretation."
Dani Blatman, Hebrew University of Jerusalem,
"Toward Liberation: Jews in the Last Years of the Second World War."
Commentator:
Alan Steinweis, University of Nebraska Lincoln

Panel D:
Testimony As History: Establishing Authority in Holocaust Studies
Moderator and Commentator:
Jeffrey Peck, Georgetown University
Robert Melson, Purdue University:
"False Papers: History, Memory, and Imaginative Recreation in the Writing of a Memoir."
Irene Kacandes, Dartmouth College:
"Literature As Evidence? A Role for Narrative Witnessing to the Holocaust."
Therkel Straede, University of Odenie,
"Inside the 'Aussenlager': Interpreting Survivors' Testimony of Jewish Slave Labor in German Industry."

Saturday, November 7, 3:00-5:00 p.m.

Panel E:
Memory of the Holocaust in Eastern Europe
Moderator:
Geoffrey Gilew, University of Florida
Vojtech Blodig, Terezin Ghetto Museum
"Theresienstadt and the Memory of the Holocaust in Czechoslovakia since 1945"
Michael Steinlauf, Graz College:
"Poland and the Memory of the Holocaust."
Andrew Ezerqailis, Ithaca College:
"Latvia and the Memory of the Holocaust."
Commentator: Francis Nicosia, St. Michael's College
Panel F:

Moderator and Commentator:
Doris Bergen, Notre Dame University
Ben Kiernan, Yale University: “The Case of Cambodia.”
Isabell Hull, Cornell University: “Military Culture and the Production of ‘Final Solutions’ in the Colonies: The Example of Wilhelmian Germany.”

Saturday, November 7
Reception
6:30-7:15 p.m.

Dinner
7:30-8:45 p.m.

Welcome: Theodore Z. Weiss

Introducing Guest Speaker: Provost. Richard L. Osborn

Address: Saul Friedländer

Sunday, November 8
Workshops
8:00-9:30 a.m.

Roundtable
“Holocaust and the Law”
9:45 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

Moderator: Jeffrey Diefendorf, University of New Hampshire
Michael Marrus, University of Toronto
Hanna Yablonka, Ben Gurion University of the Negev
Robert Paxton, Columbia University
Peter Romijn, State Institute of War Documentation, The Netherlands
Geoffrey Giles, University of Florida

12:15-1:15 p.m. Lunch
1:15-3:15 p.m.

Panel G:
Economic Aspects of the Holocaust

Moderator:
Kees Gispen, University of Mississippi
Hans Safrian, United States Holocaust Memorial Museum: “Competition over Plunder: The Impact of the 'Vienna Model' on the Acceleration of Aryanization in Nazi Germany, 1938/39”
Peter Hayes, Northwestern University: “Degussa and the Persecution of the Jews”
Sybil Milton, “The Case of Switzerland”

Comments from the floor

Panel H:
Imagining the Perpetrators: Sex and Sadism in Postwar Narratives.

Moderator:
Dagmar Herzog, Michigan State University
Frank Stern, Ben Gurion University of the Negev: “Beyond Survival: Taboos in our Minds and on the Screen.”
Insa Eschebach, Free University of Berlin: “Interpreting Female Perpetrators: Ravensbruck Guards in the Courts of East Germany.”
Alvin Rosenfeld, Indiana University: “Who Killed the Jews? Reflections on a Riddle.”

Commentator: Omer Bartov, Rutgers University

Workshops
3:30-5:00 p.m.

Dinner
7:30-8:30 p.m.

Introducing Guest Speaker: Christopher Browning

Address: Gitta Sereny

“Questioning the Perpetrators”

Monday, November 9, 8:15-10:15 a.m.
Panel I:
War and the Holocaust: Soldiers, Exiles, and Historians

Moderator and Commentator:
Gerhard Weinberg, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Hannes Heer, Institut für Sozialforschung:
"How Amorality Became Normality: The Wehrmacht and the Holocaust."
David Bankier, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem:
"German Anti-Nazi Exiles: Reaction to the Holocaust."
Donald G. Schilling, Denison University:
"Re-Presenting the Holocaust in the General Histories of World War II."

Panel J:
The Holocaust and Literature

Moderator:
Alan Berger, Florida Atlantic University
Alan L. Berger, "The Second Generation: Jewish Identity and 'Working Through' the Shoah: Helen Epstein's From Children of the Holocaust to Where She Came From."
Rachel F. Brenner, University of Wisconsin at Madison:
"The Second Generation and the Problematics of Tikun: A Reading of Alan Berger's Children of Job."
Sarah R. Horowitz, University of Delaware:
"Filming Generations: Children of Survivors Document Their Parents."
Ranan Omer-Sheman, Notre Dame:
Comments from the floor

Monday, November 9
10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Panel K:
Post-Holocaust Issues

Moderator and Commentator:
Steven T. Katz, Boston University
Lynn Rapaport, Pomona College:
"Holocaust Memory and Relations Between Jews and Germans in Present-Day Germany."
Joseph Bendersky, Virginia Commonwealth University:
"Neither America nor Palestine: New Evidence on the U.S. Army and Jewish DP's."
Daniel Weiss, Johns Hopkins University,
"A Historical Injustice: The Case of Masha Bruskina."

Participants
Debbie Abowitz
Michael Allen
Jay Baird
David Bankier
Omer Bartov
Michael G. Baylor
Joseph Bendersky
Doris Bergen
Alan Berger
Peter Black
Daniel Blatman
Rachael Brenner
Vojtech Blodig
George Browder
Scott Denham
Jeffrey Diefendorf
Kathleen Dugan
Sam Edelman
David Engel
Insa Eschbach
Andrew Ezergailis
Stephen Feinleib
Saul Friedländer
Henry Friedländer
Robert Gellately
Geoffrey J. Giles
Kees Gispens
Harvey Gottlieff
Peter Hayes
Steven Haynes
Hannes Heer
Elizabeth Heineman
Dagmar Herzog
Susannah Heschel
Marianne Hirsch
Sarah Horowitz
Isabell Hull
Irene Kacandes
Sam Kassow
Milton S. Katz
Steven Katz
Ben Kieman
Paul A. Levine
Michael Marrus
David A. Meier
Robert Nelson
Sybil Milton
Francis Nicosia
Dalia Ofer
Ranan Omer-Sheman
Zsuzsanna Ozsvath
Robert Paxton
Jeffrey Peck
Jonathan Petropoulos
Renee Poznanski
Lynn Rapaport
Rondall R. Rice
Peter Romijn
Alvin Rosenfeld
Hans Safrian
Don Schilling
Gitta Sereny
Ron Smelser
Leo Spitzer
Michael Steinlauf
Alan Steinweis
Frank Stern
Therkel Straede
Larry Thompson
Gerhard Weinberg
James Waller
Daniel Weiss
Larry Wilcox
Hanna Yablonka

Art Credit: Professor Lori Knipp