

Reviews

BARBARA L. CRAIG, editor

Doing Oral History. Donald A. Ritchie. New York: Twayne Publishers, 1995. 265 pp. Illustrations. Index. Bibliographical references. \$14.95. ISBN: 0-8057-9128-0.

Recording Oral History. A Practical Guide for Social Scientists. Valerie Raleigh Yow. Thousand Oaks, Calif.: SAGE Publications, Inc., 1994. 293 pp. Index. Bibliographical references. \$46.00. ISBN: 0-8039-5578-2.

A Practical Introduction to Videohistory: The Smithsonian Institution and Alfred P. Sloan Foundation Experiment. Edited by Terri A. Schorzman. Malabar, Fla: Krieger Publishing Company, 1993. 256 pp. Illustrations. Index. Bibliographical references. \$28.50. ISBN: 0-89464-725-3.

Three recent titles in oral history should be of interest to archivists. Donald A. Ritchie's *Doing Oral History* is an all-purpose guide to the entire range of the oral history process. Aptly subtitled "Practical Advice and Reasonable Explanations for Anyone," this volume provides extensive background on oral history and its relation to the larger realm of historical inquiry, discusses how oral history interviewing compares with journalistic and other interviewing techniques, and considers the workings of human memory. In a succinct and highly readable question-and-answer format, Ritchie addresses such technical issues as starting an oral history project, conducting interviews, using oral history in research and writing, videotaping oral history, and using oral history in the classroom and in other forms of presentation.

A particularly relevant chapter on "Preserving Oral History in Archives and Libraries" asks, "With archives filled to capacity with paper records, why should [archivists] bother collecting oral history?" Oral history, Ritchie argues, is more than a supplement and less than a substitute for other archival materials. He quotes Jim Fogerty's challenge to archivists to go beyond their collections to the unrepresented individuals who have no personal papers or records to donate to an archival facility. And he rightly notes that, archivists' objections aside, oral history has become a standard component of modern archival collections and it is essential that archivists become familiar with its theory and techniques.

Don Ritchie's long association with the U.S. Senate History Office, and with oral history and the archives profession in general, underscores the authority and usefulness of what he recommends. This book does more than merely describe the process—it conveys Ritchie's enthusiasm for oral history, placing it in a social and professional context that should inspire novices and veterans alike.

Valerie Raleigh Yow's *Recording Oral History: A Practical Guide for Social Scientists* covers ground similar to Ritchie's. Her approach, however, is geared more toward

the academic researcher than to Ritchie's "anyone." Beginning with an overall introduction to oral history and the in-depth interview process, Yow then moves on to the issues of planning the oral history project, interviewing techniques, the legal and ethical aspects of oral history interviewing, the relationship between interviewer and interviewee, varieties of oral history projects, and the conclusion of the project. In her chapter "Interviewing Techniques," Yow draws from the work of sociologists, journalists, anthropologists, folklorists, psychologists, and communications specialists, as well as oral historians. She covers ways to build rapport between interviewer and interviewee, how to use spontaneous questions productively, ways to handle delicate matters and hard questions, ways of interpreting nonverbal signs, and how to deal with a hostile interviewee. She also provides a checklist for critiquing one's own interviewing skills.

Her discussion of the archival aspect of oral history is, unfortunately, minimal. She is rightly concerned with issues of proper storage of and access to tapes that have been donated to a repository but seems less aware of the needs of the repository itself, such as whether donated tapes are within its collection scope in the first place, what happens to the full range of a given project's documentation, and whether the necessary releases have been handed over. Her question, "Does the curator understand the value of an oral history collection?" is well put, but perhaps a follow-up question, such as "Does the oral history interviewer understand his/her own curatorial responsibilities?" should have been asked.

Yow's notes at the end of each chapter are extensive and her recommended readings are valuable for those looking for more cross-disciplinary information. (Yow herself is trained in both history and psychology.) But I found it odd that she excluded two key studies from the "Sharing Information" portion of her conclusion: Fred Stielow's *The Management of Oral History Sound Archives* and David Lance's *An Archive Approach to Oral History*. It may simply be that Yow's intended audience—academic researchers—would be less inclined to worry about the things curators worry about...but perhaps they should.

A Practical Introduction to Videohistory: The Smithsonian Institution and the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation Experiment, edited by Terri Schorzman, not only deals with oral history but moves somewhat beyond considering it in and of itself. This volume is the culmination of a five-year effort by the Smithsonian Videohistory Project (SVP) to create videotaped documentation of twentieth-century American science and technology. In the course of the project, historians and camera crews interviewed and videotaped individuals knowledgeable in astrophysics, medical imaging, computer technology, robotics, DNA sequencing and other areas, generally at each individual's worksite.

The volume begins with a chapter of background on the SVP. Chapter 2 looks at visual evidence and videohistory and the third chapter, entitled "Technical Criteria and Archival Requirements," nicely brings home the necessity of keeping archival considerations in mind throughout the entire oral history/videohistory process. These first three chapters were written by Terri Schorzman, who served as SVP program manager.

Chapter 4 is a set of observations by some of the technical and historical practitioners of the SVP. One of these practitioners, Brien Williams, a video producer and director, outlines the differences between standard video production and videohistory production, and makes a valuable point worth keeping in mind for anyone contemplating a videohistory project: "[T]he reality video captures is always one that includes the recording process in its totality. That is to say, whatever happens in front of the camera includes the camera in its consciousness. An interview between a subject and investigator is never just a conversation between two people. It is always an engagement which incorporates the presence and purposes of the camera within its reality."

The SVP's primary funding source, the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, ceased supporting the project in 1992, and, despite the Smithsonian's original intention of sustaining it, the Videohistory Project came to an end. Schorzman states emphatically that the project was successful because it created a body of historical evidence that contributes to historical research projects at the Smithsonian, and that maintenance of the visual record created by the project in the Smithsonian Institution Archives ensures the continued availability of that record for scholarly reference. This may well be true, but the sense of frustration that underlies her conclusion tends to work against the purpose of the book. While the usefulness and excitement of videohistory is amply demonstrated, the fact that the Smithsonian did not make it a permanent Institution-wide research support service disappoints.

In the end, *A Practical Guide to Videohistory* is perhaps a cautionary tale. Schorzman and her team were fortunate enough to experience what few of us in archives and oral history ever do: solid funding, the right equipment, adequate staffing, thorough planning. The fact that economic realities forced a closure to the project in a way brings home the importance of oral history in its audio-recorded format: it is arguably a more manageable, more sustainable way to go.

All three of these titles are worth adding to the archivist's oral history reference shelf, but for its all-purpose readability and utility—particularly for its interactive Q&A format—Ritchie's *Doing Oral History* surpasses the others.

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The Tape-Recorded Interview: A Manual for Fieldworkers in Folklore & Oral History.

Edward D. Ives. 2nd edition. Knoxville: University of Tennessee Press, 1995. 112 pp. Illustrations. Index. \$9.95. ISBN: 0-87049-878-9.

Oral History Cataloging Manual. Compiled by Marion Matters. Chicago: Society of American Archivists, 1995. 109 pp. Index. \$25.00; SAA members \$20.00. ISBN: 0-931828-97-X.

Anyone who has had the pleasure of hearing "Sandy" Ives give a talk will expect any written work of his to be what *The Tape-Recorded Interview* is: useful, replete with practical advice, and characterized by humor, common sense, and true respect for interviewees. Ives is director of the Northeast Archives of Folklore and Oral History (NAFOH), so his examples are generally transactions with "common men and women." For him, the lifelong lumberman or river-driver, or the "woman who brought up a family of seven...on a mill hand's salary" (p. 33), is as worthy as anyone of the painstaking and expensive attention oral history entails. As one example of his respectful and common-sensical outlook, Ives suggests first writing to a prospective interviewee, and deplores the "surprise attack" that some interviewers prefer: "You would normally write an opening letter to a retired general or an actor...; why not offer the same courtesy to a laboring man or a farm wife?" (p. 28). And during the interview: "What do you do when you are told to 'shut the damn thing off for a minute'? The answer is simple: shut it off....[N]ever play tricks like leaving it on when you say you have turned it off" (p. 48).

This is the second edition of a manual first published in 1980, which in turn was based on an augmented version of an in-house manual published as volume 15 of *Northeast Folklore* in 1974. The 1995 edition includes three major changes (see p. x): a shift in

emphasis from reel-to-reel to cassette for audio recording; a shift from a tape log (or “catalog”—an unfortunate word choice to begin with) to transcribing the full interview; and a short section on video interviewing, where Ives again shows his common sense and immunity to the trendy, stressing the difficulty of getting good sound and advising against much camera motion.

Ives’s examples may run to lumbermen and farm women, but most of the detailed and practical advice is universal. Those doing what Ives calls “discourse” interviews can simply ignore the few pages (42 ff.) on “performance” interviews, though even when the spoken word is the mainstay, any gestures (transcribed in words) or snatches of song add to the value of an interview.

Archivists will appreciate Ives’s emphasis on meticulous recordkeeping at every stage. It may be “dreary” compared to the excitement of interviewing, but “someone who ‘hasn’t the time for all that fussing’ really should be doing something else” (p. xi). Archival preservation should be one aim of oral historians, of course with the interviewee’s knowledge and consent. I would part company with Ives on p. 41, where he advises “not [to] suggest the possibility of restrictions; let it come from the interviewee....” An interviewee may not be able to formulate that which, to interviewers and archivists, is a familiar idea; it can loosen a tongue if the head knows that the words will remain hidden for some years. Another bit of advice that few will follow is that, “Like it or not, the ideal person to transcribe an interview is you, the interviewer” (p. 75), but his further thoughts on transcribing issues are practical and helpful.

NAFOH treats the tape as primary and the log or transcript as a needed guide to the tape’s contents. Ives explains the mechanics of transcribing, and some necessary decisions: the desired level of detail, how and how much to describe noises and gestures, how hard to work at unintelligible passages, and how to transcribe dialect. NAFOH does not routinely have an interviewee edit the transcript, again stressing its role as a guide to the tape.

As a folklore fieldworker, Ives knows firsthand a researcher-interviewer’s resistance to depositing material in an archives but argues for deposit for better preservation and access—both access for others and better intellectual access for collectors to their own interviews. These are familiar arguments, ones archivists are always making to potential donors.

With only an occasional typo and few stylistic errors, this book is not only well-written but readable, even entertaining—more than one expects from a manual. A compendium of forms from NAFOH includes sample transcript pages. The annotated bibliography lists both writings on oral history and a few folklore/folklife works that incorporate taped interviews.

The SAA’s *Oral History Cataloging Manual* picks up where Ives’s manual leaves off, assuming that, in between, oral history materials, created or solicited by the repository, have been accessioned and, if collections, inventoried. This manual aims to regularize cataloging of materials that are often “stepchildren” in two ways: intellectual access tends to be whimsical and inadequate, with no fixed rules or standards, and oral histories are often described separately rather than in a repository’s primary catalog, whether automated or manual.

The aim of the NHPRC-funded project that produced the manual was thus “to help ‘mainstream’ oral history cataloging. These rules respect the characteristics of oral history as a distinct intellectual form while following the conventions of standard cataloging practice” (p. 1). The book is a clear, step-by-step guide to the cataloging of both individual interviews and oral history projects and collections, of both sound/video recordings and transcriptions. Varied examples suggest both what must be done and what permitted var-

iations may be useful. Information regarded as fundamental is clearly indicated throughout the manual. An appendix gives examples with and without MARC tags, and two tables translate, one from descriptive element to MARC field and subfield, the other vice versa, essential guidance for those cataloging in RLIN, OCLC, or other MARC-based databases.

The manual deliberately omits subject cataloging, on the assumption that catalogers will analyze and index oral histories for relevant topical headings as they would any other material. On the same assumption, there is no guidance on form and genre headings and this seems a shame; a clear preference—e.g., for the *Art and Architecture Thesaurus* (AAT)—would further promote standard descriptive practice.

Although most of the examples are admirable models, it seems unfortunate that, in two contiguous sample “Interview details” notes on p. 42, what is presumably the same entity is called “UCLA Oral History Program” in one and “Oral History Program, UCLA” in the other; this could lead to searching problems if the program is an access point. But this and one or two other quibbles hardly detract from a most useful publication. One might even say that, although there are many worthy oral history publications, with only Ives and Matters, one could set out to create a successful oral history program. “Now,” writes a colleague, “if we only had such a manual for unpublished audiovisual collections.”

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History Outreach: Programs for Museums, Historical Organizations, and Academic History Departments. Edited by J.D. Britton and Diane F. Britton. Malabar, Fla: Krieger Publishing Company, 1994. 206 pp. Illustrations. Index. \$24.75. ISBN: 0-89464-586-2.

Archivists have been conscious for some time of the need to seek broad support from and make their holdings and other services known and available to the communities which they serve. In the past decade, they have adopted the word “outreach” to describe the myriad of activities—in-house and external reference services, publication in a variety of formats, creation and support of exhibits using documents, participation in public programs—in which they engage to attain these ends. This compilation of essays represents a borrowing of that concept by the public history community to describe an equally broad and not-so-surprisingly similar range of activities that academic history departments with public history programs, state and local historical organizations, and public and private non-profit museums have undertaken to reach out to the communities which they serve.

The ten chapters, written by thirteen historians, museum curators, and historical society staff, are primarily case studies of projects designed by each of their institutions to promote an interpretation of local history and an understanding of its importance among the ordinary citizens and the dedicated amateur historians of their city, county, region, or state. Four of the essays portray the variety of class projects, internships, contracts, and community cooperation that students and faculty of public history programs in West Virginia, New Mexico, Idaho, and Ohio undertook both to train students in professional skills and to promote among neighborhoods and ethnic communities a sense of pride in their own experiences. In three of the essays, senior staff from the state historical societies of Illinois, Ohio, and Wisconsin describe in detail outreach programs aimed not directly at local citizens as individuals, but at local historical societies and the staff who operate them through collaborative exhibit projects and training efforts. The director of a private non-

profit preservation organization in Lima, Ohio writes eloquently of the interaction between objects, photographs, structures, and memory in calling attention to and saving a record of the importance of trains to that community. Projects in Oregon that created slide tape shows documenting an ethnic group and a specialized laboring community, and in Cincinnati that demonstrated the importance of publications for reinterpreting the history and significance of neighborhoods, are used by two authors to explore the variety of media through which outreach occurs.

The essays share several commonalities worthy of comment. The first is that they all demonstrate the importance of public grant funding to the success of the projects described. Much comes either directly, from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), or indirectly, from NEH through state humanities councils. In a time when the work and the very existence of NEH, and that of its sister agency the National Endowment for the Arts, are being challenged, in part for substituting national agendas and control for local initiative, these essays offer dramatic evidence of the importance, surely the necessity, of the availability of such national funding for stimulating and supporting the success of local initiatives. Whether it be student oral history community documentation projects in New Mexico funded with a state humanities council grant, or a large NEH grant to the Wisconsin Historical Society to sponsor a multi-faceted approach to training non-professionals at local historical society museums to create their own interpretive exhibits, federal dollars have made possible the implementation of state and local community activity, and stimulated the emergence of substantial state and local economic, political, and philosophical support for preserving and interpreting important state and local histories.

A second commonality for all but two of the essays is the crucial role that oral histories play in linking the intent of the professional staff of project designers to the interest and cooperation of ordinary citizens who are the audience for these "history outreach" efforts. Archivists should be particularly aware of the centrality of oral histories to such projects for two reasons. The first reason is that, in almost all of the case studies cited, the preliminary research done in preparation for the oral interviews, and the follow-up documentation sought in support of the outreach goals of the project and interpretation of the information embedded in the resultant tapes and transcripts brought new users to local manuscript collections and archives. The second reason is that these oral history projects created new bodies of archival material that document their communities in important ways. Yet, although all four of the public history programs represented here include archival training among the skills they teach, and historical society staff reported their work in archival holdings, almost no society recognized the archival nature of the work they were doing, nor did any involve archivists in the collaborative efforts in which they engaged. Archives and manuscript collecting institutions, as part of their growing awareness of the need for innovative documentation strategies, have encouraged the donation of oral history tapes and transcripts to their collections, and have sometimes, when funding has permitted, created oral history projects of their own. Archivists need to reach out to the public historians who seem unaware of the extent to which the archival profession could be of help in their mutual goal of documenting local communities through grass roots collecting efforts. Also, public historians at the local level need to be reminded that archivists are among those whom they can turn to for cooperation in collaborative local history outreach projects.

Archivists may be particularly interested in the essay by Tom McKay, local history coordinator for the State Historical Society of Wisconsin, entitled "Where the Public Becomes Historian: Theory and Practice in Assisting Local Historical Societies." In it, he

raises, and attempts to answer, a provocative series of questions about the relationship of the standards practiced by large professional institutions and the theories developed and taught by academic programs to the needs of small local institutions that do not have the financial resources to hire trained professionals with a variety of specialized skills. The issues that emerge from his discussion of the appropriate roles and training for motivated non-professionals who have responsibilities for collections should be of crucial interest to professional archivists at state and local levels. The National Historical Publications and Records Commission has been active in promoting the rejuvenation of State Historical Records Advisory Boards (SHRABs), and encouraging, through SHRAB re-grant awards, the adoption of national professional standards in local records management and document preservation. The clients for the training offered are often volunteers from local county historical societies whose collections contain well-used genealogical and local manuscript materials, loyal members of historic churches or synagogues whose records date back to their founding, or even non-archival staff of small units of local government which retain custody of their own records. Perhaps such volunteer archivists share commonalities with the local museum volunteers whom McKay describes.

A composite work such as this is by nature uneven; its method of interpreting and preserving local history through involvement of community members in a variety of outreach activities may seem beyond the reach of most archival institutions, whose funds, staff, space, and other resources are usually already overextended. Yet, archivists who read the essays in this volume and ask, "What can I learn from this project that I might adapt to my own institution?" should come away with a fresh perspective on the importance of a community's involvement in the preservation of its cultural heritage.

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Les services de communication des archives au public. Gerard Ermissee. Munich, New Providence, London, and Paris: K. G. Saur, 1994. International Council on Archives. ICA handbooks series Vol. 9. 306 pp. Appendices. Illustrations. ISBN: 3-598-20281-4.

Archivists are being challenged on a continuing basis by advances in technology and a public which is assertively desiring access to information. At the same time, the records within archival institutions are under threat of immediate destruction, as greater numbers of individuals are physically handling these unique information resources. Gerard Ermissee addresses these needs in *Les services de communication des archives au public* and sets out to redefine the essential goal of the public use of archives. In doing so, he focuses upon the organization and management of archival communication for public benefit, drawing examples from current administrative practices in French, Dutch, Italian, British, and Canadian archives. An English version of this handbook would be useful and would reach a wider archival audience.

Ermissee recognizes that the majority of researchers are no longer academically trained individuals, but are enthusiastic amateurs; therefore, the archivist must redesign public service to assist this emerging body of archival users. He stresses that the major function of the archival institution is to inform the public of the information sources which are available and in turn make these sources readily accessible. One such means of providing public service is advertising. The author suggests making use of radio, television, and other electronic technologies, which is a radical departure from the archival habit of using only the traditional print media for communicating with the public. For instance,

special audio-visual programs at public entrances to archival institutions may support service. No mention is made of using the World Wide Web. This short-sightedness is perhaps due to the fact that the text was written long in advance of its 1994 publication date.

Ernisse advocates establishing rules for active researchers and the policing of public areas, which he believes will restrict theft and defacing. He discusses payment for service, but this is briefly glossed over, leaving the issue to individual archives. He urges public services that address the needs of collective groups of researchers, such as genealogists. He argues that services should be centralized in specialized physical areas and that trained archivists should provide expertise and service. The French organization of public service, presented as an example, is based upon full participation of personnel and rotation of responsibilities founded upon strategic planning methods and administrative management procedures.

Ernisse acknowledges that the physical location of an archives is important for access by researchers. Central areas of cities, accessible from major transportation corridors, are favored, rather than suburban areas or the countryside. A compromise has been reached concerning custodial and public service needs when public service is located in central areas and records are stored in outlying areas: the records are transported to the public service point upon request. Such a model has been implemented at the National Archives of Canada and the Algemeen Rijksarchief in the Hague.

Traditionally, the archives has been recognized as a place of contemplative study. The author supports continuing to accommodate such pursuits. But he also demonstrates the need for lecture rooms, microfilm, audio-media, photocopying, and CD-ROMs. Ergonomic advice is given in terms of designing furniture and in adapting a minimum amount of space for each research activity. In analyzing the layout of buildings, separate areas for research, for storage, for conservation and for the movement of researchers or staff are proposed. There is commentary on the location of activities and the size of specialized areas for boutiques, eating, telephones, and registration. Surveillance is proposed in all areas of the archives.

Ernisse stresses that archival institutions must communicate the existence of their information resources to the public. He investigates registration journals, listings or inventories of documents, documentation on the movement of documents, and statistics on the use of records. He provides an overview of systems of organization and advocates institutional guides and databases. In addition, he investigates service for reproduction, restrictions imposed by copyright, problems with conservation, copying of non-textual materials, and communication with other archival institutions.

The commentary reflects social developments and deals with concerns which were not addressed by Michel Duchein in the earlier ICA guide, *Archive buildings and equipment*. The author has the needs of mid- to large-sized institutions in mind in this text, but its concepts are applicable to smaller institutions.

The appendices of forms and photos offer expanded views of numerous administrative functions and policies, and graphically present the physical layout of facilities in architectural plans and schematics of automated systems. They are recommended to archival practitioners and to students in archival studies programs.

The work provides no systematic criticism or synthesis of general ideas. Its usefulness comes from its inventory of public service activities which are being carried out in a number of countries. Models and options are presented for the practicing archivist to consider. No direct recommendations are offered from a long listing of examples.

If there is a gap in this work, it is in the archivist's dealings with the researcher in a reference interview, a process much researched and examined in libraries but rarely examined in the archival community. Now more than ever, effective communications with researchers is crucial to address. Perhaps the editors of the ICA handbook series will consider a future publication dealing with this aspect of public services.

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Archives of the Holocaust. An International Collection of Selected Documents. Henry Friedlander and Sybil Milton, General Editors. 22 volumes in 26. New York: Garland Publishing, Inc., 1990-95. \$3,322.00 for set. ISBN: 0-8153-0024-7.

This publication chronicles one of the greatest tragedies of our times. The story of the Holocaust is told through documents gathered from repositories in the United States, Canada, Germany, Austria, and Israel and reproduced here in one impressive publication. The series is organized around archives, with each volume devoted to a single repository. Thus the story is told not chronologically or topically but "archivally."

The logistics of gathering materials from so many different repositories, each with its own special requirements imposed by its own unique bureaucracy, must have tried the patience and persistence of the editors, both dedicated and highly respected scholars in Judaic studies. Their considerable scholarly ability is evident in this in-depth study. Sybil Milton is Senior Historian of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington. She has long been active in historical and archival endeavors and has extensive knowledge of Jewish history, the Holocaust in particular. Henry Friedlander is Professor of History at Brooklyn College of the City University of New York. He has published extensively works on German history and the Nazi regime. His research and publication activities give him an excellent background for work on these volumes. Both Milton and Friedlander have collaborated previously in publishing several volumes of the Simon Wiesenthal Center Annual (1984-1990).

In the United States, documentary publication in various forms has been a part of our historical and archival traditions since our country's beginning, when publishing collections of original documents was viewed as the best means to ensure their survival and to make them accessible to users who could not travel to archives. In the late nineteenth century, many states, such as Michigan and Wisconsin, sought out documents pertaining to their earliest history from archives abroad, translated these when needed, and published them in collections. In modern America, extensive documentary publication of famous Americans (notable U.S. presidents, for example) and, recently, a more diverse group of individuals and organizations, became a part of the National Archives' mission with the establishment of the National Historical Publications Commission (subsequently broadened to add "Records" to its name) which continues actively today. Their initial volumes were carefully edited, printed editions of transcripts of documents. In recent years, these publications have been supplemented by microfilm editions of minimally edited original documents. Many other archives and agencies here and abroad continue the practice of documentary publication.

Critics of this kind of archival activity raise such issues as high cost, selection criteria, editing and publishing practices, and the usually high purchase price. But the fact remains that documentary publication continues to find an appreciative audience and retains a respected place in historical/archival scholarship.

This particular collection will probably find a niche more readily than most documentary publications for several reasons: it deals with a topic of great contemporary interest; it brings together documents from several nations; it utilizes a wide variety of archives which most users of this collection will never have the opportunity to visit; and the documents provide a multi-faceted perspective on a complex subject.

The archival materials, particularly those in American repositories, depict the public and private activities carried out to help European Jews escape from Nazi control. In the process, the ever-growing horror of the persecution of Jews and others considered “undesirables” by the Nazis is documented. Other records document specific aspects of the Holocaust, including immigration issues and war crimes. Of special interest are records, mostly German, which document Nazi crimes.

These volumes provide extensive records of the practices, scope, and events of the Holocaust. There is no question of textual accuracy since all of the documents are photographic facsimiles of the original records. Educators will find this format for primary materials of great help for student term papers since it gives a feeling of reality and immediacy in conveying the nature and importance of the Holocaust. Although it would not be possible to write a definitive history of the Holocaust from these sources alone, they do give an authentic and unusually broad picture of the topic. For serious scholars, they provide a useful guide to the various archival institutions represented in the collection, including an excellent overview of the kinds of materials to be found in these sources and information on how to use them.

The basis for selecting documents to be included in the series was left largely to each archives and to the different editors of the various volumes. This decision has the disadvantage of leading to some unevenness in organization and style, but I think has a very positive effect in minimizing editorial bias. With so many editors, no single viewpoint predominates and objectivity is fostered. Generally, the most common criterion in selection was the “representative” nature of the documents. This means that the most dramatic, famous, or attention-getting documents were not necessarily selected, but rather documents which accurately depict the activities of the person, organization, or government agency whose records are included.

Since the editors have gone to great lengths to emphasize the authenticity of the documents, there are no translations (except for a very few items written in Yiddish); hence many are in German and a scattering are in French. Helping to mitigate this problem for English-speaking readers (clearly the primary audience for this series) is a detailed calendar in English of every document in every volume. Each one is numbered, identified as to originator and recipient, dated, and its contents briefly summarized. These carefully crafted summaries make clear the meaning of each document. The twenty-two volumes of the *Archives of the Holocaust* are arranged in similar format. Each begins with an identical general introduction to the series by the editors, followed by its own individual introduction. The preliminary material in each volume identifies the archives and its holdings and sets the context for each document reproduced. In addition to the detailed calendar mentioned above, each volume contains a glossary identifying important correspondents and organizations appearing in that volume. But in spite of these commonalities, the fact remains that each volume is unique, with different kinds of documents, different sources of origin, and variations in subject matter. Thus a meaningful review of this series can only be done on an individual basis—volume by volume—twenty-two separate and distinct contributions to the *Archives of the Holocaust*.

Archives of the Holocaust. An International Collection of Selected Documents, Volume 1, Part 1, Bildarchiv Preussischer Kulturbesitz, Berlin 1933-1939. Edited by Sybil Milton and Roland Klemig. New York: Garland Publishing Inc., 1990. xxxviii, (n.p.), Illustrated.

Archives of the Holocaust. An International Collection of Selected Documents, Volume 1, Part 2, Bildarchiv Preussischer Kulturbesitz, Berlin 1939-1945. Edited by Sybil Milton and Roland Klemig. New York: Garland Publishing Inc., 1990. xxxvii, (n.p.). \$410.00 (both parts). ISBN: 0-8240-5483-0.

Volume 1 is pictorial. It begins dramatically with a collection of photographs from the foundations of the Holocaust in Hitler's Germany from 1933 to 1939, then continues through its horrors during World War II, to the liberation of the concentration camps and the subsequent war crime trials. The photos are from Bildarchiv Preussischer Kulturbesitz (Photo Archive of the Prussian Cultural Trust), a privately funded institution in Berlin, which holds over seven million images from many sources. The 895 photos reproduced here represent about 12 percent of Photo Archives holdings relating to the Holocaust. They are fascinating, frightening, and unforgettable. The excellent introduction to this volume by Sybil Milton and Roland Klemig points out that many of these photographs were taken clandestinely since the Nazi government prohibited photos of pogroms, burning of synagogues, and similar atrocities. The introduction also includes a full and useful description of this photographic archives, its collecting policies and how to obtain copies, and also points to other sources of photographs on this topic. The editors outline their selection criteria, explaining, for example, that few photographs of Nazi medical experiments or naked victims facing execution were included in an effort to respect the privacy of Holocaust survivors and their families. All photographs are clearly labeled and their file numbers noted. Where the name of the photographer is known, that information is also included. The quality of the photographs is excellent. This two-part volume alone would be a valuable addition to every public library as a dramatic testimony to the Holocaust.

Archives of the Holocaust. An International Collection of Selected Documents. American Friends Service Committee, Philadelphia, Volume 2, Part 1, 1932-1939. Edited by Jack Sutters. New York: Garland Publishing Inc., 1991. xlvii, 660 pp. ©

Archives of the Holocaust. An International Collection of Selected Documents. American Friends Service Committee, Philadelphia, Volume 2, Part 2, 1940-1945. Edited by Jack Sutters. New York: Garland Publishing Inc., 1991. 566 pp. \$295.00 (both parts). ISBN: 0-8240-5484-9. ©

The second volume presents the first set of textual documents which make up all the remaining volumes. As the editors point out: "The documents are published in facsimile form to assure accuracy and authenticity: the reader will see exact copies of the original documents, complete with letterhead, old-style typescripts, telegram formats, stamps indicating date of receipt, deletions, insertions and corrections, handwritten notes, marginalia, and signatures. The documents as presented enable the reader to view the materials as if he or she had visited each archive." The range of materials covered is wide: private and official correspondence, memos, reports, minutes, and legal papers, among other types of documents. This two-part volume covers records of the American

Friends Service Committee, drawn, presumably, from the official files at their headquarters in Philadelphia, though this fact is not spelled out explicitly nor is the full nature of the records and access procedures described in the introduction by Jack Sutters. The introduction describes the origins of the American Friends Service Committee and its response to refugee and other problems created by the rise of Nazism and World War II. Part 1 reproduces documents 1 through 237, 1932-39, while Part 2 continues with documents 238 through 423, 1940-45; unfortunately a composition error caused the omission of two or three documents in Part 2. The material selected is quite interesting, showing the growth and harsh impact of Nazism. Suggestions and programs to partially mitigate the ensuing horrors (as well as cases of considerable naiveté by the relief forces) are revealed. Seeing the exact reproduction of these documents might not live up to the expectations of the editors of creating an actual archival experience, but it does come close.

Archives of the Holocaust. An International Collection of Selected Documents, Volume 3, Central Zionist Archives, Jerusalem, 1933-1939. Edited by Francis R. Nicosia. New York: Garland Publishing, Inc., 1991. xli, 429 pp. \$115.00. ISBN: 0-8240-5485-7. ∞

Archives of the Holocaust. An International Collection of Selected Documents, Volume 4, Central Zionist Archives, Jerusalem, 1939-1945. Edited by Francis R. Nicosia. New York: Garland Publishing Inc., 1991. xlvi, 421 pp. \$125.00. ISBN: 0-8240-5486-5. ∞

These related volumes contain “a representative collection of some of the most important documents in the Central Zionist Archives in Jerusalem pertain[ing] to the Nazi persecution of Jews in Germany and Austria...” beginning with the onset of Hitler’s regime in 1933 and continuing through the end of World War II. The volumes are excellently introduced by Francis R. Nicosia. Nicosia describes the origins of the archives in 1919 in Berlin by the World Zionist Organization and its subsequent history. The introductions identify the record groups from which the documents were selected.

In volume 3, the 109 documents have been organized into six broad subject sections and then arranged chronologically within each. This same organizational structure is applied to volume 4 which contains 172 documents. The disintegration of Jewish life in Germany is the concern of the first three sections of volume 3, followed by three sections covering various aspects of the German-Jewish refugee crisis. The topics in volume 4 reflect the major concerns of the Zionist movement in World War II—rapid deterioration of the condition of European Jews, the implementation of the “final solution,” attempts to save as many Jews as possible, and finally the Zionist push for a Jewish state. Many of the papers are those of Richard Lichtheim, representative of the Jewish agency for Palestine, who occupied a key observation post in Geneva from 1939 to the end of the war. This subject arrangement has some problems with overlapping, but on the whole greatly facilitates use of the documents. Since the series is heavily oriented to the English-reading scholar, documents in Hebrew were omitted; however, many German language documents were included as well as a few in French.

Archives of the Holocaust. An International Collection of Selected Documents, Volume 5, Columbia University Library, New York. The Varian Fry Papers. The Fort Ontario Emergency Refugee Shelter Papers. Edited by Karen J. Greenberg. New York: Garland Publishing Inc., 1990. xxxv, 272 pp. \$85.00. ISBN: 0-8240-5487-3. ©

Archives of the Holocaust. An International Collection of Selected Documents, Volume 6, Columbia University Library, New York. The Non-Sectarian Anti-Nazi League to Champion Human Rights Papers. The Non-Sectarian League Anti-Nazi Pamphlet Collection. Edited by Karen J. Greenberg. New York: Garland Publishing Inc., 1990. xxix, 406 pp. \$125.00. ISBN: 0-8240-5488-1. ©

Archives of the Holocaust. An International Collection of Selected Documents, Volume 7, Columbia University Library, New York. James G. McDonald Papers. Edited by Karen J. Greenberg. New York: Garland Publishing Inc., 1991. xxv, 286 pp. \$85.00. ISBN: 0-8240-5489-X. ©

These volumes present documents from five collections at Columbia University, principally from its Rare Book and Manuscript Library. The main theme portrayed here is the American response to the Holocaust—not an especially glorious one but nonetheless significant and a useful part of this series. All the introductions were produced by Karen J. Greenberg, who clearly describes the collections represented as to size, location, and historical context. Volume 5 presents 56 documents from the Varian Fry Papers for the period 1940-65. Some of the postwar documents seem peripheral to the main theme of the series, but Fry's papers deserve inclusion as his work was "the most successful private effort on behalf of refugees to be waged from within the United States." Another American response to the refugee problem is reflected in the additional 57 documents selected from the papers of the Fort Ontario Emergency Refugee Shelter, a late World War II Federal government activity to assist 982 predominately Jewish refugees from various European nations.

Volume 6 contains 117 documents from the Non-Sectarian Anti-Nazi League to Champion Human Rights Papers including a few examples from the organization's extensive pamphlet collection of fifty-eight boxes. We are cautioned that this large collection (ninety-nine boxes and seven card file drawers) is not fully processed. Thus important documents may have been overlooked. But since the sampling aims at giving an overview of this organization, from its inception in 1933 through some of its postwar activities up to 1950, the omissions should cause no serious problems. About half of the documents deal with its prewar activities to establish a boycott of the 1936 Olympics and of goods produced in Nazi Germany. The final selections (volume 7) of Columbia University documents consist entirely of papers of James G. McDonald. Many of these documents are lengthy—54 documents filling 286 pages. The focus of this selection covers events leading up to McDonald's appointment as head of the League of Nations High Commission for Refugees from Germany in 1933, until December 1935 when McDonald's frustration led to his resignation as High Commissioner. The well-crafted introduction notes that the "significance of these papers lies in the fact that they illuminate the responses to refugees from Nazism at a time when it was still possible to aid the victims of Hitler's policies."

Archives of the Holocaust. An International Collection of Selected Documents, Volume 8, The Papers of the World Jewish Congress American Jewish Archives, Cincinnati, 1939-1945. Edited by Abraham J. Peck. New York: Garland Publishing Inc., 1991. xxxii, 508 pp. \$135.00. ISBN: 0-8240-5490-3. ©

Archives of the Holocaust. An International Collection of Selected Documents, Volume 9, The Papers of the World Jewish Congress American Jewish Archives, Cincinnati, Liberation and the Saving Remnant, 1945-1950. Edited by Abraham J. Peck. New York: Garland Publishing, Inc., 1991. xxv, 418 pp. \$120.00. ISBN: 0-8240-5491-1. ©

The American Jewish Archives (AJA) located on the campus of the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion in Cincinnati provide the documents for these volumes. The 132 documents in volume 8 cover the period primarily from 1939 to 1945, although there are a few documents dating back to 1922. Volume 9 continues through 1950 with an additional 64 documents. (From an organizational standpoint, it would have been more consistent with other volumes to have numbered them parts one and two of the same volume.) Both volumes are introduced by Abraham J. Peck. The introduction first describes the AJA, and then focuses on the records of the New York office of the World Jewish Congress. This relatively recent acquisition of the AJA, consisting of two million pages of documents, is the source of the reproductions in these volumes. The collection and its organization is fully described, including a brief but adequate history of the Congress. The documents in volume 8 reflect the concerns and response of the World Jewish Congress to the Nazi regime's attack on Jews in Germany and throughout Europe before and during World War II, Congress rescue efforts, and material on the future of Jews in Europe after the war. Volume 9 continues coverage of relief activities, assistance for Holocaust survivors, restoration of Jewish legal rights, reparations for Nazi victims, and punishment of war criminals. The two volumes are organized in chronological order.

Archives of the Holocaust. An International Collection of Selected Documents, Volume 10, Part 1, American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, New York, 1933-1939. Edited by Sybil Milton and Frederick D. Bogin. New York: Garland Publishing, Inc., 1995. xxxviii, 639 pp. ©

Archives of the Holocaust. An International Collection of Selected Documents, Volume 10, Part 2, American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, New York, 1939-1948. Edited by Sybil Milton and Frederick D. Bogin. New York: Garland Publishing, Inc., 1995. xxii, 799 pp. \$250.00 (both parts). ISBN: 0-8240-5492-X.

This hefty two-part volume of 1,438 pages reproduces 255 documents from the archives of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee. This private, non-partisan, philanthropic organization was founded in New York in 1914. It is carefully described by joint editors, Sybil Milton and Frederick D. Bogin, who include a helpful short bibliography on the organization and provide its address for those seeking further information. They also describe the two main record groups from which the documents were selected. The materials consist of correspondence and reports covering relations with U.S. government offices, rescue activities, and displaced persons. There are no subject subdivisions for the documents but they are arranged in rough chronological order for the years 1933-1948.

Archives of the Holocaust. An International Collection of Selected Documents, Volume 11, Part 1, Berlin Document Center. Edited by Henry Friedlander and Sybil Milton. New York: Garland Publishing, Inc., 1992. lviii, 142 pp. ☺

Archives of the Holocaust. An International Collection of Selected Documents, Volume 11, Part 2, Berlin Document Center. Edited by Henry Friedlander and Sybil Milton. New York: Garland Publishing, Inc., 1992. 1, 430 pp. \$250.00 (both parts). ISBN: 0-8240-5493-8. ☺

The documents in this two-part volume are quite different from preceding volumes. They do not deal with the horrors of the Holocaust but with its origins in the Nazi regime, as reflected in the archives of the Berlin Document Center. Friedlander and Milton, general editors for the series and the editors of this volume, describe the history of this artificial archives which was created immediately after World War II to bring together vast quantities of captured personnel and other records of the Nazi regime. Many of these were used in the war crime trials. The descriptions of the records gathered here are especially important in understanding them. Likewise, the familiar format of the calendar is particularly useful since the documents are in German and the item-by-item description of each document is in English. The names of major figures of the Nazi regime appear frequently and the occasional photograph of an individual on his Nazi party membership card or similar record gives an eerie feeling of immediacy and reality to this collection of 486 documents.

Archives of the Holocaust. An International Collection of Selected Documents, Volume 12, The Hecht Archives, University of Haifa. Edited by Paul Lawrence Rose with Herbert Druks. New York: Garland Publishing, Inc., 1990. xxxiv, 475 pp. \$130.00. ISBN: 0-8240-5494-6. ☺

This volume on the Hecht Archives differs from the previous volumes. Hecht is not the name of an archival institution but of a person, Reuben Hecht of Haifa, Israel, whose papers are the source for the documents. The introduction, by Paul Lawrence Rose (with Herbert Druks), is close to being a historical monograph on Hecht's work saving Jews from the Holocaust and on conflicts among leaders and organizations working to rescue victims of Nazi oppression. The introduction is thus longer and heavily footnoted, but lacking in certain details of the archives—its description, size, organization, and access provisions. It is noted that copies of these records are being made for other archives. There is no glossary as there is for other volumes, but the customary item summary of each of the seventy-nine documents is provided. These are interesting materials in German, French, and English, presenting a different perspective, particularly on the controversial efforts of Jean-Marie Musy, a former president of Switzerland, and others seeking to save Jews in the last months of the war.

Archives of the Holocaust. An International Collection of Selected Documents, Volume 13, The Israel State Archives, Jerusalem. Edited by Judith Tydor Baumel. New York: Garland Publishing, Inc., 1991. xxviii, 365 pp. \$110.00. ISBN: 0-8153-0143-X. ∞

The Israel State Archives is the source for the 153 documents covering the period 1933-47 that make up this volume. Most are drawn from record groups of the Palestine Mandate Government before the creation of Israel. In the introduction, Judith Tydor Baumel describes the Israel State Archives and the records groups from which the records were selected. She notes that a key selection criterion was that the documents be in English. The topics deal with boycotting German goods before the war, immigration problems, Jewish refugees, and Jews in occupied countries. She has arranged them into eleven groups (rather than straight chronology); however, these topics are not made clear by labels in the calendar of the documents.

Archives of the Holocaust. An International Collection of Selected Documents, Volume 14, The Robert F. Wagner Labor Archives, New York University. The Papers of the Jewish Labor Committee. Edited by Arie Lebowitz and Gail Malmgreen. New York: Garland Publishing, Inc., 1993. lxxv, 461 pp. \$125.00. ISBN: 0-8240-5496-2. ∞

The focus of this volume shifts back to the United States with a selection of 308 documents from the records of the Jewish Labor Committee (JLC) located at the Robert F. Wagner Labor Archives of New York University. Editors Arie Lebowitz and Gail Malmgreen describe the Wagner Labor Archives and their largest collection (ca. 125 feet), the papers of the Jewish Labor Committee, which is currently being microfilmed. The records included in this volume have been selected from those already filmed. The editors note that there are more Holocaust materials in the still-to-be-filmed portion of the collection.

The editors include an unusually detailed glossary of names and organizations appearing in the documents in order to show their context. Though most of the documents are in English, there are a few in Yiddish with accompanying translations. The editors note the significance of these documents in providing "abundant evidence" of ordinary people's (members of the JLC) efforts to fight fascism from its beginnings and to ease the suffering of Jews in Europe during and after the war. The introduction contains a useful bibliography on this topic and the Jewish labor movement, and notes the location of related collections in other archives.

Archives of the Holocaust. An International Collection of Selected Documents, Volume 15, The National Archives of Canada, Ottawa. Canadian Jewish Congress Archives, Montreal. Edited by Paula Draper and Harold Troper. New York: Garland Publishing, Inc., 1991. xlii, 461 pp. \$125.00. ISBN: 0-8240-5497-0. ∞

Volume 15 focuses on the Canadian response to the Holocaust. The documents are drawn from two sources: the National Archives of Canada in Ottawa and the national archives of the Canadian Jewish Congress in Montreal. The goal of editors Paula Draper

and Harold Troper is "to acquaint the researcher with the range of documents currently available in Canada for the study of the Holocaust." The volume is exceedingly well organized into eight chapters, each of which is further subdivided into clearly identified subtopics. Personally, I found this structure to be the best of the series. The 210 documents selected were not necessarily the most important documents, but were a "representative sample" of the different kinds of documents and the various groups and causes they represented. In sum, this gives the researcher a realistic expectation of what he/she might find in these archival agencies. Also included is a short bibliography on the Holocaust and Canada. The introduction itself does a good job on this topic. Among the topics included in the eight chapters are the Canadian government's attitudes toward the Jewish persecutions, refugees, immigration policies, rescue efforts, and postwar and war crimes issues. The documents cover the period 1938-1952.

Archives of the Holocaust. An International Collection of Selected Documents, Volume 16, United Nations Archives, New York. United Nations War Crimes Commission. Edited by George J. Lankevich. New York: Garland Publishing, Inc., 1990. xxx, 366 pp. \$100.00. ISBN: 0-8240-5498-9. ©

This volume comprises seventy documents from the United Nations Archives in New York. Editor George J. Lankevich locates and describes the UN Archives, noting that it also contains the records of a half dozen organizations which preceded the founding of the UN, including those of the United Nations War Crimes Commission, which was established in 1943 and lasted into 1949. The seventy documents reproduced in this volume were chosen from this body of records. The editor advises that these are only selections from the material in the UN Archives pertinent to the Holocaust. Most of this collection has been microfilmed because the documents are pertinent to the alleged Nazi connections of Kurt Waldheim, a controversy which also led to changes in the rules of access to this collection. The documentation is often legal or semi-legal in nature, reflecting the Commission's mission of gathering evidence and other materials to help bring war criminals to justice. The work of the commission and the nature of its archives are ably described. The editor stresses how very important this work was in laying the foundation for the war crimes trials in Nuremberg. The documents are clearly identified, including the reel number of the microfilm copy where the document is located.

Archives of the Holocaust. An International Collection of Selected Documents, Volume 17, American Jewish Committee, New York. Edited by Frederick D. Bogin. New York: Garland Publishing, Inc., 1993. xli, 418 pp. \$113.00. ISBN: 0-8240-5499-7. ©

The Jewish community was not always united in its response to Nazi repression either before or during the war as the records of the American Jewish Committee (AJC) presented in this volume exemplify. The AJC did not support the creation of an independent Jewish state in Palestine during the war and opposed American boycott moves against German goods in the prewar years. Frederick D. Bogin, in his introduction to this volume, discusses the founding and purpose of this organization as well as the YIVO Institute for Jewish

Research in New York where the Committee's pre-1962 records are housed. Records relating to the Holocaust are extensive (473 feet) and the 188 documents published in this volume form "a small but representative selection" of a larger collection. The record groups from which this sample were drawn are described—somewhat confusingly in my view. Selections cover the period 1933-1961 and include a full range of subjects concerning American Jews and the Holocaust, wartime and postwar problems, and other interests.

Archives of the Holocaust. An International Collection of Selected Documents, Volume 18, Yeshiva University, New York. Edited by Jonathan Helfand. New York: Garland Publishing, Inc., 1991. xxiv, 290 pp. \$100.00. ISBN: 0-8240-5576-4. ☉

The records of another non-mainstream American Jewish organization with a different approach to the Holocaust are the subject of this volume. The surviving papers of Va'ad ha- Hatzalah and its related collection, Rescue Children, Inc., founded by Orthodox Jews, are located in the University Archives in the Mendel Gottesman Library on the Yeshiva University's main campus in New York. The 143 documents reproduced from these two relatively small collections (twenty-seven feet and two feet, respectively) deal with the narrower interests of Va'ad in rescuing refugee groups of rabbis, students, and Jewish children displaced by the war. The documents also reflect the organization's internal problems. Included in Jonathan Helfand's introduction is a theological commentary explaining the motivation of the founders of Va'ad.

Archives of the Holocaust. An International Collection of Selected Documents, Volume 19, Dokumentationsarchiv Des Österreichischen Widerstandes, Vienna. Edited by Elisabeth Klamper. New York: Garland Publishing, Inc., 1991. xlv, 487 pp. \$130.00. ISBN: 0-8240-5578-0. ☉

Archives of the Holocaust. An International Collection of Selected Documents, Volume 20, Bundesarchiv of the Federal Republic of Germany, Koblenz and Freiburg. Edited by Henry Friedlander and Sybil Milton. New York: Garland Publishing, Inc., 1993. lii, 547 pp. \$140.00. ISBN: 0-8240-5577-2. ☉

Archives of the Holocaust. An International Collection of Selected Documents, Volume 21, Allgemeines Verwaltungsarchiv, Archiv der Republik, Vienna. Edited by Lorenz Mikoletzky. New York: Garland Publishing, Inc., 1995. xl, 438 pp. \$125.00. ISBN: 0-8240-6465-8.

Archives of the Holocaust. An International Collection of Selected Documents, Volume 22, Zentrale Stelle Der Landesjustizverwaltungen, Ludwigsburg. Edited by Henry Friedlander and Sybil Milton. New York: Garland Publishing, Inc., 1993. xxxix, 515 pp. \$129.00. ISBN: 0-8240-5580-2. ☉

The final four volumes in this twenty-two volume series contain German language documents drawn from two archives in Germany and two from Austria. For non-German readers, the extensive glossaries and detailed descriptions of each published document, all

in English, give a good picture of the meaning and contents of the materials presented here.

The Austrian documents, contained in volumes 19 and 21, are drawn from the Dokumentationsarchiv des Österreichischen Widerstandes (DOW) and the Allgemeines Verwaltungsarchiv, Archiv der Republik, both in Vienna. The DOW, founded in 1963, is really an artificial archives consisting of original and copied documents from Austria and other countries relating to persecution and resistance in Austria. The 221 documents from DOW in volume 19 were edited by Elisabeth Klamper and contain reports of the Gestapo and other security forces, personal accounts, legal documents, and documents on other matters. To assist in the use of these texts, they have been organized into eight chapters on such topics as the persecution of Jews and Gypsies, euthanasia, postwar trials, and related topics. The editor notes that this is a small but nonetheless representative sample of the documents held by DOW. The file reference for each document is included, as is the address of the archives where inquiries may be directed.

The other Austrian volume (volume 21), edited by Lorenz Mikoletzky, contains 159 documents from the Archives of the Republic and the General Administrative Archive, whose history and scope are described. The published documents focus on the 1938-39 period when Austria was joined to Nazi Germany. They cover the plight of Austrian Jews and deal predominantly with the application of the harsh German racial laws. Many of the documents are representations from Austrian citizens seeking modification or exemption from the laws.

German archives are represented in volumes 20 and 22. The former contains 205 documents drawn from twelve record groups in the Bundesarchiv of the Federal Republic of Germany at its central headquarters in Koblenz and from one record group at its Freiburg branch. These volumes, edited by Friedlander and Milton, have the most detailed and informative of any of the glossaries and document identification calendars in the series. They describe the history of the Bundesarchiv and the thirteen record groups from which the documents were selected. These descriptions will be useful to scholars doing further research in the archives. The editors emphasize that the documents represent a cross section of typical materials on the Nazi party; its government, military, and police agencies in the period 1933-45. They relate to the murder of Jews, Gypsies, and the handicapped, as well as the racial policies towards and general persecution of Jews and minorities.

The final volume in the series (volume 22), reproduces documents from the Zentrale Stelle der Landesjustizverwaltungen in Ludwigsburg, a town near Stuttgart. This is not an "archives" but as its name makes clear (Central Office of the Judicial Administrations of the Federal States for the investigation of Nazi crimes), it is an office containing the largest collection of documentary material on Nazi war crimes. In 1958, a number of Justice Ministers in the Federal German states established this office for the purpose of gathering in one central place as much evidence and documentary material as possible to aid them in preparing prosecutions in Germany of war crimes. Friedlander and Milton, as editors for this significant volume, do a good job in describing the legal system and the kinds of records it produced. Again, the unusually complete glossary of terms and names adds greatly to understanding these important documents of which 132 are produced here.

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In examining this entire set of volumes, it is abundantly clear that this series of documents represents a massive and highly scholarly undertaking. I am truly amazed that

the editors have been able to put together a series involving so many different archives in five different countries and in several languages. The logistics of such a complex scholarly enterprise must have been formidable and the diplomacy needed to secure the cooperation (and funding!) for this publication extraordinarily skillful. Of course, there are minor problems: some introductions are better than others and there are small inconsistencies in organizational structure, but these are inconsequential when matched to the scope of this ambitious project. Now, if they only had the time, fortitude, and funds to design a digitized version—it would make an even further contribution to our knowledge and understanding of one of the most barbaric and tragic events in all of human history.

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