



SOMMER, Hurst

Hurst Sommer was born in Breslau, Germany (now part of Poland). He spent his early years in an orphanage and escaped to Shanghai on a cruise liner with his mother and step-father in 1939. Sommer went to the Shanghai Jewish School and worked as an apprentice electrician. After the Liberation, Sommer worked in the U.S. Army and Embassy for two years before immigrating to the United States.

Interview date: 2010/04/11

Keyword: Hongkew Ghetto, Jews, Shanghai, WWII

Relates his childhood in an orphanage and his later journey to Shanghai after Hitler's rise to power in Germany. Recounts his life in Shanghai in the 1930s as well as his time in Hongkew Ghetto. Recalls the liberation of Shanghai and the American soldiers coming into the city. Talks of his works as an electrician in the military and in the U.S. Embassy, and further mentions the Jewish community in Shanghai.

Interviewer: Amelia Allsop

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