Title: Elias Aelion oral history interview
Identifier/Call Number: OHP.2021
Contributing Institution: Tauber Holocaust Library
Language of Material: English
Physical Description: 0.1 Linear feetcomprising one videotape with a running time of 1:13
Date: 1989 September 19
Abstract: This collection comprises one videotape of an oral history interview with Elias Aelion conducted by the Holocaust Oral History Project on September 19, 1989.
Creator: Aelion, Elias
Creator: Feibelman, Anne
Creator: Grant, John
Scope and Contents note
This collection comprises one videotape of an oral history interview with Elias Aelion. The interview was conducted by Anne Feibelman on behalf of the Holocaust Oral History Project on September 19, 1989. Elias Aelion is a Holocaust survivor.
The interview describes Mr. Aelion's childhood in Salonika (Thessaloniki), Greece; his experiences in the military from 1939-1940; his return to Salonika; and his life and work there and later in Athens until its occupation by the Nazis in 1943. Mr. Aelion describes hiding in a brothel to escape capture, and witnessing the brutal capture and humiliation of many Greek Jews by Nazi soldiers. Mr. Aelion discusses his unsuccessful attempts to escape Athens, his return there, where he was hidden by an Armenian family, and his attempts to warn and shield friends and family, until their liberation in September of 1944. Mr. Aelion describes the post-war period, learning of the painful news of the death of his family in concentration camps, and his emigration to the United States in 1951, where he moved to San Francisco, learned English and became a bookkeeper.

Conditions Governing Access note
There are no restrictions to access for this collection.

Conditions Governing Use note
There are no restrictions to use for this collection.

Existence and Location of Copies note
Master copies of the oral history interview are located at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, Washington, D.C.

Preferred Citation note
Elias Aelion oral history interview - OHP.2021, Tauber Holocaust Library - JFCS Holocaust Center, San Francisco, California

Subjects and Indexing Terms
Athens (Greece) -- History -- 20th century.
Holocaust survivors -- United States
Holocaust, Jewish (1939-1945) -- Personal narratives
Jews -- Persecutions -- Greece
Jews, Greek
Thessalonike (Greece)
United States -- Emigration and immigration