Finding aid to the Allan Brotsky Oral History

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Title: Allan Brotsky oral history
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Location: Collection is available onsite.
Language of Material: Languages represented in the collection: English.
Abstract: Sound recording of Allan Brotsky interview conducted by Harvey Schwartz. Brotsky recounts his life as a Bay Area labor and civil rights attorney.

Access
Collection is open for research.

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Preferred Citation
Allan Brotsky oral history. San Francisco State University. Labor Archives and Research Center

Acquisition Information
Interviewed by Harvey Schwartz for the Labor Archives and Research Center, 2005.

Biography
Bay Area labor and civil rights attorney.

Scope and Contents
Sound recording of Allan Brotsky interview conducted by Harvey Schwartz. Brotsky recounts his life as a Bay Area labor and civil rights attorney. The interview covers many major labor and political issues from the 1940s to the present. Topics include Brotsky’s involvement with: UCPAWA (1948 Stockton Strike), student activism at Columbia University, the Young Communist League, the National Lawyers Guild, his service during World War II, and as counsel for such unions as the United Auto Workers, United Electrical, the International Longshore and Warehouse Union, the Marine Cooks and Stewards, and the Marine Engineers Beneficial. Sections dealing with the 1950s Grand Jury subpoenaing of Bay Area labor leaders, and the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee Hearings in San Francisco show the impact of the McCarthy Era on the labor movement locally. Other sections deal with Brotsky’s employment with several prominent Bay Area labor law firms including Gladstein, Andersen, Resner, and Sawyer. Brotsky also worked on behalf of Bay Area civil rights activists in the Palace Hotel sit-ins and Lucky Store picketing. He also argued on behalf of the Black Panthers in the 1960s. In addition, Brotsky recounts defending peace activists during the Vietnam War era. Finally, he discusses his job as a professor of law at Golden Gate University School of Law and reflects on his career.

Subjects and Indexing Terms
Civil rights lawyers -- California -- Interviews.
Labor lawyers -- California -- Interviews.
Audiocassettes.
Oral histories.
Brotsky, Allan
Schwartz, Harvey