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Collection Overview

Repository: Smithsonian Institution Archives, Washington, D.C., osiaref@si.edu
Title: Oral history interviews with I. Michael Heyman
Identifier: Record Unit 9607
Date: 1999, 2001, 2004
Extent: 4 audiotapes (reference copies).
Creator: Heyman, Ira Michael, 1930-2011 interviewee
Language: Language of Materials: English

Administrative Information

Preferred Citation
Smithsonian Institution Archives, Record Unit 9607, Oral history interviews with I. Michael Heyman

Access Restriction
The transcripts are available for research use, but the recordings of the interviews of I. Michael Heyman do not have prefaces. Researchers may submit a written request to interviewee's heirs or assigns for written permission to use the recordings.

Historical Note

I. Michael Heyman (1930-2011), law professor and tenth Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, received his A.B. in government from Dartmouth College in 1951, and his J.D. from Yale Law School in 1956. Heyman was a professor of Law at the University of California at Berkeley from 1959 to 1990 and also served as Vice Chancellor (1974-1980) and Chancellor (1980-1990). He served on the Smithsonian Institution Board of Regents from 1990 to 1994 and as the tenth Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution from 1994 to 1999. These interviews of Heyman complement a set of interviews at the Regional Oral History Office, University of California at Berkeley, which document his youth, education, and career at the University of California. Conducted by Smithsonian historian Pamela M. Henson, the Smithsonian interviews cover his role as a member of the Smithsonian Board of Regents, 1990-1994, especially his work on the Commission on the Future of the Smithsonian, and his tenure as Secretary from 1994 to 1999, especially the Enola Gay controversy. It also includes an interview of Heyman by Marc Pachter in 1999.
Introduction

The Oral History Program is part of the Smithsonian Institution Archives. The purpose of the program is to conduct interviews with current and retired members of the Smithsonian staff who have made significant contributions, administrative and scholarly, to the Institution. The project's goal is to supplement the published record and manuscript collections in the Archives, focusing on the history of the Institution and contributions to the increase and diffusion of knowledge made by its scholars.

The I. Michael Heyman interviews were conducted as part of the Smithsonian Institution Archives Oral History Program because of his role as a member of the Smithsonian Board of Regents and then as Secretary of the Smithsonian from 1994 to 1999.

Descriptive Entry

The I. Michael Heyman Interviews were conducted in 1999, 2001, 2004 and 2007 by Smithsonian Archives Historian Pamela M. Henson. The first interview in 1999 was conducted by historian Marc Pachter. This collection consists of six interview sessions, totaling approximately 10 hours of recordings, 331 pages of transcript, and occupies 0.5 cubic feet of shelf space. There are three generations of recordings for the first three sessions: original audiotapes, preservation digital .wav files and reference audiocassette tapes and .mp3 audio files. Sessions 4 to 6 were recorded in digital audio, with original digital .wav files, preservation digital .wav files, and reference .mp3 audio files. In total, this collection is comprised of 1 original audio cassette, 6 original 7" reel-to-reel audiotapes, 4 reference copy audio cassette tapes, 13 digital .wav files, and 13 digital .mp3 files. The original audiotapes and .wav files are reserved in preservation storage. Box 1 contains transcripts of the interviews and cassette and digital copies of the original recordings.

Additional documentation pertaining to Heyman can be found in the Records of the Office of the Secretary.

Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

Subjects:
- Museum exhibits

Types of Materials:
- Audiotapes
- Interviews
- Oral history
- Transcripts

Names:
- Adams, Robert McC. (Robert McCormick), 1926-
- Henson, Pamela M. interviewer
- Heyman, Ira Michael, 1930-2011
Pachter, Marc interviewer
Smithsonian Institution. Board of Regents
Smithsonian Institution. Office of the Secretary
University of California, Berkeley
Yale University
## Container Listing

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| Audio Recordings of Interviews |
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