



## Guide to the Jerry LeFors oral history interview

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## Summary Information

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<b>Repository:</b>	University of Nevada, Las Vegas. University Libraries. Special Collections and Archives.
<b>Creator:</b>	LeFors, Jerry, 1921-2008
<b>Contributor:</b>	UNLV University Libraries Oral History Collection
<b>Title:</b>	Jerry LeFors oral history interview
<b>ID:</b>	OH-03286
<b>Date [inclusive]:</b>	approximately 2000 to 2008
<b>Physical Description:</b>	3 Digital Files (0.101 GB) MP3
<b>Language of the Material:</b>	English
<b>Abstract:</b>	Oral history interview with Jerry LeFors conducted by an unknown interviewer between approximately 2000-2008 for the UNLV University Libraries Oral History Collection. In this interview, LeFors talks at length about his experiences as an Army Air Corps pilot during World War II. He describes his education, upbringing, music education, and early interest in aviation. He then discusses his military flight training and assignment as a co-pilot on a B-17 bomber crew headed for Europe. He also talks about his subsequent civilian career as a contractor in California and his efforts to break into the music business in the 1950s and 1960s, as well as his continued interest in recording music since his retirement to Las Vegas, Nevada in 1999.

### Preferred Citation

Jerry LeFors oral history interview, approximately 2000-2008. OH-03286. [Cite format consulted: Audio recording or Transcript.] Oral History Research Center, Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

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## Scope and Contents Note

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Oral history interview with Jerry LeFors conducted by an unknown interviewer between approximately 2000-2008 for the UNLV University Libraries Oral History Collection. In this interview, LeFors talks at length about his experiences as an Army Air Corps pilot during World

War II. He describes his education, upbringing, music education, and early interest in aviation. He then discusses his military flight training and assignment as a co-pilot on a B-17 bomber crew headed for Europe. He explains how his aircraft was shot down, the capture of the crew by the German army, and his incarceration at Stalag Luft III outside of Sagan, Germany. This camp held more than 10,000 allied soldiers, primarily flight crews of the American and British air forces. He describes the camp and how they lived, and then talks about the move to Moosberg, Germany that resulted in the prisoners liberation in 1945. He also talks about his subsequent civilian career as a contractor in California and his efforts to break into the music business in the 1950s and 1960s, as well as his continued interest in recording music since his retirement to Las Vegas, Nevada in 1999. Digital audio available; no transcript available.

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## Administrative Information

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### Access Note

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### Acquisition Note

This interview was conducted and transcribed by the Oral History Research Center (OHRC) which is part of the UNLV University Libraries Special Collections and Archives Division.

### Processing Note

Interview materials were processed by UNLV Libraries Special Collections and Archives in 2022 and 2023. Melise Leech wrote the collection description. Access copies were created for born-digital audio and/or transcript files. The audio has been minimally reviewed and all readily available information has been included in the description.

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## **Names and Subjects**

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- World War, 1939-1945
- Prisoners of war
- Germany
- Aviation
- Music