

RFTF ONLINE GLOSSARY OF TERMS

“Remembering for the Future” (RFTF)

RFTF was created by Dr. Maxwell in 1988 to be a forum for the evaluation of the Holocaust before, during and after World War II. The first Conference was held that year under the auspices of Remembering for the Future. It was attended by over 600 scholars from 37 countries and the Proceedings were published by Pergamon Press. In the year 2000, a second RFTF Conference, similar to the first one, was held and was even better attended. It took place both in Oxford and London and was called “The Holocaust in an Age of Genocides”. The Conference’s original aims were to assess the impact of new material and research, particularly in the post-Communist era; to reassess the Jewish-Christian dynamic in the light of the Holocaust and provide a unique opportunity for eye witnesses and scholars to work together and to disseminate new findings. RFTF sought to assess the legacy of the Holocaust and to encourage the continued development of its study.

Today, the work of RFTF is continued as a project under the auspices of the Beth Shalom Holocaust Memorial Centre. Dr. Maxwell is the Honorary Chair of RFTF.

Remembering for the Future Online (RFTF Online)

RFTF Online is the new Registered UK Charity started by Dr. Maxwell to enable her to continue with her latest Holocaust related project: the creation of a Survivor Testimony Database Locator. On April 8th, 2008, RFTF Online became officially a charity, granted by the Charity Commission. Its Registration number is: 1129063.

Survivor Testimony Database Locator (STDL):

STDL is the latest Project of RFTF Online.

The goal of this project is to enable every survivor’s testimony to not only be locatable in the present, but most importantly – also for future generations. RFTS Online’s locator will enable scholars, students and members of the general public to search across and down into – multiple Survivor collection archives from the one search Locator - easily and without having to perform hundreds of individual searches as is now the case. Users will also be able to unearth additional important content elements about Testimonies from the Meta data included. (This is hard to do today for the majority of Testimony citations as many do not have comprehensive Meta data tags, nor are they catalogued in standard ways in many of the smaller collections.)

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TERM	EXPLANATION
Federated Search	Federated search is the simultaneous search of multiple online databases or web resources and is an emerging feature of automated, web-based library and information retrieval systems.
Federated Searching	Federated searching consists of : (1) transforming a query typed into a search box and broadcasting it to a group of distinctly and geographically separate databases or other web resources, (with the appropriate syntax) (2) merging the results collected from the databases (3) presenting them in a succinct and unified format with minimal duplication, and (4) Providing an automatic means to sort the merged result set.
Meta Data	Meta data is “data about data”. It provides information about a certain item's content. For example, an image may include metadata that describes how large the picture is and when it was created. A text document's metadata may contain information about who the author is, when the document was written, and a short summary of the document.
Text-Encoding	A character or text encoding system consists of a code that pairs each character from a given set of characters with something else, such as a sequence of natural numbers, in order to facilitate the transmission of data (such as numbers and text) through telecommunication networks or storage of text in computers.
Boolean Search	Boolean searches allow you to combine words and phrases using the words AND, OR, NOT and NEAR (otherwise known as Boolean operators) to limit, widen, or define your search. Most Internet search engines and Web directories default to these Boolean search parameters. The term Boolean is taken from the name of George Boole. George Boole was an English mathematician in the 19th century, He developed "Boolean Logic" in order to combine certain concepts and exclude certain concepts when searching databases.
GIS	Geographical Information Systems (known today as GIS) is any system that captures, stores, analyzes, manages, and presents data that are linked to location. Technically, a GIS is a system that includes mapping software. Today anyone that owns a recently manufactured mobile phone, can experience the power of a GIS system –helping to get us from A to B.
Google	http://www.google.com the most used search engine
Yahoo	http://www.yahoo.com most successful of the earliest engines (from 1993)
Bing	http://www.bing.com (new search engine from Microsoft)

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION ON THE HONORARY PRESIDENTS

Sir Elie Wiesel, KBE Honorary President

Elie Wiesel was awarded the Nobel Prize for Peace in 1986.

Wiesel is the author of 36 works dealing with Judaism, the Holocaust and moral responsibility. He has dedicated his life to ensuring that none of us forget what happened to the Jews. He has dedicated the latter part of his life to the witnessing of the second-generation and the vital requirement that memory and action be carried on after the survivors have all left us.

<http://xroads.virginia.edu/~CAP/HOLO/ElieBio.Htm>

Sir Martin Gilbert Honorary Vice President

The Rt. Hon. Sir Martin John Gilbert CBE D.Litt is one of the 20th century's foremost historians of World War II, the Holocaust and the founding of modern Israel. Sir Martin is a British historian and the author of over eighty books, including works on the Holocaust and Jewish history. He has been a pioneer of historical atlases, and is known as the official biographer of Sir Winston Churchill and is the author of a single volume: Churchill, his life and amongst others, wrote his twin histories First World War and Second World War, a comprehensive History of Israel, and his three-volume work, A History of the Twentieth Century. He has also published a well known book on the Holocaust which is used as a text book classic in many schools.

He is an Honorary Fellow of Merton College, Oxford, and a Distinguished Fellow of Hillsdale College, Michigan.

<http://www.martingilbert.com/>

Samuel Pisar O. Lo H Honorary Vice President

As a renowned international attorney and a Holocaust survivor, Samuel Pisar LL.M. '55 S.J.D. '59 has experienced mankind's capacity for genius and madness. His survival was a triumph of human spirit. His advocacy for peaceful coexistence is a message from one who has lived through hell on earth. Pisar was deported to Majdanek, and later Auschwitz and Dachau. He recorded his experiences in a 1979 autobiography, "Of Blood and Hope." in which he tells the story of how he survived the Holocaust – (of which a reviewer wrote-- "My father, a survivor of the death camps (Auschwitz, Buchenwald), proclaimed this biography as the most accurate he has read".

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Pisar was rescued by an American tank division when on a death march, after which he made his way to France and then Australia, where he obtained a [Bachelor of Laws](#) from the [University of Melbourne](#) in 1953.]. Pisar finally came to the United States and went on to earn doctorates in law from Harvard and later from the Sorbonne in Paris.-- In 1960, he was called to Washington to serve on President Kennedy's Task Force on Foreign Economic Policy. In 1961, Pisar was made a U.S. citizen by a special act of Congress.

Once considered subhuman, identified only by the number tattooed on his arm, today Pisar is a knight of the French Legion of Honor, an honorary officer of the Order of Australia and a commander of Poland's Order of Merit. His honors and achievement are rooted in pragmatism and hope.

http://www.helaw.harvard.edu/news/bulletin/2005/fall/cn_01.php/