LOCAL LIBERATORS: A PROVIDENCE PRIEST AND A RHODE ISLAND RABBI CONFRONT THE CAMPS: A COMMEMORATION OF THE LIBERATION OF THE NAZI CONCENTRATION CAMPS



PHOTOGRAPHY AND ARTIFACT EXHIBIT
DRAWING ON THE EXPERIENCES OF
REV. EDWARD P. DOYLE, O.P., AND RABBI ELI BOHNEN.
BOTH MEN SERVED AS U.S. ARMY CHAPLAINS AND
ACCOMPANIED THEIR RESPECTIVE TROOPS
AS THEY LIBERATED
CAMPS AT NORDHAUSEN AND DACHAU.

Exhibit located in the Phillips Memorial Library Entryway
Apr.19, 2005-May 31, 2005
Prepared by the Rhode Island Holocaust Museum
and Providence College students and staff

Edward Paul Doyle, O.P., a Providence College alumnus (Class of 1934) and faculty member from 1941-1954, served as a U.S. Army Chaplain with the 104th Infantry (Timberwolf) Division. He entered the camp at Nordhausen when it was liberated on April 11, 1945.



Chaplain Edward P. Doyle, O.P. May 1945 Somewhere in Germany

From the Edward P. Doyle, O.P., Collection, Providence College

Rabbi Eli Bohnen, senior Rabbi of Providence's Temple Emanu-El from 1948-1973, was an assistant U.S. Army Chaplain with the 42nd Infantry (Rainbow) Division, which liberated Dachau on April 29, 1945. He was later posted at the Bad Gastein Displaced Persons Camp near Salzburg, Austria.



Chaplain Eli Bohnen, U.S. Army Chaplain with the 42nd Infantry (Rainbow) Division, with children at Bad Gastein, Austria, Displaced Persons Camp August 1945

From the Mrs. Eli A. Bohnen Collection

The display, which includes photos of the concentration camps at Dachau and Nordhausen, letters and artifacts, illustrates the similar experiences of Father Doyle and Rabbi Bohnen and their determination to preserve their memories and educate others about what they witnessed.