Descriptive Summary
Title: Japanese American relocation collection
Dates: 1941-1947
Bulk Dates: 1941-1947 (bulk 1942-1944)
Collection number: scjar
Creator: Mary Norton Clapp Library
Collection Size: 8 document boxes and 34 oversize boxes 224 online items
Repository: Mary Norton Clapp Library
Los Angeles, CA 90041-3314
Abstract: The collection consists of correspondence, magazines, newspaper and journal articles clippings, and publications from the War Relocation Authority, religious groups, as well as civil liberties organizations. It also has a series of correspondence to and from Occidental President Remsen Bird’s office, and meeting minutes and other publications from the National Japanese American Student Relocation Council.
Languages: Languages represented in the collection: English
Access
Collection is open for research.
Publication Rights
All requests for permission to publish or quote from holdings must be submitted in writing to the Special Collections Department. Permission for publication is given on behalf of Special Collections as the owner of the physical items and is not intended to include or imply permission of the copyright holder, which must also be obtained.
Preferred Citation
Japanese American relocation collection, scjar, Special Collections Department, Occidental College Library, Occidental College.
Processing Information
Since being assembled by College Librarian Elizabeth McCloy and her staff in 1946, the collection has been held, in closed stacks, at Occidental College Library’s Special Collections department. There is no record to indicate that McCloy, who served from 1928 until 1957, or her successors had sought to acquire additional related materials after 1946. However, since Occidental College belonged to the Federal Depository Library Program until 2002, a number of related post-World War II publications by the War Relocation Authority are in the general library holdings.
In 1996, Jean Paule, retired Secretary of the College, returned to Occidental to serve as the College Archivist. Around this time, Michael Sutherland, Special Collections Librarian since 1970, asked Paule to organize the collection in archival boxes. Paule re-affixed folder and box labels without renaming the folders or boxes or disturbing the original order.
In 2004, while processing the collection for online access, Digital Archivist Dale Stieber came across a typed manuscript describing the Library’s holdings that appeared to be a submission for an article. The article, Japanese-American Relocation...
Biography of Remsen DuBois Bird

(This Biography is adapted primarily from Joan P. Olson's Remsen DuBois Bird: A Biography, a Master of Arts thesis written in 1977 when Olson was a graduate student at Occidental College's history department.)

At the time of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, Remsen Bird was the president of Occidental College, a position he had held since 1921. Convinced that he and his colleagues shared a compelling obligation to help displaced Japanese American college students, Bird and a few other educators were instrumental in laying the groundwork for what would become the National Japanese American Student Relocation Council. This is all but one of the many projects Bird took on during his long career in academia, and it conforms to his belief in the importance of an "open mind" throughout his life.

Born on January 3, 1888 in New York City, Remsen Dubois Bird lost his father at an early age and grew up in dire poverty. Bird recalled in later years how his mother was forced to surrender their furniture to a landlord in order to avoid eviction. From about the age 12, Bird lived periodically with an aunt and an uncle, who emphasized patriotism, hard work, and religious faith in their home. When he was 13, he lost his older sister Daisy to consumption; this was followed four years later by his mother's death. Bird later told friends that as he sat beside his gravely-ill mother, noting her worsening condition and her thoughtfulness of him, he resolved to lead a life of service in her memory. In 1905, Bird left New York for Easton, Pennsylvania, where he entered the Presbyterian-founded Lafayette College and earned an A.B. degree in 1909. (Lafayette College endowed him an honorary degree in 1919.) From 1909 to 1912, Bird matriculated at the Princeton Theological Seminary, earning a B.D. degree in church history. Perhaps because of the difficult and humble beginnings, Bird relished every opportunity to learn and to broaden his horizons, extending his studies in church history by another year at the University of Berlin. Rumors and talks of the impending world conflicts did not dim Bird's enthusiasm for Berlin and its vigorous intellectual as well as cultural life. At the end of the year abroad, Bird returned to Princeton Theological Seminary to teach church history.

That Bird believed in an open and liberal mind is evidenced by his decision to move, with his wife Helen (they had married in May 1914), from the east coast to the west. While developing a reputation as a good teacher at Princeton, Bird nevertheless found himself at odds with fellow faculty members and the school's prevailing rigid, conservative, and closed-minded attitudes. Bird was particularly disturbed by the Seminary's insistence on narrow interpretations of Presbyterian doctrines and its failure to utilize the Christian faith in important social issues. Finally in the summer of 1915, Bird accepted an invitation to become the California Chair of Church History at the San Francisco Theological Seminary in San Anselmo, California.

The Birds, who shared a passion for natural beauty, music, books, and friendships with people all over the world, found their new surroundings in northern California immensely satisfying. Between 1915 and 1921, Bird taught with other devoted and like-minded faculty, wrote poetry as well as plays, and when the need presented itself, filled temporarily empty pulpit in the area. (Bird had been ordained as a minister in 1912.) This relatively idyllic period was, however, interrupted by a major world event: World War I. The United States' entry into the war in 1917 was significant for Bird personally in at least one way: it was the impetus for serious introspection. Bird, despite a patriotic upbringing, wrote that he was "anything but heroic and belligerent and ... had no hatred of the Germans." As an ordained minister, Bird thought he might be called upon to serve as chaplain but found no enthusiasm for that role either. At 30, he was within draft age and dutifully filled out a government questionnaire. While awaiting a response, Bird learned unexpectedly that the University of Berlin. Rumors and talks of the impending world conflicts did not dim Bird's enthusiasm for Berlin and its vigorous intellectual as well as cultural life. At the end of the year abroad, Bird returned to Princeton Theological Seminary to teach church history.

During his wartime service, Bird had been surrounded by people from various backgrounds --- people outside the circle of faculty and students and their families which the Birds had built their lives around --- and after his return to California, he grew increasingly aware that he enjoyed the company of people above everything else. His calling in life was not serious scholarly research. Bird wrote, "I loved people, all kinds of them, wanted them around in great numbers ... And helping solve the complicated problems of persons enmeshed in difficulties soon became for me the most satisfying of all." The opportunity to enable Bird to utilize the talents he knew he possessed came in 1921 when the Board of Trustees of Occidental College asked Bird to become its next president. It was a position he would hold for the next 25 years.

At the age 33, Bird was the one of youngest men ever to lead the school. He brought to Occidental, in the words of colleague Robert Cieland, "spontaneous enthusiasm, extraordinary energy, capacity for making friends for the college, imagination, a contagious love of beauty, and zeal for contributing to the common good." All of these qualities proved...
enormously beneficial for the liberal arts college. Bird's appreciation for natural beauty led to large-scale projects which improved the physical environment of the school, transforming the relatively barren landscape to one dotted with trees and vegetation. His genuine interest in and love for people meant that he was comfortable with persons of status — and that he was a prodigious fundraiser. The Birds counted as their friends politicians, people in the entertainment and finance industries, members of the church, and of course, colleagues in the academia. Occidental's registrar during Bird's administration once said of him, "He had charisma before that word became overworked." Bird's ability to utilize his contacts raised much-needed funds for Occidental, especially during the Great Depression years when the school seemed to be perpetually mired in dire financial straits.

Those who worked with Bird would recall most vividly his enormous energy in both utilizing his talents and inspiring those around him. Ideas poured out of him so fast that others at times found it difficult to keep up with him. Bird's mind was always engaged in visions of how to make the school better: an auditorium/theater on campus, the building of a second campus, fundraising campaigns, recruitment of faculty, relationship with local communities, strong interests in student affairs, and so on. Olive Hutchison, Bird's personal secretary from 1928 until 1945, remembered working with the president with fondness and amazement — fondness because of Bird's kindness and amazement because of the zest he brought to his work, exemplified by his voluminous letter writing. At one point in the 1930s, the workload grew to a point where her doctor ordered it to be reduced.

Bird's long tenure at Occidental was not without its critics. Admittedly and proudly an idealist, Bird often approached situations with emotions and not much analysis — his contemporaries have described him as a "great dreamer" who "engaged in flights of fancy." He had been known to envision a large project, convince colleagues and community members to join the endeavor, and then dash off to another project leaving the details to others. At times potential donors found his fundraising tactics distasteful. Bird's feelings were hurt by some of the criticism, particularly the publication in 1939 of After Many a Summer Dies the Swan by Aldous Huxley, whom Bird had regarded as a friend. In his satirical novel, Huxley portrays the character based on Bird as a college president wholly preoccupied with the pursuit of the rich and well-connected, speaking in an "oily manner, like vaseline with a flavour of port wine". According to Hutchison, Bird "went right to town and told Huxley just what he thought of him!"

Bird's 25-year tenure covered tumultuous times in history; his leadership took the College through first the Great Depression and then World War II. It is his idealism, however impractical or imperfect, that prompted him to defend liberalism and academic freedom (when George Day, professor of sociology and economics, was accused of being pro-communist, Bird resisted calls for Day's resignation and threatened to resign if the Board of Trustees fired Day), to refuse a large but questionable donation (businessman George Pepperdine had proposed to support the school's religion program with the condition that he would exert considerable influence by naming faculty members), and to become involved with the Japanese American student relocation. Bird announced his resignation from Occidental College in 1945, citing health reasons. For the next 25 years he and Helen resided in Carmel, California where he remained active in preserving the natural beauty of the Monterey Bay area and in the founding of the Monterey Institute of Foreign Studies in 1955. Remsen Bird died of heart disease on April 9, 1971.

Scope and Content of Collection

The Japanese American Relocation Collection consists of correspondence, magazines, newspaper and journal articles clippings, and publications from the War Relocation Authority, religious groups, as well as civil liberties organizations. The subject of Japanese American internment is vast and widely-studied. This collection, though not possessing the breadth and depth of holdings found at repositories such as the National Archives and Records Administration, the Hoover Institution at Stanford University, and the Bancroft Library at University of California at Berkeley, still reflects the tenor of the times. College Librarian Elizabeth McCloy clearly chose not to "take sides" in her endeavor; using neutral languages, she wrote to organizations on both sides, those sympathetic and those hostile to Japanese Americans. Additionally, researchers will find publications authored or sponsored by the War Relocation Authority, which offer some insight to the civilian agency charged with the day-to-day operations at various relocation camps.

An unique and significant portion of the collection consists of a series of correspondence to and from College President Remsen Bird's office, reflecting the flurry of activities aimed at establishing a national program which would assist Japanese American college students displaced by the evacuation orders. To that end, in addition to the letters, the collection also contains meeting minutes and other publications from the National Japanese American Student Relocation Council. This will draw researchers interested in how educators responded to the Japanese American internment during World War II, particularly in the little known history of Bird's efforts.

Arrangement

The filing system of this collection has been kept substantially in its original form; the original folders and their titles are retained. As a result, researchers will find that a given Series may contain boxes and folders whose numbers are not in
Finding aid of the Japanese American Relocation Collection

The collection is organized in 4 record series, some of which are further divided into subseries:

1. Series: Letters and papers of Remsen Bird
2. Series: Contemporaneous publications
3. Series: Assembly and relocation center publications
4. Series: War Relocation Authority and other U.S. government publications

Series I is divided into three subseries:
1. Subseries: Concerning students, relocation, and return
2. Subseries: Establishing the National Japanese American Student Relocation Council
3. Subseries: Establishing the collection

Series II is divided into two subseries:
1. Subseries: Newspaper clippings and magazines
2. Subseries: Civil liberties, community, and church organizations

Indexing Terms
The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the library's online public access catalog.
Concentration Camps -- United States -- Newspapers
Japanese American college students
Japanese Americans - Education (higher)
Japanese Americans -- Evacuation and relocation, 1942-1945
World War, 1939-1945 -- Education and the war
National Japanese American Student Relocation Council
United States. War Relocation Authority
Bird, Remsen Du Bois, b. 1888
McCloy, Elizabeth

Folders 1A-1D, 1Ea, 1Eb, 1Ec, 1Ed, 1F-1G

Series I: Letters and papers of Remsen Bird

Scope and Content
In the winter of 1942, shortly after the Pearl Harbor bombings and the proposed internment of over 110,000 Japanese Americans, President Remsen Bird of Occidental College became concerned with the educational prospects of thousands of college-age students who had their education involuntarily interrupted. A member of the Association of Colleges and Universities of the Pacific Southwest (later renamed Western College Association), Bird began a series of correspondence with members of the Association, other educators, and government officials, attempting to establish "a proper centralizing of authority and approach" (Letter to Earl R. Hedrick, April 1, 1942) to facilitate the relocation of students to colleges outside the military zones on the West Coast.
The earliest letter in the collection dates December 10, 1941. Barely three days after the Pearl Harbor attack, Occidental College student Sinpachi Kanow wrote to College President Bird, relating an incident of the previous day when his brother was prevented from boarding a bus in Los Angeles. Worried that what happened would not be an isolated case, Kanow decided to withdraw from school, noting that "I am bitterly disappointed in not being able to continue with my schooling". On December 11, Bird wrote Kanow back, urging him not give up his plans.

Throughout spring and early summer of 1942, hundreds of letters from Bird's office reached various individuals and organizations: To presidents of colleges in the interior inquiring whether they would accept Japanese American students; to the same groups recommending former students forced to leave Occidental; to former Occidental students sending messages of encouragement; to California Governor Culbert Olson urging further discussion on internment matters; to colleagues at the Western College Association and leaders at Christian education groups attempting to coordinate student relocation efforts.

Notably on April 4, 1942, E. R. Hedrick, provost of the University of California and chairman of the Committee on American-born Japanese and Aliens of the Western College Association, wrote to Bird and invited him to become a member of the Committee. Bird accepted the invitation four days later. On April 23, Bird wrote to Lieutenant General John DeWitt, Commander of the Western Defense Command, expressing an interest in assisting with student relocation. It can be surmised that Bird had high expectations of what Western College Association could accomplish and hoped to play a large role in that.

That the government had chosen the American Friends Service Committee to spearhead a student relocation program disappointed Bird, who might have felt that his and his colleagues' efforts were negated. In a May 27 letter to Pickett, Bird wrote, "I wish very much that Mr. Eisenhower [Milton Eisenhower, the first Director of the War Relocation Authority] had gone over the matter with the Western Association of Colleges and the Association of American Colleges in laying his plans, in that we were already 'on the alert.'" However, he added, "This is no time to stand on any degree of sensitivity. It is a moment when all who believe in the American faith should put it in practice." In letter after letter, while commending the military's execution of the blanket evacuation order, Bird also stressed the importance of student relocation as a matter of principle, as a way of upholding "American democracy and faith".
Finding aid of the Japanese American Relocation Collection

Folder 1A: National Japanese American Student Relocation Council
Folder 1B: National Japanese American Student Relocation Council - printed matter

Scope and Content
This folder contains the following records:
"How to help Japanese American Student Relocation". September 1, 1943.
"The test of a free country: A talk given by Dr. Robert Gordon Sproul... on June 29, 1944".
"From Camp to College: The Story of the Japanese American Student Relocation". Circa 1945.

Folder 1C: National Japanese American Student Relocation Council - minutes
Folder 1D: National Student Relocation Council - war relocation

Subseries 3: Establishing the collection

Scope and Content
The genesis of the collection can be traced to a letter Bird wrote to College Librarian Elizabeth McCloy some eight months after the Pearl Harbor attack, on August 18, 1942. Noting that "[s]omething tremendous is happening in our times of which we are all aware", Bird wrote, "I would like very much to keep as full a record as possible of all the documents and material dealing with this particular phase. Will you please help me?" McCloy and her staff honored this request, and from 1942 until 1947 the Occidental College Library collected a wide range of materials related to the Japanese American internment during World War II.

Folder 1Eb: Library
Folder 1F: Background for the Japanese relocation collection
Folder 1G: Miscellaneous

Scope and Content
This folder contains the following:
A copy of the Los Angeles School Journal, vol. XXV, no 26, April 13, 1942, which contains an article entitled, "Evacuation Information".
A map, entitled "Nisei Students in Colleges and Universities Outside Restricted Areas: 1941 and 1943", published by the Department of Sociology, University of Washington, circa 1943.
A newspaper clipping from the Pasadena Chronicle, Sept 29, 1944, which mentions Japanese-American student Esther Takei, and includes an article entitled: "What Shall be Done With the Nisei?"
Series II: Contemporaneous publications

Subseries 1: Newspaper clippings and magazines

Scope and Content

After the attack on Pearl Harbor in December, 1941, anti-Japanese sentiments surfaced in many spheres and Japanese Americans on the West Coast were confronted with confusion, fear, and hysteria. This would persist throughout the war and its immediate aftermath. However, many individuals and organizations took the opposite view, advocating and working for the rights as well as the well-being of a displaced people. The tenor of the times is reflected in the collection of newspaper clippings, magazine articles, pamphlets and other publications from civil liberties, community, as well as church organizations.

Boxes 2, 3B

Subseries 1: Newspaper clippings and magazines

Scope and Content

The collection contains an assortment of newspaper clippings and reprints of periodical articles. The majority of clippings are from the Los Angeles Times and the rest from other West Coast publications, including San Francisco Chronicle, Santa Barbara Star News-Press, Pasadena Star News, Sacramento Bee, San Diego Union, and others. The opposing sentiments and views regarding the Japanese American internment can be found in these clippings. The February 28, 1945 edition of the Los Angeles Times, for example, carry stories of “Bullets fired into home of returned Jap” and “Jap-American’s war record given praise”. Organizations such as the Anti-Japanese League and the Committee on American Principles and Fair Play, two groups on the opposing sides, are covered by newspapers in the collection.

Box 2

Box 2: Background for collection clippings

Scope and Content

Box 2 contains newspaper clippings organized in 34 envelopes; typed on the outside of each envelope is a list of items inside, designated by names of the articles. The number of items contained in each envelope range from 1 to 41. In all, the 34 envelopes contain approximately 760 items. The dates of clippings range from 1942 to 1947, with the bulk date being 1944 and 1945. The clippings are fragile, and many items are torn where the pages are folded.

Of note to the Occidental community is a May 17, 1944 article in Occidental titled “SPActivity” by Urb Whitaker. SPAC (Student Political Action Committee), according to this short article, has taken on the merchants in the vicinity of York Boulevard and 42nd Avenue near campus. SPAC urges students to boycott merchants who have displayed the “We don’t want the Japs back here, EVER” sign on their storefront windows.
Box 3B: **Original copies of magazines**

**Scope and Content**

Box 3B contains original copies of *The American Legion Magazine*, *The American Magazine*, *Coronet*, *Collier's*, *Country Gentleman*, *The Intercollegian*, *The Commonweal*, and *The Wellesley Magazine*. All have articles related to the Japanese American internment. Please see the citations below.


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Folders 3B, 3C, 7A, 7B, 7D, 7E, 7G, 8B-8D

Subseries 2: **Civil liberties, community, and church organization publications**

**Scope and Content**

The collection contains publications from various organization involved in activities concerning first the internment and then the resettlement of Japanese Americans, including the American Friends Service Committee, the Japanese American Citizens League, Committee on American Principles and Fair Play, Home Missions Council of North America, and others. Throughout the war, many church organizations were involved in various activities related to the evacuation and resettlement of Japanese Americans; and publications became one of the means through which these organizations sought to convey their messages and carry out their mission.
Folder 3B: **The Japanese American Review**

**Scope and Content**

This folder contains 7 issues of The Japanese American Review. It was established in 1900 and published by Nippon Publishing Co. Inc. in New York. The publication measures 11"-by-17 1/2" and runs from 8 to 14 pages. This folder has:

- Vol. 41, No. 2116 (July 12, 1941)
- Vol. 41, No. 2117 (July 26, 1941)
- Vol. 41, No. 2118 (August 9, 1941)
- Vol. 41, No. 2119 (August 23, 1941)
- Vol. 41, No. 2120 (September 6, 1941)
- Vol. 41, No. 2122 (October 4, 1941)
- Vol. 41, No. 2122 (October 18, 1941)

The October 4 and October 18 edition share the same issue number.

Folder 3C: **The Open Forum**

**Scope and Content**

This folder contains 46 issues of The Open Forum, which was published in Los Angeles by the Southern California branch of the American Civil Liberties Union. At one time, The Open Forum had noted writers Upton Sinclair and John Packard as its contributing editors. This publication is 11"-by-16", with each 2-page issue printed on both sides of a page. This folder has:

- Vol. XX, Nos. 17-20, 27-29, 35, 44, 47-51. (April - December, 1943)
- Vol. XXI, Nos. 2-3, 5-12, 14-15, 17, 21-24, 29-30, 32-33, 35-38, 47. (January - November, 1944)
- Vol. XXII, Nos. 38-41, 47. (September - November, 1945)
Folder 7A: *Resettlement Bulletin (and Committee on Resettlement)*

Scope and Content

*Resettlement Bulletin* was published in New York by the Home Missions Council of North America. For three years beginning in early 1943, the Committee on Resettlement of Japanese Americans put together this monthly paper (the first three issues were published bi-monthly and thereafter monthly) with George Rundquist and then Toru Matsumoto as its editors.

The paper is a collection of articles, announcements, and editorials concerning Japanese American resettlement. Contributors include representatives from the Japanese American Citizens League as well as church organizations, Dillon Myer (Director of the War Relocation Authority), Thomas Bodine (National Student Relocation Council), and relocation center residents/evacuees.

This folder contains 18 issues of *Resettlement Bulletin*. Each issue measures 8 1/2"-by-11". The length varies from 8 to 16 pages. The following is a list of the issues.

- Vol. I, No. 3 (June 1943)
- Vol. I, No. 4 (July 1943) "Evacuees speak on resettlement" issue
- Vol. I, No. 5 (September 1943) "Evacuees speak on resettlement" issue, part two
- Vol. I, No. 6 (October 1943) "The Churchs role in resettlement" issue
- Vol. II, No. 1 (January 1944)
- Vol. II, No. 2 (February 1944) "To the 96". This refers to the 96 Japanese American soldiers killed, based on figures supplied by the War Department on January 20, 1943
- Vol. II, No. 3 (March 1944). This issue devotes one page to "Japanese Canadians Today"
- [Vol. II, No. 4] (April 1944)
- Vol. II, No. 5 (June 1944)
- Vol. II, No. 6 (July 1944)
- Vol. II, No. 7 (September 1944)
- Vol. II, No. 8 (October 1944) "Student Returnee Reports" by Frank T. Inouye. This is a summation of various students' experiences in their capacity as returnees to their relocation centers. The article mentions the National Japanese American Student Relocation Council
- Vol. II, No. 9 (November 1944). "From Camp to Campus" by Thomas Bodine
- Vol. II, No. 10 (December 1944)
- Vol. III, No. 1 (January 1945)
- Vol. III, No. 2 (March 1945)
- Vol. III, No. 3 (May 1945)
- Final Number (April 1946). "Towards the True Meaning of Democracy" by Dillon Myer.
Folder 7B: Return to West Coast

Scope and Content
As the war progressed, it became increasingly clear to some government authorities that keeping over 110,000 Japanese Americans in confinement for prolonged periods of time would be undesirable. As early as March 1943, Dillon Myer, Director of the War Relocation Authority, wrote to Secretary of War Stimson recommending a relaxation in the West Coast exclusion orders. (This was rejected by Stimson.) Nevertheless, through leave programs selected evacuees were able to leave relocation centers for employment and college education outside the restricted zones.

The issue of resettlement became more urgent in December 1944, when Myer announced that all relocation centers would be closed before the end of 1945. In particular resettlement on the West Coast, where the overwhelming majority of evacuees had had their homes and properties, stirred much discussion and debates. This folder contains documents dealing with this topic, including views of both pro- and against- Japanese American resettlement.

This folder contains the following 18 items of varying formats and lengths.
- Ford, Julia Ellsworth. "Something to Think About". Date unknown.
- Ford, Julia Ellsworth. "Supplement to 'Something to Think About'". Date unknown.
- "Brief Facts About the Japanese Americans". [Committee on Resettlement of Japanese Americans]. January 1943.
- "War Department Views on Japanese Returning to Pacific Coast. Letter from Assistant Secretary of War John J. McCloy to William G. Merchant, President of the Down Town Association of San Francisco". Date unknown.
- "Pasadena, CA: Friends of the American Way". Date unknown.
- "Poulson Reports from Washington". June 3, 1943.
- "The Return of Those of Japanese Ancestry to California - A talk given by Dr. Monroe E. Deutsch, Vice-President and Provost of the University of California, before the County Superintendents of Schools of this State, in the Courthouse, Oakland, California, on Wednesday, January 10, 1945".
- "Keep the issue clear!", "Why this organized campaign of hatred of Americans", and "A personal word". Author unknown. Date unknown.
- "America is raising questions about some Californians". Author unknown. Date unknown.
- "Protecting newspapers?" and "District attorney disavows promptly, completely and emphatically!". Author unknown. Date unknown.
Folder 7D: Committee on American Principles and Fair Play, Friends of the American Way

Scope and Content
This folder contains 15 items issued by the Committee on American Principles and Fair Play, mostly letters to members regarding issues such as housing for the tens of thousands of returnees. Most items measure 21 1/2 cm-by-28 cm, varying in length from 1 to 14 pages. Of note is a personal letter to Remsen Bird which included an October 9, 1944 Los Angeles Times article. The paper reports on a sermon delivered by a Reverend Bell in support of 19-year-old Esther Takei's enrollment at the Pasadena Junior College.

Folder 7E: American Friends Service Committee

Scope and Content
This folder contains 9 items from the American Friends Service Committee, including news bulletin, correspondence, reports, and an "application for employment" (designed to help returnees secure employment). Most documents measure 21 1/2 cm-by-28 cm, varying in length from 1 to 4 pages. Of note is a letter from Esther Rhodes to Remsen Bird, expressing the wish for Bird to act as the chairman of a yet-to-be-formed coordinating committee which would replace the Southern California Student Relocation Committee.

Folder 7G: Japanese American Citizens League

Scope and Content
This folder contains 16 items, including a three-part report called "The Dies Committee, the Hearst Press, and Their Japanese Nightmares", 7 "News Release", and an executive secretary's report. Two documents (a flier advertising a concert and a pamphlet called "Japanese People's Emancipation League") are from an organization called Japanese American Committee for Democracy; whether this organization is associated with the JACL is unclear. Most items measure 21 1/2 cm-by-28 cm, varying in length from 1 to 30 pages. Dates range from 1942 to 1944.
Folder 8B: Miscellaneous pamphlets and printed matter

Scope and Content

This folder contains a miscellany of documents in various formats published by civilian organizations, including Post War World Council, Citizens Committee for Resettlement, and others. The following is a partial list.


"What we were fighting for". Salt Lake City: Japanese American Citizen's League. Date unknown.


"American Fighting Men Speak Out". Berkeley: Committee on American Principles and Fair Play, circa 1944.


"You Can Do something About It! 70,000 American Refugees". St. Louis: Citizens Committee for Resettlement. Date unknown.


"Aliens in our Midst: A radio discussion by Ernest Colwell, Carey McWilliams, Louis Wirth". The University of Chicago: Round Table. May 10, 1942.


Phinney, Milton C. "The Story of the Nittas: A Touching Human Document". Reprinted from NOW, through co-operation with the Congregational Committee on Christian Democracy from original manuscript supplied by the Reports Division of the War Relocation Authority, Los Angeles, July, 1945.


"United we stand". Pasadena: Pacific Coast Committee on American Principles and Fair Play, 1943.

Shivers, Robert L. "Cooperation of Racial Groups in Hawaii During the War". Honolulu: Territorial Emergency Service Committees, 1946.

"American Refugees." Berkeley: Fellowship of Reconciliation. Date unknown.

"Emergency Service Committee". Honolulu: YMCA, Date unknown.

"Out of the Many - One: A plan for Intercultural Education". NY: Service Bureau for Intercultural Education. Date unknown.


"Relocating a People". Printed by the U.S. Government. Date unknown.
Folder 8C: Churches and religious organizations
Scope and Content
This folder contains a miscellany of 24 items in various formats published by church organizations, including Church Federation of Los Angeles, The First Methodist Church of Santa Maria, and others.

Folder 8D: Churches and religious organizations II
Scope and Content
This folder contains 13 pamphlets published by church organizations, including Colorado Council of Churches, Council for Social Action of the Congregational Christian Churches, and others. The following is a partial list.


  Douglass, Truman B. "70,000 American Refugees: Made in USA". St. Louis: Citizens Committee for Resettlement. Circa 1944.


  Carlson, Kenneth A. "So I went to Manzanar". Sermon at Central Methodist Church in Glendale, CA, in May, 1944.

  "The Japanese on the Pacific Coast: A factual Study of Events Dec. 7, 1941 - September 1, 1942 with Suggestions for the Future". Statement for the Los Angeles County Committee for Church and Community Cooperation. Prepared by the Executive Secretary, Dr. George Gleason. September, 1942.


Series III: Assembly and relocation center publications
Scope and Content
In The Relocation Program: A Guidebook for the Residents of Relocation Centers, it is stated that "At all centers, the WRA encourages the evacuee residents to assume the fullest possible responsibility for publishing a newspaper that meets the community needs..."

Indeed, residents of relocation centers produced numerous publications, describing and documenting their experience.
Box 6: **Relocation center publications I**

**Scope and Content**

This box contains 20 publications from seven relocation centers (Gila River, Tule Lake, Poston, Rohwer, Jerome, Granada, and Manzanar) as well as the Santa Anita Assembly Center. They include high school yearbooks, newsletters, magazines, and others. Relocation center residents contributed personal essays, poems, editorials, and short stories. The following is a partial list of items.

- Gila Rivers, Arizona, 1943 Calendar.
- The First Year: Story of the Red Cross in Poston. September 1, 1943.
- The Service Division: Santa Anita Assembly Center. November, 1942.
- 'Lil Dan'l: One year in a Relocation Center. A Rohwer Outpost Publication. 1943.
- Baseball: Tule Lake Center. Published by Newell Star Sports Department. December 31, 1944.
- Manzanar Adult Education with Special Emphasis on Vocational Training: Spring Semester, 1943.
- Santa Anita Pacemaker. 1942.
- Condensor. Denison High School class of 1943.
- A Newspaper without a Name. Santa Anita [Assembly Center]. Vol. I, No. A. April 18, 1942.

Box 6B: **Relocation center publications II**

**Scope and Content**

This box contains the following:


Folder 7F: **Relocation centers**

**Scope and Content**

This folder contains 7 items, including "By-laws of Gila River Cooperative Enterprises, Inc.", "Constitution" (Butte Community, Gila River Relocation Center), "Leadership Training: to the officers of the clubs and organizations and Nisei block leaders", a memorandum on the use of the terms "Japanese", "camps", and "interment", and a "Dear Friends" letter from a couple named Earl and Hazel describing their visit to the Poston camp.

Most documents measure 21 1/2 cm-by-28 cm, varying in length from 2 to 19 pages. Of note is an 83 cm-by-58 cm "Segregation" diagram illustrating the three possible outcomes for an evacuee: "Japan", "A Relocation Center", and "Relocation Into American Communities". Where an evacuee would end up is contingent upon, amongst other factors, his or her answer to the so-called loyalty question. The date and author or provenance of this diagram is unknown.
Series IV: **War Relocation Authority and other U.S. government publications**

**Scope and Content**

The War Relocation Authority (WRA) is a civilian agency created by Franklin Roosevelt on March 18, 1942 with the signing of Executive Order 9102. The agency is responsible for the relocation and internment of over 110,000 Japanese Americans during World War II. Milton Eisenhower served as WRA's Director for the first three months; after his resignation, Roosevelt appointed Dillon Myer to the post on June 17, 1942.

From beginning to end, about 3,000 people worked in the evacuation centers, regional offices, and the headquarters in Washington. The War Relocation Authority received appropriations of over $190 million, of which it spent $160 million. In February, 1944, Roosevelt signed Executive Order 9423 which transferred WRA to the Department of the Interior. The War Relocation Authority was officially terminated on June 30, 1946. In all, the agency was in charge of 10 relocation centers in 7 states.

Throughout its relatively brief existence, the War Relocation Authority authored studies, issued statements, and sponsored reprints of articles. Taken together, these publications aim to dispel misconceptions about Japanese Americans, raise public awareness of the bravery of Nisei soldiers, address issues concerning returnees to the West Coast, and state as well as explain the agency's policies in relocation centers.
Folder 3A: **Reprints of periodical articles**

**Scope and Content**

The War Relocation Authority, in addition to authoring studies and surveys of conditions at relocation centers (see Box 4), appears to have also assembled, reprinted, and published articles from various journals, magazines, as well as newspapers. This folder contains the reprints of such articles.

In terms of newspaper reprints, this folder contains publications from every region of the country, including *San Francisco Chronicle, Tribune* (Minneapolis, Minnesota), *Banner* (Nashville, Tennessee), *Honolulu Star-Bulletin, Salt Lake Tribune, Gazette* (Cedar Rapids, Iowa), *Democrat and Chronicle* (Rochester, New York), and many more.

A group of newspaper reprints are devoted to the Hood River incident. In December 1942, the Hood River (Oregon) post of the American Legion removed the names of 16 Nisei soldiers from the post's roll of honor. The move sparked protests across the country; the resulting newspaper articles as well as editorials are part of this collection.

In all, this folder contains approximately 240 reprints of newspaper articles.

In terms of journal and magazine reprints, this folder contains 27 articles; the formats include pamphlets and newsletters, varying in lengths from 8 to 20 pages. The following is a list of the articles.

- Morimitsu, George. "These Are Our Parents". Reprinted by permission from the October, 1943, issue of *Asia and the Americas*.
- "The Displaced Japanese-Americans". Published by the American Council on Public Affairs in Washington, D.C. The text of this pamphlet originally appeared in *Fortune Magazine*, April 1944, under the title of "Issei, Nisei, and Kibei".
- "Issei, Nisei, Kibei". Subtext: "Fortune Magazine reviews the program of the War Relocation Authority and the problems Created by the Evacuation from the west coast of 110,000 people of Japanese descent". *Fortune*, 1944.
- Wada, Yori. "Beyond the Horizon". Reprinted from *California Monthly*, December, 1943. (University of California Alumni Association.)
- Casey, Gene. "G.I. Japynk". Reprinted from *Collier's* from the issue of August 5, 1944.
- "Nisei Soldiers". *Collier's*, March 20, 1943.

**Finding aid of the Japanese American Relocation Collection**


Largely as a result of protests at the Poston and Manzanar centers in late 1942, Director Dillon Myer appointed "community analysts" to study and compile data on the social structure of relocation centers. These analysts were for the most part social anthropologists who had no direct responsibilities for the administrative aspects of relocation centers. The War Relocation Authority hoped that their studies would point to the "most important trends of evacuee thinking" and "probable evacuee reactions to proposed policies" (WRA: a story of human conservation, p. 187), thereby assisting the agency in formulating policies.

The resulting documents --- Community Analysis Report, Project Analysis Series, and Community Analysis Notes --- would “provide a wealth of highly valuable material for social scientists and others interested in studying the social patterns of a displaced minority in government-operated camps.” (WRA: a story of human conservation, p. 187)

This box contains 45 documents prepared by the Community Analysis Section of the War Relocation Authority, including 17 Community Analysis Report, 19 Project Analysis Series, 8 Community Analysis Notes, and 1 unidentified report. All documents are photocopies. They vary in length from 2 to 81 pages. The dates of documents range from 1943 to 1946, with the bulk being 1943 and 1944.

The following is a list of the documents. "CAR" denotes Community Analysis Report. "PAS" denotes Project Analysis Series. "CAN" denotes Community Analysis Notes.


PAS No. 20. Lantis, Margaret. "Relocation at Rohwer Center. Part III: Background for the Community Government at the Gila River Relocation Center". November 6, 1944.


PAS No. 18. "Relocation at Rohwer Center. Part II: Issei Relocation Problems". September 1944.


PAS No. 15. "The Reaction of Heart Mountain to the Opening of Selective Service to Nisei". November 24, 1943.


PAS No. 11. "Notes on Evacuee Family Patterns". November 24, 1943.


PAS No. 9. "Preliminary Survey of Resistances to Resettlement at the Tule Lake Community Analysis Reports from Colorado River and Tule Lake Centers." Date Unknown.


PAS No. 5. "Preliminary Evaluation of the Resettlement Program at Jerome Relocation Center". May, 1943.
Folder 5A: War Relocation Authority

Scope and Content

This folder contains 35 documents prepared, assembled, reprinted, and/or released by the War Relocation Authority. They vary in length from 1 to 10 pages; most are mimeographs. The dates of most documents are unknown.

It includes several reprints from periodicals which have previously published accounts of Nisei soldiers. An excerpt of a story from the *C.B.I. Roundup* (Army newspaper of the China-Burma-India theater) is in this folder, quoting soldiers on their ordeals in battles. Another reprint is from an editorial in the *New York Herald Tribune*, asking, "What more conclusive test of patriotism is there?" Also in this folder is the text of "Presidential Citation to 100th Infantry Battalion", a unit comprised entirely of Japanese Americans who fought in Italy.

Also included is a copy of the statement issued by Major General H. C. Pratt on December 17, 1944, announcing the lift of blanket exclusion order for Japanese Americans on the West Coast. In response on December 18, Secretary of Interior Harold Ickes issued a statement outlining War Relocation Authority's roles to help the massive resettlement efforts. Ickes' statement is also in the folder.

After the last of the relocation centers closed at the end of 1945, the War Relocation Authority shifted its focus to the preparation of a series of special reports dealing with the various phases and functions of the agency. In all, 10 such reports were published. This folder has two: "Prospectus of Published Final Reports" and "Additional Information on WRA Final Reports".

Folder 5B: War Relocation Authority II

Scope and Content

This folder contains 34 items prepared, assembled, reprinted, and/or released by the War Relocation Authority. They vary in length from 1 to 21 pages; most are mimeographs. The dates of most documents are unknown.

Materials in this folder are very similar in nature to those in folder 5A: statements, press releases, and reprints. Subject matters covered include Nisei soldiers and policy statements.

In addition, this folder contains the mimeograph of a 4-page War Relocation Authority form titled "Request for Transportation of Property". This is an example of an official War Relocation Authority form in the collection.

A mimeographed copy of Executive Order 9102, which establishes the War Relocation Authority, is also in this folder.
Folder 5C: **War Relocation Authority pamphlets**

Scope and Content

This folder contains 15 items, mostly pamphlets published by the War Relocation Authority. They vary in lengths from a postcard to a 57-page document. Many are in fragile condition. The following is a list of the documents.

*Questions and Answers for Evacuees*. Circa 1942.

*Pertinent Facts About Relocation Centers and Japanese-Americans*. Date unknown.

*What We’re Fighting For: Statements by United States Servicemen about Americans of Japanese Descent*. Circa 1944.


*Relocation Communities for Wartime Evacuees*. September, 1942.

*Challenge to Democracy.* (An advertisement for a film produced by the WRA on the subject of the Japanese Relocation, circa 1943.)

*Nisei in Uniform*. Circa 1944.

*Nisei in the War against Japan*. April 1945.


*Postcard. "I desire to serve as a member of the Eagle Rock Chapter [of Friends of the American Way] and pledge the sum of".*

*Pertinent facts about relocation centers and Americans of Japanese ancestry*.

*Issei, Nisei, Kibei: Fortune Magazine reviews the program of the WRA and the problems created by ...."*

Ringle, K. D. *"The Japanese Question in the United States: A Compilation of Memoranda"*. Date unknown.

Folder 5D: **House Un-American Activities Committee**

Scope and Content

In May of 1943, the House Committee on Un-American Activities (popularly known as the Dies Committee) appointed a three-member sub-committee to conduct a special investigation of the War Relocation Authority and its programs at the relocation centers. The Sub-Committee held hearings in Los Angeles and visited relocation centers; and subsequently the Committee heard testimonies of top officials of the War Relocation Authority in Washington D.C.

Throughout the investigation, the War Relocation Authority believed that a large volume of false and misleading statements about the agency were regularly making rounds at the nation’s press. In order to counter these charges, the agency prepared a series of informational materials for use at the Washington hearings.

This folder contains 18 items from the series and the Dies Committee reports, varying in length from 1 to 24 pages. All items are in fragile condition.

Folder 5E: **Dillon S. Meyer**

Scope and Content

Dillon S. Myer succeeded his friend Milton Eisenhower as the Director of the War Relocation Authority on June 17, 1942. He would serve as the Director until the agency’s termination in June, 1946. The items in this folder are records of some of the speeches and statements made by Myer throughout his tenure. It contains 16 mimeographed items, varying in length from 1 to 13 pages. All items are in fragile condition.
Folder 7C: Miscellaneous letters, addresses, etc.

Scope and Content

Contents in this folder can be divided into two major categories: statements and letters made or written by government officials (mostly from the Department of War), and letters and statements from individuals. A few documents are authored by non-government organizations.

The government statements deal mostly with issues related to the creation of Japanese American combat teams, internees' return to the West Coast, and the question of loyalty. Individual statements are concerned with more personal matters, such as an internee's first impression of an assembly center and a Nisei soldier's letter to his father.

This folder contains 45 items, varying in length from 1 to 16 pages and most of them mimeographed. Some are in fragile condition and are hard to read.

Folder 8A: Government publications

Scope and Content

This folder contains a miscellany of 21 government publications from the Western Defense Command, the Senate of the State of California, the United States Senate, the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, and others.

An item of note is a 51cm-by-71cm poster issued by the War Information Office. With the image of an eagle on top, the poster features the text of a statement made by President Roosevelt on February 3, 1943. It includes this famous line, "Americanism is not, and never was, a matter of race or ancestry."