Inventory of the Toshio Oku Photo Album SPC.2020.012

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2020-03-19
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Contributing Institution: California State University Dominguez Hills, Gerth Archives and Special Collections
Title: Toshio Oku Photo Album
Creator: Oku, Toshio, 1925-2010
Identifier/Call Number: SPC.2020.012
Physical Description: 1 box (1 photo album)
Date (inclusive): 1942-1946
Abstract: The Toshio Oku photo album comprises of a collection of photographs that primarily documents the life of Toshio Oku while he, his father, Naojiro Henry, mother, Misao, and sister, Hideko Louise, were incarcerated at Tule Lake Incarceration Camp in Northern California during World War II. Most of the items in this collection have been digitized and are available online.
Language of Material: English

Conditions Governing Access
There are no access restrictions on this collection.

Acquisition Information
Library acquisition.

Availability of Digital Reproductions
Most of the items in this collection have been digitized and digital reproduction access derivatives (access files) are available at the CSU Japanese American Digitization Project site: Toshio Oku Photo Album Digital Collection

Toshio Oku Biography
Toshio Oku (1925 August 25-2010 November 22)
Toshio Oku was a Nisei born on August 25, 1925 in Fresno, California to Issei parents, Naojiro Henry Oku and Misao Oku (nee Matsuba). His parents, younger sister, Hideko Louise, and himself were all imprisoned at Gila River Incarceration Camp in Arizona in August 1942 before being transferred to Tule Lake Incarceration Camp in California in October 1943. He was the only one in his family to renounce his American citizenship and even considered leaving for Japan. He changed his mind, though, and settled in Fowler, California with his family after being released in March 1946. Toshio Oku passed away on November 22, 2010.

Preferred Citation
[Title of item], Toshio Oku Photo Album, Courtesy of the Department of Archives and Special Collections. University Library. California State University, Dominguez Hills

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CSU Japanese American Digitization Project
This collection is part of the California State University Japanese American Digitization Project. Other collections about the history of Japanese Americans are found in the digital repository: CSU Japanese American Digitization Project

Scope and Contents
The materials comprising the Toshio Oku photo album (1942-1946) are photographs that primarily document the life of Toshio Oku (1925-2010) during the time he, his parents, Naojiro Henry (1894-1979) and Misao Oku, and sister, Hideko Louise (1927-2010), were incarcerated at Tule Lake during World War II. The one photo album includes Toshio Oku’s graduation portraits, a group photograph of the camp’s electrical department, aerial and panoramic photographs of Tule Lake, holiday cards, photographs of a fire that took place at the camp, and photographs of Toshio working at the Newell Star newspaper print shop.

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Subjects and Indexing Terms
Panoramas
Aerial photography
Japanese Americans -- California
Japanese American photographers
Tule Lake Relocation Center (Calif.)--1940-1950
World War, 1939-1945 -- Concentration Camps -- United States
Photographs albums

box 1, item 1  Toshio Oku Photo Album