Kogan Yoshizumi Papers

Collection number: 96.373

Japanese American National Museum
Los Angeles, California

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Descriptive Summary
Title: Kogan Yoshizumi papers
Dates: 1942-1953
Languages: English
Collection number: 96.373.1
Creator: Yoshizumi, Kogan
Collection Size: 1 folder
Repository: Japanese American National Museum (Los Angeles, Calif.)
Los Angeles, California 90012

Abstract: Reverend Kogan Yoshizumi (1894-1975) was the Buddhist priest of the Soto Mission of Aiea in Hawaii on Oahu. Yoshizumi was arrested and detained at Sand Island after the attack on Pearl Harbor and was subsequently transferred to a series of detention centers on the mainland. This collection documents his World War II journey through his collected correspondence.

Physical location: Japanese American National Museum 100 North Central Avenue Los Angeles, CA 90012

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Project Information
This finding aid was created as part of a project funded by the National Historical Publications and Records Commission. The project started in 2007. Project Director was Cris Paschild. Project Archivists were Yoko Shimojo and Marlon Romero.

Biography / Administrative History
Reverend Kogan Yoshizumi was born on May 10, 1894. He was admitted to the Territory of Hawaii on October 10, 1927. From 1927, Yoshizumi was the Buddhist priest of the Soto Mission of Aiea on Oahu.

On December 8, 1941, a day after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, Yoshizumi was apprehended and detained at Sand Island US Army Concentration Camp near Honolulu Harbor for about six months. On June 1, 1942, he was transferred from Sand Island to San Francisco, staying for three days before being transported to the concentration camp at Fort Sam Houston. He was removed from Fort Sam Houston on June 18, 1942 and sent to Lordsburg Concentration Camp in New Mexico, arriving June 20, 1942. After one year in Lordsburg, he was sent to the concentration camp in Santa Fe.

On April 10, 1945, Yoshizumi sent a petition to Major Stephen Farrand, Office of the Provost Marshal General, War Department, Washington D.C requesting parole in the Territory of Hawaii. This petition was then forwarded to the Office of Internal Security in Honolulu. On May 30, 1945, the Commanding General of the Pacific Ocean Areas approved his parole.
request and sent a recommendation to the Mainland authorities. On July 16, 1945, the War Department at Washington D.C made transportation arrangements for Yoshizumi and on November 1945, after fifty-one months living in concentration camps, Yoshizuma returned to his residential home in Hawaii. On February 1, 1946, he resumed his work at the Soto Mission of Aiea.

On July 2, 1948 Congress passed the Japanese American Evacuation Claims Act that provided some compensation for financial and property losses that might have occurred as a consequence of evacuation. However, Yoshizumi’s compensation claim was dismissed on Feb 12, 1953.

Yoshizumi was married to Take Yoshizumi who passed away before him. Yoshizumi died in March 1975. He was survived by his two adopted daughters.

December 8, 1941
Detained at Sand Island, Honolulu Territory of Hawaii.

May 23, 1942
Removed from Sand Island and sent to the United States mainland.

June 1, 1942
Arrived in San Francisco, CA and left for Fort Sam Houston Texas on June 4.

June 8, 1942
Arrived in Houston, Texas and left there for New Mexico on June 18.

June 20, 1942
Arrived at Lordsburg Concentration Camp, in New Mexico.

June 14, 1943
Transferred from Lordsburg to the Concentration Camp in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

November 1945
Returned to his residential home of Hawaii.

Scope and Content of Collection
The Kogan Yoshizumi Papers consist of his correspondence. Correspondents include government agencies such as Army Service Forces and the United States Department of Justice. The collection also includes an affidavit, compensation claims, and Power of Attorney papers.

Indexing Terms
The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the library’s online public access catalog.
Yoshizumi, Kogan
Japanese Americans
World War II
Buddhism
Buddhist Priests
Sand Island U.S. Army Internment Camp (Hawaii)
Fort Sam Houston (Tex.)
Lordsburg Internment Camp (N.M.)
Santa Fe Internment Camp (N.M.)
Justice Department Camps, Santa Fe
San Francisco (Calif.)
Aiea (Hawaii)

Folder 1 Series 1 Correspondences 1942-1953