Finding Aid to the Fred Dummatzen Golden Gate Bridge construction photograph album

Title: Fred Dummatzen Golden Gate Bridge construction photograph album
Date (bulk): 1937-1939
Date (inclusive): 1912-1939
Creator: Dummatzen, Fred
Extent: 1 album (137 photographic prints) ; 23.5 x 31 cm. , 2 folders
Collection number: larc.pho.0070
Repository: Labor Archives and Research Center
J. Paul Leonard Library, Room 460
San Francisco State University
1630 Holloway Ave
San Francisco, CA 94132-1722
(415) 405-5571
larc@sfsu.edu

Languages: Item is in English.

Abstract: Photograph album containing images and clippings of and about Fred (Gustaf Frederick) Dummatzen, a Golden Gate Bridge laborer, and member of the Construction and General Laborer's Union, No. 261. The bulk of the photographs, taken by Dummatzen and his fellow workers, include images of workers, both at work and at rest; views of the bridge and the bay from the bridge; images of construction equipment; and documentation of the construction in progress. Collection also includes a folder of personal and legal documents, and a folder containing a portrait of Dummatzen, along with images that appear to have been removed from the album.

Location: Collection is available onsite.

Preferred Citation
[Identification of item], Fred Dummatzen Golden Gate Bridge Construction Photograph Album, larc.pho.0070, Labor Archives and Research Center, San Francisco State University.

Restrictions
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Conditions Governing Access
RESTRICTED: Original not available for use due to fragility; use digital or reference photocopy.

Related Archival Materials
See the Evan "Slim" Lambert Oral History for description of the accident on February 17, 1937; Lambert was one of two men that survived the fall.

Acquisition
The Fred Dummatzen Golden Gate Bridge Construction Photograph Album was donated to the Labor Archives and Research Center in 1987, by Linda Olson.

Biography of Fred Dummatzen
Fred (Gustaf Frederick) "Red" Dummatzen was a Golden Gate Bridge laborer, and member of the Construction and General Laborer's Union, No. 261. On February 17th, 1937, a traveling roadbed stripping platform broke away from the structure and ripped through the safety net, and plunged twelve men into the ocean. Ten of the men died in the fall from the bridge, including Dummatzen.

Scope and Contents
Photograph album containing images and clippings of and about Fred Dummatzen, a Golden Gate Bridge laborer, and member of the Construction and General Laborer's Union, No. 261. Dummatzen was one of ten men that died in 1937 during the construction of the bridge; the album, which was partially compiled after Dummatzen's death most likely by his parents, also includes clippings, photographs and poems in honor of Dummatzen. The bulk of the photographs, taken by Dummatzen and his fellow workers, include images of workers, both at work and at rest; views of the bridge and the bay from the bridge; images of construction equipment; and documentation of the construction in progress. The album also includes images of Dummatzen, both as a child and as an adult with his friends and family on outings such as camping; and
photographs and clippings documenting his funeral and a memorial for Dummatzen held one year after his death. Collection also includes a folder of personal and legal documents, including Dummatzen's birth announcement and high school diploma, a Golden Gate Bridge Bond, and legal documentation from the legal case of the Dummatzen family vs. Golden Gate Bridge Company for compensation for Dummatzen's death; and a folder containing a portrait of Dummatzen, along with images that appear to have been removed from the album.

Subjects and Indexing Terms
Bridge construction--California--San Francisco--1930-1940.
Bridges--California--San Francisco Bay.
Golden Gate Bridge (San Francisco, Calif.)
Laborers.
Photograph albums--1930-1940.
Photographic prints--1930-1940.

Box 1, Folder 1  Photograph album 1937-1939 http://digital-collections.library.sfsu.edu/cdm/ref/collection/p16737coll1/id/95
Box 1, Folder 2  Personal and legal documents, Golden Gate Bridge bond 1912, 1930-1937
Box 1, Folder 3  Portraits of Fred Dummatzen, miscellaneous photographs removed from album 1934-1937