Finding Aid for the Collection of Material about Japanese American Incarceration LSC.0131

UCLA Library Special Collections
Online finding aid last updated 2019 May 15.
Room A1713, Charles E. Young Research Library
Box 951575
Los Angeles, CA 90095-1575
spec-coll@library.ucla.edu
URL: https://www.library.ucla.edu/special-collections
Language of Material: English
Contributing Institution: UCLA Library Special Collections
Title: Collection of Material about Japanese American incarceration
Identifier/Call Number: LSC.0131
Physical Description: 4.6 Linear Feet (4 boxes, 1 oversize folder)
Date (inclusive): 1929-1956
Date (bulk): 1942-1946
Abstract: The collection consists of publications and press releases by the United States War Relocation Authority (WRA), in addition to yearbooks and pamphlets created by Japanese American incarcerees and advocacy groups, with an emphasis on the Manzanar and Minidoka incarceration camps.

Stored off-site. All requests to access special collections material must be made in advance using the request button located on this page.

Conditions Governing Access
COLLECTION STORED OFF-SITE: Open for research. All requests to access special collections materials must be made in advance using the request button located on this page.

Conditions Governing Reproduction and Use
Property rights to the physical objects belong to UCLA Library Special Collections. All other rights, including copyright, are retained by the creators and their heirs. It is the responsibility of the researcher to determine who holds the copyright and pursue the copyright owner or his or her heir for permission to publish where The UC Regents do not hold the copyright.

Preferred Citation
[Identification of item], Collection of Material about Japanese American incarceration (Collection 131). UCLA Library Special Collections, Charles E. Young Research Library, University of California, Los Angeles.

Provenance/Source of Acquisition
Gift of Ralph P. Merritt, 1946. Additional items are the gift of Bradford Smith, 1952.

Processing Information:
The materials in Collection 131 were extracted from Collection 122, the Manzanar War Relocation Center records (formerly titled the U.S. War Relocation Authority Archive) in 1971, when that collection was arranged and described. The materials were given summary description in 1979.

Further processing was performed by Christen Sasaki, with assistance from Laurel McPhee, in the Center for Primary Research and Training, in 2005. Items were inventoried, housed in folders, and arranged into series to enhance access to the collection. A machine-readable finding aid created by Caroline Cubé and edited by Josh Fiala, Laurel McPhee and Amy Shung-Gee Wong.

Description updates were undertaken by Rishi Guné and Kuhelika Ghosh as part of a 2019 CFPRT Redescription Project. Euphemistic terms such as "internment" were updated to reflect preferred terminology outlined in the Power of Words Handbook from the Japanese American Citizens League.

UCLA Catalog Record ID
UCLA Catalog Record ID: 4232768

Scope and Content
The collection consists primarily of materials from the United States War Relocation Authority related to Japanese Americans and forced removal. Included are various War Authority publications and pamphlets; The Minidoka irrigator, a weekly newspaper published at the Minidoka Relocation Center (Hunt, Idaho); camp newsletters from Puyallup Assembly Center (unofficially called Camp Harmony); and miscellaneous publications related to the Manzanar in concentration camp in Owens Valley, CA. In addition are yearbooks and pamphlets created by Japanese American incarcerees and advocacy groups, such as the Japanese American Citizens League (JACL), with an emphasis on the Manzanar and Minidoka incarceration camps; and speeches, clippings of published articles, and Master's theses. The collection also includes a recording of The Exile's Return, a production of CBS-KNX News (1956) and several reproduced sketches by artist Mine Okubo.

Organization and Arrangement
Arranged in the following series:
1. War Relocation Authority (WRA), 1942-1946
2. Incarceration camps, 1942-1945

**Physical Characteristics and Technical Requirements**

COLLECTION CONTAINS UNPROCESSED AUDIO MATERIALS: Materials will require assessment and may need further processing for safe access. All requests to access special collections materials must be made in advance using the request button located on this page.

**Related Material**

- Manzanar War Relocation Center records (Collection 122). Available at UCLA Library Special Collections, Charles E. Young Research Library, UCLA.
- Japanese American Research Project collection of material about Japanese in the United States (Collection 2010). Available at UCLA Library Special Collections, Charles E. Young Research Library, UCLA.

**Subjects and Indexing Terms**

- Japanese Americans -- Evacuation and relocation, 1942-1945
- Concentration camps -- United States
- Concentration camp inmates' writings
- United States--War Relocation Authority.

---

**Series 1: War Relocation Authority (WRA) 1942-1945**

**Physical Description:** 2 boxes.

**Scope and Contents note**

Publications and speeches sponsored by the War Relocation Authority (WRA). Includes annual and semi-annual reports for the years 1942 through 1946, assorted pamphlets advocating Japanese American incarceration, resettlement, and enlistment in the armed forces, and transcripts of speeches by Dillon S. Myer, Director of the WRA.

**box 1, folder 1**

Quarterly report 1942 March 18-June 30.

**Scope and Contents note**

Report includes chronology detailing incarceration process from 1941 December 7 to 1942 June 29 and gives brief descriptions of incarceration camp sites.

**box 1, folder 2**

Quarterly report 1942 July 1-September 30.

**Scope and Contents note**

Report covers employment statistics within incarceration camps, leave regulations, college student forced removal, and general aspects of life in incarceration camps, such as education, mess operations, religious activities, and the fears and anxieties of incarcerees.

**box 1, folder 3**

Quarterly report 1942 October 1-December 31.

**Scope and Contents note**

Report covers general aspects of life in incarceration camps, including forced removal progress, employment of incarcerees, and repatriation. Included is a description of a strike at the Potson camp and a riot at Manzanar.

**box 1, folder 4**

Semi-annual report 1943 January 1-June 30.

**Scope and Contents note**

Report covers general aspects of life in incarceration camps, including mess hall operations, recreation, and education. Also details Senate Sub-committee investigation, Spanish Consular visit, isolation procedures, and segregation procedures for pro-Japanese and pro-American incarcerees.
box 1, folder 5  
**Semi-annual report 1943 July 1-December 31.**

**Scope and Contents note**
Report covers general aspects of life in incarceration camps, including segregation process and problems. Details Tule Lake Incident and November 1 demonstration at Tule Lake Hospital. Fold-out map of Tule Lake included.

box 1, folder 6  
**Semi-annual report 1944 January 1-June 30.**

**Scope and Contents note**
Documents the WRA's transfer from independent war agency to Department of the Interior. Includes general description of life in incarceration camps, including reaction of incarcerees and enlistment. Includes report of the House Sub-Committee on the Tule Lake Incident, the closing of the Jerome Relocation Center, and tables and charts showing average incarceration camp populations.

box 1, folder 7  
**Semi-annual report 1945 January 1-June 30.**

**Scope and Contents note**
Report discussed resettlement procedures, housing problems, incarceree attitudes, the children's village at Manzanar, and labor attitudes of the Congress of Industrial Organizations (CIO) and the American Federation of Labor (AFL). Details the West Coast opposition toward Japanese American resettlement, including boycotts, terrorist incidents, and legal issues regarding ownership of property.

box 1, folder 8  
**Semi-annual report 1945 July 1-December 31.**

**Scope and Contents note**
Report summarizes resettlement, liquidation, and departure process from various incarceration camps. Resettlement issues of Tule Lake incarcerees are discussed, including renunciants and the declining influence of the Hoshidan (pro-Japanese societies).

box 1, folder 9  
**Final semi-annual report 1946 January 1-June 30.**

**Scope and Contents note**
Report documents the end of the WRA, as of June 30, 1946, including the forced removal of Tule Lake residents; renunciant hearings; closing of Tule Lake; and a general summary of incarceration processes.

box 2, folder 1  
**Address. Ben Kuroki 1944 February 4.**

**Scope and Contents note**
Address by Sergeant Ben Kuroki, U.S. Army Air Force, before the Commonwealth Club, San Francisco, CA (sponsored by the WRA). Details Kuroki's experience with racial prejudice while in the army, and calls for the humane treatment of Japanese Americans in the future. Kuroki was previously awarded with two Distinguished Flying Cross Medals.

box 2, folder 2  
**Address. Dillon S. Myer. "One Thousandth of A Nation" 1944 March 23.**

**Scope and Contents note**
Address by the Director of the WRA, before a joint meeting of civic organizations in Salt Lake City, UT. Includes descriptions of life in the incarceration camps, and argues for the resettlement of Japanese Americans.

box 2, folder 3  
**Address. Dillon S. Myer. "Problems of Evacuee Resettlement in California" 1945 June 19.**

**Scope and Contents note**
Address by the Director of the WRA in Eagle Rock, CA. Provides brief overview of forced removal process after 1943 and argues for resettlement of Japanese Americans.
box 2, folder 4

**Address. Dillon S. Myer. "Relocation Problems and Policies" 1944 March 14.**

**Scope and Contents note**
Address by the Director of the WRA, before the Tuesday Evening Club in Pasadena, CA. Details the operations of the incarceration centers in response to Hearst newspapers' claims that incarcerees were coddled; Meyer also contends that Japanese Americans must be protected and allowed to resettle.

box 2, folder 5

**Address. Dillon S. Myer. "The Facts About the War Relocation Authority" 1944 January 21.**

**Scope and Contents note**
Address by the Director of the WRA, before a luncheon meeting of the Los Angeles Town Hall, Los Angeles, CA.

box 2, folder 6

**Community Government in War Relocation Centers 1946.**

**Scope and Contents note**
Report on the development of internal governments run by incarcerees. Subjects include the problems and confusion surrounding the Poston Strike and Manzanar Riot, community organization, and the future of Japanese American communities.

box 2, folder 7

**The Evacuated People: A Quantitative Description 1946.**

**Scope and Contents note**
Report on the experiences of incarcerees at incarceration camps, moving, segregation, settling into camps, and resettlement.

box 2, folder 8

**Impounded People: Japanese Americans in the Relocation Centers 1946.**

**Scope and Contents note**
Report on constitutional issues involved in the forced removal process, the WRA's legal framework, and the organization of the Office of the Solicitor.

box 2, folder 9

**Legal and Constitutional Phases of the WRA Program 1945.**

**Scope and Contents note**
Pamphlet designed to ease agitation and anti-Japanese American sentiment. Questions addressed include: Japanese religion and ties to emperor, Japanese Language Schools, Nisei (a person born in the US or Canada whose parents were immigrants from Japan) in the Army, honesty of the Japanese as a race, assimilability of the Japanese, agricultural Competition, and coddling by the WRA.

box 2, folder 10

**"Message from the National Director to the Residents of Relocation Centers" 1945 July 12.**

**Scope and Contents note**
Open letter instructing incarcerees about resettlement, including timely departure from incarceration camps and camp closing dates.

box 2, folder 11

**Myths and Facts About the Japanese Americans: Answering Common Misconceptions Regarding Americans of Japanese Ancestry 1945.**

**Scope and Contents note**
Reprinted newspaper articles on the bravery and sacrifices of Japanese American soldiers in World War II. Newspapers include *Los Angeles Times*, *Tacoma News-Times*, *Chicago Tribune*, and *Omaha World Herald*. 
box 2, folder 12  
**Nisei in the War Against Japan 1944.**  
Scope and Contents note  
Illustrated pamphlet on Japanese Americans in the 442nd Regimental Combat Team and 100th Battalion. Includes an article about Ben Kuroki, the only American of Japanese descent in the United States Army Air Forces to serve in combat operations in the Pacific theater of World War II.

box 2, folder 13  
**Nisei in Uniform 1945.**  
Scope and Contents note  
Pamphlet on the segregation of Tule Lake incarcerees, including living conditions, improvement in public attitudes, and the records of Japanese American soldiers.

box 2, folder 14  
**Press releases 1944.**  
Scope and Contents note  
WRA press releases on subjects related to incarcerees. Two items commemorate the military service of Japanese Americans, including the 110th Battalion and the 442nd Regimental Combat Team.

box 2, folder 15  
**Relocating Japanese Americans 1946.**  
Scope and Contents note  
Statistics on incarcerees, including marriage and divorce rates, numbers of renunciants, population at Tule Lake, and age composition of incarceration camp populations. Gift of Bradford Smith.

box 2, folder 16  
**The Relocation Program 1946.**  
Scope and Contents note  
Historic overview of the WRA and events leading to its creation. Includes early incarceration policies, forced removal processes, and resettlement. Gift of Bradford Smith.

box 2, folder 17  
**The War Relocation Work Corps: A Circular of Information for Enlistees and Their Families 1942.**  
Scope and Contents note  
Pamphlet for Japanese Americans about incarceration camps, including family life, health, education, household effects, and the War Relocation Work Corps.

box 2, folder 18  
**Wartime Exile: The Exclusion of the Japanese Americans From the West Coast 1946.**  
Scope and Contents note  

box 2, folder 19  
**The Wartime Handling of Evacuee Property 1946.**  
Scope and Contents note  
Report on property issues created by incarceration, including the raid on Nichiren Temple, Los Angeles. Gift of Bradford Smith.

box 2, folder 20  
**War Time Authority Community Government Handbook: A Summation of the Functions, Organization, and Relocationships of the Council of Administration 1943.**  
Scope and Contents note  
Summary of the organization, techniques, function, and objectives of incarceration camp Community Councils in 1942-1943.
box 2, folder 21 "What We're Fighting For": Statements by United States Servicemen about Americans of Japanese Descent 1944.

Scope and Contents note
Pamphlet attesting to the loyalty of Nisei soldiers.

Series 2: Incarceration camps 1942-1945

Physical Description: 1 box.

Scope and Contents note
Small publications, including yearbooks and newsletters, written and produced by Japanese American incarcerees from the Manzanar and Minidoka incarceration camps, and the Camp Harmony temporary detention center in Puyallup, Washington.


Scope and Contents note
Pamphlet prepared by Beatrice White, Home Economics Supervisor, Manzanar Secondary Schools, documenting class projects. Includes photographs of a typical Manzanar barrack interior and of altered barracks.

box 4, folder 2 Camp Harmony Newsletter, v. I no. 4-8 (complete run) 1942 May-June.

Scope and Contents note
Camp Harmony Assembly Center newsletter, Puyallup, Washington. Includes articles on daily life in the incarceration camp, such as conditions, sports, school, the temporary detention center, and employment.

box 4, folder 3 Camp Harmony Newsletter, v. I no. 9-11 (complete run) 1942 July-August.

box 4, folder 4 Education Section Summary 1945 May 31.

Scope and Contents note
Report on the closing of Manzanar’s education system, prepared for Ralph P. Merritt for the WRA. Includes brief overview of pre-school, elementary, secondary school, adult education programs, and library systems. Final page includes signatures of Manzanar education staff. Cover artwork by Takamura, 1942.

box 4, folder 5 Lil Dan'l: One Year In A Relocation Center 1943.

Scope and Contents note
Limited edition pictorial review documenting the first year of life in the Rohwer incarceration camp. Designed and illustrated by George Akimoto.

box 4, folder 6 Manzanar High School Yearbook, "Cardinal and Gold" 1943.

Scope and Contents note
Soft cover yearbook for the Manzanar incarceration camp graduating class of summer 1943.

box 4, folder 7 Manzanar High School Yearbook, "Our World: Manzanar, California" 1943-1944.

Scope and Contents note
Hardcover yearbook for the Manzanar incarceration camp graduating class of 1944. Illustrated.

box 4, folder 8 Manzanar High School Yearbook, "Valediction" 1945.

Scope and Contents note
Soft cover yearbook for the Manzanar incarceration camp graduating class of 1945. Illustrated.
Series 2: Incarceration camps 1942-1945

Scope and Contents note
Report prepared by Ruth Budd, Director of School and Community Libraries. Report covers library history, staff training, fiction library, high school and elementary division. Includes black and white photographs of staff and facilities.

Minidoka Irrigator, v. I no. 15-20 (complete run) 1942 November.
Scope and Contents note
Minidoka incarceration camp newsletter. Includes articles on daily life in the camp, such as conditions, sports, school, and employment. Also includes a Japanese Language section on the back page with a brief English guide.

Minidoka Irrigator, v. I no. 4-14 (incomplete run) 1942 September-October.
Scope and Contents note
Student newsletter from Manzanar. Includes senior class wills of last graduating class from Manzanar High.

Toy Loan Library ca. 1944.
Scope and Contents note
Pamphlet on the Manzanar Toy Loan Project, began in 1944. Topics include founding, organization, objectives, floor plan, and mimeographed forms used by the Center. Booklet also includes six black and white photographs of children at the Toy Loan Center.

Trek, v. I no. 1 1942 January 12.
Scope and Contents note
Special publication of Reports Division, Central Utah Relocation Project (Topaz), compiled by camp incarcerees. Consists of short stories, essays, and a biographical sketch of Mine Okubo. Includes artwork by Mine Okubo.

Series 3: Miscellaneous 1929-1956
Physical Description: 1 box, 1 oversize folder.
Scope and Contents note
This series contains assorted printed materials including articles, publications, and clippings; a World War II recruiting poster; speeches; and Master's theses. Also included is a recording of a radio broadcast. Creators include the Japanese American Citizens League (JACL), the American Council on Public Affairs, the Fellowship of Reconciliation, and various individuals.

Physical Characteristics and Technical Requirements
CONTAINS UNPROCESSED AUDIO MATERIALS: Materials will require assessment and may need further processing for safe access. All requests to access special collections materials must be made in advance using the request button located on this page.

Scope and Contents note

Physical Characteristics and Technical Requirements
CONTAINS UNPROCESSED AUDIO MATERIALS: Materials will require assessment and may need further processing for safe access. All requests to access special collections materials must be made in advance using the request button located on this page.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Folder/Box</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 3, 2       | Carter, Genevieve. "Child Care and Youth Problems In A Relocation Center" 1944. | Scope and Contents note  
Reprint from the *Journal of Consulting Psychology* (v. III no. 4), p. 219-225. Topics include the influence of the non-citizen parents on their citizen children, youth and delinquency, and the problems of younger children. |
| 3, 3       | Casey, Gene. "G.I. Japank" 1944 August 5. | Scope and Contents note  
Reprinted by the WRA, with permission from *Collier's*. Includes interview with Private Mac Yazawa. |
Condensed reprint from the *American Mercury*. Describes heroic acts by members of the 100th Infantry Battalion and the 442nd Infantry Regiment. |
| 3, 5       | *The Displaced Japanese-Americans 1944*. | Scope and Contents note  
| 3, 6       | Excerpts and clippings 1944. | Scope and Contents note  
Excerpts from American newspapers regarding Japanese Americans. Newspapers include: *The Courier* (Camden, NJ); *Arizona Republic* (Phoenix, AZ); *The Register* (Des Moines, Iowa); *The Tribune* (Cheyenne, WY); *The Record* (Philadelphia, PA); *Salt Lake Tribune* (Salt Lake City, UT); *Herald and American* (Chicago, IL). Topics include employment, Nisei volunteers in the armed forces, and Japanese American resentment of Japanese brutality to prisoners of war. |
Illustrated pamphlet. Text questions the constitutionality of incarceration, citing racial prejudice and political pressure as the dominant forces behind incarceration; describes life in the camps. loyalty, and assimilation issues. |
| 3, 8       | "Hawaii Soldiers Died Fighting As Loyal Americans, Col. Fielder Says" 1944 March 13. | Scope and Contents note  
Copy of an address delivered by Col. Kendall Fielder on the presentation of Purple Hearts to the families of 60 Japanese American soldiers killed in action in Italy. Photographic illustrations, with an article by Elmont Waite describing the ceremony. |
| 3, 9       | "Klu-Kluxism on the West Coast" 1945 July 14. | Scope and Contents note  
Illustrated article from *Collier's*, denouncing the Japanese American Exclusion League. |
box 3, folder 10  Message from the President of the United States: “Segregation of Loyal and Disloyal Japanese in Relocation Centers” 1943 September 14.
Scope and Contents note
Message before the 78th Congress, 1st session, transmitting a report on Senate resolution no. 166 relating to segregation of loyal and disloyal Japanese in incarceration camps.

Scope and Contents note
Reprint from the Oct. 1943 issue of Asia and the Americas. Details the cultural and generational gap between Isei and Nisei, beliefs and values of Isei.

Scope and Contents note
Reprint from the American Journal of Botany (v. 31 no. 7), p. 412-418.

Scope and Contents note
Reprint from the Pacific Northwest Quarterly (v. 36 no. 1). Article on the experience of Nisei college students before the bombing of Pearl Harbor, and their reaction to recruitment efforts of Japanese government.

box 3, folder 14  O’Brien, Robert. “Selective Dispersion As a Factor in the Solution of the Nisei Problem” 1944 December.
Scope and Contents note
Reprint from Social Forces (v. 22 no. 2). Article examines dispersion of second generation Japanese Americans through college education as solution to assimilation process.

Scope and Contents note
Thesis. Attempts to trace the forces which created a democratic way of life in Manzanar. Topics covered include forced removal, WRA, Relocation Program, early history of Manzanar, employment problems at camp, problems with community government, and special projects.

Scope and Contents note
Reprint from the University of Washington Press, University of Washington Publications in Anthropology (v. 3 no. 1), p. 1-30. Topics include observations of body characteristics of Japanese children born in the United States and Japan such as length of head, width of face, and average age of loss of teeth.

Scope and Contents note
Copies of a speech by Dr. Robert Gordon Sproul, President of the University of California, at the California Club, Los Angeles, Calif. for the Pacific Coast Committee on American Principles and Fair Play.

Scope and Contents note
University of Oregon Thesis Series. Topics include settlement of the Japanese in Oregon, relations between the Japanese and white residents, and anti-Japanese legislation.

Scope and Contents note
Visual aid illustrating the patterns of Japanese and English language structure.


Scope and Contents note
Illustrated promotional pamphlet published by the Japanese Americans Citizens League (JACL). Advocates the efforts of Nisei, specifically service in armed forces and Nisei women working in manufacturing plants. Includes photographs of sculptor Isamu Noguchi and Ballerina Sono Osato.


Scope and Contents note


Scope and Contents note

box 3, folder 23  Yoshida, Shigeo. *In Memoriam: An Address in Honor of the University of Hawaii Varsity Victory Volunteers Who Died In World War II* 1944.

Scope and Contents note

box 5, folder 1  Poster, "Miles of Hell To Tokyo" 1945.

Scope and Contents note