
Finding Aid for the Charles Kikuchi papers, 1941-1988

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UCLA Library Special Collections

Room A1713, Charles E. Young Research Library

Box 951575

Los Angeles, CA 90095-1575

Email: spec-coll@library.ucla.edu

URL: <http://www.library.ucla.edu/libraries/special/scweb/>

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Descriptive Summary

Title: Charles Kikuchi papers

Date (inclusive): 1941-1988

Collection number: 1259

Creator: Kikuchi, Charles

Extent: 58 boxes (29 linear ft.)4 oversize boxes

Abstract: Charles Kikuchi (1917-) worked for the California State Employment Service, surveying Nisei occupations. He was recruited by Berkeley sociologist Dorothy Swaine Thomas for the Japanese Evacuation and Relocation Study (JERS). He began to keep a diary and completed field surveys at the Tanforan Assembly Center in Northern California and at the Gila River Relocation Center in Arizona and in 1943 chronicled camp resident settlement in Chicago. He was drafted into the United States Army just before the bombing of Hiroshima. The collection consists of Charles Kikuchi's diaries, correspondence, and related printed material about Japanese Americans and their relocation during World War II. Many diaries include clippings and programs related to the career of Kikuchi's wife, Yuriko Amemiya, a professional dancer and a member of Martha Graham's dance group.

Language: Finding aid is written in English.

Repository: University of California, Los Angeles. Library Special Collections.

Los Angeles, California 90095-1575

Physical location: Stored off-site at SRLF. Advance notice is required for access to the collection. Please contact UCLA Library Special Collections for paging information.

Restrictions on Access

Open for research. STORED OFF-SITE AT SRLF. Advance notice is required for access to the collection. Please contact UCLA Library Special Collections for paging information.

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Gift of Charles Kikuchi, 1981-83.

Gift of Yuriko Kikuchi, 1991.

Gift of Warren Tsuneishi, 1981.

Gift of Arthur Hansen, 1989.

Funding

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Digital Representations Available

Digital image files of the journal of Charles Kikuchi were made from the originals by UCLA's Office of Instructional Development Photographic Services using a Fuji FinePix S1-Pro digital camera with a maximum resolution of 3,040 x 2,016 pixels. The camera was equipped with a Micro-Nikkor flat field lens. Images of the individual pages of the journal were captured as uncompressed 24-bit RGB TIFF files. These archival images were used to create JPEG user images to the specifications of the MoAll viewer.

Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], Charles Kikuchi papers (Collection 1259). UCLA Library Special Collections, Charles E. Young Research Library, UCLA.

UCLA Catalog Record ID

UCLA Catalog Record ID: [4233255](#)

Biography/History

Kikuchi was born in 1917 in the San Francisco Bay Area; his father was an Issei barbershop owner; he was placed in an orphanage when he was 8 years old; in 1934 he headed for San Francisco; BA, San Francisco State College, 1939; anonymously published an autobiographical essay, *A Young American with a Japanese Face*, in Louis Adamic's anthology titled, *From Many Lands* (1939); worked for the California State Employment Service, surveying Nisei occupations; attended School of Social Welfare, University of California, Berkeley, and received certificate in social work in 1942; recruited by Berkeley sociologist Dorothy Swaine Thomas for the Japanese Evacuation and Relocation Study (JERS); Kikuchi began to

keep a diary and completed field surveys at the Tanforan Assembly Center in Northern California and at the Gila River Relocation Center in Arizona; began chronicling camp resident settlement in Chicago, 1943; he was drafted into the United States Army just before the bombing of Hiroshima; received master's degree in social work, New York University (NYU), 1947; worked as a social worker with the Veterans Administration, New York; married Yuriko Amemiya, a professional dancer, in 1946; died September 25, 1988.

Scope and Content

Collection consists of Charles Kikuchi's diaries, correspondence, and related printed material about Japanese Americans and their relocation during World War II. Includes 63 volumes of Kikuchi's original diaries, May 1942-June 1948. Copy diaries span the years 1941-79. Also includes materials related to Kikuchi's work and surveys for the Japanese Evacuation and Relocation Study (JERS) and his study of Japanese American relocation to Chicago, Illinois. Contains various War Relocation Authority (WRA) publications, National Defense Migration reports, various issues of the Gila News Courier, and related publications. Many diaries include clippings and programs related to the career of Kikuchi's wife, Yuriko, a professional dancer and a member of Martha Graham's dance group.

Organization and Arrangement

Arranged in the following series:

1. Original diaries (Boxes 1-10).
2. Copy diaries (Boxes 11-44).
3. Loose items from diaries (Box 56).
4. Correspondence and writings (Boxes 45, 57-60, 62).
5. Japanese Evacuation and Relocation Study (JERS) (Boxes 46-49, 54).
6. Pacific Coast Committee on American Principles and Fair Play (Box 54).
7. Photographs and biographical data (Box 54).
8. Printed material (Boxes 50-53, 62).
9. Relocation center news publications (Box 55).
10. Reports (Box 61).
11. Proclamation documents (Box 61).

Indexing Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the library's online public access catalog.

Subjects

Kikuchi, Charles--Archives.

Yuriko, 1920- .

Tanforan Assembly Center (San Bruno, Calif.)

Gila River Relocation Center.

Japanese Americans--Evacuation and relocation, 1942-1945--Archival resources.

Genres and Forms of Material

Diaries.

Related Material

[Title: apanese American Research Project collection of material about Japanese in the United States \(Yuji Ichioka papers\) - Collection number 2010.](#)

Available at the Library Special Collections, UCLA.

Original Diaries

Note


Volume [#] = number assigned by the Department of Special Collections

Box 1, Volumes
















1-7








Volume 7

May-October 1942.

September 1-30, 1942. 

Physical Description: (pages 91-346)

Box 2, Volumes 8-14	October-December 1942.
Volume 8	October 1-26, 1942.  Physical Description: (pages 1-225)
Volume 9	October 27-November 3, 1942.  Physical Description: (pages 1-121)
Volume 10	November 4-9, 1942.  Physical Description: (pages 1-121)
Volume 11	November 10-17, 1942.  Physical Description: (pages 1-93)
Volume 12	November 17-25, 1942.  Physical Description: (pages 1-121)
Volume 13	November 25-December 2, 1942.  Physical Description: (pages 1-120)
Volume 14	December 3-9, 1942.  Physical Description: (pages 1-121)
Box 3, Volumes 15-23	December 1942-February 1943.
Volume 15	December 10-18, 1942.  Physical Description: (pages 1-118)
Volume 16	December 20-29, 1942.  Physical Description: (pages 1-119)
Volume 17	December 30-January 5, 1942.  Physical Description: (pages 1-121)
Volume 18	January 6-15, 1942.  Physical Description: (pages 1-121)
Volume 19	January 16-20, 1942.  Physical Description: (pages 1-121)
Volume 20	January 21-26, 1942.  Physical Description: (pages 1-118)
Volume 21	January 27-February 2, 1943.  Physical Description: (pages 1-123)
Volume 22	February 2-9, 1943.  Physical Description: (pages 1-120)
Volume 23	February 10-15, 1943.  Physical Description: (pages 1-121)
Box 4, Volumes 24-31	February-April 1943.

Volume 24	February 16-23, 1942.  Physical Description: (pages 1-121)
Volume 25	February 24-27, 1943.  Physical Description: (pages 1-120)
Volume 26	February 28-March 7, 1943.  Physical Description: (pages 1-121)
Volume 27	March 9-16, 1943.  Physical Description: (pages 1-121)
Volume 28	March 16-21, 1943.  Physical Description: (pages 1-120)
Volume 29	March 22-29, 1943.  Physical Description: (pages 1-120)
Volume 30	March 29-April 6, 1943.  Physical Description: (pages 1-118)
Volume 31	April 7-18, 1943.  Physical Description: (pages 1-120)
Oversize Box 5, Volumes 32-39	April-September 1943.
Box 6, Volumes 40-46	September 1943-January 1944.
Box 7, Volumes 47-[54]	January 1944-March 1945.
Box 8, Volumes [55]-[58]	August 1945-April 1946.
Box 9, Volumes [59]-[63]	September 19, 1946-June 19, 1948.
Box 10	Indexes to diaries. 1941-1947.
	Copy Diaries
Box 11, Volumes 1-3	December 1941-November 1942.
Box 12, Volumes 4-6	November 1942-March 1943.
Box 13, Volumes 7-9	April 1943-December 1943.
Box 14, Volumes 10-12	November 1943-July 1944.
Box 15, Volumes 13-15	July 1944-January 1945.
Box 16, Volumes 16-18	January-May 1945.
Box 17, Volumes 19-21	June-December 1945.
Box 18, Volumes 22-24	January 1946-April 1947.
Box 19, Volumes 25-27	May 1947-February 1948.

Box 20, Volumes 28-30	March 1948-June 1950.
Box 21, Volumes 31-33	July 1950-December 1951.
Box 22, Volumes 34-36	January 1952-June 1953.
Box 23, Volumes 37-39	July 1953-December 1954.
Box 24, Volumes 40-42	January 1955-May 1956.
Box 25, Volumes 43-45	June 1956-December 1957.
Box 26, Volumes 46-48	January 1958-June 1959.
Box 27, Volumes 49-51	July 1959-December 1960.
Oversize Box 28, Volumes 52-54	January 1961-June 1962.
Box 29, Volumes 55-56	July 1962-June 1963.
Box 30, Volumes 57-59	July 1963-December 1964.
Box 31, Volumes 60-62	January 1965-June 1966.
Box 32, Volumes 63-65	July 1966-December 1967.
Box 33, Volumes 66-67	January-December 1968.
Box 34, Volumes 68-70	January 1969-June 1970.
Box 35, Volumes 71-73	July 1970-December 1971.
Box 36, Volumes 74-76	January 1972-June 1973.
Box 37, Volumes 77-79	July 1973-March 1974.
Box 38, Volumes 80-83	March 1974-May 1975.
Box 39, Volumes 84-86	May 1975-March 1976.
Box 40, Volumes 87-89	April-December 1976.
Oversize Box 41, Volumes 90-92	December 1976-September 1977.
Box 42, Volumes 93-95	October 1977-September 1978.
Box 43, Volumes 96-98	October 1978-June 1979.
Box 44, Volumes 99-100	July-December 1979.

Loose Items from Diaries [Additions, 1989, 1998]

Note

Loose items from diaries have been foldered. Original box, volume and page numbers of these items are listed below.

Box 56, Folder 1	Box 8, vol.[55]: p. 0(6), 1, 58(2), 207, 232, 262, 270-27/(3).
Box 56, Folder 2	Box 8, vol.[55]: p. 276-277, 291, 293, 309, 314, 320, 327, 341, 361, 372-373, 373, 393(2), 395, 399, 437(6), 453(2), 457.

Box 56, Folder 3	Box 11, vol.1: attached to Charles Kikuchi's letter of December 20, 1941.
Box 56, Folder 4	Box 11, vol.1: attached to end of vol.[1].
Box 56, Folder 5	Box 11, vol.2: p. 376, 547, 551, 567(2), 586.
Box 56, Folder 6	Box 11, vol.3: p. 681.
Box 56, Folder 7	Box 12, vol.6: p. 2244, 2303.
Box 56, Folder 8	Box 13, vol.8: p. 2843.
Box 56, Folder 9	Box 13, vol.9: p. 3512, 3554(7).
Box 56, Folder 10	Box 14, vol.10: p. 3624(2).
Box 56, Folder 11	Box 14, vol.12: p. 4741.
Box 56, Folder 12	Box 17, vol.19: p. 8032-8033, 8058-8059, 8074.
Box 56, Folder 13	Box 17, vol.20: Attached to the end of vol.[20].
Box 56, Folder 14	Box 17, vol.21: p. 79(2), 321.
Box 56, Folder 15	Box 18, vol.22: p. 1272(2), 1307(7).
Box 56, Folder 16	Box 18, vol.22: attached to the end of vol.[22].
Box 56, Folder 17	Box 18, vol.23: p. 1691(5), 1727, 1764.
Box 56, Folder 18	Box 18, vol.23: sample of Yuriko's credits: 1944-1946.
Box 56, Folder 20	Box 18, vol.24: Attached to Charles Kikuchi's diary (1947) inside of the cover page.
Box 56, Folder 21	Box 18, vol.24: attachment to program, Martha Graham Dance Company.
Box 56, Folder 22	Box 19, vol.27: attachment to program, Martha Graham Dance Company.
Box 56, Folder 23	Box 20, vol.28: p. 3707.
Box 56, Folder 24	Box 20, vol.29: attached to diary. January 6, 1949; attached to diary. January 28, 1949; red card inserted June 19, 1949.
Box 56, Folder 25	Box 20, vol.30: attached to letter from Yuriko. February 7, 1950; Martha Graham Dance Company route sheet attached to letter from Charlie. March 20, 1950; attached to diary. May 12, 1950; letters from Bobby.

Correspondence & Writings

Box 45	Correspondence & miscellaneous writings.
Boxes 57-60	Correspondence, etc. Early 1980s.

Note

[Additions, 1989, 1991]

Oversize Box 62, Folder 4	Copies of letters.
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Physical Description: [half legal size document box]

Note

[Additions, 1989, 1991]

Japanese Evacuation and Relocation Study (JERS)

Box 46	Chicago case studies of evacuation and relocation, vols.1-14.
Box 47	Chicago case studies of evacuation and relocation, vols.16-32.
Box 48	Chicago case studies of evacuation and relocation, vols.33-46.
Box 49	Chicago case studies of evacuation and relocation, vols.48-50.

Note

[*Volume 47 is UNAVAILABLE.*]

Box 54 **Case histories taken by Mr. Kikuchi of the following Japanese Americans in the Chicago area.**

Note

Papers donated per Warren Tsuneishi.

Scope and Content Note

- 5. Iwagami, Ichiro
- 10. Sawamoto, Chutaro
- 35. Ikenaka, Ike
- 37. Saruwatari, Akira
- 49. Saruwatari, Masako

Pacific Coast Committee on American Principles and Fair Play

Box 54 **Records including minutes and correspondence, of the Pacific Coast Committee on American Principles and Fair Play (of Galen M. Fisher. 1941-45, as sometime secretary of the Committee).**

Note

Papers donated by Warren Tsuneishi given to him by Kikuchi.

Photographs and Biographical Data [Additions, 1989]

Box 54 **10 prints made from originals retained by Mrs. Charles Kikuchi, of Charles Kikuchi. ca. 1938-1944, and accompanying biographical information.**

Note

Papers donated by Professor Arthur Hansen.

Printed Materials

Boxes 50-51 **Government publications relating to the Japanese.**
Box 52 **Various printed items.**
Box 53 **Various publications by Japanese Americans, mostly copies of *Trek* [Utah Relocation Center newspaper].**

Oversize Box 62,
Folder 3 **Newsprint items: newsletters, clippings.**

Physical Description: [half legal size document box]

Oversize Box 62,
Folder 4 **Theater program. 1988.**

Physical Description: [half legal size document box]

Relocation Center News Publications [Additions, 1989, 1998]

Box 55, Folder 1 ***Totalizer* - Tanforan Assembly Center, California, vol.I nos.2-9. May 23-July 11, 1942.**

Box 55, Folder 2 ***Totalizer* - Tanforan Assembly Center, California, vol.I, nos.11-18. July 18-September 5, 1942.**

Box 55, Folder 3 ***Totalizer* - Tanforan Assembly Center, California, vol.I no.19. September 12, 1942.**

Physical Description: 6 copies.

Box 55, Folder 4 ***Desert Sentinel*, vol.II. October 22, 1943.**

Physical Description: 1 item.

Box 55, Folder 5 ***Relocator News Week*, vol.I nos.2-3, 5 and 11. October 14-December 23, 1943.**

Box 55, Folder 6 ***Gila Coop News* - Rivers, Arizona, vol.I nos. 5, 6, 8, 9, 11, 13, 18 and 19. July 20-October 26, 1943.**

Box 55, Folder 7 ***Gila News Courier* - Rivers, Arizona, vol.I nos.1-34. September 12-December 29, 1942.**

Box 55, Folder 8 ***Gila News Courier* - Rivers, Arizona, vol.II nos.1-29. January 1-March 9, 1943.**

- Box 55, Folder 9 ***Gila News Courier - Rivers, Arizona, vol.II nos.30-53 and 55-59. March 11-May 18, 1943.***
- Box 55, Folder 10 ***Gila News Courier - Rivers, Arizona, vol.II nos.60-62, 64-80, 83-84, 86-87, 89-90, 92-98 and 100. May 20-August 21, 1943.***
- Box 55, Folder 11 ***Gila News Courier - Rivers, Arizona, vol.III nos.1-5, 8-11, 13-16 and 18-37. August 24-November 16, 1943.***
- Box 55, Folder 12 ***Gila News Courier - Rivers, Arizona, vol.III nos.40-50, 52-70, 72-76 and 95. November 23-March 30, 1944.***

Reports

- Box 61, Folder 1 **Bob Spencer Gila reports, vol.1. 1942-43.**
 Physical Description: Fragile carbons in large binder.
 Note
 Kikuchi copy.

- Box 61, Folder 2 **Gila report - Ivers, Arizona, vol.2. April 1943.**
 Physical Description: Fragile carbons and mimeograph sheets in large binder.

Proclamation Documents

- Oversize Box 62,
Folder 1 **Letter, copies of proclamation documents**
 Physical Description: [half legal size document box]
- Oversize Box 62,
Folder 2 **Copies of proclamation documents, etc.**
 Physical Description: [half legal size document box]