Preliminary Guide to the Kita Shina Fūbutsu Shashin Gashū - Northern China and Tibet Scenes Photograph Album

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Title: Kita Shina Fūbutsu Shashin Gashū - Northern China and Tibet Scenes Photograph Album
Date (inclusive): ca. 1925-1926
Collection number: Bernath Mss 78
Extent: .2 linear feet (1 half-size document box)
Repository: University of California, Santa Barbara. Library. Department of Special Collections
Santa Barbara, California 93106-9010
Physical location: Del Sur
Language of Material: Collection materials in English
Access Restrictions
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Preferred Citation
Kita Shina Fūbutsu Shashin Gashū - Northern China and Tibet Scenes Photograph Album. Bernath Mss 78. Department of Special Collections, Davidson Library, University of California, Santa Barbara.
Scope and Content of Collection
Kita Shina Fūbutsu Shashin Gashū (title in Japanese on cover), “Northern China Landscape Photograph Collection.” An album of 91 tipped-in black and white photographs with captions and descriptions in Japanese showing various sights and locations in China, Tibet and Manchuria ca. 1925-1926. Among the photographs are scenes of notable places in Peking (Beijing) such as the Imperial Palace, the famous city gates and a number of shrines, temples, a celestial globe, various scenic areas in around Peking and assorted street scenes. There are also views of the port area of the foreign concession at Tientsin (Tianjin), the Great wall, examples of Buddhist iconography. A series of photos features the famous 13 Ming Tombs including statues of scholars, animals (camel, elephant), and the Small Red Gate among others. There are many other scenes of daily life in various locales, mostly in Northern China. There are also a number of photographs of Tibet including Lhasa, the Potala Palace and one of the Dalai Lama captioned “Tibet’s living Buddha.” Among the photographs is one of Zhang Zuolin, (Chang Tso-lin / 張作霖; 1875-1928) one of the most famous and powerful warlords operating in northern China and Manchuria during this era. Zhang was assassinated by elements of the Japanese Kwangtung Army in a bid to secure Japanese control over all of Manchuria. Other photographs include a “Manchurian beauty,” a group shot, dated Taishō 14, (1925) of several Japanese and American baseball teams, and several concerning the troop movements and campaigns of a minor warlord named Li Jinglin (1885-1932) who was active in northern China in the 1920’s.
Box Photo album, ca. 1925 - 1926