Finding aid for the Korean American Leftists in the 1950s collection 3000

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Abstract: The United States Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) was an agency of the U.S. Department of Labor from 1933 to 1940 and the U.S. Department of Justice from 1940 to 2003. This small collection comprises government documents from the INS as well as transcripts from the House of Un-American Activities Committee (HUAC) pertaining to suspected Communist connections amongst Koreans residing in the United States in the 1950s. The collection focuses primarily on Doo Sik Shynn, a North Korean man who emigrated to Seattle, Washington in 1920.

Arrangement
Folders are arranged chronologically.

Scope and Contents
The Korean American Leftists in the 1950s collection (1950-1961, 1988-1994) consists of four folders of government documents from the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) as well transcripts from the U.S. Congress House Un-American Activities Committee (HUAC) regarding suspected Communism amongst Korean Americans Leftists in the 1950s. The majority of the collection focuses on Do Sik Shynn, a North Korean man born in 1896 who emigrated to Seattle, Washington in 1920 and was arrested in 1954 after failing to report his address. The voluminous photocopied documents from the INS reveal a paper trail from prior Korean American detainees beginning in 1950, which eventually led to the suspicion of Shynn's Communist ties. Shynn's fight with the INS for his freedom spanned years after his initial order of deportation and subsequent appeal. The records fail to reveal if Shynn's appeal was accepted.

The remainder of the collection is comprised of two folders. The first contains collected photocopied U.S. Congress HUAC transcripts regarding Korean-American Communist activities in the Pacific Northwest Area (Seattle), Los Angeles, Hawaii, and Hollywood between the years 1951 to 1955. The second reveals correspondence between USC's Korean Heritage Library and the INS from 1988 and 1994 in an attempt to secure the documents for this collection, so that it may assist scholars in piecing together the full story of Koreans in the United States throughout history.

Historical Note
The United States Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) was an agency of the U.S. Department of Labor from 1933 to 1940 and the U.S. Department of Justice from 1940 to 2003. The Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) was formed in 1933 by a merger of the Bureau of Immigration and the Bureau of Naturalization. This agency also looked into any possible Communist parties ties, which was set forth by the House Un-American Activities Committee.

Doo Sik Shynn was one such individual investigated by the INS in the 1950s. He was born in North Korea in 1896 and emigrated to United States in 1920, settling in Seattle, Washington. In 1954 he was arrested or failing to make annual reports of his address to the INS in a violation of immigration laws. However, he had been identified prior to this as possibly having Communist ties. Shynn was charged with advocating Communism and ordered to be deported, which was then appealed.

Conditions Governing Access
COLLECTION STORED OFF-SITE. Advance notice required for access.

Conditions Governing Use
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Preferred Citation
[Box/Folder# or Item name]. Korean American Leftists in the 1950s collection, Collection no. 3000, Korean Heritage Library, USC Libraries, University of Southern California.

Immediate Source of Acquisition
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Subjects and Indexing Terms
Communism -- Korea (North) -- Archival resources
Communism -- United States -- History -- 20th century -- Archival resources
Deportation -- United States -- History -- 20th century -- Archival resources
Immigrants -- Korea -- 20th century -- Archival resources
Immigration enforcement -- Washington (State) -- Seattle -- Archival resources
Korean Americans -- Washington (State) -- Seattle -- Archival resources
Correspondence
Federal government records
Transcripts
United States. Congress. House. Committee on Un-American Activities -- Archives
United States. Immigration and Naturalization Service -- Archives
Shynn, Doo Sik -- Archives

Box 1, Folder 1  Shynn, Doo Sik 1950-1954
Box 1, Folder 2  Korean-American "Communists" 1951-1955
Box 1, Folder 3  Shynn, Doo Sik 1955-1961
Box 1, Folder 4  [Correspondence regarding records request] 1988, 1994