

The CSU Japanese American Digitization Project

What is CSUJAD?

A web portal to connect researchers with the CSU's rich archival collections.

During the last half-century the archives, libraries, oral history projects and history departments at several California State Universities (CSU) have collected archival materials, objects and media relating to the era when 120,000 law-abiding Americans of Japanese descent were forcibly uprooted from their homes and imprisoned in incarceration camps during World War II.

The CSU Japanese American Digitization Project is the first statewide collaborative initiative among CSU archives.

Participants

The Archives at 15 different California State Universities are participants in the project. These include:

Dominguez Hills, Fresno, Fullerton, Northridge, Sacramento, San Jose, Sonoma, San Francisco, San Diego, San Luis Obispo, Long Beach, San Bernardino, Channel Islands, East Bay, and Bakersfield.

Other partners include the Claremont Colleges, UC Santa Barbara, California Digital Library and Densho.

Funding

CSU Dominguez Hills, home of the CSU System Archives, received a National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) Planning grant in 2014 to start the project.

This led to a 2015 National Parks Service (NPS) grant to digitize 10,000 archival items. In 2016, the project received an NEH Implementation Grant to digitize another 5,000 objects.



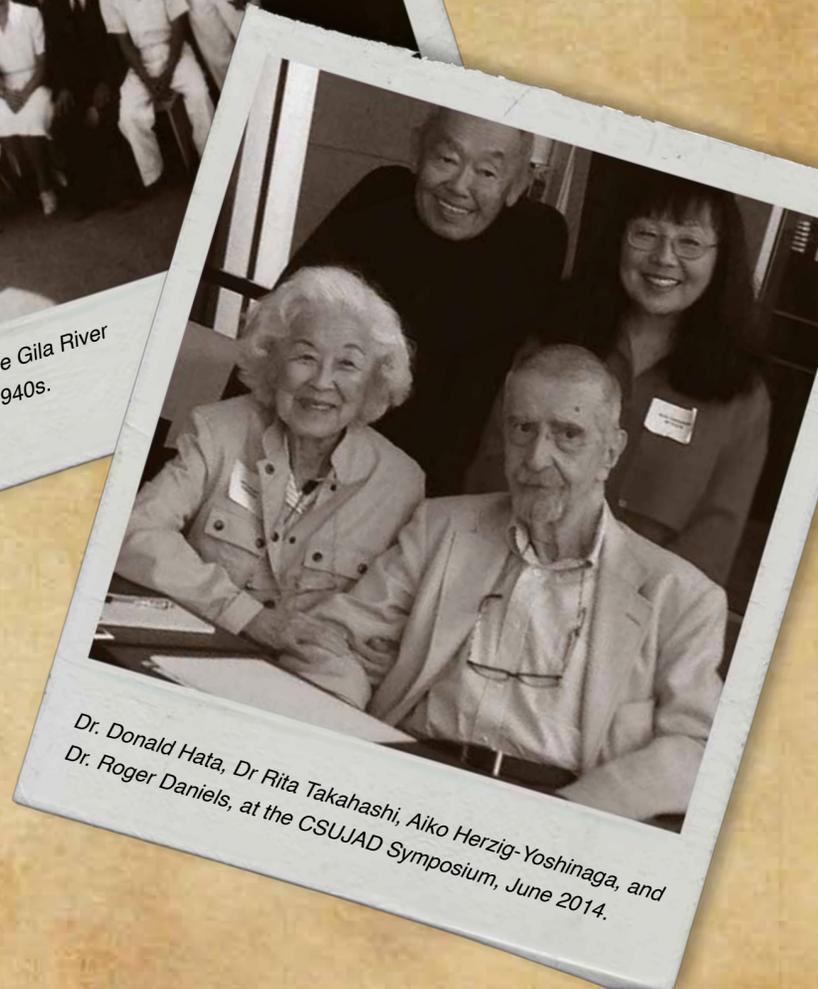
Ichiro Hayashi intake photo, Tule Lake. 1943. SJSU.



Palos Verdes Language School, CSUDH.



Dentists at the Gila River Camp, ca. 1940s. CSUDH.



Dr. Donald Hata, Dr. Rita Takahashi, Aiko Herzig-Yoshinaga, and Dr. Roger Daniels, at the CSUJAD Symposium, June 2014.



National Park Service

This project was funded, in part, by a grant by the U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Japanese American Confinement Sites Grant Program. The project was also funded, in part by the National Endowment for the Humanities.

www.csujad.com

Designed by Maria Hernandez - 2017

JAPANESE AMERICANS

in the West

1880s-1941



Parade with Japanese American float, ca. 1920s. CSUDH



The Asia Company, ca. 1930. CSUDH

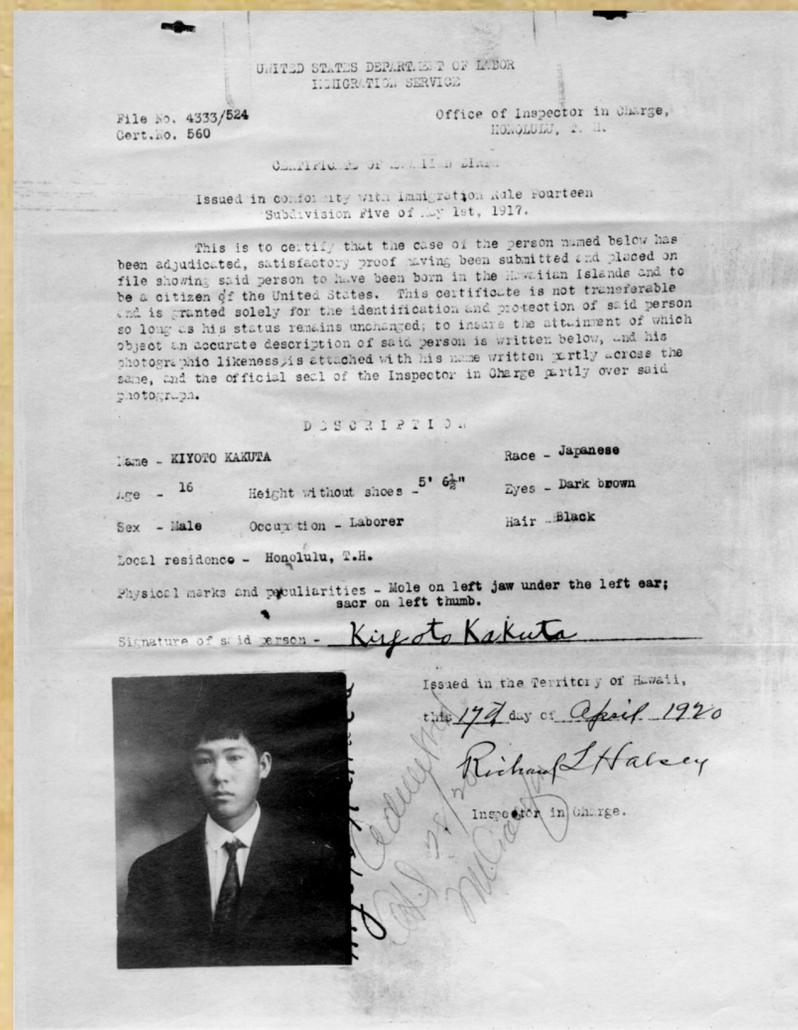


Japanese American Business, n.d. CSUDH

Between 1885 and 1924, 380,000 Japanese immigrated to Hawaii and the mainland United States. Despite success at creating communities, institutions, farms and businesses, the Japanese in the U.S. only faced racism and anti-Japanese sentiment. Laws throughout this period prevented this first generation of immigrants from becoming citizens, owning land, attending public schools, and marrying whites.

This “yellow peril,” though not unlike discrimination against other immigrants groups, was especially virulent on the West Coast and in California. Despite these impediments, Japanese Americans became part of the fabric of the Western U.S. in the 1920s and 1930s. Despite speaking English and being American citizens, second generation Japanese Americans (Nisei), faced discrimination in employment and housing as well as other community activities.

Source: Densho Encyclopedia

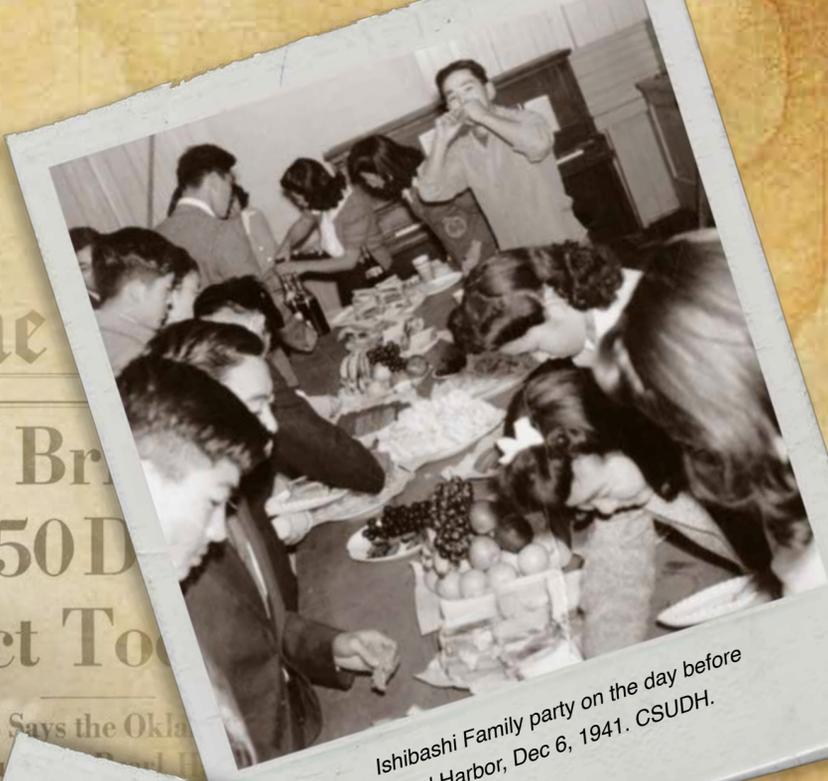


Kiyoto Kakuta birth certificate, 1917. CSUDH

NEW YORK
Herald Tribune

MONDAY, DECEMBER 8, 1941

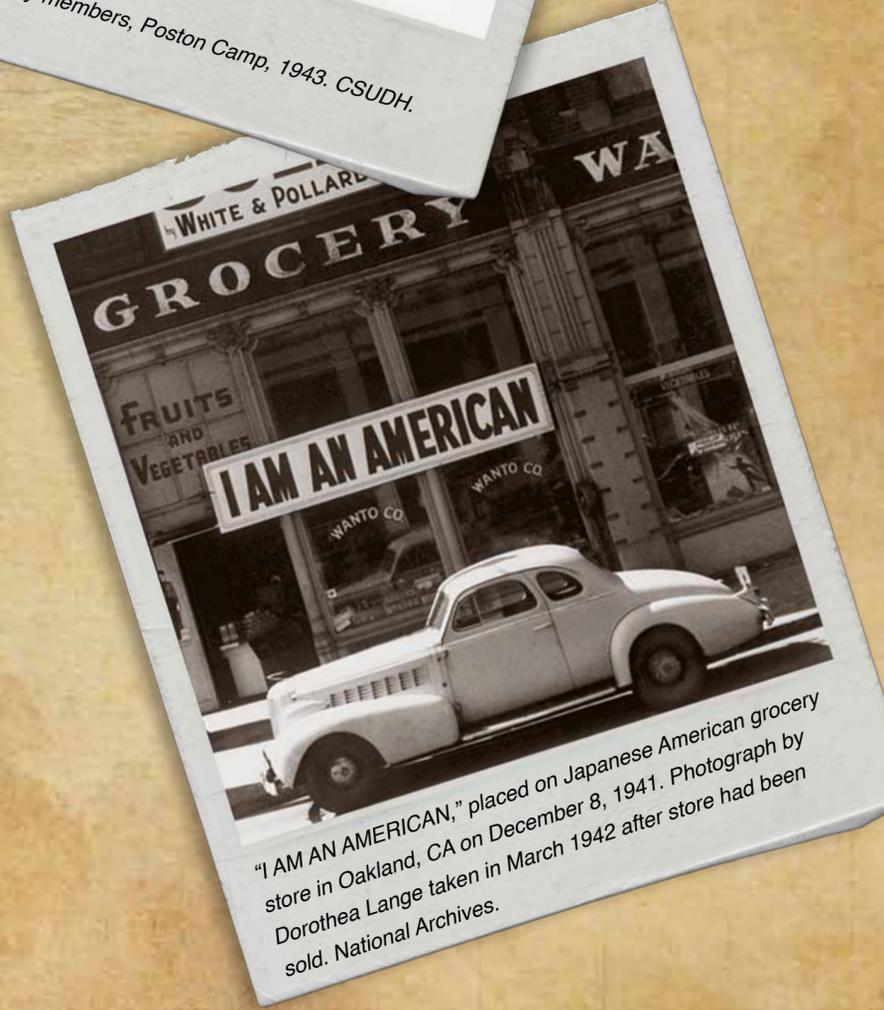
**Japan Declares War on U.S. and Britain
 Bombs Hawaii Without Warning, 350 Dead
 Roosevelt Will Ask Congress to Act To**



Ishibashi Family party on the day before Pearl Harbor, Dec 6, 1941. CSUDH.



Ishibashi family members, Poston Camp, 1943. CSUDH.



"I AM AN AMERICAN," placed on Japanese American grocery store in Oakland, CA on December 8, 1941. Photograph by Dorothea Lange taken in March 1942 after store had been sold. National Archives.

Post-Pearl Harbor Suspicion

The shock and fear brought on by the Japanese Government's attack at Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941 led the U.S. into World War II accompanied by years of fear and outrage among the U.S. population. This fear merged with anti-Asian xenophobia resulted in President Roosevelt's Executive Order 9066.

The order designated coastal areas as military zones, from which groups could be excluded, and led to the forced removal of Japanese Americans from the West Coast.

This project was funded, in part, by a grant by the U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Japanese American Confinement Sites Grant Program. The project was also funded, in part by the National Endowment for the Humanities.

EXECUTIVE ORDER 9066

AUTHORIZED THE REMOVAL OF ANY AND ALL PERSONS FROM MILITARY AREAS ALONG THE PACIFIC COAST.

“Any and all persons” were specified as all Japanese Americans on the West Coast in a later “Civilian Exclusion Order.” This facilitated the removal of Japanese Americans to 16 temporary assembly centers. The Centers consisted of fairgrounds, racetracks and other public facilities in California, Oregon, Washington State, and Arizona. The Assembly Centers were temporary holding facilities until more permanent camps could be constructed away from the coast. The Centers were administered by the U.S. Army's Wartime Civil Control Administration (WCCA).

The Japanese Americans were forced into the Assembly Centers behind fences and guarded by police in watchtowers. They were confined to horse stalls and other unsanitary areas that immediately resulted in a striking loss of privacy and freedom. Though newspapers were published and recreational events took place, the Centers were temporary and that state of flux resulted in additional stress for those uprooted citizens.

Japanese Americans board train for trip to Santa Anita Assembly Center, 1942. SJSU

Imprisoned graduating students pledging allegiance to the flag, Santa Anita, 1942. SJSU

Photograph shows a registration and processing scene at Santa Anita, California Assembly Center, 1942. SJSU

One of three canteens, Santa Anita Assembly Center, 1942. SJSU

WESTERN DEFENSE COMMAND AND FOURTH ARMY
WARTIME CIVIL CONTROL ADMINISTRATION
Presidio of San Francisco, California
May 3, 1942

INSTRUCTIONS TO ALL PERSONS OF JAPANESE ANCESTRY

Living in the Following Area:

All that portion of the City of Los Angeles, State of California, bounded on the northeast by East Ninth Street, (Olympic Boulevard), bounded on the southeast by Central Avenue, bounded on the southwest by Adams Boulevard, and bounded on the northwest by South Main Street.

Pursuant to the provisions of Civilian Exclusion Order No. 32, this Headquarters, dated May 3, 1942, all persons of Japanese ancestry, both alien and non-alien, will be evacuated from the above area by 12 o'clock noon, P. W. T., Saturday, May 9, 1942.

No Japanese person living in the above area will be permitted to change residence after 12 o'clock noon, P. W. T., Sunday, May 3, 1942, without obtaining special permission from the representative of the Commanding General, Southern California Sector, at the Civil Control Station located at:

Japanese Christian Church,
822 East 20th Street,
Los Angeles, California.

Such permits will only be granted for the purpose of uniting members of a family, or in cases of grave emergency. The Civil Control Station is equipped to assist the Japanese population affected by this evacuation in the following ways:

1. Give advice and instructions on the evacuation.
2. Provide services with respect to the management, leasing, sale, storage or other disposition of most kinds of property, such as real estate, business and professional equipment, household goods, boats, automobiles and livestock.
3. Provide temporary residence elsewhere for all Japanese in family groups.
4. Transport persons and a limited amount of clothing and equipment to their new residence.

The Following Instructions Must Be Observed:

1. A responsible member of each family, preferably the head of the family, or the person in whose name most of the property is held, and each individual living alone, will report to the Civil Control Station to receive further instructions. This must be done between 8:00 A. M. and 5:00 P. M. on Monday, May 4, 1942, or between 8:00 A. M. and 5:00 P. M. on Tuesday, May 5, 1942.

2. Evacuees must carry with them on departure for the Assembly Center, the following property:
 - (a) Bedding and linens (no mattress) for each member of the family;
 - (b) Toilet articles for each member of the family;
 - (c) Extra clothing for each member of the family;
 - (d) Sufficient knives, forks, spoons, plates, bowls and cups for each member of the family;
 - (e) Essential personal effects for each member of the family.

All items carried will be securely packaged, tied and plainly marked with the name of the owner and numbered in accordance with instructions obtained at the Civil Control Station. The size and number of packages is limited to that which can be carried by the individual or family group.

3. No pets of any kind will be permitted.
4. No personal items and no household goods will be shipped to the Assembly Center.
5. The United States Government through its agencies will provide for the storage, at the sole risk of the owner, of the more substantial household items, such as iceboxes, washing machines, pianos and other heavy furniture. Cooking utensils and other small items will be accepted for storage if crated, packed and plainly marked with the name and address of the owner. Only one name and address will be used by a given family.
6. Each family, and individual living alone, will be furnished transportation to the Assembly Center or will be authorized to travel by private automobile in a supervised group. All instructions pertaining to the movement will be obtained at the Civil Control Station.

Go to the Civil Control Station between the hours of 8:00 A. M. and 5:00 P. M., Monday, May 4, 1942, or between the hours of 8:00 A. M. and 5:00 P. M., Tuesday, May 5, 1942, to receive further instructions.

J. L. DeWITT
Lieutenant General, U. S. Army
Commanding

SEE CIVILIAN EXCLUSION ORDER NO. 22.



American Incarceration Camps

The War Relocation Authority (WRA) was established in 1942 to administer the incarceration of 120,000 Japanese Americans in permanent camps outside the West Coast exclusion zones.

Ten WRA camps were built in Gila River and Poston, Arizona; Jerome and Rohwer, Arkansas; Manzanar and Tule Lake, California; Granada, Colorado; Minidoka, Idaho; Topaz, Utah; and Heart Mountain, Wyoming.

Placed in deserts and out-of-the-way locations, the camps consisted of barracks, mess halls, communal latrines, hospitals, post offices, schools, factories and farms. All had barbed wire or fences with guard towers.

In addition to the WRA camp facilities, there were several other locations where Japanese Americans were imprisoned during World War II, including:

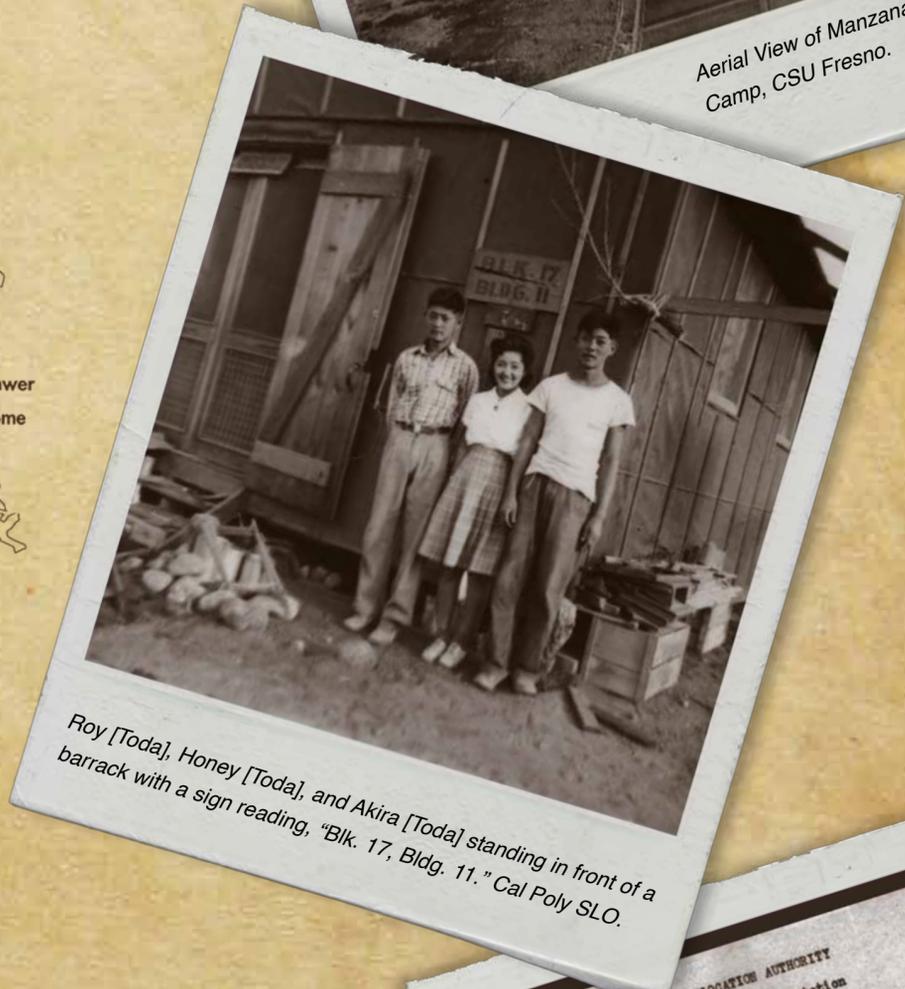
WCCA Temporary Assembly Centers, WRA Incarceration Camps, WRA Citizen Isolation Centers, Department of Justice Internment Camps, U.S. Army Internment Camps, or other facilities.

Included among these camps was the Crystal City, Texas operated by the Immigration and Naturalization Service. Though the WRA attempted to camouflage the effects of the camps on its inhabitants through various PR campaigns, the stark environment of the camps were always apparent.

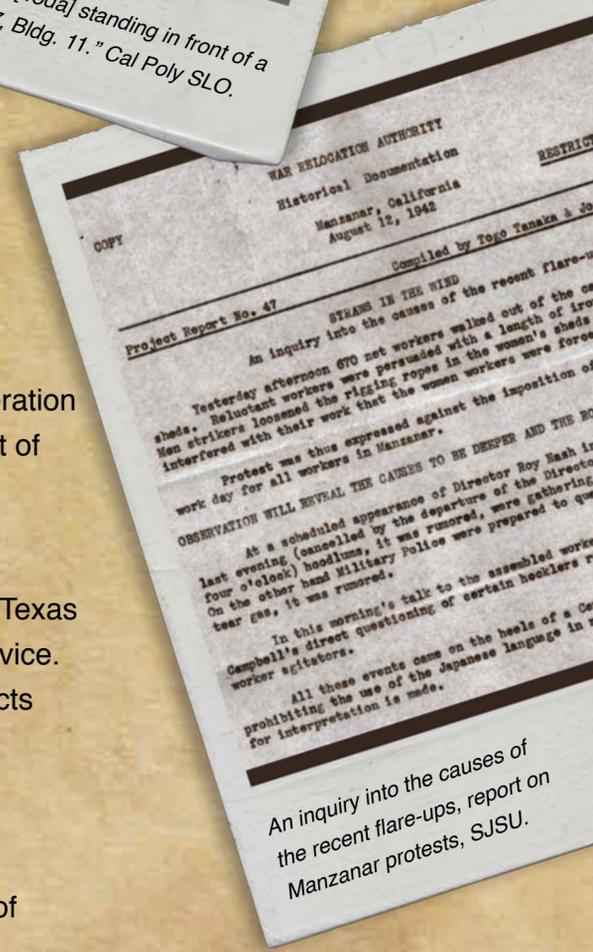
Those incarcerated attempted to keep to a routine of work and occasional recreation. The camps began to close in early 1945 although Tule Lake was open until 1946.



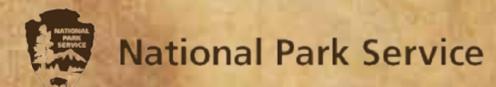
Aerial View of Manzanar Camp, CSU Fresno.



Roy [Toda], Honey [Toda], and Akira [Toda] standing in front of a barrack with a sign reading, "Blk. 17, Bldg. 11." Cal Poly SLO.



An inquiry into the causes of the recent flare-ups, report on Manzanar protests, SJSU.



This project was funded, in part, by a grant by the U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Japanese American Confinement Sites Grant Program. The project was also funded, in part by the National Endowment for the Humanities.

JAPANESE AMERICANS SOLDIERS IN WWII

Japanese Americans soldiers distinguished themselves in several theaters of war during World War II. While Americans of Japanese descent were being declared enemy aliens, the 442nd Regimental Combat Team (RCT) was organized on March 23, 1943." The Military Intelligence Service Language School (MISLS) was first established in San Francisco and later at Camp Savage and Fort Snelling, Minnesota. It was created to supply the military with Japanese American translators. The MISLS was critical in producing skilled linguists who were essential to the World War II effort and later the occupation of Japan. Source: Densho Encyclopedia

**“You fought the enemy abroad
and prejudice at home and you won,”
President Harry Truman addressing
Japanese American troops, July 15, 1946.**



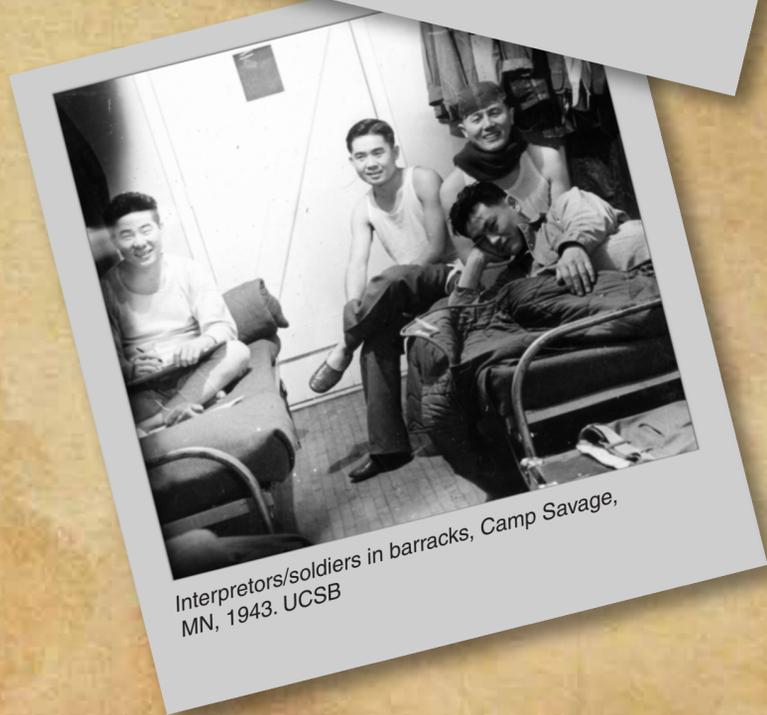
T.T. Camp Savage, MN. 1943. UCSB



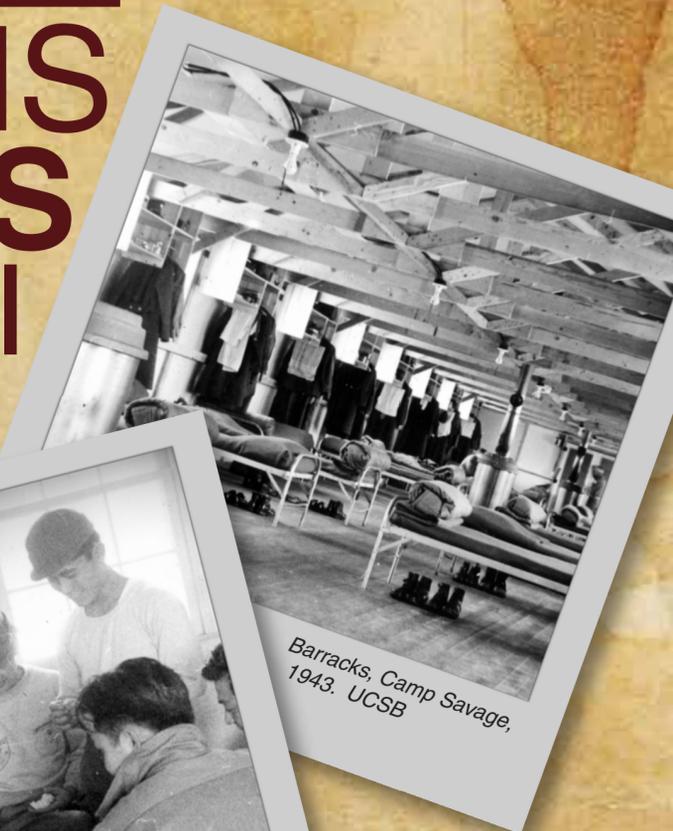
Poker game, Camp Savage, MN. 1943. UCSB



Fire wood duty. CSUDH



Interpretors/soldiers in barracks, Camp Savage, MN, 1943. UCSB



Barracks, Camp Savage, 1943. UCSB

American Incarceration Camps: Loyalty?

A "loyalty questionnaire" was given to all Japanese Americans age 17 and over in the camps.

Question 27 inquired if an individual would be willing to serve as a combat soldier, nurse, or in the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps.

Question 28 stated: "Will you swear unqualified allegiance to the United States... and forswear any form of allegiance or obedience to the Japanese emperor, to any other foreign government, power or organization?"

These questions resulted in a great deal of outrage, confusion, and controversy.

Japanese American citizens (Nisei) resented being asked to renounce loyalty to someone who had never been their Emperor.

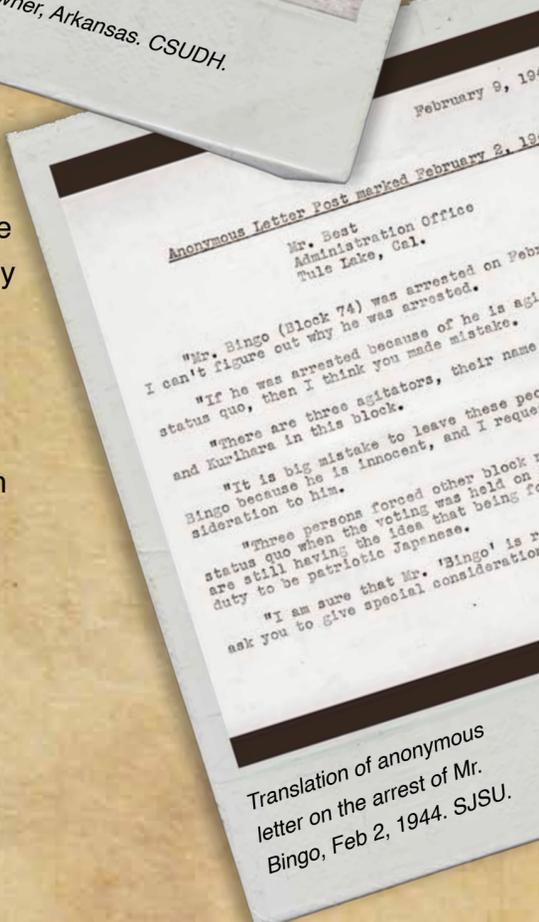
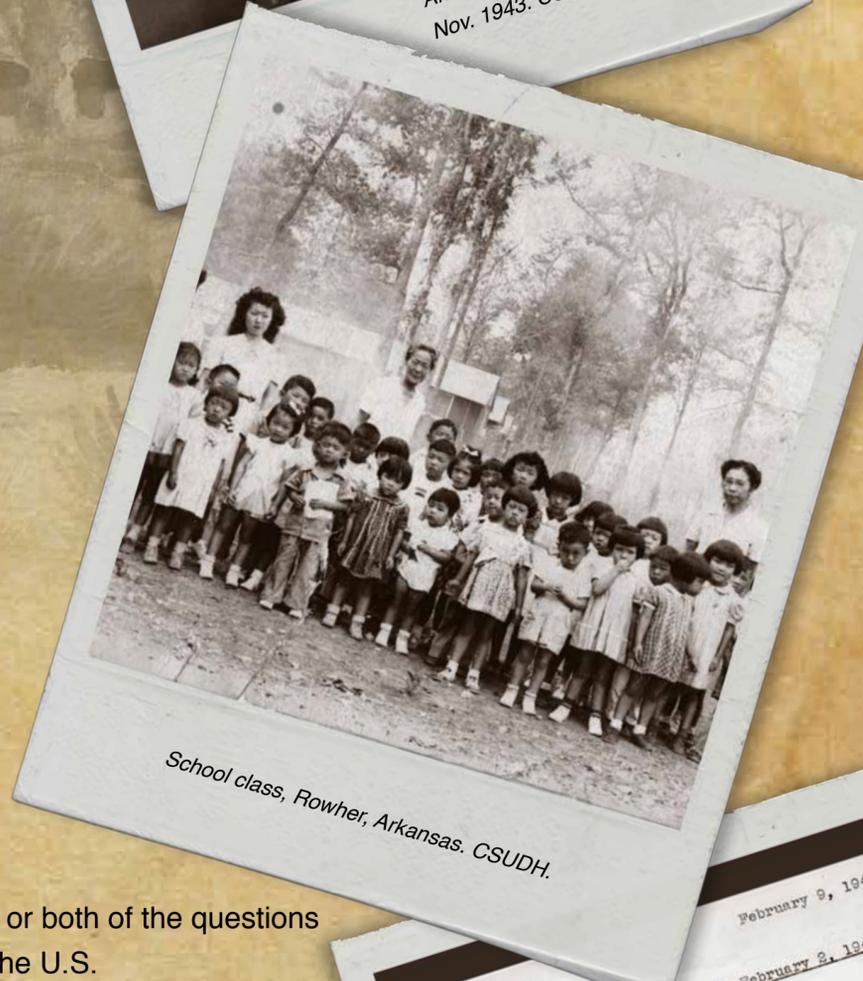
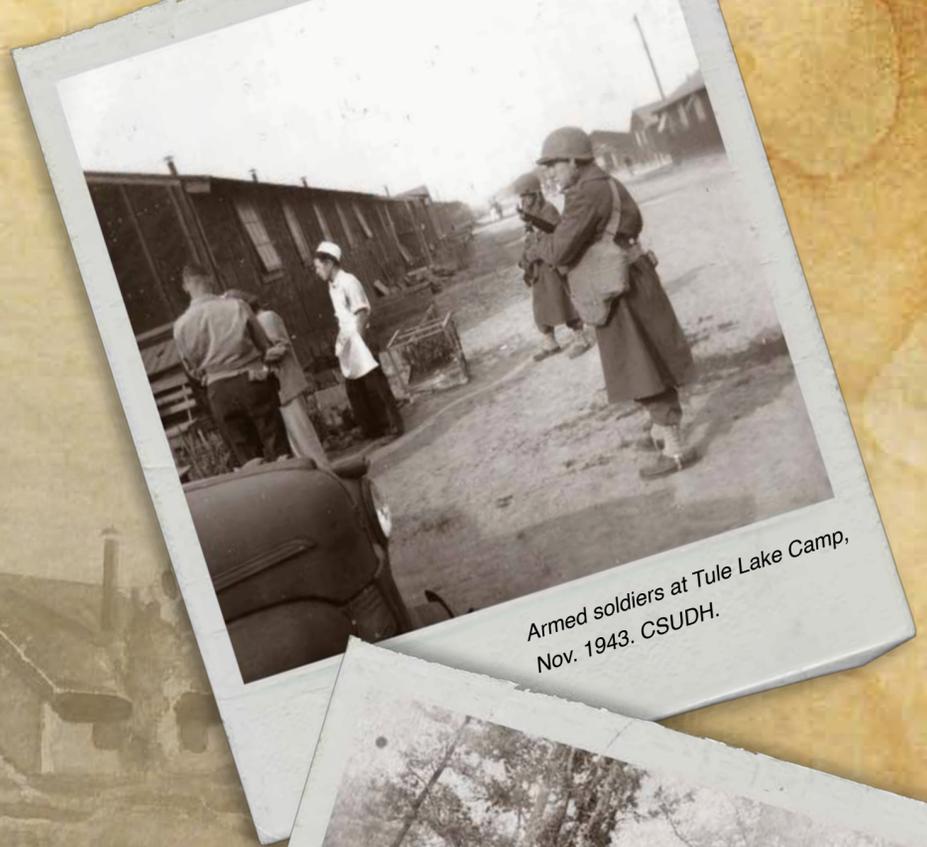
First generation Japanese Americans (Issei) could not gain U.S. citizenship, thus renouncing their Japanese citizenship would leave them stateless.

Those who answered "no" to one or both of the questions were designated as "disloyal" to the U.S.

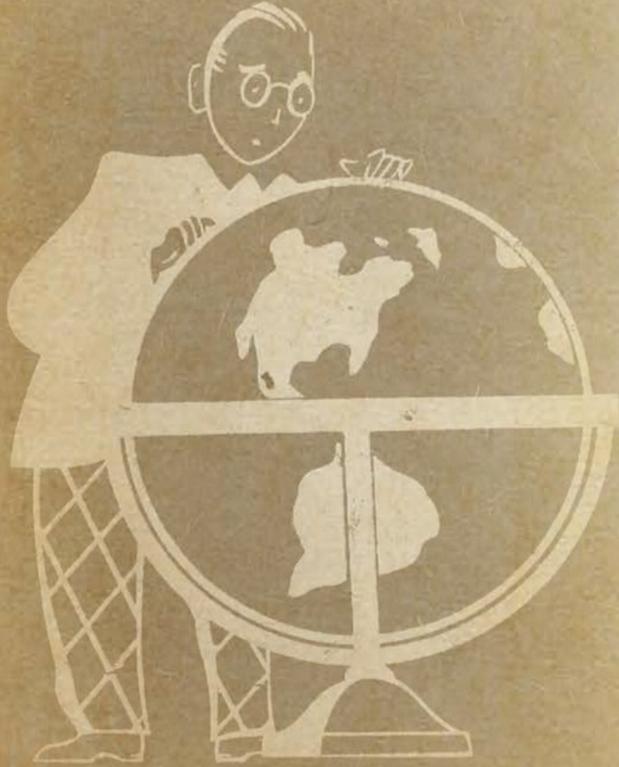
These individuals and their families were sent to Tule Lake Segregation Center on the California-Oregon border. Many immigrants and citizens determined that it was possibly safer to be "repatriated" to Japan rather than stay in the United States.

The concept of giving up United States citizenship, though shocking to some, was a choice of serious consideration and implications.

Many feared for their safety after being released from the camps and so determined Japan after World War II would be safer than the U.S. Others were outraged with their imprisonment. Ultimately, many were repatriated, while many others who signed up to go to Japan decided to stay in the U.S.



Resettlement HANDBOOK



RECEIVE INFORMATION OF
GRANADA PROJECT

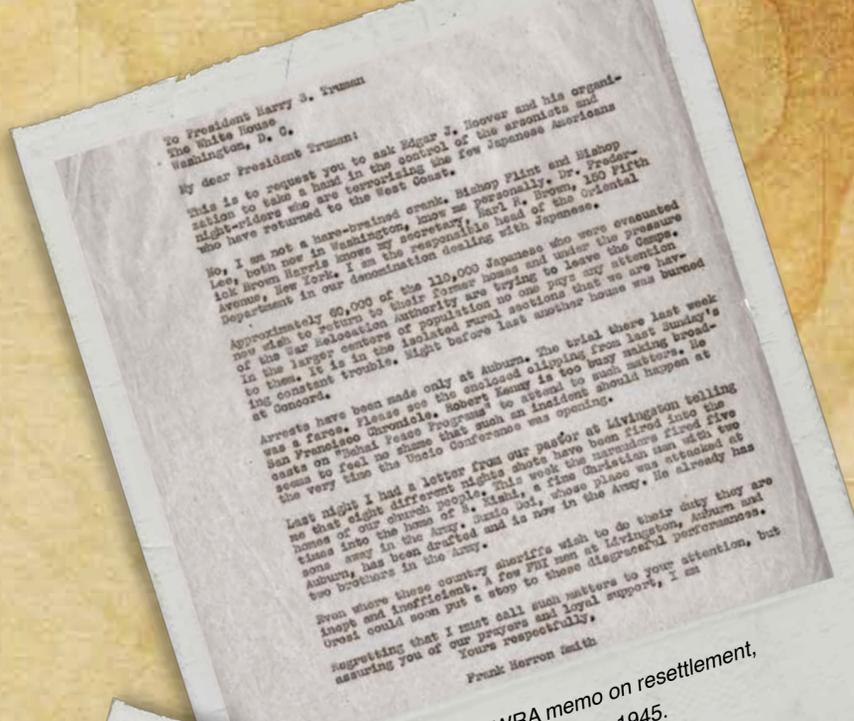
Resettlement

The government diaspora of Japanese Americans led to renewed stress after the Supreme Court ruled in December 1944 that “loyal” citizens could leave the camps and resettle.

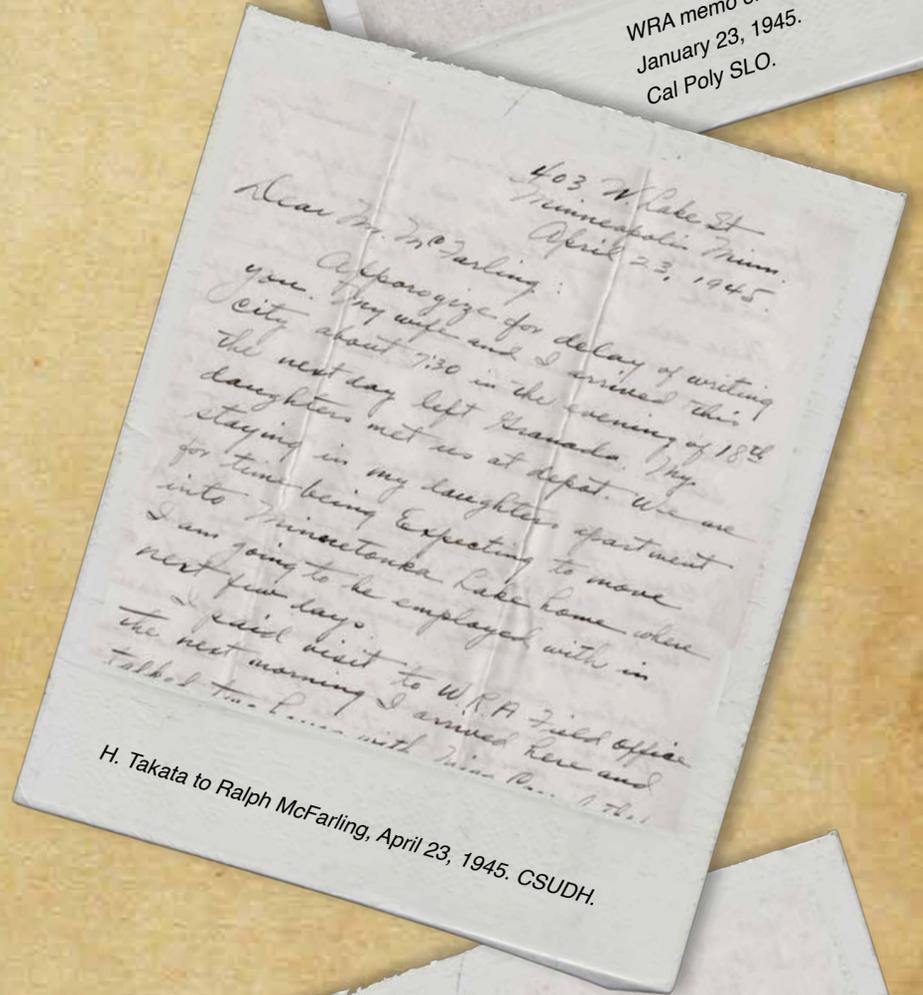
While many returned to California, large groups of former prisoners settled in Chicago, New York, Minneapolis and elsewhere.

Ultimately, and despite attempts by the WRA to “resettle,” the Japanese Americans faced racist violence, housing shortages and financial hardship.

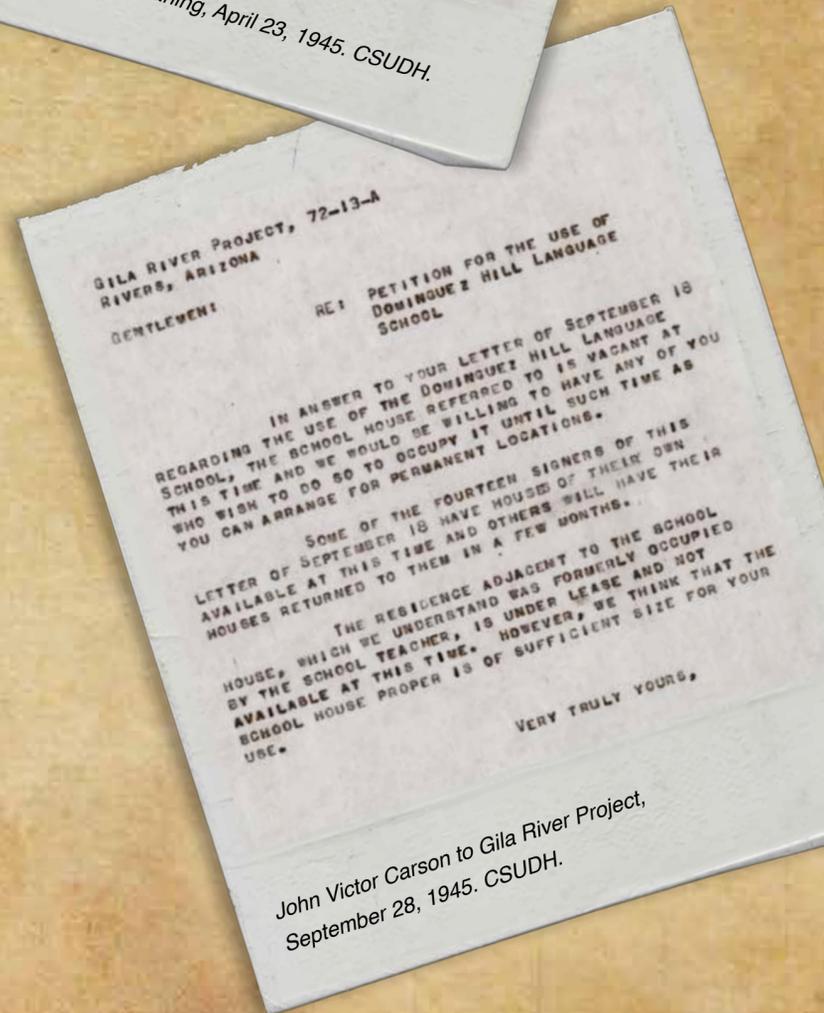
As World War II ended, the Japanese Americans found themselves among the millions of people around the world migrating to a new home, but this U.S. imposed migration had been generated by an executive order and domestic fear.



WRA memo on resettlement,
January 23, 1945.
Cal Poly SLO.



H. Takata to Ralph McFarling, April 23, 1945. CSUDH.



John Victor Carson to Gila River Project,
September 28, 1945. CSUDH.



National Park Service

This project was funded, in part, by a grant by the U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Japanese American Confinement Sites Grant Program. The project was also funded, in part by the National Endowment for the Humanities.

REDRESS & REMEMBRANCE

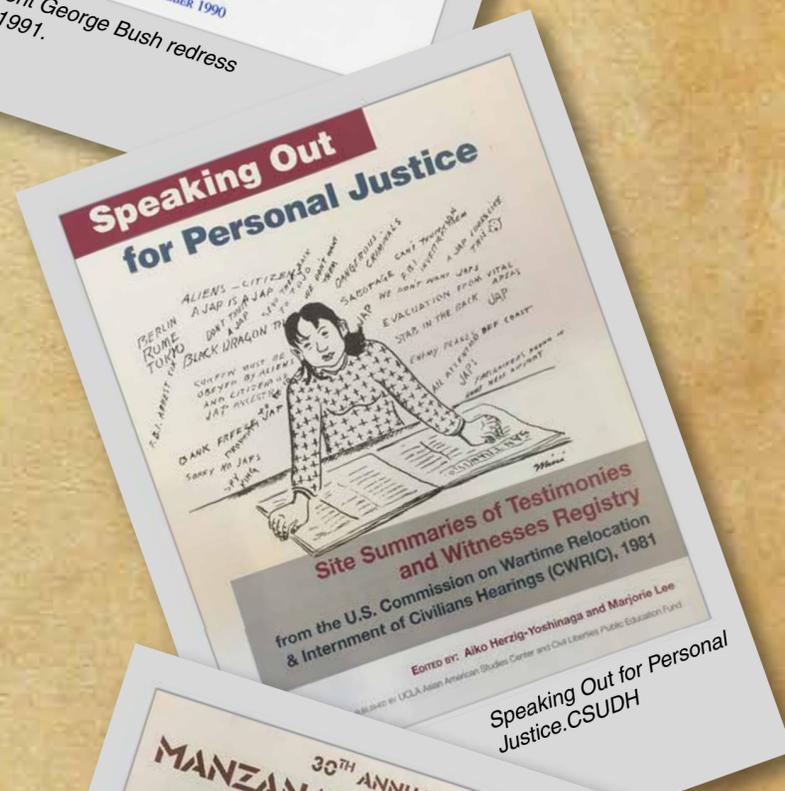
The Redress Movement refers to efforts to obtain restitution of civil rights, an apology, and/or monetary compensation from the U.S. government during the decades that followed the World War II mass removal and incarceration of Japanese Americans. Beyond the fight for recognition and redress from the U.S. government, Japanese Americans have also fought on a personal level and collectively to ensure that this dark period in American History is remembered and that future generations will have the opportunity to learn about this incarceration of American citizens. Redress resulted in each living former prisoner receiving \$20,000.



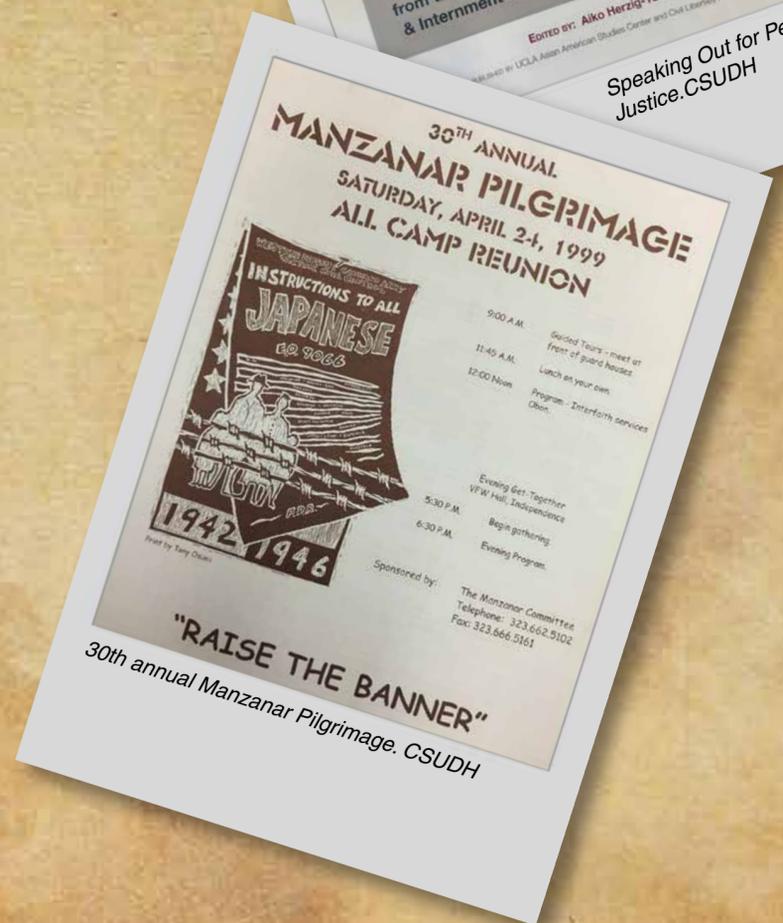
Henry Fukahara notebook. Manzanar watercolor. CSUDH



President George Bush redress letter, 1991.



Speaking Out for Personal Justice. CSUDH



"RAISE THE BANNER" 30th annual Manzanar Pilgrimage. CSUDH

Immigration Issues After 1945

Over 120,000 Japanese American citizens and immigrants were imprisoned during 1942-1945.

Portions of majority populations in the U.S. have always feared rather than embraced differences. Politicians listen to that fear.

- Housed in detention centers in Texas during 2014-2016, immigrant families and children have been imprisoned in ICE facilities (often managed by private contractors) while awaiting deportation.
- In all 762 detainees were swept up nationwide, including 491 in the New York area (after 9/11). The arrests came after the FBI was flooded with tips to a hotline, including 96,000 in the week after 11 September 2001. [The Guardian, June 21, 2015].
- Japanese American community organizations are often quite vocal when it comes to the government infringing on the rights of immigrants.

- In 2016 the Presidential campaign of Donald Trump brought many of these issues to the forefront of public opinion.
- Republican presidential frontrunner Donald Trump told TIME that he does not know whether he would have supported or opposed the internment of Japanese Americans during World War II.

"I would have had to be there at the time to tell you, to give you a proper answer," he said during a recent interview in his office in New York City.

"I certainly hate the concept of it. But I would have had to be there at the time to give you a proper answer."

[Time.com, December 8, 2015].

Mr. J. R. McFarling.
Dear Mr. McFarling:
This is my second letter to you since Aug. 30th. On seeing the Pioneer I understood you were promoted to Seattle office of W.R.A. So I wrote to Seattle office but it was returned. Now I am writing you % Canada project to be forwarded to you.
We are glad we have peace at last. We have more to struggle in the future.
I wrote Mr. Spier in August and had his answer. I borrowed a copy of the Study of the Japanese Schools from him and got Kipp and returned him My letter of August 30th was sent. Later on I wrote to Mr. Jacob Larrild and Mrs. Struble with the letter but I do not hear them. I do not know where to write them.

Toske Hoshimiya to J.
Ralph McFarling, Nov 1,
1945. CSUDH.

© Detention Facilities
South Texas Family Residential Center
San Antonio Field Office
300 El Rancho Way Dilley, TX, 78017
See map: Google Maps



If you need information about a resident that is housed at this center, you may call (830) 378-6500 between the hours of 8 a.m. and 10 p.m. When you call, please have the individual's biographical information ready, including first, last and hyphenated names, any aliases he or she may use, date of birth and country of birth.

Residents cannot receive incoming calls. If you need to get in touch with a resident to leave an urgent message, you must call (830) 378-6500 and leave the resident's full name, alias registration number and your name and telephone number where you can be reached. The resident will be given your message.

Parking: Free public parking is available at the facility (designated visitor parking is marked).

Accessibility for Individuals with Special Needs: The facility is in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

South Texas Family Residential Center Web Page
<https://www.ice.gov/detention-facility/south-texas-family-residential-center>

U.S.
Decades after internment, Japanese-Americans warn of what's still possible
As they mark Day of Remembrance, former detainees say talk of national security can still trump Americans' basic rights
February 18, 2014 9:30AM ET
by Masoud Hayoun - @mhayoun | Google+

'Too reminiscent'
Days after 9/11, Los Angeles-based Japanese-American community leader Kathy Masaoka, now 65, turned on her car radio and heard about an American Muslim woman "afraid to go to the market" for fear of hate crimes. "I said to myself, 'Oh, my God, this is how my mother felt,'" she said. "This is too reminiscent."

Masaoka's first-generation American mother was interned in rural Manzanar, Calif., at a war relocation center — one of 10 across the nation — where tar-paper walls and straw-stuffed bedding offered little comfort or shelter from the elements.

After 9/11 — as after Pearl Harbor — many Americans wanted to restrict the free movement of their Muslim compatriots. Nearly half of Americans in a Cornell study reported in 2004 by Bloomberg News wanted American Muslims to either register their whereabouts or have some form of civil liberty restricted to avoid another attack.

Shortly after she heard the Muslim woman's story on the radio, Masaoka's Japanese-American rights group, Nikkei for Civil Rights and Redress (NCRRA), held a candlelight vigil in memory of those who died on 9/11 and to take a stand against the violence, racial profiling and detentions faced by Americans of color in the attacks' aftermath.

The NCRRA established a 9/11 Committee that is still running, facilitating cultural exchanges as well as political and social solidarity. "We started the process of knowing each other," Masaoka said.

Article from Aljazeera America
<http://america.aljazeera.com/articles/2014/2/18/japanese-americaninternmentremembrancemuslimpatriots.html>