A Guide to Records of Asian Americans & Pacific Islanders At

The National Archives

& Records Administration
Pacific Region-San Francisco



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Compiled by Bill Greene, Bob Glass and Daniel Nealand

Cover: A photograph from Wong Kim Ark's immigration file. Mr. Wong was denied entry to the U.S. after a visit to China and sought relief in the Federal courts. His case, decided before the U.S. Supreme Court in 1898, established the right to citizenship for Chinese Americans and all others born in the United States.



Above: Photograph and 1885 habeas corpus petition of Jung Ah Lung, U.S. District Court, San Francisco. Mr. Jung petitioned for release from detention based on evidence of permanent U.S. residence, claiming that the return certificate he had been issued by the Collector of Customs had been stolen by pirates prior to his return to the United States. The U.S. Attorney contended that only Executive branch officials at the port of entry had final authority to determine what was acceptable evidence and whether aliens were excludable under the Chinese Exclusion Act; and that such Executive decisions were not subject to Judicial review. But the Court ruled, in favor of the immigrant, that a Chinese person claiming U.S. residency should be entitled to the same benefits of habeas corpus, and due process in presenting relevant evidence in court, as "any other human being in this country."

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Table of Contents

Introduction and Background	Office of Territories (RG 126) - 29
Information -2	
	U.S. Marine Corps (RG 127) - 33
Record Groups (RGs) Selected for this	
Guide - 5	Bureau of Prisons (RG 129) - 31
U.S. District Courts (RG 21) - 5	Office of Alien Property (RG 131) - 31

Census Bureau (RG 29) - 13	Selective Service, World War II
	(RG 147) - 32
Customs Service (RG 36) - 13	

Marine Inspection and Navigation (RG 163) - 33 (RG 41) - 15

Bureau of Land Management (RG 49) -16

U.S. Naval Districts and Shore
Establishments (RG 181) - 33

Internal Revenue Service (RG 58) - 16 War Manpower Commission (RG 211) - 38

National Park Service (RG 79) - 17 Defense Transportation (RG 219) - 39

Bureau of Agricultural Economics Foreign Assets Control (RG 265) - 39 (RG 83) - 17

Immigration and Naturalization Service

U.S. Courts of Appeals (RG 276) - 39

(RG 85) - 17 Government of American Samoa (RG 284) - 40 Public Health Service (RG 90) - 26

Naval Operating Forces (RG 313) - 33
Farmers Home Administration
(RG 96) - 27
U.S. Army Commands (RG 338) - 42

U.S. Mint (RG 104) - 27 U.S. Marshals (RG 527) - 43

U. S. Attorneys (RG 118) – 28

Basic Research Steps For RG 85 INS-San Francisco Records - 44

Introduction

Regional archival records holdings of the National Archives and Records Administration's (NARA's) Pacific Region-San Francisco, located just south of San Francisco in San Bruno, California, constitute a major primary resource for the study of American history. One of 13 National Archives regional repositories across the U.S., the San Francisco regional archives maintains historical records of Federal courts and Federal agency field offices located in northern and central California, Hawaii, Nevada, American Samoa, and the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands. In addition, the archives maintains a large collection of National Archives microfilm publications.

National Archives-San Francisco records holdings contain a wealth of historical information relating to Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (AAPI), primarily during the period c1850-1960. Later dates may sometimes be covered, for instance in some court case records up to 25 years old. Especially notable are records of the Immigration and Naturalization Service's (INS) San Francisco and Honolulu offices relating to the "Chinese Exclusion Acts" period (1882-1943)—including records of the Angel Island Immigration Station (1910-1940). But regional archives holdings also include records of many other Federal field offices.

While Chinese Americans are the "AAPI group" most frequently documented in National Archives-San Francisco regional holdings, there are also records relating to Federal policies and activities regarding, and the historical experiences of Japanese, Korean, South Asian, and other Asian Americans as well as records relating to Pacific Americans from Hawaii, American Samoa, and various other Pacific locations. Most of the latter (such as the Philippines, Guam, and the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands) are or were at some time in the past recognized as U.S. territories. Also among National Archives-San Francisco Naval holdings are records of non-territorial U.S. Navy bases in the Pacific and East Asia dating from World War II and after, as well as records of post-war military governments in Okinawa and other Pacific islands. Some records relate to U.S. claims and activities on small Pacific islands considered "not permanently inhabited" such as Midway and Wake Islands.

A Note on National Archives Records and This Guide's Organization

Records in the National Archives and Records Administration-Pacific Region are not arranged according to subject. Instead, they are kept in numbered "National Archives Record Groups" (RGs), each number denoting a Government agency that created or received them. For example, Records of the Immigration and Naturalization Service are contained within RG 85. Thereunder, they are organized according to the particular agency office which created, received, or compiled the records. There may then be records of sub-offices or departments within a field office, and finally, groups of records used as "functional units" by an office, called "records series."

Although this organization-based records arrangement may make subject access more difficult at times, it preserves not only the legal validity of the records as "essential evidence," but also the organizational and contextual integrity essential for understanding them.

While this guide is organized by RG number, to facilitate public researcher access to archival holdings we attempt wherever possible to note records relating to subjects of proven or potential interest to researchers when discussing holdings of a particular RG and agency office. This Guide's descriptions for particular RGs and offices focus on known records collections and

series relating to various AAPI groups. Wherever possible, we give at least some examples of records series and files known to have significant interest for American history relating to the AAPI community. However, space limits prevent an exhaustive citation for all files of known major interest. In addition, significant new discoveries of hitherto "unknown and uncharted" materials are constantly being made by intrepid researchers.

In addition to original records, a number of series of microfilmed records are cited in the text, including National Archives Microfilm Publications (designated by an *M* or a *T*), microfilmed regional records available only at one Regional Archives (designated by an *I*), and microfilm accessioned from a Federal agency (unnumbered). Some National Archives microfilm publications holdings are national in scope, such as the U.S. Population Census, 1790-1930. Others cover particular regional locales, populations, etc.

This guide is intended for use with other finding aids and as a basis for consultation with the National Archives-San Francisco staff. So used, it should help researchers link subjects with records holdings and develop appropriate research strategies and paths, including those which require searching records on a particular topic in more than one RG.

On Public Researcher Access

It is NARA's mission to provide, to as great an extent as possible, "ready (public) access to essential evidence" regarding the Federal government's historical interactions with the people. The majority of the records cited in this publication are open to the public for research.

In some instances NARA is not able to provide public access to all information in a file due to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), which exempts specific categories of information from public disclosure. NARA's Pacific Region-San Francisco archival holdings include a small amount of security classified records and "records of potential use to terrorists" which are not open for public research. In addition, certain information in individual investigative case files and in some other records, generally relating to persons/events less than 75 years old, may be exempt from public disclosure under FOIA exemption (b)(6). This exemption protects living persons from unwarranted invasions of their personal privacy. Such information, for instance, might include personal Social Security numbers, or unsubstantiated government/third party allegations potentially damaging to a person's reputation.

To gain access to files restricted because of privacy concerns, researchers, including family members, can act as authorized representatives of a person covered in a file by providing NARA with evidence of the subject's consent. If the person covered is less than 75 years old but known to be no longer living, documentation attesting to the subject's deceased status will enable us to open otherwise privacy-restricted information for public research.

Appointments and Registration

For persons who desire to research original National Archives-San Francisco records holdings, the archives prefers that you call 650-238-3501 or email the archives (sanbruno.archives@nara.gov) in advance to discuss and arrange for a research appointment. This allows the archives to link the researcher with the most knowledgeable staff member available, and to provide the best possible research service. NARA requires that a researcher provide government-issued photo identification, such as a valid driver's license, before it provides access to original records holdings.

A Note on Federal Laws, Policies and Precedents

Space is not available in this Guide to describe or even list thoroughly the extensive number of Federal Acts, court decisions, major policy issuances, and precedent-setting Executive orders and regulations which resulted in the production of the AAPI-related historical records described herein. Major bodies of regional records resulted, for instance, from passage and enforcement of a number of immigration laws known as the "Chinese Exclusion Acts," the first of which, passed in May 1882, became the first U.S. law to discriminate against immigrants because of race and class. The Act suspended immigration of Chinese considered to be "laborers" (merchants, students and government officials were exempted from exclusion). Naturalization of Chinese immigrants was prohibited.

A number of subsequent Federal laws and policies extended and harshened the Chinese Exclusion Act and related discriminatory measures to cover other Asian immigrant groups. For example, the 1907 "Gentlemen's Agreement" with Japan excluded Japanese laborers (though not the immediate families of those already here) while a related 1907 Executive order excluded not only Japanese but also Korean immigrant laborers and prohibited their "remigration" to the mainland from Hawaii. The Immigration Act of February 5, 1917 restated all past exclusions and excluded immigration from the "Asiatic Barred Zone" containing most of Asia, the Indian subcontinent, and the Pacific Islands. In 1922, the Supreme Court ruled that Takao Ozawa of Hawaii and other Japanese immigrants were ineligible for citizenship.

The General Immigration or National Origins Act of 1924 virtually cut off immigration from Asian countries. A 1934 U.S. Supreme Court decision *Morrison et.al.* v. *California* declared: "White persons within the meaning of the statute [Naturalization Law of 1790] are members of the Caucasian race, as Caucasian is defined in the understanding of the mass of men. The term excludes the Chinese, the Japanese, the Hindus, the American Indians and the Filipinos." The 1934 Tydings-McDuffie Act, while providing for independence of the Philippines, drastically limited Filipino-to U.S. immigration and reclassified all U.S. Filipinos as "Aliens," hence ineligible for New Deal programs, etc.

1943 saw wartime-related repeal of the Chinese Exclusion Acts, but also the enforcement of a 1942 Executive order (9066) decreeing the removal of all Japanese and Americans of Japanese ancestry from Western coastal regions to guarded "relocation camps" in the interior.

Both the Philippines and Guam became U.S. possessions in 1898 as a result of the Spanish American War. In Hawaii, a 1893 "businessmen's overthrow" of the legitimate government headed by Queen Liliuokalani led to a joint Congressional resolution for U.S. annexation in 1898 and a 1900 Organic Act declaring Hawaii a U.S. Territory. A Treaty of Cession was approved by both sides for American Samoa in 1900, and the island of Manua was added in 1904. The Philippines became independent in 1946; Hawaii was designated a state in 1959. Guam and American Samoa, transferred from U.S. Navy to Interior Department administration in 1950 and 1951 respectively, remain "unincorporated U.S. Territories" today.

In 1944 and 1945, the U.S. seized the Northern Mariana, Marshall, and Caroline Islands, which had been granted to Japan by a League of Nations mandate in 1920. In 1947 the United Nations placed these islands under U.S. trusteeship as the "Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands." Initially under Naval administration, they passed to the U.S. Interior Department's Office of Territories in 1951. Today the Northern Marianas are a U.S. Commonwealth (and its natives U.S. citizens), while the remainder of the former Trust Territory are independent states.

During the early-to-mid 1900s, a number of measures affected relations between Territorial inhabitants and the mainland. U.S. Supreme Court cases such as *Downes* v. *Bidwell* (1901), *Dorr* v. *United States* (1904), and *Balzac* v. *Porto Rico* (1922), followed by *Hooven & Allison Co.* v. *Evatt* (1945) established that the U.S. Constitution, including such provisions as the right to trial by jury, did not necessarily apply in the Territories. Neither was U.S. citizenship automatic, but dependent on an Organic Act--as in pre-state Hawaii (1900) and Guam (1950). American Samoans remain as "U.S. Nationals" able to freely travel between Samoa and the mainland.

The McCarran-Walter Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952 nullified the racial restrictions of the earliest, 1790 Naturalization Law and with it, strictly racial barriers to immigration. However, the 1952 Act perpetuated the 1924 immigration quotas based on national origins. The Immigration Act of 1965 abolished the historic national origins quotas, retaining preferences for adult family members, professionals, and artists, needed skilled and unskilled laborers, and refugees.

The above are a few examples of the many measures affecting Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders, and related to Regional Archives historical records holdings. These holdings document such actions as regional Federal Court decisions, executive agency policies, field office practices in carrying out Federal laws and policies, and the experiences of those affected.

INFORMATION ABOUT RGs & RECORDS SELECTED FOR THIS GUIDE

The records described in this brief guide are those which, to the best of our knowledge, have been discovered to contain the most significant documentation of the relationship between Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders and Federal government agencies located in California, Nevada, Hawaii, and the Pacific. Some of our holdings are relatively unexplored and further study by researchers will likely reveal new information about Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders in U.S. history.

RECORDS OF THE DISTRICT COURTS OF THE UNITED STATES (RECORD GROUP 21)

U.S. District and Circuit courts were created by the Judiciary Act of September 24, 1789. The jurisdiction and powers of these Federal courts have varied with subsequent legislation, but district courts have been principally criminal, admiralty, and bankruptcy courts, hearing non-capital criminal proceedings, suits for penalties or seizures under Federal laws, and litigation involving an amount in excess of \$100 in which the United States is the plaintiff. The circuit courts heard appeals from the district courts and were given exclusive original jurisdiction over actions involving aliens, suits between citizens of different States, and law and equity suits where the amount in dispute exceeded \$500. In 1891 the appellate jurisdiction of the circuit courts was transferred to the newly created U.S. Courts of Appeals (see Record Group 276). The Judiciary Act of 1911 abolished the "old U.S. circuit courts" and provided for the transfer of their records and remaining jurisdiction to the Federal district courts.

Most States initially had one district and one circuit court with additional districts and subdivisions created as the business of the courts increased. In 1812 circuit courts were authorized to appoint U.S. commissioners to assist in taking bail and affidavits. Commissioners' functions were expanded by subsequent legislation and court rules. Their powers have included

the authority to issue arrest warrants, examine persons charged with offenses against Federal laws, initiate actions in admiralty matters, and institute proceedings for violation of civil rights legislation.

Most court records are case files arranged by type of action, such as admiralty, civil or criminal, and then numerically by case number. They usually include original papers issued by the court or filed by attorneys, such as affidavits, complaints, decrees, depositions, exceptions, findings of fact, indictments, judgments, motions, opinions, and subpoenas. Bankruptcy case files generally include schedules of assets and liabilities. Older civil case files sometimes include exhibits, though after the 1940s exhibits were usually returned to the litigating parties upon conclusion of the proceedings. Transcripts of testimony are occasionally found.

Records of a case can usually be located by the name of the court and the case number. The number can generally be determined from docket, minute, or order books. Docket books provide a summary of proceedings in each case; minute books are a daily, chronological record of court proceedings; and order books provide the text of each order or judgment. These books often have indexes to the names of the parties involved in the proceedings. Such books are not available for all courts. There are no general subject indexes to court cases. Indexes are limited to the names of the plaintiffs and defendants. Additional information is sometimes available from the clerk of the court where the case was heard.

Of special interest to researchers studying Chinese American immigration are thousands of case files relating to habeas corpus actions brought in both circuit and district courts during the late 1800s and early 1900s to contest the Chinese exclusion actions of Federal immigration officials. Chinese Americans benefited from the Reconstruction Act of February 5, 1867, which extended the right of habeas corpus to "all cases where any person may be restrained of his or her liberty in violation of the Constitution or of any treaty or law of the United States." Habeas corpus proceedings resulting from implementation of Chinese exclusion laws are interfiled among other court cases from civil, criminal, and admiralty courts and in court commissioners' files. Besides court proceedings, some files contain exhibits such as passports, photographs, transcripts of interrogations by immigration officials, and certificates of identity from Chinese consulates.

During the 1880s-early 1900s, first-time Chinese immigrants and Chinese Americans already in the U.S. made extensive and often successful use of habeas corpus filings to contest Federal Chinese Exclusion Laws, policies and actions. But the 1905 Supreme Court case *United States* v. *Ju Toy*, on appeal from the original trial action in San Francisco, established the Executive Branch and the Department of Commerce and Labor as the final level of appeal and "due process" for immigrants and returning travelers claiming United States citizenship. Thereafter immigrants could appeal to Federal courts only on procedural grounds. As a result of this decision, Chinese immigrant access to judicial review of Executive Branch agency decisions, and the number of Chinese immigration cases heard in Federal court, diminished significantly.

Among late nineteenth and early twentieth century U.S. Circuit and U.S. District Court case files held by the Pacific Region-San Francisco are a remarkable and highly significant selection documenting the establishment of civil rights and Constitutional "due process of law" precedents. Many cases relate to the efforts of Chinese and other Asian immigrants to overcome discriminatory treatment. A groundbreaking work with information on a large number of early Chinese community-related cases is Charles McClain's *In Search of Equality*. A Hawaii case of

major significance is Takao Ozawa's challenge in 1916 to Asian-exclusionary American citizenship procedure, in which the U.S. District Court for the Territory of Hawaii ruled that he was "in every way qualified under the statutes to become an American citizen," except one: he was not white.

Among other great works of American immigration history to discuss significant actions of Federal courts for which records are held by the Pacific Region-San Francisco are Ronald Takaki's *Strangers from a Different Shore*, Sucheng Chan's *Asian Americans: an Interpretive History*, and Lucy Salyer's *Laws Harsh as Tigers*.

Criminal case files document Federal action taken against Chinese who allegedly entered the United States illegally. Case files may contain complaints, decrees, indictments, judgments, opinions, passports, photographs, subpoenas, Section 6 certificates from Chinese consulates, and transcripts of interrogations. Post-1943 naturalization documents provide information that may prove helpful to researchers of family history and other topics. (Exclusion laws barred most Chinese and later, other Asian immigrants from becoming naturalized United States citizens during the years of exclusion.)

Also documented in Federal court files are cases relating to such matters as illegal contract labor and merchants' alleged violations of Federal tax provisions on cigars, liquor, opium, and other goods. Common law, equity, and bankruptcy case files provide information on the operations of businesses, some of which may have been owned by Asians, Asian Americans, or Pacific Islanders.

National Archives Pacific Region-San Francisco holdings for Record Group 21 are very extensive. A general description of court records series in our custody that contain information related to Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders, with some significant examples, is below. A more detailed listing of individual series of records is available in our reading room.

Admiralty Case Files

Admiralty case files in our custody document both the enforcement of the Chinese Exclusion Acts and also the enforcement of customs laws. Thousands of Chinese Americans filed petitions for writs of habeas corpus seeking release from Customs Service and Immigration Service custody. Some Chinese Americans were also prosecuted for failing to pay import duties on merchandise. Arguably the single most famous and significant file is Admiralty Case 11198, In the matter of Wong Kim Ark for a writ of habeas corpus, in which it was established in San Francisco District Court and affirmed by the Supreme Court (in 1898) that all persons born on U.S. soil are American citizens.

Our holdings include admiralty cases heard by the following courts: U.S. District Court, Northern District of California (San Francisco), 1851-1966 U.S. District Court, District of Hawaii, 1900-1968

Bankruptcy Case Files

The U.S. Constitution (Art. I, § 8) gave Congress the power to "establish uniform laws on the subject of bankruptcies throughout the United States". Congress has passed four bankruptcy laws: the Act of April 4, 1800, (repealed by Act of December 19, 1803); the Act of August 19, 1841, (repealed by Act of March 3, 1843); the Act passed March 2, 1867, (repealed June 7,

1878), and the Act of July 1, 1898, (the foundation of current bankruptcy laws). Our holdings include bankruptcy cases filed under the Act of 1867 and the Act of 1898.

Documents filed in bankruptcy cases provide a considerable amount of detailed information about the financial activities and assets of individuals and businesses. There are several interesting cases concerning Asian Americans that appear on the bankruptcy docket of the U.S. District Court in San Francisco. The San Francisco firm of Wing Fat and Company was the subject of bankruptcy proceedings in 1900 (case 3340). In his petition, managing partner Ching Chow stated that the firm had debts amounting to \$32,521.98 and assets of only \$12,401.76. Another interesting case is that of Chong Wo, a resident of Pajaro in Monterey County, who was subject to bankruptcy proceedings initiated by creditors. The case (4330) lists Chong Wo's extensive holdings of real and personal property that included a portion of the San Cayetano Rancho. Each item of Mr. Chong's personal property is listed – no matter how small. The property appraiser's report lists, among dozens of other items, "One Box Tobacco (plug Cut) appraised at \$.10." Case 9163 concerns T. Takeda who was doing business as the Capital Fish Company in Sacramento, California. His debtor's petition includes a four-page listing of his creditors with amounts owed to each. Finally case 10327, dating from 1916, contains the petition of Tatsube Yokoo, a tenant farmer in Courtland, California. In his debtor's petition, Mr. Yokoo listed debts amounting to \$5,000 in unpaid rent for the land he farmed. His assets amounted to only \$2,000 worth of beans. His only other assets were furniture and personal property valued at \$23.00.

These are just a few of many such cases concerning Asian Americans that can be found in NARA-San Francisco archival holdings.

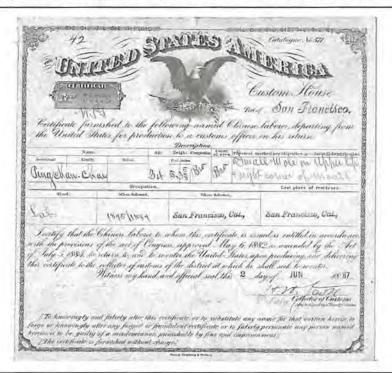
U.S. District Court, Northern District of California (San Francisco), 1867-78, 1898-1945 Civil Case Files

An early challenge to discrimination against Asians was *Yick Wo v. Hopkins*, which resulted from an 1880 San Francisco ordinance that limited laundries to brick or stone buildings for reasons of fire safety. Virtually all of the laundries in San Francisco were of wood construction, and most were owned by Chinese Americans. Yick Wo tried unsuccessfully to renew his permit to operate a laundry and was denied and arrested. His case went to the Supreme Court, which ruled in 1886 in his favor, citing the equal protection clause and specifically extending it to noncitizens (common law case 3947, USCC Northern District of California).

More than 100 Japanese Americans who served in Japan's military during World War II subsequently filed suit in California and Hawaii district courts to have their U.S. citizenship confirmed or restored. The court case files provide information about life in Japan just before and during World War II, focusing on the activities of and climate created by the Japanese police and military. One such case involved Hisao Murata, born in Hawaii and studying in Japan at the outbreak of the war. Murata was later accused of guarding American prisoners of war. The case file does not address this issue; indeed, the court's opinion noted that Murata found life in the Japanese Army "unpleasant" due to, among other reasons, being beaten almost nightly by his fellow soldiers because of his birth in the U.S. (civil case 1011, USDC Hawaii).



1. Photograph of the "Chinese Laundry House" of Yick Wo, 349 Third Street, San Francisco, showing wooden structure and roof-top drying lines, ca. 1885. Yick Wo was found guilty of violating a municipal ordinance that banned laundries in San Francisco unless lodged in brick buildings. He filed for Habeas Corpus in the San Francisco U.S. Circuit Court. In overturning his conviction in 1886.U.S. Supreme Court affirmed the opinion of the latter, that discriminatory enforcement of the ordinance deprived him of "Due Process" under the 14th Amendment.



2. Chae Chan Ping Return Certificate. Chae Chan Ping was denied entry in October 1888, and his appeals through the courts were unsuccessful. His was the first test case of the Scott Act of October 1, 1888 that prohibited entry of all Chinese laborers, including those who had valid return certificates.

Additionally, civil case files in our custody document both the enforcement of the Chinese Exclusion Acts and the enforcement of U.S. revenue laws. Thousands of Chinese Americans filed petitions for writs of habeas corpus seeking release from Customs Service and Immigration Service custody. Chinese Americans were also prosecuted for failing to pay import duties on opium and for violations of revenue laws covering cigar manufacture.

Our holdings include civil cases heard by the following courts:

- U.S. District Court, Northern District of California (San Francisco), 1851-1973
- U.S. Circuit Court, 9th Circuit, Northern District of California (San Francisco), 1855-1911
- U.S. District Court, Eastern District of California (Sacramento), 1916-1970
- U.S. District Court, Eastern District of California (Fresno), 1900-1967
- U.S. District Court, District of Hawaii, 1900-1972
- U.S. District Court, District of Nevada, 1866-1930

Criminal Case Files

Challenges to the order to evacuate Japanese Americans from the west coast during World War II include Fred Korematsu's case, *Korematsu* v. *U.S.* Korematsu refused to report to an assembly center for relocation and was arrested. His case was one of several fought by the American Civil Liberties Union of Northern California, which argued that the wartime policy violated the Constitution by subjecting citizens to unreasonable search and seizure and depriving them of their liberty and property without a fair trial. The Supreme Court ultimately ruled in favor of the government, which had argued wartime necessity. The policy remained in place until the end of 1944, after which the Supreme Court ruled in *ex parte Endo* that it was illegal to detain indefinitely any citizen whose loyalty had been determined. (*Korematsu* v. *U.S.*, criminal 27635; *Abo* v. *U.S.*, civil 25294 and 25296; and *Endo* v. *U.S.*, admiralty 23688; all in the U.S. District Court, Northern District of California).

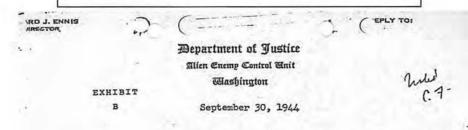
Of interest, but as yet largely unexplored and awaiting the attention of researchers, are nineteenth century criminal case files relating to Chinese cigar manufacturers and other Chinese immigrants with small businesses, indicted and prosecuted for violations of Federal Tax Revenue laws.

Our holdings include criminal cases heard by the following courts:

- U.S. District Court, Northern District of California (San Francisco), 1851-1973
- U.S. Circuit Court, Ninth Circuit, Northern District of California (San Francisco), 1855-1911
- U.S. District Court, Eastern District of California (Sacramento), 1916-1963
- U.S. District Court, Eastern District of California (Fresno), 1900-1956
- U.S. District Court, District of Hawaii, 1900-1969
- U.S. District Court, District of Nevada, 1865-1963

District of California, ss: To the Marshal of the United States of America, for the District of California, and his Deputies, or any or either of them. GREETING: Whereas, at a District Court of the United States of America, for the District of California, began and held at the City of San Francisco, within and for the District aforesaid, on the 18 day of Alexic in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and lumby time the Good Investigation of the Joseph into the said Court at the City of San Francisco, within and for the District aforesaid, on the 18 day of Alexic in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and lumby time the Good Investigation of the Joseph into the said Court at the Court a

3. Arrest warrant for Quinn Gee, who, allegedly, "knowingly and with intent to defraud the U.S." was in possession of 500 cigars and 2,900 matches on which revenue taxes had not been paid.



MEMORANDUM FOR MR. HERBERT WECHSLER

Re: Korematsu v. United States

I understand that the War Department is currently discussing with the Solicitor General the possibility of changing the footnote in the Korematsu brief in which it is stated that this Department is in possession of information in conflict with the statements made by General DeWitt relating to the causes of the evacuation. Mr. Burling and I feel most strongly that three purposes are to be served by keeping the footnote in its present form.

4. This Department of Justice Memorandum, an exhibit in the San Francisco Criminal Case "US v Korematsu," noted divergence from U.S. Army Western Defense Command justification for Japanese Relocation and internment.

Microfilmed Records

M1955 Treason Trial of Tomoya Kawakita, 1947-1963: Criminal Cases 19413 and 19665, U.S.
 v. Tomoya Kawakita, United States District Court, Southern District of California, Central Division

Tomoya Kawakita, a Japanese American born in Southern California, was convicted of treason in 1948 for alleged acts of brutality committed against U.S. prisoners of war in Japan during World War II. He unsuccessfully appealed his conviction to the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals (see RG 276), and served a sentence at Alcatraz and McNeil Island Federal Penitentiaries (see RG 129). His sentence was commuted by President Kennedy in 1963 and he returned to Japan.

Naturalization Records

Naturalization records are a useful source of biographical and sociological information on the origins of the American population, including all Asian groups. Many Asians were barred from naturalization until at least 1943, when Congress repealed the Chinese Exclusion Acts. Other Asians had to wait until the passage of the McCarran-Walter Act of 1952. Some Asians attempted to naturalize in earlier periods but were blocked by Federal judges. For example, Ah Yup sought naturalization in 1874, arguing that he had met all the technical requirements for citizenship. The U.S. Circuit Court in San Francisco ruled in his case (civil case number 1903 ½) that Chinese immigrants were not Caucasian and not eligible for naturalization under the law.

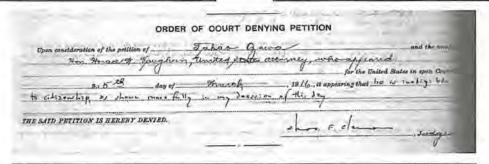
Most petitions for naturalization created in the twentieth century typically contain the petitioner's name, residence, occupation, homeland, date of arrival in the U.S., date of the petition, some declaration information, the Oath of Allegiance of the petitioner, affidavits of witnesses, oaths of sponsors, and the court order granting citizenship.

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5. Overseas Military Petition for Naturalization, Feb. 1944, for Eliseo Papa Resay, a Filipino.



 Overseas Military Petition for Naturalization, Dec., 1946, for Viliamu, an American Samoan.



7. The portion of Takao Ozawa's naturalization record, March 1916, noting the denial of his naturalization petition. Mr. Ozawa ultimately appealed the judge's decision to the U.S. Supreme Court but was denied citizenship because of his race.

Our records document naturalization transactions performed during the specified time periods in the following courts:

U.S. District Court, Northern District of California (San Francisco), 1851-1973

U.S. Circuit Court, Northern District of California (San Francisco), 1855-1911

U.S. District Court, Eastern District of California (Sacramento), 1917-1974

U.S. District Court, District of Hawaii, 1900-1991

U.S. District Court, District of Nevada, 1868-1929 (microfilm only)

Nevada State District Court, First District, Churchill County, Fallon, Nevada, 1877-1956 Nevada State District Court, Second District, Washoe County, Reno, Nevada, 1853-1949 California State Superior Court, Marin County, California, 1871-1957

Additional records from the U.S. District Court in Hawaii

Application For Writ of Habeas Corpus Case Files, 1900-52.

Many of the cases involve suits brought by individuals detained by the Immigration and Naturalization Service prior to deportation. Other cases concern peonage, double jeopardy claims by individuals formerly tried under Republic of Hawaii laws and later charged in federal court, and applications sought by individuals being denied entrance into the United States on the grounds that service in the Imperial Japanese Army negated their citizenship. Of particular interest are those applications in defiance of the Military Governor's order suspending habeas corpus during World War II.

Chinese Deportation Case Files, 1927-40.

The case files in this series usually contain complaints, bench warrants, bonds, findings, and court orders. Some cases also contain transcripts of testimony (from Hawaiian residents and from people in China); ship passenger lists; birth, death, and marriage certificates; transcripts of Immigration Board hearings; affidavits of defendants and witnesses; and photographs of defendants. Deportation orders are included in the thirty-five cases that resulted in deportation. Decisions resulting in dismissal were generally based on proof of legal residence or on the prosecution's failure to controvert prima facie evidence of legal entry. Failure to locate defendants also resulted in dismissal.

RECORDS OF THE BUREAU OF THE CENSUS (RECORD GROUP 29)

The National Archives Pacific Region-San Francisco holds all extant U.S. population census schedules from 1790 to 1930 on microfilm. Census records provide data on individuals, families, and neighborhoods, and are a valuable source for ethnic studies and family history. U.S. Census schedules for Hawaii, 1900, 1910, 1920 and 1930; Guam, 1920 and 1930; and American Samoa, 1920 and 1930 are available in the microfilm reading room at our facility.

RECORDS OF THE U.S. CUSTOMS SERVICE (RECORD GROUP 36)

The Customs Service, created by an act of July 31, 1789, became part of the Department of the Treasury when that department was established in September 1789. The Service enforced numerous laws and regulations pertaining to the import and export of merchandise; collected

tonnage taxes; controlled the entrance and clearance of vessels and aircraft; regulated vessels involved in the coastwise and fishing trades, and protected passengers. The act that established the Customs Service in 1789 also provided for the creation of collection districts in various coastal, inland, river, and Great Lakes ports. A collector of customs in each district collected customs revenue; enforced customs and neutrality laws; and administered aspects of commerce and immigration.

Prior to 1900, when the INS assumed enforcement of the Chinese exclusion laws, the collector of customs at each U.S. port was involved in administering the Chinese exclusion policy. Correspondence and policy records document the activities and opinions of Customs officials who carried out these duties. Other Customs documents related to individuals during the Exclusion Era were transferred to the Immigration Service after 1900.

During the initial years of the Chinese Exclusion Act, the "Chinese Bureau" of the San Francisco Customs Office developed a prototypical Exclusion enforcement methodology that came to have a major influence on immigration enforcement procedures nationwide.

National Archives Pacific Region-San Francisco Record Group 36 holdings are very extensive. Below is a very brief listing of records in our custody that contain some information related to Asian Americans – mainly Chinese Americans. A more detailed listing of individual series of records is available in our reading room.

Copies of Letters Sent to the Secretary of the Treasury, 1869-1912. 70 volumes. The records relate to all Customs District functions and to local and regional political and economic matters such as the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882, and the 1906 San Francisco Earthquake and Fire.

Office of the Collector of Onstons

Tax of Son Erundsev March 13, 1896. arel IV, In Hon. Barry Baldwin, United States Marshal, San Francisco, Cal. Dear Sir:- Turne tospeners, Orit. Your letter of the 12th instant was duly received. The facts about the transportation of a Chinaman from the Mail Dock to the Appraiser's Building are these. On one occasion a writ was taken out for a Chinese boy, who had arrived per "City of Puebla", on or about March 7th, and who claimed the right to land on the ground that he was born in the United States. The writ was served about 4. P. M. in the afternoon, and the Deputy Warshal took the boy in custody to carry him to the Appraiser's Building. He took him in a carriage with two other Chinese, who, it afterwards transpired, were the uncle and cousin of the boy, and these were allowed to coach the

8. This March 1896 letter from the Collector of Customs, San Francisco to the local U.S. Marshal complained about possible "coaching" of Chinese being transported for examination by immigration officials.

boy in Chinese as they proceeded to their destination. The said Chinese appeared in Court three days later as witnesses on behalf of the boy.

Letters Received from the Office of the Secretary of the Treasury, 1895-1912. 60 volumes. The letters are addressed to Collectors of Customs at various American and foreign ports, steamship companies, and members of the general public. The records pertain to such matters as smuggling, immigration, enforcement of the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882, and disaster relief after the 1906 San Francisco Earthquake and Fire.

Copies of Letters Sent, 1869-1916. 238 volumes. The records document a wide variety of Customs activities, including enforcement of the Chinese Exclusion Acts.

Letters Received, 1894-1928. 250 volumes. The records consist of letters received from other Customs offices, both American and foreign; by other federal agencies such as the Consular Service and the Immigration and Naturalization Service; and by merchants, brokers, and steamship companies. The records pertain to such matters as immigration (especially Chinese Immigration); recommendations and requests for employment; marine casualties; and damaged or lost cargo.

Letters Sent to Other Federal Agencies and to the General Public, 1895-1915. 38 volumes. The letters pertain to such matters as marine casualties, regulation of imports, and immigration.

RECORDS OF THE BUREAU OF MARINE INSPECTION AND NAVIGATION (RECORD GROUP 41)

The Steamboat Inspection Act of 1852 formally established these functions in a Steamboat Inspection Service and boards of local inspectors, each headed by a district Supervising Inspector. Functions included inspection of merchant vessels, and examining, licensing, and certifying officers and crewmembers. Pursuant to government reorganizations of 1932 and 1936, the Steamboat Inspection Service was combined with the Bureau of Navigation to form the Bureau of Marine Inspection and Navigation. The functions of the Bureau were transferred to the U.S. Coast Guard in 1942. Record Group 41 includes records of the U.S. Shipping Commissioner in San Francisco. Beginning in July 1872, shipping commissioners administered laws for the protection and welfare of American seamen, including those relating to their shipping and discharge. Several records series list Asian American seamen, including: Register of Seamen Arrived and Shipped, 1872-85; Record of Seamen, 1895-1909; Seamen's Pay Account, 1872-85; Register of Discharges, 1872-84; Record of Deceased and Deserting Seamen, 1872-1942; Shipping Articles and Crewlists, 1851-1950. The records are arranged chronologically and are not indexed by name. Searching for a specific individual can be very difficult.

Microfilmed Records

M1416 Crew Lists of Vessels Arriving at San Francisco, 1905-1954 (from Record Group 85).

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT (RECORD GROUP 49)

The General Land Office (GLO) was established within the Department of the Treasury by an act of April 25, 1812, to administer all public land transactions except surveying and map work (which came under the supervision of the GLO in 1836). In 1849, the GLO was transferred to the Department of the Interior where it was merged with the Grazing Service in 1946 to form the Bureau of Land Management.

Records Related to the Disposal of the Manzanar and Tule Lake War Relocation Centers, 1945-48 (2 cubic feet). The files, created by the California Division of Land Planning, pertain to the disposal of property. They include appraisal reports, building descriptions, maps and plans, inventories of supplies and equipment, etc.

RECORDS OF THE INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE (RECORD GROUP 58)

The Office of the Commissioner of Internal Revenue was established in the Department of the Treasury by an act of July 1, 1862, to help finance the Civil War. The taxes levied during the Civil War were gradually abolished until only taxes on liquor and tobacco remained in 1883. In addition to the taxes on these commodities, the Bureau began collecting a corporation income tax after 1909. With the adoption of the 16th amendment in 1913, the collection of income taxes became one of the Bureau's principal functions.

The records in our Region's custody consist of tax assessment lists of individuals and businesses. Our holdings amount to over sixty cubic feet in volume and include records from the collection districts listed below.

1st California District, San Francisco, 1865-1923 2nd California District, San Jose, 1869 3rd California District, Stockton, 1869 4th California District, Sacramento, 1866-1912 5th California District, Napa City/Santa Rosa, 1866-1872 Nevada District, Carson City, 1867-1873

AAPI-related examples: San Francisco's Chinatown fell within Division Six of the First Collection District during the 1860s. Ah Chew, a resident of 630 Dupont Street (later Grant) paid a \$1.00 watch tax in 1869. The Wing Wo Sang & Co., 720 Sacramento Street, paid \$84.85 in income tax during the same year and \$50.00 in tax as a wholesale dealer in 1870. Similar entries relating to other Chinese and possibly other Asian merchants and residents can be found in the assessment lists.

Microfilmed Records

M756, Internal Revenue Assessment Lists for California, 1862-1866.

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE (RECORD GROUP 79)

The National Park Service was established in the Department of the Interior by an act of August 25, 1916. It supervises national parks, monuments, historic parks, memorials, parkways, recreation areas, and seashores and is responsible for the promotion and regulation of their use.

Central Decimal Files, Western Regional Office, San Francisco, CA 1927-53, contains a folder concerning the use of Japanese labor interned at Tule Lake for park projects, and other matters relating to the Tule Lake camp. [File 0-1, Japanese Reception Camp, Lava Beds, box 87, 3008A].

BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS (RECORD GROUP 83)

The Bureau of Agricultural Economics (BAE) was established in the Department of Agriculture on July 1, 1922. When the overall planning functions of the Department of Agriculture were consolidated in the Bureau in 1938, personnel who had been engaged in land use planning work in the Farm Security Administration were transferred to the Bureau, and regional offices were established. The regional offices were abolished on June 30, 1946.

Records from the San Francisco Regional Office of the War Relocation Authority, 1942 (3 cubic feet), and records of Adon Poli, 1941-1946 (1 cubic foot): These are among the records of the BAE Western Regional Office which document the planning stage of the internment, including studies of the possible effects of the removal of the Japanese population on agricultural production in California's Central Valley. Included are maps of relocation sites, site evaluation summaries, and evacuation plan proposals. Adon Poli was an associate agricultural economist who was involved in the relocation of Japanese Americans to the Imperial Valley. Folder lists are available.

RECORDS OF THE IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE (RECORD GROUP 85)

The Office of Superintendent of Immigration was established in the Department of the Treasury by an act of March 3, 1891. The Act of March 2, 1895 designated the Office as the Bureau of Immigration with responsibility for administering the alien contract-labor laws. The Superintendent of Immigration was re-designated as the Commissioner General of Immigration at that time. In 1903, it became part of the Department of Commerce and Labor and in 1906 was designated the Bureau of Immigration and Naturalization with the addition of functions relating to naturalization. In 1913, it was transferred to the Department of Labor as two separate Bureaus of Immigration and of Naturalization, which were reunited by Executive order on June 10, 1933, to form the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS). The INS became part of the Department of Justice in 1940. The INS is now known as U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) and currently administers laws relating to admission, exclusion, deportation, and naturalization of aliens.

Enforcement of the Chinese Exclusion Acts was one of the main functions of the INS during the first half of the twentieth century. The first Chinese Exclusion Act passed in 1882 and the U.S. Customs Service enforced the law during the remainder of the century. The Bureau of

Immigration became responsible for administration of the Chinese Exclusion Acts in 1900. The Chinese Exclusion Acts were repealed in 1943. During the Exclusion Era, INS officials zealously enforced provisions of the Chinese Exclusion Acts and an enormous volume of individual case files resulted. For related records concerning enforcement of the Chinese Exclusion Acts, see Record Group 21, the U.S. District Courts for the Northern District of California and District of Hawaii (habeas corpus case files for individuals, deportations), Record Group 276, Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals (appeals of District Court decisions), and Record Group 36, Customs Service, San Francisco District (correspondence and general administrative records).

The major portion of the National Archives Pacific Region-San Francisco holdings described below concern Chinese American immigration matters during the Chinese Exclusion Act era, 1882 to 1943. However, much smaller percentages also shed significant light on the history of Japanese immigrants and Japanese Americans as well as immigrants from Korea, Indonesia, Vietnam, Russia, India, Pakistan, and the Philippines. Many immigrants and citizens investigated under the Chinese Exclusion Acts and various other immigration laws were involved in Federal court cases. Our U.S. District Court (RG 21) and (RG 276) holdings contain substantial numbers of habeas corpus petitions filed by immigrants seeking release from custody. Famous historical figures such as Wong Kim Ark and Bhagat Singh were the subjects of INS investigations and were also involved in precedent-setting Federal court cases.

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services also maintains millions of more recent individual alien case files ("A-files") for immigrants from China, Japan, Korea, India, Pakistan, Vietnam, Cambodia, Indonesia, the Philippines, and other Asian countries. While the San Francisco, Honolulu, and Reno Nevada USCIS A-files remain stored at NARA's San Francisco Federal Records Center (all others around the country have been consolidated in NARA and USCIS storage at Lee's Summit, Missouri), the earliest A-files remain in the legal custody of the USCIS and not open for public research.

The Asian American and other research communities have proposed that the earliest NARA San Bruno Records Center A-files, circa 1940-1975 be accessioned by the National Archives - partly to restore to the archival collection thousands of missing case files and documents with contemporary information (1884-1944) which were "brought forward" by INS into the early A-files during subsequent investigations. However, A-files also contain historical information about immigrants not only from Asia and the Pacific, but all areas of the world.

As of 2003, the A-files are scheduled for destruction after seventy-five years. A-files contain very detailed records of individuals seeking entry to the U.S. Photographs, birth certificates, visas, records of employment, family-related documents, and transcripts of testimony are often included. A-files may contain documents dating from as early as the late 1800s and may sometimes be the only government source of family history information on permanent resident parents of U.S. citizens. More information about records still in the custody of the USCIS is available at their website: http://www.uscis.gov.

Requests for A-files can be directed to the USCIS in Washington, DC or to a local USCIS Office: Freedom of Information Act/Privacy Act Program, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, 425 I Street, N.W., 2nd Floor, ULLICO Building, Washington, D.C. 20536. Telephone (202) 514-1722. OR:

Freedom of Information Act/Privacy Act Program, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, 630 Sansome Street, San Francisco, CA 94111-2280. Fax: 415-844-5131.

UPDATE (January 2012): On June 1, 2009, Alien Case Files ("A-Files") were designated as permanent records that will be accessioned to the National Archives (NARA). A-Files will be transferred to NARA custody 100 years after an immigrant's year of birth. For more information, including how to search for A-Files currently in NARA holdings, please visit http://www.archives.gov/research/immigration/aliens/ or inquire with the staff of The National Archives at San Francisco, main reference line: sanbruno.archives@nara.gov

Copies of A-Files relating to individuals less than 100 years old may be requested by filing a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request with U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services. Use USCIS Form G-639, which may be downloaded at http://www.uscis.gov/foia/. The USCIS Genealogy Program is also a helpful resource for finding other records still in their legal custody: http://www.uscis.gov/genealogy/

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Our Record Group 85 holdings are very extensive. Below is a very brief listing of them. A more detailed listing of individual series of records is available in our reading room.

Office of the Commissioner of Immigration, Washington, DC

Chinese and Hawaiian Certificates of Identity 1908-1943. The certificates were issued to Chinese Americans throughout the continental United States and the Territory of Hawaii. The certificates in our custody are duplicates retained for INS reference.

San Francisco District Office

INS San Francisco District records include many thousands of INS immigrant investigation case files compiled/maintained at the famous Angel Island Immigration Station, 1910-1940, in San Francisco Bay. Its special mission was to detain, investigate, and sometimes deport mostly Chinese as well as some other immigrants from Asian ports. Today, the site is a National Historic Landmark and museum under the auspices of the Angel Island Immigration Station Foundation (AIISF) http://www.aiisf.org/. The regional archives and AIISF partner in educational programs relating to Angel Island and immigration history.

Few administrative records kept by Angel Island Immigration Station have survived, so that the best NARA source for strictly administrative historical records is INS headquarters records holdings of the National Archives in Washington DC. Some older INS and Customs Service records were destroyed when the Immigration Station Administrative building burned in August 1940. Most important records were stored in fireproof vaults and survived the disaster. Almost all surviving San Francisco District administrative records and some individual case files, however, were destroyed by the INS in 1948.

General Index to Immigration Case Files, 1884-ca. 1979 (INS microfilm). This index, which we hold on microfilm, was prepared by the INS in San Francisco, and covers the investigative, Chinese departure, and general immigration case files referred to in the following paragraphs, as well as some modern Alien Registration or "A" Files (A-files). Due to loss of records by INS, the index is only about 87% complete.

Arrival investigation case files, 1884-1944 (1,060 cubic feet). Most early files document the investigation of people arriving from China to determine their eligibility for admission under the Chinese exclusion laws. Included are files not only on first-time Chinese immigrants, but also on returnees from voyages abroad. By the early twentieth century the scope of individuals investigated expanded to include people arriving from India, Japan (especially picture brides), Korea, other Asian countries, and Russia. The series includes the case of Sun Yat-Sen (file 9995/Cabin).

Chinese partnership case files, 1894-1944 (40 cubic feet). The files contain maps of some Chinatowns in California, descriptions of business activities, photographs, and lists of business partners. Arranged by file numbers representing cities (mostly California) or, in the case of San Francisco, street names.

Case files of investigations not resulting in warrant proceedings in the San Francisco District and investigations within the San Francisco District at the request of other service offices, 1912-

1950 (16 cubic feet). Case files of individuals who were investigated for possible immigration fraud but not deported as a result.

Return certificate application case files of Chinese departing, 1912-1944 (275 cubic feet). This series includes the case of Wong Kim Ark, 12017-42223. See also NARA microfilm publication A3362.

Return certificate application case files of natives [American citizens of Chinese ancestry] departing, 1903-1912 (7 cubic feet).





9. Above left: INS photograph of Sun Yat-Sen "Father of Modern China." Travelling from San Francisco to Hawaii in 1910, Sun Yat-Sen presented a Hawaiian birth certificate "upon which [was] a good photo of the applicant" and was recommended for admission by the Honolulu Chinese Inspector. INS subsequently learned he had actually been born in China.

10. Above right: Photograph of "Dosan" Ahn Chang Ho, Korean political organizer, educator, patriot, and "Father of Korean Constitutional Democracy" from a 1924 San Francisco INS case file.

11, 12. Below left and right: Photograph of a Japanese "Picture Bride" and her prospective husband from a 1915 San Francisco INS Arrival Investigation case file.









13. (above left) Photograph of Bruce Lee (aka Lee Jun Fon) as an infant, March 1941, from a San Francisco Departure Case File. 14. (above right): Photograph of family of Lim Fook from his INS San Francisco Departure case file, 1914.

APPLICATION FOR WARRANT OF ARREST UNDER SECTIONS 20 AND 21 OF THE ACT OF FEBRUARY 20, 190/

Bepartment of Commerce and Tahor

12815/1 to 13 inc. Confirming telegram of even date.

(Place) San Francisco, Colifornia.

The undersigned respectfully recommends that the Secretary of Commerce and Labor issue

his warrant for the arrest of Sham Singh, Boba Singh, Maram Singh, Sapuran Singh, Partab Singh, Bhagat Singh, Viryam Singh, Ass Singh, Sowan Singh, Arjam Singh, Sohn Singh, Maron Singh, and Galam Mabi (Mindus)

the alies named in the attached certificate, upon the following facts which the undersigned has carefully investigated, and which, to the best of his knowledge and belief, are true:

(i) (Here state fully facts which show alies to be unlawfully in the United States, (five sources of information, and, where security in formands and farward with this application duly verified affidavits setting forth the facts within the knowledge of the information.

Above aliens likely to become public charges for the reason that they are of the laboring class, that there is no decand for such labor and there exists a strong prajudice against them in this locality.



15. (above left) Arrest warrant for Bhagat Singh and members of the Singh family, July 1913. San Francisco INS authorities ordered their deportation on the grounds that there existed little demand for their labor and "a strong prejudice against [Hindus] in this locality." The decision was reversed by the U.S. Supreme Court in 1917 on confession of error by the Government.

16. (above right) Photograph of Helen Pardo Reyes from a 1941 INS case file. She had come to the U.S. from the Philippines for a life saving medical operation. Her return was delayed because of war and she was finally admitted as a permanent resident.

Return certificate application case files of lawfully domiciled laborers departing, 1903-1912 (2 cubic feet).

Return certificate application case files of lawfully domiciled merchants, teachers, and students departing, 1903-1912 (3 cubic feet).

Return certificate application case files of Chinese departing, 1894-1912 (18 cubic feet).

Case files of investigations resulting in [deportation] warrant proceedings, 1912-1950 (6 cubic feet).

General immigration case files, 1944-1955 (254 cubic feet).

Administrative records (3 cubic feet.): General correspondence, 1915-1941; historical files relating to Angel Island, 1894-1941; boat files, 1911-1941, containing information about vessels used to ferry staff members and immigrants from Angel Island to San Francisco; telephone cable files, 1910-1940; and construction and maintenance files, 1912-1913.

Microfilmed records

Most Immigration and Naturalization Service ship passenger departure lists (circa 1895 to the 1950s) for San Francisco are held by NARA, Old Military and Civilian Records Branch (NWCTB), 700 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20408-0001. These very extensive passenger lists have not yet been made available to NARA regional archives or for self-service public research use. They have not yet been designated as official National Archives Microfilm Publications. When initiating a research inquiry, be sure to provide the full name of the passenger and the exact date of arrival when you write to the Old Military and Civilian Records Branch.

The following microfilmed INS and related records are among our holdings:

San Francisco Chinese mortuary records, 1870-1933 (unnumbered microfilm).

Certificates of identity for Chinese residents, 1909-c. 1946 (unnumbered microfilm).

Records of war brides with children, 1946-1948 (unnumbered microfilm).

Register of Chinese departure case files, 1912-1943 (unnumbered microfilm).

Records of miscellaneous [Chinese] immigration cases from other ports, 1911-1912 (unnumbered microfilm).

Registers of Chinese departing from and returning to the United States, 1882-1908 (unnumbered microfilm).

Passenger lists of Chinese, 1897-1905 (unnumbered microfilm).

Registers of alien students admitted under the Immigration Act of 1924, 1924-1946 (unnumbered microfilm).

Records of natives [American citizens of Chinese ancestry] departing, 1909-1913 (unnumbered microfilm).

Daily records of applications [by Chinese laborers] for return certificates, 1903-1912 (unnumbered microfilm).

Daily records of applications [by Chinese merchants, students, and teachers] for return certificates, 1903-1912 (unnumbered microfilm).

A3362 Indexes of Chinese Partnership Case Files Maintained by the INS-San Francisco District; Register of Chinese Applicants for Return Certificates at San Francisco, California, 1912-1943; and Partnership Lists of Chinese Firms in San Francisco, California, and Nationwide, 1893-1907.

M1387 Minutes of Boards of Special Inquiry at the San Francisco Immigration Offices, 1899-1909.

M1410 Passenger Lists of Vessels Arriving in San Francisco, California, 1893-1953. These passenger arrival lists are keys to the case files. The case file numbers are composed of the arrival number given to a ship entering the port of San Francisco followed by the ticket number or, after 1910, manifest page number and line number.

M 1411 Passenger and Crew Lists of Vessels Arriving in San Francisco, California, 1954-1957.

M1412 Customs Passenger Lists of Vessels Arriving in San Francisco, California, 1903-1918.

M1413 Registers of Chinese Laborers Returning to the United States through the Port of San Francisco, 1882-1888.

M1414 Lists of Chinese Passengers Arriving in San Francisco, California, 1882-1914.

M1436 Admitted Alien Crew Lists of Vessels Arriving in San Francisco, California, 1896-1921.

M1438 Passenger Lists of Vessels Arriving at San Francisco, California, from Insular Possessions, 1907-1911.

M1439 Lists of U.S. Citizens Arriving at San Francisco, California, 1930-1949.

M1476 Lists of Chinese Applying for Admission to the United States through the Port of San Francisco, 1903-1947.

M1494 Passenger Lists of Vessels Arriving at San Francisco, California, from Honolulu, Hawaii, 1902-1907.

San Francisco District Sub-offices at Fresno, Oakland, Sacramento, Salinas, and Stockton, California, and Honolulu, Hawaii

General immigration case files, 1944-1955 (for Honolulu, 1944-1949) (8 cubic feet).

Honolulu District Office

The Honolulu Office was part of District 13 (San Francisco) from 1944 to 1949. It became the District 17 headquarters in April 1949. We hold the following series of records of that office:

Letters sent by the chief immigration officer, 1903-1904 (1 cubic foot).

Chinese immigration case files, 1903-1915 (37 cubic feet).

Certificates of citizenship, 1926-1955 (28 cubic feet).

Case files of Chinese applicants for admission as U.S. citizens, 1916-1942 (84 cubic feet).

Applications for return certificates of lawfully domiciled Chinese laborers, 1916-1938 (54 cubic feet).

Case files of U.S. citizens of Chinese ancestry applying for certificates of citizenship-Hawaiian Islands, departing to the continental U.S. or foreign destinations, 1924-1942 (59 cubic feet).

Case files of Chinese applicants for merchants' return permits, 1912-1934 (8 cubic feet).

Landing statements, 1903-1924, 1946-1959 (35 cubic feet.)

These are transcripts of interrogations during which immigrants were asked about themselves and their relatives. The statements are arranged chronologically by date of entry and are not indexed by name.

General immigration case files, 1944-1948 (26 cubic feet).

General immigration case files, 1949-1954 (31 cubic feet).

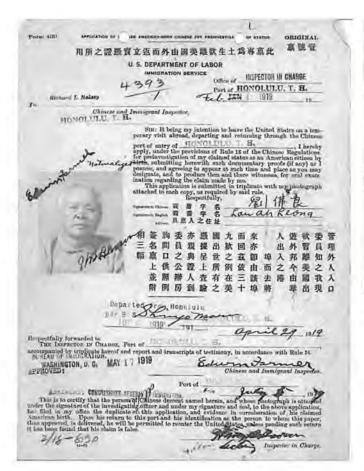
Register of Chinese confession cases, 1957-1968 (1 volume.) The register lists individual names and case file numbers chronologically by date of case.

Index to applicants for reissuance of certificates of identity, c. 1903-1910 (1 cubic foot).

Case files of arrest warrants and deportation orders, 1913-1942 (2 cubic feet).

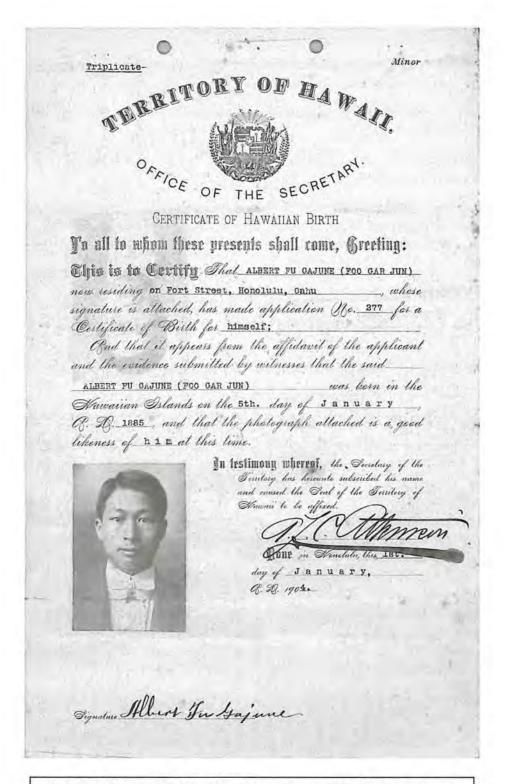
Applications for certificate of citizenship Hawaiian Islands, 1924-1941 (2 cubic feet).

Case files of nonimmigrants admitted as students, teachers, and ministers, 1917-1938 (2 cubic feet).





17. (left) The return certificate for Lau Ah Leong (Form 430). Even though Mr. Lau was a U.S. citizen, he was required to obtain a return certificate from the INS before he traveled abroad. Lau Ah Leong was a prominent businessman in Hawaii and his life was the basis for the book The Money Dragon by author (and intrepid regional archives researcher) Pam Chun. 18. (above) Photograph of family of Lee Wai She from INS Honolulu Chinese Immigration Case File, 1913.



19. Federal "Hawaiian Birth Certificate," issued January 1904, of Albert Fu Gajune, born in Hawaii in January 1885.

Case files of Chinese applicants for admission as wives of merchants, teachers, and ministers, 1916-1939 (4 cubic feet).

Case files of Chinese applicants for admission as wives of native-born U.S. citizens of Chinese ancestry, 1916-1940 (2 cubic feet).

Case files of Chinese applicants for admission as children of Chinese merchants, teachers, and ministers, 1913-1938 (3 cubic feet).

Case files of Chinese applicants for admission as children of native-born U.S. citizens of Chinese ancestry, 1916-1926 (2 cubic feet).

Case files of Chinese applicants for admission as wives and/or children of Chinese naturalized under the Hawaiian Kingdom and pre-examination of status of Chinese claiming such naturalization, 1919-1925 (2 cubic feet).

Visa case files of Chinese applicants for admission as Section 6 students, teachers, and travelers, 1916-1942 (7 cubic feet).

Visa case files of Section 6 Chinese applicants to proceed to the continental U.S., 1917-1942 (1 cubic foot).

Case files of applicants for duplicate certificates of [Hawaiian] residence, 1921-1938 (½ cubic foot).

Case files of applicants for duplicate certificates of identity, 1920-1942 (1/2 cubic foot).

Case files of Filipino applicants for certificates of citizenship Hawaiian Islands, 1934-1944 (6 cubic feet).

Microfilmed Records

Most Immigration and Naturalization Service ship passenger arrival lists (269 rolls of microfilm), ship passenger departure lists (174 rolls of microfilm), and aircraft passenger lists, 1900-1954 (circa 1930s to 1950s for aircraft) for the Honolulu District are held by NARA, Old Military and Civilian Records Branch (NWCTB), 700 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20408-0001. These microfilmed passenger lists have not yet been made available to NARA regional archives or for self-service public use. They have not yet been designated as official National Archives Microfilm Publications. When initiating a research inquiry, be sure to provide the full name of the passenger and the exact date of arrival when you write to the Old Military and Civilian Records Branch.

Alien crew lists of vessels arriving at Honolulu, 1902-1908 (unnumbered microfilm)

RECORDS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE (RECORD GROUP 90)

The Public Health Service, originally called the Marine Hospital Service, has its origins in an act of July 16, 1798, which authorized hospitals for the care of sick and disabled American merchant seamen. The scope of its activities was greatly expanded by subsequent legislation to include the medical examination of immigrant aliens.

Records of Angel Island Quarantine Station, San Francisco

The records of the station relate to fumigation and disinfection of vessels and cargo, immigration hospital operations, importation of birds, medical examinations of immigrant aliens, prevention of epidemics, quarantine procedures, and administrative matters. In 1896 a San Francisco Board of Health ruling led to an action remanding all Chinese and Japanese passengers on incoming ships to the station. The records concern general station administration and operations rather than individual immigrants. We do not hold any clinical records related to individuals treated at the station.

Correspondence, 1890-1926 (70 volumes, 12 cubic feet).

Several series of letters sent or received, some in letterpress copybooks. Arranged chronologically. Folder lists are available, and a few of the letterpress books are indexed by the names of correspondents.

General administrative files, 1918-1948 (15 cubic feet).

The records concern Chinese and other ethnic groups and routine operations and administrative matters at the quarantine station. Included are lists submitted by steamship lines for medical certification of passengers. The files are arranged alphabetically by subject. A folder title list is available.

RECORDS OF THE FARMER'S HOME ADMINISTRATION (RECORD GROUP 96)

The Farmers Home Administration (FHA) was established in the Department of Agriculture by an act of August 14, 1946, to succeed the Farm Security Administration (FSA), which had been established in 1937. The FSA succeeded the Resettlement Administration, which had been established in 1935 to administer rural rehabilitation and land programs begun in 1933.

Farm Security Administration, Region 9 office, San Francisco

General Correspondence, Office of the Director (San Francisco), 1935-1942, contains a folder of correspondence regarding emergency approval for housing for Japanese internees needed to pick cotton in Arizona [Entry 107, box 1, 3307G]. Also available are references to Tule Lake and the use of internees to harvest crops [Box 14] and orders for evacuation of Japanese and others from military areas [Box 21].

RECORDS OF THE U.S. MINT (RECORD GROUP 104)

The Bureau of the Mint, established in the Department of the Treasury by an act of February 12, 1873, succeeded the Mint of the United States, founded in 1792 at Philadelphia. Originally an independent agency, by 1857 the Mint had become responsible to the Department of the Treasury. The Mint has been responsible for manufacturing coins; for receiving, storing, and selling gold and silver bullion; for assaying and refining; and for a variety of functions, such as inspections and gathering statistics.

Records of the Branch Mint and Assay Office, San Francisco, 1853-1994 (546 cubic feet). In 1850, Congress provided for the appointment of an assayer for California. Two years later, funds were appropriated for a mint in San Francisco. The records relate to assay matters; manufacture of coins for the U.S. and foreign governments (primarily the Philippines); purchase of gold and silver; and deposit of gold and silver bullion. Mint records of gold and silver deposits are extremely voluminous and are not indexed by name. Searching for deposit records of specific individuals is extremely difficult. The names of Asian Americans, particularly Chinese Americans, appear throughout deposit records.

RECORDS OF UNITED STATES ATTORNEYS (RECORD GROUP 118)

The Judiciary Act of September 24, 1789, made provision for U.S. attorneys and marshals who are appointed by the President and have functioned under the general supervision of the Department of Justice since its creation in 1870. U.S. attorneys investigate violations of Federal criminal laws, present evidence to grand juries, prosecute Federal criminal cases, and serve as the Federal Government's attorney in civil litigation in which the United States is involved or has an interest.

U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of California, San Francisco

Citizenship Renunciation Case Files, 1943-59. (10 linear feet). From 1943 to 1945 several thousand interned American citizens of Japanese ancestry renounced their U.S. citizenship, thereby opening themselves to being deported to Japan. Most of the renunciants had been segregated in the Tule Lake Relocation Center in northern California. Still interned at Tule Lake after World War II, the renunciants initiated habeas corpus proceedings in the U.S. District Court in San Francisco in November 1945. Ordered released by the court but still subject to deportation, the renunciants consolidated their cases in a class action suit, *Tadaysasu Abo et al* v. U.S., seeking to rescind their citizenship renunciations. Upheld by the court of appeals in San Francisco, the plaintiffs won back their citizenship in the 1950s.

The records consist chiefly of affidavits of each renunciant explaining the conditions of perceived duress under which he or she renounced citizenship. Also included are reports of investigations and related interviews of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The FBI investigated conditions and events at Tule Lake, primarily focused on the violent events of November 1, 1943 and subsequent weeks. Their investigation touched on all aspects of camp life, including political organization and activities of internees; fraud, waste, and abuse by camp officials and staff; and extreme methods employed against internees by the camp internal security staff and army personnel on and after November 1, 1943. The U.S. attorneys who tried the case used these records.

Records related to Criminal Case 31712, U.S. v. Iva Ikuko Toguri D'Aquino, Treason, 1943-1969 (1 linear foot). The records relate to the prosecution by U.S. attorneys of Iva Ikuko Toguri D'Aquino, commonly known as "Tokyo Rose," for treason in 1948-49. They relate to legal matters, process of the case through the courts, trial witnesses, other treason investigations and prosecutions, "Zero Hour" program broadcasts, prisoner-of-war conditions in Japanese territory, Japan during World War II, etc. Included are correspondence, legal documents, FBI and military

investigative reports, handwritten notes, and other records, including a few photographs. President Gerald Ford pardoned D'Aquino in 1977.

Also available are the 1944 and 1945 sound recordings of the "Zero Hour" broadcasts by Radio Tokyo and other Japanese stations during World War II, which were originally monitored and recorded by the Foreign Broadcast Intelligence Service. These so-called "Tokyo Rose" broadcasts were submitted as evidence in the criminal case. The recordings are on reel-to-reel tapes (reference copies are available on CD-ROM) and total more than 9 hours.

Records relating to the "German-Hindu Conspiracy" Neutrality Cases, 1913-1920 (8 linear feet). Several World War I-era criminal cases tried in San Francisco involved a large number of Indian defendants, as well as the German consul general at San Francisco, after a munitions ship was seized on the Washington coast. The main case was U.S. v. Franz Bopp, E.H. Von Schack, Ram Chandra, Bagwahn Singh et al. (Northern District of California, San Francisco, criminal case 6133). The defendants were charged with conspiring to carry out an insurrection in India and nearly a third of them were found guilty. The records include correspondence, pleadings, a partial transcript of testimony, investigative reports, exhibits, and other materials used by the U.S. attorneys to prosecute the cases.

Microfilmed records

M1868 Selected Records Relating to the Indian (Hindu) Independence Movement in the United States, 1908-1933.

RECORDS OF THE OFFICE OF TERRITORIES (RECORD GROUP 126)

The Office of Territories was established July 28, 1950, by administrative order of the Secretary of the Interior to carry out certain of his responsibilities pertaining to areas non-contiguous to the United States and under U.S. jurisdiction. The office, the successor to the Division of Territories and Island Possessions, is concerned with the development of the economic, social, and political life of the territories and with the advancement of international peace and security by the close coordination of Territorial affairs with the defense and foreign policies of the United States.

Records of the Office of the Governor, Government of Guam, 1946-76. Guam became a possession of the U.S. under the provisions of the Treaty of Peace, signed in 1898 by the U.S. and Spain. Administration of the island was under the Secretary of the Navy until 1941, when Guam surrendered to the Japanese. When Americans retook the island in 1944 the naval government was reestablished. Administration of Guam was transferred to the Secretary of the Interior in 1950. In 1950, the Organic Act of Guam established a civil government for the island with executive, judicial, and legislative branches. The records relate to governmental organization, policies, rules, and regulations. They consist of Executive orders, 1946-1976.

Records of the Office of the High Commissioner, Government of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, 1944-75. The Trust Territory included the Caroline, Marshall, and Northern Mariana Islands (excluding Guam). Under the 1947 Trusteeship Agreement between the U.S. and the United Nations Security Council, the U.S. encouraged the development of the area

toward self-government. The Trust Territory was administered by the Secretary of the Navy until 1951, when most of the islands were transferred to the Secretary of the Interior. The Navy administered Saipan and Tinian until 1962, when they also were turned over to the Interior Department. Following the transfer, the headquarters and offices of the High Commissioner were moved from Guam to Saipan. In 1990 the U.N. Security Council terminated trusteeship status for all islands except Palau (part of the Caroline Islands), which remained under trusteeship until 1994. The records relate to economic development, public works projects, agriculture, geography, geology, social and cultural heritage, the future political status of the Trust Territory, and other subjects. The records consist of textual and microfiche publications of executive departments and the Congress of Micronesia, with some earlier U.S. Navy and German publications, ca 1900 to 1975.

Records of the Island Trading Company of Micronesia, Government of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, 1947-54. The company was incorporated as the successor of the U.S. Commercial Company in 1947 to promote the economic advancement and self-sufficiency of residents. It administered the import and export trade of the Trust Territory and Guam from its headquarters in Guam and later in Hawaii. The records relate to company finances, operations, organization, and projects. Included is a report of the 1946 naval inspection of the Caroline Islands, with information about commerce, education, health, industry, population, religion, sanitation, and the operations of the U.S. Commercial Company. The records consist of issuances, minutes, and reports, 1947-1954. Nontextual records consist of photographs interfiled with textual records.



20. Admiral DeWitt Ramsey confers with indigenous island representatives at an unspecified Trust Territory location, ca 1946. Ramsey was the second High Commissioner of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, serving April 17, 1948 to May 1, 1949.

Microfilmed Records

M181 Annual Reports of the Governors of Guam, 1901-1941

RECORDS OF THE BUREAU OF PRISONS (RECORD GROUP 129)

The Bureau of Prisons was established within the Department of Justice in 1930. Upon creation, it absorbed the functions of the Office of the Superintendent of Prisons, which had been responsible for Federal prison matters since 1907. The new Bureau became responsible for the administration of Federal penal and correctional institutions and for Federal prisoners held in non-Federal institutions.

Comprehensive case files of inmates of the U.S. Penitentiary, Alcatraz Island, California, 1935-1963, (660 cubic feet). There were very, very few Asian American inmates at Alcatraz. This large collection contains all Bureau of Prisons case files covering Alcatraz inmates.

Records of Oahu Prison, Hawaii, 1910-30.

Included are minutes of meetings and miscellaneous records of the U.S. Parole Board at the prison, and quarterly reports of support of prisoners. Minutes of Parole Board meetings often include biographical details of inmates seeking parole and information about their crimes. A notable case is that of Lee Hin Jou who was serving a ten-year sentence for murder on the high seas. Mr. Lee stated that he shot a man who had attacked him without provocation during a card game aboard the SS Korea. U.S. Attorney Robert W. Breckons was of the opinion that the inmate was a gunman for a San Francisco gang who carried out the execution of a man who had helped free an imprisoned prostitute. The Parole Board minutes are indexed alphabetically by inmate name.

Microfilmed Records

M1957 Comprehensive Bureau of Prisons Inmate Case File of Tomoya Kawakita, 1948-1964. (See information in "Criminal Case Files" section under Record Group 21, above.)

RECORDS OF THE OFFICE OF ALIEN PROPERTY (RECORD GROUP 131)

The World War II Office of Alien Property Custodian was established within the Office for Emergency Management on March 11, 1942, under authority of the Trading with the Enemy Act of 1917 and the First War Powers Act of December 18, 1941. An Executive order of April 21, 1942 transferred to it the functions, personnel, and property of the Alien Property Division of the Department of Justice. The custodian was empowered to control or vest, use, administer, liquidate, or sell foreign-owned properties that were productive resources requiring active management, such as business enterprises and patents. Authority over foreign-owned properties that constituted general purchasing power and required no active management, such as cash and securities, was delegated to the Secretary of the Treasury. An Executive order of June 8, 1945, extended the jurisdiction of the custodian to all property in the United States owned by Germany and Japan or their nationals.

Records of the Honolulu office.

The records document examiners' decisions, litigation, and other aspects of the disposition of property owned by businesses and individuals and seized by the U.S. government

during World War II. Included are lists of detainees, internees, and repatriates. The records consist of case files, correspondence, financial records, indexes, issuances, ledgers, legal papers, and lists.

Records of the San Francisco office.

The records relate to Japanese banks that were liquidated by the Superintendent of Banks of the State of California, and to German records used to demonstrate legal points in court cases. Included are correspondence, financial records, and legal papers.

RECORDS OF THE SELECTIVE SERVICE SYSTEM, 1940- (RECORD GROUP 147)

An Executive order of September 23, 1940 established the Selective Service System to provide an orderly, just, and democratic method of obtaining men for military and naval service. The System operated through a director and national headquarters, regional boards, State headquarters, medical and registrant advisory boards, boards of appeal, and local boards. There was a local board for each county and for each unit of 30,000 people in urban areas. Through the local boards the System registered, classified, and selected for induction male citizens and aliens subject to service.

Records of the State headquarters for California, Hawaii, and Nevada (278 cubic feet). The records document the selection of men for service in the armed forces. Records consist of: Registration cards, 1942-47, for California and Hawaii male residents individuals born from April 28, 1877, to February 16, 1897; DSS Form 301, "Application by Alien for Relief from Military Service," for Nevada, 1942-43; and DSS Form 304, "Alien's Personal History and Statement," for California, 1942-46, and Nevada, 1942-43. In addition, there is a master list of the lottery drawing for Hawaii on November 12-13, 1940, and various lists of registrants and statistical data for California, ca. 1940-56.

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RECORDS OF THE SELECTIVE SERVICE SYSTEM (WORLD WAR I) (RECORD GROUP 163)

The Selective Service System, under the direction of the Office of the Provost Marshal General, was authorized by an act of May 18, 1917, to register and induct men into military service. Much of the management of the draft was left to the States, where local draft boards were established on the basis of one for every 30,000 people. 23,908,576 men registered for the draft between June 5, 1917 and September 12, 1918. Of those registered, 3,877,083 were aliens.

Records of local and district boards in California, Hawaii, & Nevada, 1917-1919 (36 cubic feet). The records include docket books for Oakland and San Francisco, in which entries list an individual's name and dates of actions taken such as notification, appeal, and/or exemption; lists of inductees in northern California and Nevada, except Clark County, which include, for each individual, name, occupation, serial number, date of induction, and camp or station to which entrained; appeals granted and denied in California, Hawaii, and Nevada; delinquent classification lists for Hawaii and Nevada; indexes of names of delinquents and deserters in Arizona and California; and lists of delinquents and deserters in California, Hawaii, and Nevada.

Microfilmed Records

M1509 World War I Selective Service System Draft Registration Cards, 1917-1918. We have rolls for California, Nevada, and Hawaii only.

RECORDS OF NAVAL DISTRICTS AND SHORE ESTABLISHMENTS (RECORD GROUP 181)
RECORDS OF NAVAL OPERATING FORCES (RECORD GROUP 313)
RECORDS OF THE U.S. MARINE CORPS (RECORD GROUP 127)

Soon after its establishment in 1798, the Department of the Navy created navy yards and other fleet service shore establishments (Record Group 181). A system of naval districts for the United States, its territories, and possessions was not formally established, however, until 1903. This system was supervised by the Bureau of Navigation until 1915 when it became the responsibility of the Chief of Naval Operations. By the end of World War II, the districts exercised almost complete military and administrative control over naval operations within their limits, including naval shipyards, stations, training stations, air installations, and advance bases.

The Naval Operating Forces (Record Group 313) were organized chiefly on a geographical basis into fleets and squadrons until 1922, when the U.S. Fleet became the principal naval force. Another reorganization on February 1, 1941, provided for three main fleets: the Pacific, Atlantic, and Asiatic Fleets. This organization was modified during and after World War II. Since May 1915, the Chief of Naval Operations has been responsible to the Secretary of the Navy for the operation of the fleet and the preparation and readiness of plans for its use in war.

The U.S. Marine Corps (Record Group 127) was created by an act of July 11, 1798, which authorized the Commandant of the Corps to appoint an adjutant, a paymaster, and a quartermaster. The Commandant of the Marine Corps is directly responsible to the Secretary of

the Navy for all administrative and operational matters affecting the Corps. These include providing amphibious forces for service with the fleet in seizing and defending advanced naval bases, and conducting land operations essential to a naval campaign. Other duties include providing detachments to serve on naval ships and to protect property of naval activities.

National Archives Pacific Region-San Francisco holdings in Record Groups 181, 313, and 127 document U.S. expansion in the Pacific during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, and U.S. Navy operations in the Pacific during World War II are covered extensively. While these records include little information about individual Asians, Asian Americans, and Pacific Islanders, some of the records provide valuable geographic, ethnographic, and historical data about various Pacific islands, particularly in Micronesia.

The records of the Naval Government Units listed below document post-World War II economic and social conditions, and occasionally record births, deaths, and marriages as well. Other topics covered include civil-military relations; civilian morale and racial attitudes in World War II Hawaii; political unrest in American Samoa; the sensational, racially-charged "Ala Moana" rape and murder case of the 1930s; and American diplomatic and military activities in China on the eve of the Communist takeover. Nontextual records include numerous maps and photographs. The photographs are mostly of U.S. Navy activities and facilities, but also include aerial views of Pacific islands and scenes of island life. The records of the organizations listed below amount to nearly four thousand cubic feet collectively. A more detailed listing of individual series of records is available in our reading room.

Hawaii

14th Naval District Headquarters, Pearl Harbor, Oahu, Hawaii, 1912-1972

Naval Shipyard, Pearl Harbor, Oahu, Hawaii, 1899-1962

Naval Base 128, Pearl Harbor, Oahu, Hawaii, 1941-1977

Naval Air Station 128, Pearl Harbor, Oahu, Hawaii, 1943-1960

Naval Communications Station 128, Pearl Harbor, Oahu, Hawaii, 1947-1957

Naval Station 128, Pearl Harbor, Oahu, Hawaii, 1902-1956

Submarine Base 128, Pearl Harbor, Oahu, Hawaii, 1951-1958

Naval Air Station 14, Barbers Point, Oahu, Hawaii, 1947-1971

Naval Section Base 15, Bishops Point, Oahu, Hawaii, 1942-1946

Naval Air Facility 24, Hilo, Hawaii, 1943-1947

Naval Air Station 27, Kahului, Maui, Hawaii, 1943-1947

Naval Air Station 28, Kaneohe, Oahu, Hawaii, 1939-1950

Naval Air Station 30, Puunene, Maui, Hawaii, 1942-1947

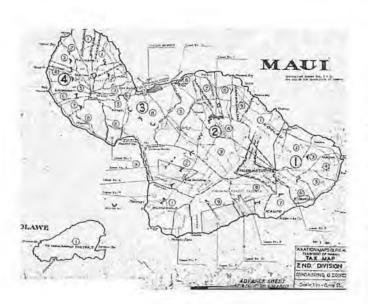
Naval Air Station 41, Wahiawa, Oahu, Hawaii, 1956-1956

Naval Communications Station 59, Honolulu, Oahu, Hawaii, 1948-1955

Marine Corps Air Station 61, Ewa, Oahu, Hawaii, 1942-1949

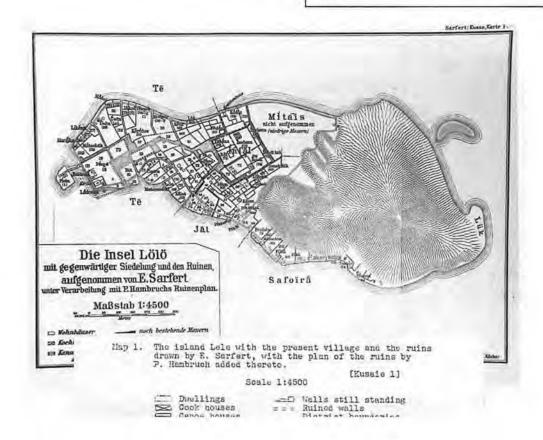
Naval Radio Station 41, Wahiawa, Oahu, Hawaii, 1950-1954

Naval Radio Station 66, Lualualei, Oahu, Hawaii, 1925-1974 Pacific Missile Range Facility, Kaneohe, Oahu, Hawaii, 1959





22. (left) Taxation map of Maui, 1943, showing lands leased by the U.S. Navy,
23. (above) Photo of Ewa beach and artillery emplacement, Oahu, Hawaiian Islands, ca. 1942.
24 (below) Map of Lele, Kusaie (now Kosrae), eastern Caroline Islands, originally drawn by an expedition sponsored by the Hamburg Ethnological Museum, 1908-1910.



Other U.S. Territories and Possessions (Central and South Pacific)

Naval Operating Base 1504, Midway Island, Hawaiian Islands, 1942-1950
Naval Station 3080, Midway Island, Hawaiian Islands, 1950-1955
Naval Air Station 309, Palmyra Island, Line Islands, 1939-1947
Naval Air Facility 1301, Canton Island, Phoenix Islands, 1943-1946 [now part of Kiribati]
Naval Station 129, Tutuila Island, American Samoa, 1921-1951

South Pacific

Naval Advance Base 130, Suva Island, Fiji Islands, 1942-1944

Naval Advance Base 200, Tongatabu Island, Tonga Islands, 1942-1945

Naval Advance Base 203, Borabora Island, Society Islands, French Polynesia, 1942-1946

Naval Advance Base 207, Wallis Island, 1944-1945

Naval Advance Base 208, Upolu Island, Western Samoa, 1942-1944

Naval Base 131, Noumea, New Caledonia, 1942-1946

Naval Air Facility 131, Noumea, New Caledonia, 1943-1945

Naval Advance Base 140, Espiritu Santo, New Hebrides Islands, 1943-1946

Naval Air Center 140, Espiritu Santo, New Hebrides Islands, 1943-1945

Naval Advance Base 60, Russell Islands, Solomon Islands, 1943-1945

Naval Advance Base 145, Guadalcanal Island, Solomon Islands, 1943-1946

Naval Air Center and Naval Air Facility 145, Guadalcanal Island, Solomon Islands, 1943-1945

Naval Advance Base 152, Tulagi Island, Solomon Islands, 1943-1946

Naval Advance Base 158, Torokina, Bougainville Island, Solomon Islands, 1943-1945

Naval Advance Bases 250, 251 and 626, New Georgia Islands, Solomon Islands, 1935-1944

Southwest Pacific

Naval Advance Base 722, Finschhafen, New Guinea, 1944-1945
Naval Advance Base 928, Madang, New Guinea, 1944-1945
Naval Base 935, Morotai Island, Netherlands East Indies, 1944-1945
Naval Base 3205, Manus Island, Admiralty Islands, Bismarck Archipelago, 1943-1947
Naval Air Station 3220, Emirau Island, St. Matthias Islands, Bismarck Archipelago, 1944-1945
Naval Base 3505, Biak Island, Dutch New Guinea, 1944-1946

Philippines

Naval Operating Base 3149, Samar, Philippines, 1945-1947 Naval Air Station 961, Sangley Point, Luzon, Philippines, 1945-1949 Naval Station 961, Sangley Point, Luzon, Philippines, 1947-1959 Submarine Base 3002, Subic Bay, Luzon, Philippines, 1944-1947 Naval Operating Base 3002, Subic Bay, Luzon, Philippines, 1945-1949 Naval Station 3002, Subic Bay, Luzon, Philippines, 1950-1958 Naval Base 3964, Tacloban, Leyte, Philippines, 1945

Guam

Naval Government Unit, Guam, Mariana Islands, 1946-1950 Naval Operating Base and Naval Base 926, Guam, Mariana Islands, 1946-1956 Naval Air Station 939, Orote, Guam, Mariana Islands, 1945-1949 Naval Air Station 943, Agana, Guam, Mariana Islands, 1944-1960 Military Sea Transportation Service Office, Guam, Mariana Islands, 1956

Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands

Naval Air Facility 807, Ebeye Island, Kwajalein Atoll, Marshall Islands, 1944-1947
Naval Station 824, Kwajalein Atoll, Marshall Islands, 1943-1952
Naval Air Base 825, Roi Island, Kwajalein Atoll, Marshall Islands, 1946
Submarine Advance Base 3234, Majuro Atoll, Marshall Islands, 1942-1945
Naval Air Station 958, Kagman Point, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, 1944-1947
Naval Operating Base 3245, Tanapag, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, 1944-1948
Naval Air Station 3245, Tanapag, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, 1946-1950
Naval Air Facility 3247, Tinian, Northern Mariana Islands, 1946-1947
Naval Air Facility 3410, Moen Island, Truk Atoll, Caroline Islands, 1943-1947
Naval Military Government Unit, Truk and Central Caroline Islands, 1945-1947

Japan

Military Sea Transportation Service Office, Otaru, Hokkaido, Japan, 1953-1955
Military Sea Transportation Service Office, Kobe, Honshu, Japan, 1953-1957
Military Sea Transportation Service Office, Kure, Honshu, Japan, 1952-1955
Military Sea Transportation Service Office, Misawa, Honshu, Japan, 1956-1957
Military Sea Transportation Service Office, Yokohama, Honshu, Japan, 1954-1958
Military Sea Transportation Service Office, Moji, Kyushu, Japan, 1954-1956
Military Sea Transportation Service Office, Sasebo, Kyushu, Japan, 1954-1957
Naval Air Facility 875, Oppama, Honshu, Japan, 1950-1961
Naval Air Station 955, Iwakuni, Honshu, Japan, 1952-1953
Naval Air Station 3835, Atsugi, Honshu, Japan, 1950-1955

U.S. Fleet Activities 3923, Yokosuka, Honshu, Japan, 1953-1954
Naval Base 3150, Iwo Jima, Volcano Islands, Japan, 1944-1946
Naval Military Government Unit, Ryukyu Islands, Japan, 1945-1946
Naval Base 1173, Chimu Wan, Okinawa, Ryukyu Islands, Japan, 1945-1946
Naval Air Facility 1175, Naha, Okinawa, Ryukyu Islands, Japan, 1945-1952
Naval Operating Base 3256, Okinawa, Ryukyu Islands, Japan, 1944-1947
U.S. Naval Activities 3015, Ie Shima, Ryukyu Islands, Japan, 1944-1946

Other Asia

U.S. Fleet Activities 3423, Pusan, South Korea, 1950-1954
U.S. Fleet Activities 3916, Inchon, South Korea, 1951-1954
Naval Port Facility 3930, Shanghai, China, 1946-1947
Naval Port Facility 3913, Tsingtao, Shantung Province, China, 1946-1949
Joint U.S. Military Advisory Group (JUSMAG) China (Tsingtao Unit), 1946-1949
Joint U.S. Military Advisory Group (JUSMAG) Thailand, 1950-1955
Military Sea Transportation Service Office, Saigon, South Vietnam, 1954

RECORDS OF THE WAR MANPOWER COMMISSION (RECORD GROUP 211)

The War Manpower Commission (WMC) was established within the Office for Emergency Management by an Executive order of April 18, 1942. Operating through regional and State WMC offices and local offices of the U.S. Employment Service, it recruited labor for the war effort and essential civilian industries, trained labor for essential jobs, analyzed manpower utilization practices to increase labor efficiency, and accumulated national labor market information. It was terminated by an Executive order of September 19, 1945, and its functions were transferred to the U.S. Employment Service.

Records of the Region XII Office, San Francisco

Records of the Regional Office in San Francisco mainly document Mexican agricultural and railway workers on the West Coast. The *Central Files*, 1942-1945, however, have a few files related to Japanese, Filipino, and Hawaiian agricultural workers. A detailed folder list for the Central Files is available in our reading room.

Territorial Office, Honolulu, Hawaii

The records document the economic condition of areas and their responses to wartime programs and controls, employment stabilization programs, and discriminatory hiring practices. Included are appeals case files, correspondence, minutes of board and committee meetings, and narrative and statistical reports. The Hawaii records include: Central Files, 1942-1945; Periodic Progress and Activity Reports, 1942-1945; Appeals Case Records Arising from Employment Stabilization Programs, 1943-1945; and Hawaii Monthly Agricultural Labor Reports, 1942-1945.

RECORDS OF THE OFFICE OF DEFENSE TRANSPORTATION (RECORD GROUP 219)

The Office of Defense Transportation was established in the Office for Emergency Management on December 18, 1941, to promote the maximum utilization of domestic transportation facilities to support the war effort. It was authorized to coordinate activities of Federal agencies and private transportation groups to prevent congestion and make maximum use of available resources.

Records of the Attorney, Region IX, serving California and Oregon, 1942-1946. Records relate to trucks seized from interned Japanese-American farmers for sale to actively producing farmers.

RECORDS OF THE OFFICE OF FOREIGN ASSETS CONTROL (RECORD GROUP 265)

The Foreign Funds Control, a predecessor of the Office of Foreign Assets Control, was established in the Office of the Secretary of the Treasury in April 1940 to administer functions assigned to the Secretary. Through a system of licenses, rulings, and other "freezing" regulations, the control functioned as part of the Government's financial warfare program to prevent enemy-dominated countries or their nationals from using frozen assets. It administered import controls on enemy assets and wartime restrictions on trade with the enemy, participated in administering the "Proclaimed List of Certain Blocked Nationals," and took censuses of foreign-owned assets in the United States and American-owned assets abroad. The Office of Foreign Assets Control was established as a separate office under the Assistant Secretary for International Affairs in 1962. The Office administered the foreign assets control program and Cuban assets control regulations, which blocked Communist Chinese, North Korean, North Vietnamese, and Cuban assets in the United States and prohibited unlicensed trade and financial transactions on behalf of those countries.

Records of Foreign Funds Control, Office of the Governor of Hawaii, 1941-1946. The records relate to property owned by Japanese- and German-Americans and foreign nationals who were sent to detention and relocation centers during World War II; property owned by nationals or businesses of enemy nations or enemy-controlled areas, primarily Japan, but also Germany and other countries; and licenses issued to foreign nationals to engage in specific foreign exchange transactions such as purchasing goods, raising employees' wages, and selling land. Included are applications, correspondence, indexes, internee report forms, property report forms, and special licenses.

RECORDS OF UNITED STATES COURTS OF APPEALS (RECORD GROUP 276)

The United States Courts of Appeals were created by an act of March 3, 1891. They are empowered to review final and certain interlocutory decisions of district courts (see Record Group 21) except where the law provides for direct review by the Supreme Court. They also review orders of Federal administrative bodies such as the Securities and Exchange Commission and the National Labor Relations Board.

Case Files & other records of the U.S. Court of Appeals, Ninth Circuit, San Francisco, 1890-1976. The records document appeals of cases heard by lower Federal courts in Alaska, Arizona, California, Guam, Hawaii, Idaho, the Mariana Islands, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, and Washington. Included are admiralty law, land use, and mining and mineral resources cases.

Many notable cases involved Asian Americans. A precedent-setting case defining Asians as non-white involved Bhagat Singh Thind, an Asian Indian who naturalized in Oregon. The U.S. filed in the district court in Oregon to cancel Thind's citizenship on the grounds that it was illegally obtained because Thind was a Hindu, and only white persons were lawfully entitled to naturalization. The district court upheld Thind's citizenship, and the case was appealed to the Ninth Circuit Court.

The circuit court judges requested instructions on questions of law from the Supreme Court, particularly whether a high caste Hindu of full Indian blood, such as Thind, was a white person within the meaning of the law. In a precedent setting 1923 decision, the Supreme Court replied in the negative, and Thind's citizenship was denied on the basis of race. The appeals case file contains the transcript of record from the district court, briefs submitted by both parties, the certificate to the Supreme Court, and the mandate returned by the Supreme Court. (appeal case 3745)

Also included are records of judicial conference proceedings. The records consist of briefs, case files, minutes, opinions, and transcripts. Nontextual records include maps, photographs, and plans interfiled with textual records. See Record Group 21 and Record Group 118 for related records. The Clerk of the Court maintains an index to the case files.

Microfilmed Records

M1956, Treason Conviction Appeal of Tomoya Kawakita, 1948-1952: Case 12061, Tomoya Kawakita v. U.S., United States Court of Appeals, Ninth Circuit. (See information in "Criminal Case Files" section under Record Group 21, above.)

RECORDS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF AMERICAN SAMOA (RECORD GROUP 284)

Under the 1899 Treaty of Berlin the seven eastern islands of Samoa were designated a U.S. possession. The U.S. Senate ratified the treaty on February 16, 1900. An Executive order placed American Samoa under control of the Department of the Navy and directed the Secretary of the Navy to take necessary steps to establish U.S. authority and give the islands protection. U.S. naval control of American Samoa lasted until an Executive order of June 29, 1951, transferred control to the Department of the Interior. In 1960, the Secretary of the Interior approved a constitution for American Samoa. Our Record Group 284 holdings total more than 200 cubic feet in volume. A more detailed listing of this record group is available in our reading room. Public access to portions of the documents may be restricted under exemption (b)(6) of the Freedom of Information Act, which relates to the personal privacy of living persons.

Records of the Office of the Governor, 1900-1961.

The records relate to naval and civil administration and daily government operations; laws and regulations; activities of the consultative legislature (Fono); and government affairs, including citizenship, copra sales, customs receipts, education, licensing, local politics, public health, public works, taxation, and vital statistics. The records consist of correspondence, issuances,

legislative proceedings, memorandums, reports, and speeches. Nontextual records include a separate series of color plates of designs for the Samoan flag.

Records of the High Court and its predecessor, the Office of the Secretary of Native Affairs, 1900-1966. The records relate to administrative and judicial matters, such as civil and criminal cases; censuses; oil production; immigration and naturalization; village affairs, including regulations and conduct of officials; and war damage claims. The records consist of case files, census returns, correspondence, decisions, issuances, petitions, proceedings, and reports.

Records of the Office of the Attorney General, 1900-1965.

The records relate to administrative and law enforcement functions, including civil and criminal investigations; commission and board activities; district and village matters; general government affairs; immigration and emigration; prisons and prisoners; and "Personnel Records: Register of Officers," microfilm I27. The records include correspondence, investigative case files, issuances, proceedings, and transcripts.

25. "Regulation to prevent the Alienation of Native Land in Tutuila and Manua," signed by Commander Benjamin F. Tilley, the first Governor of American Samoa, 30 April 1900. Partly as a result of this "Land Law" promulgated by agreement with the Samoan Chiefs Council, an estimated 95% of land in American Samoa today continues under traditional American Samoan extended family ownership, administered via the "Matai" system.



Microfilmed Records

T27, Despatches from U.S. Consuls in Apia, Samoa, 1843-1906.

T805, Notes from the Samoan Legation in the United States to the Department of State, 1856-1894.

T1182, Records of the Government of American Samoa, 1900-1958

122, Selected Records of Genealogical Importance from the Government of American Samoa (microfilmed by the Genealogical Society of Utah).

RECORDS OF UNITED STATES ARMY COMMANDS (RECORD GROUP 338)

The present system of U.S. Army commands, which are organized both functionally and geographically, emerged from a War Department reorganization of February 28, 1942. The system has a complex administrative structure including massive domestic and overseas operations.

The National Archives Pacific Region-San Francisco holds microfilm copies of records relating to the evacuation of Japanese Americans from their Pacific coast homes during World War II in preparation for their transfer to internment camps operated by the War Relocation Authority. The Wartime Civil Control Administration (WCCA) supervised evacuation operations, including the civil control stations and assembly centers, to which evacuees were first removed, and handled the transfer of evacuees to the jurisdiction of the War Relocation Authority. The WCCA was abolished in 1943 and its continuing functions were transferred to the Civil Affairs Division of the Western Defense Command Headquarters.

Our WCCA holdings provide information about individual evacuees, assembly center activities and management, and administrative and personnel matters. Included are correspondence, family ledgers, hospital forms, property issues and receipts, social data registration forms, and documents of departure from the center. The records are on approximately 300 rolls of microfilm. A roll list is available in our reading room.

Records of assembly centers operated by the Wartime Civil Control Administration and the Western Defense Command, ca. 1942-ca. 1946, as follows:

Cave Creek, Arizona; Portland, Oregon;

Fresno, California Puyallup, Washington;

Hotel Whitcomb (headquarters) San Sacramento, California;

Francisco, California; Salinas, California;

Manzanar, California; Stockton, California;

Marysville, California; Tanforan, California;

Mayer, California; Toppenish, Washington;

Merced, California; Tulare, California;

Pinedale, California; Turlock, Calfornia.

Pomona, California;

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26. "Social Data Registration" sheet from the "family folder" of a relocated Japanese-American family, 1942, from records of the Tanforan Assembly Center, Wartime Civil Control Administration (WCCA). The WCCA of the Army's Western Defense Command was a predecessor of the War Relocation Authority.

RECORDS OF UNITED STATES MARSHALS (RECORD GROUP 527)

The Judiciary Act of September 24, 1789, made provision for U.S. attorneys and marshals who are appointed by the President and have functioned under the general supervision of the Department of Justice since its creation in 1870. U.S. marshals execute and serve writs, processes, and orders issued by U.S. courts, U.S. commissioners or magistrates, and commissions. They also notify the Department of Justice of defiance of Federal authority.

Records of the Northern District of California, San Francisco, 1874-1919 (54 cubic feet). Our U.S. Marshal holdings include correspondence related to enforcement of the Chinese Exclusion Acts. There are letters sent and received concerning individuals arrested and held for deportation, individuals remanded to the custody of San Quentin prison, and individuals released from custody by court order.

BASIC RESEARCH STEPS FOR IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE DISTRICT OFFICE CASE FILES AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS ADMINISTRATION-PACIFIC REGION

The National Archives Pacific Region-San Francisco holds more than 200,000 investigative case files of several types created by INS District Offices in San Francisco and Honolulu. Most concern Asian immigrants and Asian Americans from all over the United States who were investigated under various immigration laws including the "Chinese Exclusion Acts," 1882-1943. Case files were created when individuals traveled to or from the U.S through the ports of San Francisco and Honolulu. The research steps listed here mainly apply to the search for Exclusion Era case files of Chinese immigrants and U.S. citizens of Chinese ancestry. The research steps can also help locate case files of Asian immigrants from countries other than China. Please note that many pre-World War II immigrants from India, Japan, Korea, the Philippines, and other countries were not investigated to the extent that case files were created upon arrival or departure. INS officials in San Francisco and Honolulu generally investigated non-Chinese immigrants only in certain cases - such as when immigrants were considered "likely to become public charges" or were suspected of political activity. This generally meant unwanted workers from India, Russia, and Japan. The INS also created case files for most "Japanese Picture Brides" during the 1908 to 1920 period and their files can be located using the steps listed below. In some cases the INS created case files for certain individual Asian immigrants and Asian Americans but then destroyed the records in the 1940s and 1950s. For example, individual case files of Filipinos desiring to be repatriated at government expense from 1935 to 1940 were destroyed in 1948.

The directions below are intended to help people locate files of family members and also help historians researching specific Chinese American communities.

Most of the name indexes described below are only available in our research room. None of the name indexes, however, list the individual's U.S. residence.

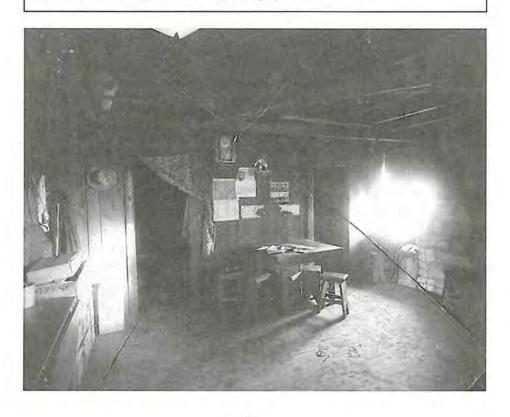
Locating Archival Immigration Case Files of Individuals

Follow these steps if you are looking for immigration case files concerning yourself or other family members. If option 1 does not produce results, go on to option 2, etc.

- Bring copies of any old immigration documents such as Certificates of Identity, Certificates
 of Residence, or steamship tickets. It's best to bring in photocopies rather than originals so
 they won't be confused with documents in our custody. When photocopying your old
 documents, please copy the backs of them too. Sometimes immigration officials noted case
 file numbers or made endorsements on the reverse sides of documents. Any hand-written
 numbers on old documents could help locate case files quickly.
- 2. Check our microfilm copy of the INS-San Francisco (Card) Index to immigration case files dated 1884-1979 and arranged alphabetically by name (in microfilm cabinet 49C). Each index card reproduced on the microfilm includes the INS case file number in the upper right hand corner. Most index cards also list the date of arrival or departure and the birth date or



27, 28. (above and below) Outside and inside views of the Ah Coo and Company store in Suisun Valley. During the Chinese Exclusion Era, Chinese merchants in the U.S. were required to provide proof of their status. Immigration officials investigated many Chinese businesses to ensure that each was "genuine mercantile firm with no prohibited features," and that members of the firm engaged in "no manual labor other than that necessary to the conduct of the said business." The INS considered businessmen who were not engaged in selling merchandise in a store to be laborers. This included photographers, doctors, restaurant owners, craftsmen, and many other professions.



age at arrival. This is the most complete index we currently have. Unfortunately the INS-San Francisco District lost 50 of the original 376 rolls of microfilm before the National Archives could acquire it. The INS destroyed the originals of the index cards immediately after they were microfilmed.

There are over 350,000 names on the surviving portions of this index and the huge volume of common names can make a search somewhat difficult. For example, there are well over one thousand index cards for women named Wong Shee. This is because the index also covers thousands of INS-San Francisco District case files created after the Chinese Exclusion era. Move on to step 3 if this index seems overwhelming and you are unable to locate the person you are seeking.

- 3. Check the Index to Certificates of Identity, 1908-1938 (paper copy in binders in our research room compiled from listings in 15 original INS SF volumes). This is an index to certificates of identity issued by the INS in San Francisco. The index also lists the case file numbers at the time of arrival, but case file numbers frequently changed in later years when the certificate holders traveled again. If a case file cited in this index is not in the box, you should do two things. First ask to look at the certificate in our custody we have most, but not all, of them (due to a fire at the INS in Washington, D.C. years ago). Each certificate has a photo and a little bit of information about the holder this can help you determine if you are looking for the right person. Second, go back to step 2 and try it again if at all possible, otherwise move on to step 4.
- 4. Check our arrival files database index being created by staff and volunteers, now dated 1884-1913 and 1915-1921. The database index for 1884-1913 is available on the Internet at: http://groups.haas.berkeley.edu/iber/casefiles/chinese_immigrants_introduction_page_1.cfm. This index is really great the only problem is the limited date span currently available.
- 5. Check National Archives ship passenger arrival list microfilm. This is the last resort make sure you have totally exhausted the options above before your try this.

The main National Archives microfilm publications are M-1476, M1414 and M-1410. (See our passenger list microfilm handout). It is best to know the year and ship of arrival.

- a. If M1476 covers the approximate year of arrival, try checking it first. This is because each volume filmed has an alphabetical passenger name index (it takes 2-3 volumes to cover a year of ship arrivals) and the handwriting is fairly neat. Also, M1476 only lists passengers applying for admission to the U.S. whereas M1414 and M1410 have many more names because they include all passengers even those just passing through on their way to other countries. Entries for several arrival years can actually be skimmed using M 1476. M1476 lists less detail about each passenger than M1414 and M1410, but if you locate a person on M1476 you can quickly locate their more complete passenger manifest entry on M1414 or M1410.
- b. If M1476 doesn't fit your arrival dates, check M1414 and M1410, the actual ship passenger arrival lists. For this, it is best to have the name of the ship as well as the year and month of arrival.

- c. If you find the name of the person you're looking for on M1476, M1414, or M1410, note the **5-digit number** at the top of the page. This is the **first part of the case file number** (composed of the approximate arrival year and the "ship number" on that particular day of arrival), i.e. 22311.
- d. For M1414 and M1410 manifests, note the page number at the top of the sheet and the line to the left of the person listed. For M1476 note the number to the left of the person listed. This gives you the **second part of the case file number**, i.e. 30-22.
- e. These two parts combined give the INS Arrival Case File number, i.e. 23111/30-22, which the archives can search the records for.

Locating Archival Immigration Case Files for Individuals from a particular Historic Chinese American Community

These are recommended steps if you are looking for immigration case files of individuals about whom you may have little personal information but who lived in a Chinese American community that you are studying. Naturally you should try to gather information from published records (newspapers, city directories, census schedules) or contact living descendants for personal information if possible and follow the steps above. Otherwise, follow the options below. If option 1 does not produce results, go on to option 2.

- 1. Search NARA microfilm publication A3362 [Indexes of Chinese Partnership Case Files Maintained by the INS-San Francisco District]; [Register] of Chinese [Applicants for Return Certificates at San Francisco, California, 1912-1943; and Partnership Lists of Chinese Firms in San Francisco, California, and Nationwide, 1893-1907 (rolls 1-2). Roll 1 of this publication contains a typed listing of resident Chinese aliens and U.S. citizens of Chinese ancestry who planned to depart from San Francisco for China. Individuals would apply for return certificates prior to departure. Individual case files were created in connection with these applications - all of which begin with the file code designation "12017." The listing on roll 1 of A3362 begins with file 12017/1 and runs in numerical order through 12017/54437. Each file number on the list is followed by the name of the applicant and an abbreviation for the type of application: n/d = native (U.S. citizen) departing, m/d = merchant departing, s/n/d = son of native departing, I/d = laborer departing, etc. Following the application type is the place of residence (if blank it means San Francisco). A typical entry look like this: 12017/10556 Wong Shee, 1/d, Fresno. Even a cursory examination of the list shows that Chinese Americans from every corner of the U.S. traveled through San Francisco. If you are interested in Chinese Americans from a particular place you may want to read through the entire list. It has over 54,000 entries but you could probably read through it carefully in three to six hours. If you find an interesting entry, copy down the file number, name, type of applicant, and city then contact our office. If an applicant returned to San Francisco the INS generally annotated the list with the new returning file number.
- 2. Roll 2 of A3362 is also very interesting because it contains lists (microfilm copies of old ledgers) of Chinese-owned businesses in San Francisco and throughout the United States. Check this roll carefully there are sometimes clues to case files for business owners.

Contact Information:

Regular Mail:

Attn: Archival Operations
National Archives & Records Administration--Pacific Region (San Francisco)
1000 Commodore Drive
San Bruno, CA 94066-2350

Telephone: 650-238-3501

Fax: 650-238-3510

E-mail: sanbruno.archives@nara.gov

Website: http://www.archives.gov/regional/sanfranc.html

Regional Archives hours of operation are weekdays from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. On Wednesdays the microfilm research room is open from 7:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. (Microfilm publications research only)

Back cover: Photograph of Japanese "Picture Bride," 1915.

Citations for Illustrations:

Front Cover: Photograph of Wong Kim Ark, file 12017-42223; Return Certificate Application Case Files, 1912-43; San Francisco District, Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS), Records of the Immigration and Naturalization Service, Record Group 85 (hereafter RG 85); National Archives and Records Administration-Pacific Region, San Francisco (NARA San Bruno).

Inside Front Cover: Photograph and petition, case file 3749, In the Matter of Jung Ah Lung; Admiralty Case Files, 1851-1966; U.S. District Court, Northern District of California, San Francisco (USDC San Francisco); Records of the District Courts of the United States, RG 21(hereafter RG 21); NARA San Bruno

1. Photographic Exhibit, Wo Lee v. Peter Hopkins, case file 3947; Common Law and Equity Case Files, 1865-1911; U.S. Circuit Court, Ninth Circuit, Northern District of California, San Francisco (USCC San Francisco); RG 21, NARA San Bruno. 2. Return Certificate, June 2, 1887, case file 10100, In Re Chae Chan Ping; Civil and Appellate Case Files, 1863-1911; USCC San Francisco; RG 21; NARA San Bruno. 3. Arrest warrant, Apr. 18, 1879, case file 825, U.S. v. Quinn Gee; Criminal Case Files, 1851-1912; USDC San Francisco; RG 21; NARA San Bruno. 4. Exhibit B from "Opinion," Apr. 19, 1984, case file 27635, U.S. v. Fred Toyosaburo Korematsu; Criminal Case Files, 1851-1973; USDC San Francisco; RG 21; NARA San Bruno. 5. Petition #OM-5978, Feb. 25, 1944; Overseas Military Petitions for Naturalization; USDC San Francisco; RG 21; NARA San Bruno. 6. Petition #OM-26922, Dec. 20, 1946; Overseas Military Petitions for Naturalization, 1944-47; USDC San Francisco; RG 21; NARA San Bruno. 7. Petition 274, In Re Takao Ozawa; Naturalization Petitions, 1900-91; United States District Court, District of Hawaii (USDC Honolulu); RG 21; NARA San Bruno. 8. John H. Wise, Collector of Customs, San Francisco to Barry Baldwin, U.S. Marshall, San Francisco, Mar.13, 1896; Letters Sent to Other Federal Agencies and to the General Public, 1895-1915; Records of the United States Customs Service, San Francisco District, RG 36; NARA San Bruno. 9. Photograph of Sun Yat-Sen, file 9995/CABIN; Arrival Investigation Case Files, 1884-1944; San Francisco District INS; RG 85; NARA San Bruno.

10. Photograph of Ahn Chang Ho, file 23880/1-6; Arrival Investigation Case Files, 1884-1944; San Francisco District INS; RG 85; NARA San Bruno. 11, 12. Photographs of a Japanese "Picture Bride" and her prospective husband, file 14676/9-15; Arrival Investigation Case Files, 1884-1944; San Francisco District INS; RG 85; NARA San Bruno. 13. Photograph of Bruce Lee, file 12017/53752; Return Certificate Application Case Files (12017), 1912-1944; San Francisco District INS; RG 85; NARA San Bruno. 14. Photograph of Lim Fook family, file 12017/5542; Return Certificate Application Case Files (12017), 1912-1944; San Francisco District INS; RG 85; NARA San Bruno. 15. Arrest warrant, July 12, 1913, file 12815/8-1; Arrival Investigation Case Files, 1884-1944; San Francisco District INS; RG 85; NARA San Bruno. 16. Photograph of Helen Pardo Reyes from file 41066/4-3; Arrival Investigation Case Files, 1884-1944; San Francisco District INS; RG 85; NARA San Bruno. 17. Return certificate of Lau Ah Leong, Apr. 29, 1919, file 4393/1; Case Files of Chinese Applicants for Admission as Wives and/or Children of Chinese Naturalized Under the Hawaiian Kingdom and Pre-Examination of Status of Chinese Claiming Such Naturalization (4393), 1919-25; Honolulu District INS; RG 85; NARA San Bruno. 18. Photograph of family of Lee Wai She, file 2989-C; Chinese Immigration Case Files (C-Files), 1903-15; Honolulu District INS; RG 85; NARA San Bruno.

19. Certificate of Hawaiian Birth, Jan. 1, 1904, file 222-C; Chinese Immigration Case Files (C-Files), 1903-15; Honolulu District INS; RG 85; NARA San Bruno. 20. Photograph from Report of the Inspection of the Caroline Islands by the U.S. Pacific Fleet, August-October 1946; Records of the Island Trading Company of Micronesia, 1946-1954; Records of the Office of Territories, RG 126; NARA San Bruno. 21. Registration Cards, Fourth Registration, 1942; Hawaii State Headquarters, Selective Service System; Records of the Selective Service System, 1940 -, RG 147; NARA San Bruno. 22. Map of Maui, May 3, 1943; Real Estate Appraisals and Reports, 1942-1945; Records of the Real Estate Division, 14th Naval District Public Works Office, 1920-1972; Records of Naval Districts and Shore Establishments, RG 181(hereafter RG 181); NARA San Bruno. 23. Photograph of gun emplacement, ca. 1942; Hawaiian Islands Construction Photographs (Formerly Classified), 1941-1942; Records of the 14th Naval District Intelligence Officer, 1941-1942; RG 181; NARA San Bruno. 24. Map of Lele, Kusaie from Ethnographic and Hydrographic Survey of the Japanese Mandated Islands, 1942; Records of 14th Naval District Staff Headquarters, 1923-1946; RG 181; NARA San Bruno. 25. Regulation regarding land, April 30, 1900 from Laws and Codes of American Samoa, 1900-1946; Records of the Governor's Office, 1900-1961; Records of the Government of American Samoa, RG 284; NARA San Bruno, 26. Roll 287-L, Tanforan Assembly Center, Federal Works Agency Microfilm of Records of Assembly Centers Operated by the Wartime Civil Control Administration and the Western Defense Command, ca. 1942-ca. 1946; Records of United States Army Commands, 1942 -, RG 338; NARA San Bruno. 27, 28. Photographs of Ah Coo and Company store, file 10150-11206; Arrival Investigation Case Files, 1884-1944; San Francisco District INS; RG 85; NARA San Bruno.

Back Cover: Photograph of Japanese "Picture Bride," file 14676/9-16; Arrival Investigation Case Files, 1884-1944; San Francisco District INS; RG 85; NARA San Bruno.



