# World War II Incarceration of Japanese and Japanese Americans: Records List

The World War II experiences of Nikkei (Japanese emigrants and their descendants) in the United States are extensively documented in federal records. From surveillance conducted decades before the attack on Pearl Harbor to mass incarceration to post-war reparations, records at the National Archives (NARA) provide a rich and complex portrait of the U.S. government's wartime actions and their impacts on the communities of Japanese descent. The following webpages serve as a starting point for researchers interested in the history and treatment of Japanese Americans in the years preceding, during, and following the war.

Explore records at the National Archives related to World War II Japanese American Incarceration by subject area.

For more information and to request access to the records below, click the **National Archives Identifier** to access the records description in the National Archives Catalog and contact the NARA office identified under "Archived Copy." Catalog search tips box

## World War II Incarceration - Resources for Genealogists

Conducting genealogical research on formerly incarcerated Japanese and Japanese Americans can present a challenge for even the most adept researcher. For additional details about researching an individual or a family, click here...

## **Pre-war Surveillance and Planning**

Decades before Executive Order 9066 paved the way for mass incarceration of Japanese Americans, the U.S. government targeted Japanese American communities for surveillance. Intelligence reports on communities in Hawai'i (sugar strikers) and California (fishermen) revealed efforts to identify and root out alleged subversives and radicals. After Pearl Harbor, under the guise of a threat to national security, the U.S. government swiftly enacted legislation to justify and legitimize the systematic removal and large-scale detention of Nikkei communities from the West Coast.

## **Pre-war Surveillance**

## Office of the Chief of Naval Operations (Record Group 38)

Office of Naval Intelligence Reports:

- Secret and Confidential Reports of Naval Attaches, January 1940–ca. July 1946 (National Archives Identifier 6850983)
- Formerly Security Classified General Correspondence, 1929–1943 (National Archives Identifier 4490715)

- Security Classified Letters Sent, July 1, 1929
  –June 30, 1945 (National Archives Identifier 4492717)
- Area Files, ca. 1924–ca. 1946 (National Archives Identifier 300258)

## **Department of Justice (Record Group 60)**

Department of Justice investigations of alleged subversive activity by Japanese American individuals and organizations, both pre-war and during World War II, are included in the following series:

- Class 146-7 (General Suspects) Litigation Case Files and Enclosures, 1930–1972 (National Archives Identifier 20761627)
- Class 146-7 (General Suspects) Litigation Case Files and Enclosures, 1940–1968 (National Archives Identifier 17340193)
- Security Classified 146-7 (General Suspects) Litigation Case Files, 1937–1974 (National Archives Identifier 185831514)

## War Department General and Special Staffs (Record Group 165)

Security Classified Correspondence and Reports, 1917–1941 (National Archives Identifier 305261): From the Military Intelligence Division. Intelligence reports and correspondence related to Japanese Americans and Japanese American organizations can be located using the following indexes:

- Security Classified Personal Name Index, 1917–1941 (National Archives Identifier 2824985)
- Security Classified Geographic Subject Index, 1917–1941 (National Archives Identifier 2825083)
- Security Classified Subject Index, 1917–1941 (National Archives Identifier 2825049)

## Naval Districts and Shore Establishments (Record Group 181)

Central Subject Files, 1940–1971 (National Archives Identifier 295498): Photographs of Japanese fishing vessels based in Southern California, in folder A8-5 Espionage. Compiled by the Eleventh Naval District.

Central Subject Files, 1925–1954 (National Archives Identifier 580688): Includes intelligence reports compiled by the Thirteenth Naval District in 1942 with titles including "Japanese Activities."

Subject Files, 1936–1947 (National Archives Identifier 605903): Includes lists of Japanese persons living within the Eighth Naval District and intelligence reports on Japanese ship movements from 1936–1940.

## **Proclamations and Legislation**

<u>Alien Enemies Act (1798)</u> (National Archives Identifier 183899816): One of four laws known as the Alien and Sedition Acts, the Alien Enemies Act formed the basis for apprehending foreign nationals from enemy countries and confiscating their property during World War II. This act is

still in force today.

Click here for an overview on the World War II Enemy Alien Control Program.

<u>Executive Order 9066 (1942)</u> (National Archives Identifier 5730250): Authorized the mass removal of all persons deemed a threat to national security from the West Coast to "relocation centers" further inland, and resulted in the incarceration of Japanese Americans.

<u>Proclamation 2525 (1942)</u> (National Archives Identifier 299955): Authorized the detention of Japanese nationals and confiscation of Japanese owned property. Proclamations 2526 and 2527 applied the same regulations to Germans and Italians, respectively.

<u>Public Law 77-503</u> (National Archives Identifier 299811): This act made the violation of Executive Order 9066 a misdemeanor punishable by up to one year in prison and a \$5,000 fine.

<u>Public Law 77-507</u> (National Archives Identifier 299811): Passed in March 1942 and known as the Second War Powers Act, this act temporarily repealed census privacy clauses and allowed the Census Bureau to provide individual level data that aided in the forced removal and detention of persons of Japanese descent.

## **House of Representatives (Record Group 233)**

Committee Papers, 1940–1943 (National Archives Identifier 583514):

- Records Relating to the Hearings on the Evacuation of Enemy Aliens and Other Persons from the Pacific Coast of the Select Committee Investigating National Defense Migration from the 77th Congress (National Archives Identifier 23869402)
- Newspaper Clippings of the Select Committee Investigating National Defense Migration from the 76th through 78th Congresses (National Archives Identifier 23869422)
- Exhibits, Evidence, and Other Records Related to Various Committee Investigations, 1938–1942 (National Archives Identifier 561018)
  - O Box 193, War Relocation Authority War Relocation Camps

## **Planning**

## General John L. DeWitt Collection, 1921–1946 (Collection DEWIT)

Two folders of newspaper clippings and DeWitt's testimony in congressional hearings on the mass removal of Japanese Americans from the West Coast.

- Evacuation of Japanese (National Archives Identifier 7764206)
- Evacuation of Japanese-Reaction (National Archives Identifier 7764207)

### **Bureau of Agricultural Economics (Record Group 83)**

Includes studies of the possible effects of the mass removal of the Japanese American population on agricultural production in California's Central Valley; and the sale of farmland and the process of developing confinement sites in Arizona.

• War Relocation Records, 1942 (National Archives Identifier 72017194)

- Records of Adon Poli, 1941–1946 (National Archives Identifier 296425)
- Correspondence and Reports, 1937–1942 (National Archives Identifier 1414531)

## **National Resources Planning Board (Record Group 187)**

General Correspondence, 1936–1943 (National Archives Identifier 296986): One folder includes public proclamations concerning forced removal, reports, and other documents discussing selection of confinement sites.

## **War Relocation Authority (Record Group 210)**

Notices, Proclamations, and Laws, February 20, 1942–1945 (National Archives Identifier 5634025): Records include executive orders establishing the Western Defense Command (WDC) and the War Relocation Authority (WRA), as well as public proclamations and exclusion orders from designated military areas.

## U.S. Army Defense Commands (World War II), 1942–1946 (Record Group 499)

Records include public proclamations establishing military zones and civilian exclusion orders that restricted persons of Japanese descent from these designated areas.

- Proclamations, 1942–1945 (National Archives Identifier 7450206)
- Orders, December 11, 1941–March 1, 1946 (National Archives Identifier 7326790)

## Mass Removal and Incarceration

Over 120,000 people of Japanese descent from the West Coast, along with a few thousand more transferred from American territories and Allied nations, were detained in camps located throughout the United States. Many federal agencies collaborated to develop and operate these new confinement sites. The records at the National Archives document the policies and implementation of mass removal, the management of the concentration camps, and preparations for the inmates' eventual release and the closure of the camps. Records also detail cooperation from agencies with indirect roles such as coordinating the use of incarcerated labor for agricultural and land management projects, as well as disseminating propaganda promoting the welfare of those confined.

## Federal Agencies Directly Involved with Removal and Confinement

## **Department of State (Record Group 59)**

The Department of State managed the internment of enemy alien diplomats and Latin Americans deported to the United States.

Reports on Interned Enemy Aliens, 1942–1947 (National Archives Identifier 719525)
Inspection Reports on War Relocation Centers, 1942–1946 (National Archives Identifier 601913)
Subject Files, 1939–1955 (National Archives Identifier 2173219): Includes documentation on

internees from Latin America, case files on Japanese nationals who died in the camps, and records related to repatriation.

\*\* For more repatriation related materials, see section **Post-War Legacy.** 

## **Department of Justice (DOJ) (Record Group 60)**

The DOJ oversaw the domestic operations of the Alien Enemy Control Program, aided by the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) and Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI).

#### **Case Files and Index**

World War II Japanese Internee Cards, 1941–1947 (National Archives Identifier 720246) Class 146-13 (Alien Enemy) Litigation Case Files and Enclosures, 1938–1962 (National Archives Identifier 636309)

Class 93 (Habeas Corpus) Litigation Case Files and Enclosures, 1912–1978 (National Archives Identifier 1668013): Case file 93-1-1320 concerns Japanese Americans identified as alien enemies who were facing deportation.

#### **Hawai'i Related Investigation Records**

Class 146-10 (Japanese Propaganda) Litigation Case Files and Enclosures, 1940–1955 (National Archives Identifier 20761599)

Class 146-100 (Official Investigations) Litigation Case Files and Enclosures, 1940–1982 (National Archives Identifier 20761600)

Confidential Telegrams, 1930–1953 (National Archives Identifier 5049351)

## Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) (Record Group 85)

The INS administered the Department of Justice and many of the Department of State internment facilities.

#### **INS, San Francisco Office**

Enemy Alien Deportation Case Files, ca. 1942–ca. 1948 (National Archives Identifier 43434825): Only one file 12044/255 Ryoichi (Johnny) Yasui

#### **INS, Los Angeles Office**

Administrative Files Relating to Enemy Aliens, 1941–1948 (National Archives Identifier 6217701)

Enemy Alien Case Files, 1941–1948 (National Archives Identifier 6217699)

#### INS, Central Office, Washington, DC

Central Office Subject Files, 1957–ca. 1975 (National Archives Identifier 1273013)
Subject and Policy Files, 1906–1957 (National Archives Identifier 559947) and Index (National Archives Identifier 4490783):

• File 56,125/General to 56,125/999 consists of 142 boxes concerning primarily DOJ-INS Enemy Alien Internment Facilities. Files 56125/296 999, 56293/393 and 56213/929

include names and sometimes case files of repatriated enemy aliens.

 For further instructions on how to access this series, see INS Subject and Policy Files, 1906–1957

Alien Enemy Detention Facility Films, ca. 1942–ca. 1943 (National Archives Identifier 13205)
Records Relating to Operations of More Than One Enemy Alien Internment Facility (World War II), 1941–1952 (National Archives Identifier 5111285)
Field Reports Relating to Detention of Alien Enemies in District Numbers 1–21 (World War II), 1942–1945 (National Archives Identifier 5120261)

#### Bedford, PA

General Files, 1945–1945 (National Archives Identifier 5170862)
Selected Records, June 1945–November 1945 (National Archives Identifier 5215956)

#### Camp Upton, NY

Case Files, 1942–1945 (National Archives Identifier 5717244)

#### **Crystal City, TX**

General Files, 1942–1948 (National Archives Identifier 5285110)
Index to Names of Internees, ca. 1942–ca. 1948 (National Archives Identifier 5297218)
Canteen Account Book, 1942–1945 (National Archives Identifier 5326583)
Medical Records, 1942–1945 (National Archives Identifier 5757310)

#### Fort Lincoln, ND

Index to Names of Internees, ca. 1941–ca. 1946 (National Archives Identifier 5354471) General Files, 1942–1945 (National Archives Identifier 5439393) Index to Clinical Records, ca. 1941–1946 (National Archives Identifier 5757348) Internee Medical Files, 1941–1945 (National Archives Identifier 5757377) General Medical Records, 1943–1946 (National Archives Identifier 5757419) X-Ray Radiographs, 1941–1946 (National Archives Identifier 5805367) Outpatient Cards, 1942–1945 (National Archives Identifier 5805370)

#### Fort Missoula, MT

Index to General Files, ca. 1942–ca. 1945 (National Archives Identifier 5460697) General Files, 1942–1945 (National Archives Identifier 5461771) Special Records, 1942–1945 (National Archives Identifier 5504713) Medical Records, 1942–1945 (National Archives Identifier 5807380)

#### Kenedy, TX

General Files, 1942–1945 (National Archives Identifier 5605348)
Index to Names, ca. 1942–ca. 1945 (National Archives Identifier 5605372)
Withdrawn Records from the General Files, 1942–1945 (National Archives Identifier 5716571)
Medical Records, 1942–1945 (National Archives Identifier 5819196)

#### Fort Stanton, NM

Index to Names, ca. 1942–ca. 1945 (National Archives Identifier 5554461) General Files, 1942–1945 (National Archives Identifier 5554491)

### Old Raton Ranch Camp, Fort Stanton, and Santa Fe, NM

Selected Records, 1943–1946 (National Archives Identifier 5634005) Index to Names, 1942–1945 (National Archives Identifier 5716624)

#### Seagoville, TX

Index to Names, 1942–1945 (National Archives Identifier 5716930)

General Files, 1942–1945 (National Archives Identifier 5716972)

Medically Restricted Files Removed from the General Files, ca. 1942–ca. 1945 (National Archives Identifier 5717032)

Clinical Records, 1942–1945 (National Archives Identifier 5819394)

Internee Payrolls, 1943–1945 (National Archives Identifier 5819401)

Pay Cards, 1943–1945 (National Archives Identifier 5819430)

#### Tule Lake, CA

General Files, 1945–1946 (National Archives Identifier 5717237): Records cover the period when the camp became a segregation center, and held those who renounced U.S. citizenship, and those seeking repatriation and expatriation to Japan.

#### White Sulphur Springs, WV

Index to Names, ca. 1942–ca. 1945 (National Archives Identifier 5585824)

General Files, 1942–1945 (National Archives Identifier 5585848): Does not contain internee case or medical files

Confidential Files, 1942–1945 (National Archives Identifier 5585894)

## Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) (Record Group 65)

The FBI was responsible for investigating and arresting enemy aliens that were brought before the Alien Enemy Hearing Board. Except for records that have been reviewed and made public, accessing FBI records requires requesting specific case files through the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). For more information on FBI records held at the National Archives and how to access them, read this Overview on FBI Records.

Publicly available lists and previously scanned files:

FBI Records Declassified under the War Crimes Disclosure Acts

FBI Records: The Vault

## War Relocation Authority (WRA) (Record Group 210)

The WRA operated ten concentration camps that held over 100,000 Japanese Americans forcibly removed from the West Coast during the war. This agency also managed regional resettlement offices that assisted those leaving the camps. Records also document the transfer

of jurisdiction from the Wartime Civil Control Administration (WCCA) to the WRA.

\*\*Below represents a sample series list. For additional records, here are the query results from the National Archives Catalog for Record Group 210.

#### Lists, Indexes, and Data

Evacuee Case Files, 1942–1946 (National Archives Identifier 891305)
Evacuee Summary Data Cards, 1942–1946 (National Archives Identifier 1055737)
Basic Family Cards for Evacuees, 1942–1946 (National Archives Identifier 1544894)
Individual Exclusion Case Files, 1942–1945 (National Archives Identifier 1541669)
Institutionalized Evacuee Cards, 1942–1946 (National Archives Identifier 1541660)
List of Changes in Names, Etc., Relating to Evacuees, 1945–1945 (National Archives Identifier 5634184)

Lists of Evacuees at the Tule Lake Segregation Center, 1943–1944 (National Archives Identifier 1541663)

Final Accountability Rosters of Evacuees, 1944–1946 (National Archives Identifier 1055789): Microfilm publication, M1865.

Records about Japanese Americans Relocated During World War II, 1988–1989 (National Archives Identifier 574045)

Available on Access to Archival Databases (AAD) with instructions page.

#### Wartime Civil Control Administration (WCCA)

Voluntary Evacuee Change of Residence Cards, 1942 (National Archives Identifier 5605373)

Master Index of Evacuees, 1942–1946 (National Archives Identifier 1065524)

Evacuee Transfer Lists, 1942–1942 (National Archives Identifier 1566650)

Social Data Registration Forms, 1942–1942 (National Archives Identifier 5605391)

Tabulation Summaries, 1942–1942 (National Archives Identifier 5605405)

Vital Statistics for Persons of Japanese Ancestry, 1942–1942 (National Archives Identifier 5607266)

## "Resettlement" after leaving WRA camps

General Files Relating to the Resettlement Study, 1946–1947 (National Archives Identifier 1566649)

Subject Files of the Relocation Offices, 1943–1946 (National Archives Identifier 1544860)
Office Files of the Director of the Resettlement Study, 1946–1947 (National Archives Identifier 2495357)

Relocation Center Records, 1942–1946 (National Archives Identifier 1532647)
Sailing Lists of Repatriates and Persons Returning to Hawai'i, July 4, 1945–March 28, 1947 (National Archives Identifier 5634015)

#### **General Records**

Drawings of Relocation Centers, 1942–1945 (National Archives Identifier 305880) Subject Files,

- 1942 (National Archives Identifier 1543537)
- 1943–1946 (National Archives Identifier 1544860)
- 1942–1946 (National Archives Identifier 1534417): Selected documents filmed in microfilm publication M1342 - "Community Analysis Reports and Community Analysis Trend Reports of the War Relocation Authority, 1942–1946".
- 1942–1946 (National Archives Identifier 1543691)
- 1944–1946 (National Archives Identifier 1548862)
- 1942–1946 (National Archives Identifier 1544889)

Fixed Asset Inventories, 1942–1947 (National Archives Identifier 5607276)

## **Audiovisual materials**

Films, ca. 1939–ca. 1945 (National Archives Identifier 39222) Sound Recordings, 1944–1945 (National Archives Identifier 654328) Photographs

- A Filmstrip Entitled "The Wrong Ancestors", 1942–1945 (National Archives Identifier 535999)
- Central Photographic File of the War Relocation Authority, 1942–1945 (National Archives Identifier 536000)
- Local Photographic Files of Relocation Centers, 1942–1946 (National Archives Identifier 143509498)
- Colorado River Relocation Center, 1942–1945 (National Archives Identifier 535988)
- Gila River Relocation Center, 1943–1945 (National Archives Identifier 535987)
- Granada Relocation Center, 1943–1945 (National Archives Identifier 535992)
- Heart Mountain Relocation Center, 1943–1945 (National Archives Identifier 535993)
- Manzanar Relocation Center, 1942–1945 (National Archives Identifier 535986)
- Minidoka Relocation Center, 1943–1945 (National Archives Identifier 535996) and (National Archives Identifier 535995)
- Rohwer Relocation Center, 1943–1944 (National Archives Identifier 535997)
- Topaz Relocation Center, 1943–1945 (National Archives Identifier 535998)
- Tule Lake Relocation Center, 1944–1946 (National Archives Identifier 535994)

## Office of the Provost Marshal General (Record Group 389) Correspondence and Subject Files

Project file subjects include WRA camps used for the incarceration of Japanese Americans.

- Unclassified Decimal Files, 1941–1954 (National Archives Identifier 645081)
- Subject Correspondence Files, 1942–1945 (National Archives Identifier 645987)
- Historical Files, 1941–1958 (National Archives Identifier 646880)

Classified Subject Decimal Files, 1942–1945 (National Archives Identifier 654681): Includes records relating to the arrests and internment of enemy aliens from Hawai'i and protests at WRA camps.

#### **Civilian Internment**

Subject Files, 1942–1946 (National Archives Identifier 833674): Records relating to the

internment of enemy aliens in the United States, including 1,202 case files of internees of Japanese ancestry from Hawai'i.

Records Relating to Japanese Civilian Internees During World War II, 1942-1946 (National Archives Identifier 872144): Includes files of Japanese nationals interned in the United States, including those who were apprehended from overseas (Peru, Guam, and Saipan).

Records Relating to Alien Civilian Internees During World War II, 1941–1946 (National Archives Identifier 876995)

Civilian Alien Internee Case Files, 1941–1945 (National Archives Identifier 837248)

#### Japanese American (Loyalty) Program

Subject Correspondence Files Relating to the Internal Security Program, 1941–1946 (National Archives Identifier 895317): Includes records related to the Loyalty Investigation Program (Boxes 1828–1831) and the Japanese American Program (Box 1851).

Records Relating to Persons of Japanese Ancestry Residing in the United States, 1942–1946 (National Archives Identifier 953563): Also contains a listing of Japanese American men eligible for military service.

Japanese American Personal Data Cards, 1942–1946 (National Archives Identifier 953594)

## U.S. Army Forces in the Middle Pacific (World War II) (Record Group 494)

\*\* Records related to the internment of enemy aliens residing in Hawai'i, including U.S. citizens, can be found under section "Martial Law."

## U.S. Army Defense Commands (World War II) (Record Group 499)

Western Defense Command (WDC) and Wartime Civil Control Administration (WCCA) records concern the policy, administration and the public reaction to the program to forcibly remove Japanese Americans from the West Coast.

#### **Assembly Center Branch**

Index to the Records of Japanese Relocation Centers, 1942–1945 (National Archives Identifier 22476359): Index to the Assembly Centers

Copy of Records of Japanese Relocation Centers, 1942–1946 (National Archives Identifier 22476357): Assembly Centers records

Copy of Records of the Assembly Centers, 1942–1945 (National Archives Identifier 22476356) Copy of the General Correspondence of the Assembly Center Branch, 1942–1943 (National Archives Identifier 22476358)

Copy of the Records of the Central and Area Supply Offices of the Assembly Center Branch, 1942–1945 (National Archives Identifier 22476355)

Copy of the Records of the Finance Division of the Assembly Center Branch, 1942–1945

(National Archives Identifier 22476354)

Copy of the Index of the Records of the Assembly Center Branch, 1942–1945 (National Archives Identifier 22476353)

#### **Correspondence and Other Records**

Individual Exclusion Board and Program Correspondence, 1942–1943 (National Archives Identifier 1075598)

Classified General Correspondence, 1942–1946 (National Archives Identifier 1076616) Unclassified General Correspondence, 1942–1946 (National Archives Identifier 1077404) Seized Records of Japanese Societies, Religious Groups, Individuals, and Other Groups, 1942–1942 (National Archives Identifier 22476360)

Publications Concerning the Internment of Japanese Americans, 1942–1945 (National Archives Identifier 1077405)

## U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (Record Group 566)

Alien Files (A-Files): An Overview

Issei who were detained in DOJ-INS camps will have Alien Files (A-Files), which may contain copies from their FBI investigations and other internment-related documents (e.g., Asataro Yamada, A1299938). A-files can be searched by name in the National Archives Catalog.

Flexoline Index Database and Digital Images, ca. 2000–ca. 2003 (National Archives Identifier 200294723)

National Archives at Kansas City: Alien Case Files, 1944–2003 (National Archives Identifier 4488912) and Index (National Archives Identifier 5821836)

National Archives at San Francisco: Alien Case Files, 1944–2020 (National Archives Identifier 6105565) and Index (National Archives Identifier 6827288)

## **Other Federal Agencies**

## Office of the Secretary of Agriculture (Record Group 16)

Program Correspondence Files, 1937–1952 (National Archives Identifier 650946): Box 24 includes files related to the forced removal of Japanese American farmers from Bainbridge Island and other Pacific Northwest locations, and the impact on agricultural production.

## **Bureau of Land Management (Record Group 49)**

War Relocations Centers, CA, 1946–1946 (National Archives Identifier 516466)

Operating Plans for Civilian Public Service Camps, 1942–1944 (National Archives Identifier 2364409)

Project Plans and Reports, 1942–1966 (National Archives Identifier 4893302)

## **Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) (Record Group 75)**

Two confinement sites, Poston (Colorado River) and Gila River, were located on American Indian Reservations. Initially under the management of the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), these

camps later came under the jurisdiction of the War Relocation Authority (WRA).

#### **Phoenix Area Office**

Records of R. H. Rupkey, Project Engineer, 1938–1945 (National Archives Identifier 2791261): Records related to irrigation work by those incarcerated at the Poston (Colorado River) WRA camp.

Records cover sanitation, health education and information for the detainees on how to deal with extreme heat.

- Subject Files of the District Medical Director, 1926–1952 (National Archives Identifier 76018300)
- Physicians' Monthly Reports, 1933–1950 (National Archives Identifier 85713836)
- Hospital Reports, 1926–1950 (National Archives Identifier 85713835)
- Records of the District Supervisory Nurses, 1931–1943 (National Archives Identifier 77149064)

#### Office of the Commissioner and Assistant Commissioner

National Defense Program Records Relating to the War Relocation Authority, 1942–1946 (National Archives Identifier 613629): Relate mainly to the Poston (Colorado River) WRA Camp.

Office Files of Commissioner John Collier, 1933–1945 (National Archives Identifier 611812): Includes 2 boxes of records related to the WRA incarceration sites on Indian lands.

 This series is available online from the ProQuest History Vault's "American Indians and the American West" collection, which can be accessed for free onsite at National Archives research facilities.

Office Files of Joseph C. McCaskill, 1939–1946 (National Archives Identifier 644032): Includes files related to incarceration.

Correspondence and Reports Relating to the Employment of Indians, 1940–1944 (National Archives Identifier 2194623): Include documents related to Japanese farm laborers on tribal reservations during the war.

#### Minneapolis Area Office

Records Relating to Agencies, Offices, and Tribes in Other Jurisdictions, 1949–1952 (National Archives Identifier 60453149): Include files related to the Poston (Colorado River) WRA camp.

#### **Haskell Institute**

Correspondence of the Superintendents, 1890–1942 (National Archives Identifier 2143367): Includes a letter noting that the Office of Indian Affairs assumed some duties of supervising incarcerated Japanese Americans within the Colorado River jurisdiction.

#### **Portland Office**

Irrigation Project Case Files, 1910–1960 (National Archives Identifier 566154): Includes one file,

"War Relocation Authority File No. 9."

## Office of the Chief of Engineers (Record Group 77)

Construction Completion Reports, 1942–1943 (National Archives Identifier 2641873)

 Minidoka War Relocation Area Completion Report (National Archives Identifier 7820143)

Construction Completion Reports, 1917–1944 (National Archives Identifier 6277808)

• Minidoka War Relocation Area (National Archives Identifier 6792360)

Civil Works Project Photographs, ca. 1900–ca. 1987 (National Archives Identifier 580875): Includes photographs from the Puyallup Fairgrounds and the proposed Toppenish detention center.

## **National Park Service (RG 79)**

Central Files, 1925–1975 (National Archives Identifier 296390): One folder concerns the use of incarcerated Japanese labor at Tule Lake Segregation Center for park projects, and other matters related to the camp.

## Farmers Home Administration (Record Group 96)

General Correspondence, 1935–1945 (National Archives Identifier 296535): Files include emergency approval for housing for incarcerated Japanese to pick cotton in Arizona; and to harvest crops near Tule Lake Segregation Center.

General Correspondence of the Office of the Director, 1935–1947 (National Archives Identifier 4719283): Includes records related to work with the War Relocation Authority and the Wartime Civilian Control Administration. From the Region 11 (Portland) office.

## Office of the Secretary of War (Record Group 107)

\*\*See Military and Civilian Service section.

## Office of the Chief Signal Officer (Record Group 111)

Motion Picture Films Relating to the Relocation of Japanese Aliens, 1942–1942 (National Archives Identifier 36246)

## **Bureau of Reclamation (Record Group 115)**

Records Relating to the Tule Lake Civilian Conservation Corps Camp and Japanese American Internment Camp, 1936–2010 (National Archives Identifier 5134297): Includes documentation on use of incarcerated labor on reclamation projects as well as the disposition of property after the war.

Records Relating to the War Relocation Authority and Protection of Structures, August 27, 1940–July 6, 1953 (National Archives Identifier 894528): Includes agreements and disposal

records related to the Heart Mountain WRA camp. Also includes documentation on prisoners of war (German, Italian and Japanese) and construction projects.

General Administrative and Project Records, 1919–1945 (National Archives Identifier 562769): Includes several boxes of related records, filed under "386.05 National Defense - Evacuation of Aliens; Establishment of Concentration Camps, etc."

## U.S. Attorneys (Record Group 118)

Records Relating to National Defense and Enemy Aliens, 1941–1945 (National Archives Identifier 4477113): Includes FBI investigative reports and other documents relating to enemy aliens (German, Italian, and Japanese) in New Hampshire.

## **Bureau of Reclamation (Record Group 115)**

Records Relating to the Tule Lake Civilian Conservation Corps Camp and Japanese American Internment Camp, 1936–2010 (National Archives Identifier <u>5134297</u>): Includes documentation on use of incarcerated labor on reclamation projects as well as the disposition of property after the war.

Records Relating to the War Relocation Authority and Protection of Structures, August 27, 1940–July 6, 1953 (National Archives Identifier 894528): Includes agreements and disposal records related to the Heart Mountain WRA camp. Also includes documentation on prisoners of war (German, Italian and Japanese) and construction projects.

General Administrative and Project Records, 1919–1945 (National Archives Identifier <u>562769</u>): Includes several boxes of related records, filed under "386.05 National Defense - Evacuation of Aliens; Establishment of Concentration Camps, etc."

## Naval Districts and Shore Establishments (Record Group 181)

Records include files concerning the removal of the Japanese communities from the West Coast; the impact on the fishing and farming industries; the condemnation of land; and postwar hysteria toward the Japanese communities upon their return.

- Formerly Classified Correspondence Files, 1921–1947 (National Archives Identifier 295420): Relates to Terminal Island, CA
- Central Subject Files, 1924–1958 (National Archives Identifier 295430): Relates to Terminal Island
- Central Subject Files, 1923–1952 (National Archives Identifier 295618): Relates to Southern California and Imperial Valley

Records Relating To Japanese Americans (National Archives Identifier 314993816): One folder relates to Japanese Americans in Hawai'i, and deals with loans issued by the Farm Security Administration; employment on the Honolulu waterfront; proposed removal from restricted military areas on Oahu; and concerns over food production.

## Office of War Information (Record Group 208)

#### **Sound Recordings**

Sound Recordings Relating to World War II, 1942–1946 (National Archives Identifier 653144): Includes Japanese news and other broadcasts

Japanese American G.I.s (National Archives Identifier 178210467)

#### **Films**

Build Model Town for Interned Japanese [Etc.], (National Archives Identifier 38914) "Japanese Relocation" (National Archives Identifier 38743)

#### **Publications**

Publications for Overseas Distribution, 1942–1945 (National Archives Identifier 782704)
Posters, Pamphlets, Booklets, and Publications, ca. 1942–ca. 1945 (National Archives Identifier 1018105)

Feature Stories, 1942–1945 (National Archives Identifier 976318)

#### <u>Images</u>

Photographs Depicting "Life in the United States", 1942–1946 (National Archives Identifier 535735)

Photographic Prints of Life in the United States, 1942–1946 (National Archives Identifier 535732): Includes images from Manzanar WRA camp.

Photographs of the Allies and Axis, 1942–1945 (National Archives Identifier 535523): Includes the 100th Infantry Battalion and Hawai'i-related images.

Photographs of Allied and Axis Personalities and Activities, 1942–1945 (National Archives Identifier 535773): Includes Japanese American soldiers in Italy and Japanese Americans returning to California

Photographs of American Military Operations, 1942–1945 (National Archives Identifier 535762)

## **Collections**

## Official Files (Truman Administration) (Collection HST-OFF)

Harry S. Truman Papers: Presidential Official Files, 1945–1953 (National Archives Identifier 201124)

 War Relocation Authority (Department of the Interior), OF 6k (National Archives Identifier 724799)

## Harry S. Truman Papers as U.S. Senate and Vice President (Collection HST-SVP)

Harry S. Truman Papers as U.S. Senator and Vice President, 1935–1945 (National Archives Identifier 602137)

• Collection Description

## **Edwin G. Arnold Papers (Collection HST-EGA)**

Subject Files, 1933–1959 (National Archives Identifier 201212)

Collection Description

## Philip Glick Papers (Collection HST-PG)

Subject Files, 1926–1990 (National Archives Identifier 6997559)

Collection Description

## **Dillon S. Myer Papers (Collection HST-DSM)**

Dillon S. Myer Papers, 1934–1966 (National Archives Identifier 594737)

• Collection Description

## **Cooperative League of the United States (Collection HST-CLUS)**

Subject Files, 1936–1949 (National Archives Identifier 646470)

• Collection Description

## Raymond R. Zimmerman White House Files (Truman Administration) (Collection HST-RRZWHF)

Raymond R. Zimmerman's Subject Files, 1945–1947 (National Archives Identifier 646425)

• Collection Description

## **Charles Fahy Papers (Collection FDR-Fahy)**

Charles Fahy Papers, 1933–1957 (National Archives Identifier 200963888)

- Office Of Solicitor General Papers, 1940–1945: Includes files on Japanese "relocation" cases, boxes 36–37.
- Collection description

## Philleo Nash Papers (Collection HST-PN)

White House Files, 1936–1953 (National Archives Identifier 1125612): Records document Phileo Nash's role involving racial and ethnic minorities, including Japanese Americans.

Collection description

## "March of Time" Collection (Collection MT)

"March of Time" Motion Picture Newsreel Releases, 1935–1953 (National Archives Identifier 97522):

• The West Coast Question (National Archives Identifier 97624): Includes scenes of Japanese and Japanese Americans sent to concentration camps.

## Paramount Pictures, Inc., Collection (Collection PARA)

Motion Picture Newsreel Films, October 1941–March 1957 (National Archives Identifier 98600):

 Paramount News [Feb. 26] (National Archives Identifier 98751): Includes scenes of Japanese Americans joining the Army while incarcerated in WRA camps, taking jobs in

## **Martial Law**

For the duration of the war, the Territory of Hawai'i was placed under martial law and the military assumed all civilian government functions. In addition to identifying and processing enemy nationals and U.S. citizens with alleged subversive intent, the military government severely curtailed constitutional rights. This included registering individuals over the age of six, suspending the civilian criminal court, and compiling intelligence reports on many local residents. As the only area where significant numbers of Japanese Americans lived without barbed wire fences, records related to Hawai'i during the war provide insight into how the Nikkei, along with other territorial residents, were subjected to restrictive measures under martial law.

Records related to the Military Government of the Territory of Hawai'i are part of the U.S. Army Forces in the Middle Pacific (World War II) (Record Group 494).

## **Enemy Aliens and Internment**

#### **Alien Processing Center**

Internee Case Files, December 15, 1941–1945 (National Archives Identifier 1073970)
Index to Persons, Places, and Subjects, 1941–1945 (National Archives Identifier 7873227)
Records of Dr. Jiro Yoshizawa, 1941–1942 (National Archives Identifier 1089758)
Records of Japanese Civilian Evacuation Transfer Units, 1942–1943 (National Archives Identifier 1089721)

Evidence Submitted to the Internee Hearing Board in Certain Japanese Internment Cases, 1941 (National Archives Identifier 1089684)

Registers of Internee Mail, 1942–1944 (National Archives Identifier 1088874)

Daily Record Books of the Sand Island Detention Camp, March 12, 1942–December 23, 1942 (National Archives Identifier 1087204)

Records Relating to the Alien Internment Boards, 1941–1943 (National Archives Identifier 1087200)

Lists of Names of Japanese Alien Internees, 1945 (National Archives Identifier 1089727)

Minutes of the Meetings of the Internee Review Board, June 1943–September 1945 (National Archives Identifier 1088878)

Internee Release Forms, 1942–1945 (National Archives Identifier 1088866)

Daily Reports Relating to Detainees and Internees, December 1941–December 1944 (National Archives Identifier 1088860)

General Records, 1941–1945 (National Archives Identifier 1087128)

Copies of Orders Releasing Internees from Parole, November 27, 1942–October 10, 1945 (National Archives Identifier 1086783)

#### Office of Internal Security. Hawaii District.

Paroled Internee Case Files, 1942–1945 (National Archives Identifier 7873213)

#### <u>Alien Registration Bureau (Selective Service Registration)</u>

Index of Paroled Enemy Aliens, 1942–1943 (National Archives Identifier 7873232)

Index of Aliens with Unreturned Morning Passes, 1942–1943 (National Archives Identifier 7873229)

Index of Persons Interned in Detention Camps, 1943–1944 (National Archives Identifier 7873231)

Index of Aliens with Temporary Resident Permits, 1943–1944 (National Archives Identifier 7873230)

Card Indexes and Lists Relating to Residence or Occupation of Enemy Aliens, 1941–1945 (National Archives Identifier 1104752)

Memorandums and Related Records Pertaining to Enemy Alien Temporary Gathering Permits, 1942–1945 (National Archives Identifier 1104014)

Records Relating to Enemy Alien Morning Passes, 1942–1945 (National Archives Identifier 1103838)

Records Relating to American Citizens and Aliens with Foreign Military Service, 1941–1945 (National Archives Identifier 1096601)

Correspondence with the Office of Civilian Defense, 1943–1945 (National Archives Identifier 1096598)

Records Relating to Violations of Selective Service Laws, 1942–1945 (National Archives Identifier 1096593)

## Military Governor/Commander of the Military Area of Hawai'i

Correspondence Relating to the Transportation of Civilians to Hawai'i, 1942–1943 (National Archives Identifier 7873265)

Index for Correspondence Related to Civilian Transportation, 1942–1943 (National Archives Identifier 7873264)

Correspondence Relating to the Transportation of Japanese Americans to and from Hawai'i, November 1943–September 1945 (National Archives Identifier 7873271)

Correspondence Relating to Evacuation of Civilians from Hawai'i, 1941–1945 (National Archives Identifier 7873270)

Lists of Civilian Processed by the San Francisco Office, November 1944–July 1945 (National Archives Identifier 7873274)

Reading Files, January 1945–August 1945 (National Archives Identifier 7873259)
Reading Files of Robert C. Richardson, June 1, 1943–October 1945 (National Archives Identifier 1079797)

Reading Files of Delos C. Emmons, December 7, 1941–June 2, 1943 (National Archives Identifier 1079702)

#### **Executive Section**

Includes records related to citizen and alien registration, investigations on subversion by

persons of Japanese descent, and internees, among other topics:

- Records Relating to General Orders, 1941–1944 (National Archives Identifier 1079821)
- General Orders, December 11, 1941–November 2, 1943 (National Archives Identifier 1079759)
- Daily Reports of Investigations, November 1944–October 1945 (National Archives Identifier 1080028)
- General Records, 1942–1950 (National Archives Identifier 1080032)
- Classified Correspondence and Related Records, 1941–1946 (National Archives Identifier 1079876)
- General Correspondence, 1941–1945 (National Archives Identifier 1079878)
- Correspondence and Related Records, 1942–1945 (National Archives Identifier 1079861)

#### Office of the Property Comptroller

Records relate to property confiscated.

- Internee Property Case Files, 1943–1945 (National Archives Identifier 1112476)
- Records Relating to Funds Belonging to Internees, 1943–1947 (National Archives Identifier 1113881)
- Correspondence and Receipts Relating to Japanese Mission Property, 1943–1945 (National Archives Identifier 1113025)
- Records Concerning the Signal Office Relating to Surrendered or Impounded Radio Equipment, 1943–1945 (National Archives Identifier 1112602)
- Records Related to Claims for Surrendered Radios, Camera Equipment, and Other Personal Property, 1943–1945 (National Archives Identifier 1112582)
- Records Pertaining to the Release of Surrendered or Impounded Firearms and Ammunition, 1943–1946 (National Archives Identifier 1112493)
- General Records, 1943–1947 (National Archives Identifier 1116867): Records relate to surrendered or impounded personal property.

## **Other Military Government Functions**

#### **Central Identification Bureau**

Lists of Persons Classified 1A by Selective Service, 1945 (National Archives Identifier 1105383) Records Relating to Persons Considered Undesirable Employees, 1941–1945 (National Archives Identifier 1105386)

#### Office of the District Engineer

General Records Relating to the Third Field Area, 1941–1944 (National Archives Identifier 7873356)

#### **Inspector General**

Reports, 1942–1945 (National Archives Identifier 7873189)
Reports of Investigations, 1939–1941 (National Archives Identifier 7873188)

#### **Provost Court**

Lists of Japanese and Army Curfew Cases, 1942–1944 (National Archives Identifier 7873075) Diary of Continued Cases, 1942–1945 (National Archives Identifier 7873074) Summons and Related Records of Provost Court Cases, 1942 (National Archives Identifier 7873429)

Orders Relating to Sentences of Provost Court Cases, 1942–1943 (National Archives Identifier 7873428)

Provost Court Case Files of Persons Formerly on Probation, 1942–1945 (National Archives Identifier 7873431)

Provost Court Case Files, 1942–1944 (National Archives Identifier 7873430)

#### **Adjutant General**

Correspondence Pertaining to Soldiers of Japanese Extraction, 1942–1943 (National Archives Identifier <u>26309542</u>): This series consists of correspondence pertaining to Japanese Nisei citizens who enlisted in the military.

\*\*For additional records from the Adjutant General's office, here are the query results from the National Archives Catalog.

#### **Censorship Section**

Index to Persons and Subjects Relating to Censorship, 1944–1945 (National Archives Identifier 7873233)

Copies of Commercial Cables Sent, 1945 (National Archives Identifier 7873092)

General Records Relating to Policies and Procedures, 1944–1945 (National Archives Identifier 1104916)

Copies of Commercial Cables Sent and Received, April 1945–August 1945 (National Archives Identifier 1104849)

Correspondence, Reports, and Related Records Pertaining to Condemned Mail, April 1945–August 1945 (National Archives Identifier 1104847)

General Correspondence, 1942–1945 (National Archives Identifier 1104839)

Training Manuals and Procedure Handbooks, 1944–1945 (National Archives Identifier 1104836)

#### **Executive Section**

Maps of Honolulu and Blueprints of Air Raid Shelters and Buildings, December 7, 1941–1943 (National Archives Identifier 1079980)

Proclamations, Press Releases, Executive Orders, and Regulations Relating to the Office of the Military Governor, December 7, 1941–July 24, 1945 (National Archives Identifier 1079860) Special Orders, October 24, 1944–October 23, 1945 (National Archives Identifier 1079837) Security Orders and Related Records, October 24, 1944–August 16, 1945 (National Archives Identifier 1079835)

Reading Files of the Executive to the Military Governor of the Territory of Hawai'i, Brig. Gen. William R. C. Morrison, April 1, 1943–October 1945 (National Archives Identifier 1079706) and Register (National Archives Identifier 1079814)

#### Office of Internal Security. Hawaii District.

Subject Files, 1942–1945 (National Archives Identifier 7873210): Includes records related to the Morale Division that had evolved from the pre-war interracial advisory group. This committee served as an intermediary between the Army and local residents.

Civilian Evacuation Plans, 1942 (National Archives Identifier 7873212)

\*\*For additional records from the Office of Internal Security, here are the query results from the National Archives Catalog.

## **Military and Civilian Service**

Records related to Japanese Americans and the U.S. military during World War II reveal a complicated and often contradictory relationship. The federal government closely monitored Nikkei communities as potential security threats, even as many members from these same communities served in military intelligence. Soon after all U.S. citizens of Japanese ancestry were reclassified to Category IV-C (aliens not suitable for service), the American government encouraged, solicited, and even demanded military enlistment - at a time their families languished in concentration camps. And despite the many Japanese Americans who demonstrated their loyalty by entering uniformed service or in civilian roles, others were sent to federal penitentiaries for refusing the draft or for protesting their mistreatment in the military.

**Civilian Official Personnel Folders (OPF) and Official Military Personnel Files (OMPF)** are held at the National Archives at St. Louis or the National Personnel Records Center. The location of a particular folder will depend on the individual's dates of service.

Request Official Personnel Folders (OPF)

Request Official Military Personnel Folders (OMPF)

## **Civilian Service**

### **Public Health Service (Record Group 90)**

Program Files Relating to the U.S. Cadet Nurse Corps, 1941–1949 (National Archives Identifier 7543730)

Historical Files, ca. 1949–1970 (National Archives Identifier 7541355)

Cadet Nurse Corps Files, 1943–1948 (National Archives Identifier 5605027)

 Name searchable in Ancestry.com: U.S., World War II Cadet Nursing Corps Card Files, 1942–1948

### Office of Strategic Services (Record Group 226)

Personnel Files of the Office of Strategic Services, 1942-ca. 1962 (National Archives Identifier

1593270): Files are name searchable in the National Archives Catalog. Enter the person's name in the Search within this Series box.

## **Military Service**

Because the U.S. Navy, the Marines, the Coast Guard, the Merchant Marines, and the Army Air Corps banned Nisei from serving (with rare exceptions), many enlisted in the U.S. Army with the majority forming the 442nd Regimental Combat Team.

## National Archives and Records Administration (Record Group 64)

World War II Army Enlistment Records, June 1, 2002–September 30, 2002 (National Archives Identifier 604357): Data for enlistment in the Army, including the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps, with a majority related to World War II.

• Name searchable in the Access to Archival Database (AAD)

## Office of the Secretary of War (Record Group 107)

General Correspondence, 1941–1945 (National Archives Identifier 578745): Subjects include martial law in Hawai'i, Japanese Americans in military service and the public reaction, exclusion from militarily restricted areas, conditions and operations at WRA camps.

Security-Classified Correspondence, 1941–1945 (National Archives Identifier 578742): Subjects include exclusion from militarily restricted areas, enemy aliens, loyalty investigations, employment in the military, morale of Japanese American soldiers, and martial law in Hawai'i.

Subject Files, 1940–1948 (National Archives identifier 616144): Policies regarding the suspension and reemployment of Japanese Americans.

Hastie-Gibson Subject Files, 1940–1948 (National Archives identifier 614595): One file concerns alleged discrimination against Japanese Americans in service.

## **Bureau of Prisons (Record Group 129)**

## **U.S. Penitentiary, Leavenworth**

Inmate Case Files, July 3, 1895–November 5, 1957 (National Archives Identifier 571125): Includes files on Japanese American soldiers who protested their treatment and were charged with mutiny. Other files concern individuals who did not register for selective service.

#### U.S. Penitentiary, McNeil Island

Prisoner Case Files, ca. 1875–1920 (National Archives Identifier 608858): Include case files of Japanese Americans who refused military induction.

## Office of the Chief Signal Officer (Record Group 111)

Photographs of American Military Activities, ca. 1918—ca. 1981 (National Archives Identifier 530707): Here are the query results for the 100th Infantry or 442nd Regiment.

Moving Images Relating to Military Activities, 1947–1964 (National Archives Identifier 13807): Here are the query results for the 100th Infantry or 442nd Regiment or Japanese Americans

## **Selective Service System (Record Group 147)**

DSS Form 304, "Alien's Personal History and Statement Forms," documented the draft eligibility of non-citizens and will include those of Japanese ancestry who resided outside the military exclusion zones. DSS Form 304A, "Statements of United States Citizens of Japanese Ancestry," documented the draft eligibility of U.S. citizens of Japanese descent.

#### Department of Selective Service (DSS) Form 304 and Form 304A

Statements of United States Citizens of Japanese Ancestry, 1944–1946 (National Archives Identifier 23812236): Relates to those incarcerated in the Poston (Colorado River) and Gila River WRA camps

Alien and Japanese American Registration Forms, 1942–1946 for Oregon (National Archives Identifier 633954); Washington (National Archives Identifier 633956); and Idaho (National Archives Identifier 633955).

Alien Registration Forms, 1940–1946 for Arkansas (National Archives Identifier 576612); Louisiana (National Archives Identifier 576614); Oklahoma (National Archives Identifier 576616); and Texas (National Archives Identifier 576580)

Alien's Personal History and Statement Forms, 1942–1947 for Kansas (National Archives Identifier 2629633); Iowa (National Archives Identifier 2629629); North Dakota (National Archives Identifier 2629631); Nebraska (National Archives Identifier 2629639); Missouri (National Archives Identifier 2629638); and Minnesota (National Archives Identifier 2629635).

Aliens' Personal History and Statement, 1942–1943 (National Archives Identifier 23812302): Arizona

Forms 301 and 304 for the District of Columbia Headquarters, ca. 1940–ca. 1947 (National Archives Identifier 301657)

Records Relating to the Draft Registry of Aliens, 1940–1947 for West Virginia (National Archives Identifier 568132); Maryland (National Archives Identifier 568320); Virginia (National Archives Identifier 568129); and Pennsylvania (National Archives Identifier 568126)

Alien Registration Forms, 1940-1947 for California (National Archives Identifier 279692029); Colorado (National Archives Identifier 1143076); Delaware (National Archives Identifier 6171948); Hawai'i (National Archives Identifier 280891629); Illinois (National Archives Identifier 280373819); New Mexico (National Archives Identifier 1145523); Nevada (National Archives Identifier 280949631); Montana (National Archives Identifier 1491221); Utah (National Archives Identifier 1145525); and Wyoming (National Archives Identifier 1145526)

Applications by Aliens for Relief from Military Service and Aliens' Personal History Statements, 1940–1946 (National Archives Identifier 5753063): U.S. Virgin Islands

Applications by Aliens Residing for Relief from Military Service and Aliens Personal Histories and Statements, 1942–1946 for Massachusetts (National Archives Identifier 5558068); New Jersey (National Archives Identifier 1067460); and New York (National Archives Identifier 2564218 and 2564203)

## War Department General and Special Staffs (Record Group 165)

Regional File, 1922–1944 (National Archives Identifier 1560885):

• Lt. Col. Ralph C. Smith, Executive Officer, G-2 to Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2, Headquarters Fourth Army, Presidio of San Francisco, Subject: The Japanese Selectee and Military Intelligence, May 5, 1941

Military Intelligence Service Language School:

- Records Relating to the Qualifications and Employment of Language Specialists in the Army, 1945–1947 (National Archives Identifier 4684578): Japanese Linguists subseries contains a list of Army personnel proficient in Japanese. The list includes name, service number, and skill level.
- Heigo Textbook Files, 1943 (National Archives Identifier 4700273)
- Correspondence and Reports Relating to the Operation of Language Schools and Other Training Facilities, 1943–1949 (National Archives Identifier 4699294): Includes files related to Japanese linguists. Search results.
- Training Records of the Far East Intelligence School, 1944–1945 (National Archives Identifier 4662578)

### Office of War Information (Record Group 208)

Photographs of Allied and Axis Personalities and Activities, 1942–1945 (National Archives Identifier 535773)

- Americans of Japanese Ancestry Fire on German Snipers in Italy (National Archives Identifier 221952338)
- Famed "Go for Broke" Troops Stand for Review (National Archives Identifier 221952340)
- Kazuo Hiyama and family on the steps of their ranch home (National Archives Identifier 205139480): One of the first American born Japanese families returned to the coast.

## **Army Staff (Record Group 319)**

Historical Studies and Records Relating to Intelligence, 1918–1959 (National Archives Identifier 16624322):

- "Military Intelligence Service Language School", The MISLS Album, 1946, Box 24
- Col. Kai E. Rasmussen, "History and Description of the Military Intelligence Service Language School," ca. April 1944, Box 24

Project Decimal Files, 1941–1945 (National Archives Identifier 1685733): Includes intelligence

reports on Japanese Americans, and records related to military members of Japanese ancestry assigned to the Army Language School.

Military Intelligence Service Language School:

- History Files, 1944–1946 (National Archives Identifier 16747054)
- General Records, 1943–1945 (National Archives Identifier 16624285)

## U.S. Army Operational, Tactical, and Support Organizations (World War II and Thereafter) (Record Group 338)

Unit Histories, 1943–1967 (National Archives Identifier 895216): Includes records related to the Army and Women's Auxiliary Corps.

## Office of the Provost Marshal General (Record Group 389)

Unclassified Decimal Correspondence Files, 1942–1946 (National Archives Identifier 648969): Includes records related to the employment of Japanese Americans as language instructors (File: 352.16, Japanese Informants).

Subject Correspondence Files Relating to the Internment, Care, and Labor of POW and Civilian Internees (National Archives Identifier 894366): Includes a file "Japanese Internees, Sons in Army" pertaining to benefits and considerations for Japanese American internees with sons serving in U.S. Army units.

## **Adjutant General's Office (Record Group 407)**

World War II Operations Reports, 1940–1948 (National Archives Identifier 305275): Includes files on the 442nd Regiment and the Women's Auxiliary Corps.

## **Property and Census Records**

Even as Nikkei communities experienced a monumental economic loss, with estimates reaching the billions, their personal loss was deepened with the breach of privacy caused by the disclosure of confidential census data. Federal records detail some aspects of the damage - including property seized by the government, property purportedly protected by the War Relocation Authority, and the Census Bureau's complicity in supplying data to surveillance agencies. Records also document property held by Japanese Latin Americans.

## **Property Records**

## Foreign Service Posts of the Department of State (Record Group 84)

Records Regarding Japanese Assets in Brazil, 1946–1947 (National Archives Identifier 1518878); Hungary, 1945–1948 (National Archives Identifier 1667787); and Peru, 1945–1949 (National Archives Identifier 1756427)

Records Relating to the Protection of Japanese Interests in Brazil, 1946–1947 (National Archives

Identifier 1518878): Include the archives of the former Japanese Embassy, the sale of Japanese property, Japanese assets, and Japanese interests.

## Office of the Alien Property Custodian (Record Group 131)

Administrative Records, 1941–1955 (National Archives Identifier 72012516): Records document internees from Hawai'i and alien property reports.

Copyright Cards, 1942–1967 (National Archives Identifier 12006466): Records include tracking cards for vested Japanese films.

Investigative Case Files, 1943–1955 (National Archives Identifier 6664399): Records relate to Japanese firms and individuals who were subject to having their properties vested.

Japanese Bank Records, 1942—ca. 1955 (National Archives Identifier 6622110): Records detail the liquidation and settlement of bank accounts by the Office of Alien Property.

\*\*The above represent a sample list. For additional records related to seized Japanese owned businesses, here are the query results from the National Archives Catalog for Record Group 131.

## Farm Service Agency (Record Group 145)

Records document confiscated property held by Japanese and Japanese American farmers - In Los Angeles County:

- Administrative Files Relating to the Requisition of Idle Farm Machinery, 1941–1946 (National Archives Identifier 1487736)
- Records Relating to the Purchase of Idle Farm Machinery, 1942–1943 (National Archives Identifier 1487759)
- Case Files for the Requisition of Equipment Owned by Farmers of Japanese Ancestry, ca. 1943—ca. 1946 (National Archives Identifier 1487711)

#### In Orange County:

- Case Files for the Requisition of Idle Farm Machinery, 1943–1945 (National Archives Identifier 1433333)
- Subject Files Relating to the Requisition of Idle Farm Machinery, 1941–1947 (National Archives Identifier 1432929)

## War Relocation Authority (WRA) (Record Group 210)

Subject-Classified General Files, 1942–1945 (National Archives Identifier 1544843): WRA's management and disposal of properties.

List of property owned by Japanese Americans prior to mass removal.

 Evacuee Real Property Inventory Cards, 1942–1946 (National Archives Identifier 1544846)

- Evacuee Contraband Property Inventories, 1944–1944 (National Archives Identifier 1544852)
- Lists of Evacuee Properties in California Counties, March 1, 1942–April 14, 1945 (National Archives Identifier 5607299)

Records document the management and disposal of properties overseen by the Federal Reserve Bank's Evacuee Property Department.

- Portland Branch Evacuee Property Files, March 18, 1942
  –June 30, 1946 (National Archives Identifier 40143322)
- San Francisco Branch Evacuee Property Files, March 18, 1942
  –June 30, 1946 (National Archives Identifier 38221779)

## Office of Defense Transportation (Record Group 219)

Subject Files, 1944 (National Archives Identifier 7585254): Includes documents related to trucks seized from incarcerated Japanese American farmers for sale to actively producing farmers.

## Office of Foreign Funds Control (Record Group 265)

Property reports filed by enemy alien nationals residing in Hawai'i.

- Internee Reports, 1942–1945 (National Archives Identifier 57362847) and Index (National Archives Identifier 57362848)
- Individual Financial Asset Reports, 1941–1945 (National Archives Identifier 57362835)
   and Index (National Archives Identifier 57362836)

## U.S. Army Forces in the Middle Pacific (World War II) (Record Group 494)

Office of the Property Comptroller, Military Government of the Territory of Hawai'i.

- General Records, 1943–1947 (National Archives Identifier 1116867)
- Records Relating to Funds Belonging to Internees, 1943–1947 (National Archives Identifier 1113881)
- Correspondence and Receipts Relating to Japanese Mission Property, 1943–1945 (National Archives Identifier 1113025)
- Records Concerning the Signal Office Relating to Surrendered or Impounded Radio Equipment, 1943–1945 (National Archives Identifier 1112602)
- Records Related to Claims for Surrendered Radios, Camera Equipment, and Other Personal Property, 1943–1945 (National Archives Identifier 1112582)
- Records Pertaining to the Release of Surrendered or Impounded Firearms and Ammunition, 1943–1946 (National Archives Identifier 1112493)
- Internee Property Case Files, 1943–1945 (National Archives Identifier 1112476)

## **Census Records**

## **Bureau of the Census (Record Group 29)**

Records Relating to the War History Project, March 1946–September 1946 (National Archives Identifier 2990053)

Subject Files, ca. 1899–1950 (National Archives Identifier 2990148)

• [14] Agriculture-1945 Census-POW Camps and Relocation Centers (file unit National Archives Identifier 25496737)

Records Relating to the War History Project, March 1946–September 1946 (National Archives Identifier 2990053):

• Includes records related to statistics collected between February 26 - June 7, 1942 on Japanese Americans who were removed from the Pacific Coast States.

[1] Margo Anderson and William Seltzer, "After Pearl Harbor: The Proper Role of Population Data Systems in Time of War," <a href="https://margoanderson.org/">https://margoanderson.org/</a>, <a href="https://margoanderson.org/">https://margoanderson.org/</a>)</a>

## **Department of Commerce (Record Group 40)**

General Correspondence, 1903–1950 (National Archives Identifier 564429)

### Franklin D. Roosevelt Library (LP-FDR)

Henry Morgenthau, Jr. Papers, 1866–1960 (National Archives Identifier 589184)

- General Correspondence 1933–1945 (National Archives Identifier 921956)
- Diaries of Henry Morgenthau, Jr., April 27, 1933–July 21, 1945 (National Archives Identifier 7497644)
  - O Morgenthau, Henry Jr. 1943b. Letter from the Treasury Secretary to Jesse Jones, August 4, 1943. [Book 655, August 10–12, 1943, Microfilm reel 190, frame 198.]

## **Federal Courts**

Despite the numerous violations of their civil liberties, many Japanese Americans and their advocates filed legal challenges to defend their constitutional rights. The decisions rendered in these cases were not always favorable. The courts nonetheless played a crucial role in shaping the narrative and ultimately paved the way for redress and acknowledgement of the injustices faced by the Japanese community in the United States.

#### **Federal Court Records**

Court Records at the National Archives cover more than 200 years of court proceedings at the federal level. To access additional details on searching for court cases, click here....

#### **Department of Justice (DOJ) Litigation Case Files**

DOJ case files complement court records by documenting the government's internal discussions and legal strategies. Records include internal departmental correspondence, memoranda, legal briefs, and investigative reports related to the case. Examples of DOJ litigation case files in our holdings include:

- Hirabayashi v. United States, DOJ file 146-42-20
- Korematsu v. United States, DOJ file 146-42-7
- Ex parte Endo, DOJ file 146-42-26

Learn more about DOJ Records (Record Group 60).

## **Pre-war Surveillance**

#### Supreme Court (RG 267):

- Gorin v. United States, 312 U.S. 19 (1941), no. 87 October Term 1940
- Salich v. United States, 312 U.S. 19 (1941), no. 88 October Term 1940

#### **Court of Appeals (RG 276)**:

- Gorin v. United States, 9th Circuit (1940), no. 9135
- Salich v. United States, 9th Circuit (1940), no. 9136

<u>District Court (RG 21)</u>: *United States v. Hafis Salich et al.*, Central District of California (Los Angeles), Criminal no. 13793

<u>Summary</u>: Espionage cases for Hafis Salich, a civilian employee of the Office of Naval Intelligence (ONI) and Mikhail Gorin, a Soviet agent. Salich sold access to reports on potential subversion by Japanese Americans in Southern California. Selections from these pre-war surveillance reports were submitted in trial.

## **Enemy Aliens Right to Sue**

<u>Supreme Court (RG 267)</u>: Ex parte Kumezo Kawato, 317 U.S. 69 (1942), no. 10 October Term 1942

**Summary**: A resident alien enemy has a right to bring suit in any court.

## **Birthright Citizenship Upheld**

<u>Supreme Court (RG 267)</u>: Regan v. King, 319 U.S. 753 (1943), no. 986 October Term 1942 <u>Court of Appeals (RG 276)</u>: Regan v. King, 9th Circuit (1943), no. 10299 <u>District Court (RG 21)</u>: John T. Regan v. Cameron King, Northern District of California (San Francisco), Civil no. 22178

<u>Summary</u>: A lawsuit to disenfranchise U.S. citizens of Japanese descent, and subsequently to deprive them of their citizenship. The courts dismissed the case by referencing *United States v. Wong Kim Ark* and reaffirmed the principle of birthright citizenship for all Americans.

## **Constitutionality of Incarceration**

Four test cases raised constitutional questions over the legality of federal policies imposed on Japanese Americans during the war. These cases were particularly important in reconsidering the treatment of underrepresented groups during times of national crisis.

Refusal to Comply with Curfew Supreme Court (RG 267):

- Hirabayashi v. United States, 320 U.S. 81 (1943), no. 870 October Term 1942
- Yasui v. United States, 320 U.S. 115 (1943), no. 871 October Term 1942

<u>Court of Appeals (RG 276)</u>: *Hirabayashi v. United States*, 9th Circuit (1942), no. 10308 **District Court (RG 21)**:

- United States v. Minoru Yasui, District of Oregon (Portland), Criminal no. 16056
- United States v. Gordon Kiyoshi Hirabayashi, Western District of Washington (Seattle),
   Criminal no. 45738 (National Archives Identifier 598277)

<u>Summary</u>: Minoru Yasui and Gordon Hirabayashi were prosecuted and convicted together. The verdict upheld the curfew and exclusion orders enforced within the designated military area. While the Court ruled on the constitutionality of the curfew order, it reserved judgment on the exclusion issue for the *Koretmatsu* case. In the 1980s, these charges were vacated through petitions for a writ of error (*coram nobis*).

### **Refusal to Comply with Exclusion Order**

<u>Supreme Court (RG 267)</u>: Korematsu v. United States, 323 U.S. 214 (1944), no. 22 October Term 1944

<u>Court of Appeals (RG 276)</u>: Korematsu v. United States, 9th Circuit, no. 10248 <u>District Court (RG 21)</u>: United States v. Fred Toyosaburo Korematsu, Northern District of California (San Francisco), Criminal no. 27635 (National Archives Identifier 296047)

**<u>Summary</u>**: Compulsory exclusion of citizens during times of war was justified. The charges were vacated in the 1980s in a petition for a writ of error (*coram nobis*).

## Writ of Habeas Corpus

<u>Supreme Court (RG 267)</u>: Ex parte Mitsuye Endo, 323 U.S. 283 (1944), no. 70 October Term 1944

<u>Court of Appeals (RG 276)</u>: Endo v. Eisenhower, 9th Circuit (1943), no. 10605 <u>District Court (RG 21)</u>: In the Matter of the Application of Mitsuye Endo, For A Writ Of Habeas Corpus, Northern District of California (San Francisco), Admiralty no. 23688

**Summary**: Ruled that "Concededly loyal" citizens could not be detained without cause. The Court's unanimous decision in *Endo* offered the federal government a shield to avoid accepting responsibility in denying due process and constitutional rights to its own citizens. The case paved the way for the end of mass confinement and the lifting of exclusion orders.

## **Draft Resistance**

Among the approximately 300 Japanese American men prosecuted for refusing or aiding draft evasion, nearly all were convicted and imprisoned. On December 23, 1947, President Truman signed Proclamation 2762 and granted full pardons to these men (along with other conscientious objectors). Those who were still young enough for the draft after the war would go on to serve in the Korean conflict.

Related prison records can be found in **Record Group 129** and in series, "Inmate Case Files, July 3, 1895–November 5, 1957" (National Archives Identifier 571125) for those sent to the Leavenworth Federal Penitentiary and in series, "Case Files of Japanese American Prisoners, 1944–1946" (National Archives Identifier 2675080) for those sent to the McNeil Island Federal Penitentiary.

The following is a sample list of cases organized by WRA camp. Draft resistance did not result in criminal prosecution at every camp.

## Amache (Granada), CO

<u>District Court (RG 21)</u>: *United States v. Harry Shuichi Ioka*, District of Colorado (Denver), Criminal no. 10454

<u>Summary</u>: Sample case. All convicted. Additional cases can be found in the series, "Criminal Case Files, 1912–1968" (National Archives Identifier 644975), no. 10347–10360, boxes 295–298.

#### **Heart Mountain, WY**

<u>Court of Appeals (RG 276)</u>: *Kiyoshi Okamoto et al. v. United States*, 10th Circuit (1945), no. 3076–3082

#### District Court (RG 21):

- *United States v. Kiyoshi Okamoto et al.*, District of Wyoming, Criminal no. 4930 (National Archives Identifier 292804)
- *United States v. Shigeru Fujii et al.*, District of Wyoming, Criminal no. 4928, 4931–4992 (National Archives Identifier 292790)

<u>Summary</u>: Sample list of cases. The men were tried separately for aiding and abetting evasion and/or violating the draft. Only James Omura (aka Utaka Matsumoto) was acquitted due to insufficient evidence. All of the district court cases have been digitized and are part of the series, "Criminal Case Files, 1890–1949" (National Archives Identifier 292789). Related records can be found in this series, "Case Files of Japanese American Prisoners Sent to the U.S. Penitentiary, McNeil Island, 1935–1949" (National Archives Identifier 2675080).

#### Minidoka, ID

#### District Court (RG 21):

- United States v. George Katsumi Kodama, District of Idaho (Boise), Criminal no. 2984 (National Archives Identifier 7820152)
- United States v. Jim Hajime Akutsu, District of Idaho (Boise), Criminal no. 2974

**Summary**: Sample list of cases. The men were tried individually or in pairs. All convicted.

## Poston (Colorado River), AZ

Court of Appeals (RG 276): Hideichi Takeguma et al. v. United States, 9th Circuit (1946), no.

#### 11079

#### District Court (RG 21):

- United States v. Masaru Jim Ikemiya, District of Arizona (Phoenix Division), Criminal no.
   6782
- United States v. William Harumi Nakasaki, District of Arizona (Phoenix Division), Criminal no. 6818
- United States v. Kiyoshi Miyamura, District of Arizona (Phoenix Division), Criminal no.
   7132

<u>Summary</u>: Sample list of cases. Over one hundred men refused to comply with their induction notices at Poston, marking the most substantial instance of draft resistance. The men were sentenced either individually or as trios. All were convicted.

#### **District Court (RG 21)**:

- United States v. George S. Fujii, District of Arizona (Phoenix Division), Criminal no. 6718 (National Archives Identifier 26444870)
- In the Matter of the Application of George S. Fujii, for a Writ of Habeas Corpus, District of Arizona (Phoenix Division), Civil no. 529 (National Archives Identifier 26444869)

**Summary**: George Fujii was tried separately on sedition for speaking out against the draft. He was acquitted due to insufficient evidence.

## Topaz (Central Utah), UT

<u>District Court (RG 21)</u>: *United States v. Kenchiro Mike Yoshida*, District of Utah, Criminal no. 14640.

**Summary**: Sample case. All were convicted. Out of seven who resisted, four served prison sentences.

#### Tule Lake, CA

<u>District Court (RG 21)</u>: *United States v. Masaaki Kuwabara*, Eastern District of California (Sacramento), Criminal no. 8966 (National Archives Identifier <u>357434743</u>)

**Summary**: Lead defendant who represented the other 26 men. The only case that was dismissed and ended with no convictions.

## **Limitation of Martial Law**

<u>Supreme Court (RG 267)</u>: Duncan v. Duke Kahanamoku, 327 U.S. 304 (1946), no. 14 October Term 1945

Court of Appeals (RG 276): Ex parte Duncan, 9th Circuit (1944), no. 10763

District Court (RG 21): Ex Parte Lloyd C. Duncan, District of Hawai'i, Habeas Corpus no. 298.

Summary: Ruled that trials of civilians by military tribunal were unjustified. It also concluded

that martial law in Hawai'i could not supplant all civilian laws, and that the military had to respect the constitutional rights of individuals, even during wartime. Although neither party in the case were of Japanese descent, this case was decided on the heels of *Hirabayashi* and *Korematsu* and some justices issued opinions that also addressed the racialized wartime policies inflicted on Japanese Americans.

## **Involuntary Deportation and Renunciation**

Following the end of the war, the government sought to expel Japanese persons detained in the camps, including U.S. citizens and those taken from Latin America, through a renunciation process and deportation proceedings. Lawsuits were filed, both individually and as class actions, aimed at reinstating U.S. citizenship and preventing mass removal.

#### **Renunciation Cases**

### **Court of Appeals (RG 276)**:

- Acheson v. Miye Mae Murakami et al., 9th Circuit (1949), no. 12082
- Kiyama v. Rusk, 9th Circuit (1961), no. 16893

## **District Court (RG 21)**:

- Norio Kiyama et al. v. Herter, Central District of California (Los Angeles), Civil no. 10303
- Etsuko Arikawa v. Acheson, Central District of California (Los Angeles), Civil no. 7973 and 8014
- Yuichi Inouye et al. v. Clark, Central District of California (Los Angeles), Civil no. 5945

<u>Summary</u>: Sample list of cases. These cases were filed individually, demanding restoration of citizenship. These are separate from the class action suits filed by the other renunciants. The rulings were mixed.

## <u>Court of Appeals (RG 276)</u>: *McGrath v. Abo*, 9th Circuit (1951), no. 12251–12252 <u>District Court (RG 21)</u>:

- *Tadayasu Abo v. Clark*, Northern District of California (San Francisco), Civil no. 25294 (National Archives Identifier <u>357434775</u>)
- Kaname Furuya v. Clark, Northern District of California (San Francisco), Civil no. 25295
- Tadayasu Abo v. Williams, Northern District of California (San Francisco), Civil no. 25296
- Kaname Furuya v. Williams, Northern District of California (San Francisco), Civil no.
   25297

<u>Summary</u>: Class action suits filed to prevent involuntary deportation, and full restoration of citizenship for the thousands who had renounced, charging that they had been deceived or coerced under the Renunciation Act of 1944. In lieu of oral testimonies, the court required individual affidavits to reestablish their citizenship; this time-consuming process lasted until 1967, when the last final judgment was issued.

## Japanese Peruvian Internees <u>District Court (RG 21)</u>:

- In re Iwamori Sakasegawa, Northern District of California (San Francisco), Civil no. 26139
- In re Chika Yamasaki, Northern District of California (San Francisco), Civil no. 26140

<u>Summary</u>: Contending that they were kidnapped by U.S. military police, Japanese Peruvians filed test suits (writs of habeas corpus) in 1946 to prevent deportation to Japan. The federal government agreed to suspend expulsion, reclassified them as resident aliens and allowed them to stay in the United States. A small number of internees were able to return to Peru.

## Reinstatement of U.S. citizenship

American-born Japanese who were stranded in Japan during the war were confronted with the prospect of expatriation due to their activities abroad. These activities - such as being conscripted into Japan's military, participating in Japanese elections after the war, or holding dual citizenship with Japan - were perceived as inconsistent with their ability to retain U.S. citizenship. Turning to the courts, they sought to have their American citizenship confirmed or restored. Some of these cases also provide detailed descriptions of their lives in Japan just before and during World War II, with a focus on the activities of and climate created by the Japanese police and military.

The following selection of cases show how the decisions rendered were contingent on the merits of whether their actions in Japan were voluntary or involuntary.

Related applications for repatriation may be also found in among naturalization petitions.

## **Military Service**

<u>Supreme Court (RG 276)</u>: Nishikawa v. Dulles, 356 U.S. 129 (1958), no. 19 October Term 1957 <u>Court of Appeals (RG 276)</u>: Nishikawa v. Dulles, 9th Circuit (1956), no. 14742 <u>District Court (RG 21)</u>: Mitsugi Nishikawa v. Acheson, Central District of California (Los Angeles), Civil no. 14813

<u>Summary</u>: Ruled that Americans who had served in the Japanese military during World War II could not have their citizenship revoked unless it could be proven that they had acted voluntarily.

<u>Supreme Court (RG 276)</u>: *Acheson v. Okimura*, 342 U.S. 899 (1952), no. 421 October Term 1951 <u>District Court (RG 21)</u>:

- Kiyokuro Okimura v. Acheson, District of Hawai'i, Civil no. 1027
- Hisao Murata v. Acheson, District of Hawai'i, Civil no. 1011
- Yoshiro Shibata v. Acheson, Central District of California (Los Angeles), Civil no. 8122
- Toshio Kondo v. Acheson, Central District of California (Los Angeles), Civil no. 10686
- Shigenori Morizumi v. Acheson, Northern District of California (San Francisco), Civil no. 29369

**Summary**: Sample list of cases, among many, requesting reinstatement of U.S. citizenship after

serving in the Japanese military. While *Okimura's* case reached the Supreme Court, the case was remanded back to the lower courts. These cases preceded *Nishikawa's* decision.

## **Voted in Japanese Elections**

### **Court of Appeals (RG 276)**:

- Minoru Tanaka v. Immigration Naturalization Service, 2nd Circuit (1965), no. 398
- Takehara v. Dulles, 9th Circuit (1953), no. 13555

#### **District Court (RG 21):**

- Paul Serizawa v. Dulles, Northern District of California (San Francisco), Civil no. 32026
- Kenji Kamada v. Dulles, Northern District of California (San Francisco), Civil no. 32175
- Ray Hosoda et al. v. Acheson, Central District of California (Los Angeles), Civil no. 10095
- Minoru Furuno v. Acheson, Central District of California (Los Angeles), Civil no. 13308
- Harue Sakamoto v. Dulles, District of Hawai'i, Civil no. 1116

<u>Summary</u>: A selection of cases seeking restoration of their American citizenship after participating in elections in Japan. Some of these individuals were also conscripted into the Japanese military. The rulings were inconsistent among the district courts. The passage of Public Law 83-515 in 1953 helped expedite repatriation for those who had voted.

## **Dual Citizenship**

<u>Court of Appeals (RG 276)</u>: *Dulles v. Katamoto*, 9th Circuit (1958), no. 15202 <u>District Court (RG 21)</u>;

- Meiji Fujizawa v. Acheson, Central District of California (Los Angeles), Civil no. 981
- Nobuo Nishiyama v. Dulles, Central District of California (Los Angeles), Civil no. 12988
- Akiyo Oye v. Acheson, Northern District of California (San Francisco), Civil no. 29633

**Summary**: Sample cases where dual citizenship posed a risk of expatriation.

#### Treason

While no large-scale conspiracy of espionage or sabotage was ever uncovered, there were a few Japanese Americans who were convicted of either treason or the lesser offense, the conspiracy to commit treason.

District Court (RG 21): United States v. Wallace, District of Colorado, Criminal no. 10387

<u>Summary</u>: Three Japanese American women (Tsuroko ("Toots") Wallace, Florence ("Flo") Otani, and Misao ("Billie") Tanigoshi) were convicted of the conspiracy to commit treason for helping German soldiers escape from a POW camp.

<u>Court of Appeals (RG 276)</u>: D'Aquino v. United States, 9th Circuit (1951), no. 12383 <u>District Court (RG 21)</u>: United States v. Iva Ikuko Toguri D'Aquino, Northern District of California (San Francisco), Criminal no. 31712 <u>Summary</u>: D'Aquino was convicted of treason for allegedly undermining American morale while working as a radio broadcaster for Radio Tokyo. In 1977 due to insufficient evidence and prosecutorial misconduct, she was pardoned and her citizenship was restored. The case raised questions over the definition of treason and the limits of free speech during wartime.

<u>Supreme Court (RG 267)</u>: *Kawakita v. United States*, 343 U.S. 717 (1952), no. 570 October Term 1951

<u>Court of Appeals (RG 276)</u>: *Kawakita v. United States*, 9th Circuit (1951), no. 12061 **District Court (RG 21)**:

- *United States v. Tomoya Kawakita*, Central District of California (Los Angeles), Criminal no. 19413 (National Archives Identifier 276565176)
- *United States v. Tomoya Kawakita*, Central District of California (Los Angeles), Criminal no. 19665 (National Archives Identifier 276565195)

**Summary**: Kawakita was convicted of treason for acts of brutality committed against American prisoners of war while employed as an interpreter at a Japanese processing plant. Although initially sentenced to death, his punishment was eventually commuted to life imprisonment. Kawakita was given early release and was subsequently deported.

## Reparations

The post-war redress movement was long and hard-fought. Led by Japanese American activists, the campaign sought large-scale financial compensation for lost property, and public recognition and apology for the forced removal and confinement. While reparations were pursued through Congress, claims were also filed in the federal courts. The passage of the Civil Liberties Act in 1988 eventually provided reparations to camp survivors who were U.S. citizens and permanent residents. On the other hand, Japanese Latin American internees achieved only a partial victory with a settlement in 1999, and their fight for equal compensation continues to this day.

## Cases related to the Japanese American Claims Act, July 2, 1948 U.S. Court of Claims (RG 123):

- William S. Koda v. United States, U.S. Court of Claims, no. 329-57
- Edward K. Koda v. United States, U.S. Court of Claims, no. 330-57

<u>Summary</u>: Sample cases. Under Public Law 80-886 (80 H.R. 3999), Japanese Americans could seek compensation for their losses up to \$2,500 (later increased to \$100,000 for remaining claims), through the Justice Department. Additional claims could be filed in the Court of Claims for amounts beyond this limit or for dismissed claims. Despite efforts to simplify the process in subsequent legislation, the overall compensation and number of claimants remained unfairly low. Only with the passing of the 1988 Act, did they receive a more substantial redress, including a public apology. To search for additional claim suits, see series, General Jurisdiction Case Files, 1855–1970 (National Archives Identifier 2733380) and Index (National Archives Identifier 594766).

## Claims filed against the Office of Alien Property Custodian (APC)

<u>Supreme Court (RG 267)</u>: Honda et al., v. Clark, 386 U.S. 484 (1967), no. 164 October Term 1966

## **Court of Appeals (RG 276)**:

- Honda et al. v. Clark, District of Columbia Circuit (1969), no. 22188 and 22193
- Aratani et al., v. Kennedy, District of Columbia Circuit (1963), no. 16808
- Harue Sakamoto v. Kennedy, 9th Circuit (1961), no. 16770

### **District Court (RG 21)**:

- Ayako Honda et al. v. Clark, District of Columbia, Civil no. 1179-64
- George T. Aratani v. Kennedy, District of Columbia, Civil no. 3164-58
- Kiyoichi Fujikawa et al. v. Roger E. Brooks, District of Hawai'i, Civil no. 481
- Sekiyo Nishikawa et al. v. Brownell, Jr., Central District of California (Los Angeles), Civil no. 18267
- Kazuichi Hashimoto v. Markham, Central District of California (Los Angeles), Civil no.
   5739

<u>Summary</u>: Sample list of cases. During and after the war, claims were filed in federal courts seeking the recovery of property that had been seized by the APC or requesting compensation from the proceeds of any property sold. These assets include bank deposits, land, and businesses. Many of these cases were "dismissed without prejudice."

#### **Class Action Redress Lawsuit**

<u>Supreme Court (RG 267)</u>: *United States v. Hohri et al.*, 482 U.S. 64 (1987), no. 86-510 <u>Court of Appeals (RG 276)</u>: *Hohri et al. v. United States,* District of Columbia Circuit (1986), no. 84-5460

<u>District Court (RG 21)</u>: William Hohri et al. v. United States, District of Columbia, Civil no. 83-0750

<u>Summary</u>: Class action suit that sought compensation for injuries sustained by the forced removal and incarceration during World War II. The case was ultimately dismissed after Congress passed the Civil Liberties Act of 1988.

## **Reparations Claims by Japanese Latin Americans**

<u>U.S. Court of Federal Claims (RG 502)</u>: Carmen Mochizuki et al. v. United States, 43 Fed. Cl. 97 (1999), no. 97-294C

<u>Summary</u>: This class action settlement provided a presidential apology and \$5,000 reparation payment to Latin Americans of Japanese descent who had been excluded from the Civil Liberties Act of 1988. The settlement also underscored its shortcomings: due to inadequate funding provided by the Act, there was no guarantee of redress payments. And those who declined payment or were excluded from the initial lawsuit continue to advocate for

reparations to this day. **NOTE**: As of 2024, case 97-294C has not yet been transferred to the National Archives. Please contact the U.S. Court of Federal Claims for access.

## **Post-War Legacy**

The end of World War II and closing of the camps did not lead to an immediate return to normal life for the formerly incarcerated. Mass removal and confinement continued to have far-reaching effects in the years and decades that followed. Records at the National Archives offer a valuable resource for researchers seeking to explore these postwar struggles as Nikkei communities rebuilt their lives and pursued restitution for their monumental economic and personal loss. This enduring impact was underscored long after the war when the U.S. government finally acknowledged the mistreatment suffered by Japanese Americans, as demonstrated through reparations as well as through the preservation of the confinement sites and their associated records.

## **Proclamations and Legislation**

<u>Proclamation 2655 (1945) and 2685 (1946)</u> (National Archives Identifier 299955): Two proclamations that allowed for the deportation of alien enemies deemed dangerous, including those taken from Latin America.

<u>Proclamation 2762</u> (National Archives Identifier 299955): President Truman's pardon of draft resisters in 1947.

<u>Proclamation 4417</u> (National Archives Identifier 1670001): President Ford's 1976 proclamation confirming the Termination of the Executive Order 9066 and removed the possibility of a reinstitution of Executive Order 9066.

<u>Public Law 78-405</u> (National Archives Identifier 299811): Also referred to as the Renunciation Act of 1944, this legislation enabled Americans to voluntarily renounce their citizenship and remains in effect to this day.

<u>Public Law 80-213</u> (National Archives Identifier 299811): A 1947 amendment to the Public Law 79-271, also known as the "War Brides Act", removed racial restrictions and allowed for the admission of Asian spouses of American servicemen.

<u>Public Law 80-886</u> (National Archives Identifier 299811): Also known as the Japanese American Evacuation Claims Act, this 1948 act sought to provide compensation to Japanese American removed from the West Coast for losses of real and personal property.

<u>Public Law 100-383</u> (National Archives Identifier 24739718): Also known as the "Civil Liberties Act of 1988", the act authorized reparation payments and a formal presidential apology to Japanese Americans who were confined during World War II.

## **Protests**

## **U.S. House of Representatives (Record Group 233)**

Petitions and Memorials Referred to the Committee on Military Affairs in the 78th Congress (National Archives Identifier 63530737): Protests against the return of Japanese communities to the West Coast.

## **Repatriation and Expatriation**

Initially, over 20,000 individuals of Japanese descent - including U.S. citizens (Nisei), immigrants (Issei) and those taken from Latin America - applied for voluntary deportation to Japan during and after the war. As part of the application process, the expatriates (Nisei) were required to renounce their citizenship. Following a series of legal challenges (see **Federal Courts** section), fewer than 5,000 actually left for Japan, with many returning to the United States at a later date.

## **Department of State (Record Group 59)**

Repatriation Activities and the S.S. Gripsholm, 1943–1944 (National Archives Identifier 518082) Moving Images Relating to U.S. Foreign Policy and Foreign Relations, 1911–1972 (National Archives Identifier 11906)

Gripsholm Repatriation (National Archives Identifier 11927)

Transcripts of Proceedings before the Hearing Board of the Alien Enemy Control Section, 1946 (National Archives Identifier 657806): Proceedings to determine whether former enemy aliens could return to their Latin American country.

Nationality and Citizenship Files, 1957–1960 (National Archives Identifier 2255076): Includes records relating to dual nationality, the Nationality Act of 1940, and the status of Japanese Americans.

## **Department of Justice (Record Group 60)**

Class 146-54 (Voluntary Renunciation of Citizenship) Litigation Case Files and Enclosures, 1944–1972 (National Archives Identifier 20761625) and Index (National Archives Identifier 159982441)

## U.S. Attorneys (RG 118)

Japanese American Citizenship Renunciation Case Files, 1943–1959 (National Archives Identifier 74888438)

## U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (Record Group 566)

Alien Files (A-Files): An Overview

Alien Files (A-Files) may include deportation and renunciation proceedings for those who were

able to successfully halt deportation (e.g., Hayako Ikeda, A6155715) and those who expatriated and returned to the United States (e.g., Masaaki Kuwabara, A10807119). A-Files are name searchable in the National Archives Catalog.

## **Redress and Reparations**

Records at NARA include case files for claims filed under the Claims Act of 1948, claims filed under the Civil Liberties Act of 1988, and testimonies from the public hearings held by the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians (CWRIC). Materials also include settlement of claims for damages caused by the occupation on part of the Colorado River Indian Reservation used as confinement sites.

## **Department of State (Record Group 59)**

Draft Copies of Reports on Japanese Reparations, 1945–1946 (National Archives Identifier 872140)

## **Department of Justice (Record Group 60)**

## Japanese American Claims Act of July 2, 1948

Class 146-35 (Japanese American Claims Act) Litigation Case Files and Enclosures, 1942–1962 (National Archives Identifier 783824)

Security Classified Class 146-35 (Japanese American Evacuation Claim) and Class 146-36 (Martial Law; Military Law) Litigation Case Files, 1942–1980 (National Archives Identifier 17367111)

#### Office of Redress Administration, Civil Liberties Act of 1988

Japanese American Redress Case File Records, 1989–1998 (National Archives Identifier 729685)
Japanese American Redress Case Files, 1991–1992 (National Archives Identifier 16873435)
Japanese American Redress Verification Information System (JARVIS) Files, 1989–2006 (National Archives Identifier 5752350)

#### **Attorney General's Office**

Includes correspondence relating to monetary compensation paid to persons of Japanese ancestry incarcerated during World War II:

- Alphabetical Name Correspondence Files of the Attorney General, 1979–1991 (National Archives Identifier 646761)
- Subject Files of the Attorney General, 1974–1993 (National Archives Identifier 651799)
- Chronological Files of the Attorney General, 1977–1993 (National Archives Identifier 765347)
- Subject Files of the Deputy Assistant Attorney General, 1971–1994 (National Archives Identifier 1642917)

## **Bureau of Indian Affairs (Record Group 75)**

Correspondence Relating to Attorney's Contracts, 1938–1968 (National Archives Identifier 6219857): Includes claims for damages resulting from the occupation of part of the Colorado

River Indian Reservation by for the internment of Japanese during the war.

## Temporary Committees, Commissions, and Boards (Record Group 220) <a href="Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians">Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians</a> (CWRIC)

#### **Audiovisual Materials**

- Photographs, 1981 (National Archives Identifier 540041)
- Video Recordings, 1981–1983 (National Archives Identifier 39771)
- Sound Recordings, 1981–1983 (National Archives Identifier 1702299)

#### **Testimonies**

- Abstracts of Witness Testimony, 1981 (National Archives Identifier 734703)
- Solicited Testimony Files, 1981–1982 (National Archives Identifier 734695)
- Unsolicited Testimony Files, 1981–1982 (National Archives Identifier 749135)
- Transcripts of Public Hearings, 1981 (National Archives Identifier 734681)
- Records of Public Hearings of the Commission, 1981 (National Archives Identifier 229699513): Microfilm Publication M1293.

#### Other Records

- Subject Files, 1981–1983 (National Archives Identifier 596647)
- Numerical Files, 1981–1983 (National Archives Identifier 729709)
- Chronological Index to Numerical Files, 1981–1983 (National Archives Identifier 729716)
- Subject Index to Numerical File, 1981–1983 (National Archives Identifier 729717)
- Books, Reprints, and Reports, 1981–1983 (National Archives Identifier 731312)
- ICF Incorporated Materials, 1982–1983 (National Archives Identifier 734630)
- Press Clippings, 1981–1983 (National Archives Identifier 734638)
- General Correspondence, 1981–1983 (National Archives Identifier 749137)
- Chronological Files, 1981 (National Archives Identifier 749142)
- Administrative Records, 1981–1983 (National Archives Identifier 749196)
- Subject File of Charles Z. Smith, 1981 (National Archives Identifier 749212)
- Footnote Sources, 1981–1983 (National Archives Identifier 749220)
- Records of D. J. Komure, 1981–1983 (National Archives Identifier 749255)
- Publications, 1981–1983 (National Archives Identifier 765322)

## White House Television Office (WHTV) (Reagan Administration) (Collection RR-WHTV)

President Ronald Reagan's Remarks and Signing Ceremony for The Japanese American Internment Compensation Bill (HR442) (National Archives Identifier 38995301)

## **Treason and Clemency**

## **Department of Justice (DOJ) (Record Group 60)**

Select Subject Files Relating to the Treasonable Utterances of Iva Toguri d'Aquino (a.k.a. Tokyo Rose), 1942–1967 (National Archives Identifier 614583)

## Federal Bureau of Investigation (Record Group 65)

Records include files related to Iva Toguri D'Aquino and/or Tomoya Kawakita:

- Treason Investigations, March 22, 1935–April 9, 1984 (National Archives Identifier 567567)
- Application For Pardon, November 25, 1968–November 1, 1977 (National Archives Identifier 568547)
- Ascertaining Financial Ability (Fine), January 18, 1966–November 7, 1975 (National Archives Identifier 568762)
- Treason Investigations, 1942–2004 (National Archives Identifier 631379)

Audiovisual Materials related to Iva Toguri D'Aquino and Radio Tokyo

- Class 61 (Treason) Moving Images Relating to Tokyo Rose, March 22, 1935–April 9, 1984 (National Archives Identifier 6126749)
- Class 61 (Treason) and Class 100 (Domestic Security) Recordings of Foreign Radio Broadcasts, March 22, 1935–April 9, 1984 (National Archives Identifier 1115899)
- Class 61 (Treason) Recordings of Foreign Radio Broadcasts, March 22, 1935—April 9, 1984 (National Archives Identifier 1126797)

## **U.S. Attorneys (Record Group 118)**

Iva Toguri D'Aquino, "Tokyo Rose":

- Case Files, 1943–1969 (National Archives Identifier 296663)
- Radio Broadcasts, 1944–1945 (National Archives Identifier 1991161)

## **Bureau of Prisons (Record Group 129)**

Tomoya Kawakita

 Alcatraz Inmate Case File (National Archives Identifier 117696355) and Page from Warden's Notebook (National Archives Identifier 236734205)

Iva Toguri D'Aquino

Notorious Offenders Files, 1919–1975 (National Archives Identifier 580698) and 1920–2010 (National Archives Identifier 168943273)

## Office of the Pardon Attorney (Record Group 204)

Iva Toguri d'Aquino:

- Executive Clemency Case Files, 1941–1976 (National Archives Identifier 624530)
- Security-Classified Pardon Case Files, 1951–1991 (National Archives Identifier 7461456)

Executive Clemency Case Files of Tomoya Kawakita, 1952–1989 (National Archives Identifier 624531)

## Philip W. Buchen Files, 1974–1977 (Collection GRF-0019)

Philip W. Buchen Files, 1974–1977 (National Archives Identifier 574066): Folder, Clemency - Rose, Tokyo

## **War Brides**

## Foreign Service Posts of the Department of State (Record Group 84)

Classified Visa Case Files, 1954–1961 (National Archives Identifier 4522390): Eligibility for visa issuance to Japanese applicants, mainly the spouses of U.S. servicemen.

## **Immigration and Naturalization Service (Record Group 85)**

Immigration case files (other than the Alien files) may have been created for spouses of American servicemen. Visit the <u>Restricting Asian/Pacific Islander Immigration</u> page for more information on how to access these records.

## Office of the Chief Signal Officer (Record Group 111)

Motion Picture Films from the Army Library Copy Collection, 1964–1980 (National Archives Identifier 25061)

- Japanese War Brides, San Antonio, Texas, November 2, 1954 (National Archives Identifier 26947)
- Japanese War Brides School, Tokyo, JAPAN, June 2, 1952 (National Archives Identifier: 25498)
- Visit of Robert T. Stevens, Secretary of Army to 3D Infantry Division, Lawson Air Force, Georgia; Japanese war brides, Forest Park, Georgia, December 13, 1954 (National Archives Identifier 27104)

## **General Records of the Department of the Navy (Record Group 428)**

Moving Images Relating to Military Activities, ca. 1947–1980 (National Archives Identifier 75284): Here are the query results for "Japanese Bride".

## U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (Record Group 566)

Alien Files (A-Files): An Overview

Alien files (A-files) will have been created for every spouse of American servicemen. A-files that have been transferred to NARA are name searchable in the National Archives Catalog.

## **Property Disposal Records**

These records relate to the disposal of surplus federal property following the end of the war. They also document protests over new proposals for land use.

## **Bureau of Land Management (Record Group 49)**

Post-war real property disposal records which include land appraisals.

- Disposal Case Files, 1945–1947 (National Archives Identifier 7512510)
- Files of Francis L. McFarren, 1945–1947 (National Archives Identifier 7512508)
- Files of C. W. Kershaw, 1945–1947 (National Archives Identifier 7512506)
- Records Concerning Reports and Publications, 1945–1947 (National Archives Identifier

7512504)

Disposal of Assets of Manzanar and Tule Lake War Relocation Centers, 1946–1948
 (National Archives Identifier 4713813)

1980s protests concerning new proposals for land use.

- Resource Management Plan Protest Correspondence, 1985–1996 (National Archives Identifier 2995540)
- Protest Files, January 1, 1990–December 31, 2005 (National Archives Identifier 133876681)

## Farm Credit Administration (Record Group 103)

Surplus Property Disposal Case Files, 1946–1950 (National Archives Identifier 7387660): Includes files for the Topaz (Central Utah) WRA camp.

## **Bureau of Reclamation (Record Group 115)**

Records Relating to the Tule Lake Civilian Conservation Corps Camp and Japanese American Internment Camp, 1936–2010 (National Archives Identifier 5134297): Includes documentation on use of incarcerated labor on reclamation projects as well as the disposition of property after the war.

Records Relating to the War Relocation Authority and Protection of Structures, August 27, 1940–July 6, 1953 (National Archives Identifier 894528): Includes agreements and disposal records related to the Heart Mountain WRA camp. Also includes documentation on prisoners of war (German, Italian and Japanese) and construction projects.

\*\*To access additional WRA camp disposal property reports (which include numerous photographs) created by the Bureau of Reclamation, contact the National Archives at Denver at denver.archives@nara.gov.

## **Public Buildings Service (Record Group 121)**

Real Property Disposal Case Files, 1949–2006 (National Archives Identifier 616603): Include real property disposal files for the Tule Lake Segregation Center and Poston (Colorado River) WRA Camp.

## **General Services Administration (Record Group 269)**

Files include a 1945 inventory and disposition of the properties after the war.

- Arizona Real Property Disposal Case Files, ca. 1946—ca. 1962 (National Archives Identifier 636139): Includes files related to the Poston (Colorado River) and Gila River camps.
- Southern California Real Property Disposal Case Files, ca. 1946–ca. 1962 (National Archives Identifier 636808): Includes files related to the Manzanar camp.

Real Property Disposal Case Files, 1945–1953 (National Archives Identifier 7323642): Includes

files for Granada (Amache) (National Archives Identifier 7387989 and 7387988); Rohwer (National Archives Identifier 7388234); and Topaz (Central Utah) (National Archives Identifier 7387841).

## War Assets Administration (Record Group 270)

Real Property Disposal Case Files, 1946–1949 (National Archives Identifier 627579): Files related to the properties from the Arboga and Merced Assembly Centers, and Tule Lake Segregation Center.

Case Files Relating to Property Disposal, 1946–1949 (National Archives Identifier 2733411):

- Folder, I- Utah 4 Central Utah Relocation Center Topaz, UT (National Archives Identifier 2792912)
- Folder, WI- New Mexico 14 Lordsburg Internment Camp Lordsburg, NM (National Archives Identifier 2792647)

Real Property Disposal Case Files, 1946–1951 (National Archives Identifier 566592): Includes case files for the Minidoka WRA Camp.

## **Preservation and Commemoration**

## **National Park Service (Record Group 79)**

Correspondence Relating to National Historic Landmarks, 1974–1986 (National Archives Identifier 1138601)

National Register of Historic Places and National Historic Landmarks Program Records, 2013–2017 (National Archives Identifier 20812721)

Legislative Files, ca. 2010–January 3, 2016 (National Archives Identifier 79420000): Consists of files related to legislative activities including the establishment of national historic sites.

Records Related to Educational Programs Planning and Development, 2008–2018 (National Archives Identifier 149279833): Interpretative materials developed by staff at the Tule Lake National Monument.

## National Archives and Records Administration (Record Group 64)

NARA Statutes: Documents Relating to Japanese Internment (50 App. U.S.C. § 1989b-6)

National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC) funded grants:

- Securing Our Legacy: Understanding Japanese American Resettlement in the Midwest
- Densho, Seattle, WA
- Japanese American Service Committee, Chicago, IL
- California State University, Dominguez Hills, CA

## **Information Agency (Record Group 306)**

Moving Images Relating to U.S. Domestic and International Activities, 1982–1999 (National

#### Archives Identifier 46890)

• Of Forms and Growth (National Archives Identifier 102038197): A film exploring the life of artist Ruth Asawa with a segment that delves into her experiences during the war.

## **U.S. Agency for Global Media (Record Group 517)**

Video Tape Programs and Worldnet Broadcasts, 1999–2009 (National Archives Identifier 74221734)

- Dance to Remember (National Archives Identifier 77170227)
- The Legislative Process (National Archives Identifier 77181818)