

Records of the American Friends Service Committee, Midwest Branch, Advisory Committee for Evacuees, 1942-1963

Overview of the Collection

Creator	American Friends Service Committee. Midwest Branch. Advisory Committee for Evacuees
Title	Records of the American Friends Service Committee, Midwest Branch, Advisory Committee for Evacuees
Dates	1942-1963 (inclusive) 1942 1963
Quantity	10 linear ft. ((25 boxes))
Collection Number	(Accession No. 4791-001)
Summary	Quaker social service organization which coordinated Chicago-area aid to displaced Japanese Americans from 1942 to 1945.
Repository	University of Washington Libraries, Special Collections Special Collections University of Washington Libraries Box 352900 Seattle, WA 98195-2900 Telephone: 206-543-1929 Fax: 206-543-1931 speccoll@uw.edu
Access Restrictions	Boxes 1, 2, and 25 are of these records are open to all users. Boxes 3-24 are open only to scholars working in their fields of expertise. Material stored offsite; advance notice required for use.
Languages	English
Sponsor	Funding for encoding this finding aid was partially provided through a grant awarded by the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Historical Note

In July 1942, the U.S. War Relocation Authority announced a policy that permitted qualified inmates to leave incarceration centers to accept permanent jobs outside of designated war zones. Applicants were required to have a means of support and a place to live. Cities in the Midwest such as Chicago were suddenly faced with finding housing and jobs for a massive influx of Americans of Japanese descent coming from West Coast camps. Local social service agencies began to organize to meet the need, and it soon became apparent that an overall coordinating body was needed.

The Midwest Branch of the American Friends Service Committee (a Quaker social service organization) took on this responsibility by organizing the Advisory Committee for Evacuees. Membership in the committee included representatives from eighteen social service agencies as well as other interested

individuals concerned about the problems faced by the displaced Japanese Americans. The committee was chaired by Rolland W. Schloerb of the Chicago Federation of Churches. Edwin G. Morgenroth of the Midwest Branch of the AFSC served as Executive Secretary.

The committee cooperated closely with the War Relocation Authority, which reviewed applications to be released from the camps and conducted background checks. The AFSC accepted applications for employment and acted as a clearing house for jobs, housing, and educational opportunities. It maintained hostels in Chicago to provide temporary housing for former inmates as they arrived from the camps. The AFSC also attempted to promote community acceptance of displaced Japanese Americans and to minimize problems of adjustment.

Because of the success of this arrangement the War Relocation Authority asked the AFSC at the national level, to perform similar services for college students needing to transfer to schools out of the west-coast war-zone. This resulted in the formation of the National Japanese American Student Relocation Council. The Midwest Branch of the AFSC was also designated as a field office for this organization.

Content Description

The records in this collection appear to be from the Executive Director's office of the Advisory Committee for Evacuees. Boxes 1 and 2 and 25 contain minutes of the committee's meetings; correspondence with the War Relocation Authority; correspondence regarding specific programs sponsored by the committee; reports and newsletters of agencies and organizations working with Japanese Americans and files which document the National Japanese American Student Relocation Council's efforts to match nursing students with openings in Chicago-area programs. Boxes 3-24 contain case files (application for housing and employment), and a card file that documents contacts with individuals (including a narrative account of services provided). Many cards include comments on how individuals were received by the community.

Use of the Collection

Restrictions on Use

Much of the material consists of case files and contact records that identify individuals by name. Users must guarantee privacy of these individuals in a written agreement. Copying and quotation are permitted for boxes 1 and 2 and 25 only. For additional information, contact the repository.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

No records document the gift of this material to the University of Washington Libraries. The best guess is that these are the records of the Advisory Committee for Evacuees, possibly formed under the auspices of the American Friends Service Committee at an organizational meeting in Chicago on July 28, 1942. The records are assumed to have come to the University via the Council of Churches of Greater Seattle.

Detailed Description of the Collection

General Correspondence

Container(s)	Description	Dates
Box/Folder		
1/1	Advisory Committee for Evacuees - Consultants on Integration	June 1943
1/2-4	Advisory Committee for Evacuees - Miscellaneous	Jul. 1942 - Jan. 1946
1/5	Assimilation	May 1943 - June 1944
1/6-8	Christmas Gifts for Tule Lake	Sept. - Nov. 1942
1/9	Gates, Isabelle	Feb. - July 1943
1/10-12	National Japanese American Student Relocation Council - Nursing	July 1943 - Mar. 1945
1/13	Relocation - Community Interpretation	May 1942 - Mar. 1945
1/14-15	Relocation - American Friends Service Committee Forms and Procedure	July 1942 - June 1943
1/16	Relocation - Housing Publicity	Apr. 1943
1/17-18	Relocation Inquiries Out of City	June 1942 - Aug. 1943
1/19	Relocation Students	May 1945
1/19	Relocation WRA Letter re: Formation of Committee to Assist Evacuees	May 1942 - Feb. 1963

Notes

Container(s)	Description	Dates
Box/Folder		
2/1	Room and Board Positions	n.d.

Minutes

Container(s)	Description	Dates
Box/Folder		
2/2-3	Advisory Committee for Evacuees	July 1942 - Oct. 1943

Reports

Container(s)	Description	Dates
Box/Folder		
2/4	American Friends Service Committee - Japanese American Resettlement	Aug. 1, 1945
2/5	War Relocation Authority - Miscellaneous	Dec. 1942
2/6	War Relocation Authority - Quarterly Report	July - Sept., 1942

Case Files

Restricted.

Container(s)	Description	Dates
Box/Folder		
3/1-57	A - E	1942-1945
4/1-52	F - Han	1942-1945
5/1-52	Har - Ho	1942-1945

Container(s)	Description	Dates
6/1-54	Hor - Ito	1942-1945
7/1-63	Ito - Ka	1942-1945
8/1-66	Ki - Kur	1942-1945
9/1-65	Kuri - Mat	1942-1945
10/1-54	Mi - Mur	1942-1945
11/1-70	Nad - Nis	1942-1945
12/1-66	Nit - Omo	1942-1945
13/1-30	Ono - P	1942-1945
14/1-71	Sab - Shin	1942-1945
15/1-67	Shio - Taka	1942-1945
16/1-65	Take - Toku	1942-1945
17/1-62	Tom - Yamag	1942-1945
18/1-53	Yamam - Z	1942-1945

Chicago Applications

Restricted.

Container(s)	Description	Dates
Box/Folder		
19/1-17	A - I	1942-1945
20/1-19	K - Mur	1942-1945
21/1-22	N - Tan	1942-1945
22/1-11	Te - Z	1942-1945

File Cards

Restricted.

Container(s)	Description	Dates
Box		
23	A - N	1942-1945
24	O - Z	1942-1945

Lists

Container(s)	Description	Dates
Box/Folder		
25/1	Representatives Attending Meeting of Advisory Committee for Evacuees	n.d.

Bulletins

Container(s)	Description	Dates
AFSC - Japanese-American Relations Committee		
Box/Folder		
25/2	Pacific Coast Branch	Feb., Apr., June, 1942
25/2	Southern California Branch	Dec. 1942, Apr. 1943, Apr. 1944
Box/Folder		
25/2	Minorities in the U. S.	May 15, 1942
25/3	Church Federation Bulletin	Dec. 1942
25/3	Federal Council of the Churches of America	Dec. 6, 1943

Periodicals

Description	Dates
Methodist Church - <i>The Christian Advocate</i>	
Poston Relocation Center - <i>Poston Notes and Activities</i>	Apr. 1943
WRA - Field Bulletin - North Central Area	May 15, 1945

Newsletters

Description	Dates
WRA - Kansas City Area Relocation Office	Sept. - Nov. 1943
North Central Area	May 1944

Newsheets

Description	Dates
WRA - National Japanese American Student Relocation Council	Jan. 1945 - June 1945

News Releases

Container(s)	Description
Box/Folder	
25/9	WRA - Office of War Information re: Tule Lake

Newspapers

Container(s)	Description	Dates
	Japanese American Citizens League	
Box/Folder		

Container(s)	Description	Dates
25/10	<i>Pacific Citizen</i>	Dec. 18, 1943, Oct. 7, 1944
25/10	<i>Heart Mountain Sentinel</i>	Nov. 27, 1943

Clippings

Container(s)	Description	Dates
Box/Folder		
25/11	Miscellaneous	1942-1943

Ephemera

Container(s)	Description	Dates
Box/Folder		
25/12	Nursing	1942-1944
25/13	Miscellaneous	1943-1945

Folio of Drawings

Container(s)	Description
Box/Folder	
25/14	Prints after Sketches of Relocation Centers by Henry Fukuhaba

Names and Subjects

Subject Terms :

Japanese Americans--Education--East (U.S.)
 Japanese Americans--Employment--East (U.S.)
 Japanese Americans--Evacuation and relocation, 1942-1945
 Japanese Americans--Housing--Illinois--Chicago
 World War, 1939-1945--Japanese Americans
 World War, 1939-1945--War work--Society of Friends

Corporate Names :

Records of the American Friends Service Committee, Midwest Branch, Advisory Committee for Evacuees, 1942-1963
<http://archiveswest.orbiscascade.org/ark:/80444/xv41391>

American Friends Service Committee. Midwest Branch. Advisory Committee for Evacuees--Archives
National Japanese American Student Relocation Council
United States. War Relocation Authority

Geographical Names :

Chicago (Ill.)--Emigration and immigration--Social aspects

Form or Genre Terms :

Prints

Names and Subjects

Subject Terms :

Personal Papers/Corporate Records (University of Washington)

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