

Mildred and Frank Miles Scrapbook of the Santo Tomás Internment Camp, 1942-1947

Overview of the Collection

Creator	Miles, Mildred.
Title	Mildred and Frank Miles Scrapbook of the Santo Tomás Internment Camp
Dates	1942-1947 (inclusive) 1942 1947
Quantity	0.2 cubic feet, (1 oversize box)
Collection Number	MSS Miles
Summary	The Mildred and Frank Miles Scrapbook of the Santo Tomás Internment Camp scrapbook includes documents and ephemera produced at Santo Tomás during the Miles' internment there, as well as materials written about the camp after liberation. Many materials document daily life in the internment camp. The Santo Tomás Internment Camp was created by the Japanese military after occupation of Manila, the capital of the Phillipines. It was located on the campus of the University of Santo Tomás in Manila, and housed over 4,000 internees for nearly the entirety of World War II.
Repository	Oregon State University Libraries, Special Collections and Archives Research Center Special Collections and Archives Research Center 121 The Valley Library Oregon State University Corvallis OR 97331-4501 Telephone: 541-737-2075 Fax: 541-737-8674 scarc@oregonstate.edu
Access Restrictions	Collection is open for research. The scrapbook is fragile; handle with care.
Languages	English

Biographical Note

Frank C. and Mildred Miles were interned at the Santo Tomás Internment Camp in Manila, Philippines for three years and one month. They lived in Manila for nearly 25 years, and continued living there after their internment. They were interned with their daughter Janet and her husband Herbert Searl, and two grandchildren. Frank C. Miles was born on March 23, 1890 in Meadow Grove, Nebraska and worked as an executive for a public utility in Manila at the time of their internment. He died on October 13, 1974 in San Diego, California.

The Santo Tomás Internment Camp was created by the Japanese military after occupation of Manila, the capital of the Phillipines. It was located on the campus of the University of Santo Tomás in Manila,

and housed over 4,000 internees for nearly the entirety of World War II. Approximately 3,200 of these were American citizens. Living conditions were poor at the start of the internment camp and deteriorated over the course of the war, resulting in 390 total deaths.

Content Description

The scrapbook includes documents and ephemera produced at Santo Tomás during the Miles' internment, as well as materials written about the camp after liberation. Many of the materials, including song sheets, camp newsletters, photographs, radio scripts, and other ephemera document daily life in the camp and address issues of overcrowding, resource distribution, morale, and lack of supplies. Many newspaper clippings pasted into the scrapbook document the days leading up to the camp's liberation by American forces on February 4, 1945. Notable documents include the *Liberation Bulletin*, a newsheet produced in the camp immediately after it was liberated. The *Bulletin* contains a timeline of the thirty-seven months of internment from the arrival of the first internees on January 4th, 1942, until the last day in camp, as well as results of a census taken at all three local camps including Santo Tomás, Los Baños, and Baguio. Covering food prices, garden production, average daily calorie intake, weight loss, and number of deaths, the *Bulletin* is a poignant summary of over three years of life in the camp. Other notable documents include a sheet of song lyrics from the "Santo Tomás Show," a radio show written and performed by internees, and *The Internitis*, a pamphlet filled with short stories, comic strips, and anecdotes from camp. Both of these documents and others in the scrapbook show internees' effort at humor and keeping up morale throughout their ordeal.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

This scrapbook was part of a donation from the Kappa Delta sorority chapter at Oregon State University in August 2015 and was separated from those records at the time of accession.

Related Materials

A reproduction of the Santo Tomas camp newsletter, *Internews*, is available in the Valley Library Main Stacks at [D805. P6 R4](#).

The Special Collections and Archives Research Center has many other collections related to World War II, including personal narratives such as the [Wesley Ross Memoir of WWII](#).

Find Related Collections

Subject Terms :

[Prisoners of war.](#)

[World War, 1939-1945--Philippines.](#)

[World War, 1939-1945--Prisoners and prisons, Japanese.](#)

Personal Names :

[Miles, Frank C., 1890-1974.](#)

[Miles, Mildred.](#)

Corporate Names :

[Santo Tomas Internment Camp \(Manila, Philippines\)](#)

Mildred and Frank Miles Scrapbook of the Santo Tomás
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<http://archiveswest.orbiscascade.org/ark:/80444/xv12789>

Form or Genre Terms :

[Scrapbooks.](#)

Other Creators :

Personal Names :

[Miles, Frank C., 1890-1974.](#) (creator)