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JAPANESE-AMERICAN RELOCATION CAMP NEWSPAPERS: PERSPECTIVES ON DAY-TO-DAY LIFE



One of the darker chapters in American history and one of the lesser discussed events of World War II was the forced internment, during the war, of an important segment of the American population—persons of Japanese descent. This collection, consisting of 25 individual titles, documents life in the internment camps.

Date Range: 1942-1945

Content: 24,838 images

Source Library: Library of Congress

Detailed Description:

The bombing of Pearl Harbor and the war that followed were well covered by the national press; however, little was known of the actions this nation took in regard to the Japanese-American minority population living on the West Coast. In the months following the attack on Pearl Harbor, the U.S. government was besieged with demands that action be taken against the Japanese in the form of removal from "sensitive areas" and incarceration in camps, preferably located in the interior of the U.S. These demands and subsequent actions were motivated by the fear that Japanese-Americans would become a fifth column for the Japanese military command and spy against the U.S. By April 1942, more than 100,000 Japanese persons - aliens and American citizens - were housed in what came to be known as relocation centers run by the War Relocation Authority. This abrupt uprooting not only violated the civil rights of Japanese-Americans, but also caused great financial sacrifice, since much property was sold at distress prices. Every person was allowed to take only what could be carried.

Although histories exist about this chapter in American history, this digital collection of Japanese relocation camp newspapers record the concerns and the day-to-day life of the interned Japanese-Americans. Although articles in these files frequently appear in Japanese, most of the papers are in English or in dual text. Many of the 25 titles constituting this collection are complete or substantially complete. Editions have been carefully collated

and omissions are noted. A sampling of titles include: *Rohwer Outpost*, *Poston Chronicle*, *Gila News Courier*, *Tulean Dispatch*, *Granada Pioneer*, *Minndoka Irrigator*, *Topaz Times*, *Manzanar Free Press*, *Denson Tribune*, and *Heart Mountain Sentinel*.