

Dates: 1943 – 1945

Volumes: 1

Size: 1 lf (1 box)

Abstract:

This scrapbook was made by Ruth Takahashi Voorhies and pertains to her life in Poston internment camp.

Biography/History:

Ruth Takahashi Voorhies was born in San Diego on February 26, 1923. Her father, Goichiro Harry Takahashi, first immigrated to the United States at the age of 18. He worked in a local restaurant and operated his own fruit stand. Her mother, Kotonon Takahashi, immigrated in 1918 at the age of 23. Ruth's parents met in San Diego through a mutual friend and married around 1922.

After Ruth's father died, her mother ran her own pool hall to make ends meet. Ruth and her younger brother "Ray" Kikuo worked there until 1942 when they were evacuated. Ruth and her family were first sent to Santa Anita before going to Poston. In May 1945, Ruth left Poston to go to her aunt and uncle in Denver.

Ruth returned to San Diego alone after the war ended. She lived with the Kawasaki family and worked in their grocery store while taking business classes at San Diego Junior College. Ruth's mother returned to San Diego from Denver in early 1946 and they soon moved into the Frontier Homes Housing Project in the Midway district. Ruth then got a job as a civil servant for the City of San Diego in Public Works Administration where she worked for 43 years. In 1956 she married Clifton Lowell Voorhies and had one son Donald Clark Voorhies.

Scope and Content:

This scrapbook was made by Ruth Takahashi Voorhies and pertains to her life in Poston internment camp. The contents of the scrapbook are primarily newspaper clippings and ephemera related to events she attended. There are also various clippings pertaining to the activities and jobs that she was involved in the camp. The scrapbook also contains numerous notes from friends when she is leaving the camp.

Arrangement:

The scrapbook appears to be in no specific order.

Condition and Preservation:

The pages are brittle and discolored and the scrapbook has metal hinges. For preservation purposes, the scrapbook was deconstructed. Loose materials were removed and placed in a folder at the end.

Citation:

Ruth Takahashi Voorhies Poston Scrapbook, SB 8, Japanese American Historical Society of San Diego Archives.

Collection Access Restrictions:

The collection is open for research.

Collection Use Restrictions:

Restrictions may apply.

Language of Materials:

English

Processing Information:

Jorgelina Martinez

Provenance: Created by Ruth Takahashi Voorhies.**Accession:** 2007.3

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Title/Subjects</u>	<u>Date</u>
1	1	<p>Pages 1-5:</p> <p>“My Evacuation Tid Bits”</p> <p>Travel bag tags, time cards, mess ticket from Santa Anita.</p> <p>Newspaper clippings from “Poston News”- families leaving the camp; activities in the camp.</p> <p>“Poston’s Own” - wedding invitations</p> <p>“Proud Block” clippings - achievements of the softball team Block 322 and one loss.</p>	<p>n.d</p> <p>n.d</p> <p>March, 1944</p> <p>March 1943, 1944</p> <p>May-June, 1944</p>
1	2	<p>Pages 6-11:</p> <p>“Left-overs Of A ‘Happy Birthday’ ‘44” - a birthday card and a happy birthday letter written on toilet paper.</p> <p>Newspaper clippings - pertaining to the basketball team the Phylesiuns and their achievements, and photograph of the team.</p> <p>“Basketball ‘44” - clippings related to the Phylesiuns achievements.</p> <p>Newspaper clippings - a teacher’s perspective of how harmless Japanese Americans are; help wanted ads for the canning factory.</p>	<p>February 26, 1944</p> <p>March, 1944</p> <p>March-April 1944</p> <p>1943 - 1944</p>

		Newspaper clippings - dances for the Phylesiuns basketball team and achievements for members of the team. A corsage for the Phylesiun Installation. "Girls Sports '44" - clippings related to sports for girls and the Phylesiuns.	1942 – 1944 April-May 1944
1	3	Pages 12-17 Membership cards - library, Buddhist Association; a worker's permit card; play ticket; commencement exercise card. Pay stubs and tax forms from the canning company. Notice of Assignments, pay checks and button from the California Glass company. Newspaper clippings - weddings and engagements in the camp. "U.S. Army Camp Letterheads" - various letterheads with military insignias.	September, 1943 – January, 1945 1943 1943 March, 1944 n.d
1	4	Pages 18-22 "U.S. Army Camp Letterheads" - various letterheads with military insignias. Newspaper clippings - Girls Softball	n.d. 1944
1	5	Pages 23-28 Newspaper clippings - Camp IV and Unit 3 softball teams' achievements. "Personalities in the News" clippings - advertisement for activities; soldiers injured from the war effort; events in honor of the boys leaving to join service. "Poston Dance Bios" - invitations to dances held in camp. "Phylesiun Events" - invitations to events for the basketball team.	n.d. n.d. 1943 – 1944 1943 – 1944

		“More Personalities” clippings - boys wounded in action; betrothals; advertisement for activities; a positive encounter a Japanese-American had with a G.I.	n.d.
1	6	<p>Pages 29-34</p> <p>Newspaper clippings - wounded soldiers in the war efforts; boys leaving for the war; and honoring soldiers.</p> <p>Invitations to dances in her camp and workplace.</p> <p>Invitations to dances from the Stork Club, sports teams (Phylesiuns), housing department social.</p> <p>“Basketball 45” clippings - Camp 4 basketball team victories.</p> <p>Newspaper clippings - recruitment for new team members; results; scheduling of Camp 4 basketball team.</p> <p>“Greetings from the Army!” - Holiday cards from boys in the army.</p>	<p>n.d.</p> <p>1944 – 1945</p> <p>1942 – 1945</p> <p>1945</p> <p>n.d.</p> <p>December 1944</p>
1	7	<p>Pages 35-40</p> <p>“Genuine Poston” - Holiday greeting cards and a souvenir from New Orleans.</p> <p>Newspaper clippings - basketball news; community activities; soldiers visiting.</p> <p>Newspaper clippings - announcing Ruth’s departure from Poston; honoring of Nisei soldiers.</p> <p>“Scenic Spots of Pisa, Italy” - postcards from Pisa.</p> <p>Postcard from Lecco, Italy.</p> <p>Money from Italy and Germany.</p>	<p>n.d.</p> <p>March 1945</p> <p>May - September 1945</p> <p>n.d.</p> <p>n.d.</p> <p>n.d.</p>
1	8	<p>Pages 41-44</p> <p>Money from France.</p>	n.d.

		<p>A letter in Japanese announcing the death of Army Commander General Nagaisa.</p> <p>Rose Bowl ticket; Japanese American Identification card.</p> <p>Money from the Philippines as well as from the countries invaded by the Japanese.</p>	<p>June 22, 1945</p> <p>January 1940, 1942</p> <p>n.d.</p>
1	9	<p>Pages 45-49</p> <p>Goodbye notes from acquaintances in the camp.</p> <p>Goodbye notes from acquaintances in the camp.</p> <p>Goodbye notes from acquaintances in the camp.</p>	<p>April 1945</p> <p>May, March 1945</p> <p>May 1945</p>
1	10	<p>Pages 50-55</p> <p>Goodbye notes from acquaintances in the camp</p> <p>Goodbye notes from acquaintances in the camp</p> <p>Goodbye notes from acquaintances in the camp.</p>	<p>April 1945</p> <p>May, 1945</p> <p>May, 1945</p>
1	11	<p>Pages 56-57</p> <p>Goodbye notes from acquaintances in the camp</p> <p>Goodbye notes from acquaintances in the camp</p> <p>Goodbye notes from the 12-C boys.</p>	<p>March, 1945</p> <p>April, 1945</p> <p>n.d.</p>
1	12	<p>Loose materials:</p> <p>Newspapers clipping from the "Coronet" - Nisei accomplishments in the war efforts.</p> <p>Ephemera - menu from (her father) Harry's Café; menu from Wong's Nanking Café.</p>	<p>May 1945</p> <p>n.d.</p>