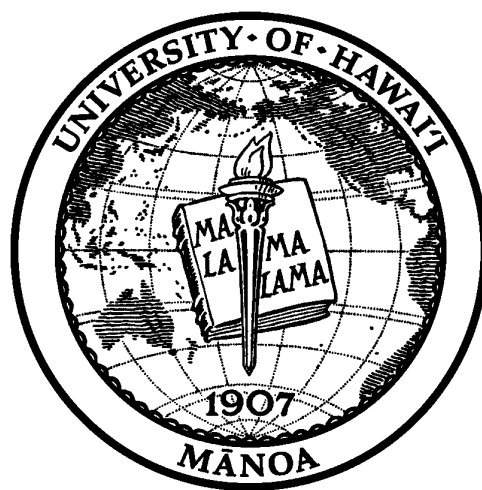


UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT MĀNOA

# Kiyoshi Sasaki Scrapbooks

## Finding Aid



AJA 013

Japanese American Veterans Collection

Archives & Manuscripts Department  
University of Hawaii at Manoa Library

May 2008

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## **Introductory Information**

**Collection Name:** Kiyoshi Sasaki Scrapbooks

**Collection Number:** AJA 013

**Dates:** 1944-2003 (bulk: 1944-1949)

**Size of Collection:** 1.1 linear feet

**Creator of Papers:** Kiyoshi Sasaki

### **Abstract:**

Kiyoshi Sasaki (1921-) served in the U.S. Army Military Intelligence Service (MIS) in China and worked as a translator in occupied Japan. The collection consists primarily of an autograph book filled with photographs and inscriptions by Sasaki's classmates at the MIS Language School, and a scrapbook containing memorabilia and documents collected during Sasaki's World War II career, but especially during his training period on the U.S. Mainland.

## Administrative Information

- Repository Information:** Archives & Manuscripts Department  
University of Hawaii at Manoa Library  
2550 McCarthy Mall  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96822  
Phone: (808) 956-6047  
Fax: (808) 956-5968  
Email: [archives@hawaii.edu](mailto:archives@hawaii.edu)  
URL: <http://libweb.hawaii.edu/libdept/archives/>
- Processing Archivist:** Matt Reeder
- Completion Date:** May 2008
- Restrictions:** Some fragile items may be handled by staff only.
- Provenance:** Donated by Kiyoshi Sasaki of Honolulu in November 2007.
- Preferred Citation:** [Identification of item], Kiyoshi Sasaki Scrapbooks, Archives & Manuscripts Department, University of Hawaii at Manoa Library.
- Copyright Notice:** Copyright is retained by the authors of items in this collection, their descendants, or the repository if copyright has been signed over, as stipulated by United States copyright law. It is the responsibility of the user to determine any copyright restrictions, obtain written permission, and pay any fees necessary for the reproduction or proposed use of the materials.
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## Biographical Sketch

Kiyoshi Sasaki (1921-) served in the American Military Intelligence Service (MIS) in China and worked as a translator in occupied Japan. Sasaki was the fourth child of Shotaro and Katsu Sasaki, who had previously settled in the Moiliili District of Honolulu after emigrating from Wakayama Prefecture, Japan. The family returned to Japan when Sasaki was a toddler, but after one year, Sasaki and his father came back to Hawaii. Sasaki attended Hawaii public schools (including McKinley High School) and McCully Japanese School. In November 1939, Sasaki moved to Japan to attend Meiji University in Tokyo. In July 1941, however, he returned to take jobs on Oahu.

Sasaki volunteered for the Army and was sent to Military Intelligence Service Language School at Camp Savage, Minnesota, to improve his Japanese language skills in January 1944. He went to Fort McClellan, Alabama, for basic training in September and returned to Minnesota (this time to Fort Snelling) for further language training from November through April 1945. Sasaki became a staff sergeant and was sent to Kunming, via Australia and Calcutta, as the leader of a team to be attached to the Chinese 71<sup>st</sup> army. They saw action at Kweilin before the war ended in August. He disarmed Japanese Army units at Hankow and rested at Shanghai before proceeding to Tokyo to head a translation team at the Allied Translating and Interpreting Section (ATIS). In December 1946 he became a second lieutenant and interviewed Japanese prisoners of war just returned from Siberia. He started working for the civilian Civil Censorship Detachment in Tokyo in December 1947 and worked there until he returned home to Hawaii in November 1949.

Sasaki married Hanayo Kurosawa, who had also been employed with the Civil Censorship Detachment, on Oct. 14, 1950. He resigned his army commission in 1953 to take a position with the Central Intelligence Agency in Tokyo; he returned to Hawaii on his retirement in 1973. Sasaki continued working for construction companies on Oahu until his full retirement in 1990.

## Scope & Content Note

The collection consists primarily of an autograph book, filled with photographs and inscriptions by Sasaki's classmates at the MIS Language School, and a scrapbook containing memorabilia and documents collected during Sasaki's World War II career but especially during his training period on the U.S. Mainland. Inscriptions and photographs in the autograph book date from 1944 and 1945, and materials in the scrapbook date from 1944 to 1949, with the bulk from 1944 and 1945. There is only one series in this collection.

The scrapbooks were kept in the personal collection of the creator until they were given to the Japanese American Veterans Collection in 2007. The pages of the two books, and some of the scrapbook content, are yellowed and brittle but the material is in otherwise good condition. Acid-free, thin leaf paper has been placed between pages containing items especially susceptible to acidification and decay.

For related material, see the Hawaii War Records Depository, the bibliography of titles on Japanese Americans in World War II, and the other collections in the Japanese American Veterans Collection.

## Series Description

There is only one series in this collection.

**Series Name:** Kiyoshi Sasaki Scrapbooks

**Dates:** 1944-2003 (bulk: 1944-1949)

**Size of Series:** 1.1 linear feet

**Physical Format:** One folder and two scrapbooks

**Arrangement:** None

### Description of Contents:

The Kiyoshi Sasaki Scrapbooks consist of a few general documents in a folder and two scrapbooks. The documents include timelines of Sasaki's life and wartime career compiled by his wife, Hanayo Sasaki. The first scrapbook is actually an autograph book with each page dedicated to one of Sasaki's classmates at the Military Intelligence Service Language School at Camp Savage and Fort Snelling, Minnesota. Most pages contain a photograph of one of Sasaki's classmates, an inscription written by the classmate, and the person's autograph. The back of the book contains photographs of, and inscriptions by, some of Sasaki's female friends from the area. These photographs and inscriptions date from 1944 and 1945.

The second scrapbook contains memorabilia and documents collected during Sasaki's training period at Camp Savage; trips to New York City, Boston and Washington; further training at Fort McClellan, Alabama, and Fort Snelling, Minnesota; trip on the *USS Greely* across the Pacific to India; service in the China Theater; break in Shanghai after the Japanese surrender; and life in Japan as an interpreter and translator during the occupation. These documents and memorabilia date from 1944 to 1949.