



Smithsonian  
*National Museum of American History*  
*Kenneth E. Behring Center*

## Guide to the William M. Marutani Papers

NMAH.AC.0890

Jeff Meade

2005

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## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	Archives Center, National Museum of American History
<b>Title:</b>	William M. Marutani Papers
<b>Identifier:</b>	NMAH.AC.0890
<b>Date:</b>	1940-2003
<b>Extent:</b>	1 Cubic foot (4 boxes)
<b>Source:</b>	Marutani, Victoria Marutani, William M.
<b>Language:</b>	English
<b>Summary:</b>	These materials are arranged chronologically and include information about Marutani's life and professional activities. The series includes information about his time in the Army, his association with Tule Lake, his work on the Loving v. Virginia case, photographs, a plaque from the Tule Lake Reunion Committee, and lecture research and notes.
<b>Digital Content:</b>	<a href="#">Image(s): William M. Marutani Papers</a>

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## Administrative Information

### Acquisition Information

Donated to the Archives Center by Marutani's widow, Victoria Marutani, in 2005.

### Processing Information

Jeff Meade, June 9, 2005; Katherine Chouiniere, updated, December, 2005; supervised by John Fleckner, archivist

### Preferred Citation

William M. Marutani Papers, 1942-2002, Archives Center, National Museum of American History.

### Restrictions

Collection is open for research.

### Conditions Governing Use

Collection items available for reproduction, but the Archives Center makes no guarantees concerning copyright restrictions. Other intellectual property rights may apply. Archives Center cost-recovery and use fees may apply when requesting reproductions.

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## Biographical / Historical

William M. Marutani, a second generation Japanese American, was born in Kent, Washington. In the fall of 1941, he enrolled in courses at the University of Washington, but was forced to leave because of Executive Order 9066, which initiated the wartime incarceration of Japanese Americans. Marutani was taken to Fresno Assembly Center in the spring of 1942, and three months later was transferred to Tule Lake concentration camp, where he spent an additional three months. At the age of 20, he volunteered for the armed forces but was denied because of his Japanese ancestry. However, in 1944, he was inducted into a military intelligence school and later sent to Japan where he served in the Counter Intelligence Corps. In 1953, Marutani graduated from the University of Chicago Law School and joined the firm of MacCoy, Evans, and Lewis. He provided legal counsel for the Japanese American Citizens League (JACL) and presented arguments in *Loving v. Virginia*, the ruling that struck down anti-miscegenation laws. In 1981, President Jimmy Carter appointed Marutani to the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians (CWRIC). This commission was created to investigate the incarceration of Japanese Americans and reparations for that action. Marutani was the only Japanese American to serve on the Commission. Based on his recommendations, Congress issued a payment with an apology to those affected. Marutani accepted the apology from President George Bush but refused the payment. Marutani passed away on November 15, 2004, at the age of 81.

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## Scope and Contents

Papers mostly relating to Marutani's activism on behalf of former inmates of Japanese American internment camps during World War II, including: papers relating to Marutani's service with the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians, notes, facts and copies of historic documents he gathered; correspondence with former internees; photographs of camps and internees; legislative and litigative materials; and papers relating to Marutani's own wartime and post-war experiences.

This collection documents Marutani's activism on behalf of former Japanese American internment camp residents. Included are papers relating to Marutani's involvement with the CWRIC, notes, research, and photocopies of historic documents; correspondence; photographs of camps and internees; and legislative and litigation materials. Also, there are papers relating to Marutani's own wartime and post-war experiences.

Series 1: Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians (CWRIC), 1940-1990 These materials relate to the investigation by the Commission and the response to the results. Series one is divided into two subseries: Correspondence, 1980-1984 and Reference Materials, 1942-1990. The correspondence is in the original order that Marutani created and relates to research, communications between Commission members, and reactions to the Commission's findings. The reference materials also include research done in affiliation with the Commission.

Series Two: William M. Marutani Papers, 1942-2003

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## Arrangement

Collection arranged into one series.

## Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

Subjects:

Concentration camps -- 1942-1945 -- United States  
Japanese Americans -- Evacuation and relocation, 1942-1945

Types of Materials:

Awards  
Correspondence -- 1950-2000  
Legal documents -- 1940-2000  
Photographs -- 20th century

Names:

Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians  
Japanese Americans Citizens League  
Marutani, Victoria

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## Container Listing

### Series 1: Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians (CWRIC), 1940-1990

#### Subseries 1.1: Correspondence, 1980-1984

- |                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| Box 1, Folder 1-4 | "Wartime Commission"—Correspondence Vol. 1, January 1981- May 1983   |
| Box 1, Folder 5-6 | "Wartime Commission"—Correspondence Vol. 2, December 1980- June 1983 |
| Box 1, Folder 7   | "Wartime Commission"—Correspondence Vol. 3, 1982                     |
| Box 2, Folder 1   | "Wartime Commission"—Correspondence Vol. 3, 1982                     |
| Box 2, Folder 2   | "Wartime Commission"—Correspondence Vol. 4, July 1983                |

#### "Wartime Commission"—Correspondence and Misc. Documents, 1980-1984

#### Subseries 1.2: Reference Materials, 1942-1990

- |                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| Box 2, Folder 4-5 | CWRIC History and Summary, 1980-1982  |
| Box 2, Folder 6   | CWRIC Index, Transcript of Hearings, July 14, 1981- December 9, 1981  |
| Box 2, Folder 7   | Karl Bendetsen Telephone Conversation, 1942, 1982   |
| Box 2, Folder 8   | McCloy and Bendetsen, regarding 1943 testimony, 1982  |
| Box 2, Folder 9   | CWRIC Reference, including a copy of "The Lost Years" by Sue Embrey and the Testimony of Major Shirly, 1983                     |
| Box 2, Folder 10  | CWRIC Miscellaneous, 1944, 1973, 1983   |
| Box 2, Folder 11  | Key Kobayashi, Senryu Poem and letter to CWRIC, 1983  |
| Box 2, Folder 12  | LIM Report, a research report prepared for the Presidential Select Committee on JAACL (Japanese American Citizens League), 1990 |

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## Series 2: William M. Marutani Papers, 1942-2003

- |                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| Box 3, Folder 1  | Photograph of Tule Lake, circa 1942   |
| Box 3, Folder 2  | Army Records, 1943-1953   |
| Box 3, Folder 3  | Tribute to Japanese American Military Service in World War II, Arlington Cemetery, 1963   |
| Box 3, Folder 4  | Nisei Military Service in World War II, 1963  |
| Box 3, Folder 5  | Loving vs. Virginia, Legal Brief, 1966  |
| Box 3, Folder 6  | Loving vs. Virginia, Legal Brief Photocopy, 1966  |
| Box 3, Folder 7  | Photographs of Swearing-in 1975, 1977<br><a href="#">Image(s)</a>                         |
| Box 4, Folder 1  | Certificate appointing Marutani as Judge of the Court of Common Pleas, Philadelphia, 1975 |
| Box 4, Folder 2  | Plaque given to Marutani by the Tule Lake Reunion Committee, 1988                         |
| Box 3, Folder 8  | Tule Lake Directory and Camp News, Published 1988, Received by Marutani in 1994           |
| Box 3, Folder 9  | Marutani Oral History for Japanese American National Museum, 2002                         |
| Box 3, Folder 10 | E.O. 9066, Notes and Research for a Lecture, April, 10, 2003                              |
| Box 3, Folder 11 | E.O. 9066, Notes, Testimonies, and a Redress pamphlet, compiled for a lecture, 2003       |
| Box 3, Folder 12 | E.O. 9066, Photocopies of Internment Camp Photos, 2003                                    |

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