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Guides include the material known to be relevant to their subject area but they are not necessarily a complete or definitive guide to all relevant material in the collection.

The National Archives reviews its collection to confirm the value of records for research, evidential and other purposes or to identify, in consultation with agencies, records for destruction. At the time of publication all the records described in this guide were present in the Archives’ collection. However, it is possible that some of the records may be destroyed if they are reviewed and considered not to be of enduring value. If this occurs, the guide will be revised accordingly.

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Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are advised that this guide may include images of Indigenous Australians who may be deceased.

Cover image: Celebration at the Japanese Consulate, Sydney, New Year’s Day, 1939 (photograph taken by Ichiro Kagiyama). National Archives of Australia: C123, 9895
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ACRONYMS

ABC Australian Broadcasting Commission/ Australian Broadcasting Corporation (after 1983)
ACJ Allied Council for Japan
ACT Australian Capital Territory
AIF Australian Imperial Force
AMF Australian Military Forces
ATIS Allied Translator and Interpreter Service
ARM Australian Reparations Mission
BCOF British Commonwealth Occupation Force
CEDT/s Certificate of Exemption from the Dictation Test/certificates of exemption from the Dictation Test
COSC the Chiefs of Staff Committee
DFDC Defence Force Development Committee
FEC Far Eastern Commission
GATT General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade
HIJMS His Imperial Japanese Majesty’s Ship
NEI Netherlands East Indies
NSW New South Wales
NT Northern Territory
NYK Nippon Yusen Kaisha (Japanese trading company)
OSK Osaka Shosen Kaisha (Japanese trading company)
POW/s Prisoner-of-war/prisoners-of-war
Qld Queensland
RAAF Royal Australian Air Force
RAN Royal Australian Navy
SA South Australia
SCAP Supreme Commander Allied Powers (General Douglas MacArthur)
SCAPIN Supreme Commander Allied Powers Instruction
SEATO South-East Asia Treaty Organisation
UK United Kingdom
UN United Nations
USA/US United States of America/United States
Vic Victoria
WA Western Australia
WCC War Criminals Compound
INTRODUCTION

The National Archives of Australia

The National Archives of Australia ensures that full and accurate records documenting Commonwealth Government activities are created and kept. From this massive body of information the Archives selects, cares for and makes available to all, those records of continuing value. This collection constitutes the archives of the Commonwealth Government, a vast and rich resource for the study of Australian history, society and people.

The collection spans almost 200 years of Australian history. Its main focus is on material documenting Commonwealth Government activity since Federation in 1901. The Archives also has significant holdings of nineteenth-century records about functions transferred by the colonies to the Commonwealth Government at the time of Federation and subsequently. The records described in this guide are a small but significant part of the collection.

Access to the National Archives’ collection is provided free of charge in public reading rooms located in each capital city. Researchers are assisted by specialist reference staff and are provided with reference tools to help them identify and use the records in the collection. These reference tools include the RecordSearch and PhotoSearch databases, guides, publications and fact sheets. Researchers unable to visit a reading room may seek information and help by telephone, mail, facsimile or email.

RecordSearch and PhotoSearch provide information about agencies, persons and series as well as descriptions of over two million individual items. They are available for online searching in reading rooms located in all offices of the National Archives, at the Australian War Memorial and on the National Archives’ website.

The National Archives’ website (www.naa.gov.au) provides extensive information about the Archives, its collection and the services it offers. A visit to the site will help researchers determine whether the Archives holds records relevant to their research. Fact sheets and online guides on various topics are also available on the Archives’ website.

About this guide

This guide describes records held in the National Archives’ collection that support research into Australia’s contact with Japan and the Japanese people throughout the twentieth century.

In the preparation of the guide emphasis has been given to identifying material covering matters such as the immigration to Australia of Japanese people, their citizenship of and residence in Australia, cultural visits and exchanges, trade, shipping and particular industries in which there has been a traditional Japanese interest such as pearling and fishing. Matters involving government-to-government considerations such as defence and security, trade agreements and diplomatic representation are also covered. Lesser emphasis
has been given to the records of World War II, which saw Australia and Japan at war between 1941 and 1945. Listing all these records would be the task of a single guide in itself and would need to include the collections of the Australian War Memorial as well as those of the Archives. Particular topics related to Australia and the Japanese during World War II, such as the bombing of Darwin, the midget submarine attack on Sydney Harbour, the escape of Japanese from the Cowra prisoner-of-war camp and the records of war crimes trials, although referred to in this guide, are specifically covered by National Archives’ fact sheets.

Only rarely do whole series relate to the Japanese or Australia’s relations with Japan. More often it is the case that a lone file or sequence of files within a series relating to matters such as immigration, foreign relations, trade or domestic security deal with issues relating to Japan or the Japanese. Some 14,000 relevant items have been identified on the Archives’ online records database, RecordSearch, for the period between the 1890s and 1971, and it is estimated that there might be a similar number not yet listed individually on RecordSearch. In view of the amount of material, not all relevant items have been listed in the guide. In many cases the guide provides examples of the holdings in each series and offers strategies for identifying additional relevant items.

The structure of the guide

This guide has been organised according to topics that are of general interest or are considered to be fruitful areas of research for scholars. It is recommended that key phrases in the chapter titles and the subdivision headings within chapters be used as keyword search terms in RecordSearch.

Chapter 1 is a brief history of Australian-Japanese relations, from the end of Japan’s period of isolation in 1866 until the postwar economic partnership established between the two nations.

Chapter 2 relates to immigration and includes records documenting arrivals and departures, the ongoing residence of Japanese nationals under Australian immigration law, illegal immigrants and deportees, shipping and ships’ crews, and Japanese given exemption from immigration restrictions. Many of these records document matters relating to individual people and are of particular interest to family and business historians.

Chapter 3 relates to cultural contact and exchanges between Australia and Japan before World War II. This includes cultural exchanges and a range of official visits, including defence training visits by Japanese naval vessels.

Chapter 4 is devoted to trade and diplomatic relations between Australia and Japan before World War II.

Chapter 5 deals with the drift towards war. It is mainly concerned with Australian perceptions of Japan’s behaviour during the second half of the 1930s and Australia’s reactions to it.

Chapter 6 covers records relating to World War II. As noted previously, it is not concerned with the conduct of the war between Australia and Japan, but with issues of Australia’s home security provisions and Australian experiences in occupied Japanese territory as civilians and prisoners-of-war.
Chapter 7 includes records that chart the path to peace in the period between the signing of the Japanese Surrender in August 1945 and the signing of the Japanese Peace Treaty in 1952. It also includes records on the role of Australia in the British Commonwealth Occupation Force, which occupied Japan after the war, and records related to war reparations and the resumption of diplomatic relations.

Chapter 8 documents the resumption and ongoing development of the Australian–Japanese trading relationship, and the subsequent development of the cultural relationship and relations at the broader government-to-government level.

Format of Japanese names

Many of the names of Japanese people appear in the format in which they were recorded by Australian Government officials at the time the records were created. Because of a general unfamiliarity with Japanese conventions in recording names, especially in the period before World War II, there are many cases where the record title may confuse the order of the first name and the surname. In general the Anglo-Australian convention of placing the surname last has been used. The spelling of names may also vary and it is suggested that possible variations of spelling be explored in searches using RecordSearch.

Accessing records

Under the Archives Act 1983, most Commonwealth Government records in the National Archives’ collection are available for access once they are more than 30 years old. Records over 30 years old are said to be in the ‘open period’.

Not all records are available immediately for public access. Some may first require examination to ensure they do not contain information that falls into certain categories, called ‘exemption categories’ (see Fact Sheet 46, available online at www.naa.gov.au under Publications).

If records are withheld from public access following their examination, National Archives’ reference staff will explain why the records have been withheld and how to appeal against the decision. Fact Sheet 12 deals with rights to appeal against exemptions.

If a record has either partly or wholly been withheld from public release, RecordSearch will show the exemption category under which the information is exempted or will indicate whether some information has been withheld because it is not yet in the open period.

Details of many records listed in this guide are available through the National Archives’ online databases RecordSearch and PhotoSearch (described on the following page), which may show the access status of records in the following ways:

**Open**

The record is entirely open to the public.

**Open with exception**

The record has some information withheld from public release.

**Withheld pending agency advice**

All or part of the record has been referred to an agency for advice.
Closed

The record has been withheld entirely from public release.

Not yet examined

The record has not yet been examined by National Archives’ staff for public release.

If RecordSearch indicates that a record is not yet examined, an application for access can be submitted either through the National Archives’ website (www.naa.gov.au) or in writing to the Archives. On receipt of the application for access, the Archives will examine the record for public release and then inform clients of the outcome of the process. Researchers should note that while the examination of records may take only a day or less, sometimes the records need to be referred to agencies or overseas and it may be weeks or months before they are available for access. The Archives informs its clients of delays in the examination process. There is no charge for applications for access to records.

RecordSearch and PhotoSearch

The National Archives has two principal electronic catalogues to assist researchers to access its collection. RecordSearch is the National Archives’ collection database. It contains descriptions of 80 000 collections (called series) and just under 5 million record items as well as details of about 9 000 creators and depositors. The National Archives continues to add item entries to RecordSearch at a rate of several hundred thousand each year. The database currently describes only about 10% of all items in the collection, so to ensure that their search is comprehensive, researchers should also contact reference staff and search other finding aids.

PhotoSearch is an online catalogue containing a selection of digital images from the National Archives’ photographic collections. PhotoSearch currently contains more than 80 000 online images. Several thousand images are added to PhotoSearch each month.

Record descriptions

Each entry in this guide describes a group of records maintained together as a series. A series is made up of items, which are often individual files (sometimes volumes, sets of cards, photographs and other types of media) received into custody by the National Archives from a creating agency or person. Series usually consist of many items, but occasionally they may consist of just a few items or even a single item.

The description for each series gives its content and function. The entry concludes with a list of items selected from the series. Some series may not have items listed on RecordSearch. In many instances in this guide particular series have been found to contain material on different aspects of Australia–Japan relations, and they may be referred to several times in a specific chapter. The full description of each series is given only on its first appearance in each chapter.

The example on the following page demonstrates how a series and its records are typically described in this guide.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1</th>
<th>Certified of Exemption from the Dictation Test, c1901–55</th>
<th>K1145</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Recorded by: 1901–45 Collector of Customs, WA (CA 808)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1945–55 Department of Immigration, WA (CA 962)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Quantity: 6.84 metres (Perth)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>This series consists of certificates of exemption from the Dictation Test (CEDTs) issued under the Immigration Restriction Act 1901 and its subsequent amendments to people – mainly Chinese, Japanese and Indians – who were resident in Australia but had applied to travel overseas. Holders of CEDTs were permitted to return to Australia within three years without sitting the Dictation Test that applied to non-white aliens who wished to enter Australia between 1901 and 1958. When first introduced the certificates were known as ‘certificates of domicile’.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Eki Nishioka (Japanese), 1912 K1145, 1912/114</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>A copy of Eki Nishioka’s CEDT appears on the following page.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Key**

1. This information gives the series title and the date range of the records that make up the series. The series number is shown on the right-hand side. Series are generally listed chronologically in each chapter of this guide. Please note that most series and item titles in this guide have been edited for brevity, descriptive value and consistency.

2. This shows the person or government agency that created the series. It also shows the date range during which each series was created or recorded. This date range does not necessarily correspond to the contents date range of the records, which appears in the series title. The CP (Commonwealth person) and the CA (Commonwealth agency) numbers are unique identifiers allocated by the Archives to each person or agency. These numbers can be used to retrieve more information about the person or agency, and the records they created, from the Archives online database, RecordSearch.

3. This shows the total volume of records in the series. The State or Territory office of the National Archives at which they are held is shown in brackets. If copies of records are held in other locations, this is indicated here.

4. This is a brief description of the series.

5. This shows the title given to the item by the person or agency that created it. The dates of the earliest and latest document on the file are shown. The item’s identifying number appears on the right-hand side of the description. This number must be quoted when requesting a copy of the record or access to it.

6. This describes the main contents of an item. Note that it does not describe every document on the file.
Wildcard searches and digitised records

RecordSearch allows users to search using wildcards. To search using wildcards, use the initial letters of the desired search term and add an asterisk ("*"). For example, ‘Jap*’ will search and retrieve all keywords beginning with the letters ‘J-a-p’, such as ‘Japan’ and ‘Japanese’. Users can also search for items within series by using a wildcard – for example, a wildcard search on ‘A1, 1916/*’ will retrieve all items in series A1 starting with ‘1916/’.

More digital copies of records are being added daily to RecordSearch. Digital copies can be accessed from the RecordSearch item display screen by clicking on the ‘R’ icon. Item descriptions in this guide generally indicate whether a particular item was digitised at the time of the guide’s publication.

Citing the records

The correct citation of archival records is important both when requesting them and when referring to them in written or published works. Using proper citations will not only help staff to locate records more readily, but will also help other researchers to find cited material. The correct form of citation for records held by the National Archives of Australia is as follows: the name ‘National Archives of Australia’ followed by a colon, the series number followed by a comma, and then the item number. The name ‘National Archives of Australia’ may be abbreviated to ‘NAA’ provided the full name has been used in the first citation:

National Archives of Australia: A6662, 3

NAA: A6662, 3

Copyright applies to many records in the Archives’ collection – see Fact Sheet 8, available from National Archives’ reading rooms or on the Archives’ website (www.naa.gov.au under Publications). To obtain information about copyright permission in order to use these images, please contact the National Archives by telephone (1300 886 881) or email (copyright@naa.gov.au).

Charges for copies

Viewing the records at any office of the National Archives is free, but various charges apply for copying items or photographs. For a list of these charges, please refer to Fact Sheet 51 and Archives Advice 22, both of which can be viewed online. An order form for obtaining images is also available online.

Locating further information

More information can be found by searching the National Archives’ database, RecordSearch, which is available for online searching in reading rooms located in all offices of the National Archives, at the Australian War Memorial and on the National Archives’ website. Reference inquiries can be made at any National Archives’ office or by contacting the Archives’ reference service by phone, fax or email. Contact details and addresses are shown in Appendix 5.
1. ALLIES, ENEMIES AND TRADING PARTNERS

Australia’s relationship with Japan is often popularly thought of as a post–World War II phenomenon. However, records in the National Archives’ collection demonstrate that it has been a much longer and more varied experience. Because a chapter of this size cannot hope to provide a comprehensive treatment of this long relationship, the reader is referred to the works in the bibliography of this guide for more detailed information. In particular, Neville Meaney’s comparative history in 

Towards a New Vision provides a detailed coverage of the first 100 years of Australia–Japan relations. Other works examine aspects of the relationship or place the relationship in the context of Australia’s relations with Asia in general. Not all sources cited used the records of the National Archives and they need to be read with that in mind.

The material in this guide, in the main, provides the Australian perspective of – and Australian attitudes towards – the Japanese. In a few cases, such as in parts of series A1, A6, A8 and SP1908, the perspective of the Japanese is presented.

Origins

Australia has perceived Japan as an ally and a threat of one kind or another, either potential or actual, since the late nineteenth century. Australians have been both fascinated by Japan and wary of its military or economic influence, especially since 1905 with Japan’s victory in the Russo–Japanese war. In contrast the Japanese, attracted by Australia’s mineral resources and agricultural products, have seen this country as a potential source of trade, investment and business opportunities. These factors also made Australia an attractive destination for Japanese emigrants.

From their earliest contacts with the Japanese, Australians were fascinated by the mysterious and exotic culture of a country that had lived in isolation from the rest of the world for over two centuries. Australia’s first encounter with Japan is believed to have occurred in April 1831 when Captain Bourn Russell sought refuge for his damaged whaling ship, the Lady Rowena, in Hamanaka Bay off the coast of Hokkaido. He and his crew were unaware of the Japanese edict that foreign ships were to be destroyed and crews arrested. The refusal of assistance from the local people affronted Russell and led to an exchange of hostilities between the crew and the Japanese.

Despite the unpromising early contact between Captain Russell and the Japanese, a few Australians travelled to Japan as it emerged from isolation. In 1854, one year after Commodore Mathew Perry entered the Bay of Edo (Tokyo), Japan agreed under the Treaty of Kanagawa (Yokohama) to give refuge to stranded seamen and to allow trade through two ports.

Australian traders were among the first to take advantage of these new arrangements. T A Tallermann from the mid-1850s and Alexander Marks in 1859 are two examples. However,
it is doubtful whether more than a very small proportion of the trading activities in Yokohama were with Australia. Trade from Australia officially began in 1865 when coal was first exported to Japan.

For the Japanese, travel abroad was forbidden on pain of death before the repeal of the Tokugawa Seclusion Acts in 1866. By the early 1870s Japanese nationals were visiting Australia. As Henry P Frei records, the Japanese had known of the existence of a great southern continent long before the nineteenth century, but the first popularly disseminated information about Australia came with the publication of Fukuzawa Yukichi’s *Sekai Kunizukishi* in 1869.\(^2\) This provided Japanese people with geographic etchings of Sydney and Melbourne and included information gained from Western encyclopedias. It expressed particular enthusiasm about trade and investment prospects in Australia.

Although Japan and Australia shared a mutual fascination in the nineteenth century, their national agenda varied. For Japan, it was imperative to ‘catch up’ with the West, to develop strong armed forces and to establish links in North Asia, the Pacific and South-East Asia where it hoped to obtain the oil, rubber and other raw materials needed to develop a modern nation. Japan also needed to develop trading companies in order to reclaim its overseas trade and shipping interests, which had been controlled by foreigners during the centuries of seclusion. After the 1868 Meiji Restoration large trading companies such as Mitsui and Mitsubishi, based on family concerns, developed and began to compete with European trading and shipping houses. Japan also desired colonies and a chance to create an empire of the type that some Western countries had enjoyed for a century or more. Both Frei and Wray discuss these aspects of Japan’s development.\(^3\)

The Australian national agenda in the late nineteenth century differed from that of Japan. Before the 1890s Australian colonial governments were concerned primarily about threats posed by France, Germany and Russia. In the 1890s it was hard to pinpoint the nature of the threat to Australian shores or the source of the danger as the colonies discussed defence and the need for Federation. However, during this decade Japan and China were named as potential threats to security. In 1889, Major General J Bevan Edwards recommended that the colonies adopt a united approach to defence rather than view it as six individual issues. Sir Henry Parkes, Premier of New South Wales, used the rise of Japan and China to suggest that Asians could acquire Australia ‘by stealth’, settling in thinly populated parts of the country where it would take both immense loss of life and wealth to dislodge them. This argument was used to press the concept of a unified national defence approach and also linked for the first time in public debate in Australia the ideas of a hypothetical threat and the need for increased population. (Further information about this topic can be found in Neville Meaney’s *The Search for Security in the Pacific, 1901–1914*, Sydney University Press, 1976.)

From the birth of the Commonwealth in 1901 until 1905, parliamentary opinion was divided about the existence of a threat to Australia. In the defence debates of 1902, over half the Federal parliamentarians spoke with some apprehension about the immediate future. The Boer War (1899–1902) exacerbated anxieties. Russia, France, Germany, China and Japan were thought to have further ambitions in the Pacific. The Anglo-Japanese Alliance,

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renewed in 1902 after the expiry of the commercial treaty of 1894, was intended to secure the Pacific. A new naval agreement between Australia and Britain in 1902 provided for an increased subsidy to the British Navy with an improved British squadron based in Australia that could not be moved from the region without Australian consent. This squadron could, however, be moved to protect India or for duty thousands of miles from Australian shores. The Australian Parliament ratified this agreement, but many Australians were left feeling considerably uneasy about Australia’s ability to resist any naval attack. Certainly it was not until after 1905, when Japan defeated Russia at Tsushima, that the fear of Japan became as widespread in Australia as fear of the European powers had been before Federation.

Australia was concerned about its inability to defend a sparsely populated continent while so many millions of people of ‘Asiatic race’ lived to the north. It was difficult to convince Britain that its Far East was Australia’s near north. It was considered essential to protect Australia against a possible invasion or raids onto its shores in order to preserve the European way of life Australia had chosen. This meant controlling the entry of immigrants into Australia, establishing military defences and establishing ties with other nations that might come to Australia’s aid if it were attacked.

**Immigration**

In the 1880s and 1890s, the level of ‘coloured’ immigration to Australia began to concern colonial governments. Following a conference in 1888 the mainland colonies passed uniform laws against Chinese immigration and naturalisation. Shortly afterwards in the early 1890s, the number of Japanese in Australia, particularly in the pearling industry, caused anxiety. At the same time Britain’s signing of the Anglo–Japanese Commercial Treaty in 1894 brought the question of Japanese immigration to the forefront. The colonial governments were particularly concerned about the clause in the treaty that permitted Japanese the right to enter, travel or reside in any part of the British Empire. The British Government left it to the individual colonies to ratify the treaty or not. In 1896, at an inter-colonial conference called primarily to address defence issues, the colonies reached agreement on restrictive immigration laws. In 1897 New South Wales passed its Immigration Restriction Act, the first such general law aimed at excluding ‘coloured’ immigrants from an Australian colony. Queensland, however, ratified the Anglo–Japanese Commercial Treaty in order to enjoy the trade advantages it afforded. To overcome the provision permitting Japanese the right of entry to the colony under the treaty, the Queensland Government reached an agreement with Japan in 1900 to limit the numbers of Japanese in Queensland to the existing level of 3,247 (around 0.65% of the total population of Queensland at that time).

In 1901 the first Federal Government of Australia passed the Immigration Restriction Act, which was based on colonial legislation but with the addition of the Dictation Test. This first major piece of legislation was designed to uphold the principle of Australia as a white British society. However, as National Archives’ records demonstrate, by the time of Federation in 1901, the Japanese had established businesses and even the beginnings of a trading company network in Australia. Many Japanese immigrants had married Australians and settled in Australia on what they considered a permanent basis. The Federal parliamentary debates on the Immigration Restriction Bill were widely publicised in the newspapers of the day and the Japanese Government observed proceedings closely.
Further negotiations ensued between the Australian and Japanese governments after the Immigration Restriction Act was passed in May 1901. These resulted in amendments to the Act in 1904 to allow merchants, students and tourists to enter Australia on passports for up to 12 months, with further extensions of stay possible on application.

The effect of the 1901 legislation on Japanese residents in Australia, and the ensuing negotiations between the governments of Australia and Japan to amend it, are discussed in Chapter 2, and in sources listed in the bibliography. Further information about Australian immigration laws in general can be found in the National Archives’ research guide No. 7, *More People Imperative: Immigration to Australia, 1901–39*, by Dr Michele Langfield.  

The 1904 amendment assisted the development of communities of Japanese merchants in Sydney and Melbourne and the spread of the existing merchant communities in northern Queensland to Brisbane. In this way, a Japanese trading company network grew between the 1900s and 1930s. This first phase of Japanese trade in Australia disintegrated by mid-1941. In September 1940 Japan signed the Tripartite Pact with the Axis powers. As a result of deteriorating relationships between Japan and the Allies, Japanese funds were frozen by the United States of America and the United Kingdom, with Australia following in July 1941. This made Japanese trade impossible in areas where sterling currency was used. With Japan’s entry into World War II on 8 December 1941, Japanese assets in Australia were seized and passed into the hands of the Controller of Enemy Property under the provisions of the National Security (Enemy Property) Regulations of the *National Security Act 1939*.

### Japanese women

Many of the earliest Japanese immigrants to Australia were women. They came mostly as prostitutes but some became wives and businesswomen. After Federation, most Japanese women in Australia were the wives and daughters of merchants posted to trading companies in Australian State capital cities, apart from a few female students, tourists and Australian-born Japanese. After World War II, Japanese women entered Australia as war brides or, once again, as students or as the wives and daughters of Japanese businessmen.

There is no specific section about women in this research guide because it would result in a lot of duplication of material. Their story, however, is represented in all chapters. Readers are referred to the bibliography for further reading on the role of Japanese women in Australia.

### Trade

The Japanese were much more active in their pursuit of import and export trade markets than Australians. Japanese pre-1941 trade with Australia is strongly represented in the National Archives’ collection, although it does not receive much attention in secondary sources. Early trade between Australia and Japan developed because of the Japanese Army’s need for woollen clothing and other supplies for its soldiers during the Sino-Japanese War of 1893–94. After 1900, Japan lifted its import tax on wool, which aided the wool trade.

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In 1890, the Japanese firm Gôshu Bôeki Kanematsu Fusajirô Shôten (which was established in Kobe in August 1889, anticipating the potentially lucrative Australia–Japan trade) opened a branch in Sydney. Its first order, from the Osaka Spinning Company, was for 187 bales of Australian wool, which were shipped to Japan in April 1890. By 1901 the Australia–Japan trade was worth ¥4 million per annum, increasing to ¥8.4 million by 1905. During that time the volume of wool exports increased by 100 per cent. These factors meant that Australia became attractive to Japanese importers, particularly to some of the ‘big seven’ import/export business houses, as the work of W R Purcell and P M Oliver demonstrates.

By 1901 several small trading houses had opened in Sydney, run by resident Sydney Japanese. Mitsui & Co.’s involvement in Australia also dates from 1901. Other large companies such as Okura Trading, Mitsubishi, Nosawa, Yano & Joko and Kiku Gumi had opened branches in Sydney and other capital cities by 1920. A further 45 were to follow before the end of the 1930s.

World War I saw a fundamental turning point in the Australia–Japan trade. Japan, as a wartime ally of Britain under the Anglo–Japanese Alliance of 1902, which had replaced the 1894 commercial treaty, provided protection for Australian shipping across the Indian Ocean. Japanese exports to Australia increased almost tenfold, from £1 million in 1913 to over £9 million by 1918, partly because of the difficulty of importing cotton piece goods from Britain under wartime conditions. Japanese purchases of wheat and metals from Australia increased fivefold during the war.

This lucrative wartime trade meant that the remainder of the big seven trading houses opened branches in Australia, including Japan Cotton Trading, Araki & Co. and Iwai & Co. At some stage during World War I, possibly in 1915, the Yokohama Specie Bank opened in Sydney. By the 1930s, according to the estimates of W R Purcell, the Japanese trading company network was large enough to control 95 per cent of Australia–Japan trade.5

Although the trade was dominated by the growth of big companies, the foundations for their success, according to recent research by P M Oliver, were laid by the enterprising young men who had come to Australia to trade in the 1890s. It was with them that the large companies, or zaibatsu, established contacts and gained orders. Often one of these men would act as agent for some years for one of the bigger companies before it opened a branch in its own name in an Australian city. As a result, Australia already had a thriving trade relationship with Japan before the Australian Government toyed with the idea of setting up Australian links and trade commissioners in Asia.6

Early in the new Federation, New South Wales investigated trade options with Japan. In 1902, the New South Wales State Government appointed J B Suttor as its Commercial Representative to the East, a position based in Kobe, Japan. He reported annually on Japanese trade with Australia and other Asian countries, but his recommendations were not heeded. In 1904, for example, Suttor argued with the New South Wales Government that Australians needed to take far more notice of Japanese requirements if trade relations were to develop to Australia’s advantage. In 1910, Suttor lamented that the New South Wales Government could not even keep his office in Kobe properly supplied with wool samples.

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Whether Suttor’s warnings were heeded by individual Australian merchants or not, in 1910 Suttor reported that Japanese firms had wasted no time in taking advantage of the trade. Nearly every Japanese firm of any standing, he noted, had established the necessary agencies in Sydney with a view to expanding commercial relations with Australia.\(^7\)

In 1921, the Government of Prime Minister William Morris Hughes appointed E S Little to Shanghai at a time when the question of trade with the East was being seriously addressed by a Conference of State Ministers held in Melbourne. The State premiers agreed to make a concerted national effort to open up trade with the East and to allow the Commonwealth to control the inspection and grading of goods in order to reduce the export of inferior products. Hughes also proposed the appointment of a commercial representative in Asia, following which E T Sheaf became Trade Commissioner to South-East Asia in 1922. Based in Singapore, Sheaf’s mandate did not include Japan.

This drive into Asia was short-lived. After about 12 months in his position, Little resigned in controversy, partly over conflicts of interest relating to his company in Shanghai. In 1922, Suttor returned to Australia after 20 years in Japan, removing Australia’s only reliable source of information. Sheaf was dismissed at the end of 1924. He had become critical of ‘loose statements’ that the East would provide unlimited markets and cited difficulties caused by differences in the commercial cultures of the two nations.

During the early years of the 1930s, it became apparent that trade with Japan was cushioning Australia from the worst ravages of the world economic depression. An urgent need to re-assess the trade was particularly evident in Herbert W Gepp’s 1932 report, *Trade between Australia and the Far East*, which was presented to the Australian Government.\(^8\) Gepp was an Australian Government development consultant who believed that the level and quality of Australian representation in Asia required improvement. He stated that he continually met people who were puzzled that Australia had no official representative in Asia to supply information about Australian exports, markets, business practices and opportunities. He recommended a trade delegation to ‘the East’.

However, during the 1930s, there was growing political opposition in Australia to increased trade with Japan. In 1932, Australia attended the Ottawa Conference with the other British Dominions to persuade Britain to enter a customs agreement under which members of the Empire would grant each other preferential tariffs. This move was designed to assist these nations to overcome the effects of the Great Depression. The Ottawa Agreement of 1932 favoured Britain and maintained high tariffs against Japan. Moreover, the move to open trade commissions in the East was not supported by the Sydney Chamber of Commerce, which argued that commissioners had achieved little in the past and that the trade was best developed by export firms. The chamber also maintained that government-appointed commissioners might hamper trade further by introducing additional trade regulations. National Archives’ records demonstrate that the chamber had close relations with the Japanese companies in Sydney even though these companies were not formal members of that body.

Despite these negative voices, Sir John Latham was appointed to the Mission to the East, or the ‘Goodwill Mission’, of 1934. Subsequently, trade commissioners were appointed to

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Tokyo, Batavia and Shanghai in 1935. Japan reciprocated the Goodwill Mission in September 1935 with the visit of Special Minister Katsuji Debuchi to Australia. In addition, Australian products were displayed in department stores in Osaka, Japan. Following reciprocal visits, the Japanese proposed a treaty of commerce and navigation. Negotiations were held during 1935, but they soon became bogged down. Japan’s quest for most favoured nation status under the treaty was an obstacle. Such a proposal, if supported by Australia, would have given Japan virtual exemption from the Immigration Restriction Acts, similar to the provisions in the Anglo–Japanese Treaty of 1894. All Australian colonial governments except Queensland had refused to ratify the 1894 treaty because it would have given Japanese nationals the right of entry to, and residence in, Australia.

Between the goodwill missions and the appointment of Sir John Latham as Minister to Japan in 1940 was a bleak period in the history of Australia–Japan trade relations, in particular with what is known as the 1936 Trade Diversion Dispute. On 22 May 1936 Sir Henry Somer Gullett, the Minister for Trade, announced that Australian markets would direct preference to imports from those countries that were already ‘good customers’ of Australia and away from those whose trade balance was unfavourable to Australia. The purpose of the diversion was to increase Australia’s export of primary products and expand secondary production by encouraging good customers to buy more. It was hoped that one long-range effect of the policy would be an improvement in the regulation of Australia’s London funds to contribute indirectly to defence and clear the way for the resumption of the immigration program from Britain that had been in place during the 1920s.

In the case of Japan, these measures were designed to control imports of cotton piece goods and artificial silk in order to allow British manufacturers an increased market share. Australia was to allocate import licences in future on the basis of the balance of trade. Japan was severely affected because cottons and silks represented the bulk of its trade with Australia. Japan responded with a sharp reduction in imports of Australian wool.

To designate Japan as a ‘bad customer’ was both inaccurate and unfortunate because Japan was in fact Australia’s best customer after Britain. The changes to the tariff regime meant that the tariffs against Japan rose considerably. Eric Longfield Lloyd, appointed in 1935 as the Australian Trade Commissioner in Japan, complained to the Australian Government. A tariff war of sorts ensued. Japan responded by issuing an ordinance that import licences were now required for Australian wool, wheat and flour. After long negotiations, a compromise settlement was reached in December 1936, but the trade did not recover its pre-1936 levels before the outbreak of World War II. Further reading on the Trade Diversion Dispute can be found in the bibliography. (Murphy’s article and that of P Jones in Changing Histories are the most up-to-date.)

Government relations

Australia–Japan contacts on a diplomatic level were one-sided for many decades. The Japanese established honorary consulates in a number of Australian towns and cities during the nineteenth century to oversee the welfare of resident Japanese citizens. However, Australia’s post-Federation contacts with the Japanese, independent of Britain, were restricted to international gatherings such as the League of Nations, the work of the Pacific Bureau of the Prime Minister’s Department and conferences of the Institute of Pacific
Relations. The latter was a quasi-official body of lawyers, professors, university teachers and those with commercial interests. The Institute held conferences every two or three years, with the first in Honolulu in 1925. It grew out of the spirit of internationalism that found expression in Wilsonian ideals and the formation of the League of Nations, but its focus was on Pacific issues such as immigration – for example, the exclusion laws promulgated against the Japanese after the 1919 defeat of the proposed racial equality clause for the League of Nations and the introduction by the United States in 1924 of legislation to restrict Japanese immigration. It acted as a forum at which Australia could reiterate its ‘White Australia’ stand and its concurrence with British foreign policy in the East.

At the 1923 Imperial Conference, British Dominions were given the power to make separate representations abroad and engage in some diplomatic and other foreign relations without first gaining approval from Britain. Australia, unlike other dominions such as Canada, did not develop direct diplomatic relations with any non-Commonwealth country for some time. In 1940, the Rt Hon. Richard Gardiner Casey became the first Australian Minister to Washington and an Australian diplomatic legation was opened in Tokyo with the appointment of Sir John Latham as the first Australian Minister in Japan.

An uneasy ally of Japan early in the twentieth century, Australia’s relationship with the Japanese included a certain amount of anxiety after 1905, particularly in regard to the real intentions of Japanese residents of, and visitors to, Australia. This uneasiness is particularly evident in Department of Defence files held by the National Archives. The transition of Japan from Australia’s ally to its enemy is documented in chapters 4 and 5 of this guide.

An essential role of Australia’s defence forces was assessing the defence risks and requirements of the new nation. The fear of invasion by the Japanese and the recurrent theme of Japanese spying activities in Australian territory are evident in the first decade of Commonwealth history. The concerns about Japan’s sea power after the Russo–Japanese war in 1905 tempered the enthusiasm Australians felt for the regular visits of the Japanese naval training squadrons to Australian ports, which had begun in 1878 and which were generally greeted by very large crowds.

National security and war

Among the earliest reports of Japanese activities in Australia found in the National Archives’ collection are those from the northern areas of Australia relating to the systematic surveying and sounding of waterways by Japanese in small craft. From the late 1880s a large pearling fleet, mainly comprising indentured Japanese labourers, worked along Australia’s north from Thursday Island, off the coast of Queensland, to Broome in Western Australia.

The Japanese were keen gatherers of information about Australia, and bought books and maps and took photographs of Australian scenes at a rate that alarmed the Australians who witnessed their activities and reported them to authorities. While Japanese research and information gathering in Australia were not illegal – and it could even be argued that if suitable maps were not yet available, the sounding of waterways was necessary – such activities concerned Australian authorities.
Partly in response to concerns about Japan, an Australian Intelligence Corps was established in 1908 and a school of instruction in 1909 with 35 officers and a total of 81 staff. Reports on the corps' activities from 1908 to 1910 indicate that they mostly involved mapping Australian territory, while relying on the War Office in London for intelligence information.

Following World War I, the Paris Peace Conferences (1919–21) discussed the future of Germany's colonial possessions, including those in the Pacific Ocean. Japan saw the conference negotiations as an opportunity to seek the territory it had long desired in acknowledgment of services rendered to the Allies in wartime. However, Australia successfully opposed Japan's quest for mandated territory in parts of New Guinea and in islands south of the equator. Japan's mandates were confined to territory it had occupied during the war north of the equator, including the Carolinas. The League of Nations mandated to Australia both German New Guinea and the island of Nauru, located 4 000 km north-east of Sydney.

The mandates gained by Japan after World War I formed part of her inner territory. In the 1930s, Japan finetuned her policy of expansion, later known as *nan'yô*, or ‘southern expansion’, which it formally declared in 1935. Frei analyses definitions of the *nan’yô* during the 1930s, which was often spoken of in terms of an outer and inner *nan’yô*. The outer *nan’yô* generally included Malaya, Borneo, French Indochina, Thailand, Portuguese Timor and the Netherlands East Indies. Whether Australia was part of *nan’yô* and where it started and ended became preoccupations within the Australian departments of Defence and External Affairs, whose officers studied Japanese statements and geo-political discussions on the issue.

Japan's increasing military activity, especially in China after 1931, and her expansionist policy statements, heightened debate in Australia about Japanese intentions and the level of threat these posed to Australia should Britain become involved in a war in Europe. Further unease arose when Japan resigned from the League of Nations in 1933 and withdrew from the London Naval Treaty in 1936. This Treaty had attempted in 1930 to establish a balance between the naval strengths of the major nations (including Japan) and maintain international peace.

During this period Australian authorities such as Army and Naval Intelligence and the Department of External Affairs, which was attached to the Prime Minister's Department, continued to gather intelligence about Japan's southern expansion. They were particularly interested in the Japanese system of economic penetration in South-East Asia, the Netherlands East Indies and the Pacific, and in preventing any similar penetration in Australia.

Despite these activities, Australian knowledge of Japan and Japanese intentions was limited. Some of the popular fascination with Japan had receded by the 1930s. Official information was based on a mixture of overseas intelligence reports, Navy lectures on the Japanese character and the knowledge of some of the few people who had visited Japan. Even the study of the Japanese language, which had begun during World War I, had deteriorated to the point where, by 1937, no Australian could be found with sufficient skill to interpret Japanese in court cases or to translate complicated Japanese texts. The literature of the times includes discussions about whether Japan was a threat or not. Although

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9 Frei, op. cit.
opinion on this varied early in the 1930s, it became more consolidated after 1936–37 with Japan’s advances in China.

**Wartime**

The experiences of Australian prisoners-of-war and civilian internees of the Japanese during World War II left a legacy of negative opinion about the Japanese for many Australians, which previously they had not generally held. Those Australians who had Japanese neighbours before 1941 experienced good relations with them because the Japanese families generally supported local community activities. The history of positive relations between Japanese immigrants and the Australians with whom they lived and worked is still not well known today.

Although some Japanese immigrants were naturalised before Federation, those who applied for naturalisation between 1901 and 1956 were refused under the Immigration Restriction Acts. Despite restrictions placed on ‘Asiatics’ under State and Federal laws, Japanese continued to enter Australia. Some Japanese families who arrived after 1901 had lived in Australia for decades and considered Australia their home. Several record series in the National Archives’ collection (for example, MP529/3, MP1103/1 and A367) document the internment of whole families, including some children, and the confiscation of homes, businesses and financial assets during World War II. The response of Anglo-Australians who sought the release from internment of their Japanese friends and neighbours is also documented in the Archives’ records.

**Towards peace**

Records about Australia’s role in the occupation and reconstruction of Japan following World War II can be divided into two broad categories. Some are strictly government records, dealing with the Peace Treaty, war reparations and the establishment of trade, immigration and cultural links. Other records are more personal and tell the stories of Australian soldiers who married Japanese women, missionaries who had long associations with Japan and the Japanese, and the many other contacts between individuals that either survived the war or had developed as a consequence of it.

Trade issues and cultural exchange programs dominated postwar relations between Australia and Japan. Australia was concerned to prevent the prewar situation where Japanese merchants had enjoyed virtually unrestricted entry. As a result, after the 1952 Peace Treaty severe restrictions were placed on business and family entry. Meanwhile, many cases of cultural exchange, reciprocal visits by government ministers, Japanese language programs and the development of significant bilateral trade and other agreements are evident in the National Archives’ collection.

As a consequence of Japan’s economic and industrial development during the 1950s, Australian interest in Japan began to build, without the sense of threat and invasion that had existed in the years immediately before the outbreak of World War II.
The Rt Hon. Richard Gardiner Casey, then Minister for External Affairs, visited Japan in 1957 and marvelled at the development of its industry. In 1960 the Japanese 10 000 ton freighter *Aki Maru* visited Australia. This ship, bearing the title ‘Japan Industry Floating Trade Fair’ on its side, contained extensive displays of consumer goods. These displays took hold of the Australian imagination and demonstrated that Japan’s ‘economic miracle’ could produce an amazing range of items, including industrial machinery, toys, musical instruments and television sets. The quality of these goods proved Japan’s point that it no longer deserved its earlier reputation for shoddy and unreliable goods.

Trade between Australia and Japan grew rapidly from a modern-day equivalent of $264 million in 1958–59 to $6 533 million by 1978–79. As Meaney shows, the two economies meshed very neatly.\(^\text{10}\) Japanese industrial expansion looked to Australia for raw materials and investment, making Japan the most important market for Australian natural resources. Australia imported Japan’s manufactured goods but continued throughout this period to enjoy a very large surplus of trade with Japan. The trading partnership has experienced some friction over the years, particularly in the economically difficult 1970s and 1980s, but the Australia–Japan and the Japan–Australia business cooperation committees, established in 1961, proved useful in mediating the differences between the two nations and advising governments on trade matters.

In 2004, the latest records available under the 30-year access rule are those created in 1973. They cover the period just after the end of the White Australia Policy and the lead up to the Basic Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation of 1976. It was during this time that the study of Japanese in Australian schools and universities began to expand, Japanese restaurants and shops became more numerous and there was an increasing flow of tourists and students from Japan.

Today Australians are much more familiar with Japan than their forebears in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Australians and Japanese intermarry and many more Australians speak Japanese than decades ago. Since World War II the Australia–Japan relationship has matured into a political partnership. Australia’s relationship with Japan is now multi-faceted and includes trade, tourism and cultural and educational exchange on both personal and national levels.

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\(^{10}\) Meaney, op. cit.
2. IMMIGRATION

Following Federation, the passing of the Commonwealth’s Immigration Restriction Act 1901 changed the procedures for Japanese seeking entry to Australia. Many records listed in this chapter document the extensive discussions, conducted through the Japanese Consul-General, between the Japanese and the Australian governments about the effects of these new provisions on the Japanese.

Japanese residents in Australia at the time of Federation lost a number of rights that they had previously enjoyed. Those who had become naturalised in their colony of residence also lost many of the rights afforded to them as naturalised British subjects, depending on the laws of the State in which they lived. These differing State laws affected, for example, the right to vote and, in some States, the right to purchase property. Traders had difficulty travelling out of the country and then returning, even when they were married to Australian women and had Australian families. Australian-born Japanese were also left in a difficult position. Contract labouring arrangements varied between the Australian States. The restrictions surrounding entry to Australia led to extensive negotiations between the Australian and Japanese governments. By 1904 exceptions were made for Japanese merchants, tourists and students to enter on passports and thereafter to obtain an extension of their stay through the ‘Certificate of Exemption from the Dictation Test’ (CEDT). Many files listed in this chapter document the complexity of this system and how the Japanese used it. They also show the respect with which the Japanese came to be regarded by Australian officials and the extra courtesies at Australian ports that they afforded Japanese people who were considered to be of ‘high class’. However, these provisions did not stop criticism of the White Australia Policy by Japan and, as some files demonstrate, the issue continued to be a sore point throughout the pre-World War II period.

Because of the entry regulations under the Immigration Restriction Act, the Australian Government maintained detailed information about individual Japanese throughout this time. The records that contain documents filled out by Japanese on entering Australia provide a good range of biographical details and statistical information about the thousands of Japanese people who lived in, or visited, Australia. Family historians will find these records a valuable resource. The documents they contain also provide a picture of the type of Japanese communities that existed on the Australian coast. They reveal the travels of Japanese people in the Pacific, particularly to New Caledonia and New Zealand, mostly to trade in metals and wool. It is necessary to view all the documentation on an individual to obtain comprehensive information.

As they do today, some Japanese students came to Australia to study English. Others came to study wool classing under the exemption provisions. The largest number of exempt arrivals were merchants. Although there are hundreds of files on individual merchants, the series relating to their trading companies provide information not found anywhere else. The richest source of information on Japanese trading companies is held in the Sydney office of the National Archives and most of it is in English. Under the National Security (Enemy Property) Regulations enacted in 1939, the Controller of Enemy Property was notified about
all property, including companies and their assets, owned by, or managed for, enemy aliens.

From January 1941, Japanese consulates instructed Japanese firms to wind up their Australian operations and repatriate their employees. Some Japanese employees sent their wives and children back to Japan as early as February 1941. Following a freeze on Japanese assets by the United States, the United Kingdom and Australia in July 1941, many small Japanese firms ceased trading in these countries. Larger Japanese firms kept their offices open using staffs that mostly consisted of several Australian employees along with Japanese managers, some of whom had been Australian residents for up to 20 years.

In August 1941, the last repatriation boat left Australia. The Japanese who remained had either been in Australia for decades or had stayed in the hope that the crisis would be resolved and business would resume. For many, it was too difficult in wartime to sell and attempt to resume trading later on. Nevertheless, some Japanese firms did clean out their offices and the smoke rising from the burning of files from large firms and the Japanese Consulate in Sydney in late November and early December 1941 was seen as a portent of war by both Japanese residents and the State Security Services. In the hours immediately following the Japanese attacks in South-East Asia and on Pearl Harbour on 7 December 1941, the State Security Services, aided by local police, seized the contents of offices of Japanese firms and homes.

Shipping was an important aspect of the Australia–Japan contact. Records listed in this chapter provide a detailed picture of the ships and crews who came to Australia. They contain many personal stories of crew members falling ill, accidents on board ship, suicides and desertions. Australian concern over quarantine matters increased soon after Federation and is evident in records that document the diagnoses and hospitalisation of Japanese sailors with tuberculosis and other infectious diseases.

In addition to information on the Japanese, these series, especially those created by the Prime Minister’s Department and the departments of Defence and External Affairs, demonstrate the early workings of the Australian Government and the concerns and difficulties of that period.

Immigration policy, protests and negotiation

**MISCELLANEOUS CORRESPONDENCE, MAINLY LOCAL (NON–IMPERIAL) MATTERS, 1887–1912**

Recorded by: Governor-General’s Office (CA 1)

Quantity: 5.6 metres (Canberra)

The series contains items concerning visits of the Japanese naval training squadron in 1907, confidential despatches, the decoration of the NSW trade representative in Japan, permission for Japanese to land in Sydney and the Russo–Japanese war.
Correspondence with the Japanese Consul on Japanese immigrants in Queensland, 1901–02

This item contains correspondence between the Governor-General and the Japanese Consul concerning the Immigration Restriction Act 1901 as it applied to residents of Queensland.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES, ANNUAL SINGLE NUMBER SERIES, 1890–1969

Recorded by: 1903–16 Department of External Affairs (I) (CA 7)
1916–28 Department of Home and Territories (CA 15)
1928–32 Department of Home Affairs (II) (CA 24)
1932–38 Department of the Interior (I) (CA 27)

Quantity: 455 metres (Canberra); 2 metres (Darwin)

This was the main correspondence series of the agencies above. Its contents date from 1890 through to 1969, and include documents relating to immigration, emigration, aliens registration, naturalisation, passports, indentured labour, external affairs and special regulations applying to the Japanese.

Consul for Japan regarding Japanese [under the agreement between the Japanese and Queensland governments] employed in the pearling industry, 1904

This file contains instructions to treat as prohibited immigrants all Japanese under pearling contracts irrespective of their dates of entry to Australia. It includes representations to Atlee Hunt (the Secretary of the Department of External Affairs) by the Japanese Consul-General. This item is digitised.

Return showing number of Chinese and Japanese respectively resident in the Commonwealth, [who are] naturalised British subjects, 1904–05

The figures by State are not complete but the file provides some information on numbers for 1904–05.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES [EXTERNAL AFFAIRS], 1895–1905

Recorded by: Department of External Affairs (I) (CA 7)

Quantity: 7 metres (Canberra)

This is one of the earliest main correspondence series of the Department of External Affairs. It contains papers relating to the enactment of the Immigration Restriction Act and the consequences of the legislation for individuals. The series also contains material related to immigration and emigration, the influx of criminals, external affairs, the Pacific Islands and high commissions.
Papers on Japanese immigration and the Japan–Queensland agreement, 1899–1902 A8, 1902/51/22
These papers relate to the effect of the Immigration Restriction Act on previous agreements with the Queensland Government prior to Federation.

Correspondence with H Eitaki, Acting Consul-General for Japan, 1901–02 A8, 1901/203/1
This file concerns the effects of the Immigration Restriction Act on the admission of Japanese subjects to Australia.

Japanese Consul-General protesting against disfranchisement of Japanese, 1902 A8, 1902/370/1
This file relates to the loss of rights of Japanese resident in Australia, some of whom had been naturalised in their State of residence prior to Federation.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES [EXTERNAL AFFAIRS], 1899–1939 A458
Recorded by: 1923–27 Department of External Affairs (II) (CA 18)
1923–34 Prime Minister’s Department (CA 12)
Quantity: 50 metres (Canberra)
This series contains some items relating to the Japanese. They deal with trade matters, visits of the Japanese fleet, immigration, cultural exchanges and information sought by the Japanese Consul. The series contains material dating back to 1899.

Immigration restrictions: Japanese, 1919–27 A458, F156/2
This item deals with immigration matters related to the administration of the White Australia Policy as it applied to Japanese people.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES, 1901–02 A6
Recorded by: Department of External Affairs (I) (CA 7)
Quantity: 2.17 metres (Canberra)
This series contains administrative files such as reports, pamphlets, electoral matters, applications for naturalisation, requests from consuls, letters to the Prime Minister, collection of revenue and programs for official visitors. It deals with a large variety of matters, including elections and electoral matters, tariffs, immigration, coloured labour policy, the Boer War and consular appointments and the death of Her Majesty Queen Victoria.

Papers in regard to Japanese immigration, 1899–1901 A6, 1901/776
This item contains correspondence between Government House, Brisbane and the Secretary of State for Colonies detailing discussions between the
Japanese Consul in Townsville and the Queensland Government concerning the number of Japanese labourers. The item is digitised.

Request by the Japanese Consul for a copy of the proposed Aliens Restriction Bill, 1901
The file contains memoranda and letters from Alexander Marks and K Ijima, consular representatives for Japan, to Prime Minister Edmund Barton.

CERTIFICATES OF EXEMPTION FROM THE DICTATION TEST, c1901–55
Recorded by: 1901–45 Collector of Customs, WA (CA 808)
1945–55 Department of Immigration, WA (CA 962)
Quantity: 6.84 metres (Perth)

This series consists of certificates of exemption from the Dictation Test (CEDTs) issued under the Immigration Restriction Act 1901 and its subsequent amendments to people – mainly Chinese, Japanese and Indians – who were resident in Australia but had applied to travel overseas. Holders of CEDTs were permitted to return to Australia within three years without sitting the Dictation Test that applied to non-white aliens who wished to enter Australia between 1901 and 1958. When first introduced the certificates were known as ‘certificates of domicile’.

Sochichi Nakamura (Japanese), 1907

Eki Nishioka (Japanese), 1912
A copy of Eki Nishioka’s CEDT appears on the following page.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES [ATTORNEY-GENERAL’S DEPARTMENT], 1901–
Recorded by: Attorney-General’s Department (CA 5)
Quantity: 2 024 metres (Canberra); 353 metres (Sydney)

This is the main correspondence file series of the Attorney-General’s Department. Apart from matters relating to the Japanese, it contains a vast array of material concerning the responsibilities of the Attorney-General.

Rights and disabilities of aliens in Australia, 1920–42
This file contains material on the legislative restrictions imposed on aliens in each Australian State and Territory. This material covers the right to own property, work, lease land and vote. The file also contains detailed lists of the professions aliens could or could not enter, along with documents detailing the status of aliens in Japan and New Guinea.
Eki Nishioka's CEDT, 1912. NAA: K1145, 1912/114
Hon. Sir Arthur Locks: naturalisation of half-caste Japanese, 1939–40

This concerns the naturalisation of a half-caste Japanese born in Japan to an Australian father who subsequently married the mother. It contains arguments about the effect of illegitimacy on nationality.

SECRET AND CONFIDENTIAL CORRESPONDENCE, ‘O’ INFIX, 1903–49

Recorded by: 1911–15 Navy Office (I), Department of Defence (I) (CA 575)
1915–21 Navy Office (II), Department of the Navy (I) (CA 13)
1921–22 Navy Office (III), Department of Defence (II) (CA 2456)

Quantity: 14 metres (Melbourne)

This series contains secret and confidential correspondence files. Various security-classified subjects are dealt with, including intelligence, ship construction, shipping movements, examination service, traffic regulation Acts, staffing (naval and civilian), censorship, foreign shipping, naval munitions, fuel, reports of the Naval Representative in London and coastal defences.

White Australia Policy and similar acts of racial discrimination – articles in Japanese press, 1918–19

This item contains articles in the Japanese press and various translations. Some articles call for an easing of Australia’s restrictive immigration policy.

SECRET CORRESPONDENCE FILES, 1912–45

Recorded by: 1936–39 Department of Defence (II) (CA 19)
1939–45 Department of the Army (CA 36)

Quantity: 30 metres (Melbourne)

A number of records in this series relate to the Japanese. They cover a variety of subjects, including Australian concerns over Japanese encroachment in its territorial waters, wartime atrocities, Japanese views on Australia, reports from the Australian Legation in Tokyo, internment of Japanese, notes on the Japanese Army and political warfare against Japan.

Anti-Japanese bias, 1939

This file concerns Japan’s opinion in 1939 of Australia’s refusal to admit Japanese other than as merchants, tourists and students. It criticises Australia’s policies on the rights of Japanese to become naturalised Australians and to own property.
CORRESPONDENCE FILES, ‘W’ (WAR) PREFIX, 1914–17
Recorded by: Department of Defence (I) (CA 6)
Quantity: 2.16 metres (Melbourne)

This is the Department of Defence’s wartime correspondence series relating to all matters other than the First Australian Imperial Force. Among the matters covered are relationships with foreign governments, intelligence reports, home defence, protection of shipping and the treatment of aliens.

Japan and Australia, 1915–16
Recorded by: Department of Defence (I) (CA 6)
Quantity: 2.16 metres (Melbourne)

The Australian Ambassador in Tokyo approached the Australian Government to address the problem of anti-Japanese action in Australia. This file contains extracts from Japanese newspapers in 1915 about the White Australia Policy and Japanese economic influence.

Recording of Japanese arrivals, departures and residence

CORRESPONDENCE FILES [CUSTOMS, SA], 1871–1962
Recorded by: Collector of Customs, Adelaide (CA 802)
Quantity: 54 metres (Adelaide)

Records in this series deal with a variety of matters, including trade, immigration, passports, merchant shipping, ships’ deserters, invoices, imports under the Commerce Act and quarantine matters from 1902–64. Other records deal with the admission to Australia of Japanese wives of Australian servicemen (1953), information on prohibited publications (1954), the ‘most favoured nation treaty’ (1957) and the Japanese floating industry fair (1960–62).

Passports for Indian and Japanese merchants, students and tourists, 1904–13
This file contains memoranda from Atlee Hunt (Secretary of the Department of External Affairs from 1901–16) to Customs officials in South Australia relating to entry arrangement for Japanese merchants, tourists and students from 1 October 1913.

Japanese sheep buyers – ex-Yamasimo Maru at Port Adelaide, 9 September 1939
This item contains details about Japanese sheep buyers landing in Australia and travelling overland.
CERTIFICATES OF EXEMPTION AND RELATED PAPERS – PASSENGERS ARRIVING IN AUSTRALIA BY SHIP, 1878–1943  
SP115/1
Recorded by:  Collector of Customs, Sydney (CA 785)
Quantity:  25 metres (Sydney)

The contents of the folders relate to ships’ lists from 1899 onwards and include passenger details in the form of CEDTs, naturalisation certificates, photographs and other papers. Papers for some Japanese passengers are included.

Tango Maru, 9 April 1923 (CEDTs for passengers; includes photographs), c1922–23  
SP115/1, box 42

ALIENS REGISTER, SYDNEY, 1898–1902  
SP822/10
Recorded by:  Collector of Customs, Sydney (CA 785)
Quantity:  0.23 metres (Sydney)

The series consists of a volume of registrations listed in chronological order. Details recorded for each registrant include registration number; name, occupation, place of birth and nationality; date of arrival in NSW; name of their ship or shipping company; age and height; whether they were naturalised and the date of nationalisation; the date of entry into the register, the warrant number and the amount paid for registration; and additional remarks. Details for some Japanese are included in the volume.

CORRESPONDENCE – IMMIGRATION RESTRICTIONS AND PASSPORTS, 1898–1948  
SP42/1
Recorded by:  1898–45 Collector of Customs, Sydney (CA 785)
1945–48 Department of Immigration (CA 957)
Quantity:  51 metres (Sydney)

The series contains documents relating to the administration of the Immigration Restriction Act, including applications for passports, certificates of naturalisation or exemption and entry permits. Most files about Japanese immigrants date from 1903 to 1920. They list the names and arrival dates of immigrants.

Tokushi Matsuda (formerly Tokushi Sedokuchi), c1901–06  
SP42/1, B1906/2292

CORRESPONDENCE FILES [CUSTOMS, QLD], 1899–1909  
BP342/1
Recorded by:  Collector of Customs, Qld (CA 792)
Quantity:  2 metres (Brisbane)

This series contains letters, minutes, telegrams, circulars, reports, newspaper clippings, statutory declarations, certificates of domicile, CEDTs, copies of birth certificates
and other personal documents relating to the operation of Australian immigration legislation. Items in this series also document Japanese arrivals at Queensland ports between 1900 and 1903.

**Return of Japanese arriving and departing Queensland ports for quarter ended 31 December 1899, 1900**

This item contains various documents, including returns from the collectors of Customs at various ports in Queensland reporting on the number of Japanese who left, or arrived in, the State during the final quarter of 1899. Although names of ships and the gender of the people are given, names are not recorded. This file indicates that a close watch was kept on the number of Japanese in Queensland at any one time.

**Yoshida Minetaro, Katoo Hatsutarō, Takada Goichi, Sano Diagoro, Kohayashi Motogidi, Tarasawa Dengoro and Nakajima Tomosururo – permits to visit Japan and return to Queensland, 1900**

This item contains handwritten correspondence between the collectors of Customs at Townsville and Brisbane, which documents the permission given to these Japanese sugar plantation workers to return to Japan for a visit. Their names, country of birth, age, height, occupation, length of residence in Queensland, reason for visiting Japan and unusual physical features, if any, are recorded.

**Hiramatsu Tsuchimatsu – permit to visit Japan and return to Queensland, 1900**

This item contains correspondence between the collectors of Customs in Brisbane and Thursday Island, citing precedent for granting permission for a Japanese diver working in Queensland to return to Japan for a visit.

**Arrangements with the Japanese Government regulating the entry of Japanese into Queensland, 1900–01**

This item contains correspondence between the Queensland Chief Secretary’s Office, the Queensland Treasury and the Collector and Sub-collectors of Customs at various Queensland ports detailing changes to the permit arrangements for Japanese wishing to visit Japan and return to Australia. This new arrangement made it unnecessary for Japanese to apply, as documented in BP342/1, 645/92/1900 above.
CORRESPONDENCE FILES, ‘A’ SERIES [IMMIGRATION, NEW GUINEA,
NEW HEBRIDES], 1902–03 A9
Recorded by: Department of External Affairs (I) (CA 7)

Quantity: 1 metre (Canberra)

The bulk of this series concerns applications for
domicile certificates and CEDTs by aliens. Many files
concern Japanese individuals.

Four Japanese passengers, ex-Kumano Maru, arrivals, 1902 A9, A02/49/15
Landing of Japanese woman, Chana Horifuchi, 1902 A9, A02/51/1
Three Japanese at Derby, WA, 1902 A9, A02/51/9

CERTIFICATES OF EXEMPTION FROM THE DICTATION TEST (FORMS 21
AND 32), 1902–46 SP11/6
Recorded by: 1902–45 Collector of Customs, Sydney (CA 785)
1945–46 Department of Immigration (CA 957)

Quantity: 1.6 metres (Sydney)

This series contains CEDTs, immigration documents
and handprints of Japanese, Chinese and other non-
British immigrants who arrived in Sydney. Items are
arranged by voyage.

Japanese passengers from the Mishima Maru, Sydney,
12 September 1927 (box 5) SP11/6, NN

REGISTER OF APPLICATIONS FOR CERTIFICATES OF EXEMPTION
FROM THE DICTATION TEST, 1902–59 SP726/1
Recorded by: 1902–45 Collector of Customs, Sydney (CA 785)
1945–59 Department of Immigration (CA 957)

Quantity: 0.9 metres (Sydney)

This series contains registers of applications for
CEDTs. The applications contain personal details. They
are listed alphabetically and contain page references to
further information.

REGISTER OF BIRTH CERTIFICATES, 1902–59 SP726/2
Recorded by: 1902–45 Collector of Customs, Sydney (CA 785)
1945–62 Department of Immigration (CA 957)

Quantity: 0.45 metres (Sydney)

Registers in this series contain copies of birth
certificates of non-British individuals, including
Japanese, departing from and re-entering Australia.
The certificates contain information such as date of
issue of certificate; place and date of birth; remarks
National Archives of Australia

Concerning departure, vessel and date of return; examiner; whether rejected or landed; and general remarks.

Register of birth certificates, 1902–62

SP726/2, register for 1902

CORRESPONDENCE FILES [CUSTOMS, TOWNSVILLE], 1902–66

Recorded by: Sub-Collector of Customs, Townsville (CA 801)

J2773

Quantity: 19.2 metres (Brisbane)

This series consists of items dealing with the function of the Customs outpost at Townsville. The records contain details of individuals such as CEDTs, passport applications and photographs, and other official documents such as crew and passenger lists and reports on investigations into opium smuggling and desertions.

Correspondence re T Maeda and other Japanese, 1914–15

J2773, 2340/1914

This item contains memoranda and minute papers relating to the movements of T Maeda, a Japanese on a merchant passport. The file includes deportation orders.

Tsunejiro Iida, 1923–25

J2773, 524/1925

This file includes papers relating to the issue of a CEDT.

List of certificates of exemption from Dictation Test, 1925

J2773, 396/1925

This item contains a list of CEDTs granted at Townsville between 1922 and 1925 for Japanese and Chinese individuals. Details recorded include names, CEDT receipt book number, the certificate number and date of issue (which also indicates the date of extension or first granting of the certificate).

This list was prepared for audit purposes and submitted to the Collector of Customs in Brisbane in March 1925. Names in the file include Sue Yip, Yuen Jue, Charlie Wong Kee, Jimmy Ah Chick, Ah Gun, Low Chow, Tsunejiro Iida, Bing Sing, Ah Jim, Ah Hong, Wai Dong, Wong Hen, Say Yee, Charlie Yin Foe, Yuen Foo, See So, Chia Pachi, Ah Young (James Ah Young), Masiuchi Asari, Niichi Sasaki, Kango Oguri, Tommy Chong Fai, Leong Gon, Ah Kee, Ah Lin, Law Yee, Frem Singh, Mitsu Teramoto, Lum Sing, Mar Jay, Ah Chong, Tommy Ah Sum, Hop Young, Law Choy Sing, Lee Fan, Ah Chong, Ah Tin, Lee Wah Hang, Yan [Yen] Chong.
REGISTER OF ADMISSION TO COMMONWEALTH, 1904–27 – (I) JAPANESE;  
(II) CHINESE; AND (III) RE–ENTRY PERMITS FOR ALIENS, 1904–47  
B5020

Recorded by:  
1904–16 Department of External Affairs (I) (CA 7)  
1916–27 Department of Home and Territories (CA 15)

Quantity 0.18 metres (Melbourne)

This series consists a register of admissions concerning 
Japanese and Chinese people permitted to land under 
exemption from the Dictation Test. The entries record 
admissions from September 1904 to March 1909 and 
list the date, name of person, passport number, 
occupation, purpose of visit, duration of stay, date of 
departure from the Commonwealth, name of vessel 
and remarks.

OUTWARD REGISTERS, IMMIGRATION ACT (COLOURED CREWS AND 
PASSENGERS), PORTS OF SYDNEY AND NEWCASTLE, 1905–37  
SP143/3

Recorded by: Collector of Customs, Sydney (CA 785)

Quantity: 4.5 metres (Sydney)

This series contains registers kept under the provisions 
of the Immigration Restriction Act, in which were 
recorded the number of Asian crew members or 
passengers who departed Australia by ship between 
1905 and 1937. The registers were numerical in nature 
and did not record specific details about these 
individuals.

CORRESPONDENCE (MISCELLANEOUS) – COLLECTOR OF CUSTOMS – 
IMMIGRATION RESTRICTIONS AND PASSPORTS, 1907–48  
SP42/2

Recorded by:  
1907–45 Collector of Customs, Sydney (CA 785)  
1945–48 Department of Immigration (CA 957)

Quantity: 5.4 metres (Sydney)

This series contains documents relating to the entry to 
Australia of Japanese immigrants with exemption 
certificates. The files date from 1903–40 and tend to 
include material not found in other series.

Nikko Maru (correspondence on immigration), 1913–14  
SP42/2, C13/7032

This item contains correspondence relating to 
immigration, particularly of passengers arriving at 
Melbourne and travelling to Sydney.

Shigeo Nagai (correspondence on immigration), 1923  
SP42/2, C23/7029

This record contains correspondence on the 
immigration to NSW of Shigeo Nagai, a wool-buyer 
employed by Kanematsu (Aust.), who arrived on the 
Tango Maru.
List of Japanese in the Commonwealth and territories entitled to diplomatic privileges, 1941  

EXEMPTION FROM DICTATION TEST (FORM 32), 1911–23  
Recorded by: Collector of Customs, Sydney (CA 785)  
Quantity: 1.6 metres (Sydney)  
This series consists of applications for CEDTs. Some of the applicants were Japanese.

INWARDS REGISTERS, IMMIGRATION ACT – ARRIVALS AT PORTS OF SYDNEY AND NEWCASTLE), 1913–30  
Recorded by: Collector of Customs, Sydney (CA 785)  
Quantity: 4.5 metres (Sydney)  
This series consists of registers listing details about people who arrived at the ports of Sydney and Newcastle between 1903 and 1930. Arranged in chronological order by arrival of ships, the registers list the names of individuals and whether they were admitted, had passed the Dictation Test, were prohibited or refused entry or were en route to another port.

Inwards registers, Immigration Act, 1917–21  

REGISTER OF ALIENS MAINTAINED UNDER WAR PRECAUTIONS (ALIENS REGISTRATION) REGULATIONS, 1916–20  
Recorded by: 1916–19 Headquarters, 5th Military District, Commonwealth Military Forces (CA 4811)  
1919–20 Investigation Branch, WA (CA 908)  
Quantity: 31.5 metres (Perth)  
This series consists of two types of forms collected by police officers and forwarded to Intelligence Section, General Staff, 5th Military District (WA). ‘Applications for registration for aliens resident in the Commonwealth’ (form A1) required the submission of information such as full name, nationality, sex, date and place of birth, current place of abode, place of business (if any), occupation and date of entry to the Commonwealth. ‘Applications for aliens entering the Commonwealth in overseas vessels’ (form A2) required details such as full name, nationality, sex, birthplace, date of birth, name of vessel, port at which alien embarked, place of abode (abroad), place of abode (if any) in the Commonwealth, occupation and particulars of passport (if any). Both forms call for a personal description of the alien, their signature and a left thumb-print. A considerable number of the files in this series relate to Japanese individuals.
Takeyoshi, Akehoshi – nationality: Japanese, c1916–20
Masumoto, Ginzo – nationality: Japanese, c1916–20
Saijiyo, Tsunematsu – nationality: Japanese, c1916–20

FORMS FOR REGISTRATION UNDER THE WAR PRECAUTIONS REGULATIONS, 1916–c1921
MT269/1

Recorded by: 1914–16  Attorney-General’s Department (CA 5)
1916–19  Special Intelligence Bureau, Melbourne (CA 746)
1919–22  Investigation Branch, Melbourne and Canberra (CA 747)

Quantity: 5 metres (Melbourne)

This series contains the registration forms of aliens resident in all Australian States and the Northern Territory during World War I. The files are arranged alphabetically according to nationality. The registration forms were issued under the War Precautions (Aliens Registration) Regulations 1916 and the Aliens Registration Act 1920 (forms A, A2 and E).

MT269/1, NN

This item contains forms of application for registration of aliens and notification of change of address forms. These forms give details such as name, address, date of residence at that address, date and place of birth, occupation and date of arrival, and notes any attempts to naturalise.

ALIENS REGISTRATION FORMS, 1916–22
SP43/3

Recorded by: 1916–17  Special Intelligence Bureau, Melbourne (CA 746)
1917–19  Special Intelligence Bureau, NSW (CA 909)
1919–22  Investigation Branch, NSW (CA 904)

Quantity: 26 metres (Sydney)

Records in this series list Japanese and other aliens who entered the Commonwealth between 1916 and 1921. Most were transit seamen but the forms give detailed personal information about them, including relationships with residents on shore. It includes details of miners en route to New Caledonia. Not all items in this series can be found on RecordSearch.
REGISTERS OF ALIENS ARRIVALS, 1917–47
Recorded by: 1917–19 Special Intelligence Bureau, NSW (CA 909)
1919–46 Investigation Branch, NSW (CA 904)
1946–47 Commonwealth Investigation Service, NSW (CA 912)
Quantity: 1 metre (Sydney)
This series consists of registers titled ‘Aliens Arrivals’. There is generally one book for each year, except for 1936–37, 1939 and 1945–46. Each register contains a list compiled by the Collector of Customs which was periodically forwarded to the Commonwealth Investigation Service. Information on the lists includes the name of the alien, the name of the ship or aircraft they arrived on, the date of their arrival; their nationality and remarks (eg about the purpose of their visit). Information about Japanese arrivals can be found in these registers.

Aliens’ arrivals, 1918

IMMIGRATION/PASSPORT INDEX CARDS, 1919–25
Recorded by: Collector of Customs, Adelaide (CA 802)
Quantity: 0.04 metres (Sydney)
This series includes a number of cards, including ‘Permits for Asiatics to land’; ‘Passports general’; ‘Immigration Act, permits issued by Home and Territories Department’; ‘Immigration Act, persons from abroad to be reported’; and ‘Foreign passports and stowaways’. All refer to Customs correspondence files held in D596. References to Japanese include deportees to Singapore (c1923) and Japanese crew endorsements (1924).

CREW LISTS, 1919–40
Recorded by: Collector of Customs, Sydney (CA 785)
Quantity: 5.22 metres (Sydney)
These lists were prepared by masters of vessels in accordance with the Immigration Restriction Act. Occasionally they include passenger lists as well as crew lists. Both types of lists relate to arrivals at Sydney and Newcastle and are arranged by month of arrival. Some lists have ‘form 46’ attachments, giving details about non-British crew members. The crew lists show details of the ships, their masters and the names, nationalities and race of the crew members. Japanese names are found among these lists.

Crew lists (Port of Sydney), November 1925
MONTHLY IMMIGRATION RETURNS, 1919–46  
Recorded by: Collector of Customs, Adelaide (CA 802)  

Quantity: 2 metres (Adelaide)  

Records in this series contain information about Japanese arrivals in Australia during the 1920s and 1930s. The monthly immigration returns include passenger lists (to 1925 only) and CEDTs (to 1946).

STATEMENTS BY ALIEN PASSENGERS ON ENTRY TO AUSTRALIA (BY NATIONALITY THEN ALPHABETICALLY), c1923–48  
Recorded by: 1923–46 Collector of Customs, Adelaide (CA 802)  
1946–48 Department of Immigration, SA (CA 959)  

Quantity: 1.6 metres (Adelaide)  

This series contains personal statements and declarations by Japanese and other passengers arriving between 1937 and 1941. The form provides space for answers to 21 questions, including date of arrival, name of ship, port of landing, marital status, whether accompanied by spouse and children, occupation and other personal details.

Tohru Ohta – nationality: Japanese – arrived Wallaroo per mv Sydney Maru, 7 June 1941

CORRESPONDENCE FILES, ‘SB’ (SHIPPING BRANCH), 1924–45  
Recorded by: 1924–45 Collector of Customs, Qld (CA 792)  
1945 Department of Immigration, Qld (CA 958)  

Quantity: 2.34 metres (Brisbane)  

This series contains the immigration files of Japanese entering and residing in Queensland between 1920 and 1945. It consists of letters received, copies of letters sent, minutes, instruction circulars, copies of regulations in regard to immigration matters such as passports, landing permits, deportations and questions of identity.

Japanese admitted under the merchant passport regulations, 1932
This item documents changes to passport regulations for merchants in 1932.

Location of Chinese and Japanese shops, market gardens, etc., 1936–38
The activities of boarding inspectors, searchers and watchmen attached to the Customs and Excise Office are detailed in this record, along with a report of opium consumption and possible sale in Brisbane in 1936–37 and a list of Japanese shops in Queensland and the names of their proprietors.
Japanese arrivals and departures, 1939
This item contains instructions from the Department of the Interior, Canberra to the Collector of Customs, Brisbane for recording the particulars of all Japanese arriving on vessels with Brisbane as their first port of call.

PERSONAL STATEMENT AND DECLARATION FORMS (ALPHABETICAL WITHIN NATIONALITY), 1924–48
Recorded by: 1924–46 Investigation Branch, WA (CA 908)
1946–48 Commonwealth Investigation Service, WA (CA 917)

Quantity: 1.62 metres (Perth)

Items in this series contain personal statements and declarations made by aliens entering Australia by ship and by air.

Komatsu, Hideo – nationality: Japanese – arrived Darwin per Koyei Maru No. 2, 5 August 1937
This item contains a personal statement and declaration made by Hideo Komatsu. Information in the file includes Mr Komatsu’s date and place of birth, marital status, occupation, reason for visit, intended length of stay, contacts in Australia, health details and military service.

ARRIVALS REGISTER – COLOURED PERSONS ARRIVING, 1924–59
Recorded by: 1915–45 Collector of Customs, Qld (CA 792)
1945–59 Department of Immigration, Qld (CA 958)

Quantity: 0.9 metres (Brisbane)

This series consists of two registers of aliens (‘coloured persons’) arriving at various ports in Queensland. The registers list arrivals by nationality and provide date of arrival, name of ship, port of departure and remarks, which usually include the name of the person and documentation type and number.

Arrival register, 1915–74

TRAVEL FACILITIES (PASSPORTS/PERMITS) INDEX, 1925–47
Recorded by: Collector of Customs, Adelaide (CA 802)

Quantity: 0.09 metres (Sydney)

This series contains information about Japanese ships arriving in SA between 1925 and 1947.
**IMMIGRATION INDEX CARDS, 1926–33**

Recorded by: Collector of Customs, Adelaide (CA 802)

Quantity: 0.09 metres (Sydney)

This series contains boarding inspection cards that record the medical condition of arrivals (especially Japanese ships' crews) in the 1920s and 1930s.

**CORRESPONDENCE FILES, ‘SB’ (SHIPPING BRANCH) PREFIX, 1928–51**

Recorded by: Collector of Customs, Adelaide (CA 802)

Quantity: 11 metres (Sydney); 4 metres (Adelaide)

The records in this series were created and maintained by the Shipping Branch, Collector of Customs, Port Adelaide. They relate to the administration and reporting of the movement of passengers and crew in and out of South Australia. They also deal with the monitoring of the national security regulations between 1939–45, matters relating to evacuees from Darwin, Japanese ships’ crew and other immigration matters.

Japanese – *Sydney Maru* – re: Mr Tohru Ohta and Mr Shuken Okusa – overland travel, 1941

This file provides information on Japanese business visitors in 1941.

*Yamahagi Maru, 30 June 1941*

This item provides information on Japanese transit passengers from Noumea bound for Japan.

**REGISTER OF FORMS A42, 1933–47**

Recorded by: 1933–45 Collector of Customs, Sydney (CA 785) 1945–47 Department of Immigration (CA 957)

Quantity: 0.54 metres (Sydney)

This series consists of registers of copies of form A42 ('Personal statement by alien passenger'), on which were listed various details about aliens arriving in Australia. Information recorded includes name, nationality, nature of visit, landing permit number and other details. Some registers contain copies of letters to the secretaries of the departments of Interior and Immigration concerning the forwarding of the A42 forms to the departments. The registers appear to be organised chronologically.

Register of forms A42 obtained from aliens arriving at the Port of Sydney, 1939
PERSONAL STATEMENT AND DECLARATION FORM BY ALIEN PASSengers (FORM A42), 1937–48  A12508

Recorded by:
- 1937–39 Department of the Interior (I) (CA 27)
- 1939–45 Department of the Interior (II) (CA 31)
- 1945–48 Department of Immigration (CA 51)

Quantity: 75 metres (Canberra)

This series consists of ‘Personal statement by alien passenger’ forms (form A42), which were filled out by every alien passenger who arrived in Australia. The forms have instructions on one side explaining how the form was to be filled out. The passenger’s personal details were filled out on the reverse side of the form. The information collected includes the passenger’s name, date and place of birth, personal description, nationality, place of residence in country of origin, intended place of residence while in Australia and the intended duration of stay. The application also records details of any family members accompanying the applicant. The means of travel is listed on the application, stating the name of the ship or flight number, the date of arrival in Australia and where the passenger disembarked or landed.

A multiple number system was imposed on this series at item level when work began on it in November 2002. The first number in the sequence represents the country (nationality) of the person(s) on the application form, followed by a second number imposed on each item consecutively after arrangement in alphabetical order according to surname. For Japanese individuals the number is ‘32/’.

Mita Nobuo, born 11 February 1916; Japanese; travelled per Yae Maru, arriving Sydney on 3 November 1938  A12508, 32/246

Misakiya Kensuke, born 13 September 1912; Japanese; travelled per Canberra Maru, arriving Sydney on 17 March 1939  A12508, 32/245

Minami Shinkichi, born 3 September 1897; Japanese; travelled per Tokio Maru, arriving in Sydney on 24 June 1941  A12508, 32/244

CERTIFICATE OF EXEMPTION BOOK BUTTS, 1938–39  SP822/13

Recorded by: Collector of Customs, Sydney (CA 785)

Quantity: 0.46 metres (Sydney)

This series contains book butts listing details about people entering the Commonwealth. This information includes name, occupation, date of arrival, ship, length of stay (including original date of entry), length of intended stay and next of kin. The book butts often contain details about individuals not found elsewhere.
APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION OF ALIENS, 1939–47
Recorded by: 1939–45 Immigration and Passports Office, Vic (CA 972)
1945–47 Department of Immigration, Vic (CA 961)
Quantity: 2.7 metres (Melbourne)
This series contains aliens’ registration forms but only a few examples of Japanese appear, listed alphabetically under surname.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES, 'Z' (NATIONAL SECURITY REGULATIONS) PREFIX, 1939–50
Recorded by: Collector of Customs, Adelaide (CA 802)
Quantity: 6 metres (Adelaide)
This series contains files relating to trade, the export activities of firms, applications for licences to export and changes to the National Security (General) Regulations in World War II. Japanese items concern the return of Japanese to Japan before World War II and files dealing with imports.

Japanese arrivals and departures, 1939
This item includes instructions from the Department of Interior, Canberra to the Collector of Customs, Adelaide about reporting the name, occupation and particulars of any Japanese arriving in or departing SA.

PERSONAL STATEMENTS BY ALIEN PASSENGERS (FORM A42), 1945–47
Recorded by: 1945 Collector of Customs, Sydney (CA 785)
1945–47 Department of Immigration (CA 957)
Quantity: 12.4 metres (Sydney)
This series contains declarations made by alien passengers arriving in Sydney between 1931 and 1941. The details given include name, date and place of birth, date of arrival, addresses in Australia and in Japan, and marital status. Although this series was created in 1945, it contains material collected at an earlier period.

Personal statements by alien passengers, Japanese A–Z, c1933–41 SP11/4, box 33
The administration of the Immigration Restriction Act

**CORRESPONDENCE FILES, ANNUAL SINGLE NUMBER SERIES, 1890–1969**  
A1

**Recorded by:**  
1903–16  Department of External Affairs (I) (CA 7)  
1916–28  Department of Home and Territories (CA 15)  
1928–32  Department of Home Affairs (II) (CA 24)  
1932–38  Department of the Interior (I) (CA 27)

**Quantity:** 455 metres (Canberra); 2 metres (Darwin)

Please see series description on p. 25.

**Procedure in regard to the extension of certificates of exemption (circular to collectors of Customs), 1906–09**  
A1, 1909/726

This file contains the Attorney-General’s opinions about procedures to be followed in regard to applications for extensions to CEDTs.

**S Tachibana, naturalisation certificate, 1911**  
A1, 1911/12334

The file concerns the attempt of a Japanese resident to become a naturalised Australian citizen after the passing of the Immigration Restriction Act.

**Japanese and Chinese children (under 3 years), extension of CEDTs, 1918–29**  
A1, 1929/2654

This item examines the issue of children leaving Australia at a young age and returning later, which raised questions about suitable identification on re-entry. Original handprints were useless with young children and it was suggested that a photograph of Japanese children be taken every three years.

The following files also document difficulties resident Japanese experienced after the passing of the immigration restriction legislation.

- **Collection of fees on extension of certificates of domicile and CEDTs, 1906–11**  
A1, 1911/13076

- **Queensland legislation affecting Japanese and other Asians, 1911**  
A1, 1911/20007

  This item is digitised.

- **Tsuso Matsuzaki – CEDT, 1912**  
A1, 1912/7194

- **Application for extension of certificate of exemption – Rizomon Fukiage, 1912**  
A1, 1912/16830

- **T Kashiwagi – naturalisation, 1915**  
A1, 1915/2324

  This item is digitised.

- **Fees collected on issue [of] CEDTs, April 1918**  
A1, 1918/6297
GENERAL AND CLASSIFIED CORRESPONDENCE [CUSTOMS], 1898–
Recorded by: c1902–85 Collector of Customs, Melbourne (CA 789)
1985– Australian Customs Service, Vic (CA 4586)

Quantity: 138 metres (Melbourne)

This is the main correspondence series of the Collector of Customs, Melbourne. Although it contains material dating back to 1898, it was created around 1902 after the passing of the Immigration Restriction Act 1901. It deals with immigration restriction, administration, prosecutions, excise, shipping and imports and exports.

Items in this series contain a wealth of information about Japanese arrivals (eg students, merchants and seamen) in Australia. These items also document the interstate and overseas movements of Japanese individuals. Some items contain information (eg date and place of birth, next of kin, physical description and occupation) about Japanese who arrived in Australia prior to Federation. Some items also provide information about marriages between Australians and Japanese. General matters relating to the administration of the Immigration Restriction Act are also dealt with in this series.

Shimao Ogawa – CEDT book lost in Japan, 1924
Procedure on receipt of ministerial orders for the deportation of a person from the Commonwealth, 1924

Kurahachi Sakai – application for CEDT – arrived per Kasuga Maru, March 1901, 1925

Mrs Yoki de Havilland (Japanese) ex-Mishima Maru, 21 March 1926 – left Commonwealth per the Ormonde, 1926

Katsuke [Katsuzo] Haginaka – re: stolen CEDT, 1927

This item contains a memorandum stating that managers of shipping companies whose ships were carrying deportees should be advised of the circumstances of each case.

This file contains papers that attempt to verify the arrival date of, and other details about, Kurahachi Sakai, who had applied for a CEDT. Documentation in the item demonstrates the difficulties faced by Japanese under the Immigration Restriction Act.

This item deals with complaints by Mr de Havilland that his wife, who was a British citizen by marriage, had been refused entry. The letter appears on p. 46.

This contains correspondence concerning a CEDT stolen from Katsuke Haginaka while he was en route to Japan. It also contains letters from the Eastern and Australian Steamship Co. Ltd and Dalgety & Co.
Letter from Mr de Havilland about an exemption certificate for his Japanese wife Yoki, 1926.

NAA: B13, 1926/6648
Tomoichi Yokoyama – departure per Aki Maru, 1928

This file concerns the admission on exemption of the wife of a seriously ill seaman in 1928. Tomoichi Yokoyama was admitted to hospital off his ship.

Japanese applicants for CEDTs – dispensing with thumb-prints, 1931

The Japanese Consul-General made representations in regard to dispensing with thumb-prints in the case of domiciled Japanese residents of Australia who wished to visit Japan and return to the Commonwealth.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES, ‘E’ PREFIX, 1904–

Recorded by: 1901–16 Department of Home Affairs (CA 8)
1916–18 Department of Home and Territories (CA 15)
1918–73 Chief Electoral Office (CA 558); subsequently by other agencies

Quantity: 162 metres (Canberra); 10.2 metres (Sydney)

This series relates to arrangements for referenda and elections from 1904.

Jiro Muramatsu – disqualification under section 39(S) of the Act, appeal before High Court, 1923

This file documents the attempt by Muramatsu in 1923 to regain his right to vote in WA. He had been enrolled before Federation, but was disqualified from voting under section 39 of the Commonwealth Electoral Act. The item, which is digitised, contains extensive legal documents, arguments, appeals and witness statements.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES, ‘V’ (VICTORIA) PREFIX, 1914–64

Recorded by: 1927–46 Investigation Branch, Vic (CA 907)
1946–60 Commonwealth Investigation Service, Vic (CA 916)
1960–62 Commonwealth Police Force (II), Vic (CA 955)

Quantity: 35.5 metres (Melbourne)

This series contains files dealing with criminal offences committed against the Commonwealth that were investigated at the request of government departments. These files dealt with a number of matters, including investigating the whereabouts of Japanese and others who had entered the Commonwealth, the traffic in illicit substances, deserters from ships, enemy aliens in wartime, prohibited immigrants and naturalisations.

Japanese entering Australia, 1933–41

This item includes an inquiry about the possibility of entry to Australia by a Japanese teacher and a visit by members of the Japanese House of Peers in 1936.
GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE FILES [DEFENCE], 1917–29
Recorded by: 1917–21 Department of Defence (I) (CA 6)
1921–29 Department of Defence (II) (CA 19)

Quantity: 44 metres (Melbourne)

This series consists of files relating to the administration of the military forces of Australia by the Department of Defence.

Thumb-prints of Japanese and Chinese (ships’ officers), 1916
The application of the War Precautions (Aliens Registration) Regulations 1916 concerning the taking of thumb-prints of Europeans and Japanese is discussed in this item. Complaints from the Japanese about the rough treatment they had received at the hands of Customs officials led to a review of procedures to avoid giving offence to Japanese subjects.

CORRESPONDENCE (SUBJECT AND CLIENT) SERIES, ‘H’ INFIX, 1926–50
Recorded by: 1926–45 Collector of Customs, WA (CA 808)
1945–50 Department of Immigration, WA (CA 962)

Quantity: 36.5 metres (Perth)

This series records the activities of the Customs Branch in Western Australia, including Boarding Branch reports on vessels, records of persons coming under notice, applications for naturalisation, CEDTs, admission to Australia and applications for permanent residency.

Eyozo Yutani (Japanese), application for CEDT, 1912–39
The file contains personal information about Eyozo Yutani.

Deportees and illegal immigrants

CORRESPONDENCE FILES, ANNUAL SINGLE NUMBER SERIES, 1890–1969
Recorded by: 1903–16 Department of External Affairs (I) (CA 7)
1916–28 Department of Home and Territories (CA 15)
1928–32 Department of Home Affairs (II) (CA 24)
1932–38 Department of the Interior (I) (CA 27)

Quantity: 455 metres (Canberra); 2 metres (Darwin)

Please see series description on p. 25.

Prosecution of Japanese girls at Thursday Island, 1910
Immigration Restriction Act – census of Chinese and Japanese, 1911
This file deals with an investigation into illegal Japanese and Chinese immigrants in the suburbs of Melbourne.
Alleged illegal landing of certain female Japanese stowaways, 1911–12
This file deals with the hunt for these women and the subsequent searches of ships’ lists and boarding houses that took place in Townsville, Qld. The legal argument surrounding the search is of interest in respect of interpreting the Immigration Restriction Act.

Japanese stowaways – landing in Queensland – reports and inquiries, 1913–14
This file deals with a hunt for stowaways that stretched from Melbourne to Queensland.

GENERAL AND CLASSIFIED CORRESPONDENCE [CUSTOMS], 1898–
Recorded by: c1902–85 Collector of Customs, Melbourne (CA 789)
1985– Australian Customs Service, Vic (CA 4586)
Quantity: 138 metres (Melbourne)
Please see series description on p. 45.

Uniformity of procedure in regard to mustering crews and deporting Japanese, 1922
This item provides an example of the treatment of deportees in 1922 under the Immigration Restriction Act. It also shows the work of the Japanese Consulate on behalf of Japanese nationals in Australia.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES [CUSTOMS, TOWNSVILLE], 1902–66
Recorded by: Sub-Collector of Customs, Townsville (CA 801)
Quantity: 19.2 metres (Brisbane)
Please see series description on p. 34.

Newspaper cuttings and reports on Japanese ‘illegals’, 1920
These cuttings and commentary relate to concern in 1920 over alleged influxes of large numbers of Japanese into the ‘empty north’ of Australia. Articles from the Brisbane Daily Mail display the unfounded fear of Asian invasion.

SECRET AND CONFIDENTIAL CORRESPONDENCE, ‘O’ INFIX, 1903–49
Recorded by: 1911–15 Navy Office (I), Department of Defence (I) (CA 575)
1915–21 Navy Office (II), Department of the Navy (I) (CA 13)
1921–22 Navy Office (III), Department of Defence (II) (CA 2456)
Quantity: 14 metres (Melbourne)
Please see series description on p. 29.
Illicit entry of Japanese into Australia via Torres Strait, 1916–18
The file outlines the searches for, and investigations concerning, Japanese leaving Dutch New Guinea to enter Australia illegally.

Immigration statistics

CORRESPONDENCE FILES, 1890–1969
Recorded by: 1903–16 Department of External Affairs, Melbourne (CA 7)
1916–28 Department of Home and Territories (CA 15)
1928–32 Department of Home and Territories (CA 24)
1932–38 Department of the Interior (CA 27)
Quantity: 455 metres (Canberra); 2 metres (Darwin)
Please see series description on p. 25.

Number of Chinese and Japanese admitted into NSW during December 1911, 1912

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION, METHODS AND PRINCIPLES, 1898–1960
Recorded by: 1898–1957 Colonial Secretary’s Office (from 1926, the Chief Secretary’s Office), WA (CA 1256)
1957–60 Commonwealth Bureau of Census and Statistics, WA (CA 1097)
Quantity: 12.8 metres (Perth)
This series contains correspondence between Federal departments and their State offices about statistics on Western Australian residents, especially non-Europeans, and requests for information on the number and nationality of aliens.

Return showing the number of Chinese, Japanese and Hindoos [sic] in each State of Commonwealth, 1903
This item gives the number of arrivals in WA (male and female) from 1901 to 1903, along with the number of departures for the same period and the total number of Chinese, Japanese and Hindus in the State on 30 June 1903.

Number of Chinese and Japanese, naturalised and resident, 1905
This item contains a report requested by the Prime Minister on the number of Chinese and Japanese naturalised and resident in WA at the time of the 1901 Census.
CORRESPONDENCE FILES, ‘V’ (VICTORIA) PREFIX, 1914–64
Recorded by: 1927–46 Investigation Branch, Vic (CA 907)
1946–60 Commonwealth Investigation Service, Vic (CA 916)
1960–62 Commonwealth Police Force (II), Vic (CA 955)
Quantity: 35.5 metres (Melbourne)
Please see series description on p. 47.

Japanese (Vic), statistics of, 1918
Japanese (Port Darwin), names and addresses of, 1919
Japanese (Victoria), names and addresses of, 1919–24

Ships and crew

CORRESPONDENCE FILES [CUSTOMS, SA], 1871–1962
Recorded by: Collector of Customs, Adelaide (CA 802)
Quantity: 54 metres (Adelaide)
Please see series description on p. 30.

Yae Maru for Japan, 3 March 1939
This item contains a passenger list of Japanese entering Australia on passports.

GENERAL AND CLASSIFIED CORRESPONDENCE [CUSTOMS], 1898–
Recorded by: c1902–85 Collector of Customs, Melbourne (CA 789)
1985– Australian Customs Service, Vic (CA 4586)
Quantity: 138 metres (Melbourne)
Please see series description on p. 45.

B13, 1923/10048

Mantaro Hasimoto – arrived Melbourne per Tonga Maru on 31 May 1923 – left Commonwealth per Spain Maru on 3 August 1923
B13, 1923/11075
This item provides a further example of concern about who was liable for the hospital expenses of sick or injured seamen landed in Australia for treatment.

T Ito – ex-Hayo Maru – received hospital treatment – left Melbourne same vessel, 1925
B13, 1925/3346
This concerns a request from Burns Philp for permission to transport an injured Japanese seaman back to Japan.
Ichimatsu Iwanaga – Japanese seaman – received hospital treatment – left Commonwealth per Mishima Maru, 1925
Papers in this item relate to this Japanese seaman leaving hospital in Melbourne.

Kyusaku Nagata – Japanese crew member of Madras Maru – death in Melbourne, 1926
This item concerns the burial expenses for Kyusaku Nagata who died in a Melbourne hospital from injuries sustained after falling down a hatch. It includes his death certificate.

Sato Yoshinaga – departure per Saka Maru, April 1927
This item contains an immigration form and letters for Sato Yoshinaga who landed in WA for medical treatment and travelled overland to join his ship at Melbourne.

Takeo Takendiri – restricted crew member, Tango Maru – report of medical officer, 1929
This is an example of the quarantine of a Japanese crew member.

Okise Noashira, crew member, Ishin Maru – medical treatment, 1930
This item deals with the payment of expenses incurred during Mr Noashira’s treatment at Fremantle Hospital, WA.

Choji Satoh, quartermaster, Taijin Maru, c1932
Choji Satoh committed suicide in Geelong in 1932. His suicide note and expressions of desire about the disposal of his belongings are included in this file.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES, PORT PIRIE, 1915–52
Recorded by: Sub-Collector of Customs, Port Pirie (SA) (CA 805)

Quantity: 0.54 metres (Sydney)

This series contains items dealing with immigration, trade and Customs matters.

Japanese crews – using the word ‘Japanese’ rather than ‘coloured’, 1924
These letters from the Collector of Customs, SA to Customs officers at Port Pirie and from the Secretary of the Department of Home and Territories in Melbourne concern the description of Japanese crews. Japanese were not to be described as ‘coloured’, according to normal practice, but as ‘Japanese’.
CREW LISTS OF SHIPS ENTERING WESTERN AUSTRALIAN PORTS,
1923–54

Recorded by: 1923–45 Collector of Customs, WA (CA 808)
1945–54 Department of Immigration, WA (CA 962)

Quantity: 19.8 metres (Perth)

The records contain details (such as crew lists) provided by ships’ masters for ships arriving at Fremantle. Personal information includes full name, nationality, age, race, position on ship, and date and place of engagement of crew members.

From December 1923 to September 1946 a three-number system was used to control the records. Under this system, the first number indicated the consecutive number of entry made to Western Australian ports; the second number, the month; and the third number, the year.

To find ships from Japan, search using the keyword ‘Maru’. A number of Japanese ships docked in Fremantle, mostly during the 1920s.

Nankwa Maru, 18 December 1928

Tama Maru No. 8, 3 November

Deserters

CORRESPONDENCE FILES, ANNUAL SINGLE NUMBER SERIES, 1890–1969

Recorded by: 1903–16 Department of External Affairs (I) (CA 7)
1916–28 Department of Home and Territories (CA 15)
1928–32 Department of Home Affairs (II) (CA 24)
1932–38 Department of the Interior (I) (CA 27)

Quantity: 455 metres (Canberra); 2 metres (Darwin)

Please see series description on p. 25.

New provisions [regarding the] apprehension of deserters from Japanese ships, 1894–1911

The file includes copies of the Commonwealth Government Gazette listing shipping legislation from 1894 to 1903 and detailing the arrangements with Japan when that country requested Australia to apprehend deserters.

H Nagano – Japanese deserter from the SS Canadian Transport,
1912–14

The processes of arrest, dictation testing (in German), hand-printing and deportation of Mr Nagano are documented in this file.
Tanmatsu Kaneko and Risabura Aihara – ex-crew Ryujin Maru – left Commonwealth per Aki Maru, 1925 B13, 1925/12202
The item documents procedures followed in the apprehension and deportation of deserters, including the bonds and fines for which shipping agents were liable. It contains a photograph.

Students entering under exemption

Saburo Iwahashi – issue of CEDT, 1923 B13, 1923/254
Saburo Iwahashi studied at Dookie, Victoria, then transferred to Sydney for studies in wool classing.

Hiroshi Hiroka, passenger ex-Mishima Maru, June 1928 B13, 1928/17026
Miss Yukiko Kimura, ex-Mishima Maru, December 1928 – departure per Ulmaroa (Sydney), February 1930 B13, 1930/4674
Miss Yuki Kimura trained as a secretary at the Young Women’s Christian Association.

Katoumi Kamayama (Japanese student) – departure per Yaye Maru, December 1934, 1932–34 B13, 1932/1762

This series concerns restricted immigration to Australia. It contains reports, correspondence, articles, cables, newspaper cuttings, proposed amendments to the Immigration Act, business visitors and authorities for admission under exemption.
University of Queensland – (1) admission of Chinese and Japanese lecturers, and (2) admission of students, 1937–39  
Sumiko Seita, daughter of Ryunosuke Seita, a Japanese lecturer at University of Queensland, arrived in 1938. This file contains regulations on the admission of Asian students to Australia for study.

Contract labourers

**CORRESPONDENCE FILES, ANNUAL SINGLE NUMBER SERIES, 1890–1969**  
**Recorded by:**  
1903–16 Department of External Affairs (I) (CA 7)  
1916–28 Department of Home and Territories (CA 15)  
1928–32 Department of Home Affairs (II) (CA 24)  
1932–38 Department of the Interior (I) (CA 27)  
**Quantity:** 455 metres (Canberra); 2 metres (Darwin)  
Please see series description on p. 25.

Wanetta Pearling Co. [regarding] two Japanese for carpentering work, 1911  
Legal argument occurred as to whether Jundo Shiosaki and Toshio Okutani, carpenters, were immigrants under the Act or on contract to pearlers.

The following items are all digitised.

- Queensland – *Sugar Cultivation Act 1913* – discrimination against Japanese, 1890–1920  
  A1, 1920/5592
  A1, 1915/20154
- Question [regarding] employment of Japanese in sugar cane industry, 1919  
  A1, 1919/13433

**CORRESPONDENCE FILES, 1895–1905**  
**Recorded by:** Department of External Affairs (I) (CA 7)  
**Quantity:** 7 metres (Canberra)  
Please see series description on p. 25.

Entry of Japanese labourers into Queensland re: precedent set by *Kumano Maru* decision, 1902  
This item contains communications between the Chief Secretary, Queensland and the Prime Minister regarding the precedent set by the *Kumano Maru* decision.
CORRESPONDENCE FILES [LIGHTHOUSES AND NAVIGATION AGENCIES],
1915–61
Recorded by: 1915–21 Lighthouse Branch, No. 2 District, Qld (CA 7258)
1921–27 District Lighthouse Officer and Deputy Director of Navigation, Qld (CA 7265)
1927–61 Deputy-Director of Lighthouses and Navigation, Qld, and Superintendent Mercantile Marine Office, Brisbane (CA 3878)

Quantity: 6 metres (Brisbane)

This series contains files relating to the administration and functioning of lighthouses in Queensland from 1915 to 1961. The files contain general correspondence, circulars, diagrams, instructions, maps, newspaper clippings, plans, reports and returns.

Matters referred to include allowances, equipment for lighthouses, light buoys, lighthouse supply steamers and vessels, personnel, radio communications, ships surveys and unattended lights and beacons.

Correspondence and reports – issued under pearl shell and bêche-de-mer fisheries Acts (1881–1931), 1933–37
This item contains telegrams and memoranda concerning the movement and wreck of sampans. The material was written by the Collector of Customs, Brisbane; Customs officers at various points along the north Queensland coast; the Deputy-Director, Navigation and Lighthouses; lighthouse keepers; and the Secretary of the Mercantile Marine Branch. The file also contains instructions to lighthouse keepers about exercising discretion in admitting visitors onto lighthouse property, especially from sampans that were not in distress.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES [OFFICE OF THE ADMINISTRATOR], 1915–78
Recorded by: 1915–27 Office of the Administrator, NT (CA 1072)
1927–31 Office of the Government Resident, North Australia (CA 197)
1931–73 Administrator, NT (CA 1070); subsequently by other agencies

Quantity: 366.2 metres (Darwin)

This was the main policy and general series for the Northern Territory Administration. A number of items from 1937–70 relate to Japanese individuals and actions. Files from the 1930s deal with pearling (eg matters of quarantine, patrols, seizure of luggers, court cases, salvage and applications to enter territorial waters). Postwar files relate to the re-establishment of the pearling industry, salvage, art exhibitions, investment by Japanese companies in mines and woodchipping, visits by Japanese students and fact-
finding tours, Japanese film and news crews and requests for information about Darwin and the Northern Territory by the Japanese Consulate.

Proposed establishment of base for Japanese sampans at Darwin, 1937

This file contains information about, and local responses to, a 1937 proposal to establish a base for Japanese sampans at Darwin. It also demonstrates the work of the long-term Japanese residents of Darwin and the mixed race character of Japanese communities.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES [INVESTIGATION BRANCH], 1918–59

Recorded by: 1919–46 Investigation Branch, WA (CA 908)
1946–59 Commonwealth Investigation Service, WA (CA 917)

Quantity: 47.3 metres (Perth)

The correspondence files in this series contain policy matters, reports on investigations and inquiries undertaken on behalf of other Commonwealth agencies into people and events associated with applications for naturalisation, offences committed and contraventions of Commonwealth law.

Japanese activities, 1918–41

This file deals with a number of matters, including an inquiry about the activities of a Japanese priest in Broome (1916), the number of Japanese in WA (1919), Japanese naval officers taking photographs (1918) and a list of Japanese and their occupations at various WA ports.

Other material in the file includes police reports on arguments between Japanese and Australians, along with speculation about Japan’s intentions (1920); concerns about unrest at Broome and the need for a naval patrol; moves by returned servicemen to have legislation introduced to suppress dummying in the pearling industry (1924); admissions of Japanese in connection with iron ore deposits at Yampi Sound (1935); Japanese interest in Western Australian minerals and iron ore and their export (1937 and 1940); and a list of Japanese registered as aliens in WA in November 1941, which gives name, address, date of birth, date of arrival and occupation.


Recorded by: Crown Law Office, NT (CA 885)

Quantity: 20.8 metres (Darwin)

This series contains material relating to the pearling industry in the 1930s, especially to disputes between Japanese luggers and Australian authorities in matters
such as territorial waters, the right to seize vessels and relations between pearlers and Indigenous Australians. It also contains material relating to the deaths of divers, such as Ryoshichi Mitsui, whose inquest report is listed here.

Inquest – Ryoshichi Mitsui (Japanese diver), 1935  
This inquest report concerns the death of Ryoshichi Mitsui, a Japanese pearl-diver. With the handwritten coroner’s reports, evidence given at the inquest, written depositions of witnesses and the verdict, this file provides detailed information on the operations of pearl diving, the hazards of the work and the medical and coronial practices of the times.

CORRESPONDENCE FILE RELATING TO CERTIFICATES OF EXEMPTION, 1936–40  
Recorded by: Sub-Collector of Customs, NT (CA 820)  
Quantity: 0.04 metres (Darwin)

This series contains a single file of correspondence relating to CEDTs granted to Japanese landed off fishing vessels, along with copies of certificates and sureties from employers or local residents.

Certificates of exemption – Japanese landed ex-fishing vessels, 1936–40  
This file demonstrates the role of the Japanese Society in Darwin. It contains death certificates for injured seamen, bonds paid by shipmasters for their crews while on land, immigration forms and CEDTs. A letter from the Japanese Society in Darwin appears on p. 60.

Merchants entering under exemption

GENERAL AND CLASSIFIED CORRESPONDENCE [CUSTOMS], 1898–  
Recorded by: c1902–85 Collector of Customs, Melbourne (CA 789)  
1985– Australian Customs Service, Vic (CA 4586)  
Quantity: 138 metres (Melbourne)

Please see series description on p. 45.

In regard to merchants, this series documents Japanese arrivals at Melbourne and other ports and their transfers from and to interstate. Arrivals of merchants on passports and their subsequent applications for CEDTs are recorded. B13 also documents the arrival and movement of employees of Japanese trading companies in Australia.
Joshinaru Nakajima, a Japanese merchant, arrived in Sydney for employment at the Melbourne branch of Mitsui Bussan Kaisha. The file contains his entry documents and extensions of stay, which record his personal details.

Misao Kai – application for extension of CEDT, 1921–23
This file contains applications and other documents for several extensions to his CEDT for Misao Kai, Manager of Horikoshi & Co., Melbourne.

K Usami, Takeo Mori (Japanese), Andres [sic] Marayat (Filipino) – seamen to join crew of Wonganella, arrived Sydney per Yoshino Maru, 1923
Takeo Mori arrived in Melbourne in February 1923. A silk merchant, he was intending to promote overseas trade between Japan and Australia.

Kuniichi Usami – passenger from Japan per Yoshino Maru, 11 February 1923 – [returned on] the Aki Maru, 23 March 1923
This file contains information on Kuniichi Usamu’s intention to open an export business in Australia. It details his travels from Melbourne to Brisbane.

Yoshiye Asada – left Melbourne per Aki Maru on 16 March 1924 – accompanied by Japanese wife, 1924
The file contains the documents of Yoshiye Asada, merchant, and his wife who resided in Adelaide. These documents relate the difficulty Customs officials sometimes had tracing merchants in Australia.

T Kimata (Japanese) – deportee – left Commonwealth per Aki Maru, c1925
Employees of Mitsui Bussan Kaisha, Melbourne, applied for extensions to stay in Australia. Included among them was Tetsunojo Kimata, who worked in Australia from 1919 to 1925. This file also documents the deportation of Japanese whose CEDTs had expired.

Osoharu Takahashi seeks permission for wife to enter Australia, c1925
Takahashi and his family were examples of company employees who travelled widely in Australia and made trips home to Japan. Customs officials were concerned about the whereabouts of his CEDT, which was left in a desk at his office.

Shotaro Kitamura (Japanese) – ex-Hankow Maru, 19 January 1926
This file contains the immigration form of a Melbourne-based clerk, Shotaro Kitamura. He was a Japanese merchant representing the ‘K’ line of steamers, an amalgamation of three Japanese firms.
The Japanese Society, Port Darwin, North Australia.

Darwin, North Australia, 21st August 1936.

The Sub-Collector of Customs,
DARWIN. N. T.

Dear Sir,

We hereby undertake to pay all medical expenses incurred in connection with the illness of HIDEJIRO YOSHIDA ex "TONAN MARU" No 2.

DARWIN JAPANESE SOCIETY.

[Signature]

President.

The Japanese Society, Port Darwin, undertook to pay Hidejiro Yoshida’s medical expenses, 1936. NAA: E755, NN
Kinnojo Fujimoto – departure per Tango Maru, c1928

Kinnojo Fujimoto, an employee of Kanematsu (Aust.) Ltd, arrived in Sydney in 1921 on a merchant’s passport and transferred to Melbourne. This file documents his working life in Australia.

Mr and Mrs Ryohei Murase – issue of CEDTs – ex-Aki Maru, 1929–30

Ryohei Murase was a wool-buyer associated with N Bennet & Gillman, Wool Brokers, Melbourne. This file also contains information on Mr T Fujiwara, his wife and their two children, and Mr T Hioki.

Osharu Takahashi – ex-Tango Maru, October 1924 – departure from Sydney per Brisbane Maru, August 1932, c1931

This file concerns the entry into Australia and stay of Osharu Takahashi, his wife and their children. He was employed by Mitsui Bussan Kaisha, Melbourne.

WORLD WAR I INTELLIGENCE SECTION CASE FILES, 1914–23

Recorded by: Headquarters, 3rd Military District, Commonwealth (Australian) Military Forces – Intelligence Section, General Staff (CA 1841)

Quantity: 16.5 metres (Melbourne)

Among the items in this series are individual case files dealing with the registration of aliens; the apprehension, internment and repatriation of enemy aliens; offences against the war precautions regulations; and applications for naturalisation and passports.


This item contains the reports on the activities and movements of these three men prepared by Commonwealth Military Forces 3rd Military District. The reports provide details of their business activities with Suzuki & Co. in Australia.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES, CLASS 2 RESTRICTED IMMIGRATION, 1919–50

Recorded by: 1939 Department of the Interior (CA 27)
1939–45 Department of the Interior (CA 31)
1945–50 Department of Immigration (CA 51)

Quantity: 13 metres (Canberra)

Please see series description on p. 54.

Japanese merchants’ wives and assistants – industrial exemption, 1930–40

This item contains information about Japanese merchants working in Australia in the 1930s and their wives. They are listed by company.
GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE FILES, SPECIAL SUBJECTS, 1939–46
MP214/2
Recorded by: 1939–45 Central Wool Committee (II) (CA 317)
1945–46 Australian Wool Realization Commission (CA 256)
Quantity: 5 metres (Melbourne)

This series contains files relating to the functions of the Central Wool Committee. The files cover subjects such as appraisement, shipping, storage and sales of wool. Japanese were employed in wool appraising and wool buying at this time.

Appraisers – Japanese, 1939–42
MP214/2, NN
This items contains letters from Mitsui Bussan Kaisha to the NSW State Wool Committee giving details of the wool-buyers and offering the services of Mr Toichi Kawamura as an appraiser in the committee’s appraisers’ scheme. The file lists the names of all Japanese appraisers since the inception of the NSW scheme, including Minorui Amemiya, Kiyonori Kohno, Shigeo Sawada and many others, providing some information on their working history.

Trading companies – entry and activities

The series dealt with in this section were seized by the Controller of Enemy Property in the hours immediately following the bombing of Pearl Harbour by the Japanese on 7 December 1941. Custody arrangements for these records are currently being investigated and reviewed by the National Archives. Because they contain a great deal of information about the immigration of Japanese merchants and their families to Australia and their lives here, the trading company records are listed in this chapter rather than the section on trade that appears in Chapter 4.

IWAI & CO. – MISCELLANEOUS CORRESPONDENCE AND RECORDS, 1931–41
SP822/44
Recorded by: Collector of Customs, Sydney (CA 785)
Quantity: 0.54 metres (Sydney)

This series contains miscellaneous correspondence, records, a cashbook, receipt and cheque books and cablegrams collected from Iwai & Co. by the Collector of Customs, Sydney, as enemy property records.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS OF MITSUBISHI SHOJI KAISHA PTY LTD (MELBOURNE BRANCH) – PRE–1941 RECORDS, 1941
SP1096/1
Recorded by: Controller of Enemy Property (CA 655)
Quantity: 19 metres (Sydney)

This series contains 97 boxes of ledgers and other financial documents seized from Mitsubishi Shoji
Kaisha’s Melbourne office in December 1941. The boxes constitute one consignment of records for this firm. See more information below at SP1098/10.

**MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS OF MITSUI PTY LTD – MELBOURNE, PRE–1941 RECORDS, 1941**

Recorded by: Controller of Enemy Property (CA 655)

Quantity: 3 metres (Sydney)

Mitsui’s Australian head office was in Sydney and those records are held in SP1098/4 (see below). The 18 boxes of records seized from the firm’s Melbourne branch are almost entirely financial records such as ledgers, cashbooks, bank books (boxes 6 and 11–15). Merchandise statements relating to the import of wool and jute are found in box 8 and are listed by ship for 1940. Memoranda and statements to merchants for 1940 and 1941 are also found in this box. Correspondence and return of sales and sales tax forms for 1930–41 can be found in box 6.

**MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS OF JOHN MITCHELL PTY CO. (KOTOH–MELBOURNE), PRE–1941 RECORDS, 1941**

Recorded by: Controller of Enemy Property (CA 655)

Quantity: 1 metre (Sydney)

Incorporated in Victoria on 18 November 1935 as a takeover of Kotoh, which had operated in Sydney between 1925 and 1930, this company’s records contain its articles of association, lists of shareholders and appointees, and financial documents such as profit-and-loss statements, balance sheets, journals and invoices to customers. There are six boxes in the series, which mostly contain documents dating from 1935 to 1941. Box 1 contains some correspondence with a local firm.

**MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS OF IIDA & CO. (MELBOURNE), PRE–1941 RECORDS, 1941**

Recorded by: Controller of Enemy Property (CA 655)

Quantity: 6.6 metres (Sydney)

The head office of Iida & Co. was in Sydney. This series contains 31 boxes of records seized from the company’s Melbourne branch, which mostly comprise financial source documents. See also the series description for SP1098/16 (below).
MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS OF MITSUI BUSSAN KAISHA PTY LTD (MELBOURNE), PRE–1941 RECORDS, 1941

Recorded by: Controller of Enemy Property (CA 655)

Quantity: 12 metres (Sydney)

This series of 47 boxes is a further consignment of the records described above at SP1096/2.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS OF MITSUI BUSSAN KAISHA PTY LTD, PRE–1941 RECORDS, 1941

Recorded by: Controller of Enemy Property (CA 655)

Quantity: 77.4 metres (Sydney)

This series contains 320 boxes of financial records and correspondence files for this company dating from the 1900s to 1941 for its Sydney office. A consignment of similar records is held in SP1101/1.

This series holds a complete run of ledgers from 1907 to 1941. These contain information on the day-to-day activities of the company (e.g. boxes 303 and 304). As well as information on imports and exports contained in these ledgers, the records include staff lists, details of entertainment and social events, staff movements and lists of customers. Other boxes contain primary source documents of a financial nature, such as Customs dockets and cash register receipts. Correspondence with customers and invoices for goods purchased and sold in Australia and Japan are also of interest. Ledgers and other documents relating to Sydney’s maritime history can also be found in this series.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS OF ARAKI & CO., PRE–1941 RECORDS, 1941

Recorded by: Controller of Enemy Property (CA 655)

Quantity: 103 metres (Sydney)

Araki & Co. developed from a Townsville company owned by Tashima, an immigrant to Queensland in the 1890s. Araki was Tashima’s nephew and bought his uncle’s company in 1928. This record series contains some documents relating to Tashima Company, possibly the oldest records of any Japanese firm held in Australia.

This series contains 440 boxes, the contents of which are very varied. The boxes not only contain financial source documents (which are remarkably complete, including even cash register receipts) and shipping and Customs forms, but also personal documents and photographs relating to the Araki family (box 362). The death of Araki’s first wife in October 1932 is documented in the letters.
received by the company on this occasion (box 302). In 1941, Araki & Co. was the only Japanese trading firm still operating in Brisbane, Sydney, Melbourne, Adelaide and Tasmania. Documentation exists for all these branches. There are extensive correspondence files that contain correspondence both within Australia and with Japan. Araki had connections with German firms (boxes 118 and 122) and some of the correspondence files are in German. Araki was an importer and exporter of all kinds of goods. Many boxes contain fabric samples (eg box 342).

**MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS OF YAMASHITA & CO., PRE–1941 RECORDS, 1941**

Recorded by: Controller of Enemy Property (CA 655)

Quantity: 77 metres (Sydney)

This firm was a shipping company and most of the documents in the 366 boxes held in this series relate to the shipping of exports. They contain correspondence with the firm’s branches in London (United Kingdom) and Wellington (New Zealand) and ports in Japan (box 60). Other documents relate to storage, freight and the movement of ships (box 13) and include monthly accounts and receipts (box 19). Some boxes of early correspondence (such as box 266) date back to 1920 and provide a good picture of Australia–Japan business operations and of the Sydney shipping world at that time. Company tax returns from 1920–49 can be found in box 60 and provide details of company employees, information on company earnings and expenditure per vessel.

**MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS OF OKURA TRADING, PRE–1941 RECORDS, 1941**

Recorded by: Controller of Enemy Property (CA 655)

Quantity: 10.4 metres (Sydney)

The earliest record held in this series indicates that Okura Trading was operating in Sydney in 1916. The series contains 46 boxes, which hold little material from the 1920s although correspondence from 1930 to 1941 is virtually complete (boxes 3, 12, 21–24, 28, 34 and 35). Okura traded in wool but was also involved in trading barley, wheat, flour, hides and pelts (boxes 2, 4, 12 and 32). Among the most interesting features of the series are a letter book from 1917, which lists all correspondence for the company’s branches, and large leather-bound books containing cuttings from newspapers from all over Australia for 1916 to 1922 (box 7) and 1940–41 (box 8) on wool, agriculture, industry and foreign trade in relation to Australia. This series, like other company records series, also contains a large amount of financial source
documents, such as invoices, tax statements, profit-and-loss statements, accounts, lists of shareholders and sales books (boxes 1 and 3–6).

Box 33 contains a collection of pamphlets from the 1930s, among which is included *The Publicist*. Correspondence includes material on the company’s relationships with Australian schools (box 35), a proposal for a commercial museum in Sydney (box 35) and a large collection of business cards (box 2). Other items of interest are a report on New Caledonian mines and particulars of Chinese ports (box 32).

**MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS OF MITSUBISHI SHOJI KAISHA, PRE–1941 RECORDS, 1941**

SP1098/10

Recorded by: Controller of Enemy Property (CA 655)

Quantity: 33.3 metres (Sydney)

This series contains 112 boxes of records. Mitsubishi first opened for trading in Sydney in 1920 and was the biggest Japanese trading company represented in Australia in the pre-World War II era. It had dozens of branches worldwide and was represented particularly in Sydney and Melbourne. Financial documents for the 1920s and 1930s are the predominant feature of this series. Of particular interest are the daily balance sheets for Sydney and Melbourne (boxes 8, 9, 11 and 14), the daily transaction journal from December 1934 to March 1940 (box 33) and the Sydney daily purchase sheets listed by

Japanese imports before World War II included toys such as this ‘Baby Tank’, listed in a Nosawa & Co. catalogue, c1932. NAA: SP1098/12, box 13
customer for 1938–39. Shipment records and export books provide a rich source of information about the company’s operations (boxes 9, 60 and 107). Correspondence files (boxes 34, 40 and box 112 from 1923–34, 1928, 1934 and 1936–41) provide information on international trade, importers’ associations and the practice of providing letters of introduction for employees and other people known to the company when travelling overseas. Some personal correspondence of employees about deaths of family members is also included. Company reports on a number of topics can be found in box 13, particularly for 1937–38. Mitsubishi also obtained credit ratings on Australian companies, which can also be found in boxes 10 and 13.

**MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS OF YANO & JOKO, PRE-1941 RECORDS, 1941**

**SP1098/11**

**Recorded by:** Controller of Enemy Property (CA 655)

**Quantity:** 18 metres (Sydney)

Yano & Joko operated from around 1920 to 1941 in Sydney, with offices in Melbourne, Brisbane and Adelaide (box 48). The series contains 65 boxes containing shipping documents and Australian Customs import entry forms detailing the type of goods shipped (boxes 26, 38, 40 and 41), dates of shipments and customer details for Sydney and Brisbane in the 1930s and 1940s. Other material still extant includes office

An invitation to Mr Keiji Shimada to attend a celebration of the birthday of the Japanese Emperor (29 April, 1937). NAA: SP1098/12, box 12
documents such as credit notes; wages, payroll, cash sales, tax, bank and postage books; and general ledgers. Miscellaneous correspondence, contract notes and invoices to firms all over Australia are also included (box 44). Customer books for 1928 and 1934–41 give the details of the firm’s clients and the goods purchased. Invoices and delivery dockets provide further information on the firm’s customer base (boxes 44 and 47). Further information on clients is available through the credit rating reports from the mercantile credit rating agency, R G Dun & Co. (boxes 16 and 63).

A special feature of this series is the large number of fabric sample books imported from the United States, Japan and France for each fashion season from the mid-1920s to 1941. These books contain approximately 20 samples per page of fabrics such as silk, rayon, wool, and georgette crepe (boxes 4 and 6–10). Some information on the cultural life of Japanese in Sydney is contained in box 16, which relates to the Japanese Athletic Club (1922–26). Relationships with other Japanese firms are also evident in box 50, which contains the Melbourne customer ledger for Iida & Co. from 1931–39.

**MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS OF NOSAWA & CO., PRE–1941 RECORDS, 1941**

Recorded by: Controller of Enemy Property (CA 655)

Quantity: 5.4 metres (Sydney)

Nosawa & Co. was first established in Sydney in c1920. It had offices in Tokyo and Kobe. The material in this series shows that Nosawa was involved in general importing of Japanese goods to Australia. The invoices to customers and correspondence with firms in Sydney (both large and small) display a surprising range of goods, from canned crabmeat to fabrics. Catalogues of available goods are in box 13.

Nosawa & Co. was particularly interested in developing the live-sheep trade from Australia and New Zealand to Japan in the 1920s and 1930s. Mr Ken (Keiji) Shimada who managed the branch for most of the period, lived with his family in Mosman, Sydney. He made many trips to the area around Albury, Jerrilderie and Wagga Wagga with members of his staff and wool-buyers from Japan. Some photographs of these trips still exist (see box 12).

The processes involved in sheep exporting are evident from documents on importing from commercial code books (box 2) used for cabling Japan, sheep licences and shipping documents (box 3) and Customs documents (box 10).
Nosawa & Co. was also involved in experimenting with sheep food such as kelp pellets, samples of which can be found in box 13 along with sheep ear-markers.

This series is rich in general correspondence and statements – particularly from 1937–41 – and provides a snapshot of the way in which local Sydney businesses, run by Australians and Japanese, participated in the import and export trade with Japan through the Japanese trading company network.

A picture of the family and cultural life of the Australian-Japanese in the late 1930s and early 1940s is available in photographs, business cards, Christmas cards, invitations and postcards. Even school fees and doctors’ receipts for the Shimada family are preserved (boxes 12 and 17).

Government policy changes in wartime and their effect on import and export companies can be seen from copies of the statutory regulations kept by this company (boxes 3 and 10). Financial matters relating to the running of the firm, including tax returns, are detailed in source documents (boxes 1 and 9).

**MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS OF THE JAPAN COTTON TRADING COMPANY, PRE–1941 RECORDS, 1941**

*SP1098/13*

Recorded by: Controller of Enemy Property (CA 655)

Quantity: 40 metres (Sydney)

Japan Cotton Trading Company had its head office in Osaka and branches in Sydney, Brisbane and Melbourne. The company exported wool and imported cotton and silk (box 14), which is evident from the charges payable accounts and sellers’ accounts. Records indicate that the firm first operated in Australia in 1921. Contract notes for 1938–41 give the most complete record of its operations in Australia where its customer base extended over all the States (box 1). The general ledgers for 1921–22, 1925 and 1933–34 are contained in large leather-bound volumes and detail the expenses and revenues for the Sydney branch (box 46). Other financial source documents are available in box 20, eg invoices and receipt books for 1936–40.

**MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS OF KIKU GUMI, PRE–1941 RECORDS, 1941**

*SP1098/15*

Recorded by: Controller of Enemy Property (CA 655)

Quantity: 2.5 metres (Sydney)

This trading company was incorporated as a limited company in NSW on 27 September 1934 (box 1). The full name of the company was Kiku Gumi (Australasia) Ltd through purchasing and taking over as a going
concern the business of Yukichi Yamashita of Sydney. Yamashita had been in business in Sydney in the 1920s as a general merchant and manufacturers’ indentor, importer, exporter, buyer, seller and general dealer in merchandise of all description. The company also had a warehouse. Yamashita continued as manager of the company and was its major shareholder.

Box 3 provides details of the shareholding arrangements, stock-in-hand and lists of debtors across Australia and for Kiku Gumi’s other branches in Kobe, Nagoya and Yokohama, Adelaide and Brisbane. This firm supplied large retailers such as Grace Bros and Anthony Horden’s department store.

Letters to debtors regarding overdue payments from the secretary in Sydney on 9 December 1941 are of interest as this firm continued to attempt to operate even after the bombing of Pearl Harbour. The tax folder shows that Yamashita was in Japan in March 1942 and therefore escaped internment in Australia.

This series is most complete in its customs and financial records. Collections of Customs documents from their mercantile agents, Wallace Robinson Pty Ltd in Sydney (boxes 5 and 6) and R Jackson Pty Ltd in Brisbane (box 6), provide details of items imported. Tax returns for 1935–41 are complete (box 3). Receipt books for Victoria, NSW, WA and SA (box 3) with stock books for each office (boxes 2 and 7) and account books listing purchases by each customer (boxes 2, 4 and 8) give a detailed picture of the day-to-day running of a trading company and its customers. Wage books list each employee and their weekly pay details (box 2). Correspondence files also exist (boxes 2 and 4).

**MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS OF IIDA & CO., PRE–1941 RECORDS, 1941**

Recorded by: Controller of Enemy Property (CA 655)

Quantity: 13 metres (Sydney)

Although the records in this series are dated 1931–41, Iida & Co. was one of the first Japanese companies to operate in Sydney, with the earliest known reference to it made in 1909. Iida & Co. was principally an export company engaged in the wool trade, but it also imported fabrics such as rayon (boxes 1 and 4). The collection contains daily journals from 1931–39 and order books from 1934–41 (boxes 1, 4 and 20). Shipping documents for 1938 are found in boxes 2 and 3; order books in boxes 1, 4 and 20; balance sheets and trial balances in box 23; and ledgers in box 44.
MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS OF THE YOKOHAMA SPECIE BANK, PRE–1941 RECORDS, 1941

Recorded by: Controller of Enemy Property (CA 655)

Quantity: 189 metres (Sydney)

Although each series is listed separately on RecordSearch, the 247 series (and 1050 boxes) in this accession are all records of the Yokohama Specie Bank. The quantity listed here is a total for SP1099/1 to SP1099/247.

The Yokohama Specie Bank was used by all the large Japanese business houses, including the Japan Cotton Trading Company, Kiku Gumi and Iida & Co.

Material in the collection has not been fully listed on RecordSearch. Researchers wanting to use material from the collection are advised to consult the paper contents list held by the Sydney office of the National Archives.

A selection of the contents of the series is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Series</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SP1099/132–SP1099/134</td>
<td>Financial bulletin (in English and Japanese)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SP1099/135</td>
<td>Import licences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SP1099/137</td>
<td>Export licences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SP1099/139</td>
<td>Letters of credit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SP1099/142</td>
<td>Policy folders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SP1099/173–SP1099/246</td>
<td>Bank ledgers</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS OF MITSUI BUSSAN KAISHA PTY LTD, PRE–1941 RECORDS, 1941

Recorded by: Controller of Enemy Property (CA 655)

Quantity: 118 metres (Sydney)

This series contains 475 boxes and is a companion consignment to SP1098/4. However, the most interesting feature of this series is its extensive correspondence files, which date mostly from the 1930s and 1940s. The files are arranged in rough alphabetical order within boxes and are labelled according to topic or product, eg files exist on pearling, including the 1937 lugger cases. Product files contain information about wool, jute and minerals development, and negotiations over Yampi Sound, WA. This series also contains extensive correspondence files on issues relating to Australian Government policy, including the pig-iron dispute, and questions of trade, tariffs and taxation.
3. INTERCULTURAL CONTACT AND EXCHANGES BEFORE WORLD WAR II

Apart from recording the immigration and extended residence of some Japanese in Australia before World War II, many series held by the National Archives document Japanese visiting for the purposes of travel, entertainment and official government business. This chapter documents the early stages of the Australia-Japan relationship in these areas, which resumed at a far greater volume after World War II. Visitors to Australia from Japan provided a variety of entertainment through circuses, acrobatic displays and sporting demonstrations. School visits also took place. However, the visits were not one-way. Australians also visited Japan, including a party of schoolteachers in 1939.

On a more official level, Japanese Government representatives came to Australia on fact-finding tours. They studied Australian railway systems, town planning initiatives and various aspects of Australia’s pastoral industries, especially wool and the live-sheep trade. The biggest events in the official visits calendar were the regular arrivals of the Japanese Naval Training Squadron and other naval events. These files are particularly detailed, providing full itineraries, names of visitors and sometimes brief biographies. They demonstrate the good relationship Australia and Japan enjoyed early in the twentieth century.

This good relationship extended to the sharing of information between the Australian Army, the Royal Australian Navy (RAN) and their Japanese counterparts. Representatives from Australia went as observers to the Russo-Japanese War in 1904-05. There was discussion of joint training between the navies. However, files indicate that as Japan’s navy grew and her military power increased, Australia’s fledgling defence forces turned to considering the most effective means of protecting Australia’s vast coastline. Visits by Japanese naval officers to Australian military facilities in the pre-World War II period caused considerable discussion and concern. As a result, the good relationship between the two allies was tempered by caution and anxiety on the Australian side. This is covered in much more detail in chapters 4 and 5. Diplomatic ties were few in the pre-World War II years. Although files document the establishment of consular services by Japan in Australia from the 1890s, Australia did not send an official representative to Japan until 1941.

Entertainers and transit visitors

CORRESPONDENCE FILES, ANNUAL SINGLE NUMBER SERIES, 1890–1969 A1
Recorded by: 1903–16 Department of External Affairs (I) (CA 7)
1916–28 Department of Home and Territories (CA 15)
1928–32 Department of Home Affairs (II) (CA 24)
1932–38 Department of the Interior (I) (CA 27)

Quantity: 455 metres (Canberra); 2 metres (Darwin)

This was the main correspondence series of the agencies above. Its contents date from 1890 through to 1969, and include documents relating to immigration,
emigration, aliens registration, naturalisation, passports, indentured labour, external affairs and special regulations applying to the Japanese.

Visit of Japanese school boys (January 1934), 1933 A1, 1933/8945

GENERAL AND CLASSIFIED CORRESPONDENCE [CUSTOMS], 1898– B13
Recorded by: c1902–85 Collector of Customs, Melbourne (CA 789)
1985– Australian Customs Service, Vic (CA 4586)

Quantity: 138 metres (Melbourne)

This is the main correspondence series of the Collector of Customs in Melbourne. Although it contains material dating back to 1898, it was created around 1902 after the passing of the Immigration Restriction Act 1901. It deals with immigration restriction, administration, prosecutions, excise, shipping, imports and exports.

Items in this series contain a wealth of information about Japanese arrivals (eg students, merchants and seamen) in Australia. These items also document the interstate and overseas movements of Japanese individuals. Some items contain information (eg date and place of birth, next of kin, physical description and occupation) about Japanese who arrived in Australia prior to Federation. Some items also provide information about marriages between Australians and Japanese. General matters relating to the administration of the Immigration Restriction Act are also dealt with in this series.

This item contains correspondence and official forms related to Japanese artists performing at the Tivoli Theatre in Melbourne in 1916. It traces the arrival and work of these artists across Australia. A letter along with a photograph of Unotaro Ishinkawa (‘Togo’) appears on the following page.

Miss Yoshimo Furusawa – arrival per Jervis Bay, September c1931 B13, 1931/13853

Jiro Satoh (Japanese international lawn tennis player) – visit to Australia to give exhibition matches, c1932 B13, 1932/362
Jiro Satoh arrived in Australian on the Mongolia, in December 1931.
WORLD WAR I INTELLIGENCE SECTION CASE FILES, 1914-23  
Recorded by: Headquarters, 3rd Military District, Commonwealth (Australian) Military Forces – Intelligence Section, General Staff (CA 1841)

Quantity: 16.5 metres (Melbourne)

Among the items in this series are individual case files dealing with the registration of aliens; the apprehension, internment and repatriation of enemy aliens; offences against the war precautions regulations; and applications for naturalisation and passports.

Yasandro [Yasuda] on Togo (Japanese), 1917-18  
Recorded by:  Headquarters, 3rd Military District, Commonwealth (Australian) Military Forces – Intelligence Section, General Staff (CA 1841)

This item contains correspondence between the NSW Intelligence Section General Staff and other agencies on

Unotaro Ishikawa ('Togo') acknowledged receipt of his Certificate of Exemption from the Dictation Test, 1922. NAA: B13, 1923/638
tracing the movements of an entertainer named Togo. The item also contains correspondence with the Japanese Consul-General.

**INVESTIGATION FILES (PERSONS AND ORGANISATIONS), ALPHABETICAL PREFIX, 1921–46**

**C320**

**Recorded by:**
- 1942–45 Security Service, NSW (CA 946)
- 1945–46 Investigation Branch, NSW (CA 904)

**Quantity:** 4.5 metres (Sydney)

The correspondence files in this series contain information on suspect activities of Japanese organisations and Japanese and Australians sympathetic to Japan. The files date back to the 1920s. They include reports on investigations, information on Japanese business interests, security irregularities, release of internees, and departures and arrivals of persons suspected of being sympathetic to the enemy.

Other material includes lists of employees of Japanese firms in Sydney and Melbourne; lists of consular staff and members of organisations; and letters and reports, passport applications, investigation reports and photographs. Most of the correspondence is between the Commonwealth Investigation Branch, Canberra and the Department of Defence.

Most investigation reports were made by NSW Security Service personnel. Some reports date from the early days of the war in the Pacific and relate to reports of local residents of Sydney claiming to have sighted Japanese in and around Sydney after the mass internment of Japanese residents.

**Japanese travelling with circus, 1941–42**

**C320, J101**

**Official visits and cultural exchanges**

**CORRESPONDENCE FILES, ALPHABETICAL SERIES, 1821–1970**

**A981**

**Recorded by:** Department of External Affairs (II) (CA 18)

**Quantity:** 147 metres (Canberra)

The Department of External Affairs (II) was established in 1921 but remained part of the Prime Minister's Department. A981 holds a number of files containing information about Japan and the Japanese, which may be located on RecordSearch by searching using the keywords 'Jap*' or 'trad*'. This series contains material that predates and postdates the period of its recording by External Affairs.
Other material relating to this mission and visits associated with it are found in items JAP 59 to JAP 81.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES, ANNUAL SINGLE NUMBER SERIES, 1890–1969
Recorded by: 1903–16 Department of External Affairs (I) (CA 7)
1916–28 Department of Home and Territories (CA 15)
1928–32 Department of Home Affairs (II) (CA 24)
1932–38 Department of the Interior (I) (CA 27)
Quantity: 455 metres (Canberra); 2 metres (Darwin)

Visit of Japanese Members of Parliament, 1926
Rt Hon J G Latham – proposal for Consul-General for Japan to visit Central Australia, 1934

GENERAL AND CLASSIFIED CORRESPONDENCE [CUSTOMS], 1898–
Recorded by: c1902–85 Collector of Customs, Melbourne (CA 789)
1985– Australian Customs Service, Vic (CA 4586)
Quantity: 455 metres (Canberra); 2 metres (Darwin)

Katsuzo I ori – Japanese, ex-Madras Maru – rejoined vessel at Sydney, c1930
I ori was commissioned by the Japanese Government to investigate the Australian pastoral industry.

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE FILES [NAVY OFFICE], 1901–25
Recorded by: 1911 Department of Defence (I) (CA 6)
1911–15 Navy Office (I), Department of Defence (I) (CA 575)
1915–21 Navy Office (II), Department of the Navy (I) (CA 13)
1921 Navy Office (III), Department of Defence (III) (CA 2456)
Quantity: 455 metres (Canberra); 2 metres (Darwin)

The files in this series generally cover a wide range of subjects. Items relating to the Japanese document early Japanese settlement in New Caledonia, visits of the Japanese Naval Training Squadron and information on Japanese ships and foreign language training for the RAN personnel.

Japanese Government – letter of thanks for courtesy to Japanese fleet in early stages of war, 1915
This copy of a letter from Japanese Ambassador (K Inouye) conveys the thanks of the Japanese Government for the courtesy shown to the Japanese fleet.
during naval operations conducted with the British and Australian fleets at the beginning of World War I.

Exchange of information re. training of boys in the RAN and in the Royal Imperial Japanese Navy, 1917–18
This file includes eight Japanese naval publications.

SECRET AND CONFIDENTIAL CORRESPONDENCE, ‘O’ INFIX, 1903–49
Recorded by: 1911–15 Navy Office (I), Department of Defence (I) (CA 575)
1915–21 Navy Office (II), Department of the Navy (I) (CA 13)
1921–22 Navy Office (III), Department of Defence (II) (CA 2456)

Quantity: 14 metres (Melbourne)

This series contains secret and confidential correspondence files. Various security-classified subjects are dealt with, including intelligence, ship construction, shipping movements, examination service, traffic regulation Acts, staffing (naval and civilian), censorship, foreign shipping, naval munitions, fuel, reports of the Naval Representative in London and coastal defences.

Visit to Australia of two Japanese military officers to inspect military and economic conditions and wool production, 1919
This file contains letters concerning the visit of Lieutenant-Colonel Kamimura and First Class Paymaster Kimura to Australia to obtain information on military and economic conditions and expenditure on equipment and food during the war. They were also interested in the sheep industry, including wool manufacturing and methods of wool selling. After they had completed these duties, they travelled within Australia as sightseers.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES, ‘FCW’ (FEDERAL CAPITAL WORKS) PREFIX TO 1917, THEN ‘FC’ (FEDERAL CAPITAL) PREFIX, 1910–31
Recorded by: 1913–16 Public Works Branch, Melbourne (CA 783)
1917–26 Department of Works and Railways (CA 14)

Quantity 3.24 metres (Canberra)

This series contains correspondence, plans, reports and maps relating to public works or projects associated with the Federal Capital Territory (now the Australian Capital Territory [ACT]).

Visit of Japanese town planner, 1922
Mr Yana Gisawa [or Yanagisawa?], architect and town planner for the Government of Tokyo, visited Canberra in April 1922. He also visited Melbourne for information on town planning.
CORRESPONDENCE [NAVY OFFICE], '201' SERIES, 1918–38
Recorded by: Navy Office (III), Department of Defence (II) (CA 2456)
Quantity: 50.5 metres (Melbourne)

This series covers all activities of the Navy Office. Items containing information about Japan concern the visits of training ships, lectures on Japan and other naval matters.

Captain Teake’s letter [about] his visit to Japan, 1933
This item relates to Japanese surveying Australian territorial waters, and Teake’s observations of events in Japan in the 1930s.

INVITATIONS, PROGRAMMES, SEATING PLANS AND MENUS
ACCUMULATED BY SIR JOSEPH AND DAME MARY COOK, 1918–40
Recorded by: The Rt Hon. Sir Joseph Cook PC, GCMG (CP 611)
Dame Mary Cook DBE (CP 937)
Quantity: 0.27 metres (Canberra)

The series contains invitations, royal commands, tickets and programs of events collected by Sir Joseph and Dame Mary between 1918 and 1940.

Invitations, 1935–40
This item contains invitations to Sir Joseph and Dame Mary to attend a number of events, including a reception for Sir John Latham (Australian Envoy to Japan) held by the Japanese Consul-General and Madam Akiyama in 1941. This item is digitised.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES [ARMY HEADQUARTERS], 1919–42
Recorded by: 1930–39Army Headquarters, Department of Defence (II)
1939Department of the Army (CA 36)
Quantity: 49 metres (Melbourne)

This was the main correspondence series for Army Headquarters and includes files relating to matters within the jurisdiction of the Military Board of Administration. It covered administration, organisation, staffing, training, ordnance, stores and transport. The department culled the series during the early 1950s.

Japanese Goodwill Mission, 1935
This file contains the itinerary and details for the visit of Katsuji Debuchi, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, from Japan.
Visits by Japanese naval training ships

**MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS, HEADQUARTERS, EASTERN COMMAND, 1870–1967**

Recorded by:
- 1918–21: 2nd Military District, NSW (I) (CA 6335)
- 1921–39: 2nd District Base, AMF, NSW (CA 4334)
- 1939–42: Headquarters, Eastern Command (I), AMF (CA 1876); subsequently by other agencies

Quantity: 11.55 metres (Sydney)

This series contains general Army files, including correspondence, Army notes and reports, extracts from quarterly returns and other administrative matters. The few items relating to the Japanese concern the visits of the Japanese Naval Training Squadron.

**Artillery shot practice – HIJMS *Iwate*, 1926**

**GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE [AUSTRALIAN SHIPS AND NAVAL ESTABLISHMENTS], 1883–1957**

Recorded by:
- 1913–20: Captain-in-Charge, HM Australian Naval Establishments, Sydney (CA 4335)
- 1920–23: Commodore Superintendent and Senior Naval Officer, Sydney (from 1923, Captain Superintendent, HM Australian Naval Establishments, Sydney, and Senior Naval Officer, NSW) (CA 4336)
- 1923–26: Captain-in-Charge, HM Australian Ships and Naval Establishments, NSW (CA 4337); subsequently by other agencies

Quantity: 14 metres (Sydney)

This series contains correspondence relating to the activities of the British Royal Navy and the RAN from 1883 to 1957. Files relating to ‘showing the colours’ and arrangements for visits of royalty, governors and visiting fleets form a large part of the material. The series also contains several items about visits of the Japanese Naval Training Squadron during the 1920s and 1930s.


This very detailed file contains berthing arrangements, itinerary of ships, letters from Consul-General Suzuki and details of functions, including dinners. It also contains a letter of thanks from the Vice Admiral commanding the squadron and some speculation that the Japanese might want to train with the RAN.

**Visit of Japanese training ship, HIJMS *Iwate*, 1926**
CORRESPONDENCE FILES [DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE], 1890–1906  
Recorded by:  Department of Defence (I) (CA 6)  
Quantity:  9.8 metres (Melbourne)  
This was the general correspondence series for the civil administration of the Department of Defence (I) and includes both military and naval items. Items relating to the Japanese are few but significant because they document the very early stages of the Australia-Japan relationship after Federation. The series contains files relating to the Russo-Japanese War, visits by Japanese ships, the sale of horses to Japan and reports on Japan.

Japanese officers from visiting warships – inspection of fortifications at Albany, WA – censure of officer-in-charge, 1903  
This file concerns a dispute about the unauthorised visit of Japanese officers from warships to the Princess Royal Battery at Albany, WA.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES, ANNUAL SINGLE NUMBER SERIES, 1890–1969  
Recorded by:  
1903–16  Department of External Affairs (I) (CA 7)  
1916–28  Department of Home and Territories (CA 15)  
1928–32  Department of Home Affairs (II) (CA 24)  
1932–38  Department of the Interior (I) (CA 27)  
Quantity:  455 metres (Canberra); 2 metres (Darwin)  
Please see series description on p. 72.

This file contains letters from the Japanese Consulate concerning the arrival and departure of the Japanese Naval Training Squadron. An article from the Japan Advertiser contains an interview with the ship’s captain commenting on Japanese emigration intentions.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES [DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE], 1894–1953  
Recorded by:  Department of Defence (I) (CA 6)  
Quantity:  39 metres (Melbourne)  
This correspondence series contains material dating back to 1894. It deals with all questions of departmental organisation and administration. It also includes some early (and some quite detailed) items about Japanese activities along Australia’s northern coastline, espionage, visits of training ships and reports on the Russo-Japanese War. Searches using ‘MP84/1’ and the keyword ‘Jap*’ will retrieve items of interest.

Visit – Japanese training ships to WA – observations by OC AIC [Officer Commanding Australian Intelligence Corps], 1913  
MP84/1, 1877/5/16
CORRESPONDENCE [2ND MILITARY DISTRICT, NSW], 1912–64  
Recorded by:  
1912–21 2nd Military District, NSW (I) (CA 6335)  
1921–39 2nd District Base, Australian Military Forces (AMF), NSW Headquarters (CA 4334)  
1939–42 Headquarters, Eastern Command (I), AMF (CA 1876); subsequently by other agencies

Quantity: 64.6 metres (Sydney)

This series contains correspondence relating to the administration, function and policy of the Eastern Command. A number of items relate to the Japanese, with most concerning Japanese prisoners-of-war (POWs), internees and visits by Japanese. Some files concern war crimes and Australian POWs of the Japanese.

Visit [of the] Japanese squadron, 1923–24  
SP459/1, 447/4/31

INTELLIGENCE REPORTS OF INTERNMENTS, REPATRIATIONS, AFFILIATIONS AND GENERAL INVESTIGATIONS, 1915–20  
Recorded by:  
1915–19 Headquarters, 5th Military District, Commonwealth Military Forces (CA 4811)  
1919–20 Investigation Branch, WA (CA 908)

Quantity: 8 metres (Perth)

This series contains reports of investigations made by the WA Police Force at the request of Military Intelligence into the activities of aliens, especially those suspected of enemy activities.

Visit of [the] Japanese Naval Training Squadron, c1915–20  
PP14/1, 2/2/12

This file deals with the 1916 visit of the Japanese Naval Training Squadron and what could be reported in the press about the visit.

CORRESPONDENCE [NAVY OFFICE], ‘201’ SERIES, 1918–38  
Recorded by: Navy Office (III), Department of Defence (II) (CA 2456)

Quantity: 50.6 metres (Melbourne)

Please see series description on p. 78.

Address by Lord Jellicoe (Admiral of the Fleet) to cadets of the Japanese Naval Training Squadron, 1924  
MP124/6, 603/203/117

This item contains the text of an address of Lord Jellicoe to Japanese cadets given at the request of Admiral Saito. The address recalls the close association of the two navies and covers subjects such as patriotism and naval discipline.

MP124/6, 603/203/347

The news items, cartoons and photographs in this file relate to the training ships’ visit to Melbourne in July
1928. The file not only contains information about the itinerary of the squadron, but also personal information about the Japanese visitors, including Admiral Saito. Letters to and from the consulate organising the visit and press reports of the visit are included. Two newspaper clippings held in this file appear on the following page.

Visit [of] Japanese training ships, Iwate and Asama, 1928–32
This item contains a request by the Japanese Consul-General that the Japanese Naval Training Squadron be granted permission to visit wireless stations at Ballan and Rockbank. Letters between the wireless company to the Secretary of the Department of Defence in 1928 decide that permission can be granted as long as nothing of a confidential nature is disclosed.

This file contains a letter from the Consul-General, K Inouye, thanking the Commonwealth on behalf of the squadron.

Visit of Japanese training ship, 1936
This item contains a letter from the Japanese Consul-General dated 12 May 1936 informing the Minister for External Affairs of the visit of a Japanese training ship under the command of Captain Jinzo Nakagawa. The ship had a crew of 44, with 26 students receiving instruction in deep-sea fishing and navigation.

Visit of Japanese training ship, 1936
This item contains notice of the visit to Darwin of the mercantile marine ship Kaioh Maru, which arrived on 25 June 1936 with 66 students and a crew of 13 officers and 41 men.

Visit of Japanese training ship Hakuyoh Maru, 1937–38
This file contains notification of the visit to Darwin of the mercantile marine ship Kaioh Maru, which arrived on 25 June 1936 with 66 students and a crew of 13 officers and 41 men.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES [ARMY HEADQUARTERS], 1919–42
Recorded by: 1930–39 Army Headquarters, Department of Defence (II) (CA 2671)
1939 Department of the Army (CA 36)
Quantity: 49 metres (Melbourne)

Please see series description on p. 78.

Ceremonial for the official visit of Japanese training squadron, 1935
The file contains full details of activities and functions associated with the visit of the Japanese Naval Training Squadron in 1935.
The *Yakumo*, a Japanese naval training ship, leaves Port Melbourne for Hobart, 6 July 1928 (newspaper clipping from the *Melbourne Herald*). NAA: MP124/6, 603/203/347

Members of the ‘Japanese colony in Melbourne’ say goodbye to their fellow countrymen, 6 July 1928 (newspaper clipping from the *Melbourne Herald*). NAA: MP124/6, 603/203/347
Visit of Japanese training squadron, 1928–32
This item contains the itineraries and histories of the vessels HIJMS *Iwate* and HIJMS *Asama*, which visited Australia in 1915, 1923 and 1925, and two other ships, HIJMS *Yakumo* and HIJMS *Idzumo*.

Language study

**CORRESPONDENCE FILES, ANNUAL SINGLE NUMBER SERIES, 1890–1969**

Recorded by:
- 1903–16 Department of External Affairs (I) (CA 7)
- 1916–28 Department of Home and Territories (CA 15)
- 1928–32 Department of Home Affairs (II) (CA 24)
- 1932–38 Department of the Interior (I) (CA 27)

Quantity: 455 metres (Canberra); 2 metres (Darwin)

Please see series description on p. 72.

**Sydney University – introduction of Japanese lecturers, 1917–28**

This file provides information about Sydney University’s introduction of Japanese and the appointment of James Murdoch. It also relates to the teaching of Japanese at Fort St High School and North Sydney High School.

**GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE FILES [NAVY OFFICE], 1901–25**

Recorded by:
- 1911 Department of Defence (I) (CA 6)
- 1911–15 Navy Office (I), Department of Defence (I) (CA 575)
- 1915–21 Navy Office (II), Department of the Navy (I) (CA 13)
- 1921 Navy Office (III), Department of Defence (III) (CA 2456)

Quantity: 61.5 metres (Melbourne)

Please see series description on p. 76.

**Royal Australian Naval College – foreign language training (including Japanese), 1916–21**

This file contains the proposal that the Japanese language should be taught at the Royal Australian Naval College and that a British person should, if possible, be the instructor. It also contains correspondence from the Premier of Victoria asking what financial assistance the Australian Government would be prepared to give in connection with proposals for the teaching of European and Oriental languages. Other documents discuss the feasibility of RAN personnel learning Japanese.
CORRESPONDENCE FILES [ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT], 1901–
Recorded by: Attorney-General’s Department (CA 5)

Quantity: 2,024 metres (Canberra); 353 metres (Sydney)

This is the main correspondence file series of the Attorney-General’s Department. Apart from matters relating to the Japanese, it contains a vast array of material concerning the responsibilities of the Attorney-General.

Japanese interpretation in Australia, 1938–41
This item contains a letter from Professor Sadler, along with other papers, arguing for the urgent need to encourage Japanese language study in Australia.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES [ARMY HEADQUARTERS], 1919–42
Recorded by: 1930–39 Army Headquarters, Department of Defence (II) (CA 2671)
1939 Department of the Army (CA 36)

Quantity: 49 metres (Melbourne)

Please see series description on p. 78.

Japanese books; visits to Japan by Army officers; and Japanese language studies at Royal Military College, Dunrobin, 1917–35
This item contains lists of textbooks for the Defence Library and letters – principally to James Murdoch – concerning the progress of captains Broadbent and Capes, two Army officers sent to Japan to study. The file also has some information relating to E L Piesse and the establishment of the Pacific Bureau of the Prime Minister’s Department.

The study of Japanese, 1927–34
This item contains a policy statement advising the encouragement of Japanese language studies. It also outlines the history of language study between 1916–22.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES [NAVY OFFICE], 1922–23
Recorded by: Navy Office (III), Department of Defence (II) (CA 2456)

Quantity: 8 metres (Melbourne)

This series consists of general and ‘confidential’ correspondence. It covers a wide range of matters, including censorship, statistics, ships’ trials, parliamentary issues, prosecution, intelligence activities, lighthouses, conferences, discipline and British possessions.
Allowances to officers studying in Japan, 1921–22
Mr T C Bothroyd, schoolmaster – RAN application to undergo course of training in Japanese, 1922

Recorded by: Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF) School of Languages (CA 6070)
Quantity: 3 metres (Melbourne)

This series comprises correspondence files relating to the management of the RAAF School of Languages at Williams Base, Victoria. Some material dates from the early days of the school in the 1950s and there is some information on language teaching before the 1950s. Items in the series provide information on languages taught, staffing and establishment matters. Some information on the teaching of Japanese is contained in this series.

Japanese linguist course – policy file, 1944-45
Japanese linguist training course, 1945–45

Japanese family picnicking in the Australian bush, c1939. NAA: C123, 8408
POLITICAL, ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL LIFE (NEGATIVES AND PRINTS), 1971–

Recorded by: 1971–73 Australian News and Information Bureau (CA 219)
1973–87 Australian Information Service (from 1986, Promotion Australia) (CA 1578)
1987–94 Australian Overseas Information Service (CA 6785)
1994– Department of Foreign Affairs (CA 5987)

Quantity: 44 metres (Canberra)

This photographic series documents a wide range of Australian subjects and themes (eg the political, economic and social life of Australia and its people). Images in the series include numerous photographs of Japanese individuals and subjects.

Personalities – Professor James Murdoch, MA (Second Master, 1885–88), 1975

This image appears below.

Japanese goodwill mission visits Hobart, 1978

Professor James Murdoch, c1888.
NAA: A6180, 24/3/75/26
Japanese relations with Indigenous Australians and other groups

CORRESPONDENCE FILES, ANNUAL SINGLE NUMBER SERIES, 1890–1969 A1
Recorded by: 1903–16 Department of External Affairs (I) (CA 7)
          1916–28 Department of Home and Territories (CA 15)
          1928–32 Department of Home Affairs (II) (CA 24)
          1932–38 Department of the Interior (I) (CA 27)

Quantity: 455 metres (Canberra); 2 metres (Darwin)

Please see series description on p. 72.

Lugger – the Ouida, wreck of, 1931–33 A1, 1933/2852
This item contains information about the wreck of the Ouida, during which three Japanese lives were lost, on 31 July 1931. It also contains newspaper cuttings about Nemaluk, an escaped Indigenous Australian who was held for killing three Japanese in 1930, and a Supreme Court report of five Indigenous Australians charged with murders of the three Japanese from the Ouida.

Caledon Bay Expedition, press cuttings (1933), 1932–34 A1, 1933/7639
This item is digitised.

Apprehension and trial of Caledon Bay natives charged with murder of Japanese, 1934–36 A1, 1936/111
This item is digitised.

FOLDERS OF COPIES OF CABINET PAPERS, 1901– A6006
Recorded by: 1976–81 Australian Archives (CA 1720)
          1981–94 Australian Archives, ACT Regional Office (CA 3196)
          1994–98 Australian Archives, National Office (CA 7970)
          1998– National Archives of Australia (CA 8550)

Quantity: 9.18 metres (Canberra); microfilm copies held in all State offices

A6006 is an artificial series created by the National Archives to accumulate papers placed before Cabinet during the 1901–38 period. No regular procedure for recording the decisions of Cabinet existed prior to 1925, and a systematic method for recording Cabinet submissions and decisions was not truly effected until 1941. This series contains copies of papers relevant to Cabinet that are not in any of the record series created by the Cabinet Office. These papers have been found in departmental files, personal collections and elsewhere. A6006 item numbers are the date of the Cabinet meeting. In some cases, items have the same item number because they relate to the same meeting. When citing items from this series, the series number, item
number and title need to be quoted. All items in the series are listed on RecordSearch, and the series is available on microfilm in all National Archives’ reading rooms.

**Japanese sampans in territorial waters – Customs powers, 1937**  
A6006, 1937/06/01

This item deals with a number of matters, including shipping patrols and the activities of foreign shipping, including Japanese sampans, in Australian territorial waters.

**CORRESPONDENCE FILES [TRADE AND CUSTOMS], 1905–**  
CORRESPONSTANCE FILES [TRADE AND CUSTOMS], 1905–  
A425

Recorded by:  
1935–56 Department of Trade and Customs (CA 10)  
1956–75 Department of Customs and Excise (CA 62)  
1975– Department of Police and Customs (CA 1862); subsequently by other agencies

Quantity: 2 484 metres (Canberra); 254.5 metres (Sydney)

This was the main correspondence series for the Department of Business and Consumer Affairs. It covers a wide range of subjects, but is mainly concerned with censorship and Customs matters, especially in relation to imported goods. A number of items in this series are concerned with Japanese trade matters and Japanese sampans in Australian territorial waters and other shipping matters.

Schooner with Japanese helmsman and Indigenous Australian crewman, creek near Point Stuart, Timor Sea, 1941. *NAA: M914, Northern Territory 5248*
Shipping patrol – Japanese shipping – northern Australian coast, 1911–23
This file and its parts deal with concerns over Japanese pearling activities, allegations of looting, running of opium and cocaine and breaches of the Aboriginal Ordinance and Customs legislation.


CORRESPONDENCE FILES [INTERIOR], 1911–

Recorded by: 1946–72 Department of the Interior (II) (CA 31)
1951–54 Department of Territories (I) – Northern Territory Administration (CA 60)
1972–83 Department of the Capital Territory (CA 1477); subsequently by other agencies

Quantity: 321 metres (Canberra)

This series has a complex history and contains material top-numbered from a number of series created by other agencies, which may explain the disparity between the dates and agencies listed in its ‘Recorded by’ field.

A431 is the main policy and general correspondence series for the administration of the ACT. In addition to policy matters, its contents cover other matters such as projects and legislation, finances and staffing and departmental organisation and function. The series contains some records created by the Commonwealth Motor Vehicle Registry and records relating to the Australian War Memorial, the National Botanic Gardens and Aboriginal affairs. It also contains files relating to the administration of the Northern Territory from 1946 to 1951.

Murder of Japanese by Aboriginals at Caledon Bay, 1932–34
This item includes discussions of witness statements and whether the Japanese provoked the attack made upon them by Indigenous Australians at Caledon Bay, Northern Territory. This item is digitised.

Bathurst Island Mission reports – Northern Territory, 1910–52
This item contains information about Japanese and Indigenous Australians and prostitution. This item is digitised.
SECRET CORRESPONDENCE FILES, 1912–45
Recorded by: 1936–39 Department of Defence (II) (CA 19)
1939–45 Department of the Army (CA 36)
Quantity: 30 metres (Melbourne)

A number of records in this series relate to the Japanese. They cover a variety of subjects, including Australian concerns over Japanese encroachment in its territorial waters, wartime atrocities, Japanese views on Australia, reports from the Australian Legation in Tokyo, internment of Japanese, notes on the Japanese Army and political warfare against Japan.

Japanese activities among the Aborigines, 1942
This contains the opinions of mission superintendents on Thursday Island and in other parts of Queensland about the loyalty to Australia of Indigenous Australians in these areas and their relations with the Japanese.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES [CROWN LAW OFFICE, NT], ‘DP’ PREFIX, 1928–55
Recorded by: Crown Law Office, Northern Australia (by 1931, Northern Territory) (CA 885)
Quantity: 8.6 metres (Darwin)

This series is still subject to research. However, it contains files relating to the Japanese which demonstrate the difficulty Australian authorities had in determining which ordinances and nationality laws applied to individuals with mixed racial origins.

Inquiry from Aboriginal Branch – Matsumoto taking wife and children to Japan – Mrs Matsumoto nee Helena Corpus, 1938–39
This item is a Darwin Police Court transcript of a hearing in the case Police v Matsumoto (9 March 1938) for cohabitation with a half-caste Indigenous Australian. The file demonstrates the role of local Japanese leaders in assisting Japanese or part-Japanese residents and their families.

HISTORICAL DOCUMENTS – WORLD WAR II – RAAF SERIES I, 1940–
Recorded by: 1940–42 Department of Air (CA 35)
1942– Department of Defence (III) (CA 46)
Quantity: 1.26 metres (Canberra)

This series consists of historically significant records created during World War II. These records deal with various RAAF matters, including regulations; Japanese air raids in Australia, Papua New Guinea and the Netherlands East Indies; the Air Training Corps;
a aircraft and airfields; RAAF units; non-flying units; radar flight sectors; guided missiles; movements; meteorological services; and interviews, letters and writings related to the war.

Indigenous Australians – World War II service, 1942-44
This file contains six items, one of which is a statement by William Doctor (‘Bounghi’), an Indigenous Australian.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES [DIRECTORATE OF MANPOWER], YEAR AND SIGNIFICANT SUBJECT PREFIXES, 1942–46
Recorded by: Directorate of Manpower (CA 533)
Quantity: 27.4 metres (Melbourne)
This series documents policies on the control and direction of labour resources during World War II. Only one item in the series has been identified as relating to the Japanese.

Cooperation between Aboriginals and white people to combat possible liaison with Japanese landing in remote parts of Australia, 1942
This item contains a letter from Professor A P Elkin of the Department of Anthropology at the University of Sydney supporting an Indigenous Australian force. It refers to discussion in the press about Indigenous Australians helping the Japanese. Other papers relate to voluntary war service for Indigenous Australians.

Cultural and information exchange

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE, ‘G’ FILES, 1872–1940
Recorded by: Postmaster-General’s Department (CA 9)
Quantity: 111.4 metres (Melbourne)
Although this is a general series, it contains a number of items about mail to Japan, especially the establishment of the service to Japan.

Japanese – whether authorised language in C/W international telegrams, 1904-24
This item deals with difficulties in sending telegrams because of the division of words in Japanese and discussion as to whether Japanese was an authorised language.
CORRESPONDENCE FILES [EXTERNAL AFFAIRS], 1899–1939
Recorded by: 1923–27 Department of External Affairs (II) (CA 18)
1923–34 Prime Minister’s Department (CA 12)

Quantity: 50 metres (Canberra)

This series contains some items that relate to the Japanese. They deal with trade matters, visits of the Japanese fleet, immigration, cultural exchanges and information sought by the Japanese Consul. The series contains material dating back to 1899.

Australian films for Japan, 1928
This file contains correspondence about a request by the Japanese Consul-General for permission for a cinematographical crew and representatives of the Osaka Museum to visit and film Australian primary industry and scenic attractions for showing in Japan. This item is digitised.

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE FILES [NAVY OFFICE], 1901–25
Recorded by: 1911 Department of Defence (I) (CA 6)
1911–15 Navy Office (I), Department of Defence (I) (CA 575)
1915–21 Navy Office (II), Department of the Navy (I) (CA 13)
1921 Navy Office (III), Department of Defence (III) (CA 2456)

Quantity: 61.5 metres (Melbourne)

Please see series description on p. 76.

Coronation of the Emperor of Japan, 10 November 1915
This item directs that flags be flown on Commonwealth buildings and ships in honour of the Japanese Emperor’s coronation.

FOLDERS OF COPIES OF CABINET PAPERS, 1901–
Recorded by: 1976–81 Australian Archives (CA 1720)
1981–94 Australian Archives, ACT Regional Office (CA 3196)
1994–98 Australian Archives, National Office (CA 7970)
1998– National Archives of Australia (CA 8550)

Quantity: 9.18 metres (Canberra); microfilm copies held in all State offices

Please see series description on p. 88.

Message of congratulations – coronation of Japanese Emperor, 1915
This item is digitised.
CORRESPONDENCE FILES [EXTERNAL AFFAIRS], LETTER PREFIX, SECRET AND CONFIDENTIAL, 1903–44  
Recorded by: 1926–27 Department of External Affairs (II) (CA 18)  
1926–39 Prime Minister’s Department (CA 12)  
Quantity: 6 metres (Canberra)  
These papers relate to a wide variety of topics, including Japanese activities in the Pacific before World War II and Japan’s relations with China in the 1930s.

Visit of women teachers to Japan, 1938  
Five teachers, some from schools in Melbourne, visited Japan in 1939. This file contains correspondence, photographs of the teachers and the itinerary for their trip.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES [DEFENCE] SERIES, 1906–16  
Recorded by: Department of Defence (I) (CA 6)  
Quantity: 2.34 metres (Melbourne)  
This series relates to naval defence of the Commonwealth of Australia.

Arrangements for [commanders] Clarkson and Colquhoun to visit Japan, North America and England – engagement of Professor Biles for ship construction, 1907  
This item contains the commanders’ report to the Secretary, Department of Defence about their visit to Japan and details of ships and latest developments there.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES [COMMERCE], 1925–54  
Recorded by: 1935–42 Department of Commerce (CA 28)  
1942–43 Department of Commerce and Agriculture (CA 48)  
Quantity: 18.3 metres (Canberra)  
Files in this series concern the registration of brands, trademarks, estimates of expenditure and revenue and delegations to countries, including India, China and Japan.

Australian tourist traffic to Japan, 1936–38  
This file documents the experiences of Australians visiting Japan, in particular the difficulties with Japanese authorities experienced by author Frank Clune, who was arrested for taking photos in Osaka. Some news articles in the file deal with the treatment of Australians at the Japanese port of Moji. This item is digitised.
F D McMaster, Animal Health Laboratory, Correspondence Files, c1933-66

Recorded by: CSIRO, Division of Animal Health (CA 4373)

Quantity: 8.6 metres (Sydney)

Items in this series mostly contain details of research projects and programs undertaken by laboratory staff, requests from the public for information and exchanges of information with similar facilities in Australia and overseas.


Correspondence in this file attacks Australian attitudes to Japan and argues for a sense of balance and proportion in effecting a general trade in 1936. It includes letters to Eric Longfield Lloyd (appointed Australian Trade Commissioner in Japan in 1936), a report of the Vocational Farm School for Women (June 1936 to June 1937) in Korea and other information about the work of Sir Ian Clunies Ross (appointed Chairman of the CSIRO in 1949).
4. DEFENCE, TRADE AND DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS TO 1941

Watching Japan’s activities became a preoccupation for the developing Australian defence forces after Federation. News items from Japan, pamphlets written by the Japanese and any information on the Japanese in the Pacific was collected and filed by the Australian Army and the Royal Australian Navy (RAN). Of special interest were reports of Japanese sampans surveying and mapping the northern Australian coastline during the 1930s, which fuelled fears of invasion. Japanese pearling activity also caused friction, as illustrated in files concerning the arrest of Japanese luggers and encroachment into Australian territorial waters. The files listed in this chapter document Australian defence force relations with the Japanese Navy and Australian responses in terms of intelligence activity and legislation.

Trade with Japan and Japanese developments in Australia are documented in many series held by the National Archives. Japan was eager to obtain minerals from Australia and to exhibit and sell her manufactures to Australia. Records on trade relations show not only the mutual exchange but also the development of tensions in the trading relationship, particularly in the 1930s. During the early stages of World War II, further difficulties arose in trade relations because of Japan’s relationship with Germany.

Defence and security

CORRESPONDENCE FILES, ALPHABETICAL SERIES, 1821–1970  A981
Recorded by: Department of External Affairs (II) (CA 18)

Quantity: 147 metres (Canberra)

The Department of External Affairs (II) was established in 1921 but remained part of the Prime Minister’s Department. A981 holds a number of files containing information about Japan and the Japanese, which may be located on RecordSearch by searching using the keywords ‘Jap*’ or ‘trad*’. This series contains material that predates and postdates the period of its recording by External Affairs.

War records – Japan – southward advance, 1933–41  A981, JAP 185 part 2
Japan – southward advance, 1934–42  A981, JAP 185 part 4

CORRESPONDENCE FILES [DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE], 1890–1906  B168
Recorded by: Department of Defence (I) (CA 6)

Quantity: 9.8 metres (Melbourne)

This was the general correspondence series for the civil administration of the Department of Defence (I) and includes both military and naval items. Items relating to the Japanese are few but significant because they
document the very early stages of the Australia–Japan relationship after Federation. This series contains files relating to the Russo-Japanese War, visits by Japanese ships, the sale of horses to Japan and reports on Japan.

Japanese–Russian War – recommendation to send two Australian permanent officers, 1904–05

This item contains a letter to the Minister of Defence from Major General Hutton (General Officer Commanding) recommending that two Australian permanent officers be sent to the Japanese Army to observe the Russo-Japanese War in the field. The file also contains a report to Captain Muirhead by Captain Hoad, the attaché with the Japanese Army, which lists the officers at the front from Australia, Canada, the United States, England, Germany and other nations. It provides a detailed history of the Japanese military forces from 1866, along with a Japanese railway travel map. Further information on this conflict can be found in the following items:

- Report on Russo–Japanese War by Colonel J C Hoad, 1904
- Colonel J C Hoad – decoration from Japan – ‘Rising Sun’, 1904–05

CORRESPONDENCE FILES, ANNUAL SINGLE NUMBER SERIES, 1890–1969

Recorded by: 1903–16 Department of External Affairs (I) (CA 7)
1916–28 Department of Home and Territories (CA 15)
1928–32 Department of Home Affairs (II) (CA 24)
1932–38 Department of the Interior (I) (CA 27)

Quantity: 455 metres (Canberra); 2 metres (Darwin)

This was the main correspondence series of the agencies above. Its contents date from 1890 through to 1969, and include documents relating to immigration, emigration, aliens registration, naturalisation, passports, indentured labour, external affairs and special regulations applying to the Japanese.

Correspondence regarding the negotiations between Japan and Russia, 1903–04

This item contains printed translations of a booklet presented to the Imperial Japanese Diet in March 1904 along with correspondence between Baron Komura and Mr Kurino, which was sent to the Minister for External Affairs, Melbourne by Acting Japanese Consul Iwasaki. This item is digitised.

Press cutting – ‘The Policy of Japan’, 1908

This file contains news items taken from the Japan Times that question whether Japan might go to war with America or invade Australia, particularly if Australia’s policy of exclusion continues.
Confidential – Japanese officers on Thursday Island, 1911
Naval memoranda and other documents in this file report Japanese surveying and charting reefs near Thursday Island. It was proposed that a secret agent be placed among the Japanese and that a British navy officer be lent a boat to chart the reef.

SECRET AND CONFIDENTIAL CORRESPONDENCE FILES [DEFENCE], 1894–1938

Recorded by: 1906–21 Department of Defence (I) (CA 6)
1921–36 Department of Defence (II) (CA 19)

Quantity: 5.2 metres (Melbourne)

This series records the more important rather than the routine activities of the Department of Defence. Items in this series provide information on Australian foreign policy and defence schemes, and Australian society before and during World War I. Items relating to Japan include information on Japan’s foreign policy and foreign relations as well as relations between Australia and Japan. These items can be found by using ‘B197, 1877/5/*’ in the reference numbers field in RecordSearch.

Legislation for protection against espionage, 1912–16
This item deals with discussion in 1912 about whether Australia was sufficiently protected against espionage. These concerns resulted from the visit of Major Asada, a suspected Japanese spy, to WA.

Messages sent from Japanese warships, 1917
This file concerns the cooperation between naval intelligence and Japanese ships to facilitate action against Germany during World War I.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES [DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE], 1894–1953

Recorded by: Department of Defence (I) (CA 6)

Quantity: 39 metres (Melbourne)

This correspondence series contains material dating back to 1894. It deals with all questions of departmental organisation and administration. It also includes some early (and some quite detailed) items about Japanese activities along Australia’s northern coastline, espionage, visits of training ships and reports on the Russo-Japanese War. To find more items, search using the keyword ‘Japan*’ under the ‘refine search’ option on RecordSearch.

Japanese on the north coast of Australia, 1909–10
This item contains correspondence, including that of the Governor-General, about Japanese taking soundings of, and surveying, Australia’s northern coastline.
Japanese in Queensland, 1908  
This item provides information on K Suzuki, whose activities were being watched by Defence personnel.

Lieutenant J G Fearnley – Japanese espionage and a secret service, 1909  
Lieutenant J G Fearnley’s concerns about possible Japanese espionage activities and information gathering in Australia are documented in this file. He raises the question of the need to establish a secret service in view of the military preparations being undertaken in Japan and China.

List of foreign warships, Japan, 1906–13  
This item relates to the same concerns raised by Lieutenant Fearnley. It also contains a list of the warships of Japan and other nations.

Review of preparedness for war – fixed defences [on] Thursday Island, 1912  
This file reveals concerns about Australia’s defence preparedness for World War I.

CABINET PAPERS (FOLDERS OF COPIES), 1901–

Recorded by: 1976–81 Australian Archives (CA 1720)
1981–94 Australian Archives (CA 3196)
1994– National Archives of Australia (CA 7970)
1998– National Archives of Australia (CA 8550)

Quantity: 9 metres (Canberra); microfilm in each State office of the National Archives

A6006 is an artificial series created by the National Archives to accumulate papers placed before Cabinet during the 1901–38 period. No regular procedure for recording the decisions of Cabinet existed prior to 1925, and a systematic method for recording Cabinet submissions and decisions was not truly effected until 1941. This series contains copies of papers relevant to Cabinet that are not in any of the record series created by the Cabinet Office. These papers have been found in departmental files, personal collections and elsewhere. A6006 item numbers are the date of the Cabinet meeting. In some cases, items have the same item number because they relate to the same meeting. When citing items from this series, the series number, item number and title need to be quoted. All items in the series are listed on RecordSearch, and the series is available on microfilm in all National Archives’ reading rooms.

This series contains many items relating to Japan, which can be found by searching within the series using the keyword ‘Japan*’.

- Colonel Hoad – attachment to Japanese Army, 1904 A6006, 1904/12/31
- Proposed Japanese/Australian commercial treaty, 1915 A6006, 1915/12/31
- Japanese and Australian relationships – Baron Makino, 1919 A6006, 1919/4/24
- Visit of Japanese training ship Iwate, 1926 A6006, 1926/01/05
- Appointment of Australian Ambassador to Japan, 1940 A6006, 1940/06/21

CORRESPONDENCE FILES [EXTERNAL AFFAIRS], LETTER PREFIX, SECRET AND CONFIDENTIAL, 1903–44

Recorded by: 1926–27 Department of External Affairs (II) (CA 18)
1926–39 Prime Minister’s Department (CA 12)

Quantity: 6 metres (Canberra)

These papers relate to a wide variety of topics. In relation to Japan they include Japanese activities in the Pacific before World War II and Japan’s relations with China in the 1930s.

- Japanese activities in the South Seas, 1938 A1606, BS12/1
- Illegal fishing by Japanese and Malays in Australian waters, 1926–27 A1606, D18/1
SECRET AND CONFIDENTIAL CORRESPONDENCE, ‘O’ INFIX, 1903–49  

Recorded by:  
1911–15 Navy Office (I), Department of Defence (I)  
(CA 575)  
1915–21 Navy Office (II), Department of the Navy (I)  
(CA 13)  
1921–22 Navy Office (III), Department of Defence (II)  
(CA 2456)  

Quantity: 14 metres (Melbourne)  

This series contains secret and confidential correspondence files. Various security-classified subjects are dealt with, including intelligence, ship construction, shipping movements, examination service, traffic regulation Acts, staffing (naval and civil), censorship, foreign shipping, naval munitions, fuel, reports of the Naval Representative in London and coastal defences. Further files relating to Japan and the Japanese can be found on RecordSearch by searching within MP1049/1 using the keyword ‘Japan*’.  

Activity of Japanese at north-west ports, WA, 1913  
Japanese photographer at Thursday Island, 1913–14  
Japanese naval intelligence officers, Sydney – appointment of Lieutenant Commander Kanesaka, 1914  
Intelligence Branch reports on Japanese affairs (periodical), 1919–20  

Japanese pearling lugger, Darwin, 1937. In the lead-up to World War II, Australian authorities suspected these luggers of carrying out surveillance activities. NAA: M119, 58.

Recorded by: Department of Defence (CA 6)

Quantity: 3 metres (Canberra); 12.7 metres (Melbourne)

This series was the main correspondence series for the Department of Defence before World War I. It covers topics such as internal matters of personnel and finance and land acquisition.

Newspaper cutting – ‘Danger from Japan’, 1913

This item contains news articles dealing with international aspects of the growth of the nations of the East, accompanied by brief explanations and maps. One report in The Argus raises questions about Australia’s defence.

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE FILES [DEFENCE], 1917–29

Recorded by: 1917–21 Department of Defence (I) (CA 6)
1921–29 Department of Defence (II) (CA 19)

Quantity: 44 metres (Melbourne)

This series consists of files relating to the administration of the Australian military forces by the Department of Defence.

Purchase of statistical books by Japanese in Australia, 1921

This item contains correspondence from an E W Cole to the Department of Defence, which provides information about the type of published material systematically sought by the Japanese.

CORRESPONDENCE [NAVY OFFICE], ‘201’ SERIES, 1918–38

Recorded by: Navy Office (III), Department of Defence (II) (CA 2456)

Quantity: 50 metres (Melbourne)

This series covers all activities of the Navy Office. Japanese items concern the visits of the training ships, lectures on Japan and other naval matters.

Lecture – ‘Japan and her Navy’, 1933

This lecture was prepared by Lieutenant Commander L E Porter (HMAS Canberra) and submitted for approval before it was delivered at United Service Institution of New South Wales on 23 November 1933. Its subject was the history of Japanese military actions and Japan’s warrior, or bushido, code.

Captain Teake’s letter regarding his visit to Japan, 1933

This file contains a report to Prime Minister Joseph Lyons that mentions the sense of irritation among
some Japanese about the difficulties Japan faced in entering the trade markets of the world on an equal basis with other nations. Teake urges a comprehensive review of Australian hydrographic surveying activities and expresses the opinion that the present situation has elements of great danger to Australia.

**CORRESPONDENCE FILES [COMMERCE], 1925–54**

Recorded by: 1935–42 Department of Commerce (CA 28)
1942–43 Department of Commerce and Agriculture (CA 48)

Quantity: 18.3 metres (Canberra)

Files in this series concern the registration of brands, trademarks, estimates of expenditure and revenue and delegations to countries, including India, China and Japan.

**Implications of Japanese southward expansion movement, 1936–41**

A601, 402/17/30

**Trade**

In addition to the following records, the National Archives also hold a number of records seized by the Controller of Enemy Property in the hours immediately following the bombing of Pearl Harbour by the Japanese on 7 December 1941. The records were the property of various Japanese trading companies and contain a miscellany of correspondence, financial documents and business and personal records. Custody arrangements for these records are currently being investigated and reviewed by the National Archives.

Because they contain a great deal of information about the immigration of Japanese merchants and their families to Australia and their lives here, the trading company records are listed in Chapter 2 of this guide rather than in this section. Please see p. 62 for a description of these records.

**CORRESPONDENCE FILES, ALPHABETICAL SERIES, 1821–1970**

Recorded by: Department of External Affairs (II) (CA 18)

Quantity: 147 metres (Canberra)

Please see series description on p. 96.

**Japan – relations with Australia, 1940–42**

A981, JAP 101 part 3

This item deals with Australia–Japan relations in the 1930s and 1940s. It has a number of parts, of which parts 2 and 3 are digitised. These and other files in A981 on the same topic are extremely detailed and comprehensive. They can be found by searching RecordSearch using the keyword ‘Jap*’ and further refining the search by using the keyword ‘relations’.
CORRESPONDENCE FILES [CUSTOMS, SA], 1871–1962
D596
Recorded by: Collector of Customs, Adelaide (CA 802)

Quantity: 54 metres (Adelaide)

Records in this series deal with a variety of matters, including trade, immigration, passports, merchant shipping, ships’ deserters, invoices, imports under Commerce Act and quarantine matters from 1902–64. Other records deal with the admission to Australia of Japanese wives of Australian servicemen (1953), information on prohibited publications (1954), the ‘most favoured nation treaty’ (1957) and the Japanese floating industry fair (1960–62).

Some files contain complaints about the cheap price of goods being imported from Japan. Other items about irregularities in the Australian–Japanese trade relationship can be found by searching under the keyword ‘Japan*.’

Goods from Japan and America invoiced under value, 1901–02
D596, 1902/4801
This file is one of the earliest to illustrate the trade problems experienced in the Australia–Japan relationship. Memoranda between Department of Trade and Customs and the Collector of Customs, Adelaide indicate the problem of goods being under-valued to evade payment of duty and detail instructions to counteract this practice.

Mitsubishi Shoji Kaisha Ltd, under-valuation of silk piece goods, 1931–32
D596, 1931/3240
This item contains documents relating to a proposed prosecution to recover £1 600 in settlement of claims for alleged underpayment of Customs duty at Adelaide in 1929 that had actually been paid in Melbourne. The file demonstrates the use of Australian agents in Adelaide by Japanese firms.

Iida & Co. Ltd (Tokashimaya) Kobe, Japan – method of invoicing cotton piece goods, 1936
D596, 1936/1885
This item deals with one of many examples of incorrect invoicing disputes between the Australian Customs Department and Japanese firms with branches in Australia.

Japanese goods shipped from Shanghai, China – value for duty, 1939
D596, 1939/4102

Camphor tablets imported by Edward Caminer and Co. found to be of Japanese origin, 1948
D596, 1948/8653
POSTMASTER-GENERAL’S DEPARTMENT – CORRESPONDENCE FILES, 1883–1956

Recorded by: General Post Office (also known as the Post Office Department, by 1867–1901; and the Postmaster-General’s Department, 1901–75), Tas (CA 1033)

Quantity: 62.5 metres (Hobart)

Items in this series relate to the administration of the General Post Office, Hobart and all post offices and mails throughout Tasmania. The series also contains items documenting the development of mail services to Japan (1905–09).

Memo about mail from Japan, 1905
This item contains letters from the Postmaster-General concerning arrangements for the newly established mail service to Japan in 1905.

Internal correspondence and memoranda – closed mails to be made up for Shanghai and Japan, 1907
This item contains the Postmaster-General’s correspondence about the organisation of mail to Japan, which indicates that the volume of mail was increasing.

Re-address [of] closed mails for Japan, from Japan to Yokohama, Kobe or Nagasaki offices, 1908
This file documents problems in arranging the postal service to Kobe, Yokohama and Nagasaki as the main receiving points in Japan.

Prohibited matter – Japan, 1910–19
This item demonstrates early concerns about quarantine and prohibited mail items from Japan and other Asian countries.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES [DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE], 1890–1906

Recorded by: Department of Defence (I) (CA 6)

Quantity: 9.8 metres (Melbourne)

Please see series description on p. 96.

Purchase of horses for the Japanese Government, 1905
This item contains correspondence between the War Office, London and the defence forces in Australia concerning the effect on Australian horse breeding of the sale of Australian mares to Japan. Many news articles discuss issues such as the quality of the mares, the effects on each State, the number of horses involved and concerns that Australian horses might be used against Russia in Manchuria.
CORRESPONDENCE FILES, ANNUAL SINGLE NUMBER SERIES, 1890–1969 A1
Recorded by:  1903–16 Department of External Affairs (I) (CA 7)
             1916–28 Department of Home and Territories (CA 15)
             1928–32 Department of Home Affairs (II) (CA 24)
             1932–38 Department of the Interior (I) (CA 27)
Quantity:  455 metres (Canberra); 2 metres (Darwin)
Please see series description on p. 97.

Proposed reciprocal commercial treaty between Japan and Australia, 1916 A1, 1916/7353
This item deals with an expression of interest by the Commercial Commissioner for the East in a proposed reciprocal commercial treaty between Japan and Australia.

Confidential – Japan’s efforts to control ores and metals, 1916 A1, 1916/14369
This item contains a letter from J Suttor, the Commercial Commissioner for the East, reporting on Japan’s effort to obtain ores and metals currently exported to the United Kingdom (UK), Europe and the United States of America (USA). The file refers to Japanese operations in New Caledonia and a manuscript completed by M Tsuchiya of Asahi Shinbun on his impressions of Australia and New Zealand.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES [PRIME MINISTER’S OFFICE], 1895–1926 A2
Recorded by:  1904–11 Prime Minister’s Office (CA 588)
             1911–20 Prime Minister’s Department (CA 12)
Quantity:  41.2 metres (Canberra)
The files in this series contain a range of subjects dealt with by the Prime Minister’s Office (later, Department).

Trade with Japan – appointment of a commercial commission to visit various [British] Dominions, 1916 A2, 1916/4102
This file contains a translation of a memo from Kikujiro Ishii, the Japanese Minister for Foreign Affairs, stating that Japan intends to dispatch officials to British Dominions to investigate markets for Japanese merchandise and other conditions of trade.

GENERAL AND CLASSIFIED CORRESPONDENCE [CUSTOMS], 1898– B13
Recorded by:  c1902–85 Collector of Customs, Melbourne (CA 789)
             1985– Australian Customs Service, Vic (CA 4586)
Quantity:  138 metres (Melbourne)
This is the main correspondence series of the Collector of Customs, Melbourne. Although it contains material dating back to 1898, it was created around 1902 after the passing
of the *Immigration Restriction Act 1901*. It deals with immigration restriction, administration, prosecutions, excise, shipping and imports and exports.

Items in this series contain a wealth of information about Japanese arrivals (e.g., students, merchants and seamen) in Australia. These items also document the interstate and overseas movements of Japanese individuals. Some items contain information (e.g., date and place of birth, next of kin, physical description and occupation) about Japanese who arrived in Australia prior to Federation. Some items also provide information about marriages between Australians and Japanese. General matters relating to the administration of the Immigration Restriction Act are also dealt with in this series. Items about trade can be found in this series by searching under company names.

*Mitsubishi Shoji Kaisha Ltd – permission to export wool, 1939* B13, 1939/50081
The item relates to permits issued in September 1939 for wool shipments to Japan by Japanese firms based in Australia.

*Iida & Co. Ltd, Osaka – question of trading with the enemy, 1940* B13, 1940/50101
This item concerns the sale of Australian wool to Germany by Japan. It illustrates the difficulties Australia had of knowing the final destination of purchases made in wartime.

*Mitsubishi Shoji Ltd – export of flour, 1940* B13, 1940/50248
This item contains correspondence between Mitsubishi Shoji Kaisha Ltd and the Collector of Customs in regard to licences, currency problems and shipments.

### VOLUMES OF PAPERS ON EXTERNAL RELATIONS, 1900–23

**A2219**

Recorded by:

- 1918–19 Department of Defence (I), Director of Military Intelligence (CA 6)
- 1919–21 Prime Minister’s Department, Pacific Branch (CA 12)
- 1921–23 Department of External Affairs (II) (CA 18)

Quantity: 2.34 metres (Canberra)

Items in this series contain notes and documents concerning eastern affairs, including Australia’s relations with Japan, the Pacific Islands, China and other countries.

*Relations of Australia and Japan and Far Eastern and Pacific questions (May to December 1918), 1900–18* A2219, External Relations volume 1 A
This item is digitised.
This is the main correspondence file series of the Attorney-General’s Department. Apart from matters relating to the Japanese, it contains a vast array of material concerning the responsibilities of the Attorney-General.

This file concerns a complex investigation into the development, lease arrangements and resale of Iron Island to Japan. It gives a history of the lease and the involvement of Mitsubishi, Sumitomo and B T Nicholl.

This item contains material related to the refusal of waterside workers at Port Kembla to load pig-iron for Japan. It includes letters and statements of support for the actions of the waterside workers and dismay that the government of the day had proceeded to export the ore. The item provides a fascinating view of the lead up to war with Japan. It is digitised.

This series deals with policy and cases arising from special legislation, such as the War Precautions Act and the Trading with the Enemy Act, enacted during World War I. It includes issues of censorship and seditious activities.

This item deals with agreements made between the Commonwealth, the Colonial Combing Spinning and Weaving Co. Ltd and Whidden Bros Ltd, and between those companies and Japanese buyers.

This series, which contains miscellaneous papers relating to the functions and responsibilities of the Prime Minister’s
Department, contains one file of interest in the context of this guide.

Recalled letter from Rt Hon. J A Lyons to Consul-General for Japan, 1938–55

This item, which is digitised, contains a letter from Prime Minister Lyons to the Japanese Consul-General explaining why Australia could no longer export iron ore to Japan. The letter was recalled and the item contains a departmental note expressing possible reasons for the recall.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES, ‘SC’ (SECRET AND CONFIDENTIAL) PREFIX, 1909–26

Wool for Japan – wool, wooltops [sic] and sheepskins, 1915–19

This file documents the struggle between Japanese cotton groups in Japan for a wooltops agreement with Australia. It provides unique material on the relationship between Australian-Japanese firms such as Suzuki & Co., Kanematsu and Mitsui Bussan Kaisha, the Australian wool industry and Australia’s relationship with Japan through the NSW Trade Commissioner in Japan, J B Suttor.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES [CUSTOMS], 1909–

Japanese cushion covers – imported into the Commonwealth, 1912

This item contains letters from the Department of Trade and Customs, Melbourne, which indicate that Japanese cushion covers were concealed in nests of baskets, in order to escape payment of the import duty.
INVESTIGATION CASE FILES, ‘SA’ (SOUTH AUSTRALIA) PREFIX, 1910–87

Recorded by: 1919 Commonwealth Police Force (I) (CA 2919)
1919–46 Investigation Branch, SA (CA 905)
1946–60 Commonwealth Investigation Service, SA (CA 914)
1960 Australian Security Intelligence Organization, SA (CA 4716)

Quantity: 1.62 metres (Canberra); 29 metres (Adelaide)

This series comprises a number of case files from World War I onwards, which contain correspondence, interrogation reports, appeal hearings, surveillance reports and other documents.

Forbes, J Ruthven K – Port Pirie and Melbourne – Japanese appearance and connections, 1921

This file documents suspicions about an Australian ore buyer who was investigated in Adelaide and brought to the attention of the Director, Attorney-General’s Department, Melbourne.

TRADING WITH THE ENEMY BLACK LISTS, 1915–17

Recorded by: Department of Defence, Chief Censor (CA 6)

Quantity: 0.18 metres (Melbourne)

This series contains the Department of Trade and Customs ‘black list’, which consists of 10 printed bulletins. Printed in 1915 and 1916, the bulletins list agents acting as trade intermediaries between enemy countries and Australia. They list the agents under class ‘A’, with whom trading should not be permitted, and class ‘B’, firms that are highly suspect and against whom precautions should be taken. They also list Japanese firms or individuals suspected of helping enemy trade.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES, PORT PIRIE, 1915–52

Recorded by: Sub-Collector of Customs, Port Pirie (SA) (CA 805)

Quantity: 0.54 metres (Sydney)

This series contains items dealing with immigration, trade and Customs matters.

Trade between Japan and Australia, 1938

This item contains correspondence between the Japanese Consul-General in Sydney and the Minister for External Affairs, William Morris Hughes, detailing new trading arrangements for wool, cotton piece goods and artificial silk. The text of the announcement of the new trade agreement with Japan is also included.
CORRESPONDENCE FILES, ‘CLASS 400’, 1918–60

Recorded by: Australian High Commission, UK (CA 241)

Quantity: 70 metres (Canberra)

This series contains the unclassified correspondence of the Australian High Commissioner’s Office, London. Items in this series deal with all aspects of the High Commissioner’s Office (except the War Graves Service) and some World War II defence matters.

Complaint by British textile manufacturers of Japanese competition in the Australian market, 1932–33 A2910, 413/5/135 part 1

This item deals with the lead up to the 1936 trade dispute between Australia and Japan.

Complaint by British textile manufacturers of Japanese competition in the Australian market, 1933–37 A2910, 413/5/135 part 2

Part 2 of this file deals with the 1936 trade dispute.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES, CLASS 2 RESTRICTED IMMIGRATION, 1919–50

Recorded by: 1939 Department of the Interior (CA 27)
1939–45 Department of the Interior (CA 31)
1945–50 Department of Immigration (CA 51)

Quantity: 13 metres (Canberra)

This series concerns restricted immigration to Australia. It contains reports, correspondence, articles, cables, newspaper cuttings, proposed amendments to the Immigration Act, business visitors and authorities for admission under exemption.

Admission of Japanese to develop Yampi Sound, WA, 1928–40 A433, 1940/2/180

INTERNATIONAL TRADE RELATIONS FILES, 1919–62

Recorded by: 1925–56 Department of Trade and Customs (CA 10)
1956 Department of Trade (II) (CA 64)

Quantity: 31 metres (Canberra)

Items in this series contain correspondence reports, minutes of meetings, statistics relating to Australia’s relations with other countries and documents concerning treaty negotiations, currency control, technical assistance and trade regulations.

Japan – commercial policies and foreign trade – trade regulation, tariff policy and restrictions, 1928–48 A1667, 194/A/2/C part 1

This item contains translations of articles from Japanese newspapers and other background information related to the question of favoured nation status for Japan.
Japanese competition – unfair practices, 1933–55
This file complements A1667, 194/A/2/C part 1.

CORRESPONDENCE, ‘C’ (MISCELLANEOUS) FILES, 1925–47
Recorded by: Collector of Customs, Sydney (CA 785)

Quantity: 2.5 metres (Sydney)

Consisting almost entirely of correspondence from the Comptroller-General, this series records breaches of the Commerce (Trade Descriptions) Act and the Commerce (Imports) Regulations.

Marking of glassware for Japan – NSW Circular No. 39/154, 1939–52
This item contains NSW Department of Trade and Customs minute papers and a circular documenting the imitation of local Australian glassware by Japanese importing through Kiku Gumi.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES [COMMERCE], 1925–54
Recorded by: 1935–42 Department of Commerce (CA 28)
1942–43 Department of Commerce and Agriculture (CA 48)

Quantity: 18.3 metres (Canberra)

Please see series description on p. 103.

Exhibition of Australian products in principal cities of Japan, 1935–36
This item contains photographs of an exhibition in Osaka of products from New Zealand, Tasmania, Queensland and other areas. It includes a list of Australian exhibitors. The file also contains details of the organisation of the exhibition, news items relating to the exhibition, charts and letters. The exhibits toured Japan and information on that tour can be found in this file.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES – CLASSIFIED ‘301’ [DEFENCE] SERIES, 1928–58
Recorded by: 1935–39 Department of Defence (II) (CA 19)
1939–42 Department of Defence Co-ordination (CA 37)
1942–58 Department of Defence (III) (CA 46)

Quantity: 89.2 metres (Canberra)

This series contains items dealing with all security-classified matters handled by the Department of Defence, such as information gathering, policy matters, technical information on armaments and other wartime issues.
Yampi Sound – lease of iron ore deposits by Japanese, 1934–38  
This file contains Cabinet discussions held in March 1935 about the development of iron ore deposits at Yampi Sound by Japan, ANA Conference discussions on the issue and extracts from newspaper articles dealing with reaction to the proposed development.

Other items dealing with this issue can be found by searching within this series on RecordSearch using ‘19/304/*’.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES (WASHINGTON), 1935–48  
Recorded by: 1939–40 Australian Counsellor, British Embassy, USA (CA 1939)  
1940–46 Australian Legation, USA (CA 1831)  
1946–48 Australian Embassy, USA (CA 1817)  
Quantity: 15.5 metres (Canberra)  
This series contains correspondence files, known as the ‘Washington Post’ files, of the Australian Embassy in Washington.

Trade policy – Japan (Australia) – trade relations, 1941  
The file begins with a brief history of Australia–Japan trade, including tables of principal imports from Japan from 1935–40. It covers the period in 1941 when Japanese assets were in the process of being frozen by the UK and the USA. This item also includes documents detailing Australia’s decision to follow this policy.

Trade – wool sales (Japan), 1940  
This item contains transcripts of discussions related to measures proposed to prevent Japan from supplying Germany with wool imported from Australia.

CORRESPONDENCE RELATING TO MUNITIONS PRODUCTION, 1939–41  
Recorded by: 1939–41 Department of Supply and Development (I) (CA 33)  
1940–41 Department of Munitions (CA 39)  
Quantity: 3.6 metres (Melbourne)  
This series consists of correspondence files related to the production of munitions.

Trading with Japan, 1939–40  
This item contains correspondence between the Minister for Commerce, the Secretary of Department of Supply and Development and the Manager of Mitsubishi, in which they discuss Mitsubishi’s offer to sell Australia machinery for merchant ships, mechanical lathes and aircraft. Japan wished to barter these goods for pig-iron.
CORRESPONDENCE FILES, ‘Z’ (NATIONAL SECURITY REGULATIONS)  
PREFIX, 1939–50  
D1975

Recorded by: Collector of Customs, Adelaide (CA 802)

Quantity: 6 metres (Adelaide)

This series contains files relating to trade, export activities of firms, applications for licences to export and changes to the National Security (General) Regulations in World War II. Japanese items concern the return of Japanese to Japan before World War II and files dealing with imports. Keyword searches on RecordSearch using the Japanese company names will identify further records of interest.

Trading with the enemy, 1940–45  
D1975, Z1940/343

This file contains returns of the Controller of Enemy Property. Most of it relates to the implementation of the Act during 1939–40.

Goods imported by F Kanematsu Pty Ltd – Trading with the Enemy Act [1939], 1941  
D1975, Z1941/171

This file relates to trading in chemicals in July–August 1941 by three Japanese chemical firms and their Australian agents.

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE FILES [AIRCRAFT PRODUCTION], 1939–54  
MP287/1

Recorded by: 1939–40 Department of Supply and Development (I), Aircraft Construction Branch (CA 33)
1940–41 Aircraft Production Commission (CA 249)
1941–46 Department of Aircraft Production (CA 41); subsequently by other agencies

Quantity: 36 metres (Melbourne)

The series relates to the establishment, administration and development of the aircraft building industry in Australia. It comprises files raised in each of the variously titled agencies and branches under which the administration of the industry was carried on. Most files in the series deal with supply and procurement activities, and many of the remainder relate to technical aspects of aircraft design or production processes.

Mitsubishi Shoji Kaisha Ltd – concerning supplies of aluminium, 1940  
MP287/1, 481

This item contains correspondence between Mitsubishi Shoji Kaisha and the Department of Supply about aluminium pieces manufactured in Japan that Mitsubishi is offering to supply.
GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE [FILM DIVISION], 1940–46
Recorded by: Film Division (also known as the Commonwealth Film Unit), Department of Information (CA 1670)

Quantity: 0.36 metres (Sydney)

This is a general correspondence series on film-making, which contains a few files relating to the Japanese.

Supply of films to Japanese Consul-General, 1940
This file contains a request by the Japanese Consul-General in Sydney for films relating to the Australian pastoral industry to show Japanese woollen manufacturers scenes of country life and introduce the Japanese public to the industry. A list of films and a price list are enclosed.

Shipping and pearling

PHOTOGRAPHS RELATING TO CUSTOMS ACTIVITIES, 1864–1997
Recorded by: Collector of Customs, WA (from 1985, the Australian Customs Service, WA) (CA 808)

Quantity: 4.14 metres (Perth)

This series contains volumes of colour and B&W photographs that relate to a wide range of Customs activities in WA. It is included in this guide because it contains some images featuring Japanese labourers, including lugger crews.

Pearl lugger crew, Broome, c1900–20
Please see image on the following page.

Indentured Japanese embarking for Singapore per SS Minderoo, 6 January 1923
Please see image on the following page.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES [CUSTOMS, SA], 1871–1962
Recorded by: Collector of Customs, Adelaide (CA 802)

Quantity: 54 metres (Adelaide)

Please see series information on p. 104.

Japanese crew (42) of Portland Maru – wrecked on Kangaroo Island – repatriation, 1935
This item contains the crew list of the Portland Maru and memoranda concerning the repatriation of the crew.

Pre-war [sic] trade between Australia and Japan, 1946
This item lists Japanese ships arriving in South Australian ports between July 1936 and June 1941 by shipping line and by year and month with the name of the South Australian shipping agent.
Seaman of non-quota nationalities, 1931
This item contains letters from Elder Smith & Co. Ltd and Osaka Shosen Kaisha relating to new regulations.

Japanese steamer Portland Maru wrecked off Kangaroo Island - removal of articles to Adelaide without authority, 1935
This file has information on, and photographs of, the wreck of the Portland Maru off Kangaroo Island in 1935.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES, ANNUAL SINGLE NUMBER SERIES, 1890–1969 A1
Recorded by:
1903–16 Department of External Affairs (I) (CA 7)
1916–28 Department of Home and Territories (CA 15)
1928–32 Department of Home Affairs (II) (CA 24)
1932–38 Department of the Interior (I) (CA 27)

Quantity: 455 metres (Canberra); 2 metres (Darwin)

Please see series description on p. 97.

This Department of the Interior file contains letters from the Crown Solicitor about the outcome of this case, copies of judgments and related correspondence. Other lugger cases can be found in this series by searching RecordSearch using the keywords ‘transcript’ or ‘lugger’. These files differ from similar files available in series E470 held by the National Archives’ Darwin office.

Pearl lugger crew, Broome (includes Japanese), c1900–20.
NAA: K1394, WA00272[A]
CORRESPONDENCE FILES [PRIME MINISTER’S OFFICE], 1895–1926  
Recorded by:  
1904–11 Prime Minister’s Office (CA 588)  
1911–20 Prime Minister’s Department (CA 12)  
Quantity: 41.2 metres (Canberra)  
Please see series description on p. 106.

Japanese shipping – utilisation during war by the USA, Britain and Australia, 1918  
This item contains letters and other documents, such as cables, sent to Prime Minister William Morris Hughes from the Australian High Commissioner in London, detailing the proposal to use Japanese ships for tonnage for wheat, coal and steel for ballast. Concerns about Japan’s advantage over Britain in shipping are expressed.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES, ‘SC’ (SECRET AND CONFIDENTIAL) SERIES (OLD FILES), 1906–31  
Recorded by:  
Prime Minister’s Department (CA 12)  
Department of External Affairs (CA 18)  
Quantity: 1.62 metres (Canberra)  
This series mostly contains correspondence files of a secret and confidential nature relating to military and naval matters. It also has files on censorship, tariffs, shipping and immigration.

Japanese shipping services, 1917–19  
This item is concerned with proposed new services by the Japanese shipping company, Nippon Yusen Kaisha (NYK).

Shipping – Japanese steamship lines, 1916–17  
This item deals with rivalry between the NYK and Osaka Shosen Kaisha (OSK) shipping companies for the Australian line, and illustrates Japanese competition to develop new shipping lines in 1916. It also contains newspaper cuttings about the dispute.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES [EXTERNAL AFFAIRS], ‘A’ SERIES, 1909–11  
Recorded by:  
Department of External Affairs (I), Melbourne (CA 7)  
Quantity: 3.8 metres (Canberra)  
This series contains correspondence files from the dual office of the Prime Minister and Minister for External Affairs. These files concern naturalisation, passports, consular matters and Pacific Island affairs. Many files were top-numbered into A1.
Bowden Bros and Co. – claim against [the] Imperial Insurance Company of Tokyo, 1909–10
The file contains copies of several pamphlets – eg Pitfalls of Commerce, Foreign Insurance and The Australian Trader – that deal with international insurance of goods shipped in foreign vessels and difficulties with the operation of different laws relating to insurance and payments in Japan and Australia.

INVESTIGATION CASE FILES, ‘SA’ (SOUTH AUSTRALIA) PREFIX, 1910–87
Recieved by: 1919 Commonwealth Police Force (I) (CA 2919)
1919–46 Investigation Branch, SA (CA 905)
1946–60 Commonwealth Investigation Service, SA (CA 914)
1960 Australian Security Intelligence Organization, SA (CA 4716)
Quantity: 1.62 metres (Canberra); 29 metres (Adelaide)
Please see series description on p. 110.

Alleged unfriendly attitude towards Australia of officers on Japanese vessels, 1919–20
This file contains letters written by residents and Customs officials, police and aliens registration officials in regard to a change in the attitude of Japanese sailors to Australians in 1919. It was noted that these sailors took numerous photographs around Port Lincoln. Japanese resentment of the White Australia Policy is evident and suspicion by Australians about Japanese intent.

SECRET CORRESPONDENCE FILES, 1912–45
Recorded by: 1936–39 Department of Defence (II) (CA 19)
1939–45 Department of the Army (CA 36)
Quantity: 30 metres (Melbourne)
A number of records in this series relate to the Japanese. They cover a variety of subjects, including Australian concerns over Japanese encroachment in its territorial waters, wartime atrocities, Japanese views on Australia, reports from the Australian Legation in Tokyo, internment of Japanese, notes on the Japanese Army and political warfare against Japan.

Japanese encroachment in Australian waters inter-departmental committee, 1936–39
The documents in this file summarise reports of activities of Japanese fishing craft in Australian waters between 1933 and 1938. The reports contain sighting and incident records, defence and quarantine considerations and regulations for the entry of vessels.
to ports and territorial waters. The question of the adequacy of the patrol of Australia’s north coast is also raised.

Other items relating to Japanese encroachment in Australian waters can be found on RecordSearch using ‘22/401/*’ in the reference numbers field. Items in other series dealing with the same topic can be found by using the keyword phrase ‘Japanese encroachment’.

**CORRESPONDENCE FILES, ‘NS’ (NAVIGATION SECTION), 1919–55**

**D1911**

Recorded by: 1921–27 District Lighthouse Officer and Deputy Director of Navigation, SA (CA 1206)

1927–55 Deputy Director of Lighthouses and Navigation (from 1927–61, also known as the Marine Branch), SA (CA 1207)

Quantity: 6 metres (Adelaide)

Items in this series deal with matters that came under the Navigation Act and its regulations. Among the matters dealt with were the safety of ships, regulation of trade provisions, survey of ships, storage of cargo, examination for certificates, health requirements, shipping casualties, wrecks and salvage, and applications for licences.

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_NAA: A6180, 11/4/73/82_
This item deals with the stranding of the Portland Maru near Cape Torrens, Kangaroo Island on 20 March 1935. It contains newspaper clippings about the event.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES [COMMERCE], 1925–54
Recorded by: 1935–42 Department of Commerce (CA 28)
1942–43 Department of Commerce and Agriculture (CA 48)

Quantity: 18.3 metres (Canberra)

Please see series description on p. 103.

Shipping services between Australia and Japan, part 1, 1929–38
This item discusses the development of Japan’s shipping lines and the potential for export to the East of Australian fruit as well as wool and wheat.

Shipping services between Australia and Japan, part II, 1938–41
This file contains similar material to A601, 401/8/25.

Recorded by: Crown Law Office, NT (CA 885)

Quantity: 21 metres (Darwin)

This series contains material relating to the pearling industry in the 1930s, especially to disputes between Japanese luggers and Australian authorities in matters of territorial waters, the right to seize vessels and relations between pearlers and Indigenous Australians. It also contains material relating to the deaths of divers.

Japanese lugger – Haruo Kitaoka, 1937–38
This file not only contains a transcript of the action and judgment made in case No. 14 (1937) of the Supreme Court of the Northern Territory of Australia, but also many handwritten documents and lists relating to the proceedings. In particular are handwritten notes, legal precedents and arguments developed by legal counsel during the case concerning matters of the Aboriginal Ordinance and international law. Extracts of news items dating back to 1911 are included – eg the seizure of Dutch schooners for smuggling, for which compensation was sought in 1933.

This item also contains correspondence between Canberra, the Northern Territory Administrator and senior members of the Japanese community at Darwin on questions related to territorial waters. It also
contains negotiations between the Northern Territory Administrator and senior members of the Japanese community at Darwin to prevent the future trespass of Japanese-owned vessels in territorial waters.

**TRANSCRIPTS OF EVIDENCE, 1937–38**

Recorded by: Clerk of Courts, Supreme Court (CA 1304)

Quantity: 0.36 metres (Darwin)

This series contains original typed transcripts of civil cases conducted in the Supreme Court of the Northern Territory concerning the seizure of Japanese luggers for various offences in 1938. The series also contains transcripts of appeals made by the Japanese against the seizure of their vessels and claims for compensation. It contains information about lugger cases that is not found in series A1, which is held in the National Archives’ national office.

[Case No. 13 of 1938] Fukutaro [sic] Tange...[v the Commonwealth of Australia, etc.], 1938

**UNIDENTIFIED AND UNCONTROLLED COMMONWEALTH RECORDS IN CANBERRA OFFICE, 1987–**

Recorded by: 1987–94 Australian Archives, ACT Regional Office (CA 3196)

1994–98 Australian Archives, National Office (CA 7970)

1998– National Archives of Australia (CA 8550)

Quantity: 132.7 metres (Canberra)

This series contains a diverse group of records held by the National Archives that have been allocated series and item numbers for the purposes of stocktaking and retrieval. Included among the items in this series are several that refer to Japan. These files are related to security, intelligence and other matters.

**Correspondence, Gregory & Co., 1928–41**

This file contains correspondence between Gregory & Co. and the Sub-Collector of Customs, Darwin, detailing the hire, discharge and transfer of Japanese pearlers between companies. This item contains forms for permission to engage pearlers and includes details of Japanese indentured labourers employed by Gregory & Co. This item is digitised.
Diplomatic relations

CORRESPONDENCE FILES, ALPHABETICAL SERIES, 1821–1970

Recorded by: Department of External Affairs (II) (CA 18)

Quantity: 147 metres (Canberra)

Please see series description on p. 96.

This series contains many files relating to the Japanese ‘Goodwill Mission’ to Australia and Australia’s reciprocal visits in the 1930s. Among them are included A981, JAP 58–JAP 81; A981, JAP 120 (parts 1 and 2); A981, JAP 121–JAP 123; A981, JAP 125; A981, JAP 127K; A981, JAP 137; and A981, JAP 143.


‘Our Japanese visitors as Wells sees them’, from the Melbourne Herald, 4 July 1928.

NAA: MP124/6, 603/203/347
CORRESPONDENCE FILES, MULTIPLE NUMBER SERIES, 1914–93  

Recorded by:  
1948–70  Department of External Affairs (II) (CA 18)  
1970–87  Department of Foreign Affairs (CA 1382)  
1987–89  Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (CA 5987)  

Quantity: 3 436 metres (Canberra)  

A1838 is the main correspondence file series of the Department of External Affairs and its successor agencies.  

A1838 covers a wide-ranging number of subjects. The Department of External Affairs was responsible not only for collecting information about foreign countries and international organisations, but also for disseminating information about Australia abroad and maintaining diplomatic, consular, aid and cultural relations with other countries. In addition, overseas missions then, as now, carried out functions for all Australian Government departments. A large proportion of the international communications of those departments was carried on the external communications network maintained by the Department of External Affairs.  

Apart from foreign relations, subjects covered in this series include:  

• international treaties, conventions and agreements;  
• Radio Australia;  
• Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples;  
• art and trade exhibitions;  
• international legal matters, including Law of the Sea and Antarctica;  
• political asylum and refugees;  
• Australia’s involvement in armed conflict, including multilateral defence planning;  
• export of strategic materials;  
• war crimes;  
• International Committee of the Red Cross;  
• United Nations agencies and bodies;  
• external territories; and  
• international conferences.  

A large number of items in this series deal with Japan and Australian-Japanese relations. The information was gathered by External Affairs staff and includes material on Japanese political parties; Japan’s relations with other countries; Japanese legislation during the 1950s and reports on sessions of the Diet, local
government and trade unions; child welfare; missionaries; agriculture; trade and trade violations; fishing and fisheries negotiations; monthly reports on economic conditions; war crimes, reparations and property restitution (with individual claimants named).

Consular representative in Australia – Japan – pre-war [sic] consuls, 1953–54
This item relates to consular appointments before the war. Other files cover the postwar period.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES [COMMERCE], 1925–54
Recorded by: 1935–42 Department of Commerce (CA 28)
1942–43 Department of Commerce and Agriculture (CA 48)
Quantity: 18.3 metres (Canberra)
Please see series description on p. 103.

Establishment of an Australian legation in Japan, 1940–41
This item contains letters and documents, most of which relate to the appointment of Sir John Latham as the Australian Minister to Tokyo. It also contains reports of a tour of Manchuria and Japanese-occupied areas by the Australian Legation’s Commercial Secretary, Mr A G Hard. This item is digitised.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES [EXTERNAL AFFAIRS], 1927–45
Recorded by: Department of External Affairs (II) (CA 18)
Quantity: 30.6 metres (Canberra)
This series was created during World War II and deals with the administrative and information gathering functions of the Department of External Affairs (II). Items generally deal with Australia’s relations with other countries, particularly in the context of the war. Among the many subjects covered are international organisations, treaties, aliens, refugees, publications, passports and landing permits, censorship, enlistment, Australian citizens stranded in occupied countries and internal and external defence (including subversive activities and espionage).

This series contains a number of information files on various countries. Items dealing specifically with Japan cover matters such as its government, its political and financial situations, its foreign policy and relations with various countries, shipping and strategic maps, progress of the war, International Red Cross treaties on the treatment of POWs and the Hague Convention on hospital ships. A number of files dating from 1943–44
are concerned with waging political warfare with Japan.

Other items in this series deal with postwar international economic and industrial reconstruction, relief and rehabilitation and international relations (including Japan’s relations with Australia).

**Australian Legation to Japan – despatches, 1941**

This file contains wartime reactions.

A989, 1943/80/9/7
5. TOWARDS WAR

The possibility of war with Japan was considered by successive Australian governments very early in the twentieth century. Although Japan was an ally in World War I and protected Australian and British ships with its navy, the relationship was not always an easy one. During World War I all Japanese in Australia were required to register as aliens. During the 1930s the Australian defence forces increased their surveillance of Japanese activities in Australia. From 1937 Australian defence forces increasingly prepared for war with Japan.

Both countries sought information on each other between the two world wars. Japan requested a wide variety of information about Australian industry, agriculture and life, but only one item is given as an example (see item A292, C6546 on p. 138). Australia collected information about Japan from publications in English. Japanese activities in the Netherlands East Indies and information about its systems of espionage and infiltration were of particular interest.

As war became more likely, the activity of sampans to the north of Australia was watched more closely. Intelligence authorities also opened dossiers on every Japanese person in the Commonwealth. In particular the movements of merchants were constantly observed and recorded. Preparations were made for the internment of all Japanese in the event of war. Authorities also searched for persons who could speak Japanese and who could be trusted for work as interpreters. Surveillance increased further during 1941 as war with Japan became even more likely. The Australian trade with Japan was affected by Japan’s relationship with Germany and throughout 1941 speculation about the timing of the outbreak of war is evident in records held by the National Archives.

World War I registration of aliens

ALIEN REGISTRATION FORMS, ALPHABETICAL SERIES BY NATIONALITY, 1916-20

Recorded by: Headquarters, 1st Military District, Commonwealth (Australian) Military Forces (CA 1219)

Quantity: 13.5 metres (Brisbane)

This series contains application forms for the registration of aliens under the War Precautions (Aliens Registration) Regulations 1916. Records in this series are arranged alphabetically within nationality groups. In the future these records will be available on RecordSearch as individually listed items in the series.

The alien registration forms for Japanese residents, which date from 1916 to 1936, may include remarks made by the Aliens Registration Officer such as ‘No suspicion of disloyalty’ or ‘No evidence of nationality produced’. Most
of the Japanese were workers in the pearling industry but other occupations are also listed in the records. Some records also contain ‘Notice of Change of Abode’ and ‘Conviction of Alien’ documents. The latter record the places and dates of trials of individuals convicted of being prohibited immigrants and the actions taken against them.

World War II registration of aliens

**APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION OF ALIENS, 1939–47**  
MT33/1  
Recorded by: 1939–45 Department of the Interior, Immigration and Passports Office, Vic (CA 972)  
1945–47 Department of Immigration, Vic (CA 961)  
Quantity: 2.7 metres (Melbourne)  
This series contains aliens’ registration forms but only a few examples of Japanese appear, listed alphabetically under surname.

**REPORTS ON PRISONERS–OF–WAR AND INTERNEES, 1940–42**  
MT33/2  
Recorded by: Department of the Interior, Immigration and Passports Office, Vic (CA 972)  
Quantity: 0.72 metres (Melbourne)  
This series contains some reports on internees, including a few Japanese.

Mutual information gathering and surveillance

**SECRET AND CONFIDENTIAL CORRESPONDENCE FILES [DEFENCE], 1894–1938**  
B197  
Recorded by: 1906–21 Department of Defence (I) (CA 6)  
1921–36 Department of Defence (II) (CA 19)  
Quantity: 5.2 metres (Melbourne)  
This series records the more important rather than the routine activities of the Department of Defence. Items in this series provide information on Australian foreign policy and defence schemes and Australian society before and during World War I. Items relating to Japan include information on Japan’s foreign policy and foreign relations as well as relations between Australia and Japan.

These items can be found by searching RecordSearch using ‘1877/5/*’ in the reference numbers field.
Japanese activities in northern Australian waters, 1933  
This item contains a Department of Defence minute expressing concern at increasing Japanese activity in the fishing industry. The paper mentions concerns by Netherlands East Indies authorities about Japanese penetration into the oil and fishing industries and the Japanese system of espionage.

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE [ARMY], 1898–1974  
Recorded by: 1939 Army Headquarters, Department of Defence (II) (CA 2671)  
1939–42 Department of the Army (CA 36)  
Quantity: 144.3 metres (Melbourne)

Items in this series relate to the wartime administration of the military forces in Australia. A number of them deal with the Japanese and cover subjects such as Japanese consulates, internees, tactics in wartime and captured equipment. Some dossiers of Japanese resident in Australia can also be found in the series.

Report on conversation with Japanese naval officer, 1942  
This item contains a letter sent to Prime Minister John Curtin by Mr Herbert Yeates, Member of the Legislative Assembly for East Toowoomba, Queensland, in which he states that a Mr Griffiths, a highly respected citizen, had met an officer in the Japanese Naval Reserve in Singapore six years previously who had spoken of plans to invade Australia if Singapore fell.

Similar letters can be found by searching RecordSearch using 'MP508/1, 175/701/*' or keywords.

SECRET AND CONFIDENTIAL CORRESPONDENCE, ‘O’ INFIX, 1903–49  
Recorded by: 1911–15 Navy Office (I), Department of Defence (I) (CA 575)  
1915–21 Navy Office (II), Department of the Navy (I) (CA 13)  
1921–22 Navy Office (III), Department of Defence (II) (CA 2456)  
Quantity: 14 metres (Melbourne)

This series contains secret and confidential correspondence files. Various security-classified subjects are dealt with, including intelligence, ship construction, shipping movements, examination service, traffic regulation Acts, staffing (naval and civilian), censorship, foreign shipping, naval munitions, fuel, reports of the Naval Representative in London and coastal defences.
Japanese photographer, Thursday Island, 1913–14
This file contains a report from the Sub-District Naval Officer, Thursday Island to the Naval Secretary in Melbourne describing the activities of a Japanese national named Yasusaouro Kawagaki in photographing harbour and other scenes of Thursday Island. The letter and the photograph to which it refers appear on the following page.

Intelligence Branch reports on Japanese affairs (periodical), 1919–20
This item contains reports from the Intelligence Branch covering topics such as the necessity of emigration, naval and military preparations, mandates, Yap Island, cables, labour unrest and complications in China. Other periodicals deal with China, fortification of the Pacific, new naval construction, relations with the United States of America and Japan and other issues. An index to ‘Notes on the Japanese Situation’ for June 1919 is also included in the file.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES [TRADE AND CUSTOMS], 1905–
A425
Recorded by: 1935–56  Department of Trade and Customs (CA 10)
1956–75  Department of Customs and Excise (CA 62)
1975–  Department of Police and Customs (CA 1862); subsequently by other agencies
Quantity: 2 483 metres (Canberra); 254.5 metres (Sydney)

This was the main correspondence series for the Department of Business and Consumer Affairs. It covers a wide range of subjects, but is mainly concerned with censorship and Customs matters, especially in relation to imported goods. A number of items in this series are concerned with Japanese trade matters and Japanese sampans in Australian territorial waters and other shipping matters.

Shipping patrol – Japanese shipping – northern Australian coast, 1911–23
This file and its parts deal with concerns over Japanese pearling activities, allegations of looting, running of opium and cocaine and breaches of the Aboriginal Ordinance and Customs legislation.

A425, 1935/3642 part 1

Shipping – Japanese – detention of luggers by patrol vessel Larrakia, 1936–39
A425, 1937/7189

A425, 1938/12318
Japanese Photographer - Thursday Island

I have to report the actions of a Japanese named Yasusaouro Kawagaki.

Kawagaki have been under my observation for sometime. He occupies a residential shop near the Japanese Club, Thursday Island, where until recently, in no secret manner, he carried on photography, principally of groups and individuals. The local photographer complained of the alien competition and the Sub-Collector of Customs informs me to report the matter to the Department of External Affairs. I communicated with the Japanese Consul in Sydney. The result was that Kawagaki closed up his shop but continued to reside there.

The matter, however, is still of concern from an intelligence point of view. This week I had a favourable opportunity of visiting the shop which was opened temporarily and found the work of photography in full progress. The enclosed photo which I purchased from a bundle, which was near the counter, shows that he is also taking views at this port. I have also seen snaps of the Destroyers and crews landing during their recent visit here. I do not regard the above by itself as suspicious, seeing any tourist, or alien on the Island, can purchase views of most parts of the Harbour etc., from the local photographer, but this man is neither an Immigrant Free Japanese.

He arrived here with his wife, the S S Nihko Maru from Kobe on the 8th June, prior to the British Fleet. He is a keen photographer and speaks English well.

This is to make further advances of External Affairs.

Enclosed.

[Enclosure: Photograph of Boat Channel Entrance]

Letter to the Naval Secretary about a Japanese photographer, Yasusaouro Kawagaki, (above, top) and the accompanying photograph, 1913. NAA: MP1049/1, 1913/0269
INVESTIGATION CASE FILES, ‘SA’ (SOUTH AUSTRALIA) PREFIX, 1910–87 D1915

Recorded by:
1919 Commonwealth Police Force (I) (CA 2919)
1919–46 Investigation Branch, SA (CA 905)
1946–60 Commonwealth Investigation Service, SA (CA 914)
1960 Australian Security Intelligence Organization, SA (CA 4716)

Quantity: 1.62 metres (Canberra); 29 metres (Adelaide)

This series comprises a number of sensitive case files from World War I onwards, which contain correspondence, interrogation reports, appeal hearings, surveillance reports and other documents.

Rentaro Kayahara [or Kwazan] – Japanese – quoted in State Parliament [possible link with German agents], 1918 D1915, SA106

This item deals with an article written by Rentaro Kayahara, in which he stated that Japan might join Germany and seize Australia.

Japanese activities in South Australia, 1918–21 D1915, SA107

The file begins with a request for information about Japanese residents of SA from the Home and Territories Department in 1918. Documents recording details of Japanese individuals who lived in SA or passed through that State then follow. In 1921 some links between Japanese and the Adelaide office of the Kuomintang are tentatively made.

Japanese activities, 1936–42 D1915, SA19703

This item contains a comprehensive set of documents gathered by the intelligence services on Japanese movements and activities in SA during this period. It contains news items, surveillance reports, reports on a Japanese trade mission (1939) and on Japanese vessels, grants to assist the expansion of Japanese chambers of commerce overseas made by the Japanese Government (1940), memoranda relating to preparation for the internment of Japanese, merchant activities, purchase of goods by Japanese and the visit of Major Hashida (1941).

SECRET CORRESPONDENCE FILES, 1912–45 MP729/6

Recorded by:
1936–39 Department of Defence (II) (CA 19)
1939–45 Department of the Army (CA 36)

Quantity: 30 metres (Melbourne)

A number of records in this series relate to the Japanese. They cover a variety of subjects, including Australian concerns over Japanese encroachment in its territorial waters, wartime atrocities, Japanese views on Australia,
reports from the Australian Legation in Tokyo, internment of Japanese, notes on the Japanese Army and political warfare against Japan.

**Shinyô Maru – reported Japanese agents on board, 1940**
This file reports an incident in which it was believed that Japanese living in Australia were going to hand over photographs of all key coastal positions to Japanese agents on board the *Shinyô Maru*.

**Refugees – internment – fifth columnists, 1940**

**Postal matter for Japanese companies, 1941**
This item contains correspondence between the Postmaster-General’s Department and the Australian Military Force (Southern and Eastern Commands) regarding investigations into the reasons for a decrease in mail from Australian-based Japanese companies to Japan. The military was looking for evidence that the Japanese were avoiding censorship.

**Activities of Japanese nan’yô development company, 1941**
This item contains reports from the Department of the Army on Japanese economic penetration in Dutch New Guinea, along with details of land ownership and reports of Japanese fortification of mandated territory.

**Japanese views on Australia, 1941**
This item contains a translation of an article that appeared in an edition of the *Gaiko Jiho (Revue Diplomatique)* (‘Self Governing Dominions of the British Empire’), in which Australia’s lack of preparedness for war is discussed.

**Surveillance by Japanese, 1941**
This item contains reports by attachés at the British Embassy in Tokyo on Japanese surveillance of British subjects resident in Japan.

**Treatment of foreigners by Japan – desirable steps to increase security control over aliens, particularly Japanese, 1941**
This item contains departmental communications by Sir John Latham (Australian Minister to Tokyo), Eric Longfield Lloyd (appointed Australian Trade Commissioner in Japan in 1936) and others about the circumstances of British and other foreigners in Japan and China, in which they also consider Australia’s response to the restrictions placed on foreigners by Japan.

**Japanese activities – sources of information leaks, 1941**
This file contains documents that show attempts to combat Japanese espionage by recording ownership of wharf permits in regard to cargo and providoring at the
Port of Sydney. This item also contains a report noting that the Japanese were watching naval exercises off Bondi.

Persons associating with Japanese, [No.] 7, 451 of 10 November 1941
This file contains letters about Japanese in Australia in 1940–41 written by Mr Okada of the Japanese Chamber of Commerce and University staff, which were found in the possession of Tom and Adela (Pankhurst) Walsh of the Australia First Movement. Their premises were searched in the days after the bombing of Pearl Harbour for evidence of collaboration with the Japanese.

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE [NAVY OFFICE] (‘201’ SERIES), 1913–50
Recorded by: Navy Office (III), Department of Defence (II) (CA 2456)
Navy Office (IV), Department of the Navy (II) (CA 38)
Quantity: 19.45 metres (Melbourne)

This series contains correspondence files created by the Navy Office. The series deals with general administrative subjects and with various other matters such as training, personnel and establishment, Defence equipment, acquisition of land for Defence purposes and ‘HMAS’ ships. During and immediately after World War II new file subjects became necessary – eg rationing, volunteer, demobilisation, re-establishment and re-employment. The series contains some ‘Confidential’ files, which have a ‘C’ added to the file cover.

This summary was submitted for the information of the Naval Board. The file records that over a million copies of Inevitable Anglo-Japanese War had been sold and that a proportion of the Japanese people had been influenced by it. The book argued that the Australian fleet was inadequate to defend Australia, and predicted a Japanese attack on Hong Kong, Singapore and Darwin after a breakdown in Anglo-Japanese relations.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES, ‘V’ (VICTORIA) PREFIX, 1914–64
Recorded by: 1927–46 Investigation Branch, Vic (CA 907)
1946–60 Commonwealth Investigation Service, Vic (CA 916)
1960–62 Commonwealth Police Force (II), Vic (CA 955)
Quantity: 35.5 metres (Melbourne)

This series contains files dealing with criminal offences committed against the Commonwealth that were investigated at the request of government departments.
These files dealt with a number of matters, including investigating the whereabouts of Japanese and others who had entered the Commonwealth, the traffic in illicit substances, deserters from ships, enemy aliens in wartime, prohibited immigrants and naturalisations.

**Japanese embassies, 1933–46**


The most informative of these files are:

(1) Societies – ‘Ronin’, which contains a report on Japanese activities in northern Australia. This relates to the period 1936 to 1943 and contains a paper by E L Piesse on Australia and Japan, which was published in *The Round Table*, No. 93, December 1933. The file also lists Japanese under investigation.

(2) Consular Corps – Japanese Embassy, which lists the contents of the Consulate and claims for damage to furniture in 1942. It also deals with the question of showing Japanese films to the inmates of a Japanese internment camp.


**CORRESPONDENCE FILES [INTELLIGENCE SERVICES], YEAR PREFIX (1916–27) AND ‘C’ PREFIX (1927–53), 1916–71**

Recorded by: 1916–19 Special Intelligence Bureau, Melbourne (CA 746) Investigation Branch, Melbourne and Canberra (CA 747) 1946–53 Commonwealth Investigation Service (CA 650)

Quantity: 66.6 metres (Canberra)

This series contains general correspondence, copies of reports and forms, dossiers and history sheets documenting inquiries made by the former Commonwealth Investigation Service into applications for naturalisation and matters related to the national security regulations and the Nationality Act. Many Japanese came under investigation and are represented in this series, often under their surnames.
Japanese activities in Queensland [includes photographs], 1936–45

This item contains information on Henry Suzuki, Mowsey Inagaki, Professor A C V Melbourne and agents of Doomei Press. It contains copies of some publications, eg the *Trade Bulletin* (for 1940), Japan’s policy in the Dutch East Indies and the *Far Eastern Review*. The item also contains investigation reports for Japanese and those who worked for them in Australia.

**CORRESPONDENCE FILES [ARMY HEADQUARTERS], 1919–42**

Recorded by: 1930–39 Army Headquarters, Department of Defence (II) (CA 2671)
1939 Department of the Army (CA 36)

Quantity: 49 metres (Melbourne)

This was the main correspondence series for Army Headquarters and includes files about matters within the jurisdiction of the Military Board of Administration. It covers areas such as administration, organisation, staffing, training, ordnance, stores and transport. The department culled the series during the early 1950s.

Activities by Japanese observation party on Rahey Road, Campbelltown, 1938

This item contains a letter and other papers from Mr S Massey of the Customs Department, Sydney to the Minister for Defence about a party of Japanese who set up instruments near Campbelltown, NSW and made extensive observations and notations.

Activities of Japanese sampans [off north Queensland coast], 1938

**COASTWATCHING FILES, 1919–65**

Recorded by: Navy Office (IV) – Department of the Navy (II) – Navy Office Historical Records Section (CA 38)

Quantity: 7 metres (Melbourne)

This series contains files assembled by the Navy Historical Records Section from several sources as reference material to be used in compiling the Navy volumes of the official history of World War II. Files in this series mainly contain correspondence and reports on coastwatching activities in the Pacific before and during World War II. Some files relate to coastwatching activities in northern Australia, Papua New Guinea, the New Hebrides, the Gilbert and Ellice Islands, the Solomon Islands and other localities off the northern coast of Australia prior to and during World War II. The files deal with all aspects of coastwatching activity and
contain correspondence, reports, cables, maps and some other unusual items such as samples of Japanese propaganda and plaster casts of footprints discovered at Lakes Entrance, Victoria.

Coastwatching report from Lakes Entrance, 1942–43
This item contains photographs of footprints of Japanese, Indigenous Australians and Anglo-Australians, which were taken for comparison purposes to determine the likely origin of unknown persons who left their footprints at Lakes Entrance, Victoria. An image from the file appears below.

Intercept stations – Japanese marriage certificate and propaganda leaflets forbidding killing of livestock, 1943–45

CORRESPONDENCE FILES (GENERAL), 1923–50
Recorded by: 1923–39 Navy Office (III), Department of Defence (II) (CA 2456)
1939–50 Navy Office (IV), Department of the Navy (II) (CA 38)

Quantity: 62.57 metres (Melbourne)

This series consists of general correspondence files classified as ‘Secret’ by the Navy Office. Subjects dealt with in this series include censorship, coastwatching, naval aviation, defences, harbours, publicity and propaganda and prisoners.

Plaster casts of footprints made for comparison purposes, 1942–43. NAA: B3476, 7A
Suspicious movements of Japanese merchant vessels off Newcastle and other sections of the Australian coast, 1924–34
This file concerns the movements of Japanese ships straying close to the Australian coast, Japanese map-making in Australian territory and investigations into Japanese intentions.

[Japanese vessel] surveying Elcho Island, 1923–26
This item is concerned with evidence of Japanese activity, including survey marks and flags, on Elcho Island, off the northern Australian coast. This file also contains some photographs.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES [SECURITY AND INTELLIGENCE], 1923–56
Recorded by: 1941–45 Security Service, Canberra (CA 660)
1945–46 Investigation Branch, Melbourne and Canberra (CA 747)
1946–48 Commonwealth Investigation Service (CA 650)
Quantity: 7.38 metres (Canberra)

A number of items in this series concern Japan and Japanese resident in Australia. Matters dealt with in these items include national security regulations; trade with Japan; Japanese foreign policy, pamphlets and propaganda; Japanese internees; and Japanese activities among Indigenous Australians and on Thursday Island.

Alien migration – White Australia Policy – attack by Japan, 1938–39
Japanese activities – Gulf Country, North Queensland, 1939–42
Millington was watched closely by the Security Service as a Japanese sympathiser.

Japanese associations and activities, 1941–46
Investigation into the integrity of naturalised British subjects, 1942–43
Aliens Classification and Advisory Committee – right to view files on interned aliens, 1942–44
CORRESPONDENCE FILES, ‘C’ (COMMONWEALTH DEPARTMENTS) 
PREFIX, 1929–50  
Recorded by: 1930–32 Department of Works and Railways (CA 14)  
1932–38 Works and Services Branch (I) (CA 740)  
1938–39 Department of Works (I) (CA 30)  
1939–46 Works and Services Branch (II) (CA 742)  
1946–49 Works Director, ACT (CA 743)  
Quantity: 25 metres (Canberra)  
This is a general correspondence series that includes reports, plans and sketches relating to public works projects in the ACT.

Water supply particulars – Japanese Consul-General, 1934–35 A292, C6546  
This item contains a detailed report (provided by the Department of the Interior) on the water supply of the Federal capital. The report was requested by the Japanese Consul-General in 1934.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES [CLASS 501] [501–539 – CLASSIFIED], 1935–60  
Recorded by: 1935–39 Department of Defence, Air Services Branch (CA 778)  
1939–56 Department of Air (CA 35)  
Quantity: 45 metres (Canberra)  
This series consists of secret and confidential files relating to the administration of the Royal Australian Air Force during World War II and in the immediate postwar period.

Machinery for inter-governmental consultation in event of Japanese aggression, 1941–42 A1196, 3/501/15  
This file deals with general relations with Japan.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES, ‘C’ [CUSTOMS?] INFIX, 1940–48  
Recorded by: Collector of Customs, WA (CA 808)  
Quantity: 0.36 metres (Perth)  
Items in this series cover a broad range of departmental activities and functions during wartime.

Japanese pearling operations – north-west coast, 1940 PP227/5, 1940/C1151  
Material in this item details Japanese pearling operations for the year to September 1940. The file also lists contacts in Broome and companies involved in pearling activities. Other documents in the file express concern about the amount of immature shell (seed shell) being taken by Japanese vessels in 1940 and discuss the question of a patrol for the Feast of Lanterns Festival in 1940, when the lugger crews came ashore. Other
National Archives of Australia
Towards War

material includes correspondence between the Sub-
Collector of Customs, Broome and the Collector of
Customs, Fremantle concerning the pearling fleet’s
movements.

War precautions

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE [ARMY], 1898–1974
MP508/1
Recorded by: 1939 Army Headquarters, Department of Defence (II)
(CA 2671)
1939–42 Department of the Army (CA 36)

Quantity: 144.3 metres (Melbourne)

Please see series description on p. 128.

Recruitment of translators of Japanese language, 1941–42
MP508/1, 247/723/217
This file documents the search for people who could
be used for translation and interpretation work
during the war against Japan. Requests for competent
people were made to London, Hong Kong and
Singapore. Documents relating to Sir John Latham
and Professor Seita of Queensland are in this file.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES [TREASURY], 1901–78
A571
Recorded by: Department of the Treasury (I) (CA 11)

Quantity: 535 metres (Canberra); 72 metres (Sydney)

This is the main correspondence file series of the
Department of the Treasury (I). A number of items in
this series relate to both pre- and postwar Japan.
Prewar files concern financial arrangements under
wartime conditions. Postwar files deal with trade,
information on Japan, foreign exchange and other
matters.

Freezing of funds of Japanese nationals and reciprocal
evacuation of British and Japanese nationals, 1941–42
A571, 1940/5101A
This item contains inter-departmental correspondence
on the difficulties faced by Japanese living in Australia
when their assets were frozen and they were restricted
to bank withdrawals of £25 per week.

Freezing of funds of Japanese nationals – reciprocal
arrangements between Japan and Australia re. diplomatic and
consular officials, 1941–43
A571, 1940/5101B

Japanese financial policies re. foreign exchange –
counter-measures re. Thailand, Netherlands East Indies,
the Philippines and Australia, 1941
A571, 1940/5101C
CASE FILES, WITH OR WITHOUT ‘Q’ (QUEENSLAND), ‘QB (QUEENSLAND BRISBANE) OR ‘CLF’ (CLIENT FILES) PREFIXES, 1908–

Recorded by: 1946–74 Department of Immigration, Qld (CA 958)
1974–75 Immigration Group, Department of Labor and Immigration, Qld (CA 2148)
1975–87 Department of Immigration and Ethnic Affairs (I), Qld (CA 2147); subsequently by other agencies

Quantity: 1 286 metres (Brisbane)

This series contains case files on persons entering Australia for permanent and temporary residence, persons applying for citizenship and overseas students. It also contains post-1946 administration and policy files.

[Alphabetical] list of Japanese aliens resident in Qld, 1940–41 J25, 1951/5447
This file contains an extensive list of Japanese aliens resident in Queensland at 5 July 1940 and a seven-page list of Japanese resident there at 21 November 1941. These lists record name, gender and address only. A separate list also exists for Thursday Island, which provides occupations and dates of birth.

SECRET CORRESPONDENCE FILES, 1912–45 MP729/6

Recorded by: 1936–39 Department of Defence (II) (CA 19)
1939–45 Department of the Army (CA 36)

Quantity: 30 metres (Melbourne)

Please see series description on p. 131.

Mr Harry Freame – interpreter, Australian Legation to Japan, c1937–c1945 MP729/6, 15/403/16
This file concerns an Australian born in Japan who worked under cover among Japanese in Sydney.

Machinery for inter-governmental consultation in event of Japanese aggression, 1941 MP729/6, 2/401/50
This item contains War Cabinet agendum papers discussing what Japanese acts would require military counter-measures – eg the movement of Japanese forces into East Timor.

Japanese activities – departure of Japanese nationals from Australia, 1941 MP729/6, 65/401/128
This item contains cables that refer to arrangements to stop male Japanese leaving for Japan in an emergency and taking information with them. It contains expressions of concern about possible retaliation against British citizens wanting to leave Japan.
CORRESPONDENCE FILES (CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION), ‘T’ (TASMANIA) PREFIX, 1918-  
Recorded by: 1946–60 Commonwealth Investigation Service, Tas (CA 915)  
1960–75 Commonwealth Police Force (II), Tas (CA 954); subsequently by other agencies  
Quantity: 2.3 metres (Hobart)  
This series contains files dealing with criminal investigations, including records of inquiries made and action taken. The series covers subversive activities in the 1940s.

P1436, T1940/477  
The item investigates the connection between Japanese nationals and an Australian of German descent named Frank Wicke, who printed a monthly magazine and ran a South Seas export business.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES, CLASS 2 RESTRICTED IMMIGRATION, 1919–50  
Recorded by: 1939 Department of the Interior (CA 27)  
1939–45 Department of the Interior (CA 31)  
1945–50 Department of Immigration (CA 51)  
Quantity: 13 metres (Canberra)  
This series concerns restricted immigration to Australia. It contains reports, correspondence, articles, cables, newspaper cuttings, proposed amendments to the Immigration Act, business visitors and authorities for admission under exemption.

Japanese merchants’ wives and assistants – industrial exemption, 1930–40  
A433, 1940/2/2351  
This file contains information on the movement inward and outward of Japanese merchants and their families during the 1930s.

Departure of Japanese from Australia – cablegram certifying Japan’s possible entry into the war, 1941  
A433, 1945/2/6279  
This file relates to the departure of Japanese merchants from Australia in August 1941. It contains letters and newspaper cuttings on the issue. The possible entry of Japan into the war is also discussed.
CORRESPONDENCE FILES, CLASS 5 (BRITISH MIGRANTS), 1920–57

Recorded by: 1945 Department of the Interior (II) (CA 31)
1945–50 Department of Immigration (CA 51)

Quantity: 6 metres (Canberra)

Although the bulk of this series relates to British migrants, some items deal with the experiences of British subjects, including Australians, in Japan.

Evacuation of British subjects from Japan – policy, 1940–50

This item contains correspondence between the High Commissioner for the United Kingdom (Canberra), the Public Trust Office (Sydney) and the Immigration Department relating to the maintenance of British subjects (especially widows and children) and payments made to them. It provides personal histories of some of the British subjects who left Japan in 1941.

INVESTIGATION FILES (PERSONS AND ORGANISATIONS), ALPHABETICAL PREFIX, 1921–46

Recorded by: 1942–45 Security Service, NSW (CA 946)
1945–46 Investigation Branch, NSW (CA 904)

Quantity: 4.5 metres (Sydney)

The correspondence files in this series contain information on suspect activities of Japanese organisations and Japanese and Australians sympathetic to Japan. The files date back to the 1920s. They include reports on investigations, information on Japanese business interests, security irregularities, release of internees and departures and arrivals of persons suspected of being sympathetic to the enemy. Other material includes lists of employees of Japanese firms in Sydney and Melbourne; lists of consular staff and members of organisations; and letters, reports, passport applications, investigation reports and photographs. Most of the correspondence is between the Commonwealth Investigation Branch, Canberra and the Department of Defence. Most investigation reports were made by NSW Security Service personnel. Some reports date from the early days of the war in the Pacific and relate to reports of local residents of Sydney claiming to have sighted Japanese in and around Sydney after the mass internment of Japanese residents.

Activities of Japanese consular officers, 1939–42

This item deals with reports of Japanese activities made by suspicious local residents or by Security Service personnel. Some folios refer to the visit of Japanese officials to BHP Newcastle, photographs of Mr Hattori of the Japanese Consulate (February 1941), Japan’s relationship with Germany, speculation on the outbreak
of hostilities and police supervision of the clearing out of
the consular offices in February 1942.

**Japanese Legation, 1941–42**

This file contains an article (*Pix*, 3 May 1941) about
the First Japanese Minister to Australia, Tatsuo
Kawai, with photographs of him in his luxury home
in Melbourne.

Other files on Japanese may be found in this series by
searching RecordSearch at item level using ‘J*’.

**POLICY, PROCEDURE AND ADMINISTRATION FILES, ‘G’ PREFIX, 1924–58**

**PP117/1**

Recorded by: Postmaster-General’s Department, General Post Office,
Perth (CA 1035)

Quantity: 17.4 metres (Perth)

This series holds administration and general
 correspondence files containing procedural instructions,
policy changes and other matters relating to the operation
of post offices and services.

**Officers studying or having a knowledge of Japanese, 1939**

This item includes inquiries made by the Postmaster-
General’s Department as to whether anyone in the
Posts and Telegraphs Branch could speak Japanese.

**CORRESPONDENCE FILES, ‘Q’ (QUEENSLAND) PREFIX, 1924–71**

**BP242/1**

Recorded by: 1924–42 Investigation Branch, Qld (CA 753)
1942–45 Security Service, Qld (CA 947)
1945–46 Investigation Branch, Qld (CA 753)
1946–60 Commonwealth Investigation Service (from
1960–61, the Commonwealth Police Force),
Qld (CA 952)

Quantity: 47.8 metres (Brisbane)

The majority of files in this series relate to aliens
interned during World War II. Some files deal with
Japanese activities (including subversive activities)
from 1938 to 1945 and deportations. Other files contain
information on organisations. Some material in this
series was added as late as 1971.

**Japanese activities in Queensland, 1938–45**

This item records Japanese activities in Queensland,
including the compilation of a census of Japanese
residents for the Japanese Consul-General in Sydney;
information collected by Japanese residents about
Australia, including reports of seaplane facilities;
meteorological information (1940); sampan and lugger
activities; visitors and their interests in industry and
agriculture; and the distribution and employment of Japanese (with map).

**Japanese – Alien Registration Office 1.bl. – Captain Stevens, 1940–41**

Part 1 of this two-part file contains a list (in French) of 208 Japanese internees from New Caledonia that provides details of names, dates and places of birth, and occupations; a nominal roll of Japanese internees, ex-Darwin (four families); a list of appeals against internment and the outcome of these appeals; a list of Queensland internees and their places of internment; information provided by an article on the Japanese Air Force from *Zeemacht* (1941); an alphabetical list of Japanese residents in Queensland at 21 November 1941; a chart of the total number of Japanese in Australia by town, which was provided by the Consul-General and cabled to the Japanese Foreign Minister in September 1941; the names, addresses and occupations of Japanese residents of Thursday Island in July 1941; a list of Japanese who left Thursday Island in August 1941; lists of warrants ready for the arrest of Japanese; a list of Japanese resident in Brisbane and the south coast and other areas of Queensland; a list of dangerous Japanese; and lists of Japanese who sailed for Japan during 1941.

**Aliens – Japanese, Queensland, 1940–45**

This item contains an alphabetical list of Japanese resident in Queensland by surname, with first names, but no other details. Although there is no information on the compilation of this card index list, it is extensive and worth checking, especially for family connections.

**Japanese – Thursday Island and Thursday Island general, 1941**

This item contains a list consisting of paragraph biographies of about 480 Japanese residents of Thursday Island. Material recorded includes information about nationality, age and occupation and a brief history. Other information includes an assessment of the security risk posed by the individual’s knowledge of Australia.

**CORRESPONDENCE FILES, ‘C’ [CUSTOMS] INFIX, 1928–48**

Recorded by: Collector of Customs, WA (CA 808)

Quantity: 0.36 metres (Perth)

The series contains files covering a broad range of departmental activities and functions during wartime. Included in the files are correspondence, reports, decisions, opinions, cablegrams and other documents relating to wartime restrictions. These included trading
with the enemy, restrictions on communications with
the enemy or enemy-held territories, exemptions from
restrictions in certain cases, violations of Customs
regulations and investigations into borderline cases of
trading violations.

Japanese nationals returning to Japan, 1941
This item contains a report stating that Japanese were
buying antiques and other valuable articles to take
back to Japan because of the limit on the amount of
currency they were permitted to take out of Australia.
It was suggested that Japanese homes be searched and
that parcels posted to ships at outports be sent to the
purser of each vessel for inspection in case the post
was used to circumvent Customs regulations.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES – CLASSIFIED ‘301’ [DEFENCE], 1928–58
Recorded by: 1935–39 Department of Defence (II) (CA 19)
1939–42 Department of Defence Co-ordination (CA 37)
1942–58 Department of Defence (III) (CA 46)

Quantity: 89.2 metres (Canberra)

This series contains items dealing with all security-
classified matters handled by the Department of
Defence, such as information gathering, policy matters,
technical information on armaments and other
wartime issues.

American–Japanese conversations, 10 November to 8 December
1941
This file contains transcripts of conversations that
took place between American and Japanese
government representatives just before the bombing
of Pearl Harbour. It also contains cables sent between
the British and Australian governments immediately
after the attack occurred, and from Washington to the
Department of External Affairs, Canberra reporting
on Japanese actions and movements in South-East
Asia. A copy of the British declaration of war against
Japan is in this file.

WORLD WAR II SECURITY INVESTIGATION DOSSIERS, 1938–48
Recorded by: Security Service, NSW (CA 946)

Quantity: 78 metres (Sydney)

The series consists of dossiers compiled on people
investigated by the Security Service, NSW during World
War II. Dossiers, one for each person, were arranged
numerically. The dossiers were originally created by the
Military Police Intelligence Section of the NSW State
Police until 1942. After that date their creation became
the responsibility of the Security Service, NSW. Most
dossiers refer to unnaturalised aliens, particularly
enemy aliens (eg Japanese) and refugees (eg German
Jews). Other subjects include naturalised aliens, British
citizens and Australians. A significant number of items
in this series relate to Japanese people. Files on
individuals can cover the entire period of the person’s
life in, or visit to, Australia. The information in some
files dates back to the 1880s.

Watarai, Ryuzo, 1939–40
This file contains a photograph of Ryuzo Watarai along
with 52 passport-sized photographs. These photographs
include scenes of people picnicking in the bush,
Australian wildlife, inspection of wool and country
towns. An image from this file appears on p. 86.

Seiki Tazaki [or Tozaki] – Japanese, 1939–42
This man was a representative of Itoh & Co., a
Japanese trading company. The file contains travel
permits, letters and reports relating to an investigation
into a piece of paper bearing Tazaki’s name which had
been found in a Sydney street. The paper, which was
written in code and dated June 1941, listed the
movements of ships in and out of Sydney Harbour.

Matson, Joseph and Maurice – Takeshi, Matsui (Mitsui)
[and John Herbert Roach], 1941–43
This file details an investigation into a Garden Island
employee married to a woman who had previously
been married to a Japanese and who had two mixed-
race children.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES, ‘EPJ’ (ENEMY PROPERTY JAPAN) PREFIX,
1939–66
Recorded by: Controller of Enemy Property (CA 655)
Quantity: 5.6 metres (Canberra)

This series contains several hundred files dealing with
Japanese firms and individuals whose property was
confiscated by the Controller of Enemy Property in
December 1941. Most documents contained in these
records are financial in nature and detail assets, shares
and bank accounts. However, some files also contain
personal letters from, and histories of, former Japanese
residents attempting to retrieve assets seized on their
internment in 1941. The series is best searched by
Japanese name.

Shozo Kawaguchi – Japan, 1941–48
Y Misuno & Co. – Kobe, Japan, 1955
SECURITY SERVICE WEEKLY REPORTS, 1941–45  
Recorded by: Security Service, NSW (CA 946)

Quantity: 0.72 metres (Sydney)

This series consists of weekly reports compiled by the State offices of the Commonwealth Security Service on matters such as subversive activities, internment, sabotage and consular activities. These reports are the only ones known to be still extant in NSW.

Security Service weekly reports [nos] 11–32, 1941–42  
These reports detail the activities of Japanese in and around Sydney and Newcastle up to the week in which Pearl Harbour was bombed. They provide information on the activities of individuals, the Japanese Consulate and Japanese firms in Sydney gained through surveillance and informants’ reports.

NATIONALITY INDEX CARDS TO WORLD WAR II SECURITY INVESTIGATION DOSSIERS, 1942–45  
Recorded by: Security Service, NSW (CA 946)

Quantity: 1.08 metres (Sydney)

This card index lists around 320 Japanese who were under surveillance in Sydney after 1937. The cards are arranged alphabetically and give names, addresses and in some cases occupations. The relationships between Japanese are sometimes noted in the case of family members.

Media reports

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE [ARMY], 1898–1974  
Recorded by: 1939 Army Headquarters, Department of Defence (II)
             (CA 2671)
             1939–42 Department of the Army (CA 36)

Quantity: 144.3 metres (Melbourne)

Please see series description on p. 128.

General Blamey’s press statement [in Army newspaper concerning the safety of Australia from Japanese attack], 1941  
This item contains correspondence and news items concerning an embarrassing statement made by General Blamey in an article entitled ‘Australia’s Strong Defences’. The article showed that Blamey was at variance with government policy when he expressed the view that a Japanese invasion of Australia was so filled with difficulties as to be almost impossible.
**CORRESPONDENCE FILES [TRADE AND CUSTOMS], 1905–**

Recorded by: 1935–56 Department of Trade and Customs (CA 10)
1956–75 Department of Customs and Excise (CA 62)
1975– Department of Police and Customs (CA 1862); subsequently by other agencies

Quantity: 2 483 metres (Canberra); 254.5 metres (Sydney)

Please see series description on p. 129.

**Film censorship – March of Time, Refugee and others – war horror films – Sino-Japanese War – comment, 1938–39**

A425, 1939/1513

**SECRET CORRESPONDENCE FILES, 1912–45**

Recorded by: 1936–39 Department of Defence (II) (CA 19)
1939–45 Department of the Army (CA 36)

Quantity: 30 metres (Melbourne)

Please see series description on p. 131.

**Anti-Japanese bias, 1939**

MP729/6, 29/401/67

This file contains a report in *Asahi Shinbun* that discusses Japan’s desire for the abolition of Australia’s immigration restrictions. It includes questions relating to the Pacific Islands. The report also contains complaints about the anti-Japanese bias of the Australian press and the Australian Broadcasting Commission.

**INTERNAL CHIEF OF AIR STAFF FILES – INVOLVEMENT IN DFDC, COSC AND COSC SEATO MEETINGS, 1941–82**

Recorded by: Department of Defence (III) – Office of Chief of Air Staff (CA 46)

Quantity: 24.3 metres (Canberra)

This series contains three sets of files relating to the Office of the Chief of Air Staff’s involvement in meetings of the Defence Force Development Committee (DFDC), the Chiefs of Staff Committee (COSC) and the COSC South-East Asia Treaty Organisation (SEATO). The files are arranged according to meeting. Only one item appears to relate directly to Japan.

**Japanese plan for [the] invasion of Australia (includes map), 1942**

A7941, 46

This item gives a precis of a Chinese intelligence report dealing with why a possible Japanese invasion of Australia in 1942 was postponed. It includes a map of the proposed plan of invasion. The item is digitised, and a copy of it appears on the following page.
General plan of attack

1. Forces based on Japanese Mandated Islands and on New Guinea to defend the left wing against the Americans. The right wing to be defended by mining the Malacca Straits and by light naval forces defending the Indian Ocean approaches.

2. Part of the forces, based on Java, to stage a diversional attack landing at Darwin, and engaging the American and Australian forces around Katherine and Birdum. The main force, proceeding via the Sunda Straits, to land at Fremantle and Perth, occupy the country west of Esperance - Sandstone, then advance eastward.
Trade and exchange

CORRESPONDENCE FILES [PRIME MINISTER’S DEPARTMENT], VARIABLE ALPHABETICAL PREFIX AND GENERAL PREFIX ‘SC’, 1914–50
A1608
Recorded by: Prime Minister’s Department (CA 12)

Quantity: 41 metres (Canberra)

Records in this series reflect the way in which World War II impinged on all aspects of life, national security and policy-making.

Japan–Australia policy, 1938–44
A1608, B41/1/6
This record includes a sub-file entitled ‘Professor A C V Melbourne’.

Sale of wheat and flour to Japan, 1939–41
A1608, I37/1/4

Activities of Japanese – silver lead mining in WA, 1940
A1608, I47/1/1

Shipping warrants scheme – Japanese shipping, 1940–41
A1608, C61/2/6

Japan – precautionary stage, 1940–41
A1608, E41/1/6

Economic relations with Japan – retaliatory action by Japanese, 1941
A1608, G59/1/3A

Economic relations with Japan, 1940–41
A1608, G59/1/3 part 1
This item contains correspondence about exchange control, payments agreements and the import and export control of essential commodities.

Economic relations with Japan, 1941–42
A1608, G59/1/3 part 2
This item contains correspondence about exchange control, payments agreements, the import and export control of essential commodities and economic warfare.

Economic relations with Japan, 1942–48
A1608, G59/1/3 part 3

Supply of essential commodities to Germany via Russia and Japan, 1940–41
A1608, G59/1/4

CORRESPONDENCE FILES, ‘C’ [CUSTOMS] INFIX, 1928–48
PP227/6
Recorded by: Collector of Customs, WA (CA 808)

Quantity: 0.36 metres (Perth)

Please see series description on p. 144.

Concerns [about] exports to Japan via neutral countries, 1941
PP227/6, 1941/C1429
CORRESPONDENCE FILES, 'W' (WAR) INFIX, 1939–50  A1539
Recorded by: Department of Trade and Customs (CA 10)

Quantity: 90 metres (Canberra)

Files in this series contain correspondence, reports, decisions and other items relating to wartime restrictions such as trading with the enemy and violations of Customs regulations. From 1939–41 Japanese traders came under notice for violations of regulations and trading with Germany through third countries.

Export of wool – Mitsui Bussan Kaisha Ltd, 1939  A1539, 1939/W/139
Mitsui Bussan Kaisha Ltd – export of lead concentrates to Japan, 1940  A1539, 1940/W/7624
This item contains correspondence dealing with undertakings given by Mitsui Bussan Kaisha Ltd about the ultimate destination of lead concentrates shipped from Port Pirie to Korea or to Kobe, Japan. This item is digitised.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES, ‘Z’ (NATIONAL SECURITY REGULATIONS) PREFIX, 1939–50  D1975
Recorded by: Collector of Customs, Adelaide (CA 802)

Quantity: 6 metres (Adelaide)

This series contains files relating to trade, export activities of firms, applications for licences to export and changes to the National Security (General) Regulations in World War II. Japanese items concern the return of Japanese to Japan before World War II and imports.

Customs overseas exchange regulations – Japanese nationals returning to Japan, 1941  D1975, Z1941/58
Reprisals order for restricting the commerce of Japan, 1941–42  D1975, Z1941/306
This file contains memoranda instructing that Japanese vessels in port on the declaration of war on 9 December 1941 be seized and that licences be revoked.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES, ‘EPCJ’ (ENEMY PROPERTY CLAIMS JAPAN) PREFIX, 1945–59  A1449
Recorded by: Controller of Enemy Property (CA 655)

Quantity: 1.08 metres (Canberra)

This series contains correspondence files dealing with property claims made in Japan against the Japanese Government as a result of its seizure of the personal property of British subjects during World War II.

J Gunton (Australia) Pty Ltd formerly Kanematsu (Aust.) Pty Ltd, 1941–52  A1449, EPCJ25
6. AUSTRALIA’S EXPERIENCE OF THE JAPANESE IN WARTIME

This chapter cannot adequately cover the thousands of items held by the National Archives relating to Australia and Japan during World War II. Instead it focuses on two major aspects of this period.

The first focus is on Australia’s home security provisions and action taken against resident Japanese. These include intelligence gathering within Australia, the classification and internment of Japanese and the work of the aliens tribunals. The internment and treatment of Japanese prisoners-of-war (POWs) in Australia, including the Cowra Outbreak, are represented.

The second focus is on Australians’ experience of the Japanese during the war. On the Australian home front this includes the bombing of Darwin and the mini-submarine attack on Sydney Harbour in 1942, the work of the Australian Broadcasting Commission (ABC) and the development of Australia’s wartime propaganda. Australia’s experience of the Japanese advance overseas and the stories of POWs and civilian internees of the Japanese are also covered.

Records documenting matters such as the conduct of the war, combat operations and war crimes are not specifically referred to in this guide. Substantial collections of records relating to these matters are held by the National Archives and by the Australian War Memorial, Canberra. They can be located on RecordSearch by conducting keyword searches.

Internment and repatriation of Japanese

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE [ARMY], 1898–1974 MP508/1
Recorded by: 1939 Army Headquarters, Department of Defence (II) (CA 2671)
1939–42 Department of the Army (CA 36)
Quantity: 144.3 metres (Melbourne)

Items in this series relate to the wartime administration of the military forces in Australia. A number of them deal with the Japanese and cover subjects such as Japanese consulates, internees, tactics in wartime and captured equipment. Some dossiers of Japanese resident in Australia can also be found in the series.

Japanese internees, 1941 MP508/1, 255/702/1526
This record contains a nominal roll of internees in the 3rd Military District.
Japanese internees – appeals to [the] aliens tribunal[s], 1941–42
The papers in this item justify the departure from the regulations in the case of Japanese and provisions for the internment of all Japanese women. It also contains the appointment of members of aliens tribunals responsible for hearing appeals.

Further extensive details about the repatriation of Japanese nationals can be found in this item.

Japanese nationals interned in Australia to be repatriated, 1942
This item contains letters from the Swiss Consulate on behalf of Japanese who did not wish to be repatriated. Information on many Japanese can be found in this file.

Internment of Japanese – Mario Kazmie Hamabata, 1942
This is an example of one of the few interesting personal dossiers of Japanese to be found in this series. To find similar items, search at item level by using keywords 'Japan*' and 'intern*'.

Passports of Japanese who have been repatriated, 1942–43
This file relates to the repatriation of Japanese in August 1942, in the first civilian exchange of internees with Japan.

SECRET CORRESPONDENCE FILES, 1912–45
Recorded by: 1936–39 Department of Defence (II) (CA 19)
1939–45 Department of the Army (CA 36)
Quantity: 30 metres (Melbourne)
A number of records in this series relate to the Japanese. They cover a variety of subjects, including Australian concerns over Japanese encroachment in its territorial waters, wartime atrocities, Japanese views on Australia, reports from the Australian Legation in Tokyo, internment of Japanese, notes on the Japanese Army and political warfare against Japan.

Japanese internment file, part 1, 1940–41
This item contains Army maps showing the distribution of Japanese in Queensland and NSW. Each State reported to the Australian Military Forces (AMF), Headquarters Southern Command about their degree of readiness and organisation for the internment of Japanese should war break out with Japan. Cabinet agendum extracts outline the special considerations that justify departure from the internment policy for Japanese compared with that applied to Germans and Italians.
They also outline details to be collected about Japanese and the weekly summary of Japanese activities being compiled.

**Japanese society at Broome, 1942–43**

This contains the emblems sewn into caps to identify friendly agents and details of documents seized from Hama Yasutaro, a Japanese resident in Australia. A diary he wrote about the Japanese society of which he was the vice president contains a report of an interview with him about the foundation of the society.

**CORRESPONDENCE [2nd MILITARY DISTRICT, NSW], 1912–64**

Recorded by: 1912–21 2nd Military District, NSW (l) (CA 6335)
1921–39 2nd District Base, AMF, NSW Headquarters (CA 4334)
1939–42 Headquarters, Eastern Command (l), AMF (CA 1876); subsequently by other agencies

Quantity: 64.6 metres (Sydney)

This series contains correspondence relating to the administration, function and policy of Eastern Command. The series contains many internment-related files concerning the construction of internee camps and the internment of Japanese, as well as copies of the regulations governing the running of camps and reports of official visitors to them. The files also record the deaths of Japanese internees, some cultural material and the effect of Japan’s surrender on the internees.

Bombed shipping in Darwin Harbour after a Japanese air raid [box 612], 1942.

_NAA: C4076, HN5015_
QJ16094 – Morimoto, Tsutomu (deceased) – Japanese internee, 1943
This file records the death of Tsutomu Morimoto, one of many Japanese who died while in an internment camp.

SP459/1, 445/1/1853

Burials, prisoners-of-war – Cowra War Cemetery, 1945
SP459/1, 445/1/6640

Japanese prisoners-of-war and internees – national demonstrations, 1944
This item records the staging of theatrical performances by Japanese internees on the occasion of Japanese Army Day in 1944. Permission was given for such celebrations provided AMF personnel did not attend and the performances were not openly nationalistic in character.

SP459/1, 489/1/6543

INVESTIGATION FILES, ‘N’ (NEW SOUTH WALES) PREFIX, 1914–46
Recorded by: 1917–19 Special Intelligence Bureau, NSW (CA 909)
1919–46 Investigation Branch, NSW (CA 904)
1946 Commonwealth Investigation Service, NSW (CA 912)

Quantity: 28.62 metres (Sydney)

This series contains personal dossiers of persons under notice by the security services. The dossiers are very detailed.

Hirokichi Nakamura [internee’s file], 1937–46
ST1233/1, N19133

Torao Muramatsu [Security Service dossier], 1939–42
ST1233/1, N39213

INVESTIGATION FILES, ‘N’ [NEW SOUTH WALES] PREFIX, 1914–62
Recorded by: 1920–46 Investigation Branch, NSW (CA 904)
1946–57 Commonwealth Investigation Service, NSW (CA 912)

Quantity: 10.8 metres (Sydney)

This series consists of case files compiled by the Investigation Branch, NSW and the Commonwealth Investigation Service, NSW into illegal immigrants, internees and other individuals, companies and organisations.

Japanese deportees [repatriation of internees], 1942–47
This record contains lists of Japanese to be repatriated in 1942 and news reports about the Yoizuki Maru, the Daigai Maru and other Japanese ships transporting internees and POWs back to Japan in February and March 1946.

SP1714/1, N41177
Iva Ikuro Toguri (otherwise known as ‘Tokyo Rose’), 1946–48

SP1714/1, N46460

The file contains information provided by Major Cousens about Tokyo Rose and transcripts of proceedings of Cousens’ trial for treason that contain evidence given by Miss Foumy Saisho about Cousens’ work for Radio Tokyo during the war. The evidence gathered was passed on to the United States (US) for use in the trial of Tokyo Rose.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES – COMMONWEALTH INVESTIGATION SERVICE, 1916–60

Recorded by: 1916–19 Special Intelligence Bureau, Melbourne (CA 746)
1919–46 Investigation Branch, Melbourne and Canberra (CA 747)
1946–60 Commonwealth Investigation Service (CA 650)

Quantity: 3.6 metres (Canberra)

This is an artificial series of Commonwealth Investigation Service files. A number of items in this series contain information about Japanese activities in Australia before World War II, including suspicions of espionage.

Report on Japanese activity – prepared for information of aliens tribunals, 1942

A8911, 1

This item contains a comprehensive report on Japanese associations and activities in Australia before World War II that was sent to the Attorney-General, Dr Evatt. Also included in the file are lists of Japanese who departed before 1941 and the names of Japanese resident in NSW. It also contains an article from Smith’s Weekly urging that Japanese be kept in internment.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES [EXTERNAL AFFAIRS], YEAR AND LETTER PREFIXES, 1919–65

Recorded by: Department of External Affairs (II) (CA 18)

Quantity: 32 metres (Canberra)

This series contains many items dealing with reports of atrocities carried out by the Japanese. Other files deal with the failure of the Japanese to supply information about POWs, cash payments for the relief of POWs and Japanese destruction of Allied POWs’ records (1945). In addition the series contains material about the Japanese withdrawal from the war, the Potsdam Conference (1945), situation reports on Japan (1945–46) and several open files on the Japanese Surrender and preparations for peace. Other material includes scripts for the British political warfare mission and files about the Shortwave Division, Department of Information, which date from 1945–46 but may also cover the wartime period.
A number of items in this series are concerned with Japanese in Australia, including queries about POWs and other individuals, their property and their relief payments.

[Japanese] POWs in Australia – escape from Cowra Camp (August 1944), 1945
This file contains details about the Cowra Outbreak.

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE AND ARMY AND CIVILIAN PERSONNEL FILES, 1920–56
Recorded by: Department of the Army (CA 36)
Quantity: 177 metres (Melbourne); smaller quantities in Canberra and Darwin offices

This series consists of three distinct groups of records relating to the administration of the AMF from 1943 to 1951. These are general correspondence files, civil staff correspondence files and Army personnel files. Records in this series cover a broad range of subjects, including administration, air raid precautions, the Army Medical and Dental Corps, discharges and discipline, equipment, foreigners, intelligence, postings and Japanese war crimes trials (see records MP742/1, 326/1/49 to MP742/1, 336/1/2196). Some records deal with the study of the Japanese language by the members of the armed forces while others relate to the British Commonwealth Occupation Force.

Japanese merchant seamen, PW, 1941–47
This file documents the transfer to Hay in July 1943 of pearlers who had been reclassified from internees to POWs. It refers to people who arrived in the 1890s and questions whether they should be reclassified.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES [AUSTRALIAN HIGH COMMISSION, UK], ALPHA PREFIX, 1920–68
Recorded by: Australian High Commission, United Kingdom (UK) (CA 241)
Quantity: 27 metres (Canberra)

The series contains the classified files of the Australian High Commission in London, some of which relate to wartime negotiations with Japan.

Repatriates from Japan, 1942
This item deals with arrangements for, and negotiations with Japan about, the exchange of civilian internees. It contains a list of Japanese in the UK, along with details about ships (eg arrangements, sailing dates and safe conduct) and discussions about the priority of putting British people held in Japanese
internment camps on the list. About 1 100 individuals were involved.

Repatriates from Japan, 1942–49
This contains extensive lists of British and French people (many from China), including non-officials, officials and some missionaries, who were being exchanged for Japanese internees and POWs.

Second exchange of officials and non-officials between Australia and Japan, 1944–45
This file includes complaints about pearl-divers being classified as POWs. It also includes a communication from General Douglas MacArthur, in which he expressed the possibility of the divers being included in the second exchange, as requested by the Japanese Government.

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE, ‘S’ (SECRET) PREFIX SERIES, 1922–51
Recorded by:
1922–39 District Base, AMF, NSW (CA 4334)
1939–42 Headquarters, Eastern Command (I), AMF (CA 1876)
1942–46 Headquarters, NSW Lines of Communication Area, AMF (CA 1877)
1946–51 Headquarters, Eastern Command (II), AMF (CA 1878)

Quantity: 23.7 metres (Sydney)

The registered files in this series contain secret correspondence relating to arms, ammunition, communications, roads and other defence matters. They also concern enemy activities and investigations into possible subversive activities. Some files relate to the internment of Japanese during World War II and the activities of the aliens tribunals. Others concern Japanese language training for Australian personnel.

Internal security instructions, 1939
Army field censorship instruction No. 20, 1942
This item deals with the use of Japanese in correspondence of Japanese POWs and internees.

Prisoner-of-war and internment camps – garrison personnel [re. escape of internees], 1942
Personnel for Japanese language classes – enlistment and training of recruits, 1945
National Security Act 1939 – delegation of ministerial powers [re. change of government and national security regulations], 1941
Mr Justice Davidson – complaint about delays in aliens tribunals’ notification of results, 1941
CORRESPONDENCE FILES, ‘Q’ (QUEENSLAND) PREFIX, 1924–71
BP242/1

Recorded by:
1924–42 Investigation Branch, Qld (CA 753)
1942–45 Security Service, Qld (CA 947)
1945–46 Investigation Branch, Qld (CA 753)
1946–60 Commonwealth Investigation Service (from 1960–61, the Commonwealth Police Force), Qld (CA 952)

Quantity: 48 metres (Brisbane)

The majority of files in this series relate to aliens interned during World War II. Some files deal with Japanese activities (including subversive activities) from 1938 to 1945 and deportations. Other files contain information on organisations. Some material in this series was added as late as 1971.

Japanese internment action, 1941–42
BP242/1, Q39362

This file contains reports of the arrest of Japanese living in Australia during the days after the bombing of Pearl Harbour. It includes nominal rolls of Japanese interned from Thursday Island, Queensland and Darwin. It also includes transport documents for the transfer of internees to internment camps.

Japanese releases – Oki, 1946
BP242/1, Q24014

This file contains release orders for the Oki family, which consisted of nine members, seven of whom were children, who had been interned at Tatura in Victoria.

CORRESPONDENCE (SUBJECT AND CLIENT) SERIES, ‘H’ INFIX, 1926–50
PP6/1

Recorded by:
1926–45 Collector of Customs, WA (CA 808)
1945–50 Department of Immigration, WA (CA 962)

Quantity: 36.5 metres (Perth)

This series records the activities of the Collector of Customs, WA, including Boarding Branch reports on vessels, records of persons coming under notice, applications for naturalisation, CEDTs, admission to Australia and applications for permanent residency.

List of Japanese internees at Broome, 1942
PP6/1, 1945/H/14

This item contains a list of Japanese interned at Broome, arranged according to gender. The information includes name, passport number and age and remarks such as ‘Australian-born’ or ‘indentured seaman’.
CORRESPONDENCE FILES [EXTERNAL AFFAIRS], 1927–45
Recorded by: Department of External Affairs (II) (CA 18)

Quantity: 31 metres (Canberra)

This series was created during World War II and deals with the administrative and information gathering functions of the Department of External Affairs (II). Items generally deal with Australia’s relations with other countries, particularly in the context of the war. Among the many subjects covered are international organisations, treaties, aliens, refugees, publications, passports and landing permits, censorship, enlistment, Australian citizens stranded in occupied countries, and internal and external defence (including subversive activities and espionage).

This series contains a number of information files on various countries. Items dealing specifically with Japan cover matters such as its government, political and financial situations, foreign policy and relations with various countries, shipping and strategic maps, progress of the war, International Red Cross treaties on the treatment of POWs and the Hague Convention on hospital ships. A number of files dating from 1943–44 are concerned with waging political warfare with Japan.

Other items in the series deal with postwar international economic and industrial reconstruction, relief and rehabilitation and international relations (including Japan’s relations with Australia).

First exchange of civilians, 1942–44
Australia–Japan – first exchange of civilians, 1942–44
Australia–Japan – second exchange of civilians, 1943–44
Escape of Japanese POWS from Cowra, 1944

Escape of Japanese POWS from Cowra, 1944
This large file, which is digitised, contains reports, correspondence and newspaper articles about the Cowra Outbreak. It also contains a nominal roll of Japanese POWs who were killed trying to escape or who suicided following the outbreak. A letter from the Swiss Consul in Sydney about the outbreak and the transmission of a report to the Japanese via the Swiss Government appears on the following page.
In this letter, the Swiss Consul in Sydney advises his receipt of a letter describing the mutiny of Japanese POWs at Cowra and the subsequent inquiry, along with his proposed transmission of the report via the Swiss Government to the Japanese Government, 1944. NAA: A989, 1944/925/1/140
INVESTIGATION CASE FILES, ‘SS’ [SECURITY SERVICES] PREFIX, 1928–47
D1919
Recorded by: 1942–46 Investigation Branch, SA (CA 905)
1946 Commonwealth Investigation Service, SA (CA 914)

Quantity: 0.9 metres (Adelaide)

The series comprises correspondence files that focus on instructions and procedures for the wartime operations of the security services. It also contains some personal dossiers and information on Japan.

Pacifism and Japan, 1943
This item provides information on government manipulation of church life in Japan.

Property – POWs – repatriated to Japan, 1946
This file contains news items dated February 1946 and folios listing the property of three Japanese.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES, ‘SB’ (SHIPPING BRANCH) PREFIX, 1928–51
D1976
Recorded by: Collector of Customs, Adelaide (CA 802)

Quantity: 11 metres (Sydney); 4 metres (Adelaide)

The records in this series were created and maintained by the Shipping Branch, Collector of Customs, Port Adelaide. They relate to the administration and reporting of the movement of passengers and crew in and out of SA. They also deal with the monitoring of the national security regulations between 1939–45, matters relating to evacuees from Darwin, Japanese ships’ crew and other immigration matters.

This file documents the arrival at Port Adelaide of Japanese civilian internees from Batavia who were bound for Melbourne. There were 1,788 internees in total, with 1,109 landing in Adelaide and 679 cleared for Melbourne.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES – CLASSIFIED ‘301’ [DEFENCE], 1928–58
A816
Recorded by: 1935–39 Department of Defence (II) (CA 19)
1939–42 Department of Defence Co-ordination (CA 37)
1942–58 Department of Defence (III) (CA 46)

Quantity: 89.2 metres (Canberra)

This series contains items dealing with all security-classified matters handled by the Department of Defence, such as information gathering, policy matters, technical information on armaments and other wartime issues.
Repatriation of Japanese merchant seamen, 1943–45

This item contains correspondence between Prime Minister John Curtin and General Douglas MacArthur about the change in status of Japanese pearl-divers who were reclassified as POWs. In this correspondence Australia withdraws its objection to the inclusion of seamen in exchanges of internees.

TRANSCRIPTS OF INTERNEES' APPEALS BEFORE THE ALIENS CONTROL TRIBUNALS AND ADVISORY COMMITTEES, 1939–45

Recorded by: Security Service, NSW (CA 946)

Quantity 5.8 metres (Sydney)

The series consists of the transcripts of hearings before the aliens tribunals in which internees who believed that they had been unjustly interned were entitled to appeal. The transcripts are arranged into a single alphabetical sequence. Each internee’s objection, year number and the name of the relevant aliens tribunal (ie, No. 1, 2, 3, or 4) or committee to which they appealed is listed.

Hirokiti Nakamura (Aliens Tribunal No. 4), 1942

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE FILES [SECURITY SERVICE], ‘G’ PREFIX, 1939–45

Recorded by: Security Service, NSW (CA 946)

Quantity: 0.36 metres (Sydney)

Although there is no information about this series on RecordSearch, the agency description of the Security Service, NSW gives an indication of what the contents of this correspondence series may have been. Formed in 1941 as part of the Attorney-General’s Department, the Security Service took over national security activities previously performed by the Army and eventually was given investigative and executive powers to deal with matters such as counter-espionage and counter-sabotage, passports, the control of aliens or subversive groups, censorship, internments, releases and restrictions. The Security Service, NSW was also responsible for a District Security Office at Newcastle.

Solicitors sent to Cowra Internment Camp [etc], 1942–45

This file contains a number of reports, including ‘Solicitors sent to Cowra Internment Camp – 13 October 1942’; ‘Intelligence, POW and Internee Camps: Notes from Camp Intelligence Report Number 21’, dated 6 March 1945; and ‘Transfer of Local Italian Internees from Cowra NSW to Loveday South Australia’, dated 26 May 1943.
REPORTS ON INTERNEES AND PRISONERS–OF–WAR IN AUSTRALIAN CAMPS, ALPHABETICAL PREFIX, 1939–45  

Recorded by: Prisoners of War Information Bureau (also known as the Prisoners of War and Internees Information Bureau) (CA 3055)  

Quantity: 19.2 metres (Melbourne)  

These forms constituted the basic documents kept by authorities about each POW or internee. The forms were filled out by the POWs or internees and record personal information in great detail, along with property assessments listing all possessions and assets. This series is the richest and most complete source of personal information on Japanese internees in Australia. The ‘Report on Internee’ forms give length of residence in Australia, marital status, occupation, religion, date of birth and addresses since arrival in Australia as well as other details. The names of next of kin, including those of parents, are recorded. This series is not yet fully entered onto RecordSearch but a list of its items is available in the reading room of the National Archives’ Melbourne office.  

Asari, Masuich – Japanese internee, 1941–42 MP1103/2, QJ16004  
Fukushima, Sangoro – Japanese internee, 1941–42 MP1103/2, QF16012  
Hasimoto, Unosuke – Japanese internee, 1941–42 MP1103/2, QJ16020  

PERSONAL FILES OF PRISONERS–OF–WAR, 1939–46  

Recorded by: 1939–42 Headquarters, Eastern Command (I), AMF (CA 1876)  
1942–46 Headquarters, NSW Lines of Communications Area, AMF (CA 1877)  

Quantity: 2.16 metres (Sydney)  

This series is concerned with correspondence, signals, reports of injuries, personal details, trials, escapes, administrative and other information. Box 8 contains the files of Japanese pearlers reclassified as merchant seamen, although only the following item has been entered onto RecordSearch.  

Matsumoto Kakio, 1943 SP196/2, 489/3/1057  
In August 1943 Matsumoto Kakio wanted to send money to his wife, who was in Tatura Camp.
LOVEDAY INTERNMENT CAMP INTERNEES FILES, VARIABLE ALPHA PREFIX, 1939–47

Recorded by:
- 1939–41 Investigation Branch, SA (CA 905)
- 1941–45 Security Service, SA (CA 948)
- 1945–46 Investigation Branch, SA (CA 905)
- 1946 Commonwealth Investigation Service, SA (CA 914)

Quantity: 11 metres (Adelaide)

Items in this series document Security Service matters about individual internees at the Hay Internment Camp, including personal particulars, arrangements for appeals and release, notes of the aliens tribunals and comments about mail censorship.

As well as providing information about the running of the Hay Internment Camp, Security Service operations and the activities of the aliens tribunals from 1943 to 1947, this series is also a rich source of information about Japanese immigrants from the 1890s to 1940s.

Ahmat, Eadie, 1941–45
This item provides Eadie Ahmat’s personal history from the time of his birth in WA to his release from internment on 23 March 1945.

Ross, Arthur John McLaren – internee, 1942–44
This is the file of a half-Japanese-Malayan doctor from Queensland suspected of being an enemy agent. It includes a report of the National Security Advisory Council of South Australia, together with documents relating to Dr Ross’s release on restriction in 1944 and family photographs.

LISTS OF ALIENS, 1940–41

Recorded by: Headquarters, Eastern Command (I), AMF – Military Intelligence (CA 1876)

Quantity: 0.18 metres (Sydney)

This series consists of lists of aliens of various nationalities, including Japanese, resident in NSW, whom authorities intended to intern on the outbreak of war.

Japanese nationals departed from Eastern Command, 1940–41
This item lists merchants and company employees who left during 1940. The lists give details of occupation, length of residence and some personal histories. The file also contains copies of applications for registration as an alien, along with photographs.
APPLICATIONS BY ALIENS FOR LEAVE TO SUBMIT OBJECTIONS AGAINST DETENTION ORDER, 1940–41 MP529/8

Recorded by: Deputy Crown Solicitor’s Office, Vic (CA 889)

Quantity: 4.32 metres (Melbourne)

This series contains forms (‘Application for Leave to Submit Objections Against Detention Order’) submitted by enemy aliens under the National Security (Aliens Control) Regulations. Forms for these internees are listed by name on RecordSearch and include a number for Japanese individuals held at the Tatura Internment Camp. The forms contain details such as date and place of birth, race, religion, names of next of kin (including father, mother and children), occupation, date and method of entry into Australia, places of residence, lists of property and societies to which they belonged.

Akai, Uwao – No. 3 Internment Camp, Tatura, Vic, 1941–42 MP529/8, Akai/U

Fukishima, Shoji – Internment Camp No. 4, Tatura, Vic, 1941–42 MP529/8, Fukishima/S

SECURITY CLASSIFIED GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE [AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES], 1940–45 MP70/1

Recorded by: 1940 Headquarters, 3rd District Base, AMF (CA 1842)
1940–42 Command Headquarters, Southern Command (I), AMF (CA 1843)
1942–45 Headquarters, Victorian Lines of Communication Area, AMF (CA 1844)

Quantity: 2.5 metres (Melbourne)

This series contains weekly intelligence reports from the internment camps at Tatura, Murchison and Myrtleford in Victoria.

Intelligence reports, Murchison, 1943–44 MP70/1, 37/101/185 Murchison part 2

This file contains the weekly security reports compiled by the internment camp authorities. Commandants were required to note any suspicious events or unrest in the camps. They also recorded any statements by internees that might be of use to the intelligence services or to the determinations of the aliens tribunals in hearing cases.

Intelligence reports, Tatura, 1942–43 MP70/1, 37/101/185 Tatura part 1

The camp reports from Tatura include information about Japanese internees such as their movements inwards and outwards, relations between Japanese in the camp and many personal details and biographical sketches. This file details tensions between different Japanese groups. It also contains information on Mowsey Inagaki who taught Japanese at the University of Melbourne prior to his internment. A Customs memorandum bearing Mr Inagaki’s photograph appears on the following page.
MEMORANDUM FOR CUSTOMS OFFICERS.

The bearer of this letter, Mr. Mowsey Inagaki whose photograph is affixed, is attached to the staff of the Melbourne University as an instructor in Japanese.

He is about to pay a visit to Japan, and may be re-admitted on his return on presentation of this letter.

for Secretary.
Intelligence reports, Tatura, 1943–44
This file continues the documentation of events in the Tatura Camp. It records births, deaths, movements of internees, tensions between Japanese, celebrations, entertainments and illnesses. It contains biographical information for other Japanese similar to that found in MP70/1, 37/101/185 Tatura part 1, above. This file continues in part 4.

Intelligence reports, Tatura, 1944

CORRESPONDENCE FILES (‘121’ PRIMARY NUMBER), 1940–51
Recorded by: Prisoners of War Information Bureau (also known as the Prisoners of War and Internees Information Bureau) (CA 3055)
Quantity: 0.72 metres (Melbourne)
This series contains some files on Japanese individuals under their surnames.

Japanese internees O Nakamoto and A Goto, 1942
This item contains information about these deceased internees, both of whom were from Queensland, and lists their next of kin in Australia and Japan.

TRANSCRIPTS OF EVIDENCE [DEPUTY CROWN SOLICITOR’S OFFICE], 1941–42
Recorded by: Deputy Crown Solicitor’s Office, Vic (CA 889)
Quantity: 3.42 metres (Melbourne)
This series contains transcripts of the hearings of appeals by Japanese against their internment. These hearings provided an opportunity for Australian authorities to question Japanese in the hope of gaining intelligence information. The transcripts often contain very full accounts of the person’s life and associations and often give the names of next of kin in Japan and Australia. The following item provides an example of how a life story can be reconstructed from an internee’s file.

Transcript of evidence by Jingoro (Hariguchi) [Harikuchi], Japanese internee, Loveday, 1942
From this transcript, the life story of Jingoro can be reconstructed in part. He was born in 11 Meiji (c1877) near Kobe, Japan. He was a pearl fisherman in Japan and arrived in Darwin on 18 January 1896. He then went to Broome, WA and later to Geraldton, WA where he was growing tomatoes and peas at the time of his internment. He stated that he was too old to go back to Japan and wanted to stay in Australia.
CORRESPONDENCE RELATING TO ALIENS TRIBUNALS [DEPUTY CROWN SOLICITOR’S OFFICE], 1941–45

Recorded by: Deputy Crown Solicitor’s Office, Vic (CA 889)

Quantity: 0.72 metres (Melbourne)

Correspondence in this series is chiefly with relatives and solicitors of internees or with people intervening on their behalf.

Correspondence of aliens tribunals, 1937–41

This item contains copies of regulations issued under the National Security Act 1939, general regulations and proposed amendments, questions of procedure for members of the aliens tribunals and a copy of ‘Observations for the Guidance of Aliens Tribunals’.

Correspondence of aliens tribunals, 1942–44

This record contains discussions (dated August 1942) about the hearing of objections of Japanese internees at Hay Camp by No. 4 Tribunal, Victoria. It also contains lists of Japanese who were refused leave to appeal.

SUBJECT FILES RELATING TO THE ADMINISTRATION OF POWS AND INTERNEES, 1941–47

Recorded by: 1941–42 Headquarters, Eastern Command (I), AMF (CA 1876)
1942–46 Headquarters, NSW Lines of Communication Area, AMF (CA 1877)
1946–47 Headquarters, Eastern Command (II), AMF (CA 1878)

Quantity: 3.2 metres (Sydney)

The files in this series relate to the administration of POWs, internees and internment camps. In relation to the Japanese, it includes the detention of Japanese in 1941, the reclassification of resident Japanese seamen as POWs, the outbreak of Japanese POWs at Cowra and the repatriation of Japanese after the war.

Japanese – Cowra trials [Military Court trial of PWJA 145648 – Yoshida, Hiroshi, 12 POW Camp, Cowra], 1944–45

Tsurutani, Manshiro [files of deceased Chinese, Japanese and Italian prisoners-of-war], 1944–45

SECRET CORRESPONDENCE FILES [PRISONERS–OF–WAR], 1941–48

Recorded by: Prisoners of War Information Bureau (also known as the Prisoners of War and Internees Information Bureau) (CA 3055)

Quantity: 0.54 metres (Melbourne)

This series contains items relating to the movement of internees and control of their personal effects.
Identification numbers allotted to Japanese internees, 1941
The system of numbering for identification of internees is explained in this file.

Movement of Finnish and Japanese internees from Broadmeadows to Tatura, 1941

Japanese internees – transfers to permanent camps, 1942

Transfer of Japanese internees [Hay to Loveday] and Japanese merchant seamen [Loveday to Hay], 1943
This item contains a list of the names of Japanese seamen, mostly pearl-divers, who were reclassified from civilian internee to POW status. It also documents their transfer to POW camps.

Reference is made to the Cowra Outbreak in this file.

Movement control order [Murchison to Wallangara] and Germans and a Japanese [Rushworth to Royal Park], 1946–48

Recorded by: Security Service, SA (CA 948)
Quantity: 0.72 metres (Adelaide)
The series contains the nominal rolls of internees, including Japanese, held in the Loveday internment camps (a series of camps located in the Riverland District, SA) in 1943 along with movement orders, censorship extracts and POW correspondence.

Nominal roll – Japanese and Javanese, 1943

SECURITY CLASSIFIED GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE, 1942–46
Recorded by: 1942 Headquarters, 4 Military District (II), AMF (CA 3210)
1942–46 Headquarters, South Australian Lines of Communication Area, AMF (CA 3211)
1946 Headquarters, 4 Military District (III), AMF (CA 3212)
Quantity: 2.7 metres (Adelaide)
Items in this series deal with internees for repatriation (1942–43) and the transfer of seamen to Hay (1943–45).

Japanese internees for repatriation – includes diary kept by Japanese internee (with English translation), 1942–43
This file relates to the first exchange of civilian internees with Japan in 1942. It contains reports and movement
orders for the transfer of approximately 520 Japanese internees to Port Melbourne from Barmera on 15 August 1942. A list of internees’ names is held in the file.

**CORRESPONDENCE FILES [DEPUTY CROWN SOLICITOR], ‘AP’ PREFIX, 1942–69**

Recorded by: Deputy Crown Solicitor, Adelaide (by 1964, Deputy Crown Solicitor, SA) (CA 887)

Quantity: 9.5 metres (Adelaide)

This series contains property files regarding legal matters in which the Australian Government was concerned.

**Transfer of property of former German and Japanese consular [disposal of documents and articles], 1946**

This item authorises the transfer of consular archives and furniture from the German and Japanese consulates to the Department of Works.

**Australian experiences of the enemy**

**NAVAL HISTORICAL FILES, ALPHA PREFIXES, 1875–**

Recorded by: 1943–59 Navy Office (IV), Department of the Navy (II) (CA 38)

1959–79 Navy Office, Melbourne (CA 2615)

1979– Department of Defence (III) (CA 46)

Quantity: 24 metres (Melbourne)

This series was established in 1943 by the Historical Section of the Navy Office to provide source material for the *Official Naval History of World War II*. The Historical Section collected, examined, arranged and indexed primary source material from ships, shore establishments and overseas relating to naval aspects of the war for use by the Official Naval Historian, G H Gill. Most material was compiled before 1950, but other relevant material was subsequently added by the Historical Section for its own reference purposes. The series has now evolved into a reference collection for the purpose of answering both internal and external inquiries.

The series contains a diverse range of material relating to the Navy. In addition to original research carried out by members of the Historical Section, it also contains material accumulated by other sections of the Navy Office and forwarded to the Historical Section for retention during culling activities. Most files relate to World War II, but a proportion deal with earlier and later periods of naval history.
Cousens, Major C H (AIF) and others – Japanese propaganda broadcasts, World War II, 1942–45
This file deals with the case of Major Charles Cousens, an Australian POW in Japanese hands, who was forced to broadcast radio programs aimed at demoralising Allied troops. These documents provide further information about the broadcasts and the circumstances surrounding Major Cousens’ case.

CONSULAR INVESTIGATION FILES, ALPHA-NUMERIC SERIES, 1897–1946
Recorded by: Investigation Branch, NSW – Security Section (CA 904)
Quantity: 2 metres (Sydney); smaller quantities in Canberra and Darwin offices

The files in this series, many of which were seized during World War II, contain correspondence between the Japanese consulates in Melbourne and Sydney and a variety of individuals and organisations throughout Australia. Correspondents include the Japan–Australia Society, the Yampi Sound [mining] Company, the Nationalist Socialist Party of Australia and the Sydney Morning Herald and many other newspapers.

Correspondence files for prominent Japanese – including Mr T Kawai, Mr Ichikawa and Major Hashida – are held in this series. Some well-known Australians are represented, eg author Xavier Herbert.

These files, recovered by the Security Section of the Investigation Branch, NSW, represent the remnants of Japanese consular correspondence, much of which is believed to have been destroyed in the days before the attack on Pearl Harbour. A list of ‘missing’ files is included in this series.

Japanese Consulate material, 1935–46
This items lists the names of Japanese who left the Commonwealth in August 1941. It includes correspondence with the Australian Government about wool and trade changes resulting from the outbreak of war in 1939.

Mowsey Inagali [Inagaki] [of the University of Melbourne] – letters to Japanese Consul-General in Australia, 1938

Examination of Japanese Consulate records, reports and instructions, c1942–46
CORRESPONDENCE FILES [TERRITORIES], ALPHA PREFIX, 1899–1983

Recorded by: 1928–41 Territories Branch, Prime Minister’s Department (CA 822)
1941–51 Department of External Territories (I) (CA 42)
1951–56 Department of Territories (I) (CA 60)

Quantity: 241.5 metres (Canberra)

This series, which holds material dating back to 1899, deals with the administration of external territories, including New Guinea, Papua, Nauru, Norfolk Island and New Ireland. Some aspects of the administration of the Northern Territory are also dealt with, eg prisons and prisoners and the employment of government officers. Other subjects dealt with in this series include agriculture, forestry, fishing, Customs and tariffs, trade, land and property (including expropriated property), education, public works, communications, posts and telegraphs, anthropology, archaeology, vulcanology, finance, defence and security, Japanese attack and postwar reconstruction.


This large file mostly consists of press cuttings about the attacks on New Guinea and Japanese progress in the war. It provides an interesting picture of Australian press reporting of the war in Australia’s near north.

Darwin Post Office, destroyed in the first Japanese air raid on Australian territory (19 February 1942). This photograph was taken c1958. In 1980 the NT Legislative Assembly and other buildings were constructed on the site. NAA: A1200, L19419
CORRESPONDENCE FILES, ‘BL’ (BRISBANE LEGAL) PREFIX, 1903–85 J1889
Recorded by:  Deputy Crown Solicitor, Brisbane (CA 886)

Quantity:  49.3 metres (Brisbane)

Although this series mainly contains general correspondence files related to various legal matters, it also contains records of the Commission of Inquiry into Japanese Atrocities (1943–44). Led by Sir William Webb, Chief Justice for Queensland, the inquiry dealt with alleged atrocities committed by the Japanese in New Guinea against Australian missionaries and expatriate workers and members of the Australian, British and United States military forces.

Depositions regarding Japanese atrocities, 1943 J1889, BL43895/13
This file, which is digitised, deals with the trials of Indigenous New Guineans accused of treason. They were alleged to have handed over a group of American and Australian armed service personnel and civilians to the Japanese, who then executed their captives.

CORRESPONDENCE ON COMMON LAW MATTERS, ‘SL’ PREFIX, 1908–49 SP185/1
Recorded by:  Crown Solicitor’s Office (from 1918, Deputy Crown Solicitor), NSW (CA 884)

Quantity:  133 metres (Sydney)

This series contains records dealing with all matters covered by the Crown Solicitor’s Office other than property dealings. The files normally deal with court cases in which the Deputy Crown Solicitor appeared on behalf of the Crown. However some items deal with other material, eg POWs, Compensation Committee matters and records and the Gordon Bennett inquiry.

Major Charles Hughes Cousens – opinion of the Director of Legal Services (extracts), 1942–46 SP185/1, 42044 part 5
This file has details about Major Cousens and his case not found in other files, including material about his career and a summary of his activities. It states Major Cousens’ side of the case and the information he was told to broadcast by the Japanese. It also presents the case against him for treason. It includes statements by Baron Takasaki, Kennosake Sato, Private E Shimada (Japanese Army) and Lieutenant-Colonel J M Prentice, along with letters written by Lieutenant-Colonel Ramsey and Major Charles Cousens.
SECRET CORRESPONDENCE FILES, 1912–45

Recorded by: 1936–39 Department of Defence (II) (CA 19)
1939–45 Department of the Army (CA 36)

Quantity: 30 metres (Melbourne)

Please see series description on p. 153.

Subversive activity, 1941–42

This item contains complaints about rumour-mongering in Townsville, Qld, leading to information leaks to the Japanese in March 1942. Announcements were heard over Tokyo radio about troop movements in Townsville. The item also includes two graphs (‘Graph illustrating the International Communist Organisation operating within Australia’ and ‘German organisations throughout N. S. Wales’).

Political warfare against Japan, 1942

This item contains a discussion about the aims of political warfare and demonstrates Australian beliefs about the psychology and religion of the Japanese, including Emperor worship.

CORRESPONDENCE – GENERAL AND NAVAL PERSONNEL MATTERS
(‘201’ SERIES), c1913–50

Recorded by: 1923–39 Navy Office (III), Department of Defence (II) (CA 2456)
1939–50 Navy Office (IV), Department of the Navy (II) (CA 38)

Quantity: 50 metres (Melbourne)

The series consists of files containing correspondence papers and reports relating to the personnel matters for ratings and officers of the Royal Australian Navy (RAN). The contents of the files include correspondence relating to discharges, re-engagements and suitability for promotion, medal awards, medical history and other career matters.

SS Nankin – advice of RAN crew members taken POW and held in Japan – transcripts of messages received, 1942–45

This item contains letters and cables to relatives about missing soldiers. The file also contains some radio messages from them to their relatives.
GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE FILES [NAVY OFFICE] (‘201’ SERIES), 1918–63

Recorded by: 1923–39 Navy Office (III), Department of Defence (II)
(CA 2456)
1939–50 Navy Office (IV), Department of the Navy (II)
(CA 38)

Quantity: 107.5 metres (Melbourne)

This series deals both with standard administrative subjects (eg finance and personnel matters) and with subjects that were uniquely the responsibility of the Navy (eg ships’ logs and books, torpedoes and merchant ships). During the war files on other subjects, such as rationing and volunteers, were created. In addition several items in the series deal with Japanese matters, such as the capture and execution of Reverend Kentish by the Japanese, wartime awards and general military matters.

Reverend L N Kentish, Methodist missionary – captured and killed by Japanese, 1943–47

Reverend Kentish was stationed on Goulburn Island as a coastwatcher. He visited Yirrkala in January 1945 and was on HMAS Patricia Cam when it was bombed near Wessell Island. He was rescued by a Japanese floatplane and taken to a camp in the Netherlands East Indies. This item records attempts to locate him.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES [EXTERNAL AFFAIRS], YEAR AND LETTER PREFIXES, 1919–65

Recorded by: Department of External Affairs (II) (CA 18)

Quantity: 32 metres (Canberra)

Please see series description on p. 156.

Minister’s advisory committee on welfare of POWs and internees in Japanese hands, 1944

Political warfare against Japan – review of activities by Rt Hon Dr Evatt (Minister for External Affairs), 1945

Japanese postscript – propaganda broadcasts from ABC shortwave, 1943

This item contains the scripts for an ABC broadcast in Japan by shortwave from Melbourne on 24 December 1943 for the benefit of Japanese soldiers and civilians.
SECRET AND CONFIDENTIAL CORRESPONDENCE FILES [NAVY OFFICE], 1920-50

MP1185/8

Recorded by: 1922–39 Navy Office (III), Department of Defence (II) (CA 2456)
1939–50 Navy Office (IV), Department of the Navy (II) (CA 38)

Quantity: 5 metres (Melbourne)

This series contains correspondence files, some of which were classified as ‘Secret and Confidential’ by the Navy Office. Items are arranged by the allocation of numbers to primary subject classes in alphabetical order, starting with the number ‘1802/’. Topics covered in the series include air raid precautions, casualties, censorship, chemical warfare, coastwatching, courts martial, defences, diseases, expeditionary forces, foreign matters, guns, harbours, inventions, mines, naval aviation, operations, plans, prisoners, publicity and propaganda, reports, research and development, signalling, statistics, shipping, cyclones and wireless operations.

Japanese plan for the invasion of Australia, 1942–45

MP1185/8, 1945/2/9

This item contains a sketch of a plan of attack formulated at Japanese General Headquarters, a three-page intelligence report and a captured map.

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE AND ARMY AND CIVILIAN PERSONNEL FILES, 1920–56

MP742/1

Recorded by: Department of the Army (CA 36)

Quantity: 177 metres (Melbourne); smaller quantities in Canberra and Darwin offices

Please see series description on p. 157.

Conditions of Australian POWs in Japanese hands – Mr Justice O’Bryan’s report, 1942–43

MP742/1, 255/1/101

The correspondence, cables and reports in this record show that the International Red Cross doubted the authenticity of reports being received on the condition of POWs in Japanese hands.

Missionaries and [other] civilians rescued from Japanese, 1944

MP742/1, 98/1/125

This file contains reports by civilians of events in Aitape, Madang, Alexishafen, Sepik River and Amele, which were occupied by the Japanese.

Japanese language school, 1944–45

MP742/1, 323/1/1349

This record concerns the establishment of a school for training linguists at Sydney University.

Personnel for Japanese language classes, Melbourne, 1945

MP742/1, 323/1/1164
Cousens, Major – re. broadcasting (Japan), 1945–46
This file concerns the arrest of Major Charles Cousens, who made radio broadcasts for the Japanese after being taken prisoner at the fall of Singapore. Cousens did not deny he had made the broadcasts but said he had done so under duress. He was court-martialled after the war, but not convicted.

Australian POWs – Far East – Japanese camp reports (Ohama POW Camp), 1945–46
This is a report on Ohama Camp from 27 November 1942 to 8 September 1944, which was based on reports kept by officers in the camp on its topography, buildings, living quarters, heating, lighting, latrines, vermin, deaths (including from disease), departures, type and conditions of work, medical supplies, reports on diseases suffered, food and cooking, lists of medical supplies and detailed information on the health of 247 men.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES [SECURITY AND INTELLIGENCE], 1923–56
Recorded by: 1941–45 Security Service, Canberra (CA 660)
1945–46 Investigation Branch, Melbourne and Canberra (CA 747)
1946–48 Commonwealth Investigation Service (CA 650)
Quantity: 7.38 metres (Canberra)
A number of items in this series concern Japan and Japanese resident in Australia. Matters dealt with in these items include national security regulations; trade with Japan; Japanese foreign policy, pamphlets and propaganda; Japanese internees; and Japanese activities among Indigenous Australians and on Thursday Island.

Japanese radio propaganda to Australia, 1943–45
This item contains memoranda from the AMF concerning messages being received from POWs by civilians in Australia. Some messages mentioned manpower shortages in Australia and other information.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES [EXTERNAL AFFAIRS], 1927–45
Recorded by: Department of External Affairs (II) (CA 18)
Quantity: 31 metres (Canberra)
Please see series description on p. 160.

Stranded Australian – V O W Peters – interned in Japan, 1942–43
Prisoners-of-war – reports on Japanese camps, 1943–44
Treaties – Red Cross – prisoners-of-war – reports on Japanese camps, 1944
RADIO ARCHIVES MASTER AUDIO TAPES [BY SUBJECT], 1933–71

Recorded by: Australian Broadcasting Commission (CA 251)

Quantity: 47.5 metres (Sydney)

This series contains master and working copies in tape form of gramophone discs from the ABC’s Sound Library. The discs are spoken word recordings that cover a wide variety of subjects, including the various theatres of conflict during World War II and personal recollections of the war.

Damien Parer – AIF photographer – interviewed by Chester Wilmot, 1943

Damien Parer, the official movie photographer of the Australian Imperial Force (AIF), was interviewed about his experiences of the Kokoda Trail.

[SECURITY SERVICE] EXTRACTS OF CORRESPONDENCE TO AND FROM THE JAPANESE CONSULATE, 1934–46

Recorded by: Investigation Branch, NSW (CA 904)
Commonwealth Investigation Service, NSW – Security Section (CA 912)

Quantity: 0.18 metres (Sydney)

This series consists of translations of Japanese Consulate correspondence, which were copied in 1946 from consular records.

Sir John Latham – correspondence to and from the Japanese Consulate, 1935–40

Y Suma, 1940

CORRESPONDENCE FILES [CLASS ‘501’] [501–539 – CLASSIFIED], 1935–60

Recorded by: 1935–39 Department of Defence, Air Services Branch (CA 778)
1939–56 Department of Air (CA 35)

Quantity: 45 metres (Canberra)

This series consists of secret and confidential files relating to the administration of the Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF) during World War II and in the immediate postwar period.

RAAF representation at the surrender, 1945

Arrangements for acceptance of the surrender of Japanese forces in Australian areas of responsibility, 1945

Surrender – Japanese forces, 1945

This item contains material on the surrender of Japanese forces on Timor.
MISCELLANEOUS CORRESPONDENCE RELATING TO JAPANESE AND GERMAN CONSULATE RECORDS, 1936–47  
Recorded by: Investigation Branch, NSW (CA 904)  
Commonwealth Investigation Service, NSW – Security Section (CA 912)  
Quantity: 0.36 metres (Sydney)  
This series consists of correspondence dealing with the Japanese and German consulates and is arranged by subject. Most of its items relate to the financial working of various companies.

Documents and miscellaneous papers from Japanese consular files [extract], 1935–47 C447, 7
Examination of German consulate material – catalogue, c1930–37 C447, 9

AUSTRALIAN BROADCASTING COMMISSION TALK SCRIPTS – GENERAL, 1937–50  
Recorded by: Australian Broadcasting Commission (CA 251)  
Quantity: 7 metres (Sydney)  
This series contains a large collection of talk scripts for radio programs by the ABC’s Talks Department, which began operations in 1934. The talks cover a wide variety of issues but many on Japan and the war in the Pacific were broadcast after 1941. Talks on Japan include ‘Women in Japanese life’, ‘Are the Japanese cruel?’ and ‘Are the Japanese different?’. These particular talks and a number of others were broadcast by Dr Kurt Singer in 1943. To find them on RecordSearch, use a keyword search (eg, ‘Dr Kurt Singer’ or ‘Japanese’).

Talks by Dr Kurt Singer – ‘Political aspects of Japanese nurseries and schools’, 1943 SP300/1, box 18

SECRET CORRESPONDENCE FILES [ARMY], 1937–60  
Recorded by: Department of the Army (CA 36)  
Quantity: 17 metres (Melbourne)  
This series comprises secret correspondence files maintained by Army Headquarters from 1945 to 1955. Items in this series relate to allowances, staff appointments, visits by senior staff, committees, personnel, establishment, orders of battle, corps movement overseas, media relations and equipment maintenance.

Publications of stories relating to Japanese cannibalism, 1945 MP729/8, 43/431/6  
This file contains discussion, opinion and advice about stories of cannibalism and other atrocities committed by the Japanese. The stories had been wired from the US to Australian newspapers. Newspaper clippings

**Publicity concerning Japanese treatment of POWs, 1945**  
This item contains cablegrams from the Department of External Affairs to the High Commissioner in London stating that only irrefutable allegations of cruelty should be exploited and contrasted with the treatment of Japanese POWs by the Allies. However, later cablegrams show a decision was taken not to publicise the information because of the distress it might cause the relatives of POWs and the risk of irritating the Japanese into further ill-treatment of their captives.

**Operations of Japanese during air raids on [Darwin] – reports, 1942–49**  
This item contains inquiries into the attacks on Darwin and damage reports. The reports were written by the Administrator of the Northern Territory, Mr Abbott, and Mr Justice Lowe.

**CORRESPONDENCE FILES [POSTMASTER-GENERAL’S DEPARTMENT, ‘W’ (WAR) PREFIX, 1938–50**  
Recorded by: Postmaster-General’s Department (CA 9)

Quantity: 44 metres (Melbourne)

This series contains files recording all activities of the Postmaster-General’s Department arising specifically from the World War II. These include correspondence with the Department of Defence relating to general war preparations, censorship, control of radio services, manpower matters, emergency telephone and telegraph arrangements, POW mails and military post offices. Most of these files contain papers that were classified ‘Secret’ or ‘Confidential’. The largest proportion of the files relates to the supply, testing and installation of equipment and facilities for the armed services.

**Shortwave broadcasts from Australia to Japan and Japanese-occupied territory, 1943–46**  
This items also contains a map of the Far East, Australia and the Pacific showing night signal strengths. It contains correspondence about an investigation by the US Department of War Information into the possibility of basing war propaganda in Australia.
UNNUMBERED FILES OF THE POLITICAL WARFARE DIVISION, 1939–45

Recorded by: Political Warfare Division, Department of External Affairs (II) (CA 8344)

Quantity: 0.72 metres (Canberra)

This series contains extracts from files held in the ‘Cumpston’ Collection. Between 1960 and 1969 Dr J S Cumpston, then historian of the Department of External Affairs, collected a large amount of material concerning Australian foreign policy. The material includes personnel files, ministerial correspondence, policy files, reports of official and unofficial British propaganda and wartime intelligence from the Far Eastern Bureau in New Delhi.

Political warfare against Japan, ‘Second Report on Australian Activities’, 1945

Annexures to this 1945 report contain material on the nature and purpose of Australia’s political warfare and the evidence of Japanese reaction to propaganda. This file also contains some sample leaflets dropped in New Guinea and material about the surrender campaign undertaken by the Australian Government at the end of the war.

SECRET POLICY FILES REGARDING PROGRAMMING AND TRANSMISSION, 1939–47

Recorded by: Shortwave Division, Department of Information (from 1945, Radio Australia) (CA 744)

Quantity: 1.08 metres (Melbourne)

This series contains files dealing with programming and transmission policy. They were rated ‘Secret’ because of the sensitive nature of their contents during wartime. Material in the series includes censorship instructions and reports; correspondence about political warfare, propaganda and Japan’s role in the war; internal administrative arrangements; minutes of meetings about broadcast content, language, phraseology and structure; account statements; copies of recommendations regarding Japanese war crimes and atrocities; information about major Japanese war criminals and those holding key positions; news service material; transcripts of wartime broadcasts of the radio program, The Truth As It Is; and reports on transmission services to various countries.

Treatment of prisoners in Japanese hands, 1943–44

Material in this file deals with the handling of stories about atrocities committed by the Japanese and provides instructions for broadcasting overseas (January 1944). This file also contains cablegrams sent.
between London, Melbourne and Canberra about the atrocities and Japanese reactions to the allegations.

**NAVY SERIES, 1939–50**

**Recorded by:** 1939 Navy Office (III), Department of Defence (II) (CA 2456)

1939–50 Navy Office (IV), Department of the Navy (II) (CA 38)

**Quantity:** 118 metres (Melbourne)

This series contains general correspondence files covering a variety of topics, some of which were routine in nature.

Whaling factory ships used by Japanese [letter from Mr Fred Aldrich], 1942 MP150/1, 449/201/1063

This file contains a letter expressing the belief that the midget submarines involved in the attacks on Sydney Harbour were brought to Australia on whaling factory ships.

**GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE FILES – OVERSEAS BROADCASTS, 1940–45**

**Recorded by:** Shortwave Division, Department of Information (from 1945, Radio Australia) (CA 744)

**Quantity:** 0.18 metres (Melbourne)

Items in this series are concerned with policy matters relating to broadcasting and relations with overseas broadcasting organisations. When the Department of Information was abolished in 1950, each section (such as the Shortwave Division, or Radio Australia as it later became) removed the files they required or had retained in the course of their business. Some files went to the Australian War Memorial, while others were taken over by the ABC.

Special broadcast exchanges between Australia and Japan, 1940–42 MP272/2, 31/8/12

Broadcasts to Japan from Australia began in 1939. Material in this file shows the development of these broadcasts and discussions about how the Japanese would receive them because of the ban on shortwave radios in that country. Dissemination of Australian broadcasts through the press is discussed.
WAR CORRESPONDENTS' TALK SCRIPTS, GENERAL WARTIME SCRIPTS AND RELATED CORRESPONDENCE, 1940–47

Recorded by: Australian Broadcasting Commission (CA 251)

Quantity: 2.5 metres (Sydney)

This series contains the scripts of talks recorded in the field by various ABC war correspondents and regular wartime programs. They document the progress of the war in all operational areas. Many Australian servicemen and women are interviewed, providing information about Australians' experience of war against the Japanese. Correspondents include Talbot Duckmanton, Richard Hughes, John Hinde and many others.

[Radio talk presented by ABC war correspondent] ‘First Japanese prisoner taken on Australian territory’ 1942

This interview was recorded in Darwin and received in Melbourne on 12 March 1942. In it ABC correspondent Peter Hemery talks to a military spokesman about the capture of the first Japanese prisoner taken on Australian territory, a Japanese pilot shot down in New Guinea.

HISTORICAL DOCUMENTS – WORLD WAR II – RAAF SERIES I, 1940–

Recorded by: 1940–42 Department of Air (CA 35)
1942– Department of Defence (III) (CA 46)

Quantity: 1.26 metres (Canberra)

This series consists of historically significant records created during World War II. These records deal with various RAAF matters, including regulations; Japanese air raids in Australia, Papua New Guinea and the Netherlands East Indies; the Air Training Corps; aircraft and airfields; RAAF units; non-flying units; radar flight sectors; guided missiles; movements; meteorological services; and interviews, letters and writings related to the war.

Japanese raids – Darwin, 1942

RAAF – reports of operations – Japanese bombs, Turnbull Strip, Papua, 1943

REPORTS OF PRISONERS-OF-WAR FROM CONTACT AND INQUIRY UNITS, 1944–45

Recorded by: Navy Office (IV), Department of the Navy (II) (CA 38)

Quantity: 0.18 metres (Canberra)

This series contains reports from POW recovery teams in various parts of South–East Asia and Japan, with statements from POWs on their treatment and/or circumstances of capture. While the series is concerned with RAN personnel, it includes the names of one or two
Army personnel. There is a nominal roll containing the names of every RAN officer and rating held prisoner in Java, Sumatra and Malaya, with information known as of 1945. The series also includes a list of known survivors from the sinking of HMAS Perth, along with narratives about the loss of HMAS Yarra, HMS Anking and HM Tanker Francol. One record is a detailed report of conditions on the Japanese island of Kyushu, based on the impressions of a member of a recovery team that landed there ahead of the Allied occupation forces.

Recovery of Australian personnel from the Japanese – correspondence with Naval Intelligence Directorate, 1945 A7112, 6

JAPANESE ATROCITIES DURING WORLD WAR II, 1944–45 B4972
Recorded by: Department of the Army – Directorate of Public Relations (CA 36)

Quantity: 0.18 metres (Melbourne)

This series consists of a single file containing copies of correspondence related to alleged Japanese atrocities in New Guinea during the latter part of World War II. Some papers appear to be copies of stories written by war correspondents.

Correspondence in relation to, and accounts of, Japanese atrocities, 1944–45 B4972, box 1

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE, DEWEY DECIMAL SYSTEM, 1945–46 SP109/3
Recorded by: Department of Information (CA 34)

Quantity: 8.5 metres (Canberra)

This series contains general correspondence records created by the Department of Information. Subjects dealt with include censorship, publicity, rehabilitation, exhibitions, shortwave and photographs.


Military secret operations in Japanese-occupied territory, 1943 SP109/3, 308/54

[Japanese attacks on Australian territory], 1945–46 SP109/3, 389/05

CONSOLIDATED NAME INDEX TO AUSTRALIAN AND ALLIED LISTS OF WAR CRIMINAL SUSPECTS, c1945–50 MP1395/2
Recorded by: Department of Defence (III), Directorate of Prisoners of War and Internees (CA 46)

Quantity: 1.08 metres (Melbourne)

This series consists of an index showing the names of suspected war criminals either sought or in custody. The index sources appear to be various listings issued
by the investigating authorities, including the AMF, the United Nations War Crimes Commission and the Far Eastern and Pacific Sub-Commission. The index usually provides the individual’s name (or nickname), nationality and/or rank, and a reference to the source of the listing. Nationalities in the list are mainly Japanese, but Germans, Indians and Koreans are also included.

Strip index of prisoners-of-war and internees – Aaki to Anagaki, 1945–47

Strip index of prisoners-of-war and internees – Hirata, Sasao to Hosaka, Shinkichi, 1945–47

PERSONAL DOSSIERS OF JAPANESE WAR CRIMINALS, 1946–53
Recorded by: Navy Office (IV), Department of the Navy (II) (CA 38)

Quantity: 0.54 metres (Melbourne)

This series contains the personal dossiers of Japanese prisoners suspected of being war criminals. Each folder gives a name, occupation, place and date of conviction, length of sentence and date of release. Other details include a warrant of commitment to the War Criminals Compound (WCC), fingerprint record and personal details (eg physical appearance, marital status, next of kin and details of the offence). The front covers of the dossiers provide either the date of repatriation to Japan or date of death.

Takino, Motoi, No. 250/836, 1946–51

Yanagawa, Eutane, 1946–52

RADIO ARCHIVES LIBRARY TAPES [ABC], 1946–
Recorded by: 1973–83 Australian Broadcasting Commission (CA 251)
1983– Australian Broadcasting Corporation (CA 6879)

Quantity: 686.5 metres (Sydney)

This series consists of master tapes permanently retained by the Radio Archives of the ABC because they are considered to have historic or artistic value.

An interview with Snow Peat by Tim Bowden, 26 November 1982

Snow Peat recounts the story of his early life and enlistment. He was captured in Singapore when it fell to the Japanese in 1942. He speaks of the harsh conditions endured by POWs and others forced to build a railway bridge for the Japanese.
POW – Australians under Nippon, part 1, 1983
This item contains interviews with former POWs on uncut tapes from the series Australians under Nippon. The material was broadcast on ABC Radio National and later appeared in print. Each interview gives biographical details of the interviewee and information about their capture and internment by the Japanese, life in prison camp and the treatment they received at the hands of the Japanese.

Wilma Young (nee Oram) interviewed by Margaret Evans, 20 January 1983
Wilma Young speaks of her training as a nurse and her enlistment when France fell. This is the story of the shipwreck and capture of Australian nurses after the fall of Singapore.
7. TOWARDS PEACE

This chapter lists National Archives’ series that document in great detail the period from the dropping of the atomic bomb on Hiroshima on 6 August 1945 to the signing of the Japanese Peace Treaty in 1952, from the Australian point of view. Only a small selection of the thousands of available items can be included in this section. Researchers should explore each series further by undertaking item level searches using RecordSearch. Search strategies are included with some series.

The list of series and items tell a story in themselves. Immediately after the dropping of the atomic bomb on Hiroshima, items record the scientific study of its effects. At the same time preparations were made in Australia for the deportation of all Japanese residents who had been interned, regardless of their length of residence in Australia. Files record their struggle to stay in Australia, but very few were granted permission to do so.

Major issues confronted the Allies after the surrender of Japan. Series document the many missions to Japan to investigate conditions and to decide the question of reparations to the Allies. The development of Australian policy towards Japan also dominates the files. Missions of scientists, astronomers, industrialists, technical experts and chemists were sent to Japan to investigate and report. The Allies were divided on the degree of reparations Japan should pay. Demonstrated in the records is the concern that maintaining a viable industrial and economic life was paramount if Japan were to become a stable society and economy.

The democratisation of Japan and the development of its constitution is also evident in series held by the National Archives. Japanese reconstruction involved not only economic and political measures, but changes to education, industry, business, agriculture, taxation and currency. Land reform and the break up of the powerful *zaibatsu* that controlled Japanese business and industry are also dealt with in many files.

The process of reconstruction is also documented. Files generated by bodies such as the Allied Council for Japan and the Inter-Allied Trade Board for Japan are represented.

Files created by the British Commonwealth Occupation Force (BCOF), of which Australia was a member, are comprehensive and record the service of Australian defence force personnel in the occupation of Japan from 1946. These files not only contain information on establishment matters and the work of the Allied Translator and Interpreter Service (ATIS), but they also deal with questions of fraternisation, venereal disease and intermarriage with Japanese. Controversy arose over the welfare of the troops, prompting official visits by chaplains, ministers of State and other individuals and organisations to inspect the BCOF contingent.

As the work of reconstruction progressed, the question of the re-entry of civilians to Japan was raised. Businessmen, missionaries and welfare workers wished to travel once again to Japan. The progress of Japan was reported in the press and many radio broadcasts and films were made to inform the Australian public about developments.
The aftermath of war

**GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE AND ARMY AND CIVILIAN PERSONNEL FILES, 1920–56**

Recorded by: Department of the Army (CA 36)

Quantity: 177 metres (Melbourne); smaller quantities in Canberra and Darwin offices

This series consists of three distinct groups of records relating to the administration of the Australian Military Forces (AMF) from 1943 to 1951. These are general correspondence files, civil staff correspondence files and Army personnel files.

Records in this series cover a broad range of subjects, including administration, air raid precautions, the Army Medical and Dental Corps, discharges and discipline, equipment, foreigners, intelligence, postings and Japanese war crimes trials (see records MP742/1, 326/1/49 to MP742/1, 336/1/2196). Some records deal with the study of the Japanese language by the members of the armed forces while others relate to the BCOF.

**Repatriation of Japanese, 1945–46**

This record contains an AMF minute paper estimating the number of Japanese to be repatriated from Australia as 2 600 internees.

**CORRESPONDENCE FILES, CLASS 6 (ALIENS REGISTRATION), 1923–57**

Recorded by: Department of Immigration (CA 51)

Quantity: 2.16 metres (Canberra)

This series contains correspondence, decisions, policy reports and newspaper cuttings about internees and prisoners-of-war (POWs).

**Japanese internees: (a) release in Australia (b) deportation – part 1, 1945–47**

The item, which is digitised, details the history of Japanese who were targeted for deportation from Australia but who wanted to stay here. These people included Japanese who had arrived before Federation and those born in Australia. The item contains extensive lists of Japanese with different combinations of intermarriage with Australians or with members of other ethnic groups. It also contains discussions of policy in relation to whether these people have ‘renounced’ their Australian birthright by their actions.
SECRET CORRESPONDENCE FILES [ARMY], 1937–60
Recorded by: Department of the Army (CA 36)

Quantity: 17 metres (Melbourne)

This series comprises secret correspondence files maintained by Army Headquarters from 1945 to 1955. Items in this series relate to allowances, staff appointments, visits by senior staff, committees, personnel, establishment, orders of battle, corps movement overseas, media relations and equipment maintenance.

Australian scientific mission to Japan – atomic bomb – press translation of Japanese newspaper reports on bomb damage, 1945–46
This file contains reports of people who were in Hiroshima when the bomb was dropped there. It also includes newspaper reports such as ‘Reparations from Japan: New fields open for scientific work’ (The Age, 2 March 1946).

CORRESPONDENCE FILES [EXTERNAL AFFAIRS], YEAR AND LETTER PREFIXES, 1942–53
Recorded by: Department of External Affairs (II) (CA 18)

Quantity: 29 metres (Canberra)

This was the main general correspondence file series of the Department of External Affairs in 1946. This department was responsible for all Australian relations with overseas governments (including inter-imperial relations), the protection of Australian interests and nationals abroad, all questions relating to treaties and international agreements, the status of aliens, immigration, emigration and economic relations. It was responsible for all Australian permanent missions abroad, except the High Commissioner in London, and all foreign diplomatic missions and consulates in Australia.

A large part of the department’s work involved international conferences and Australian policy towards a large number of international organisations. Among the organisations on which Australia was represented were the United Nations (UN) War Crimes Commission, the International Military Tribunal, the UN Committee on Refugees, the Far Eastern Commission (FEC) and the Allied Council in Japan.

Japan – information and intelligence, 1939–45
This item contains newspaper cuttings and statements about the effects of the dropping of the atomic bomb on Hiroshima, eg ‘Australian Scientific Mission – atomic bomb – press translations of Japanese newspaper
reports on result of and scientific reports and comments on bomb damage’ (1946).

Internees in Australia – Japanese inquiry on behalf of M Bunzi, repatriate, wishing to return to Australia, 1946

Files on other individuals can be found by searching on RecordSearch using ‘IC46/1/7/*’.

Issues of reparation and reconstruction

CORRESPONDENCE FILES [PRIME MINISTER’S DEPARTMENT], 1900–56

Recorded by: Prime Minister’s Department (CA 12)

Quantity: 49 metres (Canberra)

Subjects covered in this series include trade, World War II and international relations. A number of files deal with Japanese matters, including imports, pearling, ‘most favoured nation’ status, the rearmament of Japan, atomic energy, POWs, Japan’s membership of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, war crimes, reciprocal visits of ministers, the FEC, the Japanese Peace Treaty, wheat agreements and occupation policies.

Japan – weekly situation reports, 1951

This item deals with proceedings of the Japanese Diet and local elections, the peace treaty, socialists, opinions of different political parties and the 1951 Dulles mission.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES [EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND PRIME MINISTER’S DEPARTMENT], 1901–50

Recorded by: 1934–35 Department of External Affairs (II) (CA 18)
1934–50 Prime Minister’s Department (CA 12)

Quantity: 146 metres (Canberra)

This series contains general correspondence covering subjects that came to the notice of the Prime Minister. Some items concern the occupation of Japan, reparations, the economic recovery of Japan and trade.

Reparations from Japan, 1946–49

This item, which is digitised, contains cablegrams from the Prime Minister’s Department reporting on the textile mission to Japan of February–March 1946. These cablegrams provide information about the Japanese wool industry and the operations of Japanese companies in the textile field. The question of reparations, particularly the distribution of plant equipment between government departments, is
discussed. Other cablegrams between Australia and Washington discuss how much Japan should pay in reparations and the degree of industrial capacity needed to maintain a viable economy in Japan. The item also contains long documents from the FEC.

**CORRESPONDENCE FILES [TREASURY], 1901–78**

Recorded by: Department of the Treasury (I) (CA 11)

Quantity: 535 metres (Canberra); 72 metres (Sydney)

This is the main correspondence file series of the Department of the Treasury (I). A number of items in this series relate to both pre- and postwar Japan. Prewar files concern financial arrangements under wartime conditions. Postwar files deal with trade, information on Japan, foreign exchange and other matters.

**Japan – postwar economic settlement, 1949–50**

Among the topics covered in this item are peace talks, draft peace proposals and reparations; reports on the situation in Japan; Japanese postwar economic settlement; the maintenance cost of Japanese prisoners-of-war; the military exchange rate; the Japanese Yen; trade with Korea; level of economic life in Japan; the programs of democratisation and reform prescribed by FEC (1949); Australian preparations for peace talks; and reports (eg the US Department of the Army’s *Report on the economic position and prospects from Japan and Korea*).

**CORRESPONDENCE FILES, MULTIPLE NUMBER SERIES, 1914–93**

Recorded by: 1948–70 Department of External Affairs (II) (CA 18)

1970–87 Department of Foreign Affairs (CA 1382)

1987–89 Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (CA 5987)

Quantity: 3 436 metres (Canberra)

A1838 is the main correspondence file series of the Department of External Affairs and its successor agencies.

A1838 covers a wide-ranging number of subjects. The Department of External Affairs was responsible not only for collecting information about foreign countries and international organisations, but also for disseminating information about Australia abroad and maintaining diplomatic, consular, aid and cultural relations with other countries. In addition, overseas missions then, as now, carried out functions for all Australian Government departments. A large proportion of the international communications of
those departments was carried on the external communications network maintained by the Department of External Affairs. Apart from foreign relations, subjects covered in this series include:

- international treaties, conventions and agreements;
- Radio Australia;
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples;
- art and trade exhibitions;
- international legal matters, including Law of the Sea and Antarctica;
- political asylum and refugees;
- Australia’s involvement in armed conflict, including multilateral defence planning;
- export of strategic materials;
- war crimes;
- International Committee of the Red Cross;
- United Nations agencies and bodies;
- external territories; and
- international conferences.

A large number of items in this series deal with Japan and Australian–Japanese relations. The information was gathered by External Affairs staff and includes material on Japanese political parties; Japan’s relations with other countries; Japanese legislation during the 1950s and reports on sessions of the Diet, local government and trade unions; child welfare; missionaries; agriculture; trade and trade violations; fishing and fisheries negotiations; monthly reports on economic conditions; war crimes, reparations and property restitution (with individual claimants named).

Japan – political information – press cuttings, 1948–52 A1838, 476/1/4
Japan – legislation passed by 3rd and 4th sessions of National Diet, 1948–49 A1838, 477/8/7
This item contains copies of Bills placed before the Diet between 11 October and 23 December 1948. The legislation dealt with economic reforms, taxation, agriculture, foreign trade and other matters.

Christian missionaries in Japan, 1948–52 A1838, 478/4/1
**Australian policy towards Japan – reparations, peace terms etc, 1945–49**
A1838, 480/1/12
This file is important for the attitudes to peace displayed by Australians. It contains a long paper on Australia-Japan relations by N D Harper, which compares pre- and postwar policy towards Japan. It also contains press cuttings about Japanese reconstruction, the future threat Japan may pose to Australia, comments by the US press on Australian policy and Australia’s doubts about the policy of the US towards Japan.

**Allied Council for Japan – general, 1952**
A1838, 482/7 part 2
This file deals with the end of the work of the Allied Council for Japan once the peace treaty came into force, problems with countries that did not sign the treaty (eg Russia) and the role of the FEC.

**GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE AND ARMY AND CIVILIAN PERSONNEL FILES, 1920–56**
MP742/1
Recorded by: Department of the Army (CA 36)
Quantity: 177 metres (Melbourne); smaller quantities in Canberra and Darwin offices
Please see series description on p. 189.

**Australian scientific mission to Japan, 1945**
MP742/1, 5/4/1
**Australian policy towards Japan, 1945–46**
MP742/1, 115/1/325
The Army requested statements from the Department of External Affairs on prewar political relations with Japan and Australian policy towards Japan following the war in order to plan the BCOF. The reply, in the form of a paper, is included (‘Australian policy towards Japan since the outbreak of Pacific War’).

**Australian scientific mission to Japan [Report No. 2], 1946**
MP742/1, 5/4/40
This record contains communications of a general nature from Brigadier O'Brien, Leader of the Mission in Tokyo, sent to the Department of Army by the Secondary Industries Division of the Ministry of Postwar Reconstruction. See also MP742/1, 5/4/1 (above) and several other files in this series.

**CORRESPONDENCE FILES – MELBOURNE SERIES (PRIMARY NUMBERS 1–323), 1922–60**
A705
Recorded by: 1922–39 Air Services Branch (CA 778) 1939–60 Department of Air (CA 35)
Quantity: 672 metres (Canberra); 14.4 metres (Melbourne)
This main correspondence series of the Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF) covers administration, technical and specialist areas. The large number of
Japanese items in this series deal with a variety of topics, including visits to Korea and Japan, personnel matters for BCOF, Japanese linguists, POWs in Japanese hands, the peace settlement, weapons, honours and awards and reparations.

Reparations mission to Japan – RAAF representation, 1946–49
A705, 90/1/179
This item contains memoranda and other documents from the Department of External Affairs and the Secondary Industry Division, Department of Post-War Reconstruction. This material discusses proposals to send experts to Japan to determine what could be obtained by way of reparations. Items in this category included machine tools, synthetic oil, rubber and equipment used in various industries (eg the thermal electric power industry).

CORRESPONDENCE FILES [EXTERNAL AFFAIRS], YEAR AND LETTER PREFIXES, 1933–71
A1068
Recorded by: Department of External Affairs (II) (CA 18)
Quantity: 26.4 metres (Canberra)
This is the main correspondence series for the Department of External Affairs for 1947. File number prefixes are the same as those in A1066.

Shortwave radio broadcasts to [BCOF] troops in Japan, 1947
A1068, PI47/1/6/3

British Commonwealth conference on the Japanese Peace Settlement, 1947
A1068, T47/222
To find other items in this series, search RecordSearch using the following control symbols plus a wildcard ('/*'), eg:
IC47/14/* – aviation; and
ER47/31/* – conferences about reparations, import and export matters in respect of Japan’s commercial relations (including level of economic life, food, oil, shipping, finance and transport) and weekly summaries on Japanese conditions.

REFERENCE FILES – ‘CCJ’ (COMMONWEALTH CONFERENCE JAPAN) PREFIX, 1940–47
A5466
Recorded by: Department of External Affairs (II) – Secretariat to the British Commonwealth Conference of the Japanese Peace Settlement (CA 18)
Quantity: 0.72 metres (Canberra)
This series consists of copies of telegrams, reports and other information collected to provide briefing material on various subjects discussed at the British
Commonwealth Conference of the Japanese Peace Settlement, which was held in Canberra from late August to September 1947. Matters discussed at the conference included procedural questions, such as the body’s membership, negotiating level and voting procedures; the basic objectives of the peace settlement, including the territorial, economic, financial and political provisions laid down at the Potsdam Conference in 1945; the demilitarisation and disarmament of Japan; and machinery for enforcing the peace settlement. Australia also raised particular concerns about Japanese fishing, pearling and whaling.

Territorial – Japanese claims in the Antarctic, 1947
This item deals with Japanese claims to Antarctic territory, which were based on the participation of Lieutenant Chokku Shibase in the 1911–12 expedition to the Antarctic. Also see CCJ7J, parts 1 and 2, ‘Japan – economic and financial provision – fishing, whaling, sealing and pearling’ (1940–47).

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE FILES, 1942–52
MT105/8
Recorded by: 1942–43 Department of War Organisation of Industry (CA 45)
1943–48 Department of Post-War Reconstruction (from c1945–48, Secondary Industries Division), Melbourne (CA 1715)
1943–48 Secondary Industries Commission (CA 271)
1948–52 Division of Industrial Development, Department of Post-War Reconstruction (from 1950, Department of National Development [I]) (CA 776)

Quantity: 16 metres (Melbourne)

This series contains files created by the Department of War Organisation of Industry and by its successor agencies.

These files mainly deal with government relations, activities and policies dealing with secondary industry, initially towards meeting Australia’s wartime needs and later towards strengthening Australia’s economic base through policies such as decentralisation.

The series contains high-level correspondence, including from prime ministers John Curtin and Ben Chifley; the Minister then responsible for the department, John Dedman; and senior public servants such as G T Chippendale, H P Breen and B W Hartnell. Subjects covered include bank rationalisation, Commonwealth War Loans, the recruitment of German scientists for Australia under the employment for scientific and technical enemy aliens scheme, the
procurement of war reparations for Australia, applications for employment in Australia by foreigners under the overseas scientific and technical experts’ employment scheme and the disposal of wartime munitions factories.

Other topics covered include industry standardisation, decentralisation, manufacturing regulations (e.g., for quality control), supply of materials, assistance to industry via sponsorship and research, import and export control, fisheries and general technical matters and production data.

Japanese mission – weekly reports, 1945–46
This item contains minute papers, cables, technical reports and weekly reports from the Australian Scientific and Technical Mission to Japan.

Japanese mission – Dr Woolley, 1946
This file covers the visit of Dr Woolley, the Commonwealth Astronomer at Mount Stromlo, to Japan. His report lists the institutions and observatories he visited and discusses their work on ionospheric, geomagnetic and solar phenomena and in the manufacture of optical equipment.

Sir Herbert Gepp – Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers – visit of industrial group to Japan, 1946
This item contains cables between General Sir Thomas Blamey and General Douglas MacArthur, the Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers (SCAP), setting up this mission to Japan. It includes the names of personnel being sent, together with details about their areas of expertise. Headed by Sir Herbert Gepp, the object of mission was to gain scientific and technical data available in Japan with specific application to Australia’s interests and conditions. Some reports are also in this file.

No. 1 – Reports from ARM [Australian Reparations Mission], Japan, 1947–48
This file contains detailed reports of inspections carried out by the Australian Reparations Mission.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES [EXTERNAL AFFAIRS], YEAR AND LETTER PREFIXES, 1942–53
Recorded by: Department of External Affairs (II) (CA 18)

Quantity: 29 metres (Canberra)

Please see series description on p. 190.

Some items in this series deal with Allied policy towards Japan in 1946–47. This includes economic policy towards Japan, the Japanese constitution, trade unions, taxation, science, land reform and patents.
Other items in this series concern Japanese interests abroad, fishing claims, property of Australian POWs and internal Japanese conditions, including wartime morale in 1943–45. To find them, search RecordSearch using the following control symbols plus a wildcard ('/*'), eg:

ER46/* – economic policy towards Japan;
IC46/1/* – Japanese internees in Australia;
ER46/13/* – Allied economic policy in regard to reparations (for 1945–46); and
IC46/33/* – Australian property and individual reparations claims.

Economic policy towards Japan – reports on [the] Japanese economic condition, 1945–46 A1067, ER46/13/1
The topics covered in this file are wide-ranging. They include the black market, the dissolution of the zaibatsu, corruption in Japanese public life, the new constitution, the rewriting of Japanese schoolbooks, the financial position of farmers and the food situation. This item also contains a copy of Economic Developments’ General Survey 1946, written by Macmahon Ball; semi-annual laboratory reports; and lists of institutions dealing with topics ranging from ceramics to radio and breeding stations.

Press cuttings on reparations, 1945–46 A1067, ER46/15/8
Japan (Allied control), 1945–47 A1067, P46/10/33/6
Allied economic policy towards Japan – reparations – general miscellaneous correspondence, 1945–47 A1067, ER46/13/2/4
This item contains letters from various Australian organisations to Prime Minister Chifley arguing their case for reparations. These include the Australian POWs Relatives Association and the Australian Red Cross.

Economic policy towards Japan – scientific mission to Japan, 1945–47 A1067, ER46/13/4
This item contains minutes and other cables documenting discussions about the scientific mission and Australia’s plans for the future trade position with Japan.

Japan (Allied control) – appointment of Macmahon Ball with general instructions, 1946 A1067, P46/10/33/14
Japan (Allied control) – Macmahon Ball – reports of Allied Council for Japan – meetings, 1946–47 A1067, P46/10/33/17
UNREGISTERED FILES – AUSTRALIA’S PARTICIPATION IN THE FAR EASTERN COMMISSION, 1943–51 A5475
Recorded by: Department of External Affairs (II) (CA 18)

Quantity: 0.72 metres (Canberra)

This series consists of files of papers relating to the Australian delegation to the FEC, which was based in Washington. It contains FEC committee reports, copies of telegrams and other material relating to the peace negotiations and Australia’s participation through the FEC.

Japanese education papers, 1946 A5475, 5
These extensive reports detail education policy, which included strict supervision of curricula and the rewriting of Japanese history. It also contains a copy of FEC Committee No. 4’s report on strengthening democratic tendencies in Japan.

MINISTERIAL CORRESPONDENCE FILES OF R G CASEY, ALPHABETICAL SERIES, 1943–59 A10299
Recorded by: The Rt Hon. Richard Gardiner Casey Baron of Berwick, Victoria, KG, GCMG, PC, CH, DSO, MC (CP 24)
Department of External Affairs (II) (CA 18)

Quantity: 3.6 metres (Canberra)

This series contains the Rt Hon. Richard Gardiner Casey’s ministerial correspondence files from 1951–55, along with some files relating to his former role as Minister for National Development. Files dealing with the Japanese are concerned with the peace treaty and trade relations, and can be found within the series by searching RecordSearch using the keyword ‘Japan*’.


CORRESPONDENCE FILES [EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, LONDON], 1944–47 A3317
Recorded by: Department of External Affairs, London (also known as the External Affairs Liaison Officer, London) (CA 1759)

Quantity: 4 metres (Canberra)

This series contains a number of items that were classified as ‘Secret’ or higher. Items dealing with Japan are concerned with the Allied Control Council in Japan, the exhibition of atrocities and the Japanese Surrender and Peace Treaty.

Control of Japan, 1944–46 A3317, I/46 part 1
This item contains valuable dossiers on key Japanese in 1944. Other parts of it relate to postwar Japan, and
include orders from SCAP, 1945; FEC material, 1946; and extensive papers on Japan’s economic position and obligations, 1945.

OFFICIAL FAR EASTERN COMMISSION DOCUMENTS RECEIVED FROM WASHINGTON, ALPHABETICAL SYSTEM, 1945–52

Recorded by: Department of External Affairs (II) (CA 18)

Quantity: 8 metres (Canberra)

This series consists of documents of the FEC, which was established by the Council of Foreign Ministers in Moscow in December 1945 to replace the Far Eastern Advisory Commission that had operated since October that year but without the cooperation of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. The FEC comprised representatives of the eleven nations that had fought actively against Japan during World War II.

The FEC’s function was to formulate policies and principles to be followed to ensure that Japan fulfilled its obligations under the terms of surrender. These were to be implemented by means of directives from the United States of America (USA), as the occupying power, via the Supreme Command for the Allied Powers Instructions (SCAPIN) to the Japanese Government. The Council of Foreign Ministers also established the Allied Council for Japan in Tokyo to advise SCAP (General MacArthur) on the implementation of policies formulated by the FEC.

Inter-Allied Trade Board for Japan – minutes of meetings [nos] 2 to 22, 1946–48

This item contains minutes and agenda from meetings of the Inter-Allied Trade Board, along with other material such as discussions on the admission of private traders to Japan, schedules of Japanese products to be offered for export, proposed trade quotas and press releases of procedures governing commercial entry into Japan after 15 August 1947.

TECHNICAL INDUSTRY ADVISORY BUREAU REPORTS, 1946–50

Recorded by: Secondary Industries Division, Melbourne (CA 1715) 1945–48 Division of Industrial Development, Department of Post-War Reconstruction (from 1950, Department of National Development [I]) (CA 776) 1948–56

Quantity: 0.36 metres (Melbourne)

Items in this series contain various procedural, equipment, technical and test reports, along with memoranda, correspondence and statistical
information. This material was created as part of the charter of postwar reconstruction to assist industrial postwar development. Various subjects are covered in the reports, eg the Fischer Tropsch coal extraction process, manufacture of chemical substances, the testing of equipment for various primary industries and technical information to do with metallurgy and with chemical and other products. Items relating to Japan concern information of a technical nature, gained mostly through the postwar missions to Japan. They concern matters such as the use of bamboo and the manufacture of cigarettes and other products.

**Miscellaneous Japanese technical information, 1949**
This item includes reports on rayon and other synthetic fibres and the synthesis of vitamin C.

**Copies of Documents Issued by the Allied Council for Japan, ‘ACJ’ Prefix, 1946–52**

*Recorded by: Department of External Affairs (II) (CA 18)*

*Quantity: 0.9 metres (Canberra)*

This series consists of roneoed copies of documents produced by the Secretariat for the Allied Council for Japan, an advisory body to the Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers, General Douglas MacArthur. Material in this series includes agenda, summaries of proceedings and verbatim minutes of the secretariat’s meetings.

**Allied Council for Japan – verbatim minutes of first and second meetings, 1946**

*This item, like others in A5467, contains the verbatim minutes of meetings of the Allied Council for Japan from 1946 onwards.*

**SCAPIN Publications Collected by the Department of External Affairs, 1946–52**

*Recorded by: Department of External Affairs (II) (CA 18)*

*Quantity: 0.36 metres (Canberra)*

This series contains material produced by the Office of SCAP, including pamphlets such as the continually updated *Index to SCAP Directives*, the *Supplement to SCAP Directives* and the *Catalogue of Directives*. Items in this series deal with issues such as shipping, pearling, whaling, resumption of trade, industry and aviation in Japan.

**Catalogue of SCAP directives to the Japanese Government, SCAP index nos 1 to 1,901, May 1948**

*This series contains material produced by the Office of SCAP, including pamphlets such as the continually updated *Index to SCAP Directives*, the *Supplement to SCAP Directives* and the *Catalogue of Directives*. Items in this series deal with issues such as shipping, pearling, whaling, resumption of trade, industry and aviation in Japan.*
CORRESPONDENCE FILES [AUSTRALIAN MISSION, TOKYO], 1946–54
Recorded by: 1949–52 Australian Mission, Japan [Tokyo] (CA 2971)
1952–54 Australian Embassy, Japan [Tokyo] (CA 2972)
Quantity: 6.5 metres (Canberra)
Items in this series relate to the Japanese Peace Treaty, the Allied Council for Japan and the postwar reconstruction of Japan.

This file contains a summary of proceedings of the fifth meeting of the Allied Council, which was held on 29 May 1946. The summary includes information about the reorganisation of the Japanese merchant marine service, education, the reorganisation of the Red Cross, a nutrition survey, the Food and Pure Drug Act, the resumption of telecommunications between Japan and other nations, the development of the coal industry and the organisation of the police force.

Allied Council for Japan – agenda and minutes – twenty-first meeting, 1946
This item contains the agenda for, and verbatim minutes of, the twenty-first meeting of the Allied Council for Japan. During this meeting questions were raised about the ownership of public broadcasting in Japan.

First Yoshida Cabinet, 1946–49
This item contains documents relating to the First Yoshida Cabinet. It also contains biographical data on Japanese Cabinet ministers (1946) and matters such as permitting Japanese to travel, shipbuilding in Japan and the reopening of Japanese consulates.

British Commonwealth Occupation Force, Japan

CORRESPONDENCE FILES, MULTIPLE NUMBER SERIES, 1914–93
Recorded by: 1948–70 Department of External Affairs (II) (CA 18)
1970–87 Department of Foreign Affairs (CA 1382)
1987–89 Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (CA 5987)
Quantity: 3 436 metres (Canberra)
Please see series description on p. 192.

Japan – forces of occupation (BCOF), 1945–46
This item concerns the organisation and establishment of BCOF under SCAP in 1945.
GENERAL AND CIVIL STAFF CORRESPONDENCE FILES AND ARMY PERSONNEL FILES, c1913–73  
MT1131/1

Recorded by: Department of the Army (CA 36)

Quantity: 100.6 metres (Melbourne)

This series comprises three distinct groups of records maintained by Army Headquarters from 1952 to 1962 – general correspondence, civil staff correspondence and Army personnel files. The general correspondence files relate to a broad range of subjects, including accounts, Acts and regulations, disturbances, allowances, ammunition, weaponry, audits, badges and crests, bands, canteens and hostels, establishments, committees, conferences and inventions. The civil staff correspondence files cover Acts and regulations relating to staff matters, arbitration, disputes, establishment, statistics, vacancies and training. The Army personnel files deal with various matters related to servicemen and women in Japan.

Health of embarked personnel from Japan to Australia, 1952  
MT1131/1, A211/7/1

This file concerns controversy over the health of BCOF service personnel returning from Japan and from Korea via Japan. Other files on the health of service personnel can be found by searching RecordSearch using ‘MT1131/1, A211/*’.

Matters for attention of the Minister in Japan, 1951  
MT1131/1, A217/1/2

This item concerns the discharge of members enlisted for Korea on their return to Australia.

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE AND ARMY AND CIVILIAN PERSONNEL FILES, 1920–56  
MP742/1

Recorded by: Department of the Army (CA 36)

Quantity: 177 metres (Melbourne); smaller quantities in Canberra and Darwin offices

Please see series description on p. 189.

Australian women welfare workers for Japan, 1946–47  
MP742/1, 61/1/817

This AMF file expresses the urgent need for women workers to be sent to Japan. A party of eight women from different Australian States was organised by the Young Women’s Christian Association. Issues dealt with in the file relate to clothes, letters and entertainers.

Visit of Minister for the Army (Hon. C Chambers) to Japan, 1946–47  
MP742/1, 217/1/21

This file deals comprehensively with the visit to Japan of the Minister for the Army and includes matters that affected government policy. Other material in this file addresses RAAF matters and the welfare of troops,
including their spiritual and moral outlook. Similar information can be found by searching RecordSearch using ‘MP742/1, 217/1/*’.

**Report of Chaplain-General Riley on his visit to BCOF Japan, 1947**

The itinerary of Chaplain-General Riley and his report to the Minister for the Army are contained in this file.

**Reports on BCOF Japan, 1948**

The three folders in this item contain a lot of detail about the living conditions of Australian service families in Japan. Health issues such as venereal disease are discussed. Other BCOF items in this series can be found by searching RecordSearch using ‘MP742/1, ’85/1/*’ or keywords (eg ‘BCOF’).

**Visit to Japan by chaplains-general McCarthy, Stewart and Brooke; Major General C E M Lloyd; and Mr Massey-Stanley, 1948**

This file is similar to MP742/1, 85/1/1034 but also contains Hansard extracts containing questions from the then Member of the House of Representatives for Barker (SA), Archie Cameron, about action being taken following the chaplains’ reports. The chaplains’ reports on the conditions, behaviour and health of troops in Japan prompted other visits. Information on these reports can also be found in the following three items:


- **Visit to Japan – J T Massey – YMCA, 1948**

- **Activities of BCOF in Japan, 1948–49**

**Children’s education – BCOF – Japan, 1948–51**

The BCOF service school at Nijimura based its curriculum on the Victorian school model. This file reports on the number of children of BCOF families, the areas by nationality and so on.

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**CORRESPONDENCE FILES – MELBOURNE SERIES (PRIMARY NUMBERS 1–323), 1922–60**

A705

Recorded by:  
1922–39 Air Services Branch (CA 778)  
1939–60 Department of Air (CA 35)

Quantity: 672 metres (Canberra); 14.4 metres (Melbourne)

Please see series description on p. 194.

**Personnel – mustering of linguists (Russian, Chinese and Japanese), 1945–52**

A705, 208/44/20

This file lists Russian, Chinese and Japanese linguists and their postings. Also discussed in this item are the
qualifications and training needed for use in interrogation, including a knowledge of literary style and translation abilities. Similar items will be found on RecordSearch using ‘A705, 208/44’.

BCOF Japan – wives and families proceeding there – policy and administration, 1946–47

RAAF Headquarters – Chief of Air Staff – proposed visit to Japan – inspection of BCOF RAAF units – calls on generals MacArthur and Whitehead – policy, 1948

BCOF Japan – wives and families proceeding to – policy, 1948–55

RAAF Headquarters – Chief of Air Staff – report on activities of the British Commonwealth Forces in Japan, 1950–51

This item contains a quarterly report of Navy and Army matters, engineering and intelligence studies, lists of ATIS interrogation reports, miscellaneous material, enemy equipment, instances of crime, enemy documents, Korean interrogation reports and other matters.

Proposed visit by dignitaries of the churches of Australia to Japan and Korea, 1951–53

After Canadian church representatives visited Japan to investigate the ‘unsavoury’ reputation Canadian BCOF troops were acquiring and to reassure the Canadian people of the welfare of the troops, it was decided that representatives from Australian churches would also visit. The Church of England staff chaplain visited Malaya, Japan and Korea to investigate the condition of chaplains in Asia.

Further items in this series on BCOF activities can be found by searching RecordSearch using the keyword ‘BCOF’.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES – CLASSIFIED ‘301’ [DEFENCE], 1928–58

This series contains items dealing with all security-classified matters handled by the Department of Defence, such as information gathering, policy matters, technical information on armaments and other wartime issues.

Study of [the] Japanese language in the services, 1937–41

This detailed file contains a War Office pamphlet for 1938 on the study of languages in the military services. The material includes a history of language study written by
Captain Capes, one of the first Australian servicemen to study Japanese during World War I. This item is digitised.

Other items in this series dealing with Japan, including BCOF files, can be found by searching RecordSearch using the control symbol ‘A816, 19/304/*’.

**DEFENCE COMMITTEE – AGENDA, 1932–**

*Recorded by: Defence Committee (II) (CA 289)*

*Quantity: 23 metres (Canberra)*

The agenda held in this item contain matters considered by the Defence Committee. Most items relating to Japan are about its occupation by BCOF.

**Inclusion of Australian women’s services in BCOF, Japan, 1946**

This item contains a committee agendum recommending that women be included in BCOF signal units and for canteen services.

**CORRESPONDENCE FILES – DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF MEDICAL SERVICES, 6TH MILITARY DISTRICT, 1943–51**

*Recorded by: District Headquarters, 6th Military District (III), AMF – Deputy Director of Medical Services (CA 1576)*

*Quantity: 0.36 metres (Hobart)*

The series contains items concerning the appointment of medical officers and medical administration within the 6th Military District.

**Medical examinations of AMF reinforcements for BCOF in Japan, 1946–47**

This item contains AMF correspondence in which it is alleged that some personnel sent to Japan were below the required medical standard.

Re-entry of civilians to Japan

**CORRESPONDENCE FILES [PRIME MINISTER’S DEPARTMENT], 1900–56**

*Recorded by: Prime Minister’s Department (CA 12)*

*Quantity: 49 metres (Canberra)*

Please see series description on p. 191.

**Visit to Japan and Korea of the Hon. William McMahon, Minister for Air and Navy, 1952–53**

A462, 114/32
CORRESPONDENCE FILES [EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND PRIME MINISTER’S DEPARTMENT], 1901–50  
Recorded by:  
1934–35  Department of External Affairs (II) (CA 18)  
1934–50  Prime Minister’s Department (CA 12)  

Quantity: 146 metres (Canberra)  

Please see series description on p. 191.  

Visit of Cardinal Gilroy to Japan, 1946  
Cardinal Gilroy wanted to visit Nagasaki to check on the welfare of Japanese Catholics who had suffered in the bombing and also to visit BCOF personnel.  

CORRESPONDENCE FILES, MULTIPLE NUMBER SERIES, 1914–93  
Recorded by:  
1948–70  Department of External Affairs (II) (CA 18)  
1970–87  Department of Foreign Affairs (CA 1382)  
1987–89  Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (CA 5987)  

Quantity: 3 436 metres (Canberra)  

Please see series description on p. 192.  

Japan – tourist trade, 1947–50  
This file contains some history of the tourist trade to Japan and its peak in 1936. The postwar plan was to revive the trade, which was seen as vital to the economic recovery of Japan. Matters relating to preparation of tourist ships, hotels, currency matters and information brochures are discussed in this file. Some news items from Australian papers from 1948 are included.  

CORRESPONDENCE FILES [EXTERNAL AFFAIRS], YEAR AND LETTER PREFIXES, 1933–71  
Recorded by:  
Department of External Affairs (II) (CA 18)  

Quantity: 26.4 metres (Canberra)  

Please see series description on p. 195.  

This is an interesting case of an Australian who nursed at an Anglican leprosarium in Japan before the war. The Japanese returned her to Australia at the outbreak of war rather than intern her, presumably because they appreciated her services. Aged 70, she wanted her case taken up with the Supreme Commander Allied Powers so that she could return to Japan. Permission was granted.
Passports – entry into Japan, 1946

This file contains a report from the Australian Legation in Washington that only about 90 missionaries and religious workers had been allowed into Japan so far. It also reported that some Japanese religious workers had entered the USA for a conference.

Informing the public


The Manus war crimes trials prompted Menzies to ask the Minister for the Army to renew his request to the press to refrain from publishing details about Australian victims of Japanese atrocities to avoid causing further distress to the public.

Radio archives master audio tapes [by subject], 1933–71

This series contains master and working copies in tape form of gramophone discs from the ABC’s Sound Library. The discs are spoken word recordings that cover a wide variety of subjects, including the various theatres of conflict during World War II and personal recollections of the war.

Items in this series cover a wide range of broadcasts. Those relating to Japan cover Pearl Harbour, BCOF and the experiences of Australians who fought the Japanese during World War II.
Lieutenant-General Sir Horace Robertson, ‘Guest of Honour’ talk, 1951

Lieutenant-General Sir Horace Robertson was BCOF Commander-in-Chief for five-and-a-half years in Japan and 18 months in Korea. Sir Horace speaks of the performance of Australian troops in Japan and their part in the democratisation of Japan. He also discusses the danger of a third world war.

SCRIPTS – NEWS COMMENTARIES, DISCUSSIONS ON INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS, ‘NOTES ON THE NEWS’ AND ‘NEWS REVIEW’, 1937–51

Recorded by: Australian Broadcasting Commission (CA 251)

Quantity: 3.6 metres (Sydney)

This series contains typescripts of news and current affairs-related talks given by prominent news commentators and broadcast on ABC radio. Most scripts date from World War II and generally deal with the major news issues of the 1931–51 period, both across Australia and in the rest of the world. Commentators on Japan and the progress of the war in the Pacific include William Macmahon Ball, Sir Ian Clunies Ross, Professor Douglas Copland, Charles Fitzgerald and Charles E W Bean. Talks on Japan and Australia’s relations with Japan are also included.

William Macmahon Ball – talk scripts [various topics] – ABC radio stations, 1950

William Macmahon Ball was Professor of Political Science at Melbourne University from 1949 to 1968 and was a regular commentator on world affairs for the ABC. This item holds his commentary and opinion on various topics, including Japanese elections, Australia in the Pacific, the White Australia Policy, Japanese war brides, a Pacific pact, problems in Japan and making friends with Japanese. Talks on subjects such as Japanese visitors to Australia and Japanese participation in the Olympic Games are also included.

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE FILES [INFORMATION], 1938–51

Recorded by: Department of Information (CA 34)

Quantity: 8.64 metres (Canberra)

Most files in this series relate to the department’s postwar function of publicising Australia to an international audience, although some files date from the war.


This item contains screening schedules for these Army recruitment campaign films, which were shown in
many centres in Australia. The films themselves are held in the Sydney office of the National Archives.


Recorded by: Australian Broadcasting Commission (CA 251)

Quantity: 1.26 metres (Sydney)

This series contains booklets published by the ABC based on transcripts of its regular radio program *Nation’s Forum of the Air*. This program, based on America’s *Town Meeting of the Air*, was planned for 1939 but its production was delayed because of the war. The first session was held on 2 August 1944 and thereafter sessions were held every two weeks. The sessions featured leading speakers discussing the issues of the day, with opportunities for public discussion. The booklets include the speeches, discussions and interjections from the audience. Some items relating to Japan are listed below.

*What shall we do with Japan?, broadcast 28 November 1945* SP369/3, volume 1/30

*Should we be tough with Japan?, broadcast 25 August 1948* SP369/3, volume 4/19

*Should the Japanese be allowed to compete at the Olympic Games in Melbourne in 1956?, broadcast 12 April 1950* SP369/3, volume 6/9

*Should Japan be rearmed?, broadcast 28 February 1951* SP369/3, volume 7/6

**Peace treaty and peace settlement**

**CORRESPONDENCE FILES [CUSTOMS, SA], 1871–1962**

Recorded by: Collector of Customs, Adelaide (CA 802)

Quantity: 54 metres (Adelaide)

Records in this series deal with a variety of matters, including trade, immigration, passports, merchant shipping, ships’ deserters, invoices, imports under Commerce Act and quarantine matters from 1902–64. Other records deal with the admission to Australia of Japanese wives of Australian servicemen (1953), information on prohibited publications (1954), the ‘most favoured nation treaty’ (1957) and the Japanese floating industry fair (1960–62).

*Treaty of Peace (Japan) No. 5, 1952* D596, 1952/6363

This item contains the Bill papers of Commonwealth legislation to approve the Japanese Peace Treaty.
CORRESPONDENCE FILES [TREASURY], 1901–78  
Recorded by: Department of the Treasury (I) (CA 11)  

Quantity: 535 metres (Canberra); 72 metres (Sydney)  

Please see series description on p. 192.

Draft proposals on the Japanese Peace Settlement, 1947–54  
Draft proposals on the Japanese Peace Settlement, 1951–53

CORRESPONDENCE FILES [ATTORNEY–GENERAL’S DEPARTMENT], 1901–  
Recorded by: Attorney-General’s Department (CA 5)  

Quantity: 2 024 metres (Canberra); 353 metres (Sydney)  

This is the main correspondence file series of the Attorney-General’s Department. Apart from matters relating to the Japanese, it contains a vast array of material concerning the responsibilities of the Attorney-General.

Advisory Committee on the Japanese Settlement [Peace Treaty], 1947–52

CORRESPONDENCE FILES, MULTIPLE NUMBER SERIES, 1914–93  
Recorded by: 1948–70 Department of External Affairs (II) (CA 18)  
1970–87 Department of Foreign Affairs (CA 1382)  
1987–89 Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (CA 5987)  

Quantity: 3 436 metres (Canberra)  

Please see series description on p. 192. A1838 contains a number of files dealing with the peace settlement, including files containing cables. Further files can be found by searching RecordSearch using ‘A1828, 535/6*’.

Japanese Peace Settlement preparations – documents other than cables, 1949–50  
Japanese Peace Treaty press cuttings, 1951  
This item and its subsequent parts contain press cuttings from all over the world.

Japanese Peace Treaty press clippings, 1951
CORRESPONDENCE FILES [EXTERNAL AFFAIRS], YEAR AND LETTER PREFIXES, 1933–71
Recorded by: Department of External Affairs (II) (CA 18)
Quantity: 26.4 metres (Canberra)
Please see series description on p. 195.

Pacific affairs – Japan – peace settlement preparations, 1947
CORRESPONDENCE FILES [EXTERNAL AFFAIRS], YEAR AND LETTER PREFIXES, 1942–53
Recorded by: Department of External Affairs (II) (CA 18)
Quantity: 29 metres (Canberra)
Please see series description on p. 190.
This series contains many files on the Japanese Peace Settlement and the Japanese Peace Treaty. To find them, search RecordSearch using ‘A1067, P46/10/*’ or by using keywords such as ‘peace treaty’ or ‘peace settlement’.

Pacific affairs – Japan – peace settlement preparations, 1946–47
‘CUMPSTON COLLECTION’, DOCUMENTS ABOUT THE HISTORY OF AUSTRALIAN FOREIGN POLICY, 1960–69
Recorded by: Department of External Affairs (II) (CA 18)
Quantity: 47 metres (Canberra)
Between 1960 and 1969 Dr J S Cumpston, the historian of the Department of External Affairs, collected a large amount of material concerning Australian foreign policy. The earliest item in the collection dates from 1901. The material includes personnel files, ministerial correspondence, policy files and reports of international conferences. The series also contains a number of items dealing with Japanese matters, such as the Advisory Committee on the Japanese Settlement, the Japanese Peace Treaty, war crimes, the future of Japan, the Allied Council for Japan and economic control and reconstruction.

Advisory Committee on the Japanese Settlement, 1947–48
Japanese Peace Treaty – Australian comment, 1950–51
This file contains statements on the Japanese Peace Treaty and Pacific security arrangements made by Prime Minister Menzies and the Minister for External Affairs, Mr Spender, between 28 November 1950 and 24 April 1951.
It was difficult for BCOF personnel to bring their Japanese wives to Australia, as this application form filled in quadruplicate by Sergeant Raeburn Anderson demonstrates, 1953. NAA: MP927/1, A326/4/28
8. REDEVELOPMENT OF THE TRADING PARTNERSHIP

Although the Japanese Peace Treaty was signed in 1952, Australia and Japan still had issues that required resolution. In the years following the end of the war, Japanese wives and fiancées of Australian servicemen, Japanese businessmen and other individuals (including church officials) who applied for entry to Australia were prevented from doing so by Australia’s immigration laws. This issue remained largely unresolved at the end of 1951. In addition, the resumption of trade, the question of fishing and pearling rights, and cultural and diplomatic exchanges needed attention as Japan was being reconstructed under a new constitution and was seeking to establish international relations. These matters concern the series described in this chapter. Some series – for example, A1838 – have vast amounts of material on certain topics, including trade and diplomatic relations. To find information created in the postwar period, it is best to search RecordSearch using keywords related to specific topics and then refine the search.

Whaling

CORRESPONDENCE FILES, MULTIPLE NUMBER SERIES, 1914–93

Recorded by:

- 1948–70 Department of External Affairs (II) (CA 18)
- 1970–87 Department of Foreign Affairs (CA 1382)
- 1987–89 Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (CA 5987)

Quantity: 3 436 metres (Canberra)

A1838 is the main correspondence file series of the Department of External Affairs and its successor agencies.

A1838 covers a wide-ranging number of subjects. The Department of External Affairs was responsible not only for collecting information about foreign countries and international organisations, but also for disseminating information about Australia abroad and maintaining diplomatic, consular, aid and cultural relations with other countries. In addition, overseas missions then, as now, carried out functions for all Australian Government departments. A large proportion of the international communications of those departments was carried on the external communications network maintained by the Department of External Affairs.

Apart from foreign relations, subjects covered in this series include:

- international treaties, conventions and agreements;
- Radio Australia;
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples;
- art and trade exhibitions;
- international legal matters, including Law of the Sea and Antarctica;
- political asylum and refugees;
- Australia’s involvement in armed conflict, including multilateral defence planning;
- export of strategic materials;
- war crimes;
- International Committee of the Red Cross;
- United Nations agencies and bodies;
- external territories; and
- international conferences.

A large number of items in this series deal with Japan and Australian–Japanese relations. The information was gathered by External Affairs staff and includes material on Japanese political parties; Japan’s relations with other countries; Japanese legislation during the 1950s and reports on sessions of the Diet, local government and trade unions; child welfare; missionaries; agriculture; trade and trade violations; fishing and fisheries negotiations; monthly reports on economic conditions; war crimes, reparations and property restitution (with individual claimants named).

Japan – whaling in Antarctic, 1952–57

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE FILES, 1942–52

Recorded by:
1942–43 Department of War Organisation of Industry (CA 45)
1943–48 Department of Post-War Reconstruction (from c1945–48, Secondary Industries Division), Melbourne (CA 1715)
1943–48 Secondary Industries Commission (CA 271)
1948–52 Division of Industrial Development, Department of Post-War Reconstruction (from 1950, Department of National Development [I]) (CA 776)

Quantity: 16 metres (Melbourne)

This series contains files created by the Department of War Organisation of Industry and by its successor agencies.

These files mainly deal with government relations, activities and policies dealing with secondary industry, initially towards meeting Australia’s wartime needs
and later towards strengthening Australia’s economic base through policies such as decentralisation.

The series contains high-level correspondence, including from prime ministers John Curtin and Ben Chifley; the Minister responsible for the department, John Dedman; and senior public servants such as G T Chippendale, H P Breen and B W Hartnell. Subjects covered include bank rationalisation, Commonwealth War Loans, the recruitment of German scientists for Australia under the employment for scientific and technical enemy aliens scheme, the procurement of war reparations for Australia, applications for employment in Australia by foreigners under the overseas scientific and technical experts’ employment scheme and the disposal of wartime munitions factories. Other topics covered are industry standardisation, decentralisation, manufacturing regulations (eg for quality control), supply of materials, assistance to industry via sponsorship and research, import and export control, fisheries and general technical matters and production data.

The Albany Whaling Company Propriety Limited – whaling equipment from Japan, 1948

This company inquired whether whaling equipment was available in Japan either for purchase or as reparations. The department forwarded the request to the Australian Reparations Mission in Japan.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES [EXTERNAL AFFAIRS], YEAR AND LETTER PREFIXES, 1942–53

Recorded by: Department of External Affairs (II) (CA 18)

Quantity: 29 metres (Canberra)

This was the main general correspondence file series of the Department of External Affairs in 1946. This department was responsible for all Australian relations with overseas governments (including inter-imperial relations), the protection of Australian interests and nationals abroad, all questions relating to treaties and international agreements, the status of aliens, immigration and emigration and economic relations. It was responsible for all Australian permanent missions abroad, except the High Commissioner in London, and all foreign diplomatic missions and consulates in Australia.

A large part of the department’s work involved international conferences and Australian policy towards a large number of international organisations. Among the organisations on which Australia was represented were the United Nations (UN) War Crimes Commission, the International Military Tribunal, the UN Committee on
Refugees, the Far Eastern Commission (FEC) and the Allied Council in Japan.

Japan – whaling in Antarctica, 1946–47  

**PHOTO ALBUM OF ANTARCTIC EXPEDITION BY JAPANESE WHALING FACTORY SHIP ‘HASHIDATE MARU’, 1946–47**  

Recorded by: Department of Commerce and Agriculture (CA 48)  

Quantity: 0.63 metres (Canberra)

This series consists of photographs taken by Kenneth Coonan, an Australian observer on board the *Hashidate Maru* during its whaling expedition to the Antarctic in 1946–47. Most photographs are accompanied by a brief caption describing the action photographed. Mr Coonan, an employee of the Commonwealth Fisheries Office of the Department of Commerce and Agriculture, completed a report on the expedition which was forwarded to the Department of External Affairs on 15 April 1947. This report can be found in A3312, PCPS I/16, ‘Report by Australian observer, Japanese Antarctic Whaling Expedition, 1946–47’.

Photo album of Antarctic expedition by Japanese whaling factory ship, the *Hashidate Maru*, 1946–47  

**Fishing and pearling**

**CORRESPONDENCE FILES [ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT], 1901-**  

Recorded by: Attorney-General’s Department (CA 5)  

Quantity: 2 024 metres (Canberra); 353 metres (Sydney)

This is the main correspondence file series of the Attorney-General’s Department. Apart from matters relating to the Japanese, it contains a vast array of material concerning the responsibilities of the Attorney-General.

Fisheries negotiations with Japan – pre-conference papers, 1952  

This item contains news reviews about Japanese prewar fishing, radio and *Nippon Times* reports about the admission of Japanese to Australian territorial waters and the necessity for negotiations to be completed before Japan operates any fleet in Australian waters.

International Court of Justice – Japanese application to become party to the statute, 1953–54  

This item details part of the long-running dispute between Australia and Japan about pearl fishing rights. Japan applied to the United Nations to be party to the
International Court of Justice in order to place its case before that body.

Pearl fisheries dispute with Japan – proposal to submit dispute to International Court of Justice, 1953–54

Japanese pearl fisheries, 1953–56
This discusses the issue of pearling in waters off the Australian coast and includes top-secret cables and memoranda for 1953–54, with statements of cases, legal points and special agreements for 1955 and 1956.

Pearl fisheries dispute with Japan – provisional regime pending decision by the International Court of Justice, 1954–55

Other items on this topic can be found on RecordSearch by using the keywords ‘Japan’ and ‘pearl’.

Entry of Japanese fishing vessels into Australian ports, 1956–62
This item discusses the terms under which Japanese vessels can enter Australian ports and whether to let the Japanese appoint agents in a port so they could arrange to supply the pearling fleet for 1956. The item also contains questions on the international Law of the Sea.

GENERAL AND CIVIL STAFF CORRESPONDENCE FILES AND ARMY PERSONNEL FILES, c1913–73

Recorded by: Department of the Army (CA 36)

Quantity: 100.6 metres (Melbourne)

This series comprises three distinct groups of records maintained by Army Headquarters from 1952 to 1962 – general correspondence, civil staff correspondence and Army personnel files. The general correspondence files relate to a broad range of subjects, including accounts, Acts and regulations, disturbances, allowances, ammunition, weaponry, audits, badges and crests, bands, canteens and hostel, establishments, committees, conferences and inventions. The civil staff correspondence files cover Acts and regulations relating to staff matters, arbitration, disputes, establishment, statistics, vacancies and training. The Army personnel files deal with various matters related to servicemen and women in Japan.

Surveillance of Japanese pearling fleet – need for interpreter, 1955
This item contains a request from the Department of Commerce and Agriculture for an interpreter to accompany the fleet and arrangement details for the surveillance of the pearling fleet in 1955.
**CORRESPONDENCE FILES [OFFICE OF THE ADMINISTRATOR], 1915–78**

**F1**

Recorded by: 1915–27 Office of the Administrator, NT (CA 1072)  
1927–31 Office of the Government Resident, North Australia (CA 197)  
1931–73 Administrator, NT (CA 1070); subsequently by other agencies

Quantity: 366.2 metres (Darwin)

F1 was the main policy and general series for the Northern Territory Administration. A number of items from 1937–70 relate to Japanese. Files from the 1930s deal with pearling (eg matters of quarantine, patrols, seizure of luggers, court cases, salvage and applications to enter territorial waters). Postwar files relate to the re-establishment of the pearling industry, salvage, art exhibitions, investment by Japanese companies in mines and woodchipping, visits by Japanese students and fact-finding tours, Japanese film and news crews and requests for information about Darwin and the Northern Territory by the Japanese Consulate.

**Japanese pearling operations, 1953–61**

This item contains instructions to officers acting under the *Pearl Fisheries Act 1952*, legal argument regarding the definition of ‘territorial waters’, a copy of proposed arrangements with the Japanese for access to harbours, the amount of shell permitted to be taken and the number of Japanese vessels operating in Australian waters (for 1961–63). A particular feature of this file is the detailed reports, cablegrams and maps – eg, the surveillance officers’ maps of the pearling neaps, which mark the location, date, number of luggers and total kilograms of shell taken per vessel. Some cablegrams arrange for the hospitalisation of crew members. This file also contains photographs.

**CONFIDENTIAL AND RESTRICTED CORRESPONDENCE FILES ['101' SERIES], 1921–62**

**MP926/1**

Recorded by: 1951–59 Navy Office (IV), Department of the Navy (II) (CA 38)  
1959 Navy Office, Melbourne (CA 2615)

Quantity: 26 metres (Melbourne)

This series consists of confidential and restricted correspondence files of the Department of Navy from 1951 until most of the department transferred from Melbourne to Canberra in 1959. Subjects covered in this series include administrative matters, disposal of ammunition, public relations, shipbuilding, accommodation and housing, reports of fires causing death, pay and allowances, ranges (eg information on sound ranges), wrecks, collisions, marine distress, salvage, maintenance, repairs, recruitment and training.
Surveilling of Japanese pearling fleet, 1953–55
This item contains a copy of the ‘Arrangements for Surveillance of Japanese Pearling Fleet, 1955’, which was prepared to assist Defence and civilian personnel to avoid any incident that might prejudice Australia’s standing before the International Court of Justice. It includes the provisional regime to be followed pending the final decision of the International Court of Justice.

SECRET CORRESPONDENCE FILES, ‘S’ [SECRET] PREFIX, 1932–
Recorded by: 1972–74 Department of Immigration (CA 51)
1974–75 Immigration Group, Department of Labor and Immigration (CA 1775); subsequently by other agencies

Quantity: 80 metres (Canberra)

Although this series has an accumulation date of 1972 onwards, it contains material recorded by the Department of Immigration between 1932 to 1980. The files record the department’s handling of sensitive immigration, visitor and citizenship issues during this period. A large number files are effectively security assessments, which include details of the regular vetting of applicants for immigration, temporary entry and citizenship by the Australian Security Intelligence Organization, the Commonwealth Police and (to a much lesser extent) other security agencies. A number are concerned with the granting of passports to individuals who were considered either security risks or criminals.

Many files contain advice to the Minister on all aspects of his responsibilities during this period. They provide a direct insight into Australian racial attitudes for all types of individuals across the world and include information on the Australian Government’s postwar sensitivities to the use of the term ‘White Australia Policy’. Many of these files are case files, accessible only under the name of the person applying for entry to Australia. Others are policy files where the title is a reasonable guide to the contents. Some files contain extraordinary human stories.


NEGATIVES OF PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY, 1937–62
Recorded by: John William Stokes (CP 89)

Quantity: 0.47 metres (Canberra)

This series consists of images collected by John Stokes when he was serving with the Northern Territory Police Force (1936–58). Most of the images in this series date
from around 1937 and deal with various aspects of Territory life, including Darwin, Indigenous Australians, police officers and trackers and Japanese pearling luggers.

**Japanese pearling lugger at Darwin wharf, c1937**
This item is digitised.

**Captured Japanese lugger – Darwin (see Haultain’s book, Watch off Arnhem Land), 1940**
This item is digitised.

**CORRESPONDENCE FILES [CSIRO – FISHERIES], TWO-LETTER PREFIX, 1940–92**

Recorded by: 1940–56 CSIRO, Division of Fisheries (CA 7836)
1956–81 CSIRO, Division of Fisheries and Oceanography (CA 7837)
1981–88 CSIRO, Division of Fisheries Research (CA 8065)
1988–92 CSIRO, Division of Fisheries (CA 7794)

Quantity: 30 metres (Hobart)

This series consists of the main correspondence files for the CSIRO Division of Fisheries from 1940 to 1992. The items in this series cover all scientific and administrative activities of the division, although in the case of scientific data they generally record the establishment, operations and administration of the scientific research rather than the actual research data.

P2556, FE 2/2

**Japanese pearling operations, 1961**
P2556, FE 1/1

**CORRESPONDENCE FILES (CLASSIFIED) [PRIME MINISTER’S DEPARTMENT], 1944–**

Recorded by: 1957–71 Prime Minister’s Department (CA 12)
1971 Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (CA 1401)
1971 Department of the Vice-President of the Executive Office (CA 1402); subsequently by other agencies

Quantity: 1 129 metres (Canberra)

This series contains classified files dealing with general and policy matters handled by the Prime Minister’s Department. Subjects covered in the series range from departmental and domestic matters to foreign affairs, and reflect the functions of the department in political, cultural, economic, industrial and defence fields. This series contains a number of items dealing with Japan, particularly in relation to Australian fisheries. To find these and other files, search RecordSearch using keywords such as ‘Japan*’ or ‘fisheries’.
Australia – Japan – fisheries dispute – policy, 1953–57
The two parts of this file contain discussions with the Japanese about conservation restrictions on fishing in Australian waters. The material includes recommendations made by the CSIRO, maps of territorial waters, legal arguments and variations in the provisional regime.


Japanese pearling operations – 1957 season policy, 1956–57
This file deals with negotiations over the 1957 pearling season policy between the governments of Japan, Queensland and Western Australia.

Japanese pearling operations – 1957 season policy, 1957–58
This file deals with negotiations over the 1957 pearling season policy between the governments of Japan and Western Australia.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES [HEALTH], 1959–93
Recorded by: Department of Health, Northern Territory Divisional Office (also known as the Northern Territory Medical Service) (CA 1042); subsequently by other agencies

Quantity: 45 metres (Darwin)

This series contains the main correspondence files of the Northern Territory Medical Service, which deal with policy and general administration matters. This department was responsible for health and quarantine issues in relation to Japanese pearling luggers and onshore quarters for Japanese lugger crews.

Surveys, missions and stations – Port Essington – Japanese pearlers’ camp, 1965
This file contains a report by Senior Health Inspector J Sheppard and Ranger D Gordon, in which they detail the unsanitary living conditions of Japanese and Indigenous Australian pearlers at Port Essington. The report called for urgent improvement to water and sanitation facilities and for proper accommodation for the Indigenous Australians, who were living in the engine shed while the Japanese had been provided with barracks. This item contains photographs, some of which appear on the following page.
Kitchen area (including water supply), Port Essington, 1965. NAA: E51, 1965/440

Jetty, including toilet (marked with an ‘X’), Port Essington, 1965. NAA: E51, 1965/440
Postwar conditions in Japan

GENERAL AND CIVIL STAFF CORRESPONDENCE AND ARMY PERSONNEL FILES, c1899–c1968

Recorded by: 1952–60 Department of the Army (CA 36)
1960–62 Army Headquarters, Department of the Army (CA 2585)

Quantity: 50.6 metres (Melbourne)

This series comprises general correspondence, civil staff correspondence and Army personnel files maintained by Army Headquarters from 1952 to 1962. The general correspondence files relate to a broad range of subjects, including accounts, Acts and regulations, disturbances, allowances, ammunition, weaponry, audits, badges and crests, bands, canteens and hostels, establishments, committees, conferences and inventions. The civil staff correspondence files cover Acts and regulations relating to staff matters, arbitration, disputes, establishment, statistics, vacancies and training. This series contains a number of files on Japan, which can be found by searching RecordSearch using keywords such as ‘Japan*’, ‘economic’ and ‘education’.

Recreational leave – personnel serving in Japan, 1951–55

Export duties on tea – philanthropic organisations in Japan and Korea, 1954–56

Sumitomo Bank review – economic conditions in Japan, 1956

This item contains information on the outlook for the Japanese economy for 1956; information on the camera industry of Japan; a map of the network of offices in Japan; statistical charts for trade; industrial and commercial indices; and information on production, manufactures, prices, employment, wages, living expenditure and interest rates for 1951–55.

Admission of Japanese to Australia

ALIEN REGISTRATION DOCUMENTS, ALPHABETICAL SERIES, 1916–65

Recorded by: Department of Immigration, WA (CA 962)

Quantity: 57 metres (Perth)

The series comprises documents, correspondence and registration forms. The files contain personal information about aliens such as their name, address, nationality, physical features, occupation and family details. There is usually a photograph of the applicant. This series contains the arrival documents of Japanese war brides, which are important because few official
documents about them have survived. The series also contains files on postwar business visitors from Japan.

**Price, Yasuko** – nationality: Japanese – arrived Sydney per aircraft, 6 June 1954

Mrs Price was a Japanese war bride who returned to Japan in 1954 with her husband.

**Copeland, Noriko Okada** – nationality: Japanese – arrived Brisbane per *New Australia*, 1953–57

Mrs Copeland was a Japanese war bride who arrived in Australia on 8 April 1953.


Manjiro Maeda was a Japanese pearler who arrived in Australia on 18 June 1955.

**Shimada, Mitsuo** – nationality: Japanese – arrived Perth per aircraft on 24 January 1962

This file contains an application for registration by Mitsuo Shimada, a businessman who visited WA for three months in 1962.

In the post-World War II era, trade resumed its importance in the Australian-Japanese relationship. In this photograph, Japanese Governor Mr Nakaya examines the fleece on an Australian merino, 1979. *NAA: A6180, 10/9/79/6*
GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE SERIES, 1929–65
Recorded by: 1929–39 2nd District Base, Australian Military Forces (AMF), NSW Headquarters (CA 4334)
1939–42 Headquarters, Eastern Command (I), AMF (CA 1876)
1942–46 Headquarters, NSW Lines of Communication Area, AMF (CA 1877)
1946–65 Headquarters, Eastern Command (II), AMF (CA 1878)
Quantity: 13 metres (Sydney)

This is a general correspondence series and contains files dealing with a variety of topics related to members of the AMF.

Passages to Australia of Japanese wives of members located in Australia, 1953
ST3184/1, 449/9/1357

CORRESPONDENCE FILES [CUSTOMS], ‘I’ (IMMIGRATION) PREFIX, 1930–76
Recorded by: Sub-Collector of Customs, Broome (CA 810)
Quantity: 3.4 metres (Darwin)

This series contains a number of files about Japanese pearling experts who arrived in Australia by aircraft in the 1950s and 1960s. Some items in this series are certificates of exemption from the Dictation Test (CEDTs) that date from the 1930s. Many of these were issued to pearlers and the files provide information on the companies the pearlers worked for and the length of time the pearlers stayed in Australia, along with their dates of departure.

E601, I1951/32
This item contains photographs and certificates of character for Mr Kanegai. It is one of the few Customs files extant for Australian-born Japanese and spans the period from 1935 to 1949. It is also a rare example of a person of Japanese origin being permitted entry to Australia before the ban on Japanese immigration or visits to Australia was lifted in 1951. It shows the legal conditions of residence in Australia for people born here of Asian parentage.

E601 I1953/24
In 1953 this man was thumb-printed at both Broome and at Darwin for a CEDT to work in the pearling industry during the 1954 season; he was again thumb-printed at both ports in 1956. The file states what company he worked for and when he left the country.
ALIEN REGISTRATION FORMS (A1 AND A2), 1939–47
Recorded by: 1942–45 Security Service, NSW (CA 946)
1945–47 Department of Immigration (CA 51)

Quantity: 1.08 metres (Sydney)

The series consists of alien registration forms A1 ('Aliens resident in Australia') and A2 ('Aliens arriving in Australia'). All aliens were required to complete these forms and present them to the nearest police station.

‘A to Y’ – alphabetical – Japanese, 16 September 1939 to 9 July 1941

ALIEN REGISTRATION CARDS, ALPHABETICAL SERIES, c1946–70
Recorded by: Department of Immigration, SA (CA 959)

Quantity: 43 metres (Adelaide)

This series consists of alien registration cards containing information about alien registrants such as their name, nationality, date of birth, sex, marital status, occupation, height, colour of eyes, colour of hair, previous name or alias and family details. In addition the cards contain information about whether the person intended staying in Australia for more than twelve months; their registration application; their permanent address and their intended address in Australia; the name and address of their nearest relative, friend or business connection in Australia; their signature; their visa and passport numbers and their arrival details; and other details. The answers on all cards are completed in English. There are cards for registrants of all nationalities by name in alphabetical order. Some Japanese are included, but these can only be found if names are known.

SPECIAL AUTHORITIES FOR PASSENGERS TO LAND INDEX BOOK, 1949–57
Recorded by: Collector of Customs, Adelaide (CA 802)

Quantity: 0.04 metres (Sydney)

This series contains an index book containing immigration papers for Japanese war brides, visiting Japanese clergy, scientists and other visitors. The papers are listed alphabetically by surname and contain some of the few documents still extant about Japanese war brides. Material in this series is not listed at item level on RecordSearch.
CORRESPONDENCE FILES [IMMIGRATION], 1949–

Recorded by: 1949–74 Department of Immigration (CA 759)
1974–75 Immigration Group, Department of Labor and Immigration, NT (CA 2110); subsequently by other agencies

Quantity: 256 metres (Darwin)

Most files in this series deal with an immigration matter for an individual or a family. Matters dealt with in the files include passport applications (in which photographs of applicants are sometimes included), inquiries about visa extensions, arrival records, applications for permission to enter Australia, notifications under the Aliens Act, residence checks on people applying for re-entry to Australia and deportations. The files mostly relate to individuals but occasionally, as in the case of the pearling industry, to lugger crews.


This is one of the few extant files for servicemen who married Japanese women while serving in the British Commonwealth Occupation Force (BCOF) in Japan. It contains documents relating to the struggle servicemen had in obtaining permission for wives to enter Australia.

Pearling lugger No. 26 – missing crew, 1959

This file relates to crew members of a Japanese pearling lugger who went missing in 1959, in particular Iwao Masaki and Tomoaki Ushitani.

ALIENS REGISTRATION FILES, 1949–

Recorded by: 1949–74 Department of Immigration (CA 759)
1974–75 Immigration Group, Department of Labor and Immigration, NT (CA 2110); subsequently by other agencies

Quantity: 8.6 metres (Darwin)

This series contains files of individuals registered as aliens resident in Australia in the 1950s. A number of these files deal with Japanese nationals who worked in the pearling industry. Each person entering Australia completed this form, which is accompanied by a passport-sized photograph and a copy of the person’s visa advice or certificate of registration. The form also included various personal details, information about the length of the proposed stay in Australia, names of relatives or business connections in Australia, and whether accompanied by their wife and children.
This series also contains crew lists prepared by the master of each vessel that arrived in the Northern Territory. These lists were submitted to Customs boarding officers and then forwarded to the Director of Migration at Darwin. For public vessels, a boarding report is on file rather than a crew list, which gives details of the vessel and its ‘coloured’ passengers or aliens who landed. In both cases, the personal details of crew and passengers are available from these lists as well as details of the movement of the ship.

Maeji, Tatsuo (Japanese) – deceased – alien registration file, 1955

Tatsuo Maeji’s passport and personal details such as the date and place of his birth, date of arrival in Australia, marital status and occupation are included in the file. A photograph is also included in the file.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES [IMMIGRATION], ‘N’ (NEW SOUTH WALES) PREFIX, 1952–77

Recorded by: 1952–74 Department of Immigration, NSW (CA 957) 1974–75 Immigration Group, Department of Labor and Immigration, NSW (CA 1995) 1975–77 Department of Immigration and Ethnic Affairs (I), NSW (CA 1968)

Quantity: 38 metres (Sydney)

Files in this series deal with matters such as landing permits, hostel accommodation, assisted migration, assimilation inquiries, migrant education and repatriation. These records also deal with general matters such as sponsorship, admission, accommodation procedures, reports, procedures, policy and procurement.

Admission of Japanese businessmen, 1952–77

This file contains rare information about policy development from the 1950s concerning the readmission of Japanese businessmen and company employees. It contrasts strongly with the prewar provisions and provides many case studies and inter-governmental and inter-departmental correspondence. Of particular concern is the admission of the families of businessmen working in Australia for two to four years for Japanese companies. It also raises the question of the entry of Japanese teachers and the conditions under which war brides could enter.

Admission of children of Australian servicemen and Japanese women, 1958–60

C3939, N1955/25/75040

C3939, N1958/75026
Admission of Japanese wives

CORRESPONDENCE FILES [CUSTOMS, SA], 1871–1962
Recorded by: Collector of Customs, Adelaide (CA 802)

Quantity: 54 metres (Adelaide)

Records in this series deal with a variety of matters, including trade, immigration, passports, merchant shipping, ships’ deserters, invoices, imports under Commerce Act and quarantine matters from 1902–64. Other records deal with the admission to Australia of Japanese wives of Australian servicemen (1953), information on prohibited publications (1954), the ‘most favoured nation treaty’ (1957) and the Japanese floating industry fair (1960–62).

Corporal C E Atze – admission of Japanese wife, 1953

GENERAL AND CIVIL STAFF CORRESPONDENCE AND ARMY PERSONNEL FILES, c1899–c1968
Recorded by: 1952–60 Department of the Army (CA 36)
1960–62 Army Headquarters, Department of the Army (CA 2585)

Quantity: 50.6 metres (Melbourne)

Please see series description on p. 224.

Movement of Japanese wives to Australia, 1953–54

A letter signed ‘Digger’ to the Minister for Army, Josiah Francis, complains about the delay in the arrival of Japanese wives and documents the difficulties that soldiers experienced when shipped home before their wives and children had been issued with passports to travel to Australia.

Marriages between Australian service personnel and Japanese, 1948–52

This item documents the question of marriage between Australian servicemen and Japanese women from 1947 onwards. It includes news items, parliamentary statements, memoranda and discussions of cases in BCOF. It begins with information about a decision made in 1948 that Australian troops would neither be given permission to marry Japanese women nor, if they had married Japanese women, be able to bring their brides to Australia, and ends with an article in The Herald of 2 December 1952 announcing that war brides would be able to enter Australia. It documents in part the case of Cherry Parker, a Japanese war bride who entered Australia in 1952.
Adoption of illegitimate Japanese children by members of the AMF, 1955–56

This file concerns the question of the recognition of the adoptions of children overseas by Australians. It concerns the issue of entry to Australia of children adopted overseas.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES [TERRITORIES], 1910–76

Recorded by: 1951–68 Department of Territories (I) (CA 60)
1968–73 Department of External Territories (II) (CA 1284)
1968 Territories Division, Department of the Interior (II) (CA 1286)
1968–72 Northern Territory Division(s), Department of the Interior (II) (CA 1316); subsequently by other agencies

Quantity: 916 metres (Canberra)

Items in this series deal mostly with administrative matters (general policy and staffing) of both the internal and external Australian territories, excluding the ACT. The files deal with matters relating to the Northern Territory, Papua New Guinea, Nauru, Christmas Island, Cocos (Keeling) Islands, Norfolk Island and the Coral Sea islands. They also deal with Australian relations with West Irian and the Philippines. Files from 1951 to 1956 deal only with the Northern Territory. A considerable number of these relate to the Japanese and postwar employment in pearling. However, from 1956 files in this series deal with all territories, with files relating to the Northern Territory intermingled with those dealing with other subjects.

Takatoshi Tominaga – entry to Darwin from Japan, 1956

Mr Tominaga was a qualified engineer who visited Australia to conduct a preliminary survey for the purchase of mineral ores and steel scraps. He was an employee of Banno Brothers Limited, Osaka, which operated in Australia before 1941.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES, MULTIPLE NUMBER SERIES, 1914–93

Recorded by: 1948–70 Department of External Affairs (II) (CA 18)
1970–87 Department of Foreign Affairs (CA 1382)
1987–89 Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (CA 5987)

Quantity: 3 436 metres (Canberra)

Please see series description on p. 214.

General policy – Australian citizens marrying Japanese nationals, 1949

Japan – broadcast by Mrs G [or C?] Parker, 1952–53
Survey of Japanese nationals in Australia, 1960–61
A1838, 1461/390
This survey was requested by the Japanese Government. It lists the numbers of Japanese nationals in Australia by State, but difficulties were experienced in achieving an accurate result.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES, CLASS 2 RESTRICTED IMMIGRATION, 1919–50
A433
Recorded by: 1939 Department of the Interior (CA 27)
1939–45 Department of the Interior (CA 31)
1945–50 Department of Immigration (CA 51)
Quantity: 13 metres (Canberra)
This series concerns restricted immigration to Australia. It contains reports, correspondence, articles, cables, newspaper cuttings, proposed amendments to the Immigration Act, business visitors and authorities for admission under exemption.

Protests against admission of Japanese nationals, 1945
A433, 1945/2/5339
This item contains newspaper reports and articles discussing the admission of Japanese to Australia after the war. Some people proposed legislation to forbid the entry of Japanese for 25 years. This item is digitised.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES [IMMIGRATION], POLICY MATTERS, 1922–68
A445
Recorded by: Department of Immigration (CA 51)
Quantity: 29 metres (Canberra)
This series consists of Immigration policy files dealing with the assimilation, welfare and education of migrants. Matters dealt with include legislation relating to immigration, migrant organisations, transport, sponsorship schemes, housing and accommodation, conferences, child and youth migration, refugees and restricted immigration policy.

Admission of children of Australian fathers and Japanese mothers, 1952–53
A445, 236/17/11

CORRESPONDENCE FILES – CLASSIFIED ‘301’ [DEFENCE], 1928–58
A816
Recorded by: 1935–39 Department of Defence (II) (CA 19)
1939–42 Department of Defence Co-ordination (CA 37)
1942–58 Department of Defence (III) (CA 46)
Quantity: 89.2 metres (Canberra)
This series contains items dealing with all security-classified matters handled by the Department of Defence, such as information gathering, policy matters, technical information on armaments and other wartime issues.
Policy regarding marriages – BCOF (entry of Japanese females into Australia), 1946–48

REGISTRATION PAPERS FOR NON-BRITISH MIGRANTS, LEXICOGRAPHICAL SERIES, 1939–66

Recorded by: Department of Immigration, Tas (CA 960)

Quantity: 3.6 metres (Hobart)

This series contains registration forms and other papers completed by non-British migrants – mostly for Japanese wives of Australian servicemen in the 1950s and other visitors in the 1960s – coming to Australia under the Aliens Act 1947. The forms provide details of nationality, marital status, other personal information (eg date of arrival, date of birth, occupation, address and physical description) and a photograph. Items are listed on RecordSearch by the women’s married names.

Registration papers for non-British migrants – Chick, Haruko [Japanese], 1953

Registration papers for non-British migrants – Long [nee Kamiya], Yoshiko [Japanese], 1953

Registration papers for non-British migrants – Waller, Eiko Iwai [Japanese], 1953–58

Mrs Eiko Waller entered initially under exemption for five years. This item contains a ‘Renunciation of Allegiance’ declaration dated 1958 under the Nationality and Citizenship Act 1948. It also contains all the papers and statutory declarations necessary to complete an application for naturalisation.

Registration papers for non-British migrants – Nakamura, Yuri [Japanese], 1962–63

Miss Yuri Nakamura stayed in Australia for one year (1962) as a student, aged 16. The file gives names and addresses of her next of kin, date of birth, photograph and details of marital status.

ALIEN REGISTRATION PAPERS, ALPHABETICAL BY COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP, 1939–85

Recorded by: 1939–45 Collector of Customs, Qld (CA 792)
1945–66 Department of Immigration, Qld (CA 958)

Quantity: 90 metres (Brisbane)

This series contains personal papers (such as certificates of registration) for aliens who entered Queensland. There are files for aliens who were deceased, who left the Commonwealth or who had become naturalised.
Barnsley [also known as Takegawa], Michiko and children – nationality: Japanese – arrived Sydney on the *New Australia*, 1955–60

This file contains documents related to the entry of Mrs Barnsley, a Japanese war bride, to Queensland in 1955, and her departure from the Commonwealth for Japan with two children in 1960.

**CORRESPONDENCE FILES [EXTERNAL AFFAIRS], YEAR AND LETTER PREFIXES, 1942–53**

Recorded by: Department of External Affairs (II) (CA 18)

Quantity: 29 metres (Canberra)

Please see series description on p. 216.

**CORRESPONDENCE FILES [IMMIGRATION], ‘SA’ AND ‘S’ PREFIXES, 1948–65**

Recorded by: Department of Immigration, SA (CA 959)

Quantity: 236 metres (Adelaide); 114 metres (Sydney)

This series documents the policy, administrative and operational aspects of the Immigration function. It includes personal case files of immigrants. The series is subject to further investigation by National Archives’ staff.


Bates, J J (Corporal) – admission of Japanese wife, 1953

**SPECIAL AUTHORITIES FOR PASSENGERS TO LAND INDEX BOOK, 1949–57**

Recorded by: Collector of Customs, Adelaide (CA 802)

Quantity: 0.04 metres (Sydney)

Please see series description on p. 227. This series contains files of war brides entering South Australia. The brides are listed under their husbands’ surnames.
CORRESPONDENCE FILES [IMMIGRATION], 1953–
Recorded by: 1953–74 Department of Immigration (CA 51)
1974–75 Immigration Group, Department of Labor and Immigration (CA 1775)
1975–87 Department of Immigration and Ethnic Affairs (II) (CA 1955); subsequently by other agencies

Quantity: 2 686.5 metres (Canberra); 700 metres (Sydney)

This series comprises individual case files and policy files dealing with matters within areas of interest to the department. Items in the series deal with matters such as applications for assisted passage, passports and naturalisation, deportation orders and related policy material.

Admission of Japanese wives of Australian servicemen, part 1, 1941–55
This file contains examples of cases and applications made by servicemen for the entry of their wives.

Admission of Japanese wives of Australian servicemen, 1953–68
This file includes consideration of the entry of Japanese fiancées.

Exchange of visits

CORRESPONDENCE FILES [TERRITORIES], ALPHA PREFIX, 1899–1983
Recorded by: 1928–41 Territories Branch, Prime Minister’s Department (CA 822)
1941–51 Department of External Territories (I) (CA 42)
1951–56 Department of Territories (I) (CA 60)

Quantity: 241.5 metres (Canberra)

This series, which holds material dating back to 1899, deals with the administration of external territories, including New Guinea, Papua, Nauru, Norfolk Island and New Ireland. Some aspects of the administration of the Northern Territory are also dealt with, eg prisons and prisoners and the employment of government officers. Other subjects dealt with in this series include agriculture, forestry, fishing, Customs and tariffs, trade, land and property (including expropriated property), education, public works, communications, posts and telegraphs, anthropology, archaeology, vulcanology, finance, defence and security, Japanese attack and postwar reconstruction.

Application for permit – Bishop Yashiro (Bishop of Kobe, Japan), 1950
This contains press cuttings and other documents relating to the application by the Anglican Bishop of Tokyo, Bishop Yashiro, to enter Australia on a visit to thank Australian Christians for helping Japanese Christians.
CORRESPONDENCE FILES [PRIME MINISTER’S DEPARTMENT], 1900–56
Recorded by: Prime Minister’s Department (CA 12)

Quantity: 49 metres (Canberra)

Subjects covered in this series include trade, World War II and international relations. A number of files deal with Japanese matters, including imports, pearling, ‘most favoured nation’ status, the rearmament of Japan, atomic energy, prisoners-of-war, Japan’s membership of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), war crimes, reciprocal visits of ministers, the Far Eastern Commission (FEC), the Japanese Peace Treaty, wheat agreements and occupation policies.

Visits to Australia – Japanese wool spinners’ mission, 1954

Visits to Australia – Kawasaki, Japanese Minister for Welfare, 1955

This file deals with Minister Kawasaki’s visit to Australia and New Zealand in order to study their social security systems.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES, OCCASIONAL ‘G’ (GENERAL REPRESENTATIONS) INFIX, 1903–
Recorded by: 1956–71 Prime Minister’s Department (CA 12)
1971 Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (CA 1401); subsequently by other agencies

Quantity: 543 metres (Canberra); 184 metres (Sydney)

This series was raised to deal with general and policy matters handled by this department, which was directly under the control of the prime minister of the day. Subjects covered in this series vary considerably and include political, social, cultural, economic, industry and defence matters. Other matters dealt with include government administration, immigration, honours, international conferences and diplomatic relations with other countries.

Prime Minister’s overseas visit to Japan, 1957

This item concerns preparation for the visit of Australian Prime Minister Sir Robert Menzies to Japan. It includes a tentative program, visits, dinners, Australia–Japan Society matters and joint talks with the Japanese about pearling negotiations, war criminals and trade. Other visits by Japanese and Australian dignitaries between the two countries are recorded in this series. To find them, search RecordSearch using ‘A463, 1956/*’ and ‘A463, 1957/*’.

Japanese parliamentary delegation to Australia – visit to ACT, 1958

A462, 853/10/5
A462, 853/11/7
A463, 1956/1760 part 1
A463, 1958/2446
CORRESPONDENCE FILES [TERRITORIES], 1910–76
Recorded by: 1951–68 Department of Territories (I) (CA 60)
1968–73 Department of External Territories (II)
(CA 1284)
1968 Territories Division, Department of the
Interior (II) (CA 1286)
1968–72 Northern Territory Division(s), Department
of the Interior (II) (CA 1316); subsequently
by other agencies
Quantity: 916 metres (Canberra)

Please see series description on p. 231.

Visit to Australia of Japanese Prime Minister, 1957
The Japanese Prime Minister, Mr Kishi, landed in
Darwin on 6 December 1957. The file contains his
itinerary for Canberra, Perth, Melbourne and Sydney.
It also lists the members of his party.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES, MULTIPLE NUMBER SERIES, 1914–93
Recorded by: 1948–70 Department of External Affairs (II) (CA 18)
1970–87 Department of Foreign Affairs (CA 1382)
1987–89 Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
(CA 5987)
Quantity: 3,436 metres (Canberra)

Please see series description on p. 214.

Japan – relations with Australia – visit of Mr W McMahon to
Japan and Far East, 1951–52
This details the visit of Mr William McMahon, then
Minister of Navy and Air, to Japan, Korea and other
Asian countries in 1951–52.

A1838 contains other files on visits by dignitaries,
especially on the exchange of parliamentary visits, and
cultural relations from 1957–71. The following are
some examples of these types of items.

Cultural relations with Japan, 1960–64
Visitors to Japan – the Prime Minister, Mr Harold Holt, 1967–68
CORRESPONDENCE FILES (CLASSIFIED) [PRIME MINISTER'S DEPARTMENT], 1944–

Recorded by: 1957–71 Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)
1971 Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (CA 1401)
1971 Department of the Vice-President of the Executive Office (CA 1402); subsequently by other agencies

Quantity: 1 129 metres (Canberra)

Please see series description on p. 221.

Australian parliamentary delegation to Japan, 1957–58 A1209, 1957/4579
Prime Minister of Japan, Mr Ikeda – visit to Australia, 1963 A1209, 1963/6541 part A
Discussions with Mr Sato, Prime Minister of Japan, c1967 A1209, 1967/7670 attachment 1
Discussions with Mr Sato, Prime Minister of Japan, 1967–68 A1209, 1967/7670

CORRESPONDENCE FILES (FIRST UNIFORM POST SYSTEM) (TOKYO), 1945–85 A9564

Recorded by: 1945–47 Australian Political Observer to the Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers (SCAP), Tokyo (CA 2969)
1947–52 Australian Mission, Tokyo (CA 2971)
1952–85 Australian Embassy, Tokyo (CA 2972)

Quantity: 55 metres (Canberra)

This series consists of correspondence files used by the Australian post in Tokyo to provide and store information necessary to the conduct of business with the host country (Japan). This series covers the whole range of records kept at the post, including all aspects of post administration; consular functions (incorporating immigration activities); economic and trade relations; aid and training matters; internal and external affairs of the host country and other countries within the post’s representation, reporting and visiting responsibilities; and background information on Australia.

Japan and ANZUS, 1948–65 A9564, 221/4/2 part 1
Australia–Japan political relations – visits to Australia by Japanese politicians and officials, 1954–66 A9564, 228/4/1
This file contains photographs of Rt Hon. Richard Gardiner Casey’s visit to Japan.

Japan – Australian relations – general, 1957–60 A9564, 228/1 part 2
This item contains the speeches of the Japanese Prime Minister Mr Kishi on Japan’s present and future relations with Australia and Japan’s entry into the United Nations. It also contains documents relating to Mr Kawai’s tour of
Australia, the trade fair in Melbourne and an exhibition of Japanese arts and crafts.

**CABINET FILES, ‘C’ (CABINET) PREFIX, 1949–72**

Recorded by: 1968–71 Prime Minister’s Department (CA 12)
1971–72 Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (CA 1401)

Quantity: 17.28 metres (Canberra)

The files in this series were created in the Prime Minister’s Department following its separation from the Cabinet Office in 1968. The Prime Minister’s Department retained the function of advising the Prime Minister on Cabinet business and the Department of the Cabinet Office supplied it with copies of all current Cabinet documents as well as photocopies of documents from earlier Liberal governments (commencing in 1949).

**Discussions with the Prime Minister of Japan, 1967**

The visit of Japanese Prime Minister, Mr Eizaku Sato, was concerned with matters of regional cooperation, relations with Australia, international policy, the Pacific, Australia–Japan cooperation, nuclear non-proliferation, British disengagement from the Asia-Pacific region and Japanese relations with Communist China, Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos and Indonesia. Details of the talks are enclosed.

**CONTACT PRINT ALBUMS FOR VIP VISITS AND OTHER IMPORTANT OCCASIONS, 1954–**

Recorded by: 1954–73 Australian News and Information Bureau (CA 219)
1973–87 Australian Information Service (from 1986, Promotion Australia) (CA 1578)
1987–94 Australian Overseas Information Service (CA 6785)
1994– Public Affairs Branch, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (CA 5987)

Quantity: 23 metres (Canberra)

This series comprises contact print albums of photographs. These albums form an easily accessible visual record of visits to Australia by foreign officials and heads of government as well as of important events in Australia

Prime Minister of Japan, 1956–63
Mr Sato of Japan, 1967
Prince Mikasa of Japan, 1971
Disposal and distribution of Japanese assets

**CORRESPONDENCE FILES [PRIME MINISTER’S DEPARTMENT], 1900–56**  
Recorded by: Prime Minister’s Department (CA 12)  
Quantity: 49 metres (Canberra)

Please see series description on p. 236.

**Disposal of Japanese assets – policy, 1952–56**  
Among the topics discussed in this item are the distribution of Japanese assets in Australia (an amount of only £25 000) to Australian civilians interned by the Japanese during the war, the distribution of £25 to New Zealand citizens similarly interned and the distribution of money by the Red Cross. The file also contains material from the Prime Minister’s Department and extracts from the Federal *Hansard*, which consist of questions and answers about the eligibility of people for receipt of funds from the civilian internees’ fund.

**PHOTOGRAPHS (MISCELLANEOUS PERSONALITIES) AND PUBLICITY MATERIAL (SPECIFIC TELEVISION PROGRAMS), 1901–68**  
Recorded by: 1940–68 Australian Broadcasting Commission (CA 251)  
Quantity: 39.4 metres (Sydney)

This large series comprises three separate sets of publicity material forwarded to, or compiled by, the ABC from 1940 to 1968. The first set contains publicity material relating to television programs produced overseas and broadcast in Australia on the ABC. These tend to date from the mid- to late 1960s. The second set contains publicity material for locally produced television programs, including documentaries. The third set holds photographs of many prominent people from overseas and Australia, including television, radio, stage and concert personalities.

**[Documentary on the status of women in Japan] Stronger since the war?, 1964–66**  
This item contains correspondence about an ABC television program that dealt with the status of women in Japan. The item also contains photographs.

**GENERAL AND CIVIL STAFF CORRESPONDENCE FILES AND ARMY PERSONNEL FILES, c1913–73**  
Recorded by: Department of the Army (CA 36)  
Quantity: 100.6 metres (Melbourne)

Please see series description on p. 218.
Disposition of Japanese assets in Australia to [widows of] former POWs, 1952
This file contains letters from widows of former POWs claiming compensation offered. The material raises questions of eligibility and the difficulties of deciding who was entitled to the compensation.

Distribution of Japanese assets to ex-POW, 1954
This is an example of an individual claiming compensation.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES, MULTIPLE NUMBER SERIES, 1914–93
A1838
Recorded by: 1948–70 Department of External Affairs (II) (CA 18)
1970–87 Department of Foreign Affairs (CA 1382)
1987–89 Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (CA 5987)

Quantity: 3 436 metres (Canberra)

A1838, 1540/1/3/1
This file contains queries on what amounts Australians were still owed by Japanese firms.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES [AMF, TAS], 1924–51
P617
Recorded by: 1921–39 6th District Base, AMF (by 1927–39, also by Contract Board, Tas (CA 1573)
1939–42 District Headquarters, 6th Military District (II), AMF (CA 1574)
1942–46 Headquarters, Tasmanian Lines of Communication Area, AMF (CA 1575)
1946–51 District Headquarters, 6th Military District (III), AMF (CA 1576)

Quantity: 8 metres (Hobart)

This series consists of files covering the administration, operations and activities of the regional commands. It also includes some POW files and claims against the Japanese Government (1944–45).

Japanese prisoner-of-war camps/war crimes – Fukuoka, Hakodate, Kawasaki, Kobe House, 1944
P617, 519/3/189

Claim against Japanese Government by Sergeant P Kerr, 1945
P617, 434/1/142
APPLICATIONS FOR REGISTRATION OF ALIENS, 1939–63
Recorded by: 1939–45 Collector of Customs, NSW (CA 785)
1945–63 Department of Immigration, NSW (CA 957)
Quantity: 3 metres (Sydney)

This series contains the documents of non-European aliens registered in NSW. Most of the registrants are from the Philippines, but others are from America, Brazil and Ethiopia or are French nationals born in Tahiti and Portuguese nationals born in Macau. Some forms relate to Japanese individuals, eg some files contain information on Japanese who lived in Australia before 1939 that is not found elsewhere, while others provide information about the arrival of war brides not available elsewhere.

Kawamura, Yuji (Japanese – arrived Sydney per aircraft), 1958 SP605/10, 2
Takesue, Morimasa (Japanese – arrived Sydney per aircraft), 1961 SP605/10, 667

CORRESPONDENCE FILES, ‘EPJ’ (ENEMY PROPERTY JAPAN) PREFIX, 1939–66
Recorded by: Controller of Enemy Property (CA 655)
Quantity: 5.6 metres (Canberra)

This series contains several hundred files dealing with Japanese firms and individuals whose property was confiscated by the Controller of Enemy Property in December 1941. Most documents contained in these records are financial in nature and detail assets, shares and bank accounts. However, some files also contain personal letters from, and histories of, former Japanese residents attempting to retrieve assets seized on their internment in 1941. The series is best searched by Japanese name.

Iida, Soji – Japan, 1942–43 A1379, EPJ40
This item is digitised.

APPLICATIONS FOR REGISTRATION OF ALIENS, 1941–64
Recorded by: Department of Immigration, NSW (CA 957)
Quantity: 0.18 metres (Sydney)

This series comprises applications for registration and other documents lodged by aliens in NSW. The documents include incoming passenger cards, various forms required to be completed under the Aliens Act, district or locality cards and notification of marriage and changes of address forms. Unless RecordSearch states otherwise, each item includes a photograph of the
Noriko Deakin (Japanese – arrived Sydney per mv Tsingtao), 1963–64

**MISCELLANEOUS PAY DOCUMENTATION RELATING TO PRISONERS–OF–WAR OF THE JAPANESE, 1951–65**

Recorded by: Command Headquarters, Northern Command (II), AMF (CA 1223)

Quantity: 2.34 metres (Brisbane)

This series contains miscellaneous documentation about payments made to former POWs of the Japanese following the sale of Japanese assets in Australia. Also included in the series are applications for payment, records of payment and other papers relating to the payments made to the ex-service personnel or their next of kin.

**Miscellaneous working papers for payments to ex-POWs, 1946–65**

This file contains applications for war gratuities under the 1945 Act; applications for shares in the moneys available from the liquidation of Japanese assets in Australia (see also records in A1379, some of which list Japanese assets in Australia); lists of the names, addresses and service numbers of servicemen and women claiming the payments or their relatives; and administrative instructions concerning the payment of these gratuities.

**Deceased and discharged nominal rolls – payment from sale of Japanese assets to ex-POWs, 1952–63**

The information in this file includes information such as names, addresses, service numbers and amounts paid, and whether the payee is deceased. The material refers only to former POWs (or, if deceased, their next of kin) from Papua New Guinea and Queensland.

**APPLICATIONS TO SHARE IN MONEYS DISTRIBUTED IN RESPECT OF EX-PRISONERS OF WAR OF THE JAPANESE, 1952–64**

Recorded by: Command Headquarters, Western Command (II), AMF (CA 4815)

Quantity: 0.54 metres (Perth)

This series contains applications made by members of the AMF who served during World War II and were POWs of the Japanese. It also contains applications made by relatives of prisoners of the Japanese. Money was available from seized Australian Japanese assets under the wartime national security regulations. Please
note that items in this series are not listed individually
on RecordSearch. To find specific items, contact a
National Archives reference officer.

Hope, Edwin James, 1952–63

A copy of the application form filled in by Private Hope’s
stepmother appears below.

PAYMENT SCHEDULES – DISTRIBUTION OF JAPANESE ASSETS (THIRD PAYMENT), 1963–65

Recorded by: Command Headquarters, Western Command (II), AMF (CA 4815)

Quantity: 0.36 metres (Perth)

This series comprises paymasters’ cash books
(Treasury forms nos 12 and 22) and lists of payouts
made to former POWs (or their families) and others
who suffered at the hands of the Japanese. In 1963 the
amount of £16.10.0 was paid. The forms provide
information such as cash sheet numbers, dates, service
numbers of the former servicemen, amounts paid,
cheque numbers and names and addresses of payees.

Private Edwin Hope’s stepmother applied to share in money being distributed to former
POWs of the Japanese or their survivors, 1963. NAA: PP469/6, WX7022
Trade

**CORRESPONDENCE FILES [CUSTOMS, SA], 1871–1962**  
Recorded by: Collector of Customs, Adelaide (CA 802)  
Quantity: 54 metres (Adelaide)

Please see series description on p. 230.

**Clearance of Japanese ships into foreign ports, 1950**  
D596, 1950/10536  
This file lists the ports to which Japanese merchant marine ships were cleared for entry by the Supreme Command for the Allied Powers (SCAP). The list does not include an Australian port.

**The floating industry fair – Aki Maru, 1960–62**  
D596, 1960/1444  
This file lists the goods available from Japan. The Aki Maru was the ship on which the fair was held in Australia.

**CORRESPONDENCE FILES [CUSTOMS], ‘S’ PREFIX, 1892–**  
Recorded by: Collector of Customs, Adelaide (CA 802)  
Quantity: 98.5 metres (Adelaide)

This series contains correspondence files relating to specific functions of the Collector of Customs, Adelaide. These include shipping registration, tariff classification and distillers’ licences, as well as management functions common to most agencies.

D737, S1964/4183  
This file relates to a tender by a Japanese firm for the laying of the electricity cable to Kangaroo Island in 1964–65. The file details the immigration and other procedures put in place to enable a Japanese crew to perform this work. The Japanese withdrew the tender from consideration.

**Confidential instruction – tyres and tubes from Japan – policy file, 1964–66**  
D737, S1965/4563  
This item contains material dealing with the inaccurate documentation supplied for shipments of tyres and tubes from Japan. This item contains cuttings from The Australian newspaper (from editions published in November 1965 and 1966), in which it was alleged that Japan’s tyre-dumping was harming local companies.
GATT and the International Trade Organisation – membership of Japan, 1947–53
This item contains cablegrams, minutes and long reports between Australia, SCAP and other parties in which they discuss Japan’s request to access GATT. This discussion is continued in A462, 602/2 parts 2 and 3.

Sterling area trade and financial relations with Japan, 1950–51
This item continues the discussion about Japan’s request to access GATT.

Toys – import from Japan – general representations, 1951–54
This item documents concerns of local traders and manufacturers about the importation of toys from Japan. Australian producers wrote to Prime Minister Menzies concerned about the granting of import licences for Japanese toys and the possible competition Japanese trade might pose to Australian businesses.

Agreement on commerce between Australia and Japan, 1961–63
This item concerns the amendment of an agreement on commerce with Japan in 1957. It contains a copy of a treaty of commerce, establishment and navigation between the UK and Japan; details about discussions between Australia and Japan on trade; the agreement in July 1963; and the question of the dis-invocation of GATT Article XXV by Australia against Japan. The effect of the trade agreement with Japan on GATT agreements, international relations and law are also covered.
CORRESPONDENCE FILES [EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND PRIME MINISTER’S DEPARTMENT], 1901–50

Recorded by: 1934–35 Department of External Affairs (II) (CA 18)
1934–50 Prime Minister’s Department (CA 12)

Quantity: 146 metres (Canberra)

This series contains general correspondence covering subjects that came to the notice of the Prime Minister. Japanese items concern the occupation of Japan, reparations, the economic recovery of Japan and trade.

Trading with Japan – policy, 1947–49

This item deals with the opening up of trade with Japan in the postwar period. Questions were asked in the Australian Parliament about the availability of goods and the equitable distribution of goods between the States. The process of re-establishing trade with Japan is documented under SCAP regulations.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES [TRADE AND CUSTOMS], 1905–

Recorded by: 1935–56 Department of Trade and Customs (CA 10)
1956–75 Department of Customs and Excise (CA 62)
1975– Department of Police and Customs (CA 1862); subsequently by other agencies

Quantity: 2 483 metres (Canberra); 254.5 metres (Sydney)

This was the main correspondence series for the Department of Business and Consumer Affairs. It covers a wide range of subjects, but is mainly concerned with censorship and Customs matters, especially in relation to imported goods. A number of items in this series are concerned with Japanese trade matters and Japanese sampans in Australian territorial waters and other shipping matters.

Trade – Japan – inquiries regarding postwar trade, 1947–51

This file contains many letters from Australian firms to government authorities at State and Federal levels applying to register to trade with Japan. A schedule of Japanese products offered for export is included.

PHOTOGRAPHS, 1911–76

Recorded by: The Rt Hon. Richard Gardiner Casey Baron of Berwick, Victoria, KG, GCMG, PC, CH, DSO, MC (CP 24)

Quantity: 4.14 metres (Melbourne)

The photographs in this series cover both official and personal aspects of Lord Casey’s life. The series contains some images of Lord Casey’s trip to Japan in 1955.
Rt Hon. Richard Gardiner visiting Matusushitu [Matsushita?] factory, Japan, 1955

Please see image below.

_MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS (INCLUDING ALPHABETICAL ELECTORATE, GENERAL FILING AND PERSONAL), c1915–82_ M58

Recorded by: 1951–71 The Rt Hon. Sir John McEwen PC, GCMG, CH (CP 47)
1951–56 Department of Commerce and Agriculture – Minister’s Office (CA 48)
1951–71 Department of the House of Representatives – Member for Murray (CA 692)
1956–63 Department of Trade (I) – Minister’s Office (CA 64)
1963–72 Department of Trade and Industry – Minister’s Office (CA 66)

Quantity: 11.34 metres (Canberra)

This series contains material that is principally related to Sir John McEwen’s ministerial responsibilities and interests from 1951 to 1972. Items in this series deal with a wide range of material, including portfolio correspondence, departmental minutes, briefing papers and notes on Cabinet submissions, interview and speech notes, material related to most aspects of overseas visits, press cuttings, press conference notes, personal papers and objects, some departmental files and miscellaneous administrative material. Much of the material is contained in subject or person titled folders. It was assembled after Sir John’s death and does not appear to be in original or easily recognisable order.

Mr Casey, the Minister for External Affairs, at a Matsushita factory in Japan, 1955. _NAA: M1145, 8_
[Personal papers of Prime Minister McEwen] Japan, 1956–59
This item contains a copy of a draft trade agreement with Japan, many press cuttings and photographs, including some of Sir John Gorton.

[Personal papers of Prime Minister McEwen] Trade with Japan, 1960–61
This is one of a number of items in this series that deals with trade with Japan.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES [TRADE], 1921–96
A1313
Recorded by: 1959–63 Department of Trade (I) (CA 64)
1963–72 Department of Trade and Industry (CA 66)

Quantity: 607 metres (Canberra); 528.5 metres (Sydney)

This series contains general correspondence files dealing with Australian external trade matters and, up to 1974, secondary industry, tourism and recreation in Australia. Among the files in this series are some dealing with the wheat trade to Japan for 1959–63. Other files contain complaints from textile works and Australian firms about the loss of orders caused by Australia’s resumption of trade with Japan. To find relevant files within A1313, search RecordSearch using the keyword ‘Japan*’.

Australia–Japan trade agreement working papers pre-1954, 1933–53
A1313, 1969/8052

Japan – wheat main file, 1959–60
A1313, 1960/2475 part 1

Australian export of wool, importance of Japanese market, 1962–66
A1313, 1962/3838

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE FILES [TRANSPORT], 1934–
C273
Recorded by: 1955–73 Department of Civil Aviation, NSW (CA 2041)
1973–77 Department of Transport (III), Air Transport, NSW (CA 2878)
1977–82 Department of Transport (III), NSW (CA 2879); subsequently by other agencies

Quantity: 358.4 metres (Sydney)

This series contains general correspondence files dealing with policy and procedures, maintenance of aerodromes and the organisation of the Department of Transport, NSW.
Qantas Empire Airways Ltd – Sydney–Japan, 1948–57
C273, 1955/3046
This item contains a list of approvals of flights and freight schedules for 1948–51. A Qantas ‘Approval for variation of schedule’ details the flights available.

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE FILES [ABC], 1939–82
C2327
Recorded by: Australian Broadcasting Corporation (CA 251)
Quantity: 14 metres (Sydney)
This series consists of registered and jacketed files raised and maintained by the ABC’s central registry.

Administration – Japan – establishment of Tokyo office, 1966–73
C2327, 3/22/1
This file deals with the establishment of an ABC office in Tokyo close to a press agency. It includes a letter exchanged with NHK (Japan Broadcasting Corporation), which expresses the sentiment that it was ‘a very important task to bring the people of Australia and Japan closer together through our programmes’.

MINISTERIAL CORRESPONDENCE FILES OF R G CASEY, ALPHABETICAL SERIES, 1943–59
A10299
Recorded by: The Rt Hon. Richard Gardiner Casey Baron of Berwick, Victoria, KG, GCMG, PC, CH, DSO, MC (CP 24)
Department of External Affairs (II) (CA 18)
Quantity: 3.6 metres (Canberra)
This series contains the Rt Hon. Richard Gardiner Casey’s ministerial correspondence files from 1951–55, along with some files relating to his former role as Minister for National Development. To find files concerned with the Japanese, search RecordSearch using keywords (eg ‘Japan*’, ‘trade’ or ‘peace’).

Japan – trade relations, 1953–55
A10299, J4
This file deals with a number of different topics, such as war crimes, the defence of Japan, the International Geophysical Year, Japan’s application to join the UN and the pearl fisheries dispute. It features the opinions of Arthur Calwell, Sir Arthur Tange (Secretary of the Department of External Affairs, 1954–65) and Richard Casey on the rearmament of Japan and Australia’s continuing fears about the danger from Japan.

Japan – Australian policy, 1955
A10299, J3
This file documents interdepartmental differences on Australia’s approach to issues such as trade, Customs, pearl fisheries, the civil aviation agreement and what External Affairs called ‘our failure to give Japanese businessmen the same rights of entry into Australia as other Asiatics’.
CORRESPONDENCE FILES (CLASSIFIED) [PRIME MINISTER’S DEPARTMENT], 1944– A1209
Recorded by: 1957–71 Prime Minister’s Department (CA 12)
1971 Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (CA 1401)
1971 Department of the Vice-President of the Executive Office (CA 1402); subsequently by other agencies

Quantity: 1 129 metres (Canberra)

Please see series description on p. 221. This series has many files relating to Australian trade with Japan. To find them, search RecordSearch using the keywords ‘Japan’ and ‘trade’.

Australia/Japan trade, 1949–55 A1209, 1957/5469
This item contains parliamentary questions and their replies (including charts) on the value of Australian trade with Japan after the removal of ‘trading with the enemy’ restrictions. Other topics covered in the file include Japan’s accession to GATT, commercial relations with Japan and the need to increase trade with Japan.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES [TRADE], 1948–62 A1310
Recorded by: Department of Trade (I) (CA 64)

Quantity: 48 metres (Canberra)

This series contains general correspondence files dealing with Australian trade from 1956 to 1960, including the trade agreement with Japan in 1957. This series contains many files dealing with Japan. Of particular interest are files containing press clippings, including one file that contains a collection of editorials. Other files deal with the reaction of the Japanese press and of Australian and New Zealand organisations. To find relevant files, search RecordSearch using the keyword ‘Japan*’.

Australia–Japan trade agreement – responsibility for action, 1957 A1310, 805/118/15
Japan–Australia trade press cuttings – Chamber of Manufactures, 1957 A1310, 840/121/4

MENZIES AND HOLT MINISTRIES, ‘C’ (CABINET) PREFIX, 1949–85 A4940
Recorded by: Secretary to Cabinet (Cabinet Secretariat [I]) (CA 3)

Quantity: 78 metres (Canberra)

This is the main series maintained by the Cabinet Office for the administration of Cabinet business between 1958 and 1967. The files are arranged by subject and contain Cabinet papers, some of which date back to 1949. The files
generally include original copies of submissions and supporting papers, including their circulation details; minutes of decisions; memoranda to interested ministers and departments advising them of decisions; and any related papers, such as briefs, on submissions prepared by officers of the Prime Minister’s Department.

Admission of Japan as observer to 6th session of contracting parties to GATT, 1951
This item is related to A462, 561/7, discussed on p. 246. It continues the discussion about Japan’s request to access GATT.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES [ANTARCTIC DIVISION], 1950–
Recorded by: Antarctic Division (CA 1873)
Quantity: 73.26 metres (Hobart)
This is the main correspondence series of the Antarctic Division from 1972. Items in this series deal with organisation, personnel, Acts and regulations, aircraft, biology, buildings and accommodation, equipment, stores, fire and fire precautions, glaciology, maps and geographic surveys, meteorology, oceanography, photography, satellites, radio, ships, upper atmosphere research work and water supplies at the Antarctic bases. The series also contains policy and security-classified files.

International Geophysical Year, part 2, 1956–57
The item contains a Japanese proposal for a regional conference.

CORRESPONDENCE – COPIES SUPPLIED TO SIR WILLIAM SPOONER (MINISTER FOR NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT), 1951–64
Recorded by: Sir William Henry Spooner KMCG, MM (CP 246)
Quantity: 1.26 metres (Sydney)
This series consists of unregistered files containing copies of correspondence supplied to Senator Spooner’s office when he was Minister for National Development (1951–64). Each file in the series deals with a particular subject, such as oil, uranium, food production, coalmining and regional development. The files are grouped together according to particular areas of responsibility within Senator Spooner’s portfolio. The whereabouts of most files in this series are unknown.

Queensland and coal export to Japan, 1953
This file deals with a 1953 investigation into the export of Queensland and Victorian coal to Japan. It includes correspondence and memoranda from the President of the Mutual Society (Washington) to the Minister for
National Development, and from the Minister concerning the visit of a Mr Reinbach, of the Victorian State Electricity Committee, to Japan to discuss the good market for coal in Japan. Press items concerning Dr Evatt’s statements about coal surpluses and replies to Evatt are included in this item.

**CORRESPONDENCE FILES [TRADE, WA], ‘P’ PREFIX, 1962–71**

**PP415/1**

Recorded by: 1962–63 Department of Trade (I), WA (CA 2892)
1963–71 Department of Trade and Industry, WA (CA 2898)

Quantity: 32 metres (Perth)

This series contains correspondence files dealing with administration, staffing, organisation, functions and policy matters. Other items include information about operational matters, economic surveys, exports and imports and foreign investment, along with minutes and records of conferences, seminars and correspondence on issues affecting trade and industry (both primary and secondary) within WA.

**Surveys – Japanese investment in Australian manufacturing industry – general, 1969**

This item contains letters about an inquiry by the Regional Director, Office of Secondary Industry into Japanese investment in all sectors of the manufacturing industry other than mining.

**Business cooperation**

**CORRESPONDENCE FILES [TREASURY], 1901–78**

**A571**

Recorded by: Department of the Treasury (I) (CA 11)

Quantity: 535 metres (Canberra); 72 metres (Sydney)

This is the main correspondence file series of the Department of the Treasury (I). A number of items in this series relate to both pre- and postwar Japan. Prewar files concern financial arrangements under wartime conditions. Postwar files deal with trade, information on Japan, foreign exchange and other matters.

**Overseas investment in Australia by Japanese nationals, 1955–68**

This file contains proposals for Japanese capital investment in mining in WA and other industries in Victoria, particularly at Moe. It also includes public reactions to the proposals. Issues of Asian labour and immigration are raised. This item is digitised.
CORRESPONDENCE FILES, OCCASIONAL ‘G’ (GENERAL REPRESENTATIONS) INFIX, 1903–
A463
Recorded by: 1956–71 Prime Minister’s Department (CA 12)
1971 Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet
(CA 1401); subsequently by other agencies

Quantity: 543 metres (Canberra); 184 metres (Sydney)

Please see series description on p. 236.

Australia/Japan Business Cooperation Committee – 4th meeting, 1966
A463, 1966/1764
This item is one of many similar items in this series on
the same topic. It contains reports of discussions, lists
of Australian and Japanese delegates to meetings and
information on joint ventures and other business
matters.

Parliamentary question – Japanese involvement in Australian
industry, 1966
A463, 65/5340
This item contains a copy of a question without notice
asked in the Australian Parliament on 20 October 1965.
This detailed file mostly concerns WA, and deals with
topics such as iron ore and harbour dredging.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES, MULTIPLE NUMBER SERIES, 1914–93
A1838
Recorded by: 1948–70 Department of External Affairs (II) (CA 18)
1970–87 Department of Foreign Affairs (CA 1382)
1987–89 Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
(CA 5987)

Quantity: 3 436 metres (Canberra)

Please see series description on p. 214.

Japanese investment in Australia, 1955–71
A1838, 759/1/12 part 1
The importance of this file lies in its documentation
of the first Japanese inquiries about investment and
business in Australian territory after the war.

Japan – economic relations with Australia, 1965–66
A1838, 759/1 part 13
The possibility of joint ventures with Australia and
missions from Japan are dealt with in this file. It
dокументs the growing trade between the two countries
and Australia’s slowness to develop the relationship.
MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS (INCLUDING ALPHABETICAL ELECTORATE, GENERAL FILING AND PERSONAL), c1915–82

Recorded by: 1951–71 The Rt Hon. Sir John McEwen PC, GCMG, CH (CP 47)
1951–56 Department of Commerce and Agriculture – Minister’s Office (CA 48)
1951–71 Department of the House of Representatives – Member for Murray (CA 692)
1956–63 Department of Trade (I) – Minister’s Office (CA 64)
1963–72 Department of Trade and Industry – Minister’s Office (CA 66)

Quantity: 11.34 metres (Canberra)

Please see series description on p. 248.

Visit of Japanese Economic Mission, 1961 M58, 516
This item contains pictures of delegates, speech notes and lists of delegates to the mission.

Japan visit (1963) – filing, 1963–64 M58, 518
This item documents a visit to Japan by Mr McEwen in August 1963 to discuss business cooperation.

Japan, 1965–66 M58, 525
This item contains personal correspondence between leaders and companies involved in the meeting of the Joint Cooperation Committee.

Japanese interview – C Itoh, 1967 M58, 526
The documents in this file focus on the unfavourable attitude expressed towards Japan in Canberra, especially in the Department of Trade. It contains particular criticism of Mr McEwen and the way in which the Department of Trade handled tariffs and trade matters. It contains speaking notes on the importance of a trade treaty in the relationship and issues relating to perceived breaches of the Customs Act, along with investigations into these by Japan’s Ministry of International Trade and Industry.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES [COMMERCE AND AGRICULTURE], 1935–56 A609

Recorded by: 1948–56 Department of Commerce and Agriculture (CA 48)
1956 Department of Primary Industry (I) (CA 63)

Quantity: 194 metres (Canberra)

This series is a consolidation of four previous Commerce and Agriculture series. These series dealt with administration, marketing, research, reconstruction and agricultural production. Still extant files from these series were top-numbered into A609 when it was created.
The files contain reports, correspondence, addenda, minute papers, statistics, Cabinet submissions and press cuttings. Topics covered include marketing arrangements and contracts, shipping and transport of agricultural produce, research into agricultural production in Australia, agricultural produce for foreign aid, techniques of agricultural production and the administrative aspects of agricultural production.

**Japanese commercial representation in Australia, 1951–52**

Japan wanted to establish an agency in Australia but Cabinet decided that anything in advance of the signing of the peace treaty with Japan could not be approved.

**CORRESPONDENCE FILES (CLASSIFIED) [PRIME MINISTER’S DEPARTMENT], 1944–**

Recorded by:

- 1957–71 Prime Minister’s Department (CA 12)
- 1971 Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (CA 1401)
- 1971 Department of the Vice-President of the Executive Office (CA 1402); subsequently by other agencies

Quantity: 1 129 metres (Canberra)

Please see series description on p. 221.

**Double taxation agreement between Japan and Australia, 1968–70**

This item deals with questions about avoiding double taxation of income flowing between Australia and Japan, negotiations on shipping and investment matters, Cabinet decisions and departmental submissions.

**Australian–Japanese oceanographic project on the Great Barrier Reef, 1968–71**

An offer of a marine research vessel by the *Yomiuri Shinbun* newspaper led to a proposed joint Australian–Japanese project using a submersible. It was seen as useful in exploring and reporting on the Rib Reef area off Townsville, which had been heavily infested by crown-of-thorns starfish.
CORRESPONDENCE FILES [IMMIGRATION], 1953–

Recorded by: 1953–74 Department of Immigration (CA 51)
1974–75 Immigration Group, Department of Labor and Immigration (CA 1775)
1975–87 Department of Immigration and Ethnic Affairs (II) (CA 1955); subsequently by other agencies

Quantity: 2 686.5 metres (Canberra); 700 metres (Sydney)

Please see series description on p. 235.

Australia/Japan Business Cooperation Committee conference[s], Canberra, 1964–73

This item relates to the question of Australian–Japanese joint ventures. It contains agenda papers for a conference in Canberra in 1964, along with a list of participants; newspaper cuttings about a conference held in 1970; various papers relating to joint ventures; and a discussion of the problems Japanese firms experienced staffing branches in Australia, including obtaining entry permits for the wives of Japanese technicians posted here. This item is digitised.

Japanese interests in mining ventures in WA [includes Hansard extracts from 24th Parliament of WA], 1952–72

Other files in this series deal with the same topic.

Salvage

CORRESPONDENCE FILES [TERRITORIES], 1910–76

Recorded by: 1951–68 Department of Territories (I) (CA 60)
1968–73 Department of External Territories (II) (CA 1284)
1968 Territories Division, Department of the Interior (II) (CA 1286)
1968–72 Northern Territory Division(s), Department of the Interior (II) (CA 1316); subsequently by other agencies

Quantity: 916 metres (Canberra)

Please see series description on p. 231.

Nan’yô Bôeki Kaisha Ltd (Japanese salvage team) – re-entry into Northern Territory, 1956–60

In July 1956 this company requested permission to salvage wrecks, mostly warships, in Darwin Harbour. However, concern was expressed about the possible use of foreign labour on the Australian mainland. Other documents discuss matters relating to equipment, wages and conditions of workers, lists of the ships and companies involved in the enterprise.
CORRESPONDENCE FILES – CLASSIFIED ‘301’ [DEFENCE], 1928–58  
A816
Recorded by:  
1935–39 Department of Defence (II) (CA 19)  
1939–42 Department of Defence Co-ordination (CA 37)  
1942–58 Department of Defence (III) (CA 46)

Quantity: 89.2 metres (Canberra)

Please see series description on p. 232.

Japanese salvage operations in Darwin Harbour, 1956  
A816, 40/301/704
The file contains applications from firms to salvage wrecks from Darwin Harbour. One applicant, Nan’yô Bôeki Kaisha, was instrumental in Japan’s southern advance before the war.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES [HEALTH], 1959–93  
E51
Recorded by: Department of Health, Northern Territory Divisional Office (also known as the Northern Territory Medical Service) (CA 1042); subsequently by other agencies

Quantity: 45 metres (Darwin)

Please see series description on p. 222.

E51, 1959/1130
This file contains quarantine inspection reports of the salvage fleet along with the 1959 crew lists of the Seizan Maru, the Nashu Maru and the tugboat Bôei Maru. These lists provide details about the crew members’ ages, their places of birth and engagement and their positions on the ships. The quarantine reports illustrate Australian concerns about disease and the introduction of animal or bird life, which were to be seized and destroyed if found on the ships. The file demonstrates concern over disposal of waste – both trade and human – into waterways.

Postwar security

CORRESPONDENCE FILES [PRIME MINISTER’S DEPARTMENT], 1900–56  
A462
Recorded by: Prime Minister’s Department (CA 12)

Quantity: 49 metres (Canberra)

Please see series description on p. 236.

Rearmament of Japan – miscellaneous representation, 1951–55  
A462, 451/3
This file contains letters and petitions to the government against allowing Japan to rearm.
This item contains correspondence between the Police Special Branch, Adelaide and the Commissioner of Police about Japanese sailors taking photos and measuring the wharf. The photographs were published in the papers. Archie Cameron, then the Member for Barker (SA) in the House of Representatives, asked questions in Parliament, which led to an investigation by ASIO.

This item contains letters from citizens complaining about Japanese photographing ports, such as Townsville and Portland, and coastlines.

War and defence – atomic energy – Japan, 1954–56

CORRESPONDENCE FILES (CLASSIFIED) [PRIME MINISTER’S DEPARTMENT], 1944-
Recorded by: 1957–71 Prime Minister’s Department (CA 12)
1971 Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (CA 1401)
1971 Department of the Vice-President of the Executive Office (CA 1402); subsequently by other agencies

Quantity: 1 129 metres (Canberra)

Please see series description on p. 221.

Japanese rearmament, 1952–57
This file contains a long report on legislation regarding the national safety agency that was to replace the Japanese Army. It details the training, organisation and personnel of the agency. The issue of the rearming of Japan is discussed in this file. The attitudes of the governments of Australia and the US are represented. By 1957 there is evidence that the US was moving towards the acceptance of the idea of Japan having nuclear weapons.

Japan – nuclear capability, 1968–73
This items contains a scientific report about Japan’s Atomic Energy Commission and nuclear matters published by the Joint Intelligence Bureau, Australian Department of Defence.
Cultural exchanges

**CORRESPONDENCE FILES, OCCASIONAL ‘G’ (GENERAL REPRESENTATIONS) INFIX, 1903–**

**Recorded by:** 1956–71 Prime Minister’s Department (CA 12)
1971 Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (CA 1401); subsequently by other agencies

Quantity: 543 metres (Canberra); 184 metres (Sydney)

Please see series description on p. 236.

**Exhibition of old Japanese paintings, 1956–59**
This item contains discussions between Hal Missingham of the National Gallery in Sydney and the Prime Minister’s Department concerning the cost of an exhibition of 20 to 30 pre-eighteenth century Japanese artworks, which was to travel to each Australian State. No Japanese paintings of such importance had ever previously been sent to Australia.

**Australian gift to Japan for memorial to Japanese MP, Yukio Ozaki, 1959–60**
This item contains details of an Australian–Canadian delegation’s visit to the Ozaki Memorial Hall and a copy of a speech containing information about Yukio Ozaki. Little known in Australia, Ozaki was a liberal Japanese politician who opposed his country’s policies in China and Manchuria. He was imprisoned by the Japanese Government during World War II and after 1945 urged reconstruction of Japan on a democratic basis.

**Typhoon disaster – Korea and Japan, 1959–60**
This file concerns Australian assistance to Japan and Korea in the aftermath of typhoons.

**NSW request for Commonwealth attitude to Japanese participation in Remembrance Day ceremonies, 1960**
This file is concerned with the protocol of Japanese representatives laying wreaths on Remembrance Day. It also provides a history of the protocols for wreath-laying by diplomatic missions posted in Australia.

**National Land Afforestation Promotion Committee of Japan – gift of seeds to Australia, 1964–65**
The Australian Olympic Federation was presented with seeds after its members presented the Speaker of the Japanese Diet with a parcel of Australian seeds at the Tokyo Olympics.

**Asahi Evening News – Japan – message from prime minister, 1965–70**
This item contains a copy and an English translation of the *Asahi Evening News* for 18 March 1970, which
dealt with Expo ’70, held in Osaka, Japan. The item also contains letters about plans for a special statement of 400 words to be made to the Japanese people by a former Australian Prime Minister, Sir Robert Menzies, on the 25th anniversary of the end of World War II.

**CORRESPONDENCE FILES, MULTIPLE NUMBER SERIES, 1914–93**

Recorded by: 1948–70 Department of External Affairs (II) (CA 18)
1970–87 Department of Foreign Affairs (CA 1382)
1987–89 Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (CA 5987)

Quantity: 3436 metres (Canberra)

Please see series description on p. 214.


A1838, 570/5/1/3

This file concerns the appointment of Japanese translators, announcers and correspondence officers to Radio Australia in 1960. The programs broadcast to Japan spoke of the trading relationship that existed between Australia and Japan and the development of mutual understanding through private and public visits. The item includes newspaper cuttings from Mainichi and questions about the effectiveness of the broadcasts in 1961.

**Cultural relations with Japan – policy, 1963–65**

A1838, 553/1/27 part 1

The East–West Major Project (Tokyo Symposium), organised by the Japanese National Commission for UNESCO, was attended by two Australian participants, one of whom was T W Eckersley of the Australian Embassy. The file also contains a Cabinet submission to promote cultural exchanges.

**CORRESPONDENCE FILES REGARDING TELEVISION PROGRAMS, 1955–74**

Recorded by: Australian Broadcasting Commission (CA 251)

Quantity: 11.16 metres (Sydney)

This series contains correspondence and policy files for the ABC’s Federal Programs Department. Subjects dealt with in this series include programs policy; general administration and financial matters; planning; program presentation and research; special sessions; concerts, musical, educational, rural, religious and other programs; Four Corners; drama; serials; ballet; and hours of transmission. Items in this series dealing with Japan concern the Japan Prize and exchanges of films in cooperation with the Department of Trade.

**ABC Japan Prize, 1965–68**

SP1299/2, TV29/6/9 part 1

This item contains copies of completed entry forms and lists of people appearing in documentaries.
CORRESPONDENCE REGARDING RADIO PROGRAMS, 1942–76
Recorded by: Australian Broadcasting Commission (CA 251)

Quantity: 11.16 metres (Sydney)

Items in this series deal with a variety of subjects including State symphony orchestras, book reviews, public figures, ABC archives, transcriptions of radio programs, current affairs programs and matters of general interest.

Japan/Australia art exchange, 1962–64
This item contains letters from children in Japan about a trip to Australia and information about a trip by Australian children to Japan in 1963 as the result of an art competition. The itinerary of the trip (from 15–26 May 1963) and a report of the tour are included in the file.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES – RADIO PROGRAMS, 1960–73
Recorded by: Australian Broadcasting Commission (CA 251)

Quantity: 13 metres (Sydney)

This series contains correspondence and policy files for the ABC’s Federal Programs Department. In addition to programs policy, general administration and financial matters, items in this series also deal with history, planning, the ABC’s relations with the British Broadcasting Commission, transcripts, program presentation and research, special sessions, concerts, musical and other miscellaneous programs, regional radio stations, parliamentary elections, sporting events, general talks, Radio Australia, newsreels, Colombo Plan Fellows, hours of operations, changes of frequency and historical records.

NHK – Japan, 1966–68
This item concerns celebrations for Australia Day 1968 when a corresponding broadcast in Japan could not be organised because of programming difficulties.

GORTON AND McMAHON MINISTRIES – CABINET FILES, ‘CO’ (CABINET OFFICE) PREFIX, 1960–85
Recorded by: 1968 Secretary to Cabinet (also known as the Cabinet Secretariat) (I) (CA 3)
1968–71 Department of the Cabinet Office (CA 1285)
1971–72 Cabinet Office (CA 1472)

Quantity: 31.5 metres (Canberra)

One of the administrative changes instituted by the Gorton Government was the establishment of the
Cabinet Office as a separate Department of State. This lead to the creation of A5882, which is the main series for the administration of Cabinet Office business. The contents of items in this series are more extensive than those of the preceding ‘C’ series as there are no supporting Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet files. The items contain submissions, minutes of decisions, supporting papers, briefs, press statements, press cuttings and memoranda relating to matters considered by the ministry, the Cabinet and Cabinet committees. Items relating to Japan deal with fishing agreements, visits and trade matters.

Expo '70 – Japan World Exhibition – Osaka, 1970
Expo 1970 was held in Osaka, Japan. This file contains material relating to Australia’s preparations for the exhibition. It also contains information about the Expo’s theme, ‘Progress and Harmony’, and Australia’s interpretation of it; the Australian exhibits; a map of the exhibitions; the appointment of Australian representatives; the choice of exhibits; and the importance of Japan to Australia in the development of trade. This item is digitised.

Australian schoolchildren present origami cranes, a symbol of peace, to the Japanese Consul-General, Melbourne, 1985.
NAA: A6180, 17/6/85/3
### APPENDIX 1  BASIC CHRONOLOGY OF AUSTRALIA–JAPAN RELATIONS, 1831–1976

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1831</td>
<td>Probable first contact between Australians and Japanese in Japan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1858</td>
<td>Australian merchants trading from Yokohama</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1866</td>
<td>Repeal of the Tokugawa Seclusion Acts permitting Japanese people to travel outside Japan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1868</td>
<td>Meiji Restoration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1860s–1870s</td>
<td>Visits by Japanese entertainers and trade exhibitors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1879</td>
<td>Alexander Marks appointed Honorary Consul in Melbourne</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1880s</td>
<td>Pearling activities and indentured labour begins in Queensland and Western Australia. First known Japanese merchants open for business in Melbourne after international exhibitions in Sydney and Melbourne</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1886–87</td>
<td>Japanese village exhibitions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Colonial Conference decides on uniform laws against the entry of Chinese and naturalisation of Chinese residents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1888</td>
<td>First known Japanese importer opens for business in Sydney</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1890</td>
<td>Kanematsu Shoten opens in Australia, Sydney</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1894–95</td>
<td>Sino–Japanese War</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1894</td>
<td>Anglo–Japanese Commercial Treaty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The Intercolonial Conference agrees to pass uniform immigration laws and place a general ban on ‘coloured’ immigration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Appointment of the Honorary Consul in Sydney</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1900</td>
<td>Queensland agreement with Japan to limit Japanese residents to a maximum of 3,247</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1901</td>
<td>Immigration Restriction Act – responsibility for immigration now lies with the Commonwealth (Act amended in subsequent years)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1902</td>
<td>Anglo–Japanese Alliance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1903</td>
<td>New South Wales sends J Suttor to Kobe as trade representative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1904</td>
<td>Immigration Restriction Act amendments to permit entry of students, merchants and tourists</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1904–05</td>
<td>Russo–Japanese War</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1911  Agreement between the United Kingdom and Japan extended
1914–18  World War I
1916  Alien registration introduced in Australia
1919  Paris Peace Conference – the Japanese Racial Equality Amendment to the Covenant of the League of Nations defeated
1922  Washington Conference
1923  Great Kantoo Earthquake in Japan
1929  Wall Street Crash begins the Great Depression of the 1930s
1931  Manchurian crisis begins
1932  Ottowa Conference
1933  Manchurian crisis deepens
1934  Hitler’s rise to power
1933  Australian Eastern Mission, John Latham visits Japan
1935  Japanese Goodwill Mission to Australia – Yampi Sound controversy
1936  Trade Diversion Dispute
1937  Japan’s military offensive in China
1938  Pig-iron dispute
1939  Menzies Government establishes diplomatic relations with Japan
1940  Alien registration reintroduced and preparations made for internment of Japanese
1940  Appointment of Sir John Latham as Australian Minister to Tokyo. Mr Kawai arrives as Japanese Minister to Australia. Japan advances into North Vietnam.
1940–41  Japan occupies all of Indo-China – Australia supports British and American economic measures against Japan
1941  United States Government freezes Japanese assets
26 July
7–9 December  Japan attacks Pearl Harbour and Malaya
1942  Fall of Singapore
15 February
19 February  First Japanese air raid on Darwin
8 March  Japanese occupation of parts of New Guinea
4–8 May  Battle of the Coral Sea
31 May–1 June  Japanese midget submarine attack on Sydney Harbour
August  First civilian exchange of internees

1945

6 August  Bombing of Hiroshima
2 September  Signing of the Surrender of Japan

1945–49  Ban on entry of Japanese to Australia

1946  British Commonwealth Occupation Force sent to Japan

1950

June  Outbreak of the Korean War
       Menzies Government permits re-entry of Japanese to Australia

1951

September  Peace Treaty – Japan–United States of America (Mutual Security Treaty)
       First war bride entry to Australia

1957  Exchange of prime ministerial visits between Menzies and Kishi

1960

November  Japanese floating fair held on board the Aki Maru visits Australia

1961  Japan–Australia Fellowship Association established

1966  Alterations to the immigration policy to accept Asian immigrants on a limited basis

1976  Basic Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation signed, extending ‘most favoured nation’ treatment to Japan and admitting Japanese to Australia on the same basis as Europeans
APPENDIX 2 RESEARCH TOPICS

In almost every section of this guide, topics for research can be found. Each year more records become available to the researchers and old topics become worth revisiting. Some areas of particular interest are listed below for the period before World War II. For the postwar era, consult the section headings in each chapter.

• Social class and the application of the Immigration Restriction Acts (1890s to 1930s).
• Media perceptions of the relationship between Australia and Japan prior to 1941.
• Australia’s experience of the Russo-Japanese War and its influence on Australian cultural perceptions of the Japanese.
• Cultural contacts: their nature and significance in the Australia-Japan relationship pre-World War II as compared with post-World War II.
• Official visits to Australia by Japanese: their nature and purpose prior to World War II.
• Nature and purpose of Australian delegations to Japan, a comparison of pre- and post-World War II intentions and perceptions.
• Trading with the enemy.
• Japanese consuls-general in prewar Australia.
• State differences in the rights and restrictions of aliens in Australia under the White Australia Policy.
• Japanese ships and crews.
• Japanese language study before 1939.
• Quarantine issues.
• The Japanese wool buyers and the wool industry in Australia.
• Prewar defence force study of Japan.
• Japanese information gathering about Australia from the 1880s to 1941.
• Techno-nationalism in Australia and Japan in the 1950s and 1960s.
• The use of Japanese technicians in the development of Australian enterprises in the 1950s.
• Joint ventures – a question of immigration or workplace relations?
• The repatriation of Australian nationals from Japan 1940-41.
• Japanese women immigrants.
APPENDIX 3 SELECT BIBLIOGRAPHY

This bibliography contains sources used in the introduction to this guide apart from the archival material on which parts of the introduction were based. The list is a selection only of the large amount of material available on Australia–Japan relations. This selection has been made from books and articles concerning major topics in the guide and includes sources that continue to have relevance to current research as well as the latest works in this field.


Bevege, M, Behind Barbed Wire: Internment in Australia during World War II, University of Queensland Press, St Lucia, Qld, 1993.


Jones, N, Number 2 Home: A story of Japanese Pioneers in Australia, Fremantle Arts Centre Press, North Fremantle, 2002 (concentrates on Western Australia only).

Jones, P, and Oliver, P M (Eds), Changing Histories: Australia and Japan, Monash Asia Institute, Melbourne, 2001.


--- ‘Manchester V. Japan: The Imperial Background of the Australian Trade Diversion Dispute with Japan, 1936’, Australian Outlook, 30(3), 1976.


APPENDIX 4 OTHER GUIDES TO THE COLLECTION

The Archives creates and maintains guides to records in its collection to help researchers identify and locate records relevant to their research. The guides currently available and those in preparation are listed below.

Research guides series


17  *Sound Recordings in the National Archives*, by Helen Cross and Margaret Chambers, 2001, 125 pp.

**Australia’s Prime Ministers guide series**


**Other published guides**


**APPENDIX 5  ADDRESSES OF NATIONAL ARCHIVES’ OFFICES**

The main office of the National Archives is located in Canberra, where we have galleries and a reading room. We also have offices and reading rooms in each State capital and in Darwin. Records in our collection can be accessed via our website, viewed in our reading rooms or copies obtained from the National Reference Service.

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About this guide

Australia’s relationship with Japan has always been multi-faceted. The Japanese were allies during World War I, enemies during World War II and trading partners in peacetime.

This guide comprehensively lists records held by the National Archives on Australia’s relations with the people and government of Japan from the mid-nineteenth century. The records cover Japanese immigration to Australia, the White Australia Policy and Japan’s reaction to it, trade, Japan’s southward expansion in the 1920s and 1930s, the experiences of World War II, the postwar occupation of Japan, the Peace Settlement and the redevelopment of the bilateral relationship.

Allies, Enemies and Trading Partners is an essential reference for anyone interested in the dynamic and complex Australia-Japan relationship.

About the author

Dr Pam Oliver, Honorary Research Associate of Monash University, has worked as an academic researcher and secondary and tertiary teacher for more than 20 years. She has published articles and edited and contributed to books about Australia-Japan relations and Japanese immigration to Australia. Pam has an MA and PhD in History from the University of Melbourne and an MA (Monash) in Japanese Studies. Her other interests include organic and heritage gardening and music.

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