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MG 649 – Stefan Chiarantano Postcard Collection

Extent: 18 postcards in black and white and color.

Dates: 1908-1940.

Biographical and Collection Note: These cards were collected by Toronto based photographer, filmmaker and writer Stefan Chiarantano during a stay in Japan in the early 2000s. His time teaching English as a second language in Japan led to a career sharing travel experiences.

Scope and Content: A small collection of Japanese postcards from the Meiji and Taisho era.

Restrictions: There are no restrictions on access.

See also: MG116 -Hans Gruen-Series IV-Postcards

Finding Aid created by Stevie Horn, November 30, 2018.

1. [Barracks scene] – ca. 1938
Scene of unhappy soldiers at work scrubbing floors in their barracks. Stamp featuring general Maresuke Nogi on the back.
2. [View of army with blimp overhead] –ca. 1920-1940
3. Imperial Princesses Making Bandages – 1908.
Red cross postcard showing women in nursing outfits with stacks of bandages.
4. [Japanese General] – ca. 1911
Image of Japanese military leader, possibly General Kodama.
5. [Ink and Paper work] – ca. 1910
Postcard featuring stamp “In Commemoration of Japan-British Exhibition, London, 1910.”
6. [Military Exercises]
Image of Japanese military, possibly with General Kodama (which would place the image in Manchuria).
7. [Amphibious Assault]
Card features three images captioned General Kuroki and his staff at the river Ai; Kohmatang after the battle; and First Army at the river Ai.
8. Shopping scene
Card showing Meiji era market and store where silks are sold.
9. [Men in top hats]
Image of top-hatted men and members of the military outside of what appears to be a government building.
10. [Amphibious Assault]
Two images of Japanese soldiers engaging in amphibious battle tactics.
11. [Japanese military school]
Images of a Japanese military and medical academy.
12. [Men in camp]
Ink painting of military men in camp.
13. [Military parade]

Image of men in uniform standing to attention.

14. [Girls and babies, Japan]

Colourized postcard of a group of young girls with babies on their backs.

15. [Japanese Actors]

What appears to be a group of traditional Japanese actors in full makeup and costume.

16. His Imperial Highness the Crown Prince's Palace

17. [Postcard featuring ink bottle]

Postcard is mostly handwritten.

18. [Samurai] – 1914.

Postcard featuring four samurai (possibly in a theatrical setting).

19. [Japanese boy scouts] – ca. 1912

Group of boys in boy-scout outfits at a camp.

20. [Mitsukoshi Department Store]