

Register of the

Alfred Curt Koch

Collection

Collection 53

Center for Adventist Research
James White Library
Andrews University
Berrien Springs, MI 49014-1440
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Processed by: Denis Kaiser

Alfred Curt Koch Collection

Collection 53

Scope and Content

Alfred Curt Koch was born in January 5, 1898, at Gera (Germany). He entered Seventh-day Adventist church work at the age of 15 (March 28, 1913), and later served as editor of the German magazine *Der Adventbote* from 1922 to 1924. He married Anne M. Saul on February 9, 1924, just five days before they left for missionary work in Japan. He served as secretary of the Publishing Department of the Japan Union Mission (1928-1932). Koch was ordained on March 26, 1930, and later became the director of the Hokkaido Mission of the Japan Union in 1932. Later, he went to the Theological Seminary at Washington, D.C., but retired from the ministry in May 1942, after having a serious nervous breakdown from July 1941 to May 1942. He became an American citizen in 1947. Afterwards he went to several graduate schools on behalf of the United States Civil Service and worked as a translator and classifier of foreign patents for the U.S. Patent Office at Washington, D.C. (from 1957 to at least 1972). He died on June 8, 1980, in Bethesda, MD, at the age of 82 years old.

Koch's book, *Kreuz und Quer Durch Japan (All Over Japan)*; alternative title, *Im Lande der Aufgehenden Sonne [In the Country of the Rising Sun]*) was published by the Pacific Press in monthly installments in the German magazine *Zeichen der Zeit* during 1948 to 1952. The issues for these years are in the the Andrews University Center for Adventist Research. The book is a biographical sketch as well as a history of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in the Japanese islands. Over the years, especially during the time of his denominational employment, Koch authored a number of articles which appeared in church periodicals.

This collection contains several copies of Koch's book/article series *Kreuz und Quer Durch Japan (All over Japan)* and personal belongings that are connected either with Koch's work in Japan or Japan in general.

Arrangement

The collection was arranged by the Center during processing. In general the collection can be categorized as the unpublished writings by Alfred Curt Koch and some personal items.

Provenance

Alfred Curt Koch donated this collection to the Andrews University Center for Adventist Research in March 1972.

Use

All users of this collection are required to complete the “Application to Use Unpublished Records,” and to observe the regulation specified in the “Patron Agreement” and “Researcher’s Code of Conduct.” All records in this collection are open and available for research. Citation for this collection:

Box ____, Folder ____, Alfred Curt Koch Collection (collection 53), Center for Adventist Research, James White Library, Andrews University, Berrien Springs, MI.

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I. Personal Items

Books

- Bx 1 Fld 1 *Taschenwörterbuch der japanischen Umgangssprache: Japanisch-Deutsch.* 2nd ed. Langenscheidts Taschenwörterbücher. Vol. 1. Berlin, Germany: Langenscheidtsche Verlagsbuchhandlung, 1911.
- Bx 1 Fld 2 Y. Sawai and Y. Tuji. *Japanisch-Deutsches Wörterbuch.* Tokyo, Japan: Nanzando, n.d.
- Bx 1 Fld 3 H. V. S. Peeke. *How to Pray in Japanese: Notes on Familiar Hymns, Prayers, Ancient & Modern.* 3rd rev. ed. Tokyo, Japan: Kyo Bun Kwan, 1925.
- Bx 1 Fld 4 *The Gospel According to St. John: English & Japanese.* [English text is taken from the RSV]
- Bx 1 Fld 5 Karl Haushofer, *Japan und die Japaner: Eine Landeskunde.* Leipzig and Berlin: B. G. Teubner, 1923. [contains a personal note in German: "To my dear Alfred Koch, in honorific remembrance and with the best heartfelt wishes for a blessed work in Japan. Cordially devoted at the day of departure. Hamburg, Feb 14, 1924. Johannes Bahlke."]

Language Cards

- Bx 1 Fld 6 "Japanese Language Course" from the *Home Study Institute*

Newspaper Articles

- Bx 1 Fld 7 "Japan: The Strictly Democratic 'Banzai!'," *Reporter*, March 20, 1951, 17-20.
Alvin Rosenfeld, "Israel After Three Years," *Nation*, April 28, 1951, 392-395.
Isaac Deutscher, "The Myth of the Chinese Landlord: Examination of Landholding Shows That Mao Has Been Wrestling With a Ghost," *Reporter*, June 26, 1951, 17-18.
Edgar Ansel Mower, "What Asia Wants," *Harper's Magazine*, October 1951, 67-72.
Hessell Tiltman, "Japanese Labor Faces Peace Abroad, a Battle at Home," *Reporter*, October 2, 1951, 11-13.

II. Writings

Unpublished Writings [by Koch]

Book Manuscripts

- Bx 1 Fld 8 Table of contents for “Kreuz und Quer Durch Japan”
- Bx 1 Fld 9 “Kreuz und Quer Durch Japan” (1st draft)
- Bx 1 Fld 10 “Kreuz und Quer Durch Japan” (2nd draft)
- Bx 1 Fld 11 “Kreuz und Quer Durch Japan” (final draft)
- Bx 1 Fld 12 various extra copies of chapters from “Kreuz und Quer Durch Japan”

Unpublished Writings [by Other Authors]

- Bx 1 Fld 13 W. John, “Sonnenkult im Christentum,” 15 pages.
- Bx 1 Fld 14 Professor Florenz, “Japan, Land und Volk: III. Vortrag,” November 24, 1926 [English: Japan, Country and People: Third Presentation]

III. Miscellaneous

- Bx 1 Fld 15 Letter by A. Vollmer for the Literature Board of the Central European Division to Alfred C. Koch, Hamburg, Germany, on April 22, 1932, in regard to Koch’s paper on “Sonnenkult in Ost and West” [Cult of the Sun in East and West]
 - Information sheet on “13th Sabbath School Offering for Japan,” with handwritten notes
 - Little note about Alfred Curt Koch and that he wanted to have an article back.
 - Little collection of slips from newspaper articles, page-a-day devotional calendars (Adventist), and personal notes on Japan, Pope Pius XI, and Mussolini (January 1, 1931, and January - February 1933)

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