A guide to the Arthur C. Comins and Gompei Kuwada correspondence

Worcester Polytechnic Institute

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Comins - Kuwada

Arthur C. Comins - Gompei Kuwada Papers

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES

Gompei Kuwada and Arthur Comins were friends and classmates at WPI, graduating in 1893. They were charter members of the Tech Co-operative Society, which became a chapter of Sigma Alpha Epsilon in 1894. The Class of 1893 introduces the Goat as WPI's mascot. Members of the class acquired a goat, and Gompei Kuwada was appointed as the keeper of the goat. In an article in the WPI journal, Arthur Comins wrote that Kuwada was chosen as the official mascot-keeper "because he had already injected into class life a few original ideas as to mascots, and had shown quite some latent engineering ability in the loading, transportation, and placating of a usually rampant goat. Moreover, he possessed the only initials in the class that would fit the words Goat-Keeper." (see The Journal of the Worcester Polytechnic Institute, Vol. 31, no. 9, July 1928)

After graduation, Kuwada returned to his home country of Japan, and Comins remained in Worcester. They corresponded regularly after that time until Arthur Comins’ death in December, 1936. After that, Kuwada corresponded with Comins' wife Margaret, through 1948, except after the U.S. entry into World War II.

Gompei Kuwada was born October 7, 1870 in Tokyo, Japan. In 1884 he accompanied his uncle on a visit to the United States, and they saw Benjamin S. Lyman in Northampton, Massachusetts. Mr. Kuwada (the uncle), a mining engineer, had assisted Mr. Lyman in surveying Japanese coal and oil fields. Gompei was enrolled in the Clarke School in Northampton, and later graduated from Northampton High School. At WPI he enrolled in the course in Mechanical Engineering, graduating in 1893. He received the honorary degree of doctor of engineering from WPI in 1928.

When he returned to Japan after graduation, he worked as a mechanical engineer for the Imperial Military Arsenal in Osaka, later moving to Kobe to manage the machine shops at the Kawasaki Dockyard Company. He married Eho Mataki of Osaka; she died in May 1908 after an illness, and he married her sister, Katsuko in November 1908.

In 1910 Kotaro Shimomura, WPI Class of 1888, asked Kuwada to take charge of the mechanical engineering operation of the Osaka Gas Company; in 1916 he began doing construction work for the Japan Dye Stuff Manufacturing Company, which had been established by Shimomura.

During World War I, Japan was unable to obtain textile machine parts from outside the country, Kuwada began a company to manufacture these parts, Nihon Spindle Seizosho, in Osaka in 1918. The spindle company became very successful in the next 20 years, with clients in other parts of the world as well as Japan. Arthur Comins helped Gompei obtain steel from the U.S. Gompei also continued in a leadership position with, and later as an advisor to, Osaka Gas for many years. He also worked in the manufacture of airplanes during the 1930s.

Gompei and Katsuko did not have children, but Gompei took on much responsibility for care of relatives' children at various times throughout his life. He and his wife adopted his sister's son Suenori, and in 1926 Suenori came to Worcester and enrolled at WPI with the Class of 1930. He contracted tuberculosis during his sophomore year and was treated at a private sanitarium in Lunenberg. Although Arthur Comins, his guardian, and the Kuwadas, hoped he would improve, he died there May 2, 1929.

Gompei traveled to the United States several times, and attended several WPI reunions. He died September 13, 1949 in Japan.

Arthur Comins was born August 30, 1971 in Leicester, Massachusetts. He prepared for WPI at Worcester Classical High School, and at WPI was enrolled in the course in Mechanical Engineering. In his obituary in the WPI Journal, he is described as "one of the most delightful gentlemen whom the Institute ever graduated, and one of its most loyal sons...." At WPI he served as class vice-president and president, and was editor-in-chief of the W P I (school newspaper)
and the Aftermath (yearbook). After graduation from WPI, Comins studied at Harvard for a year, then joined his father and brother in Comins & Co., woolen manufacturers, in Rochdale, MA. Later he became president of the J.D. Clark Co., a woolen mill also in Rochdale.

In 1899, Arthur Comins married Margaret Lake. They had two children, John and Betty.

Arthur Comins died in Worcester December 14, 1936.

[Note: Much of the material for these brief biographies was taken from The Journal of the Worcester Polytechnic Institute, Vol. 39, No. 3, Jan. 1936, p.13; Vol. 40, No. 3, Jan. 1937; Vol. 53, No. 3, Jan, 1950.]

SCOPE AND CONTENT

This collection spans the years 1893 through 1949. There are no letters from 1942 through 1944. Almost all the letters were written by Gompei Kuwada, but there are a few notes from his wife, Katsuko, and there are a few letters by Arthur Comins (generally copies of letters Comins sent to Kuwada), and a few to or by other people throughout the collection. At the end are letters sent to Arthur Comins by other people, almost all Japanese men. Quite a few times, Kuwada sent friends and associates to the Comins with letters of introduction, and the Comins entertained them. The collection also contains photographs, many postcards, and other items, including brochures, newspaper articles and pages with four-leaf clovers. Some pages contain sketches done by Kuwada.

Gompei’s letters to Arthur related both to business and personal matters. Gompei recounted to Arthur many of his business ventured, and asked for Arthur's help in making contacts in the U.S. and arranging for shipments of materials to Japan. Probably because they were both involved in the textile business, there was correspondence from and to Mr. Knowles of Crompton and Knowles, and apparently a personal relationship with him. Although almost all the correspondence is from Gompei, he often referred to Arthur's textile business, the difficulties it was facing, and the economic conditions of both the U.S. and Japan.

Many of Gompei’s letters beginning in the early 1930s until the U.S.'s entry into the Second World War in December 1941 (when apparently it became impossible to correspond any longer) discuss Japan's war with China and later its alliance with Germany. Gompei believed that Japan was justified in its actions, and tried in his correspondence to explain Japan's position and was distressed that America and much of Europe seemed to sympathize with China.

After Arthur's death in December 1936, Gompei corresponded with Arthur's wife, Margaret (also affectionately known as "Pudge" in some letters). Once they were able to correspond again after World War II, the Kuwadas asked Margaret to send seeds for planting, and other items. Gompei described privations they suffered during the American occupation of Japan.

Note: Most of the letters from Gompei, after the first few years, have noted (usually small slips of yellow paper) attached to them, with the major points of the letters. These notes were apparently made by Arthur, and are kept with the letters.

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**Comins-Kuwada Correspondence 1892-1921**

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<td>Letter of recommendation from George Alden for A. C. Comins, 6/21/1892</td>
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Page 2
1898 & 1899
Letters to Arthur Comins from Gompei Kuwada

- January 30, 1897 - 10 sides/6 sheets
- March 18, 1898 - 5 sides/4 sheets [2 sides are letter; 3 sheets are lists of paintings and artists]
- June 10, 1898 - 9 sides/5 sheets
- August 19, 1898 - 5 sides/3 sheets
- May 16, 1899 - 3 sides/2 sheets
- September 8, 1899 - 6 sides/3 sheets
- October 29, 1899 - 3 sides/3 sheets, plus photo
- November 24, 1899 - 1 side/1 sheet

1900
Letters to Arthur Comins from Gompei Kuwada

[Gompei Kuwada's trip to United States]

- February 3, 1900 - 3 sides/1 sheet
- February 5, 1900 - 1 side/1 sheet
- February 8, 1900 - 2 sides/2 sheets - from Suez
- March 25, 1900 - 2 sides/1 sheet - from Chicago
- April 1, 1900 - 3 sides/5 sheets - from Cleveland
- April 14, 1900 - 2 sides/2 sheets - from New York
- April 17, 1900 - 2 sides/2 sheets - from New York
- April 20, 1900 - 3 sides/2 sheets - from New Haven
- April 24, 1900 - 2 sides/2 sheets - from Hartford
- May 11, 1900 - 2 sides/2 sheets - from Albany, NY
- May 18, 1900 - to "Mrs. Art" - 4 sides/1 sheet - from U.S.M.S. St. Paul
- May 26, 1900 - 8 sides/2 sheets, with drawings - from London
- June 6, 1900 - 2 sides/1 sheet - from Leeds, England
- June 12, 1900 - 6 sides/3 sheets - from Paris
- July 4, 1900 - 4 sides/1 sheet - from Switzerland
- August 21, 1900 - 6 sides/3 sheets - from Singapore
- September 24, 1900 - 15 sides/14 sheets, with 2 page receipt for parcel sent, and customs declaration rules - from Osaka

1901
Letters to Arthur Comins from Gompei Kuwada

- February 2, 1901 - 6 sides/1 folded sheet plus 1 sheet
- March 26, 1901 - 7 sides/2 sheets, with drawing
- July 4, 1901 - 4 sides/2 sheets
- September 16, 1901 - 1 side/1 folded sheet
- November 3, 1901 - to Mrs. Comins - 6 sides/3 sheets
- November 13, 1901 - 9 sides/5 sheets
- November 20, 1901 - 1 side/1 sheet
- December 2, 1901 - 4 sides/1 sheet

1902
Letters to Arthur Comins from Gompei Kuwada

- January 3, 1902 - 12 sides/3 sheets, plus news clippings and photo
- August 5, 1902 - 16 sides/4 sheets
- October 5, 1902 - 8 sides/4 sheets
- December 5, 1902 - 14 sides/7 sheets

1903 & 1904
Letters to Arthur Comins from Gompei Kuwada

- January 22, 1903 - 6 sides/2 sheets [Gompei beginning his own business]
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<td>February 1, 1919</td>
<td>4 sides/2 sheets [League of Nations/influenza]</td>
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<td>February 16, 1919</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 19, 1919</td>
<td>4 sides/2 sheets</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 22, 1919</td>
<td>2 sides/1 sheet, plus 3 photos</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 24, 1919</td>
<td>3 sides/3 sheets [&quot;notes on a trial order for spindle steel&quot;]</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 27, 1919</td>
<td>3 sides/2 sheets, plus 1 side/1 sheet re. ordering steel</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 2, 1919</td>
<td>2 sides/1 sheet</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 11, 1919</td>
<td>1 side/1 sheet [cables with code re. steel]</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 11, 1919</td>
<td>4 sides/2 sheets</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 13, 1919</td>
<td>2 sides/2 sheets</td>
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<td>August 28, 1919</td>
<td>7 sides/4 sheets</td>
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<td>September 30, 1919</td>
<td>4 sides/4 sheets</td>
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<td>October 5, 1919</td>
<td>3 sides/3 sheets</td>
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<td>March 8, 1920</td>
<td>1 side/1 sheet [letter from treasure department, U. S. Customs Service, re. duty assessment for cloisonné bowl]</td>
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<td>March 22, 1920</td>
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<td>April 12, 1920</td>
<td>4 sides/3 sheets</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 17, 1920</td>
<td>1 side/1 sheet, plus 2 receipts for cloisonné bowl</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 24, 1920</td>
<td>1 side/1 sheet [re. tax for cloisonné bowl]</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 27, 1920</td>
<td>1 side/1 sheet</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 4, 1920</td>
<td>2 sides/2 sheets</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 22, 1921</td>
<td>4 sides/2sheets, plus letter of introduction for Koziro Matsugata, to Arthur Comins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 25, 1921</td>
<td>2 sides/1 sheet, plus news clipping</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 4, 1921</td>
<td>4 sides/1 sheet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 28, 1921</td>
<td>4 sides/2 sheets, plus report from Kuwada's company and paper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 10, 1921</td>
<td>4 sides/3 sheets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 16, 1921</td>
<td>2 sides/2 sheets</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 26, 1921</td>
<td>3 sides/3 sheets</td>
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<td>December 1, 1921</td>
<td>1 side/1 sheet</td>
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**Comins-Kuwada Correspondence 1922-1929**

**Container List**

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<td>Letters to Arthur Comins from Gompei Kuwada</td>
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<td>--January 12, 1922 - 5 sides/5 sheets</td>
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<td></td>
<td>--February 4, 1922 - 5 sides/5 sheets [brown paper/pencil - &quot;Sermon on the Train&quot;]</td>
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<td>--April 1, 1922 - 2 sides/2 sheets, plus 1 side/1 sheet letter to John from Suenori Kuwada</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>--April 14, 1922 - 1 side/1 sheet, plus 4 photographs</td>
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</table>
Box 2  Folder 2  1923

Letters to Arthur Comins from Gompei Kuwada

--January 8, 1923 - 5 sides/3 sheets
--March 4, 1923 - 6 sides/6 sheets
--May 20, 1923 - 8 sides/4 sheets [R.M.S. Empress of Australia, on way to U. S. for 30th WPI reunion]
--August 12, 1923 - 4 sides/4 sheets [Northampton]
--August 29, 1923 - 4 sides/2 sheets, with two August 30 letters, each 1 side/1 sheet [Albany]
--August 31, 1923 - 2 sides/2 sheets [Albany]
--August 31, 1923 - 2 sides/2 sheets [Albany]
--September 2, 1923 - 3 sides/3 sheets [just out of Minneapolis]
--September 5, 1923 - 1 side/1 sheet [Vancouver, reference to disaster in Japan]
--Article from WPI Journal by Gompei Kuwada, 1923
--September 10, 1923 - 33 sides/33 sheets [Reflections on board Empress of Russia]
--September 17, 1923 - 4 sides/1 folded sheet [R.M.S. Empress of Russia]
--September 30, 1923 - 9 sides/5 sheets [Tokyo - Gompei reports nearly 100,000 dead in earthquake]

The same letter is typed on two pages, probably by Arthur
--November 25, 1923 - 4 sides/2 sheets
--November 28, 1923 - 1 side/1 sheet - letter to Gompei Kuwada from Deerfield Academy re. Shinsuke's progress
--December 1, 1923 - 6 sides/3 sheets [Tokyo - staying there temporarily]
--Typewritten pages - 12 pages/12 sheets - of Gompei's letters Dec. 1, 1923-Aug. 31, 1924
--December 29, 1923 - 1 side/1 sheet

Box 2  Folder 3  1924

Letters to Arthur Comins from Gompei Kuwada

--January 3, 1924 - 4 sides/4 sheets
--January 14, 1924 - 1 side/1 sheet - letter of introduction for Chicaco Mataki, Brother of Gompei's wife, Katsuko
--February 4, 1924 - 4 sides/2 sheets, with enclosed Deerfield letter and letter Gompei's son wrote to him
--February 25, 1924 - 11 sides/6 sheets
--March 7, 1924 - 4 sides/2 sheets
--April 13, 1924 - 5 sides/3 sheets
--April 18, 1924 - 4 sides/2 sheets
--April 26, 1924 - 5 sides/3 sheets
--May 20, 1924 - 4 sides/4 sheets [immigration views]
--June 12, 1924 - 6 sides/3 sheets [report on strike]
--June 19, 1924 - 5 sides/2 sheets (one folded)
--July 4, 1924 - 9 sides/7 sheets
--August 8, 1924 - 2 sides/2 sheets
--August 31, 1924 - 8 sides/4 sheets
--September 8, 1924 - 2 sides/2 sheets
--October 3, 1924 - 2 sides/1 sheet, and heavier sheet in Japanese
--October 10, 1924 - 11 sides/11 sheets
--October 18, 1924 - 3 sides/3 sheets
and gas water heater

--April 8, 1926 - 4 sides/4 sheets, plus one typed sheet - Howard Gilmore's letter to Gompei Kuwada

--May 1, 1926 - 2 sides/1 sheet
--May 15, 1926 - 6 sides/3 sheets
--May 18, 1926 - 2 sides/2 sheets [Worcester Academy for Gompei's son, Suenori]
--May 25, 1926 - 3 sides/3 sheets
--May 27, 1926 - 1 side/1 sheet
--August 15, 1926 - 1 side/1 sheet [possibly Suenori will go to Tech]
--August 17, 1926 - 2 sides/2 sheets - from New York City
--September 8, 1926 - 2 sides/2 sheets [letter and itinerary]
--September 9, 1926 - 1 side/1 sheet - from New York City
--September 11, 1926 - 2 sides/2 sheets
--September 12, 1926 - 1 side/1 sheet, with sketch of Congress Hall, Philadelphia
--September 16, 1926 - 3 sides/3 sheets - New York City
--September 17, 1926 - 1 side/1 sheet
--September 19, 1926 - 2 sides/2 sheets
--October 1, 1926 - 2 sides/2 sheets
--October 2, 1926 - 2 sides/2 sheets
--October 4, 1926 - 3 sides/1 folded sheet
--October 4, 1926 - 3 sides/3 sheets
--n.d. - 4 printed sides/2 sheets -- Article: "Does a Nightingale Really Sing?"
--n.d. - 4 printed sides/2 sheets -- Article: "Does a Nightingale Really Sing?"
--October 5, 1926 - 5 sides/3 folded sheets, with sketches
--October 7, 1926 - 2 sides/folded card, also Railway information and Yellowstone drawing, 2 sheets with sketches
--October 8, 1926 - 1 side/1 page memorandum, plus 5 sides/4 sheets - Seattle
--October 8, 1926 - 6 sides/6 sheets [to Mrs. Comins]
--October 9, 1926 - 5 sides/5 sheets
--n.d. - 1 side/1 folded sheet [to Mrs. Comins]
--n.d. - 1 side/1 sheet - partial letter with signature
--October 15, 1926 & October 20, 1926 - 9 sides/6 sheets
--October 21, 1926 - 4 sides/4 sheets - typed - Thoughts on Prohibition by Gompei,
   Plus 4 page transcription
--November 4, 1926 - 2 sides/2 sheets
--November 13 & November 17, 1926 - 2 sides/2 sheets
--November 28, 1926 - 4 sides/4 sheets
--December 1, 1926 - 1 side/1 sheet
--December 5, 1926 - 1 side/1 sheet, plus 4 sheets with bill, etc. for shipping
--December 6, 1926 - 1 side/1 sheet
--December 17, 1926 - sides/2 sheets

Box 2 Folder 6 1927 Letters to Arthur Comins from Gompei Kuwada

--January 3, 1927 - 4 sides/4 sheets
--January 20, 1927 - 5 sides/2 folded sheets
--January 23, 1927 - 1 side/1 sheet [drawings on Palace Hotel Stationery - "Protecting Life and Property"]
--February 4, 1927 - 1 side/1 sheet
--February 12, 1927 - 4 sides/4 sheets
--February 12, 1927 - 1 side/1 sheet
--March 1, 1927 - 3 sides/3 sheets
--March 14, 1927 - 7 sides/4 sheets, plus typed Feb. 16 letter to Gompei from YMCA of WPI
--March 27, 1927 - 3 sides/3 sheets
--March 31, 1927 - 8 sides/5 sheets
--April 9, 1927 - 2 sides/2 sheets
--April 20, 1927 - 7 sides/7 sheets
--May 14, 1927 - 1 side/1 sheet
--June 6, 1927 - 5 sides/5 sheets
--July 4, 1927 - 2 sides/2 sheets
--July 7, 1927 - 2 sides/2 sheets
--July 17, 1927 - 3 sides/2 sheets, plus 3 photos
--July 31, 1927 - 6 sides/3 sheets [Gompei working for Osaka Gas much of the time, and
doing more work on spindles]
--August 16, 1927 - 3 sides/3 sheets
--August 21, 1927 - 3 sides/3 sheets
--August 24, 1927 - 3 sides/3 sheets, plus order for 10 tons spindle steel
--September 11, 1927 - 6 sides/6 sheets
--October 1, 1927 - 3 sides/3 sheets
--October 3, 1927 - 14 sides/7 sheets
--October 6, 1927 - 2 sides/1 sheet
--October 17, 1927 - 2 sides/2 sheets
--October 22, 1927 - 1 side/1 sheet
--November 9, 1927 - 4 sides/4 sheets
--November 20, 1927 - 3 sides/3 sheets
--November 26, 1927 - 4 sides/3 sheets

Box 2 Folder 7 1928

Letters to Arthur Comins from Gompei Kuwada

--January 8, 1928 - 1 side/1 sheet, plus gift card for WPI Alumni Fund
--February 15, 1928 - 4 sides/4 sheets [Gompei appointed technical adviser for
  Osaka Gas]
--February 17, 1928 - 1 side/1 sheet
--March 14, 1928 - 2 sides/2 sheets, plus 2 sketches
--March 18, 1928 - 2 sides/1 sheet
--March 29, 1928 - 1 side/1 sheet
--April 3, 1928 - 3 sides/3 sheets
--April 12, 1928 - 3 sides/3 sheets [Gompei appointed WPI delegate for WPI to
  world engineering convention in Tokyo in Oct. 1929]
--April 28, 1928 - 1 sheet [Western Union telegram from Kuwada to Comins - arrive
  Worcester June 2nd]
--April 30, 1928 - 1 side/1 sheet - Letter from Herbert F. Taylor to Comins
--April 30, 1928 - 3 sides/3 sheets [Pres. Earle offers Gompei honorary degree; Gompei
  will be at graduation]
--May 21, 1928 - 7 sides/2 folded sheets
--June 8, 1928 - 2 sides/2 sheets
--July 21, 1928 - 9 sides/3 sheets - from Hamburg [re. Suenori’s illness/thanking Comins
  for their care of him]
--July 25, 1928 - 4 sides/3 sheets
--July 31, 1928 - 3 sides/3 sheets - from Berlin
--September 18, 1928 - 8 sides/4 sheets - on ship
--October 7, 1928 - 3 sides/3 sheets
--October 31, 1928 - 2 sides/2 sheets, plus newspaper clipping in Japanese
--November 6, 1928 - 2 sides/2 sheets
--November 24, 1928 - 2 side/1 sheet
--December 6, 1928 - 1 side/1 sheet, plus letter to Edward Bauer of Worcester Gas Light
  Co. (2 sheets) re. request for report of Worcester Gas Light from Osaka Gas Co.
--December 31, 1928 - 4 sides/2 sheets
Jan. 2-April 30, 1929

Letters to Arthur Comins from Gompei Kuwada

- January 2, 1929 - 1 side/1 sheet
- January 6, 1929 - 5 sides/5 sheets [doctor's report: Suenori's condition little changed]
- January 29, 1929 - 3 sides/2 sheets
- February 12, 1929 - 6 sides/6 sheets, plus carbon copies of letters to Edward Bauer and Messrs. Research Institute of Combustion Utility (2 pages)
- February 14, 1929 - 1 side/1 sheet
- March 9, 1929 - 5 sides/5 sheets, plus 2 typed
- March 9, 1929 - 2 sides/2 sheets, plus receipt for paid import taxes
- March 12, 1929 - 3 sides/3 sheets [comments re. cable - greatly encouraged, Suenori steadily improving]
- March 15, 1929 - 1 side/1 sheet - letter to Mr. Knowles
- March 21, 1929 - 3 sides/3 sheets [summary of Suenori's recent medical situation/thoughts about Gompei visiting]
- March 30, 1929 - 1 side/1 sheet
- April 9, 1929 - 1 side/1 sheet
- April 16, 1929 - 3 sides/3 sheets, plus diagram of lantern and Western Union telegram [thoughts of Suenori - possibly try Arizona if climate better]
- April 24, 1929 - 2 sides/2 sheets
- April 30, 1929 - 2 sides/2 sheets [re. Arthur's cable "sudden change...failing rapidly...expect anything"]

Box 2 Folder 8

May 8, 1929-Dec. 25, 1929

Letters to Arthur Comins from Gompei Kuwada

- May 8, 1929 - 1 side/1 sheet - Vancouver, on way to Boston
- June 15, 1929 - 30 sides/15 sheets, plus 2 drawings - on ship returning to Tokyo ["sorrowful feelings...new light"]
- June 25, 1929 - telegram ["ceremony Thursday decorated Comins floral Kuwada"]
- July 11 & July 29, 1929 - 5 sides/5 sheets, plus photo [account of service for Suenori]
- July 19, 1929 - 1 side/1 sheet
- August 12, 1929 - 1 side/1 sheet [hundredth day for Suenori/souvenirs to friends]
- August 12, 1929 - 3 sides/3 sheets, plus spindle price list (in German)
- August 18, 1929 - 2 sides/2 sheets
- September 12, 1929 - 1 side/1 sheet, plus newspaper clipping and World Engineering Congress membership card
- September 13, 1929 - 1 side/1 sheet, plus order for safety guards for presses
- September 21, 1929 - 1 side/1 sheet
- September 25, 1929 - 1 side/1 sheet
- September 30, 1929 - 2 sides/2 sheets [sending curio cabinet]
- October 19, 1929 - 1 side/1 sheet, plus invoice for wooden cabinet
- October 21, 1929 - 1 side/1 sheet [re. payment for steel]
- October 24, 1929 - 1 side/1 sheet
- October 18, 1929 - 1 side/1 sheet
- November 1, 1929 - 1 side/1 sheet [letter pertaining to granddaughter of Dr. Von Siebold]
- November 5, 1929 - 1 side/1 sheet, plus program for World Engineering Congress Conference in Tokyo
- November 10, 1929 - 1 side/1 sheet - letter to Mrs. Comins
- November 16, 1929 - 1 side/1 sheet, plus 2 page translation
- November 25, 1929 - 2 sides/2 sheets
- December 25, 1929 - 6 sides/3 sheets ["thoughts recur to Sue...no celebrating mood...Next October I shall be 60...let us plan travel"]
- Undated - 6 sides/3 sheets
### Comins-Kuwada Correspondence 1930-1936

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<td>Letters to Arthur Comins from Gompei Kuwada</td>
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<td>-- January 14, 1930 - 1 side/1 sheet</td>
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<td>-- January 21, 1930 - 1 side/1 sheet</td>
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<td>-- February 12, 1930 - 3 sides/3 sheets [soon leave for Paris via Siberia, plan to be in U.S. in May, will see some folks about spindles]</td>
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<td>-- March 2, 1930 - 6 sides/3 sheets [Katsuko coming to America with Gompei, bad condition of U.S. mills - &quot;yours not the worst&quot;]</td>
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<td>-- March 7, 1930 - 3 sides/3 sheets - translation of German letter concerning the descendants of Dr. Philipp Franz von Siebold, plus one page of Arthur's writing re. von Siebold</td>
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<td>-- March 22, 1930 - 1 side/1 sheet</td>
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<td>-- April 1, 1930 - 1 side/1 sheet</td>
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<td>-- April 17, 1930 - 4 sides/1 folded sheet - Paris</td>
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<td>-- April 27, 1930 - 4 sides/1 folded sheet - Paris</td>
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<td>-- May 14, 1930 - 2 sides/1 sheet - letter to Mrs. Masson from Munich</td>
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<td>-- May 19, 1930 - 11 sides/4 folded sheets - Naples</td>
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<td>-- May 20, 1930 - 1 side/1 sheet - Munich</td>
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<td>-- May 21, 1930 - 2 sides/1 sheet - Munich</td>
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<td>-- May 27, 1930 - 3 sides/1 folded sheet - Berlin</td>
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<td>-- May 29, 1930 - 2 sides/1 sheet - Berlin</td>
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<td>-- June 8, 1930 - 2 sides/2 sheets - Paris</td>
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<td>-- June 15, 1930 - 2 sides/2 sheets - London</td>
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<td>-- June 15, 1930 - 2 sides/2 sheets - London</td>
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<td>-- July 22, 1930 - 3 sides/3 sheets - New York City, includes notes from Mr. Nakada, T. Tada, Masako, Katsuko</td>
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<td>-- October 9, 1930 - 3 sides/3 sheets [Gompei 60 years old]</td>
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<td>-- October 14, 1930 - 4 sides/1 folded sheet, plus floor plan of Gompei's house</td>
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<td>-- October 26, 1930 - 3 sides/2 sheets</td>
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<td>-- November 20, 1930 - 2 sides/2 sheets [strikes at the factory]</td>
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<td>-- November 24, 1930 - 2 sides/2 sheets [sabotage at spindle factory]</td>
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<td>-- December 3, 1930 - 3 sides/2 sheets (one sheet is note from Katsuko)</td>
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<td>-- December 5, 1930 - 2 sides/2 sheets - letter to Margaret Comins from Gompei and Katsuko</td>
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<td>-- December 5, 1930 - 14 sides/14 sheets</td>
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<td>-- December 22 &amp; 23, 1930 - 7 sides/7 sheets &amp; 8 sides/8 sheets [Tada baby born (Masako's)]</td>
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<td>-- December 25, 1930 - 4 sides/4 sheets (2 sheets are letter to Margaret from Katsuko and drawings)</td>
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<td>-- December 31, 1930 - 4 sides/4 sheets</td>
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January 1-May 19, 1931

Letters to Arthur Comins from Gompei Kuwada

--January 1, 1931 - 1 side/1 sheet
--January 11, 1931 - 4 sides/4 sheets - letters to Mrs. Comins from Gompei
--January 15, 1931 - 4 sides/2 sheets
--February 4, 1931 - 2 sides/2 sheets - one to Arthur, plus copy of letter to Sarah Lake
("Aunt Sadie")
--February 4, 1931 - 1 side/1 sheet
--February 14, 1931 - 3 sides/2 sheets
--March 4, 1931 - 2 sides/2 sheets - received telegram from Sadie - will see her and Betty at Hotel Oriental in Kobe in 2 days
--March 8, 1931 - 3 sides/3 sheets - Kyoto [Sadie and Bet arrived]
--March 18, 1931 - 2 sides/2 sheets
--April 3, 1931 - 2 sides/2 sheets
--April 12, 1931 - 6 sides/3 sheets
--April 21, 1931 - 5 sides/5 sheets
--c. April 21, 1931 - 2 sides/1 folded sheet - note from Katsuko [re. Aunt Sadie's and Betty's visit], plus news article in Japanese
--May 2, 1931 - 6 sides/6 sheets -- Tsingtao, China [visiting mills where Gompei's company supplies spindles and rings]
--May 2, 1931 - 3 sides/3 sheets, plus drawings and newspaper clippings
--May 5, 1931 - 1 side/1 sheet
--May 9, 1931 - 5 sides/5 sheets [Description of Arthur's mill affairs is discouraging/ Gompei's company beginning manufacture of nitrided steel rings and spindle blades]
--May 18, 1931 - 6 sides/3 sheets [Mr. Wells sent information on taps and dies]
--May 19, 1931 - 4 sides/1 sheet

June 1-December 29, 1931

Letters to Arthur Comins from Gompei Kuwada

--June 1, 1931 - 6 sides/6 sheets, plus baggage ticket - Tsingtao, China
--June 20, 1931 - 5 sides/5 sheets, plus color sketch from Tsingtao
--July 4, 1931 - 3 sides/3 sheets
--July 10, 1931 - 1 side/1 sheet [going to Shanghai to nail big spindle and ring order/ by separate envelope ordering 5 tons of steel from Wetherell]
--July 27, 1931 - 4 sides/4 sheets
--August 12, 1931 - 1 side/1 sheet
--September 7, 1931 - 4 sides/4 sheets
--September 12, 1931 - 1 side/1 sheet
--October 7, 1931 - 1 side/1 sheet [Mrs. Bruce Lancaster taking 15 dolls to be presented to Worcester's Natural History Museum]
--October 25, 1931 - 3 sides/3 sheets
--October 26, 1931 - 3 sides/2 sheets - letter to Margaret from Katsuko
--November 11, 1931 - 2 sides/2 sheets
--November 18, 1931 - 4 sides/4 sheets [ordering machinery from Mr. Wells]
--November 24, 1931 - 4 sides/4 sheets
--December 2, 1931 - 2 sides/2 sheets
--December 13, 1931 - 3 sides/3 sheets
--December 20, 1931 - 4 sides/4 sheets [sent art $10,500 by wire -- $6,500 to Wells for machinery]
--December 29, 1931 - 3 sides/3 sheets

January 16-May 20, 1932

Letters to Arthur Comins from Gompei Kuwada

--January 16, 1932 - 2 sides/1 sheet
June 2 - December 25, 1935  Letters to Arthur Comins from Gompei Kuwada

--June 2, 1935 - 4 sides/2 sheets
--June 4, 1935 - 2 sides/2 sheets, plus caliper/micrometer postcard
--June 14, 1935 - 2 sides/2 sheets [thoughts on 'Uncle Knowles' death]
--June 23, 1935 - 3 sides/3 sheets
--June 26, 1935 - 11 sides/11 sheets
--July 1, 1935 - 4 sides/4 sheets, plus 1 sheet Account Balance
--July 5, 1935 - 1 side/1 sheet
--July 8, 1935 - 1 side/1 sheet
--July 10, 1935 - 1 side/1 sheet
--July 11, 1935 - 2 sides/2 sheets
--July 15, 1935 - 1 side/1 sheet
--July 27, 1935 - 3 sides/3 sheets
--August 2, 1935 - 3 sides/3 sheets
--August 9-15, 1935 - 4 sides/2 sheets
--August 27, 1935 - 6 sides/3 sheets
--n.d., received about August 20, 1935 - news article: "Who Was Gompei Kuwada?"
--September 18, 1935 - 1 sheet/1 side
--September 19, 1935 - 1 side/1 sheet, plus newspaper articles - 2 from Hampshire Gazette re. Gompei Kuwada, and obit of U. Waldo Cutler, Class of 1874 (plus photocopies of articles)
--September 27, 1935 - 2 sides/2 sheets
--September 30, 1935 - 3 sides/3 sheets
--October 2, 1935 - 1 side/1 sheet
--October 7, 1935 - 4 sides/4 sheets [observations on 65th birthday]
--October 20, 1935 - 4 sides/2 sheets
--n.d., received October 16, 1935 - 1 side/1 sheet [explanation re. pictures sent]
--November 22, 1935 - 3 sides/3 sheets
--December 9, 1935 - 3 sides/2 sheets [concern for Arthur's health]
--December 19, 1935 - 3 sides/2 sheets
--December 25, 1935 - 2 sides/2 sheets

Jan 9 - June 29, 1936  Letters to Arthur Comins from Gompei Kuwada

--January 9, 1936 - 4 sides/2 sheets
--January 25, 1936 - 2 sides/1 sheet [$3,000 gift to WPI and letter to Pres. Earle]
--January 26, 1936 - 4 sides/3 sheets [Russian soldiers in Manchuria - Manchuria and Mongolia must be brought under control of civilization]
--February 6, 1936 - 3 sides/3 sheets
--February 16, 1936 - 4 sides/2 sheets
--March 2, 1936 - 4 sides/3 sheets
--March 8, 1936 - 5 sides/4 sheets
--March 9, 1936 - 1 sheet - Western Union telegraph [won’t arrive in Worcester before May 10th]
--March 12, 1936 - 3 sides/3 sheets [plans for trip/business in Paris]
--March 22, 1936 - 1 side/1 sheet [reach Worcester by May 8th/Katsuko and her niece will accompany]
--March 25, 1936 - 4 sides/4 sheets - to Mrs. Comins
--April 23, 1936 - 1 sheet - Western Union telegraph - arrived San Francisco
--April 24, 1936 - 1 sheet - Postal telegraph [thank you for flowers, from Katsuko and Kiiko]
--April 25, 1936 - 4 sides/4 sheets
--May 3, 1936 - 3 sides/3 sheets - from Chicago
--May 6, 1936 - 1 side/1 sheet - Buffalo, visiting Bet (Comins’ daughter) and George Marcy
--May 8, 1936 - 1 sheet - Western Union telegraph [arrive tomorrow]
--May 31, 1936 - 3 sides/2 sheets (one folded) - on board Cunard White Star Berengaria
--June 4, 1936 - 4 sides/3 sheets - arrive London
--June 8, 1936 - 4 sides/2 sheets, plus pamphlet - in Paris
--June 23, 1936 - 4 sides/4 sheets, plus 3 sheets of drawings
--June 29, 1936 - 4 sides/4 sheets - Paris

--July 3, 1936 - 2 sides/1 sheet, with drawings - Paris
--July 5, 1936 - 1 side/1 sheet, typed - probably by Arthur for telegram to Gompei
--July 6, 1936 - 1 side/1 sheet
--July 10, 1936 - 1 side/1 sheet - Paris [plans to return to U.S.]
--July 16, 1936 - 2 sides/1 sheet - Paris [strike continues/cannot visit works]
--July 18, 1936 - 2 sides/1 sheet [further delays for visit]
--July 21 & 26, 1936 - 3 sides/2 sheets
--July 25, 1936 - 1 sheet - Bill for subscription to The Trans-Pacific
--July 27 & 29, 1936 - 3 sheets - typed messages from Arthur for Western Union telegram
--July 28, 1936 - 1 sheet - telegram from Gompei from Paris
--July 28, 1936 - 2 sides/2 sheets [cable received/must stay in Paris]
--July 30, 1936 - 1 sheet - telegram [arrive NY 7th]
--August 1, 1936 - 2 sides/1 sheet - Paris [at last ready]
--August 5, 1936 - 1 sheet/1 side - Ozean-Brief, ocean letter [due 7th NY]
--August 6, 1936 - 1 sheet/1 side - Arthur’s handwritten note [phone 60226, wireless just received, S.S. Europa]
--August 6, 1936 - 1 sheet/1 side - Arthur’s typewritten note to Gompei
--August 7, 1936 - 1 sheet - Western Union telegram
--August 7, 1936 - 3 sides/2 sheets - in Washington
--August 10, 1936 - 2 sheets - handwritten copies of sent telegraphs
--August 10, 1936 - 1 sheet - telegram from Gompei
--August 24, 1936 - 2 sides/1 sheet
--August 26, 1936 - 1 side/1 sheet - draft of night letter from Arthur to Gompei [forwarding letters from Japan]
--August 31, 1936 - 4 sides/1 folded sheet
--September 6, 1936 - 4 sides/1 folded sheet
--September 10, 1936 - 2 sides/1 folded sheet
--September 11, 1936 - 4 post cards of N.Y.K. line boat, with continuing letter on them (probably mailed with September 10 letter)
--September 18, 1936 - 2 sides/2 sheets - typed copy of letter Arthur sent to Gompei [Arthur’s X-Ray treatments/continuing pain/business matters]
--October 3, 1936 - 2 sides/2 sheets
--October 7, 1936 - 2 sides/2 sheets, plus picture and shipping list; also: 3 sheets - The Foreign Situation, and 2 sides/2 sides -Impression of Travel, August 1936
--October 21, 1936 - 6 sides/3 sheets, plus news clippings
--October 26, 1936 - 4 sides/2 sheets

Box 3 Folder 12 Nov 4 - December 23, 1936 Letters to Arthur Comins from Gompei Kuwada
--November 4, 1936 - 3 sides/3 sheets, plus 8 photographs, 1 brochure with sheeting sample, folder for Kuwada memorial building opening celebration, with photos
--November 11, 1936 - 3 sides/3 sheets
--November 11, 1936 - 4 sides/4 sheets - to Margaret (Mrs. Comins) [John wrote that Arthur is in hospital]
--November 20, 1936 - 1 side/1 sheet
--November 23, 1936 - 2 sides/1 sheet, plus 5 photographs
--December 6, 1936 - 6 sides/6 sheets - with letters from Katsuko and Kiiko, plus drawing [Hitler, Mussolini and Hirohito putting heads together vs. communism]
--December 11, 1936 - 2 sides/2 sheets
--December 11, 1936 - 3 sides/3 sheets - to Podge (Mrs. Comins) [re. Arthur’s health]
--December 15, 1936 - 1 side/1 sheet [Condolence letter after hearing of Arthur’s death]
--December 23, 1936 - 4 sides/4 sheets

Comins-Kuwada Correspondence 1930-1936 MS 24_04 Letter

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<tr>
<th>Container</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Box 4</td>
<td>Folder 1</td>
<td>January 4-June 29, 1937</td>
<td>Letters to Margaret Comins from Gompei Kuwada</td>
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<td>--January 4, 1937 - 2 sides/2 sheets</td>
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<td>--n.d. - 2 post cards, written in Japanese, plus advertisement for Hotel New Osaka</td>
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<td>--January 20, 1937 - 6 sides/6 sheets</td>
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<td>--January 28, 1937 - 1 sheet, typed [re. soap sent by Nihon Spindle, a by-product of silk industry]</td>
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<td>--February 5, 1937 - 1 side/1 sheet</td>
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<td>--February 22, 1937 - 3 sides/3 sheets</td>
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<td>--February 26, 1937 - 1 side/1 sheet</td>
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<td>--March 21, 1937 - 2 sides/2 sheets, plus postcard - Tokyo Railway Hotel</td>
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<td>--March 26, 1937 - 2 sides/2 sheets, plus note from Mr. Green [Gompei will be in Worcester early in June]</td>
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<td>--April 18, 1937 - Card - from ship, “Bremen”</td>
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<td>--April 19, 1937 - 1 sheet, folded, 4 sides, plus 5 photographs</td>
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<td>--April 25, 1937 - 2 sides/1 sheet - from Shunkichi Horiba, who traveled with Gompei and Katsuko</td>
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<td>--April 26, 1937 - 4 sides/1 folded sheet - Paris</td>
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<td>--May 13, 1937 - 4 sides/1 folded sheet</td>
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<td>--May 18, 1937 - 3 sides/1 folded sheet</td>
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<td>--June 29, 1937 - 1 side/1 sheet - letter on front of brochure, Hotel Excelsior, Berlin</td>
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<td>--June 29, 1937 - post card from Berlin</td>
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July 4 - December 19, 1937

Letters to Margaret Comins from Gompei Kuwada

July 4, 1937 - 3 sides/1 folded sheet, including sketches [congratulations on granddaughter]
July 11, 1937 - 2 sides/2 sheets ["this time my work has been entirely to do with plans for aircraft building work...Nippon Aircraft Co. Ltd."]
August 12, 1937 - post card -- Vancouver
August 14, 1937 - 4 sides/1 folded sheet [visit to Worcester over/thoughts about situation in China]
August 14, 1937 - post card -- Vancouver
August 25, 1937 -- 4 sides/1 folded sheet [re. Japan's war with China/hope for better government for Chinese people]
September 7, 1937 - 2 sides/2 sheets
September 21, 1937 - 2 sides/2 sheets [Japan to bombard Nanking]
October 11, 1937 - 3 sides/3 sheets [war was inevitable/depend on discretion of the government]
October 15, 1937 - 3 sides/3 sheets, plus sketch
October 20, 1937 - 1 side/1 sheet - Letter from Louis Rawson - enclosing invoice
October 24, 1937 - 1 side/1 sheet, plus invoice for package, plus 4 sheets - short story, plus 4 sheets - stray thoughts
November 10, 1937 - 2 sides/1 sheet
November 12, 1937 - Post card -- of dancer
December 19, 1937 - 4 sides/2 sheets [no pillaging by Japanese soldiers in Nanking]

January 4-July 22, 1938

Letters to Margaret Comins from Gompei Kuwada

January 4, 1938 - 10 sides/5 sheets - letter to Mrs. Everett Carleton [Gompei defending Japanese government in war/says airplane and spindle businesses are helping]
January 12, 1938 - 1 side/1 sheet
January 28, 1938 - 1 side/1 sheet
February 19, 1938 - 2 sides/2 sheets
March 3, 1938 - 3 sides/3 sheets
March 31, 1938 - Post card
April 8, 1938 - 2 sides/2 sheets, plus newspaper article
May 22, 1938 - 2 sides/1 sheet
June 6, 1938 - 2 sides/2 sheets
July 2, 1938 - 2 sides/1 sheet
July 3, 1938 - 2 sides/1 sheet
July 4, 1938 - 1 side/1 sheet
July 20, 1938 - 1 side/1 sheet
July 22, 1938 - 4 sides/1 folded sheet

August 7 - Dec. 24, 1938

Letters to Margaret Comins from Gompei Kuwada

August 7, 1938 - 4 sides/1 folded sheet
August 16, 1938 - 2 sides/1 sheet
August 30, 1938 - 3 sides/1 folded sheet - notes from Katsuko & Gompei, postcard from Kiiko and picture
September 2, 1938 - 1 sides/1 sheet
September 11, 1938 - 2 sides/2 sheet, plus blotter and sheet with clovers
October 3, 1938 - 2 sides/1 folded sheet -- in Vancouver
October 10, 1938 - 3 sides/1 folded sheet - New York [to Mrs. Comins and Aunt Sadie, Thanks for visit/Japan justified in war with China]
October 13, 1938 - 4 sides/2 sheets
October 16, 1938 - 3 sides/2 sheets
October 18, 1938 - 2 sides/2 sheets
--October 20, 1938 - 3 sides/2 sheets
--October 20, 1938 - postcard of Roosevelt Hotel
--October 24, 1938 - 3 sides/1 folded sheet
--October 28, 1938 - 6 sides/3 sheets, plus newspaper article, Sept. 25, 1938
--October 29, 1938 - 2 postcards
--November 6 & 9, 1938 - 11 sides/3 folded sheets
--November 12, 1938 - 2 sides/1 folded sheet, plus note from Katsuko
--November 23, 1938 - 4 sides/2 sheets
--November 30, 1938 - 1 side/1 sheet, plus menu - dining car, Express Kobe to Tokyo
--December 24, 1938 - 2 sides/2 sheets, plus blank postcard and note from Katsuko

January 4 - February 28, 1939  Letters to Margaret Comins from Gompei Kuwada
--January 4, 1939 - 3 sides/3 sheets, plus photos from pamphlet
--February 1, 1939 - 4 sides/4 sheets
--February 15, 1939 - 1 side/1 sheet
--February 24, 1939 - 1 side/1 sheet, plus photographs of Gompei, family, houses
--February 28, 1939 - 3 sides/3 sheets [sending some of Art's letters to Margaret]

March 1-Nov. 26, 1939  Letters to Margaret Comins from Gompei Kuwada
--March 1, 1939 - 2 sides/1 sheet
--March 26, 1939 - 3 sides/2 sheets
--April 16, 1939 - 4 sides/2 sheets [Gompei's time: 1/3 for textile mills/ 2/3 for government - steel, airpanes]
--April 1939 - 6 sheets, typewritten - "Un Tenement Militaire"
--May 20, 1939 - 3 sides/2 sheets
--June 23, 1939 - 1 side/1 sheet
--July 4, 1939 - 2 sides/2 sheets
--July 24, 1939 - 2 sides/1 sheet, plus 2 photographs
--August 27, 1939 - 3 sides/3 sheets [Louis Berry coming for 6 months/instructor in melting and forging]
--September 6, 1939 - 3 sides/2 sheets [Gompei retiring from presidency of steel company]
--October 7, 1939 - 4 sides/2 sheets
--November 6, 1939 - 1 side/1 sheet
---November 26, 1939 - 3 sides/1 folded sheet [bought house in Kyoto]

January 7 - May 31, 1940  Letters to Margaret Comins from Gompei Kuwada
--January 7, 1940 - 2 sides/1 sheet
--January 21, 1940 - 4 sides/1 folded sheet, plus 2 sides/1 sheet, plus 1 sheet - P.S.
--February 22, 1940 - Washington's birthday -- 2 sides/1 sheet
--February 25, 1940 - 1 side/1 sheet, plus newspaper page
--March 25, 1940 - 3 sides/2 sheets
--April 25, 1940 - Pamphlets from the American Committee for non-participation in Japanese Aggression
--May 3, 1940 - 4 sides/2 sheets, plus booklet with patterns and fabric samples for women's clothing [sees democracy ahead for China]
--May 14, 1940 - 3 sides/3 sheets, plus postcard (2 pages to Aunt Celia, 1 page to Margaret, plus postcard with Katsuko's note to Celia)
--May 31, 1940 - 1 side/1 sheet, plus note with large clovers
June 17 - December 29, 1940

Letters to Margaret Comins from Gompei Kuwada

- June 17, 1940 - 4 sides/2 sheets
- July 3, 1940 - 1 side/1 sheet
- July 15, 1940 - 4 sides/1 folded sheet
- September 4, 1940 - 3 sides/2 sheets
- September 29, 1940 - 1 side/1 sheet
- October 17, 1940 - postcard
- November 4, 1940 - 2 sides/1 sheet
- November 8, 1940 - 2 sides/1 sheet
- November 27, 1940 - 2 sides/2 sheets
- December 12, 1940 - 3 sides/3 sheets
- December 29, 1940 - 3 sides/3 sheets

1941

Letters to Margaret Comins from Gompei Kuwada

- January 4, 1941 - 1 side/1 sheet
- January 22, 1941 - 2 sides/1 sheet
- January 24, 1941 - 5 sides/4 sheets
- February 2, 1941 - 1 side/1 sheet
- February 15, 1941 - 1 sheet - letter from Kiiko Mataki
- February 24, 1941 - 4 sides/4 sheets
- March 8, 1941 - 3 sides/2 sheets
- April 1, 1941 - 1 side/1 sheet
- May 2, 1941 - 3 sides/2 sheets, plus 2 postcards
- May 6, 1941 - 2 sides/2 sheets
- May 25, 1941 - 5 sides/3 sheets, plus photograph of Gompei
- June 18, 1941 - 4 sides/2 sheets, plus newspaper and page of sports day photographs
- July 4, 1941 - 3 sides/2 sheets
- August 1, 1941 - 4 sides/2 sheets, plus greeting from Teddy
- August 9, 1941 - 1 side/1 sheet, plus 3 postcards [mail boats between U.S. and Japan are getting scarcer]
- August 27, 1941 - 2 sides/1 sheet
- September 2, 1941 - 1 side/1 sheet, plus photograph of Gompei and two postcards/
  menu - Osaka Gas Building dining room
- October 14, 1941 - 2 sides/1 sheet

1945 & 1946

Letters to Margaret Comins from Gompei Kuwada

- November 27, 1945 - 2 sides/1 sheet
- February 14, 1946 - 1 side/1 sheet - enclosed with Nov. letter, from Maj. Lardner Moore, who brought letter to U.S. and mailed it
- March 19, 1946 - 2 sides/2 sheets - letter to Mrs. Comins from Aldus Higgins re. letter from Gompei
- March 19, 1946 - copy of letter Aldus Higgins wrote to Gompei Kuwada
- n.d. - 3 drafts of letters from Margaret Comins - to Aldus Higgins, Maj. Moore, and Gompei and Katsuko

Jan. 20-May 29, 1947

Letters to Margaret Comins from Gompei Kuwada

- January 20, 1947 - Postcard [reference to Mr. Comins' portrait in reception room]
- January 28, 1947 - 1 side/1 sheet [request for seeds for Mr. Kataoka and Gompei]
- January 31, 1947 - 1 side/1 sheet [list of seeds]
- February 22, 1947 - 1 side/1 sheet
- n.d. - 5 news clippings, including U.S. military and Japanese, and cut-out of elephant
- March 12, 1947 - 1 side/1 sheet - possible draft of letter, on Comins stationery
- March 21, 1947 - 2 sides/2 sheets, plus painted card attached, addressed to "Pudge"
[deprivations of life under occupation]
--March 25, 1947 - 4 sides/2 sheets [condolences re. death of Aunt Sadie]
--April 1, 1947 - 2 sides/2 sheets - receipt with seed list from Ross Bros.
--May 7, 1947 - 4 sides/2 sheets - letter to George and Betty [re. Aunt Sadie/Japan can
again fly rising sun (national flag)/have new constitution]
--May 9 & 29, 1947 - 4 sides/2 sheets, plus returned letter form
--May 26, 1947 - 4 sides/2 sheets [received seeds/now have maid]

Box 4  Folder 12  June 8-Dec. 25, 1947  Letters to Margaret Comins from Gompei Kuwada

--June 8, 1947 - 4 sides/2 sheets, plus censor detachment note of clipping removed
[mention of scholarships/Kuwadas' support]
--June 9, 1947 - 1 side/1 sheet typewritten - from Mr. Kataoka [thank you letter for
seeds]
--July 4, 1947 - 2 sides/1 sheet, plus postcard from Katsuko
--July 29, 1947 - 6 sides/3 sheets, plus 1 pink sheet with precepts by Tokugawa
--August 9, 1947 - 4 sides/2 sheets [thoughts on the war, and other thoughts]
--August 12, 1947 - folder with note and drawing of peach
--August 17, 1947 - 5 sides/3 sheets - censor-damaged
--August 29, 1947 - 2 sides/1 sheet, plus censor note that letter was found damaged
--September 7, 1947 - 6 sides/3 sheets [story of toad in his garden, also hares, snakes,
frogs, birds, worms - with drawings]
--September 15 & 21, 1947 - 4 sides/2 sheets
--October 7, 1947 - 6 sides/3 sheets, with small note on green paper attached to envelope
made by Mrs. Comins [Gompei's 77th birthday/request for seeds]
--November 4, 1947 - 4 sides/2 sheets [55th reunion coming in 1948/thoughts on WPI]
--November 14, 1947 - 4 sides/2 sheets [still technical advisor for Osaka Gas Co./
sending package with WPI students now with occupation forces]
--November 26, 1947 - 4 sides/2 sheets [report on indemnity Japan must pay/hardships]
--n.d. - 4 sides/2 sheets [one sheet is description of pictures/second probably goes with
erlier letter of Gompei]
--December 1, 1947 - 4 sides/2 sheets
--December 25, 1947 - 4 sides/2 sheets, plus censor slip - letter damaged [thanks for
packages with food], short note from Katsuko

Box 4  Folder 13  Jan. 1-March 8, 1948  Letters to Margaret Comins from Gompei Kuwada

--n.d. - 1 sheet, approximately 8" X 10" - color painting of woman and child
--January 1, 1948 - 2 sides/1 sheet - typed letter on one side [to Gompei re. dues to
Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity] and Gompei's note on other side [requesting
that Mrs. Comins pay dues from his account]
--January 14, 1948 - 2 sides/2 typed sheets - Invoice for seeds from Ross Bros.
--January 17, 1948 - 4 sides/2 sheets [difficulties of life/privations under occupation]
--January 27, 1948 - 4 sides/2 sheets [thanks for Christmas food package/received
invitation to 55th WPI anniversary - would not be permitted to leave Japan for
"mere travel." Story about his water color paintings/thanks for vegetable seeds]
--February 12, 1948 - 4 sides/2 sheets [selling more items to get money]
--February 21, 1948 - 4 sides/1 folded sheet
--February 27, 1948 - 6 sides/3 sheets, plus card with sketch of apple pie
--February 27, 1948 - 1 side/1 sheet - typed letter from Mr. Kataoka thanking
Mrs. Comins for seeds
--March 3, 1948 - 4 sides/2 sheets, plus card with sketch of "petit d'journee"
--March 7, 1948 - 2 sides/1 sheet [thoughts on friends, correspondents]
--March 8, 1948 - 1 side/1 sheet [inquiry re. illustrating for American advertisements]
to "earn a dollar or two"

Box 4  Folder 14  April 1-Dec. 8, 1948  Letters to Margaret Comins from Gompei Kuwada

--April 1, 1948 - 2 sides/1 sheet [wrote to Aldus - letter to read at 55th reunion]
--April 3, 1948 - 2 sides/1 sheet
--April 26, 1948 - 4 sides/2 sheets
--May 24, 1948 - 4 sides/2 sheets
--June 8, 1948 - 2 sides/1 sheet, plus bookmark with clovers and flowers
--June 14, 1948 - 2 sides/1 sheet
--June 21, 1948 - 1 side/1 sheet
--June 29, 1948 - 1 side/1 sheet
--July 4, 1948 - 3 sides/2 sheets
--August 3, 1948 - 2 sides/1 sheet
--August 17, 1948 - 2 sides/1 sheet, plus 2 flower bookmarks
--September 5, 1948 - 3 sides/2 sheets [comments on Gompei’s health]
--September 6, 1948 - 1 side/1 sheet
--September 12, 1948 - 6 sides/3 sheets [report on 55th reunion/WPI memories]
--December 8, 1948 - 2 sides/1 sheet, plus two magazine photos of furniture

Letters from Japanese correspondents, alphabetical, 1931-1940

Letters from other correspondents, souvenirs of Comins' trip to Japan, Photograph of Suenori, Gompei Kuwada professional materials, miscellaneous materials, postcards, c. 1925-1940

Container List

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Container</th>
<th>Folder</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Box 5</td>
<td>Folder 1</td>
<td>c. 1931-33</td>
<td>Letters to Arthur Comins from Gerry Chiba and Naogoro Chiba</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 5</td>
<td>Folder 2</td>
<td>1934-1935</td>
<td>Letters to Arthur Comins from N. Kataoka, President, Osaka Gas Co.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>plus copies of letters to Mr. Kataoka from Mr. Comins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 5</td>
<td>Folder 3</td>
<td>1933-1938</td>
<td>Letters to Arthur &amp; Margaret Comins from Masayuki &amp; Suekichi Kido</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 5</td>
<td>Folder 4</td>
<td>1932-1933</td>
<td>Letters to Arthur Comins from Major K. Kuwada</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 5</td>
<td>Folder 5</td>
<td>1939-1940</td>
<td>Letters to Margaret Comins from Dr. Daiso Minami</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 5</td>
<td>Folder 6</td>
<td>1934-1936</td>
<td>Letters to Arthur Comins from Midori Oda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 5</td>
<td>Folder 7</td>
<td>1932-1935</td>
<td>Letters to Arthur Comins from Tomio Ogata</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>[includes small photo of Comins family]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 5</td>
<td>Folder 8</td>
<td>1933-1934</td>
<td>Letters to Gompei Kuwada and Arthur Comins from Kotaro Shimomura, WPI Class of 1888</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><em>Letters to Gompei Kuwada and Arthur Comins from Kotaro Shimomura, WPI Class of 1888</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 5</td>
<td>Folder 9</td>
<td>1934-1935</td>
<td>Letters to Arthur Comins from Hideo Tsukada</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 5</td>
<td>Folder 10</td>
<td>1935-1936</td>
<td>Letters to Arthur Comins from Tsuneo Yamamoto</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Box 5  Folder 11  1930s & 1940  Letters to Arthur and Margaret Comins from other Japanese correspondents
   [one or two letters in most cases]
Box 5  Folder 12  1935-1937  Letters to Arthur and Margaret Comins from Edith von Siebold
Box 5  Folder 13  1933  Souvenirs of Comins' trip to Japan
Box 5  Folder 14  1933-1935  Letters to Arthur Comins from Japan Tourist Bureau
Box 5  Folder 15  1909, 1929  Suenori Kuwada
   Photograph of Suenori Kuwada, b. 1909, d. 1929,
   plus list of people who sent flowers for Suenori's service, n.d. & 1929
Box 5  Folder 16  n.d.  Professional biography of and by Gompei Kuwada
Box 5  Folder 17  Feb. 1925  Paper by Gompei Kuwada: "Flexible Spindles," received by Arthur Comins
Box 5  Folder 18  various dates and n.d.  Miscellaneous materials
Box 5  Folder 19  Postcards of Kyoto
Box 5  Folder 20  Postcards of Tokyo
Box 5  Folder 21  Postcards of Nikko
Box 5  Folder 22  Postcards of Beppu
Box 5  Folder 23  Postcards of Nara
Box 5  Folder 24  Postcards, various
   [all appear to be from Comins' trip]
Box 5  Folder 25  Postcards, various
Box 5  Folder 26  Postcards - children's school, with notes
Box 5  Folder 27  Postcards of Shanghai, China
Box 5  Folder 27  1932  Postcard
   [Gompei's writing, site visited by Bet and Sadie]