

ISOLATED BY WAR

**WESTERN DEFENSE COMMAND AND FOURTH ARMY
WARTIME CIVIL CONTROL ADMINISTRATION**

Presidio of San Francisco, California
May 23, 1942

**INSTRUCTIONS
TO ALL PERSONS OF
JAPANESE
ANCESTRY**

Living in the Following Area:

All that portion of the Counties of Sacramento, El Dorado, and Amador, State of California, within the boundary commencing at a point where the Phase-El Dorado County Line crosses California State Highway No. 49; thence southerly along said State Highway No. 49 to its intersection with California State Highway No. 16, approximately 7 miles south of Yuba City; thence southerly along said Highway No. 16 to the westerly limits of the City of Sacramento; thence southerly and westerly along said limits of said City of Sacramento to the Sacramento-Sutter County Line; thence following the Sacramento-Sutter County Line southerly and easterly to the Phase-El Dorado County Line; thence southerly along the Phase-El Dorado County Line to the point of beginning; together with all parts of Sacramento, Phase, El Dorado, Amador, and Colusa Counties lying westerly of California State Highway No. 49 not heretofore covered by Civilian Exclusion Orders of this Headquarters.

Pursuant to the provisions of Civilian Exclusion Order No. 95, this Headquarters, dated May 23, 1942, all persons of Japanese ancestry, both alien and nonalien, will be evacuated from the above area by 12 o'clock noon, P. M. T., Saturday, May 30, 1942.

No Japanese persons will be permitted to move into, or out of, the above area after 12 o'clock noon, P. M. T., Saturday, May 23, 1942, without obtaining special permission from the representative of the Commanding General, Northern California Sector, at the Civil Control Station located at:

Washington School,
Perkins, California.

Such permits will only be granted for the purpose of uniting members of a family, or in cases of grave emergency. The Civil Control Station is equipped to assist the Japanese population affected by this evacuation in the following ways:

1. Give advice and instructions on the evacuation.
2. Provide services with respect to the management, leasing, sale, storage or other disposition of most kinds of property, such as real estate, business and professional equipment, household goods, boats, automobiles and livestock.
3. Provide temporary residence elsewhere for all Japanese in family groups.
4. Transport persons and all clothing and equipment to their new residence.

The Following Instructions Must Be Observed:

1. A responsible member of each family, preferably the head of the family, or the person in whose name most of the property is held, and each individual living alone, will report to the Civil Control Station to receive further instructions. This must be done between 8:00 A. M. and 5:00 P. M. on Sunday, May 24, 1942, or between 8:00 A. M. and 5:00 P. M. on Monday, May 25, 1942.
2. Evacuees must carry with them on departure for the Assembly Center, the following property:
 - (a) Bedding and linens (no mattress) for each member of the family;
 - (b) Toilet articles for each member of the family;
 - (c) Extra clothing for each member of the family;
 - (d) Essential personal effects for each member of the family.
 All items carried will be securely packaged, tied and plainly marked with the name of the owner and numbered in accordance with instructions obtained at the Civil Control Station. The size and number of packages is limited to that which can be carried by the individual or family group.
3. No pets of any kind will be permitted.
4. No personal items and no household goods will be shipped to the Assembly Center.
5. The United States Government through its agencies will provide for the storage, at the sole risk of the owner, of the more substantial household items, such as iceboxes, washing machines, pianos and other heavy furniture. Cooking utensils and other small items will be accepted for storage if crated, packed and plainly marked with the name and address of the owner. Only one name and address will be used by a given family.
6. Each family, and individual living alone, will be furnished transportation to the Assembly Center. Private means of transportation will not be utilized. All instructions pertaining to the movement will be obtained at the Civil Control Station.

Go to the Civil Control Station between the hours of 8:00 A. M. and 5:00 P. M., Sunday, May 24, 1942, or between the hours of 8:00 A. M. and 5:00 P. M., Monday, May 25, 1942, to receive further instructions.

J. L. DEWITT
Lieutenant General, U. S. Army
Commanding

SEE CIVILIAN EXCLUSION ORDER NO. 95

On December 7, 1941, the Empire of Japan launched an unprovoked attack on the United States Naval Base at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. Nearly 2,500 American soldiers and civilians died in the strike. This event led the United States to declare war on Japan and its allies, Germany and Italy.

The bombing of Pearl Harbor also brought another tragedy with the forced imprisonment of Japanese Americans in the United States. They had committed no crimes, broken no laws and when their rights were taken away, they were charged with no offenses. Their only "crime" was that they were of Japanese ancestry.



Once Executive Order No. 9066 was issued, Japanese Americans all across the West Coast were forced to shutter or sell their businesses. Dorothea Lange, courtesy of Japanese American National Museum

President Franklin D. Roosevelt issued Executive Order No. 9066 on February 19, 1942. The Order authorized military commanders to exclude any and all persons from military areas. General John L. DeWitt, Commander of the Western Defense Command, issued civilian exclusion orders to forcibly remove all Americans of Japanese ancestry, including citizens, from the West Coast. Gen. DeWitt equated Americans of Japanese ancestry with the enemy stating, "It makes no difference whether he is an America citizen." Congress unanimously passed legislation making it a crime to violate the military orders. The United States Supreme Court upheld the constitutionality of the exclusion orders.

Over 110,000 Americans of Japanese ancestry were forcibly removed and interned in desolate areas of the country's interior for nearly three years. Over 70,000 were American-born citizens. The ostensible basis for the orders was "military necessity" to prevent espionage and sabotage. Yet, not one Japanese American was ever charged or convicted of such acts during the war. Japanese Americans were only given six-days notice to dispose of their homes, farms, businesses, personal property and beloved pets before reporting to internment sites. Two such sites were located in Fresno County, the Pinedale Assembly Center and the Fresno Assembly Center.

"I hereby authorize the Secretary of War, and the Military Commanders whom he may from time to time designate ... to prescribe military areas ... from which any and all persons may be excluded ... " President Franklin D. Roosevelt, Executive Order No. 9066, February 19, 1942

PERMANENT DETENTION CAMPS - called Relocation Centers by the government; housing Internees from March, 1942, and all closed by November, 1945.



- ASSEMBLY CENTERS**
- Puyallup, WA
 - Portland, OR
 - Marysville, CA
 - Sacramento, CA
 - Tanforan, CA
 - Stockton, CA
 - Turlock, CA
 - Merced, CA
 - Pinedale, CA
 - Salinas, CA
 - Fresno, CA
 - Tulare, CA
 - Santa Anita, CA
 - Pomona, CA
 - Mayer, AZ

- RELOCATION CENTERS**
- Manzanar, CA
 - Tule Lake, CA
 - Poston, AZ
 - Gila River, AZ
 - Minidoka, ID
 - Heart Mt., WY
 - Granada, CO
 - Topaz, UT
 - Rohwer, AR
 - Jerome, AR

- JUST. INTERN. CAMPS**
- Santa Fe, NM
 - Bismarck, ND
 - Crystal City, TX
 - Missoula, MT

- CITIZEN ISOLATION CAMPS**
- Moab, UT
 - Leupp, AZ

ASSEMBLY CENTERS - temporary detention camps in operation from late March, 1942 to about middle of October, 1942, where Internee families were kept until relocated to more permanent detention camps called Relocation Centers.

JUSTICE DEPARTMENT INTERNMENT CAMPS - for non-citizens which included Kibei, Buddhist ministers, newspaper people and other community leaders.

CITIZEN ISOLATION CAMPS - War Relocation Authority Penal Colonies for United States citizens

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