

A CLOUD OF SUSPICION SETTLES ON LOYAL AMERICANS

by Ray Hanson

Objectives – TEKS 5.5A

- Students will gain an understanding of the hate and suspicion loyal Japanese Americans endured during World War II.
- Students will analyze photos taken by Ansel Adams of internment camps where about 120,000 Japanese Americans were forced to live for three years.
- Students will empathize with having to leave their home and having their freedom taken away.

Time and Materials

- One or two class periods
- Computer and projector or Computer Lab Time
- <http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/aamhtml/aamhome.html>

Context

Ansel Adams captured pictures of Japanese Americans departing for camp and what life was like living out of two suitcases for the next three years. He showed the resolve these people made of their bleak desert home.

The military officials and angry white neighbors of Japanese Americans cast a cloud of suspicion that they might help Japan invade the United States. Based on fear, President Roosevelt ordered the removal of people, both citizens and non-citizens of Japanese ancestry from the West Coast.

Lesson Outline

Using the photo analysis sheet, ask students to study and respond to the photo of the Japanese-Americans at the train station. Discuss their answers. Explain President F.D. Roosevelt's Executive Order 9066.

(Extension activity: what gives the President the right to do this? Read and discuss the Executive Order 9066 handout)

The removal order allowed each person to take only 2 suitcases of their most precious belongings. If you were placed in that situation, what would you take? Would personal/monetary value mean more or less in your choices?

Show the photo of the young man holding the two suitcases to emphasize size of cases.

In your History Alive notebook list your items you would have to take. Then list up to ten items you were forced to leave behind. What happens to those items left behind? We will share and discuss your responses with the class.

View picture by Lee Russell www.memory.loc.gov/cgi-bin/query picture # 12
Los Angeles, California Japanese Americans going to camp at Owens Valley around baggage car at Santa Fe Station.



Ansel Adams's Manzanar Photographs: Collection Highlights. Presentation is divided into four sections: 1) Daily Life 2) Portraits 3) Agricultural Scenes 4) Sports and Leisure Activities
Library of Congress: <http://Memory.loc.gov/ammem/aamhtml/aamsp.html>



National Archives Photograph, "Japanese near trains during Relocation"; ARC #195538;



Digital ID: cph 3a19330 **Source:** b&w film copy neg.

Reproduction Number: LC-USZ62-17132 (b&w film copy neg.)

Repository: Library of Congress Prints and Photographs Division Washington, D.C.
20540 USA

Use the next photo to discuss children's feelings/fears on what was happening to their families and to them.



Digital ID: cph 3a43937 **Source:** b&w film copy neg.

Reproduction Number: LC-USZ62-43695 (b&w film copy neg.)

Repository: Library of Congress Prints and Photographs Division Washington, D.C. 20540
USA



Manzanar from Guard Tower, view west (Sierra Nevada in background), Manzanar Relocation Center, California.

Assessment TEKS:

Despite injustice suffered by their families, Japanese Americans did all of the following EXCEPT:

1. Forming the Japanese American 442nd Regiment earning more medals than any other army brigade in US history
2. Worked as interpreters in the Pacific Theater of war
3. In 1988, each Japanese American received \$20,000 and a Congressional apology to those subject to internment camp injustice
4. Working in aircraft factories and ship building yards

Informal Assessment:

Review written responses in their History Alive notebooks comparing the same scenario to family members as to what their families might pack into two suitcases.

Transcript of Executive Order 9066: Resulting in the Relocation of Japanese (1942)

Executive Order No. 9066

The President

Executive Order

Authorizing the Secretary of War to Prescribe Military Areas

Whereas the successful prosecution of the war requires every possible protection against espionage and against sabotage to national-defense material, national-defense premises, and national-defense utilities as defined in Section 4, Act of April 20, 1918, 40 Stat. 533, as amended by the Act of November 30, 1940, 54 Stat. 1220, and the Act of August 21, 1941, 55 Stat. 655 (U.S.C., Title 50, Sec. 104);

Now, therefore, by virtue of the authority vested in me as President of the United States, and Commander in Chief of the Army and Navy, I hereby authorize and direct the Secretary of War, and the Military Commanders whom he may from time to time designate, whenever he or any designated Commander deems such action necessary or desirable, to prescribe military areas in such places and of such extent as he or the appropriate Military Commander may determine, from which any or all persons may be excluded, and with respect to which, the right of any person to enter, remain in, or leave shall be subject to whatever restrictions the Secretary of War or the appropriate Military Commander may impose in his discretion. The Secretary of War is hereby authorized to provide for residents of any such area who are excluded therefrom, such transportation, food, shelter, and other accommodations as may be necessary, in the judgment of the Secretary of War or the said Military Commander, and until other arrangements are made, to accomplish the purpose of this order. The designation of military areas in any region or locality shall supersede designations of prohibited and restricted areas by the Attorney General under

the Proclamations of December 7 and 8, 1941, and shall supersede the responsibility and authority of the Attorney General under the said Proclamations in respect of such prohibited and restricted areas.

I hereby further authorize and direct the Secretary of War and the said Military Commanders to take such other steps as he or the appropriate Military Commander may deem advisable to enforce compliance with the restrictions applicable to each Military area hereinabove authorized to be designated, including the use of Federal troops and other Federal Agencies, with authority to accept assistance of state and local agencies.

I hereby further authorize and direct all Executive Departments, independent establishments and other Federal Agencies, to assist the Secretary of War or the said Military Commanders in carrying out this Executive Order, including the furnishing of medical aid, hospitalization, food, clothing, transportation, use of land, shelter, and other supplies, equipment, utilities, facilities, and services.

This order shall not be construed as modifying or limiting in any way the authority heretofore granted under Executive Order No. 8972, dated December 12, 1941, nor shall it be construed as limiting or modifying the duty and responsibility of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, with respect to the investigation of alleged acts of sabotage or the duty and responsibility of the Attorney General and the Department of Justice under the Proclamations of December 7 and 8, 1941, prescribing regulations for the conduct and control of alien enemies, except as such duty and responsibility is superseded by the designation of military areas hereunder.

Franklin D. Roosevelt

The White House,

February 19, 1942.

Transcription courtesy of the [History Matters](#) project.

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