

America's Concentration Camps? Japanese-American Internment



Quiz

- ❖ Describe what the case of Korematsu vs. the US was all about, and why it was significant.

Terms

- ❖ Internment: confinement or restrict to a limited area.
- ❖ Aliens: Foreign-born legal residents of the United States. They are not citizens of the United States.

Federal laws, written in the early 1900s, did not allow Japanese born legal aliens to become American citizens. No such restrictions were placed on German or Italian Americans.

5th Amendment



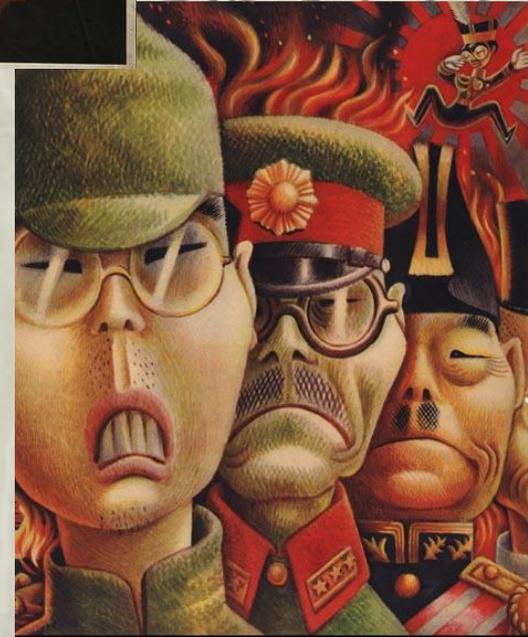
***...No person shall be deprived of life,
liberty, or property without due
process of law.***

**Ours Were
Better, Right?**



How Could This Happen?

- ❖ Anti-Japanese feelings erupt after Pearl Harbor -racism
- ❖ Many Americans felt Japanese were threats to national security -spies, aid invasions, Will they be loyal to America?
- ❖ Military necessity “for their protection,” it was their patriotic duty
- ❖ Economic competition – farmers in California
- ❖ Political reasons - votes



NEW 'FREEZE' REGULATIONS ORDERED FOR JAPANESE

Federal Agents Round Up 736 Suspicious Japanese

By a Times Staff Correspondent

WASHINGTON, Dec. 2.—Federal agents, who moved swiftly after the first Japanese assault on American territory, rounded up 736 suspicious Japanese during last night, Attorney General Biddle announced today. Arrests of disloyal Nipponese presumably still are being made as part of protective moves against any possible fifth column action.

The Justice Department head said special agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation took the Japanese citizens into custody "at various points in the United States and in the Hawaiian Islands."

The immigration and naturalization division of the Justice Department added that departure of all Japanese, both naturalized American citizens as well as aliens, has been curbed, while Asst. Atty. Gen. Berge, in an apparent move to discourage local authorities from impetuous action, warned that Federal agents are entirely re-

sponsible for making arrests of suspicious aliens.

Placed in temporary detention stations the Japanese taken into custody are the majority of those who have been kept under surveillance, Biddle said. Some additional arrests may result but the FBI has seized those who have been principal objects of investigation. Most of the suspects are in confinement on the Pacific Coast.

The arrested Japanese will be taken before special hearing boards as soon as possible with FBI agents presenting evidence which will decide their future status. Some may be granted their freedom but there was no doubt that a substantial number will remain in custody under emergency laws.

More than half of the arrested Japanese, 391, were rounded up in the Hawaiian Islands, the Justice Department disclosed. Estimates are that about 50,000 Japanese are living in Continental United States and 41,000 in Hawaii.

America Seizes Japan Banks

Business Concerns Also Taken Under Custody; All Securities Affected

WASHINGTON, Dec. 2 (AP)—All Japanese banks and businesses in the United States were seized today.

Treasury Secretary Morgenthau disclosed that agents under his orders had taken custody of the banks and business enterprises. The agents, he said, caught Japanese trying to remove \$10,000 worth of securities from one San Francisco concern.

He gave no estimate of the total property seized but it was known that Japanese assets in this country, including business, government and private, amounted to about \$130,000,000.

Morgenthau warned that anyone hiding or destroying, or helping anybody else to hide or destroy, any of the Japanese property ordered seized would be risking 10 years in prison.

Vegetables Found Free of Poisons

Alien Japanese Produce Now Off Market; Custodians Take Charge of Truck Ranches

Hundreds of chemical tests have revealed no poisoning in Japanese-grown vegetables. No alien Japanese vegetables can now be marketed. Alien custodians are being appointed to take charge of the Japanese ranches, most of which are now being patrolled by government agents. But, except for bunch vegetables such as carrots, beets and turnips, no serious shortage has developed here.

These and many other phases of the California war vegetable situation were clarified yesterday at a press conference with produce authorities.

"At present," asserted Homer A. Harris, Associated Produce Dealers and Brokers secretary, "no transactions are being made and none are legal with alien Japanese. Until the Treasury Department orders otherwise this policy will be enforced. We have no idea when vegetables now on farms of alien Japanese can be taken to market."

NO SERIOUS SHORTAGE

"Vegetables are somewhat scarce in the market, but no serious shortage has developed

expected in view of official declarations that such laborers will be drafted for military service only in extreme necessity.

WILL 'MOVE IN'

Plans for "moving in" all alien Japanese truck acreages in the vicinity were said to have been formulated yesterday at a close meeting attended by leading American produce men.

"Within a week," it was predicted by an American grower, "most of the alien growers will be out of the picture. At present many of them are being advised by patrols not to leave the ranches. Contracts with the aliens are voided automatically

Jap and Camera Held in Bay City

Asiatic Caught Taking Pictures on Twin Peaks

General Outdoor Adv Co

**BUY
WAR
BONDS**



**AND SLAPPY
JAPPY**

* **ORTHEL BREWING COMPANY** *



**AMERICAN
FARMER**

JAPS OR HINDUS NOT
WANTED

Anti-Alien Ass'n

A black and white photograph of an elderly man with glasses, wearing a dark jacket, pointing his right index finger towards a sign on a wall. The sign reads "WE DON'T WANT ANY JAPS BACK HERE--EVER!". The man has a serious expression. The background is dark and indistinct.

**WE DON'T WANT ANY
JAPS
BACK HERE--EVER!**

JAPS
KEEP OUT
YOU ARE
NOT WANTED

JAPS KEEP MOVING
This **IS** A WHITE MAN'S NEIGHBORHOOD.



Why just the Japanese?

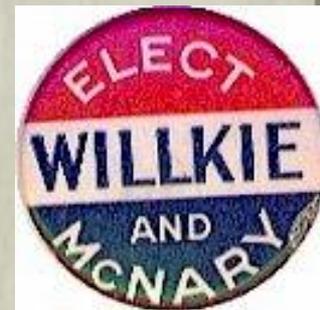
- ❖ What about the Italians and the Germans?
- ❖ Couldn't German and Italian Americans have spied and aid invasions for these two?



Italian Americans

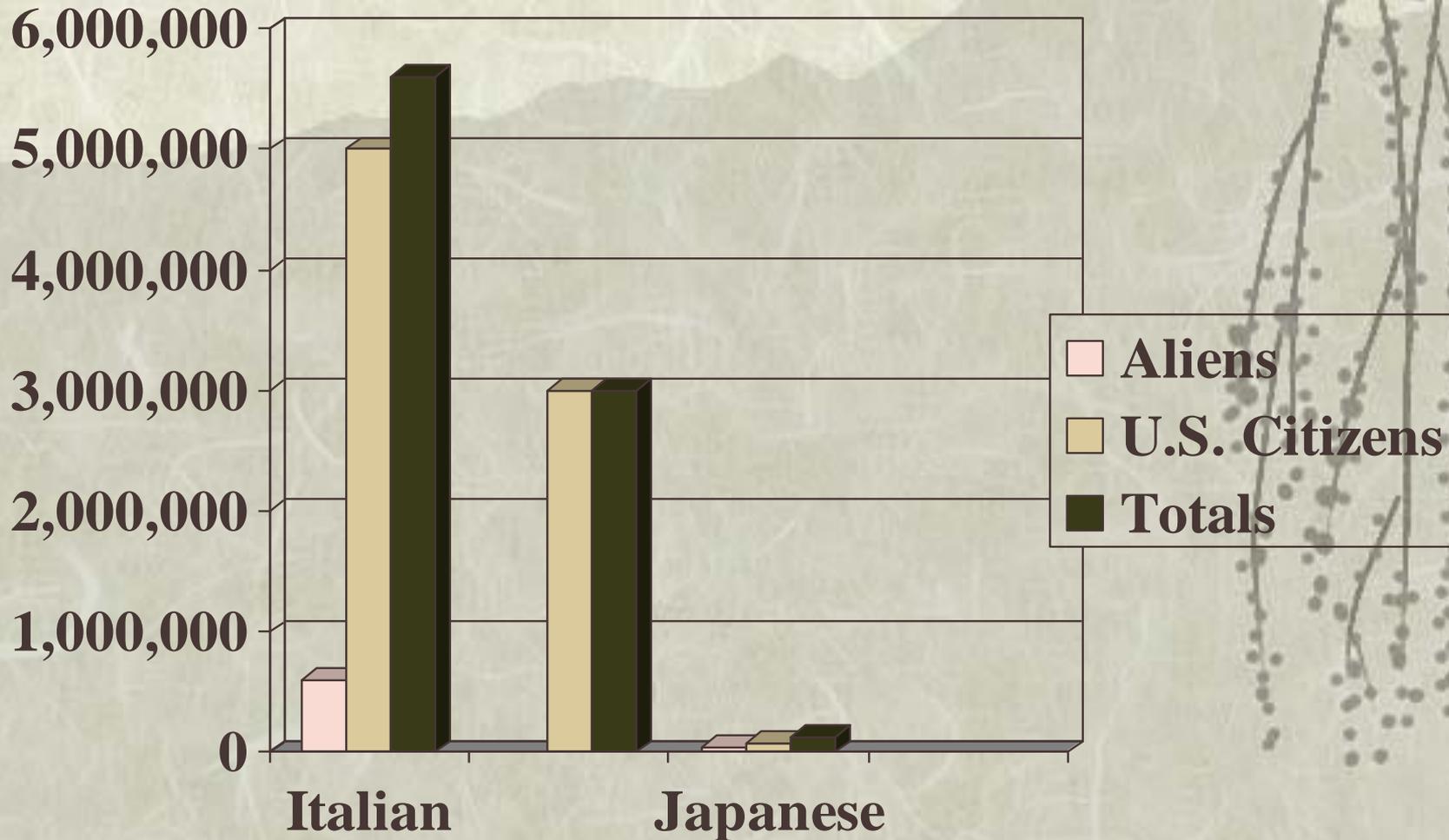


German Americans

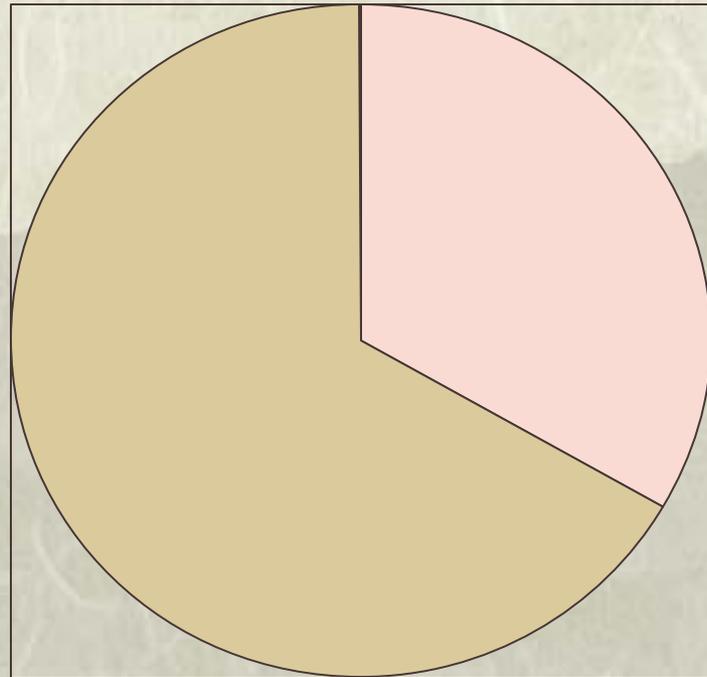


United States Population 1942

Continental United States



Population Totals of Hawaii, 1942



Japanese
Others

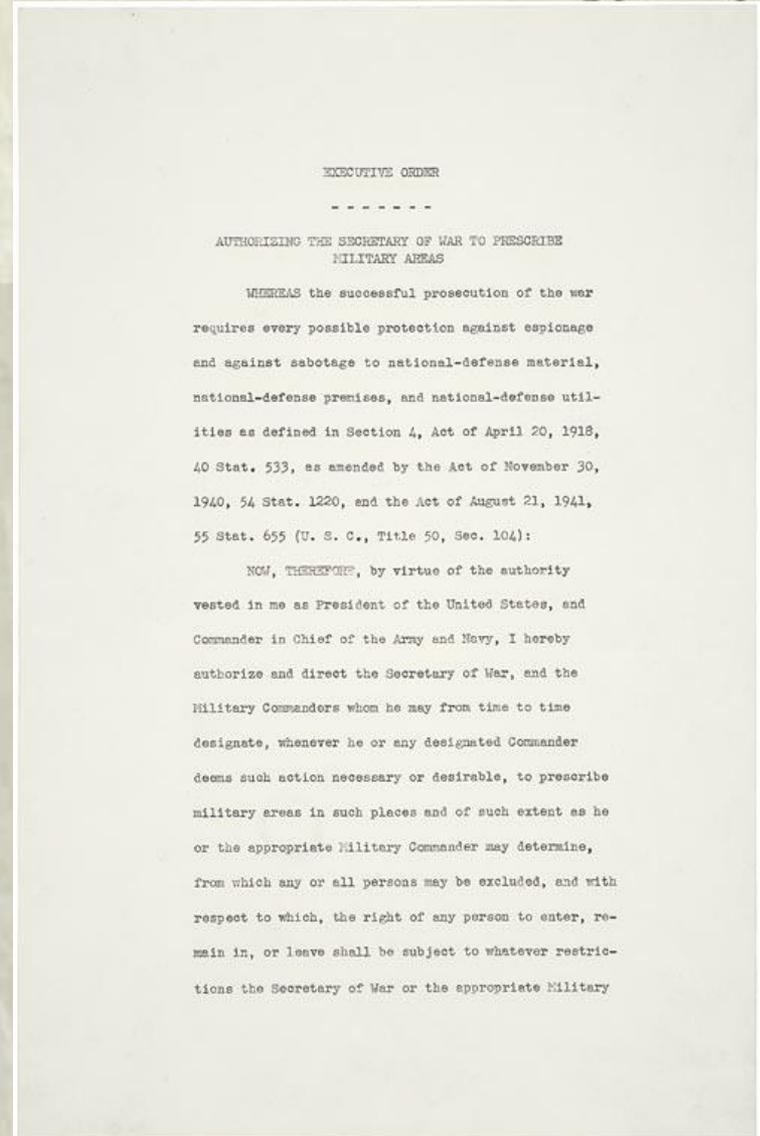
Japanese Ancestry 150000

Total Population 450000

What would you do with these people?

Executive Order 9066

- ❖ Issued by FDR it:
 - Designated parts of the west coast as Military Area No. 1. (The area in the most danger of an enemy attack.)
 - Placed curfews and other restrictions on individuals within Military Area No. 1.
 - Set into motion plans for the relocation and internment of individuals with Japanese, German, and Italian ancestry.



West Coast: Military Zones



JAPANESE AMERICAN INTERNMENT CAMPS



Relocation Begins

- ❖ Japanese aliens and Japanese Americans were given little time to prepare for their internment.
- ❖ They had to sell most of their possessions for little or no money.
- ❖ For example, they gave up their homes, cars, and businesses.



NOTICE

Department of the Army
Fourth Army

Section 5000, Title 38

United States Department of the Army
United States Army Administration

RESTRICTIONS TO ALL JAPANESE

Including the Japanese Island



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

Presidio of San Francisco, California

April 23, 1942

**INSTRUCTIONS
TO ALL PERSONS OF
JAPANESE
ANCESTRY**

Living in the Following Area:

All of those portions of the Counties of Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo, State of California, lying south of a line running easterly from the Pacific Ocean, commencing at a point south of Goatslope and Santa Maria, and west of Narlon, passing through Narlon, Antonio, Camalla, Ormitt, and Gates to California State Highway No. 166, and following said Highway No. 166 to the San Luis Obispo-Kern County Line.

Pursuant to the provisions of Civilian Exclusion Order No. 13, this Headquarters, dated April 23, 1942, all persons of Japanese ancestry, both alien and non-alien, will be evacuated from the above area by 12 o'clock noon, P. W. T., Thursday, April 30, 1942.

No Japanese person living in the above area will be permitted to change residence after 12 o'clock noon, P. W. T., Thursday, April 23, 1942, without obtaining special permission from the representative of the Commanding General, Southern California Sector, at the Civil Control Station located at:

American Legion Building, 112 West Cabrillo Boulevard, Santa Barbara, 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 a limited amount of 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 Friday, April 24, 1942, or between 8:00 A. M. and 5:00 P. M. on Saturday, April 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) Sufficient knives, forks, spoons, plates, bowls and cups for each member of the family;
- (e) 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. 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.
5. Each family, and individual living alone, will be furnished transportation to the Assembly Center or will be authorized to travel by private automobile in a supervised group. 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., Friday, April 24, 1942, or between the hours of 8:00 A. M. and 5:00 P. M., Saturday, April 25, 1942, to receive further instructions.

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



Many thanks for
your Patronage. Hope
to serve you in near future
God be with you till we meet
again.

Mr. and Mrs. K. Iseri



I AM AN AMERICAN TOO!

I came to the United States in 1903.

I worked hard to learn to be a good cook.

I was chef at the Marion hotel from 1914 to 1932, a total of 17 years.

I have operated my own restaurant in Salem since 1934.

I have five children all born here in Salem.

I have been a resident of Salem for over 27 years. I love my wife, I love my children, I love my home and I love my United States.

Member Salem Chamber of Commerce

Frank Tanaka, Owner
Tokio Sukiyaki
222½ N. Commercial

REMARKS OF DILLON S. MYER
DIRECTOR, WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
MARCH OF TIME, JUNE 24, 1943.



Address

The War Relocation Authority has two major jobs: One is to provide temporary homes in ten relocation centers for more than 100,000 evacuees of Japanese ancestry from the Pacific Coast; the other is to assist eligible evacuees to relocate in normal communities where they can contribute to the war effort like other citizens and law-abiding aliens.

These evacuees are not prisoners of war. They are not internees. Two-thirds are American citizens by right of birth. Seventy-two per cent of this citizen group have never seen Japan. They are products of American schools and know no other country. No immigrant of Japanese ancestry has been allowed to enter this country since 1924, and so all aliens of this group have lived here at least nineteen years -- many of them more than forty years.

Not everyone of Japanese ancestry has been evacuated. More than twenty thousand on the United States mainland and a hundred and sixty thousand in Hawaii have continued to live in their homes as normal civilians. Over nine thousand Americans of Japanese descent are members of our armed forces.

To be sure, some evacuees are not fully Americanized. Some American citizens have had all or most of their education in Japan. Those who are pro-Japanese or who for any reason are considered dangerous to the internal security of the United States are not allowed to leave the relocation centers. These are in the minority. It's possible from available records to distinguish between the loyal and the disloyal. More than fourteen thousand evacuees have left the relocation centers. Contrary to charges and insinuations which have been made, I can tell you tonight that not one case of sabotage or other disloyal activity has been reported, either by those who have made the charges or by anyone else.

Remember that a basic principle of the Axis philosophy which we are fighting is oppression of racial minorities. The United States is fighting for principles of democracy which include rights of citizenship regardless of racial ancestry. The future of these 100,000 people of Japanese ancestry, two-thirds of them American citizens, is of concern not to the War Relocation Authority alone, but to the nation as a whole.

Let's not deal with the problem as Hitler would handle it under his Nazi regime, or as Tojo would deal with it in Japan. Let's do it in the American way.

Preparing to leave



Control Centers

- ❖ This is the first place that internees had to report to, here they were registered and given numbered identification tags.













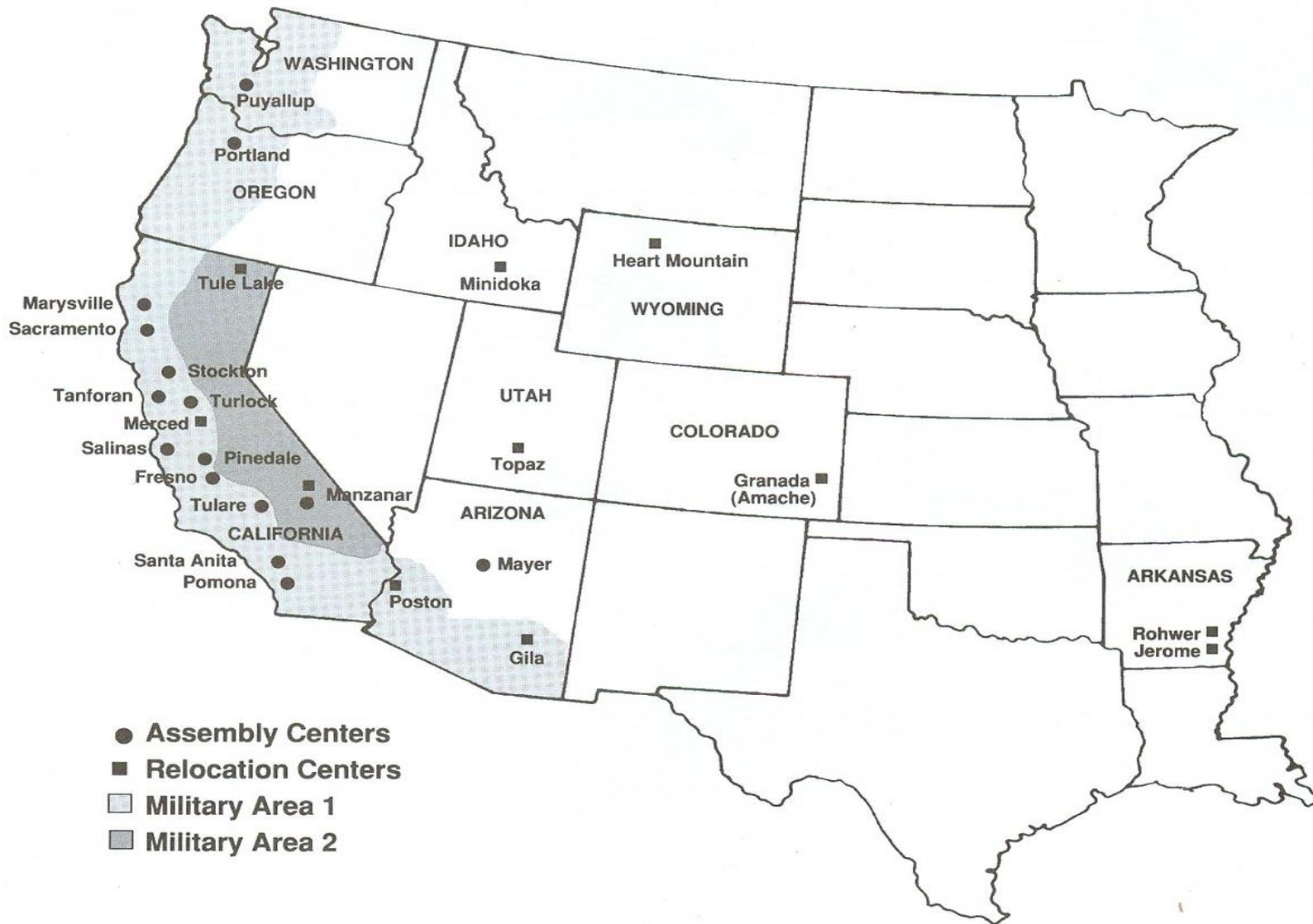








Relocation and Assembly Centers

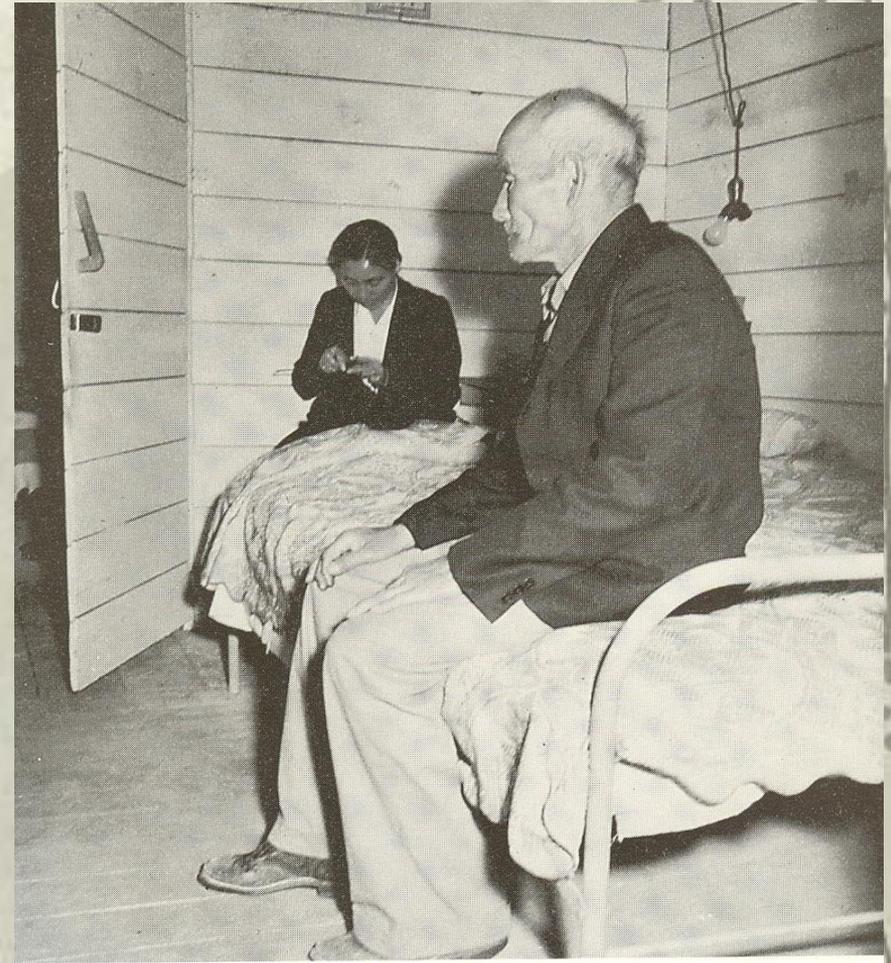


Assembly Centers

- ❖ These were located on fair grounds and racetracks.
- ❖ They included filthy animal shelters converted into temporary living quarters.



Assembly Centers











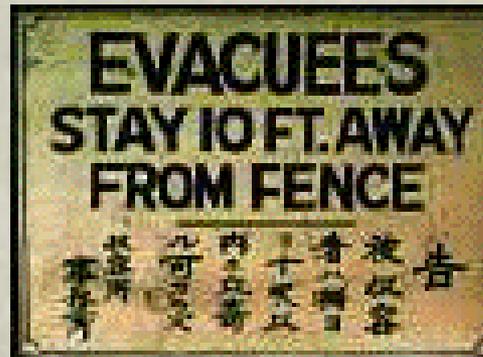
Dealing with Mother Nature

- ❖ Many were not ready for harsh climates of desert/mountains
 - Lacked proper clothing
 - Winter -30 F
 - Summer 100 F



For Your Own Protection?

- ❖ The U.S. Government told Japanese Americans relocation protected them from vengeful Americans.



So...

Why guard towers with guns pointed in?

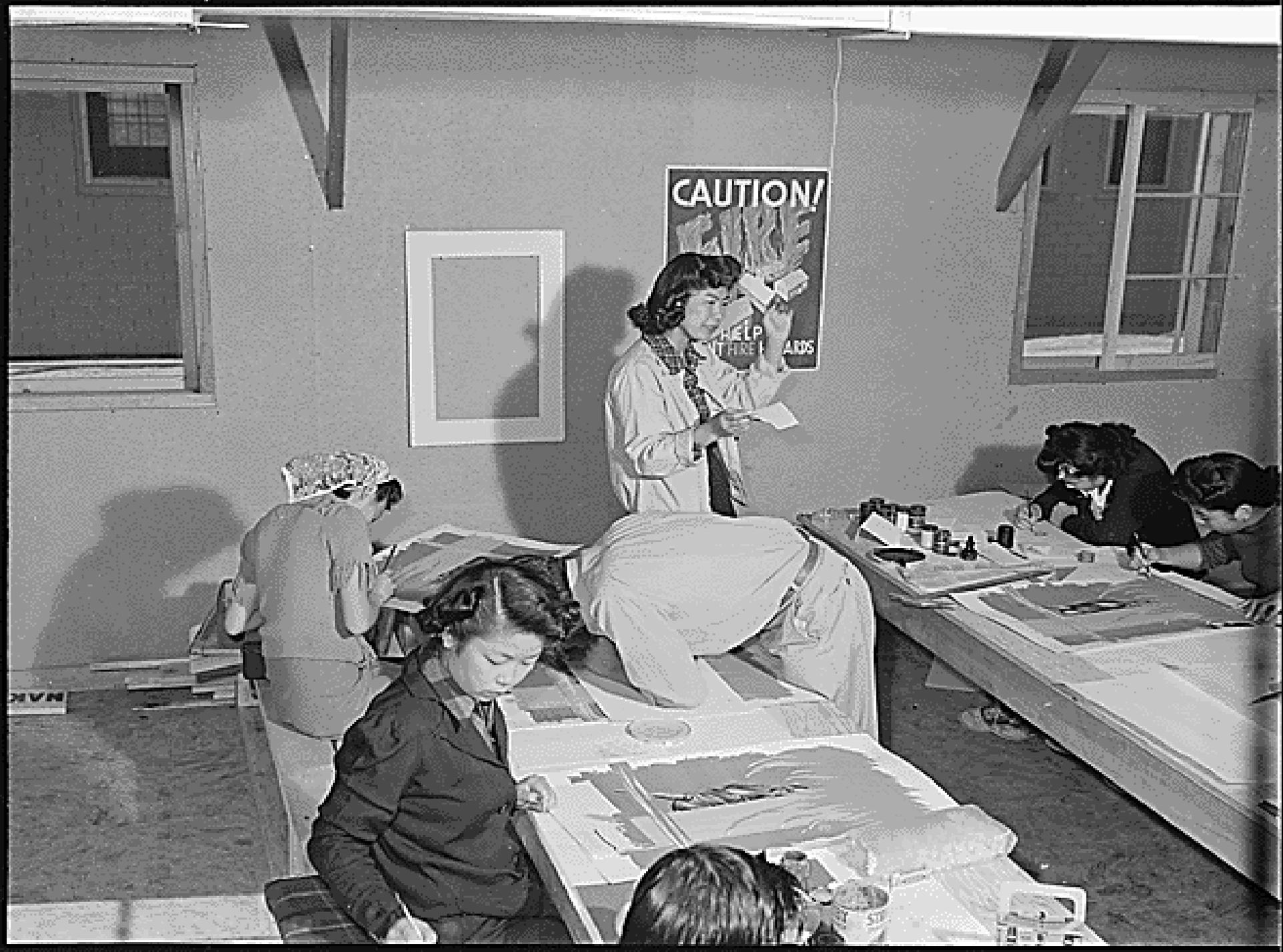
Why barbed wire slanted inward?

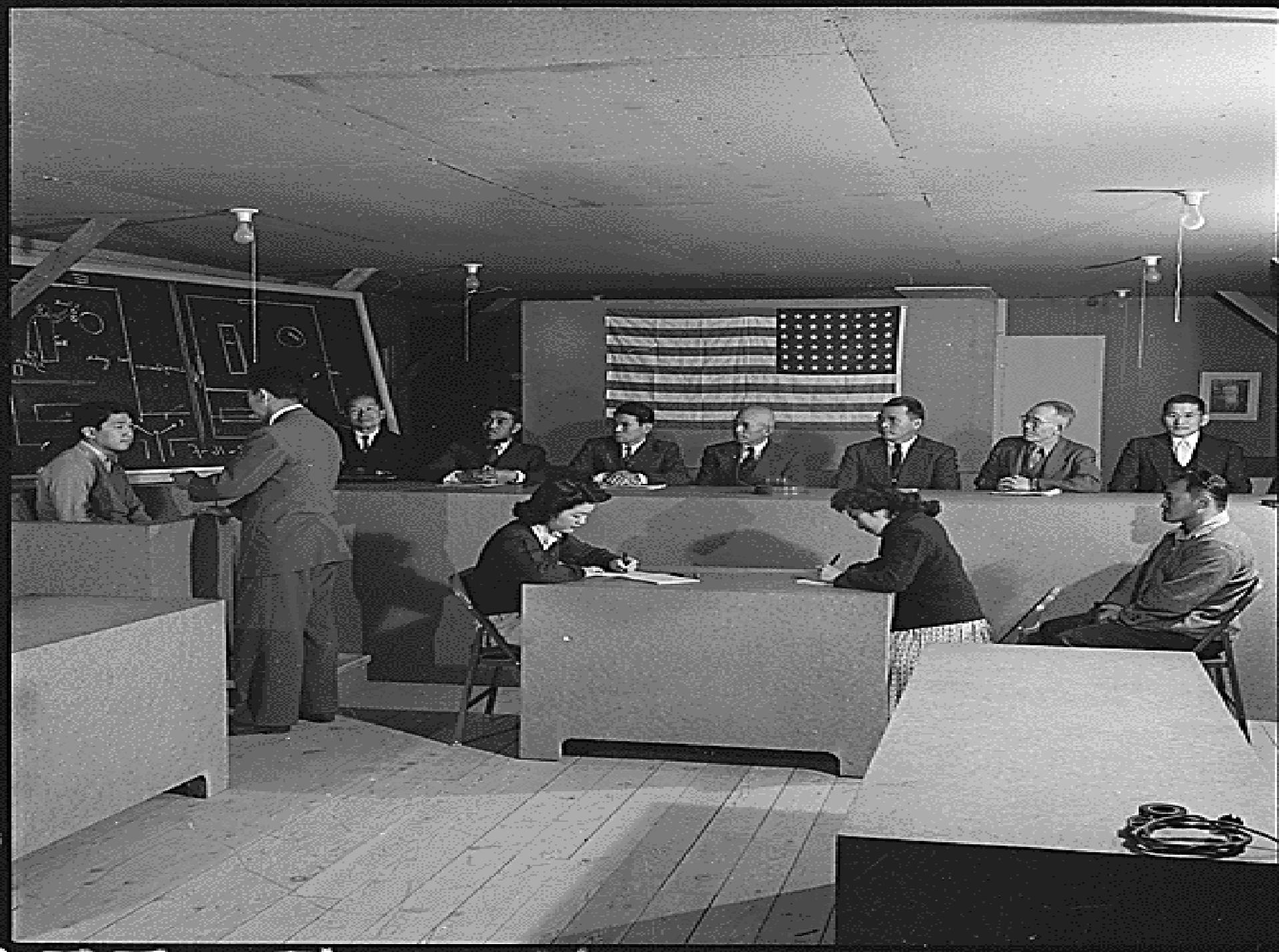
Why area restrictions for internees?













MUCH?
COLOR?



SCHOOL?
NRIHE

?

?

?

WALL
HIGH SCHOOL

WALL
HIGH SCHOOL





Church Choir - Jerome Relocation Center
Mary Kasai, Director
Arkansas - 1943

2nd Row: Find: Ossie, Mary and Emily Nomura





1100
9H
N.C. 9



3-M-6



Mitsuye Endo



- ❖ She challenged her unlawful detention because it violated her civil rights.
- ❖ The Supreme Court ruled unanimously in her favor on December 12, 1944.
- ❖ On the same day, the War Department announced internees would be released beginning January 2, 1945.

In the entire course of the war, 10 people were convicted of spying for Japan, all of whom were Caucasian.



Post World War II

- ❖ Executive Order 9066 was finally rescinded by Gerald Ford in 1976.
- ❖ In 1980, Jimmy Carter created the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians (CWRIC). It conducted an official governmental study of Executive Order 9066, related wartime orders and their impact on Japanese Americans in the West.
- ❖ In 1983, the CWRIC concluded that the incarceration of Japanese Americans had not been justified by military necessity. Rather, the report determined that the decision to incarcerate was based on "race prejudice, war hysteria, and a failure of political leadership." Lastly, the Commission recommended an official Government apology; redress payments of \$20,000 to each of the survivors.
- ❖ The Civil Liberties Act of 1988, based on the CWRIC recommendations, was signed into law by Ronald Reagan.
- ❖ On November 21, 1989, George H.W. Bush signed an appropriation bill authorizing payments to be paid out between 1990 and 1998.
- ❖ In 1990, surviving internees began to receive individual redress payments and a letter of apology.