The Japanese internment was important to the national security of the US because it helped to address a real and pressing threat to our national security during a time of war. By removing potential saboteurs and spies from the West Coast, we were able to mitigate the risk of espionage and sabotage, and to ensure that our military and civilian populations were protected from potential harm. At the same time, we recognized that the internment was a violation of the civil liberties of Japanese Americans, and that it was a dark chapter in our nation's history. Today, we look back on this episode with regret and a commitment to upholding the principles of justice and equality for all Americans.