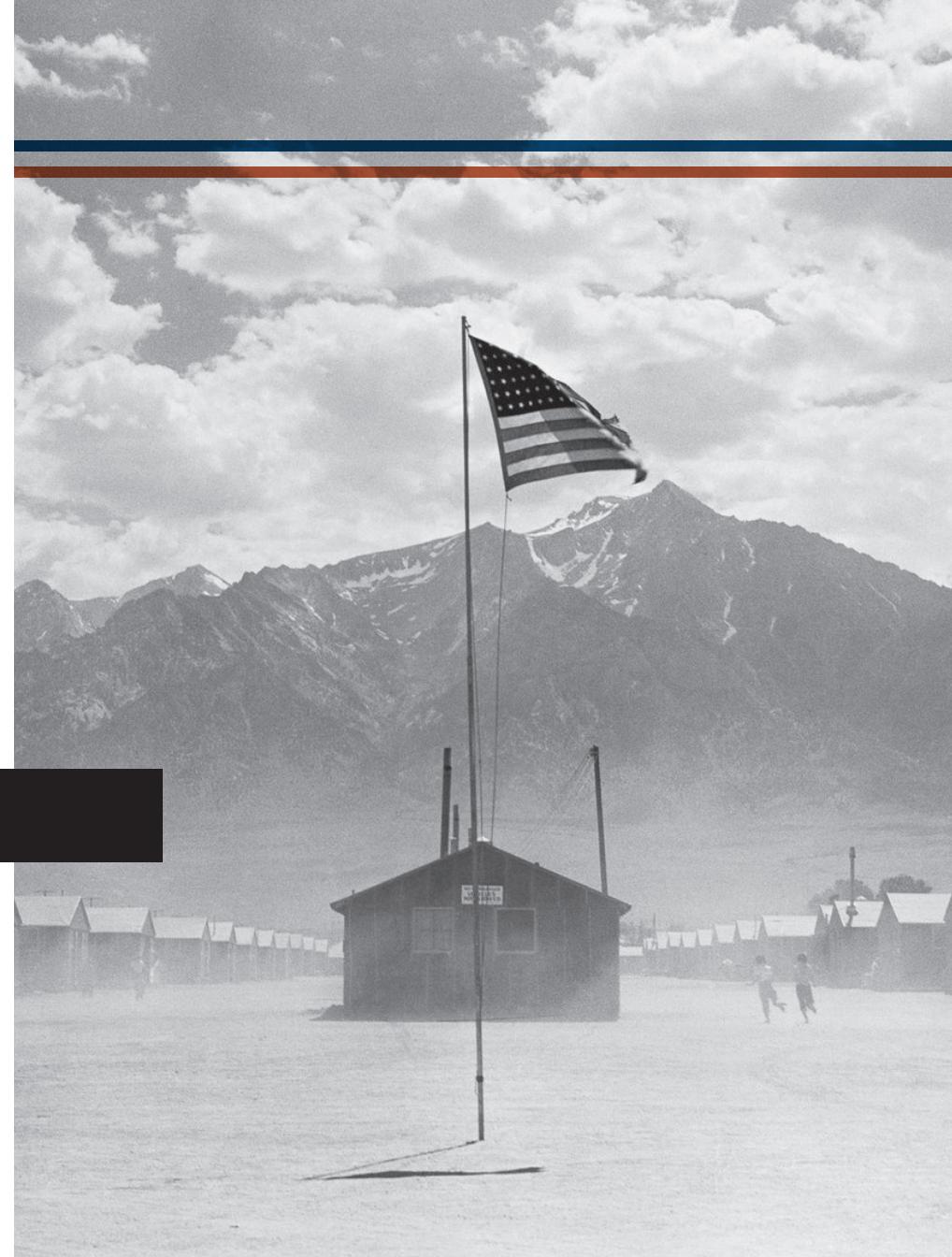


JAPANESE-AMERICAN INTERNMENT OF 1942

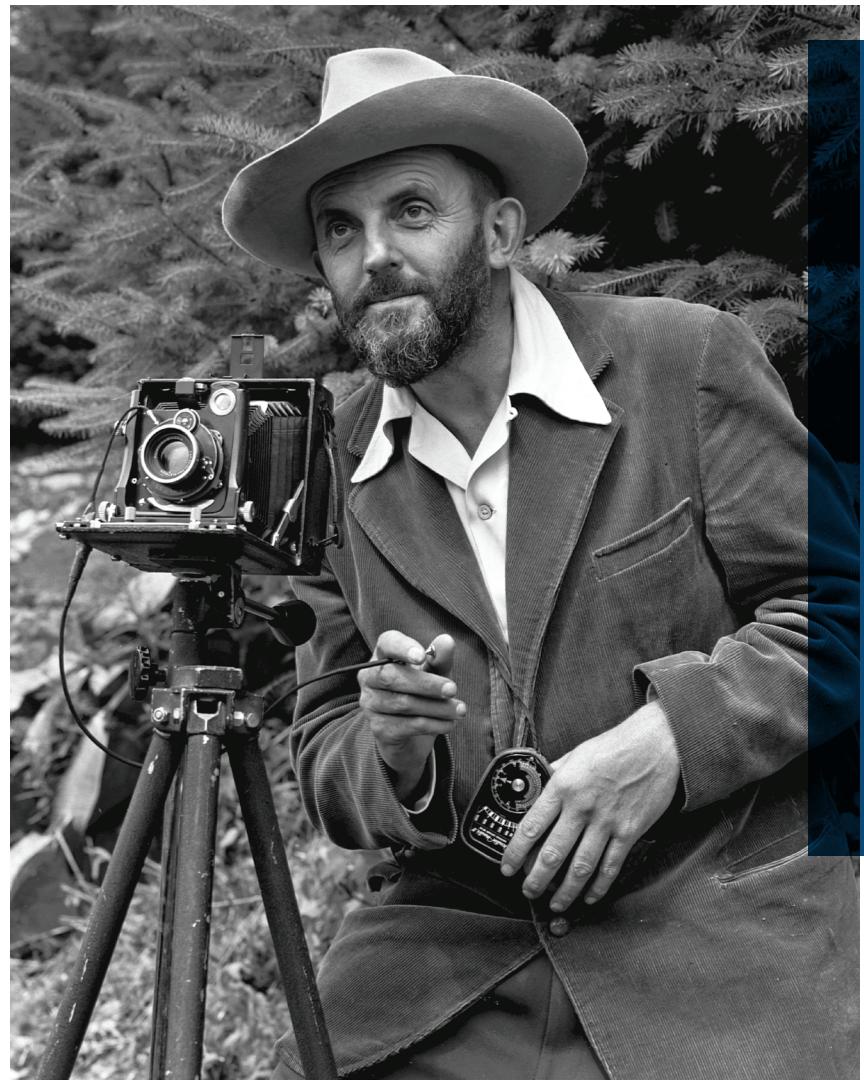
# MANZANAR

FEATURING PHOTOS FROM ANSEL ADAMS AND DOROTHIA LANGE



# ANSEL ADAMS

In 1943, Ansel Adams (1902-1984), America's most well-known photographer, documented the Manzanar War Relocation Center in California and the Japanese-Americans interned there during World War II. For the first time, digital scans of both Adams's original negatives and his photographic prints appear side by side allowing viewers to see Adams's darkroom technique, in particular, how he cropped his prints. Adams's Manzanar work is a departure from his signature style landscape photography. Although a majority of the more than 200 photographs are portraits, the images also include views of daily life, agricultural scenes, and sports and leisure activities. When offering the collection to the Library in 1965, Adams said in a letter, "The purpose of my work was to show how these people, suffering under a great injustice, and loss of property, businesses and professions, had overcome the sense of defeat and dispair [sic] by building for themselves a vital community in an arid (but magnificent) environment.... All in all, I think this Manzanar Collection is an important historical document, and I trust it can be put to good use."

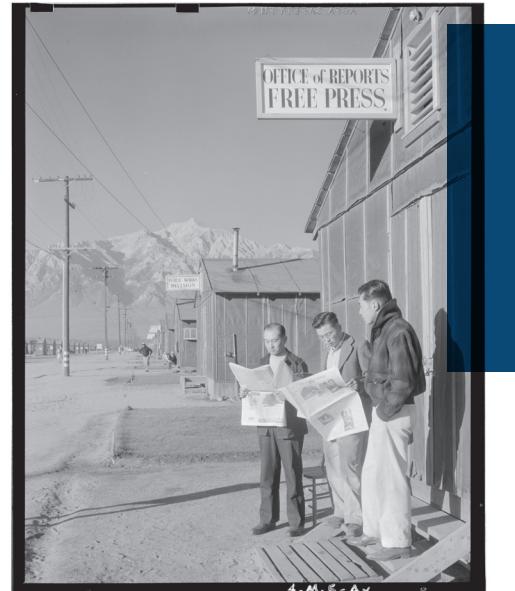


ANSEL ADAMS' PHOTOGRAPHS OF JAPANESE-AMERICAN INTERNMENT AT MANZANAR

## Internment at Manzanar

Japan's attack on Pearl Harbor December 7, 1941, led the United States into World War II and radically changed the lives of 120,000 men, women, and children of Japanese ancestry living in the United States. The attack intensified racial prejudices and led to fear of potential sabotage and espionage by Japanese Americans among some in the government, military, news media, and public. In February, 1942, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed Executive Order 9066 authorizing the Secretary of War to establish Military Areas and to remove from those areas anyone who might threaten the war effort. Without due process, the government gave everyone of Japanese ancestry living on the West Coast only days to decide what to do with their houses, farms, businesses, and other possessions. Most families sold their belongings at a significant loss. Some

ROY TAKENO (FAR LEFT), WITH YUICHI HIRATA AND NABOU SAMAMURA, STANDING IN FRONT OF THE OFFICE OF REPORTS FREE PRESS. TWO MEN ARE READING THE LOS ANGELES TIMES NEWSPAPER.



Others left possessions with friends or religious groups. Some abandoned their property. They did not know where they were going or for how long. Each family was assigned an identification number and loaded into cars, buses, trucks, and trains, taking only what they could carry. Japanese Americans were transported under military guard to 17 temporary assembly centers located at racetracks, fairgrounds, and similar facilities in Washington, Oregon, California, and Arizona. Then they were moved to one of 10 hastily built relocation centers. By November, 1942, the relocation was complete.



MRS. YAEKO NAKAMURA AND HER TWO CHILDREN, JOYCE YUKI (RIGHT) AND LOUISE TAMI (LEFT), STANDING ON THE STEP AT THE ENTRANCE OF A DWELLING, MANZANAR RELOCATION CENTER

“A photographic record could protect against false allegations of mistreatment and violations of international law, but it carried the risk, of course, of documenting actual mistreatment.”

— *Linda Gordon*

Impounded: Dorothea Lange and the Censored Images of Japanese American Internment



**BECAUSE THE CAMPS WERE NOT YET COMPLETED WHEN  
ROOSEVELT SIGNED THE EXECUTIVE ORDER, THE JAPANESE  
PRISONERS WERE HELD IN TEMPORARY SHELTERS SUCH AS  
STABLES IN RACETRACKS.**



TSUTOMU FUHUNAGO LIFTS A PRODUCE  
CRATE WHILE STANDING ON TOP OF A  
LOAD OF CRATES.

SUMIKO SHIGEMATSU, STANDING AT  
LEFT, LOOKING AT ROW OF WOMEN  
SEATED AT SEWING MACHINES.





4-M-7-B

NURSE STANDING BEHIND MAN  
IN WHEELCHAIR WITH YOUNG  
MAN TALKING TO TWO YOUNG  
WOMEN IN FOREGROUND.



6-25-3

GROUP OF PEOPLE STANDING.  
FACING RIGHT, NEAR THE OPEN  
DOOR OF AN AUTOMOBILE.  
BUILDINGS IN THE BACKGROUND.



**JAPANESE-AMERICAN WORLD WAR I VETERANS THAT  
SERVED FOR THE UNITED STATES WERE ALSO SENT TO  
THE INTERNMENT CAMPS.**



RICHARD KOBAYASHI, HALF-LENGTH PORTRAIT,  
STANDING, FACING FRONT, HOLDING A HEAD OF  
CABBAGE IN EACH HAND.

YOUNG GIRL, HALF-LENGTH PORTRAIT,  
STANDING, FACING LEFT.



ROWS OF CAMP HOUSES AT THE BASE OF  
MOUNTAINS.



GIRL AND VOLLEY BALL.





GROUP OF YOUNG WOMEN STANDING IN LINE FORMATION, EACH ONE REACHING BOTH OF HER ARMS STRAIGHT UP FROM HER SHOULDERS.

“We had about one week to dispose of what we owned, except what we could pack and carry for our departure by bus... for Manzanar.”

*-William Hohri*

'  
HAS ITS  
FIRST GOLD STAR  
MOTHER. WE HAD  
DREADFUL DAY  
WHEN SAME FAMILY  
IN MANZANAR WOULD  
RECEIVE THE FATEFUL  
TELEGRAM...."  
MANZANAR FREE PRESS  
ARTICLE ON PFC. FRANK.  
ARIKAWA'S DEATH



NURSE AIKO HAMAGUCHI AND  
FRIENDS SEATED AROUND A TABLE  
PLAYING BRIDGE.

AKIO MATSUMOTO, HALF-LENGTH  
PORTRAIT, SEATED AT DESK,  
FACING FRONT, PAINTING SIGN.



ROSE FUJUDA, HALF-LENGTH PORTRAIT,  
SEATED AT TYPEWRITER, FACING FRONT,  
WITH ROY TAKEDA SEATED AT THE DESK  
IN BACKGROUND.

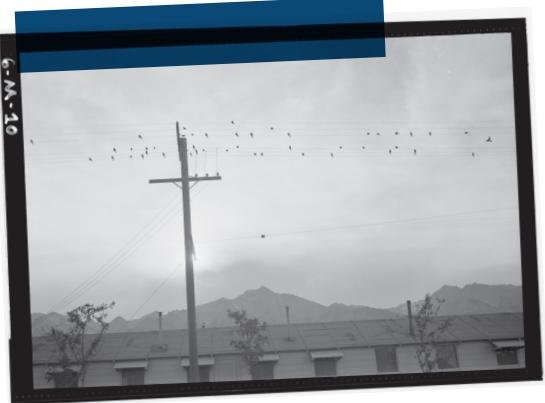




MRS. NAKAMURA AND HER TWO DAUGHTERS, JOYCE YUKI (R) AND LOUISE TAMI (L), HALF-LENGTH PORTRAIT, FACING FRONT.



MISS YURI YAMAZAKI, BUST PORTRAIT, FACING FRONT.



BIRDS SIT ON POWER LINES ABOVE BUILDINGS, MOUNTAINS AND SETTING SUN IN THE BACKGROUND.

**"THE JAPANESE RACE IS AN ENEMY RACE AND WHILE MANY SECOND AND THIRD GENERATION JAPANESE BORN ON AMERICAN SOIL, POSSESSED OF AMERICAN CITIZENSHIP, HAVE BECOME 'AMERICANIZED,' THE RACIAL STRAINS ARE UNDILUTED.**

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297

The people of the United States have been brought into the age of the military by a combination of summer and winter evacuations. The evacuation of Japan was western in character. People go anywhere, sightseeing or border infiltration, and those areas away from coastal areas, several kinds of evidence of voluntary evacuation, or even compulsory evacuation, areas by When it became evident that rapid, widespread, and ordered basis.

The foregoing items: Housing, food, medical care, the high school level, make up the basic items, which the authority provides to earn the cash compensation by performing the opportunity to earn by engaging in production of some needed by the community evacuees themselves.

The largest single group of workers is engaged in warehousing, truck drivers, chefs, cooks, servers, etc., the considerable amount of clerical, work in connection with the project, for schools, doms, construction, agriculture, etc., headed by a responsible employee, has a staff of evacuees, which carries on not only the laboring jobs but also a small number of "white collar" work as well, or \$19 month, depending on the type of work and the skill of the allowances for "too," is regarded as a part of compensation, based upon an adult, with allowances scale for the maximum is \$3.75 per month for an adult, with allowances scale for children.

Inside the center evacuees are accorded about the same freedom as outside. They speak in English or Japanese, operate newspapers, and worship as they choose. They operate their own shops, shoe repair shops and other services and facilities on a creative basis. With limited resources, including sports of all kinds and hobbies.

Leave.

There will be a scarcity of men ordinarily 4 or more months

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est



## Life at Manzanar

Ten war relocation centers were built in remote deserts, plains, and swamps of seven states; Arkansas, Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Utah, and Wyoming. Manzanar, located in the Owens Valley of California between the Sierra Nevada on the west and the Inyo mountains on the east, was typical in many ways of the 10 camps.

About two-thirds of all Japanese Americans interned at Manzanar were American citizens by birth. The remainder were aliens, many of whom had lived in the United States for decades, but who, by law, were denied citizenship.

The first Japanese Americans to arrive at Manzanar, in March 1942, were men and women who volunteered to help build the camp. On June 1 the War Relocation Authority (WRA) took over operation of Manzanar from the U.S. Army.

The 500-acre housing section was surrounded by barbed wire and eight guard towers with searchlights and patrolled by military police. Outside the fence, military police housing, a reservoir, a sewage treatment plant, and agricultural fields occupied the remaining 5,500 acres. By September 1942 more than 10,000 Jap-

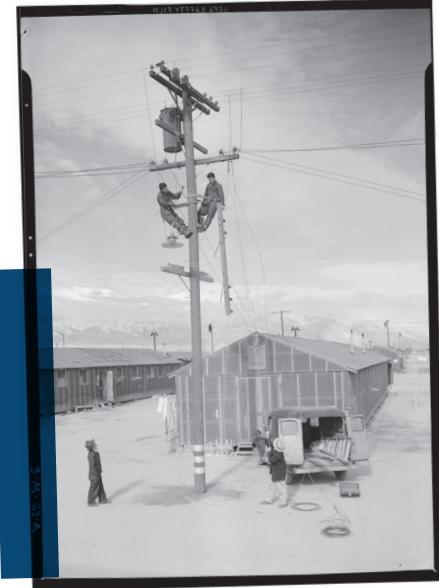


JAPANESE AMERICANS OBSERVE AN AMATEUR BASEBALL GAME IN PROGRESS; ONE-STORY BUILDINGS AND MOUNTAINS IN THE BACKGROUND.  
3-M-6

anese Americans were crowded into 504 barracks organized into 36 blocks. There was little or no privacy in the barracks—and not much outside. The 200 to 400 people living in each block, consisting of 14 barracks each divided into four rooms, shared men's and women's toilets and showers, a laundry room, and a mess hall. Any combination of eight individuals was allotted a 20-by-25-foot room. An oil stove, a single hanging light bulb, cots, blankets, and mattresses filled with straw were the only furnishings provided.

Coming from Los Angeles and other communities in California and Washington, Manzanar's internees were unaccustomed to the harsh desert environment. Summer temperatures soared as high as 110°F. In winter, temperatures frequently plunged below freezing.

Throughout the year strong winds swept through the valley, often blanketing the camp with dust and sand. Internees covered knotholes in the floors with tin can lids, but dust continued to blow in between the floorboards until linoleum was installed in late 1942.

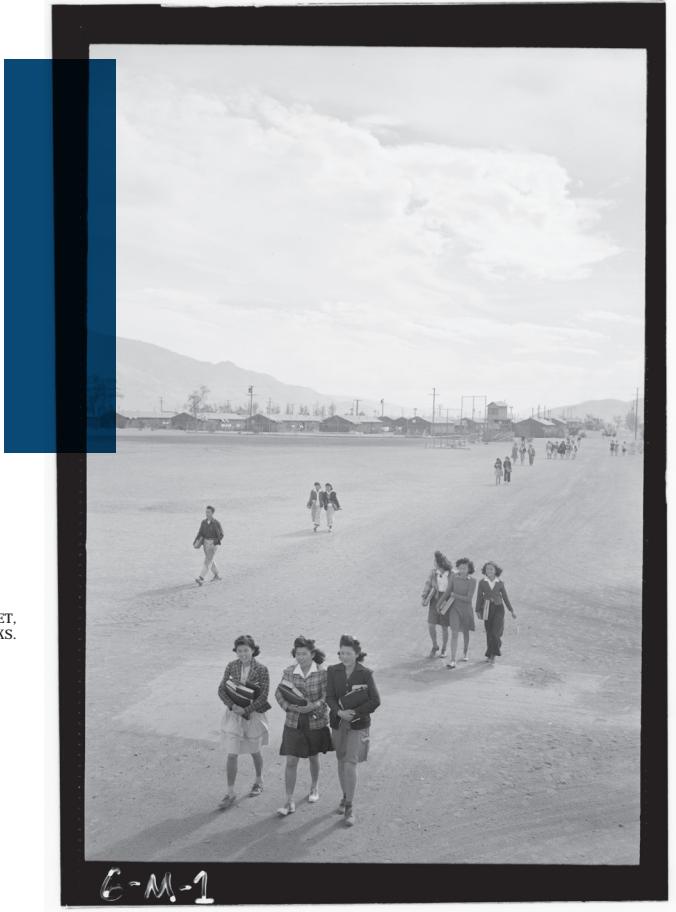


ELECTRIC LINE REPAIR CREW AT WORK  
ON ELECTRIC POLE NEXT TO BUILDING.



5-M-16

A TRACTOR PULLS A  
PLOW THROUGH A FIELD,  
MOUNTAINS IN THE  
BACKGROUND.



6-M-1



MRS. YAEKO NAKAMURA HOLDING HANDS WITH HER TWO DAUGHTERS, JOYCE YUKI NAKAMURA AND LOUISE TAMI NAKAMURA, WALKING UNDER A JAPANESE STYLE PAVILION IN A PARK.



WOODEN SIGN AT ENTRANCE TO THE MANZANAR WAR RELOCATION CENTER WITH A CAR AT THE GATEHOUSE IN THE BACKGROUND.

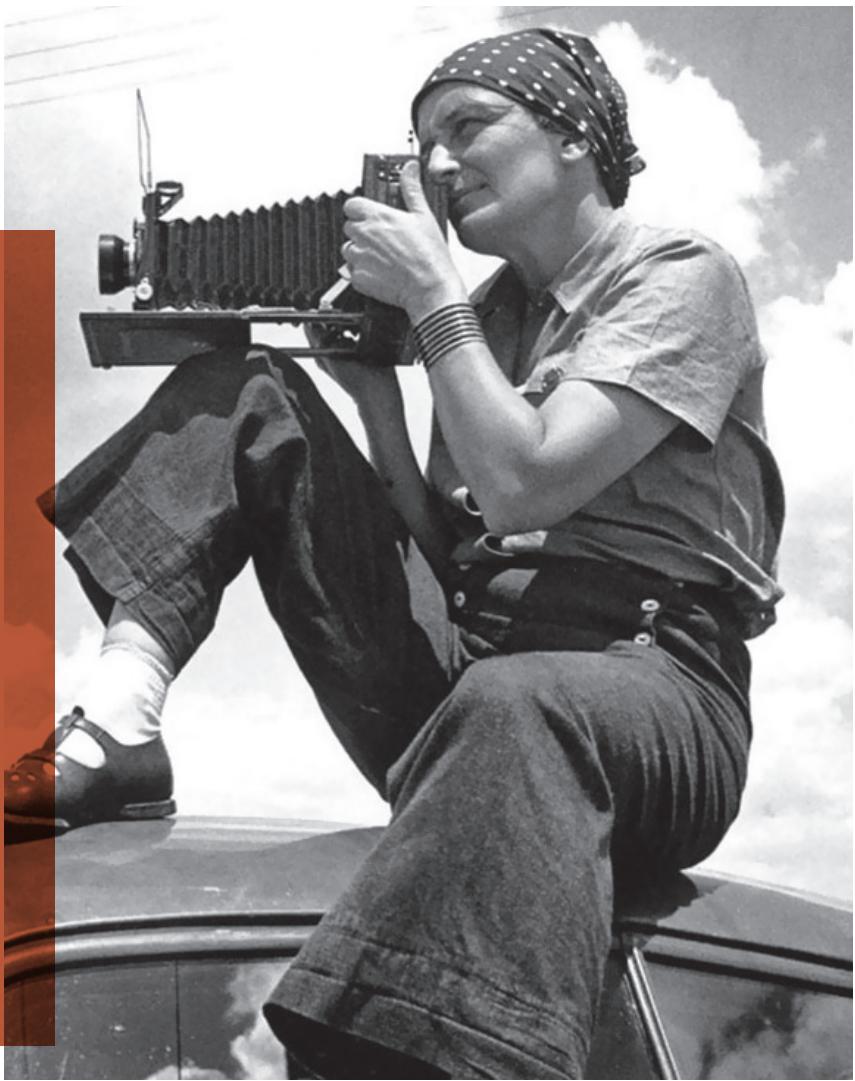


MAN WITH PIPE STANDS ON TOP OF BUS LOADING LUGGAGE INTO RACK, WHILE OTHERS GATHER AROUND.



BIRD'S-EYE VIEW OF GROUNDS FROM GUARD TOWER; VIEW WEST, SHOWING BUILDINGS, ROADS, AND SIERRA NEVADA MOUNTAINS IN BACKGROUND.

THERE WERE 10  
INTERMENT CAMP IN THE UNITED STATES LOCATED IN REMOTE AREAS IN SEVEN WESTERN U.S. STATES INCLUDING CALIFORNIA, IDAHO, UTAH, ARKANSAS, COLORADO, WYOMING AND ARIZONA.



DOROTHEA LANG'S PHOTOGRAPHS OF JAPANESE-AMERICAN INTERNMENT AT MANZANAR

Dorothea Lange—well known for her FSA photographs like Migrant Mother—was hired by the U.S. government to make a photographic record of the “evacuation” and “relocation” of Japanese-Americans in 1942. She was eager to take the commission, despite being opposed to the effort, as she believed “a true record of the evacuation would be valuable in the future.”

The military commanders that reviewed her work realized that Lange’s contrary point of view was evident through her photographs, and seized them for the duration of World War II, even writing “Impounded” across some of the prints. The photos were quietly deposited into the National

# DOROTHEA LANGE

# Overcoming Adversity

Internees attempted to make the best of a bad situation. The WRA formed an advisory council of internee-elected block managers. Internees established churches, temples, and boys and girls clubs. They developed sports, music, dance, and other recreational programs; built gardens and ponds; and published a newspaper, the Manzanar Free Press.

Most internees worked in the camp. They dug irrigation canals and ditches, tended acres of fruits and vegetables, and raised chickens, hogs, and cattle. They made clothes and furniture for themselves and camouflage netting and experimental rubber for the military. They served as mess hall workers, doctors, nurses, police officers, firefighters, and teachers.

Professionals were paid \$19 per month, skilled workers received \$16, and non-skilled workers got \$12. Many pooled their resources and created a consumer cooperative that published the Manzanar Free Press and operated a general store, beauty parlor, barbershop, and bank. As the war turned in America's favor, restrictions were lifted, and Japanese Americans were allowed to leave the camps. Church groups, service organizations, and some camp administrators helped find sponsors and jobs in the Midwest and the East. From all 10 camps, 4,300 people received permission to attend college, and about 10,000

APRIL 29, 1942 - TANFORAN ASSEMBLY CENTER, SAN BRUNO, CALIFORNIA. BARRACKS FOR FAMILY LIVING QUARTERS. EACH DOOR ENTERS INTO A FAMILY UNIT OF TWO SMALL ROOMS. TANFORAN ASSEMBLY CENTER WAS OPENED TWO DAYS BEFORE THE PHOTOGRAPH WAS MADE. ON THE FIRST DAY THERE HAD BEEN A HEAVY RAIN. WHEN A FAMILY HAS ARRIVED HERE, FIRST STEP OF EVACUATION IS COMPLETE.



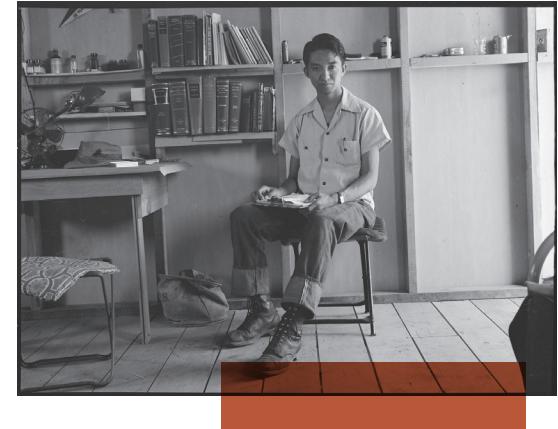
were allowed to leave temporarily to harvest sugar beets in Idaho, Montana, Utah, and Wyoming.

A total of 11,070 Japanese Americans were processed through Manzanar. From a peak of 10,046 in September 1942, the population dwindled to 6,000 by 1944. The last few hundred internees left in November 1945, three months after the war ended. Many of them had spent three-and-a-half years at Manzanar.



MOUNTAIN VIEW, CALIFORNIA. MEMBERS OF THE SHIBUSAWA FAMILY ARE PICTURED AT THEIR HOME BEFORE EVACUATION. THE FATHER AND THE MOTHER WERE BORN IN JAPAN AND CAME TO THIS COUNTRY IN 1904. AT THAT TIME THE FATHER HAD \$0 IN CASH AND A BASKET OF CLOTHES. HE LATER BUILT A

SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA. HARVEY AKIO ITANO, 21, 1942 GRADUATE FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA WHERE HE RECEIVED HIS BACHELOR OF SCIENCE [IN] CHEMISTRY DEGREE. HE WAS CHOSEN BY THE FACULTY AS UNIVERSITY MEDALIST FOR 1942 AND WAS A MEMBER OF PHI BETA KAPPA AND SIGMA XI. MR. ITANO WENT TO THE ASSEMBLY CENTER PRIOR TO THE COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES AT WHICH PRESIDENT ROBERT GORDON SPROUL SAID, "HE CANNOT BE HERE WITH US TODAY. HIS COUNTRY HAS CALLED HIM ELSEWHERE". MR. ITANO HOPES TO ENTER THE FIELD OF MEDICINE AND HAS TAKEN HIS BOOKS WITH HIM TO THE CENTER WHERE HE IS SPENDING THE DURATION.



“...one of the hardest things to endure was the communal latrines, with no partitions; and showers with no stalls.”

*Rosie Kakuuchi*



“We couldn't do anything about the orders from the U.S. government. I just lived from day to day without any purpose. I felt empty.... I frittered away every day. I don't remember anything much.... I just felt vacant.”

— *Osuke Takizawa,*

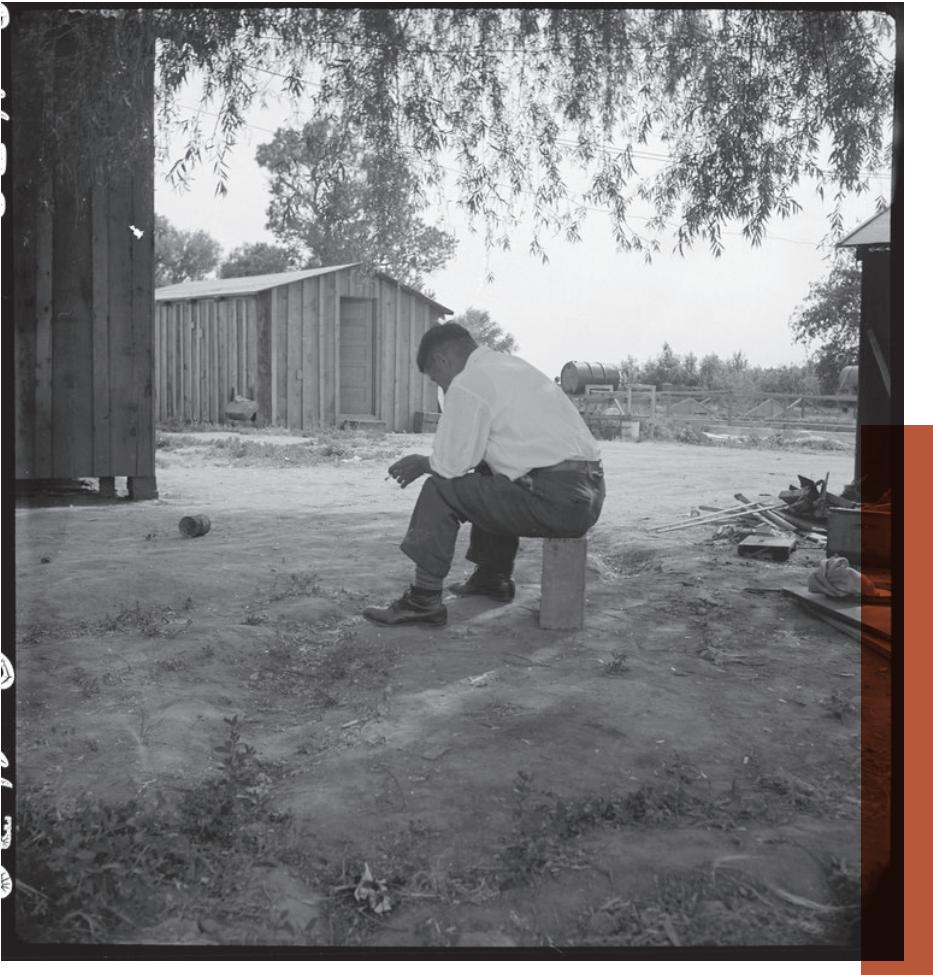
Tanforan Assembly Center,  
San Bruno



APRIL 29, 1942 - SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA. A YOUNG EVACUEE LOOKS OUT THE WINDOW OF BUS BEFORE IT STARTS FOR TANFORAN ASSEMBLY CENTER. EVACUEES WILL BE TRANSFERRED TO WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY CENTERS FOR THE DURATION.



JUNE 16, 1942 - SAN BRUNO, CALIFORNIA. THIS SCENE SHOWS ONE TYPE OF BARRACKS FOR FAMILY USE. THESE WERE FORMERLY THE STALLS FOR RACE HORSES. EACH FAMILY IS ASSIGNED TO TWO SMALL ROOMS, THE INNER ONE, OF WHICH, HAS NO OUTSIDE DOOR NOR WINDOW. THE CENTER HAS BEEN IN OPERATION ABOUT SIX WEEKS AND 8,000 PERSONS OF JAPANESE ANCESTRY ARE NOW ASSEMBLED HERE.



MAY 20, 1942 - WOODLAND, CALIFORNIA. TENANT FARMER OF JAPANESE ANCESTRY WHO HAS JUST COMPLETED SETTLEMENT OF THEIR AFFAIRS AND EVERYTHING IS PACKED READY FOR EVACUATION ON THE FOLLOWING MORNING TO AN ASSEMBLY CENTER.

"As a result of the interview, my family name was reduced to No. 13660. I was given several tags bearing the family number, and was then dismissed.... Baggage was piled on the sidewalk the full length of the block. Greyhound buses were lined alongside the curb."

— *Mine Okubo,*

Tanforan Assembly Center,  
San Bruno



APRIL 25, 1942 - SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA. RESIDENTS OF JAPANESE ANCESTRY APPEAR FOR REGISTRATION PRIOR TO EVACUATION. EVACUEES WILL BE HOUSED IN WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY CENTERS FOR THE DURATION.



THE JAPANESE ATTACK  
ON PEARL HARBOR  
HELPED TO FUEL  
THE ANTI-JAPANESE  
SENTIMENT THAT LED  
TO ROOSEVELT'S  
EXECUTIVE ORDER.

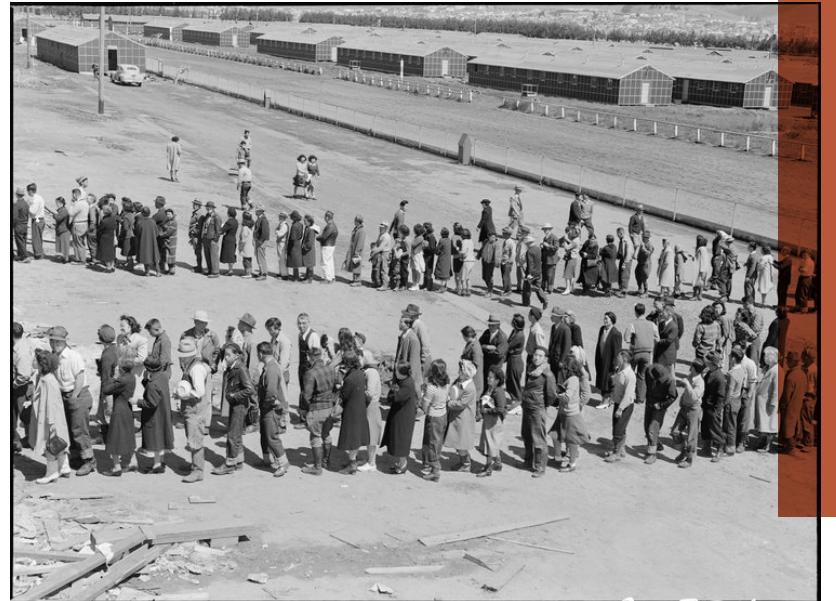
# Loyalty and Service

About 5,000 Japanese Americans were serving in the U.S. Army when Japan attacked Pearl Harbor in December 1941. The U.S. military soon called for another 5,000 volunteers from the mainland and Hawaii. In January 1942, however, the Selective Service reclassified Japanese Americans as "enemy aliens" and stopped drafting them.

Emotions were intense during 1942 as the United States entered the war and Japanese Americans were moved to the relocation centers. Various protests and disturbances occurred at some centers over political differences, wages, and rumors of informers and black marketing. At Manzanar two people were killed and 10 were wounded by military police during the "Manzanar Riot" in December 1942.

Tensions intensified in 1943 when the government required internees to answer a "loyalty questionnaire." They were asked if they would serve in combat and if they would swear unqualified allegiance to the United States. Some older internees answered "no" because they were not allowed to become U.S. citizens. Others refused to serve while their families were behind barbed wire. Those who answered "yes" were considered "loyal" and became eligible for indefinite leave outside the West Coast military areas. Those who answered "no" were sent to a segregation center at Tule Lake, Calif.

In January 1944 the draft was reinstated for Japanese Americans. Most of those who were drafted or volunteered joined the 442nd Regimental Combat Team. Combined with the 100th Infantry Battalion of the Hawaiian Territorial Guard, the 442nd fought with distinction in North Africa, France, and Italy. With 9,846 casualties, the 100th/442nd had the highest casualty rate and was the most highly decorated Army unit for its size and length of service. Nearly 26,000 Japanese Americans served in the U.S. military during World War II.



APRIL 29, 1942 — SAN BRUNO, CALIFORNIA. THIS ASSEMBLY CENTER HAS BEEN OPEN FOR TWO DAYS. BUS-LOAD AFTER BUS-LOAD OF EVACUATED PERSONS OF JAPANESE ANCESTRY ARE ARRIVING ON THIS DAY AFTER GOING THROUGH THE NECESSARY PROCEDURES. THEY ARE GUIDED TO THE QUARTERS ASSIGNED TO THEM IN THE BARRACKS. ONLY ONE MESS HALL WAS OPERATING TODAY. PHOTOGRAPH SHOWS LINE-UP OF NEWLY ARRIVED EVACUEES OUTSIDE THIS MESS HALL AT NOON. NOTE BARRACKS IN BACKGROUND, JUST BUILT, FOR FAMILY UNITS. THERE ARE THREE TYPES OF QUARTERS IN THE CENTER OF POST OFFICE. THE WIDE ROAD WHICH RUNS DIAGONALLY ACROSS THE PHOTOGRAPH IS THE FORMER RACETRACK.

APRIL 20, 1942 - SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA. FLAG OF ALLEGIANCE PLEDGE AT RAPHAEL WEILL PUBLIC SCHOOL, GEARY AND BUCHANAN STREETS. CHILDREN IN FAMILIES OF JAPANESE ANCESTRY WERE EVACUATED WITH THEIR PARENTS AND WILL BE HOUSED FOR THE DURATION IN WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY CENTERS WHERE FACILITIES WILL BE PROVIDED FOR THEM TO CONTINUE THEIR EDUCATION.



# HANK UMEMOTO

**It's taken a lifetime for Hank Umemoto to make peace with what happened more than 70 years ago.**

Umemoto was 13 when he and his family were taken away from their vineyard in Florin, Calif. His father died in 1931, when Umemoto was two, and his mother and older brother were left to take on the brunt of the farmwork.

Six of them boarded the train to Mojave, Calif. and took a bus into Owens Valley. It was May 25, 1942, and their final destination would be Manzanar where Umemoto would share a room with his mother Kusu and his sister Edith on one side, and his brother Ben, sister-in-law Annie, and their son Ronny on the other.

"All of a sudden we saw this barbed wire fence," Umemoto, 87 and now retired and living in Gardena, Calif., told NBC News. "That was the first time I felt criminalized. All of a sudden your life has changed."

Early the next morning, he was sitting with a friend when two saw guards drove by. Umemoto extended a middle finger and shouted, "F— you!"

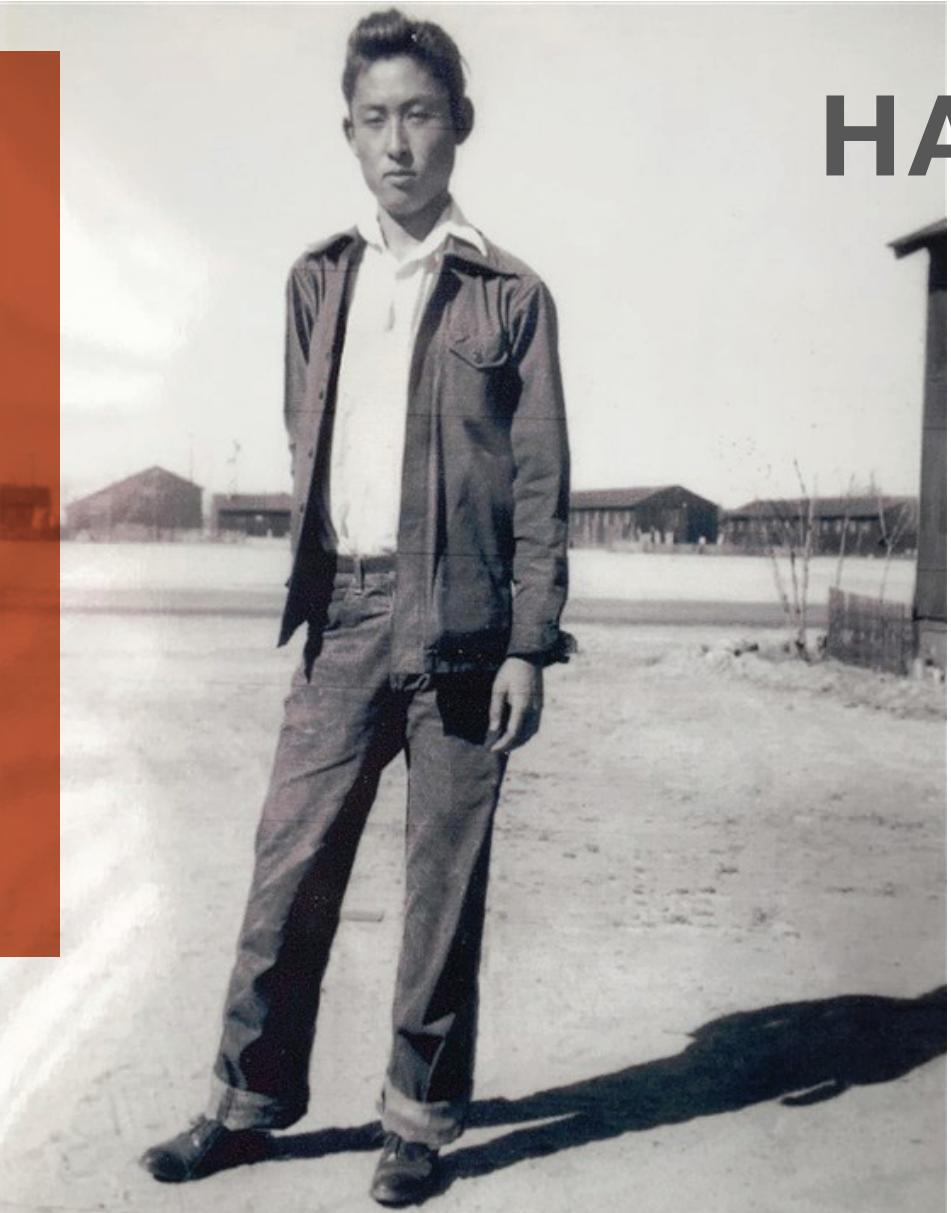
The guards stopped. The next thing Umemoto knew, he was staring down a gun barrel.

"What did you say?" the soldier asked.

But Umemoto was speechless. "I was just ashamed that I couldn't say anything," he recalled.

## Lingering Stigma

From 1942 to 1945, Umemoto was one of thousands who lived at Manzanar, a collection of wooden barracks surrounded by barbed wire fences and armed guards located at the foot of the eastern Sierra Nevada mountains in California's remote Owens Valley. In the months following the Pearl Harbor attack of Dec. 7, 1941, more than 110,000 Japanese Americans were forced to leave their homes and businesses and relocate to one of 10 camps scattered across the West.



Although it has been 70 years since the end of World War II, the camps still leave their mark on the survivors of incarceration, who say it's as vital as ever to learn from the past and essential that people across the country are educated about this chapter of American history.

"It's what the camp represented that was harmful," Umemoto said. "It made us feel inferior, like we weren't patriotic. There were some times when I wished I wasn't Japanese."

After the war, Umemoto carried that same sense of shame. He left Manzanar on Aug. 6, 1945, with his mother and his sister. They went to live in a 9-foot by 12-foot room in a hotel owned by a family friend on the edge of Los Angeles' Skid Row. He was haunted by the images of U.S. wartime propaganda depicting the Japanese as cartoonish figures with slanted eyes and speaking broken English.

By his first day at Roosevelt High School, he could already feel he was different.

"We were saying the Pledge of Allegiance and I couldn't," Umemoto said. "I just stood there with my hands by my side. Kids were giving me dirty looks but how could I stand there and put my hand over my heart for the country that really [messed] me up?"

After graduating high school, Umemoto enlisted in the U.S. Army. He was stationed in Tokyo and preparing to be deployed to fight in the Korean War when he learned he had a chance to become an interpreter.

But he failed the Japanese language interpreter test. A friend managed to pull some strings and helped him stay in Tokyo for the next year and a half before he was sent home. He served six more years in the Army Reserve before being honorably discharged.

"After I got home I continued civilian life. I started gardening. I knew these people who had a nursery. In those days, Japanese were gardeners. And I went to night school at Los Angeles City College," Umemoto said.

He attended Cal State Los Angeles from 1954-1955, intending to graduate, but the shadow of Manzanar loomed over him.

"We had some required courses we needed to graduate," Umemoto said. "One of them was speech. I was embarrassed to be Japanese. I'm a Nisei [second generation] so I have an accent. I could see myself standing up there speaking broken English, a Jap."

MANZANAR RELOCATION CENTER, MANZANAR, CALIFORNIA, MAKING CAMOUFLAGE NETS FOR THE WAR DEPARTMENT. THIS IS ONE OF SEVERAL WAR AND NAVY DEPARTMENT PROJECTS CARRIED ON BY PERSONS OF JAPANESE ANCESTRY IN RELOCATION CENTERS.





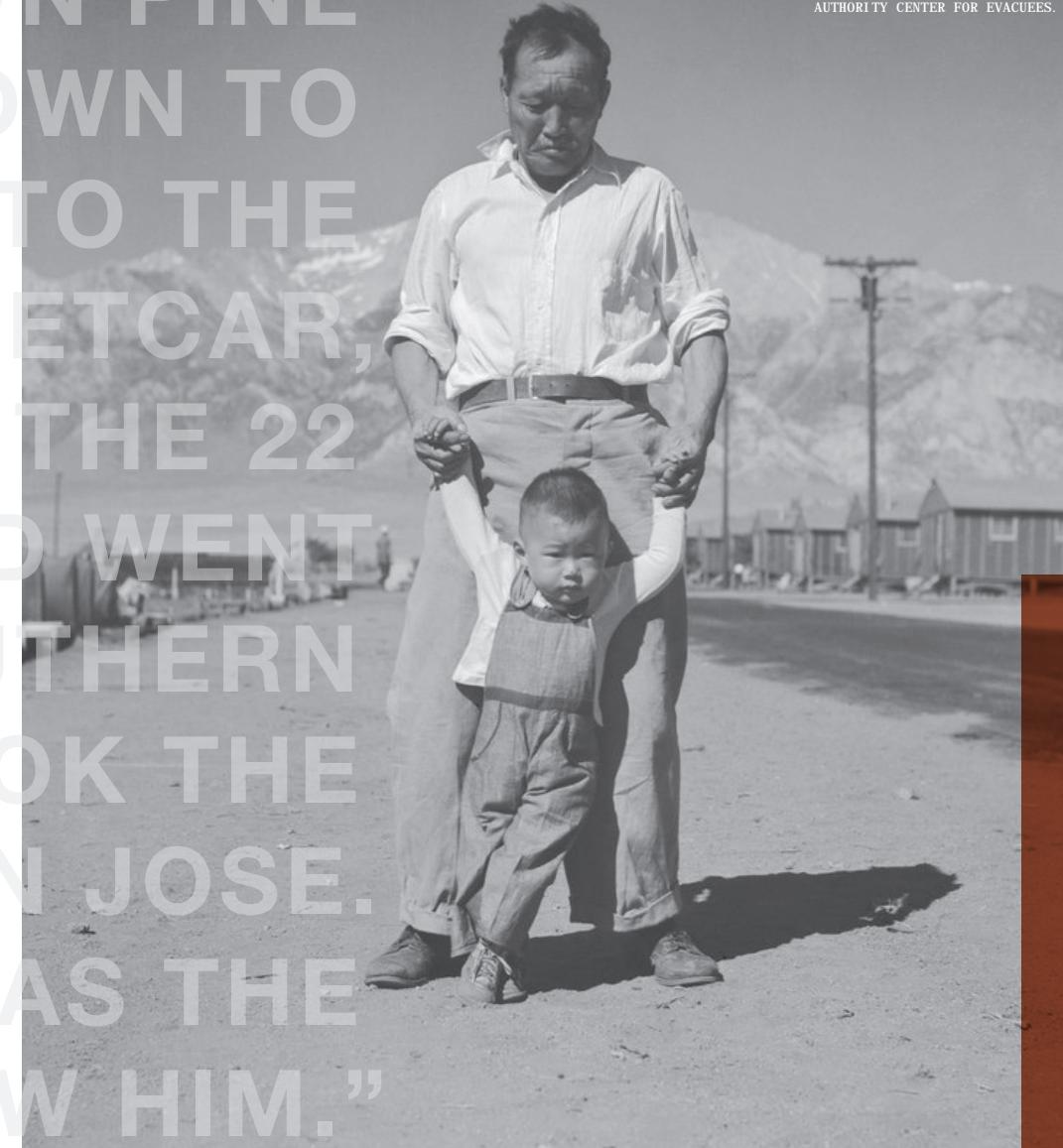
APRIL 29, 1942 - SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA.  
A YOUNG EVACUEE LOOKS OUT THE WINDOW OF BUS  
BEFORE IT STARTS FOR TANFORAN ASSEMBLY CENTER.  
EVACUEES WILL BE TRANSFERRED TO WAR RELOCATION  
AUTHORITY CENTERS FOR THE DURATION.

APRIL 28, 1942 - BYRON, CALIFORNIA. THESE FIELD  
LABORERS OF JAPANESE ANCESTRY AT WARTIME CIVIL  
CONTROL ADMINISTRATION CONTROL STATION ARE  
RECEIVING FINAL INSTRUCTIONS REGARDING THEIR  
EVACUATION TO AN ASSEMBLY CENTER IN THREE DAYS.



JULY 2, 1942 - MANZANAR RELOCATION CENTER, MANZANAR, CALIFORNIA. GRANDFATHER OF JAPANESE ANCESTRY TEACHING HIS LITTLE GRANDSON TO WALK AT THIS WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY CENTER FOR EVACUEES.

“WE WENT DOWN PINE  
STREET DOWN TO  
FILLMORE TO THE  
NUMBER 22 STREETCAR,  
AND HE TOOK THE 22  
STREETCAR AND WENT  
TO THE SP (SOUTHERN  
PACIFIC) AND TOOK THE  
TRAIN TO SAN JOSE.  
AND THAT WAS THE  
LAST TIME I SAW HIM.”



# AIKO YOSHINAGA

When the Japanese struck Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941, Aiko Herzig-Yoshinaga (then Aiko Yoshinaga) was a senior at Los Angeles High School.

She remembers the day the following spring that her principal took the Japanese students aside and said, "You're not getting your diplomas because your people bombed Pearl Harbor."

Japanese-American families on the West Coast were rounded up and sent to internment camps. Yoshinaga was worried that she would be separated from her boyfriend, so to the horror of her parents, Yoshinaga and her boyfriend eloped.

The Yoshinaga family was sent to the Santa Anita, Calif., detention center, and later to Jerome, Ark. Meanwhile, Yoshinaga and her new in-laws were sent to Manzanar, near Death Valley. Yoshinaga remembers their first day as hot and dusty, even though it was only April. The barracks where the family lived were crowded and sparsely decorated.

"The only thing that was in the 'apartments' when we got there were army metal beds with the springs on it, and a potbellied stove in the middle of the room," Herzig-Yoshinaga says. "That was the only thing. No chest of drawers, no nothing, no curtains on the windows. It was the barest of the bare."

She remembers being given a canvas bag and being told to fill it with hay for use as a makeshift mattress.

"In my case, I had never even had sex before I went into the camp. And trying to make love on a noisy, hay-filled canvas bag was just a joke!" she says.

The families eventually created room dividers out of sheets and began making a life in the Manzanar War Relocation Center. Yoshinaga gave birth to her daughter in the camp.

Not long after, she received word from her family in Arkansas that her father was gravely ill. Yoshinaga requested a transfer of camps and traveled, with the child her family had never met, to Arkansas.

"As we were pulling into the camp, [an] ambulance was taking my father to



the hospital," she said. "So I grabbed my daughter and went to see him. And that was the one and only time he got to see her because he died sometime after that."

Her father died before the Japanese were freed from the camps. Yoshinaga says that it was years before she questioned the legality of the internment camps and detention centers.

It wasn't until she was living in Washington, D.C., with her third husband, Jack Herzog, that she started looking into her family's personal history in the camps. Her research broadened and she joined the redress effort, working to bring reparations to Japanese-Americans who lived in the camps.

In the course of her research, she discovered a report which quoted a government official saying that there was no national security reason for incarcerating the Japanese-Americans during the war.

"I think until then, it was mostly like, 'You know this was just an honest mistake that we put these people into camps,'" says Martha Nakagawa, who helped process Herzog-Yoshinaga's papers into the library at the University of California, Los Angeles.

"Without Aiko, the passage of the redress bill would not have gone as smoothly," she says. "It would have been difficult to prove that the government had done any wrongdoing."

The Civil Liberties Act of 1988 was signed by President Ronald Reagan, who said that it was a mistake for the government to incarcerate Japanese-Americans without trial during the war. It awarded victims and their families \$20,000 and, perhaps more importantly, an apology.

At 92, Herzog-Yoshinaga now lives in Los Angeles — the place her family called home before they were forced out. She eventually did get her high school diploma, and her suburban home is filled with pictures of loved ones.

But she also has a black-and-white photo on her dining room wall of a jagged mountain landscape. In the foreground are rows and rows of barracks and barbed wire fences that made up the Manzanar War Relocation Center.

She says she worries now, when she hears people talk about creating a registry for all Muslims in the United States.

"We haven't learned from all these lessons!" she says. "It's happened once, and unless you are careful it could happen again."



JUNE 16, 1942 - SAN BRUNO, CALIFORNIA. SUPPER TIME! MEAL TIMES ARE THE BIG EVENTS OF THE DAY WITHIN AN ASSEMBLY CENTER. THIS IS A LINE-UP OF EVACUEES WAITING FOR THE "B" SHIFT AT 5:45 PM. THEY CARRY WITH THEM THEIR OWN DISHES AND CUTLERY IN BAGS TO PROTECT THEM FROM THE DUST. THEY, THEMSELVES, INDIVIDUALLY WASH THEIR OWN DISHES AFTER EACH MEAL. SINCE DISH WASHING FACILITIES IN THE MESS HALLS PROVED INADEQUATE. MOST OF THE RESIDENTS PREFER THIS SECOND SHIFT BECAUSE THEY SOMETIMES GET SECOND HELPINGS. BUT THE GROUPS ARE ROTATED EACH WEEK. THERE ARE EIGHTEEN MESS HALLS IN CAMP WHICH, TOGETHER, ACCOMMODATE 8,000 PERSONS THREE TIMES A DAY. ALL FOOD IS PREPARED AND SERVED BY EVACUEES.



APRIL 29, 1942 - TANFORAN ASSEMBLY CENTER, SAN BRUNO, CALIFORNIA. BARRACKS FOR FAMILY LIVING QUARTERS. EACH DOOR ENTERS INTO A FAMILY UNIT OF TWO SMALL ROOMS. TANFORAN ASSEMBLY CENTER WAS OPENED TWO DAYS BEFORE THE PHOTOGRAPH WAS MADE. ON THE FIRST DAY THERE HAD BEEN A HEAVY RAIN. WHEN A FAMILY HAS ARRIVED HERE, FIRST STEP OF EVACUATION IS COMPLETE.



JULY 1, 1942 - MANZANAR RELOCATION CENTER, MANZANAR, CALIFORNIA. MAKING CAMOUFLAGE NETS FOR THE WAR DEPARTMENT. THIS IS ONE OF SEVERAL WAR AND NAVY DEPARTMENT PROJECTS CARRIED ON BY PERSONS OF JAPANESE ANCESTRY IN RELOCATION CENTERS.



APRIL 29, 1942 - TANFORAN ASSEMBLY CENTER, SAN BRUNO, CALIFORNIA. BARRACKS FOR FAMILY LIVING QUARTERS. EACH DOOR ENTERS INTO A FAMILY UNIT OF TWO SMALL ROOMS. TANFORAN ASSEMBLY CENTER WAS OPENED TWO DAYS BEFORE THE PHOTOGRAPH WAS MADE. ON THE FIRST DAY THERE HAD BEEN A HEAVY RAIN. WHEN A FAMILY HAS ARRIVED HERE, FIRST STEP OF EVACUATION IS COMPLETE.

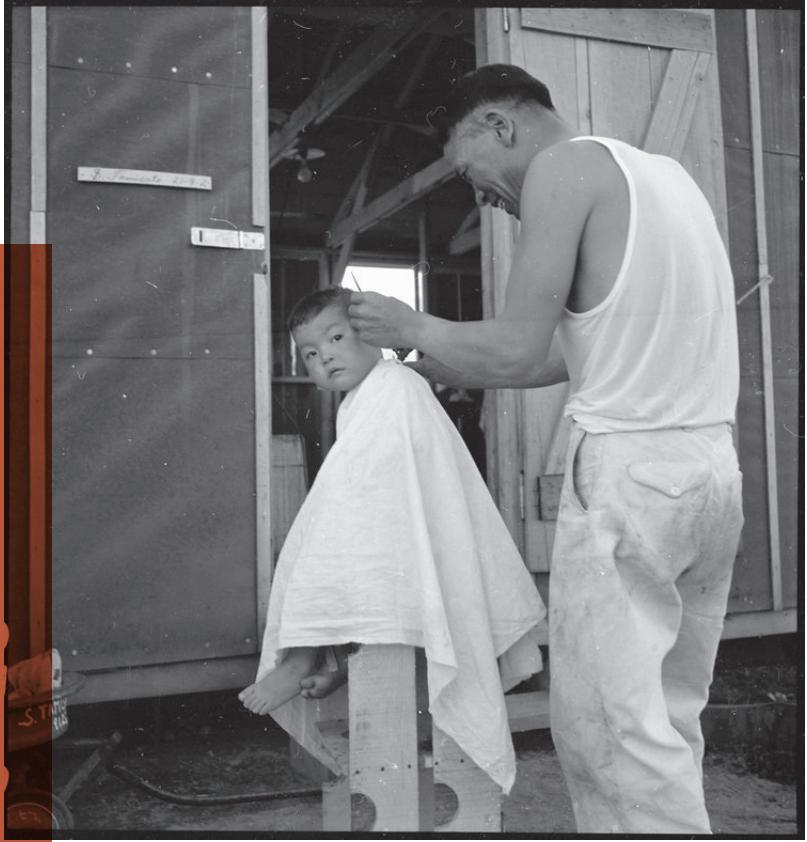


MAY 19, 1942 - STOCKTON, CALIFORNIA. NOON ON A HOT DAY AT THE STOCKTON ASSEMBLY CENTER, WHICH IS A CONVERTED FAIRGROUNDS. THIS PHOTOGRAPH SHOWS THE OLD RACE TRACK. THIS CENTER HAS BEEN OPENED A WEEK AND EVACUEES WILL ARRIVE DAILY UNTIL THE CAPACITY OF 5000 IS REACHED.

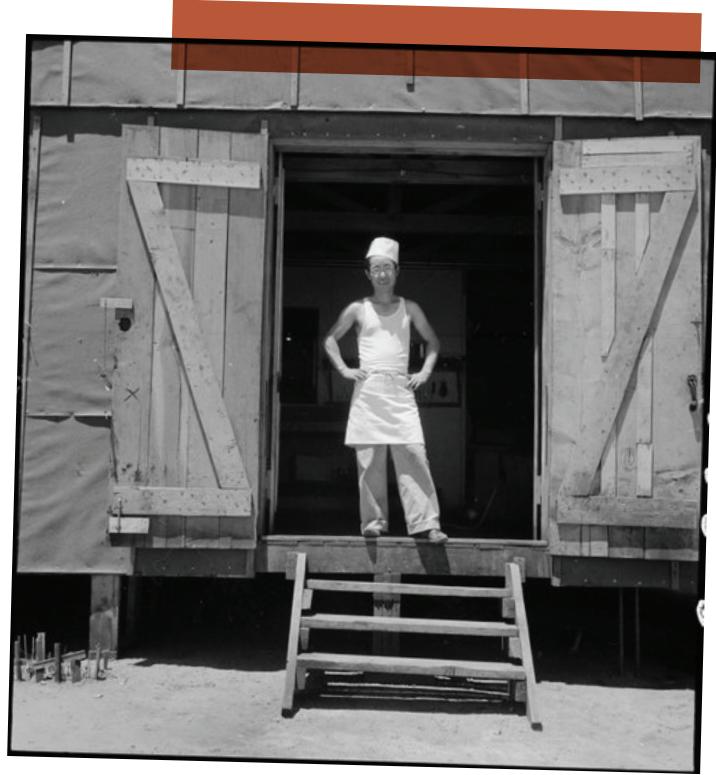


MAY 9, 1942 - CENTERVILLE, CALIFORNIA.  
THIS YOUNGSTER IS AWAITING EVACUATION  
ON BUS. EVACUEES OF JAPANESE ANCESTRY WILL  
BE HOUSED IN WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY  
CENTERS FOR THE DURATION.

IT WAS OFTEN  
TOO HOT IN  
THE SUMMER  
AND TOO COLD  
IN THE WINTER  
MAKING LIFE VERY  
DIFFICULT AND  
UNCOMFORTABLE.



JULY 2, 1942 - MANZANAR RELOCATION CENTER, MANZANAR, CALIFORNIA. LITTLE EVACUEE OF JAPANESE ANCESTRY GETS A HAIRCUT.



JULY 2, 1942 - MANZANAR RELOCATION CENTER, MANZANAR, CALIFORNIA. A CHEF OF JAPANESE ANCESTRY AT THIS WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY CENTER. EVACUEES FIND OPPORTUNITIES TO FOLLOW THEIR CALLINGS.

# CHRONOLOGY

**1869**

FIRST KNOWN JAPANESE IMMIGRANTS  
TO U. S. SETTLE NEAR SACRAMENTO.

**1913**

ALIEN LAND LAW PROHIBITS JAPANESE  
AND ALIENS FROM OWNING LAND IN CALIFORNIA  
AND IMPOSES A THREE-YEAR LIMIT ON  
LEASING OF LAND.

**1924**

IMMIGRATION EXCLUSION ACT HALTS  
JAPANESE IMMIGRATION TO U. S.

**1941**

U. S. ENTERS WORLD WAR II AFTER  
PEARL HARBOR ATTACK DEC. 7.

**1942**

EXECUTIVE ORDER 9066 OF FEB. 19  
AUTHORIZES RELOCATION AND/OR  
INTERNMENT OF ANYONE WHO MIGHT  
THREATEN THE U. S. WAR EFFORT.

**1943**

U. S. ARMY FORMS 442ND REGIMENTAL  
COMBAT TEAM A SEGREGATED UNIT FOR  
JAPANESE AMERICANS THAT SERVES WITH  
100TH INFANTRY BATTALION IN EUROPE.

**1944**

SUPREME COURT UPHOLDS CONSTITUTIONALITY  
OF EVACUATION BASED SOLELY ON NATIONAL  
ANCESTRY WHILE SEPARATELY RULING THAT LOYAL  
CITIZENS CANNOT BE HELD AGAINST THEIR WILL.

**1945**

WORLD WAR II ENDS WITH JAPAN'S  
SURRENDER AUG. 14. MANZANAR WAR  
RELOCATION CENTER CLOSES NOV. 21.

**1952**

WALTER-MCCARRAN IMMIGRATION AND  
NATIONALIZATION ACT ALLOWS JAPANESE  
ALIENS TO BECOME NATURALIZED CITIZENS.  
1972 MANZANAR DESIGNATED A CALIFORNIA  
REGISTERED HISTORICAL LANDMARK.

**1988**

U. S. CIVIL LIBERTIES ACT GRANTS A  
\$20,000 PAYMENT AND AN APOLOGY TO  
82,000 FORMER INTERNEES.

**1992**

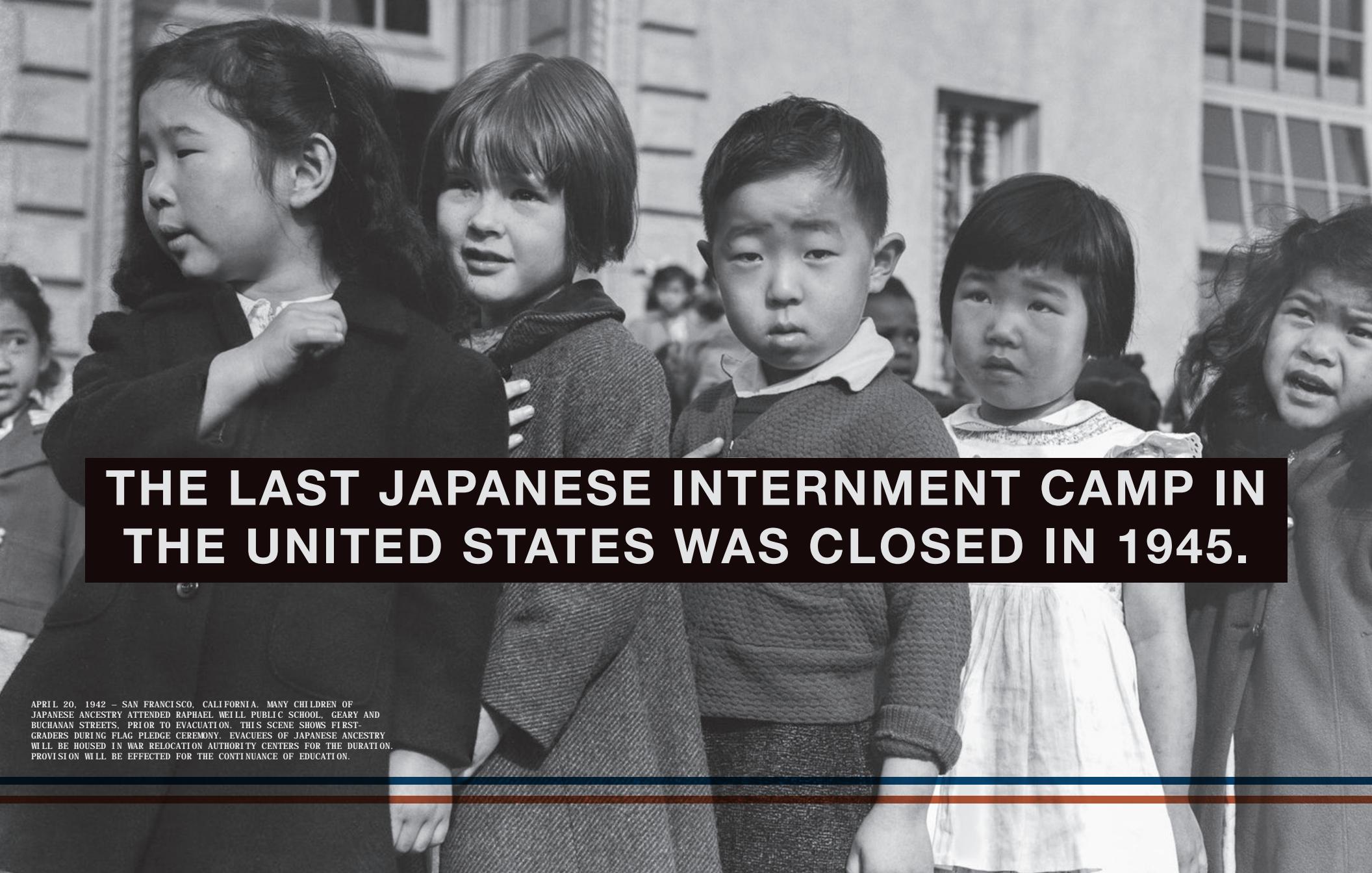
MANZANAR NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE  
ESTABLISHED MARCH 3.

**2001**

MINIDOKA INTERNMENT NATIONAL  
MONUMENT DESIGNATED JAN. 17 IN IDAHO.  
NATIONAL JAPANESE AMERICAN MEMORIAL  
DEDICATED JUNE 29 IN WASHINGTON, D. C.

**2004**

MANZANAR NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE  
INTERPRETIVE CENTER OPENS APRIL 24.



**THE LAST JAPANESE INTERNMENT CAMP IN  
THE UNITED STATES WAS CLOSED IN 1945.**

APRIL 20, 1942 - SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA. MANY CHILDREN OF JAPANESE ANCESTRY ATTENDED RAPHAEL WEILL PUBLIC SCHOOL, GEARY AND BUCHANAN STREETS, PRIOR TO EVACUATION. THIS SCENE SHOWS FIRST-GRADERS DURING FLAG PLEDGE CEREMONY. EVACUEES OF JAPANESE ANCESTRY WILL BE HOUSED IN WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY CENTERS FOR THE DURATION. PROVISION WILL BE EFFECTED FOR THE CONTINUANCE OF EDUCATION.