

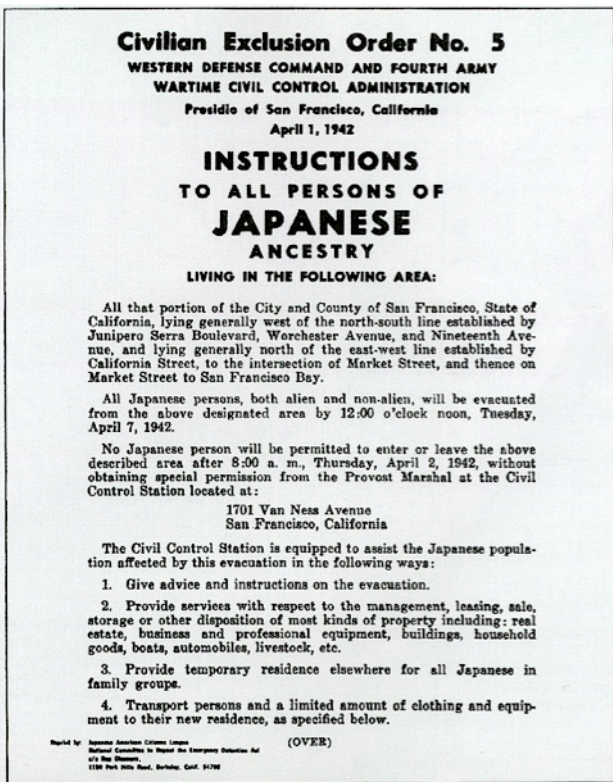
UNITED STATES HISTORY: QUARTER 3

Question: “The economic opportunities afforded by World War II were equally enjoyed by all Americans.”

Do you agree with the above statement? Support your response based on the documents and your understanding of wartime conditions at home.

Background: In contrast to the Great Depression, World War II was a time of opportunity for millions of Americans. Jobs abounded and despite rationing and shortages, people had money to spend. At the end of WW II, the nation emerged as the world’s dominant economic and military power.

Document 1



Executive Order No. 9066

...I hereby authorize and direct the Secretary of War... to prescribe military areas in such places and of such extent as he... may determine, from which any or all persons may be excluded...

Franklin D. Roosevelt
The White House,
February 19, 1942.

Posted orders instructing all persons of Japanese ancestry to leave San Francisco, April 1, 1942

Document 2



Document 3

“ ‘You know we don’t serve coloreds here.’ The man repeated... We ignored him, and just stood there inside the door, staring at what we had come to see—the German prisoners of war who were having lunch at the counter... We continued to stare. This was really happening. It was no jive talk. The people of Salina would serve these enemy soldiers and turn away black American GIs”

Lloyd Brown
African America GI
Salina, Kansas 1944

Document 4



1943: ZOOT SUITS



A young man wearing a zoot suit and hat, 11 June 1943.



On the streets of Los Angeles, U.S. servicemen wield wooden clubs during a "zoot suit" riot, June 1943.

Document 5



A bracero
sugar beet
worker in the
fields of Idaho
during World
War II.

