

Primary Source

Executive Order 9066

Shortly after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, President Franklin Roosevelt issued the following executive order to address concerns over the large Japanese American population that lived on the West Coast.

Executive Order 9066

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...

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...