

Source 1

Source Information: Formative Assessment #1

Report, Japanese-Americans in Relocation Centers, March 1943. Papers of Philleo Nash., ca. March

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

Washington, D. C.

JAPANESE-AMERICANS IN RELOCATION CENTERS



Of the 127,000 persons of Japanese ancestry in the United States, approximately 107,000 are in ten relocation centers under supervision of the War Relocation Authority. Roughly two-thirds are American citizens, almost all of whom are under 40 years of age, and the remainder are aliens, most of whom have been in the United States since 1924, when the Exclusion Act went into effect. The population includes about 19,000 citizen men between the ages of 18 and 37.

The people now living in relocation centers were residents of strategic military areas on the West Coast, which were evacuated last spring and summer, by order of the Commanding General of the Western Defense Command. The evacuated area includes the entire state of California, the western half of Washington and Oregon, and the southern third of Arizona. The evacuation was announced and at first was placed on a voluntary basis. People of Japanese ancestry were instructed to move out of the region, but might go anywhere they liked. With Japanese invasion not unlikely and infiltration of Japanese agents always a threat, their presence in the coastal and border areas constituted a danger to the national security, but away from those areas it was considered that the evacuees need not be restricted. Several thousand moved out but many of them encountered difficulties of many kinds growing out of suspicion and general public antagonism. When it became evident that voluntary movement would not be sufficiently rapid, voluntary evacuation was halted, on March 29, 1942, and after that date, evacuation was carried out by military authorities on a planned and ordered basis, area by area.

The War Relocation Authority was established by Presidential Executive Order 9102 on March 18, 1942, to aid the military authorities in evacuation of any persons or groups from any designated areas and to relocate evacuated persons. Its immediate task was the relocation of the people of Japanese ancestry from the Pacific Coast areas.

Using Source 1

Sourcing Questions	Identify the author's position on the subject of the camps.
Contextualization Questions	How does this source make you feel about the camps and why? What was said that leads you to that conclusion?
Corroboration Tasks	How does Source 1 and 2 compare to each other?
Close Reading Questions	What details does this document use to explain the condition of the camps?

Source 2

Source Information: Formative Assessment #1

Memorandum, Milton. S. Eisenhower to Members of Congress, April 20, 1942; forwarding Informal Report of the War Relocation Authority. Papers of Harry S. Truman: Papers as U.S. Senator and Vice President of the United States, April 20, 1942.

Following the Salt Lake conference, the Authority announced that the minimum requirements for reception centers were as follows:

1. All relocation centers must be located on public land where improvement at public expense will become public, not private, assets. Any land acquired for relocation centers will remain in public ownership.
2. Because of man-power needs of the armed services and because minimum guard units can protect 5,000 persons as easily as smaller groups, first attention will be given to sites for large projects.
3. Each relocation center must provide work opportunities 12 months of the year for the evacuees to be located there. The work will be of these types: (1) Public works, (2) food production, (3) manufacture of goods required by the military establishment.
4. All centers must be located at a safe distance from strategic points.
5. Transportation and power facilities, water supply, soil, climate, and similar factors must be satisfactory.
6. Each reception center will be a military reservation under military police protection.

Using Source 2

Sourcing Questions	Why was this document written? Who is the audience it is written to?
Contextualization Questions	When was this document written? Why now?
Corroboration Tasks	What differences are there in source 1 and 2? Does source 1 show that the minimum requirements were being used? How?
Close Reading Questions	Explain how the details of the document explain either that the camps were set up for the protection of the Japanese-Americans or to contain them due to lack of trust?

Source 3

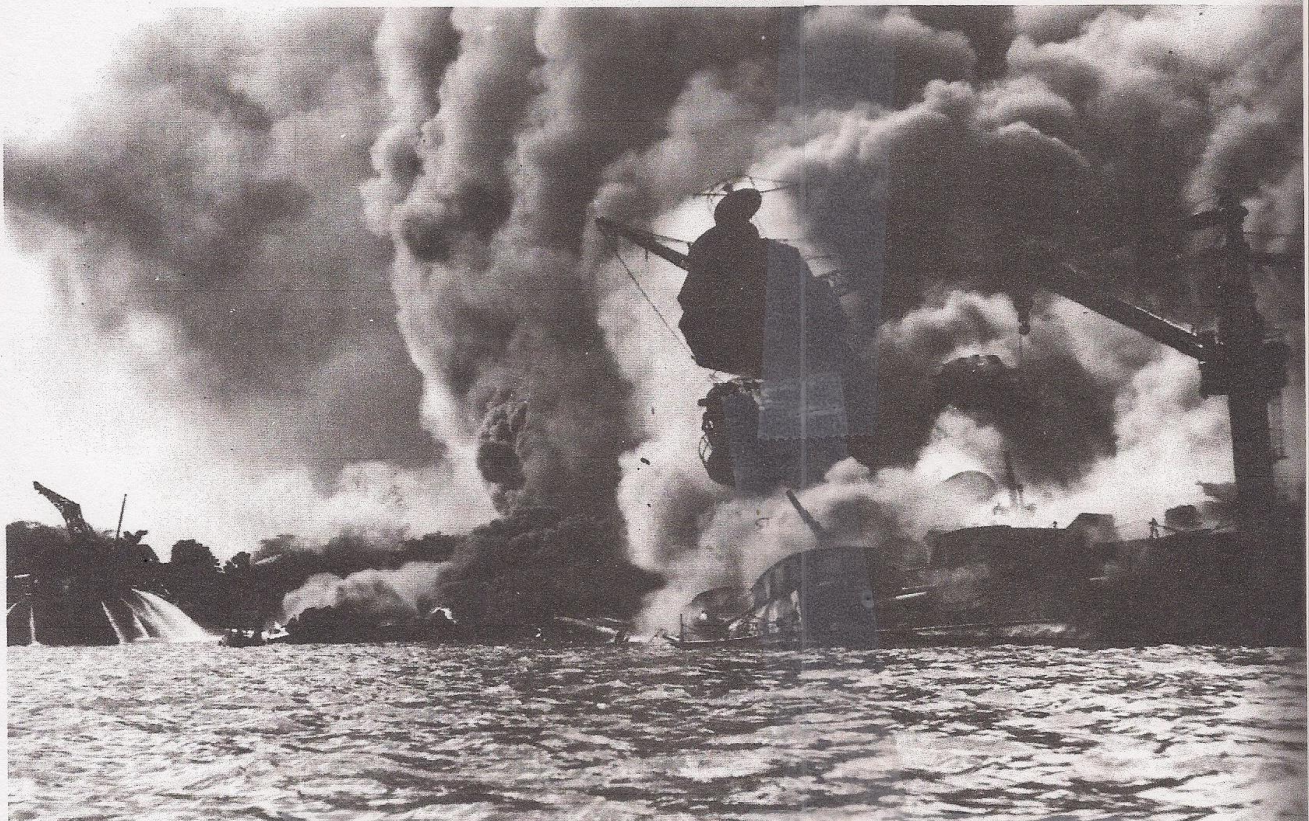
Source Information: Formative Assessment #1

Newspaper article, December 8, 1945, *Chronicles of World War II*.

https://www.trumanlibrary.org/dbq/docs/bomb/BombDecision_DocumentSet.pdf

DECEMBER 1941

Japanese planes destroy US fleet at Pearl Harbor



The "Arizona" goes down in a pall of smoke after her magazine exploded: 2,403 American servicemen lost their lives in the devastation at Pearl Harbor.

Honolulu, 8 December

The message was simple and stark: "AIR RAID, PEARL HARBOR. THIS IS NO DRILL."

Japan's devastating opening blow of the Pacific war against the United States came plunging out of a sunny Hawaiian sky yesterday when 184 aircraft from six Japanese aircraft carriers of Vice-Admiral Chuichi Nagumo's Strike Force caught the American defenders completely unawares at Pearl Harbor, Oahu, at 7:55am [local time].

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Using Source 3

Sourcing Questions	What was the purpose of this article?
Contextualization Questions	How is the date of this document relevant to the event it is discussing?
Corroboration Tasks	Do you feel that this is a reliable source? Why or why not?
Close Reading Questions	What details do you identify as showing the destruction of the island?

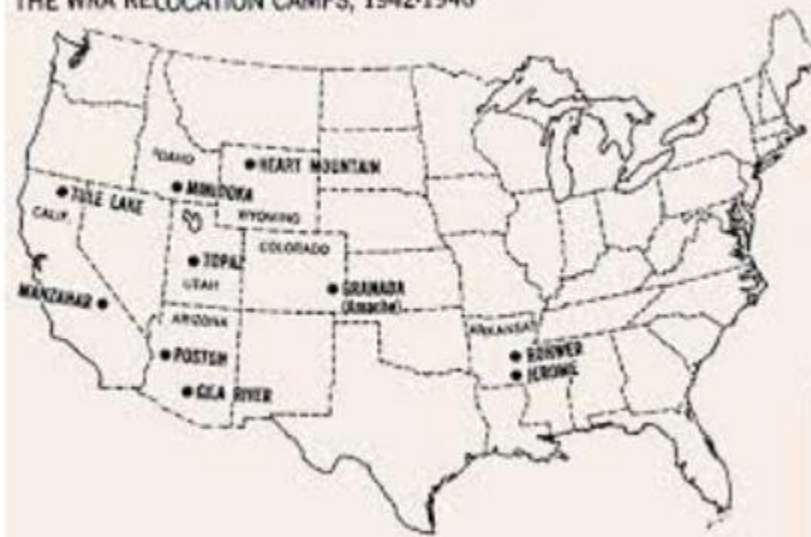
Source 4

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<u>Center</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>Population</u>
Manzanar	California	10,000
Tule Lake	California	15,000
Colorado River	Arizona	17,000
Gila River	Arizona	14,000
Central Utah	Utah	8,000
Minidoka	Idaho	9,000
Heart Mountain	Wyoming	11,000
Granada	Colorado	7,000
Rohwer	Arkansas	8,000
Jerome	Arkansas	8,000
		<u>107,000</u>

THE WRA RELOCATION CAMPS, 1942-1946



Using Source 4

Sourcing Questions	Who was this information meant for?
Contextualization Questions	Why do you think these two documents were created?
Corroboration Tasks	What two camps seem to be the outliers of the locations? Why do you think they are there?
Close Reading Questions	What does the number of people in the camps compared to where they are located tell you?