History 3531

A HISTORY OF THE INTERNMENT OF JAPANESE AMERICANS DURING WORLD WAR II

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. R.N. BUCKLEY, History Department, University of Connecticut

COURSE DESCRIPTION

On 7 December 1941, martial law was declared in Hawaii, and on 19 February 1942, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed Executive Order 9066. Martial law and Roosevelt's executive order led to the eviction and detention of over 110,000 American citizens of Japanese ancestry in Hawaii and the United States mainland. The Roosevelt administration also orchestrated, financed and carried out the removal and deportation of a further a 2-300 people of Japanese ancestry from thirteen Latin American countries, mostly from Peru. Japanese Canadians were similarly interned in Canada. To examine the history of the internment of Japanese Americans, this course will be divided into three components. The first is the origin and development of the Japanese American community. The second focuses on the internment issue itself from the following perspectives: the events that led to the eviction and evacuation of Japanese Americans, internment, camp life, the military experiences of Japanese Americans, and the experiences of people of Japanese ancestry in Latin America and Canada. The third section deals essentially with the aftermath of the unlawful eviction, evacuation and internment of Japanese Americans, namely, the moral, economic, legal, social/psychological and constitutional issues, and reparations.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

1. To introduce students to Japanese American history
2. To inform students about the Japanese American Evacuation
3. To introduce students to the literature on the Japanese American Evacuation
4. To enable students to critically review some of the most important literature in the field
5. To broaden the student's understanding of the history of U.S. minorities and the history of U.S. racism

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. Students are expected to attend all class meetings, complete all assigned readings, and contribute to the class discussions.
2. Students are required to take all examinations. These exams are as follows: special project(s), four critical book reviews, and a final comprehensive essay exam.
EXAM

1. special project(s) 10%
2. four critical book reviews: 15% each 60%
3. final comprehensive essay 30%

100%

EXAM SCHEDULE

1. special project(s) - 5 February
2. book reviews
   a. Weglyn - 26 February
   b. Hatsuye - 19 March
   c. Okada - 2 April
   d. Houston - 16 April

REQUIRED READINGS

John Okada. No-No Boy. 1979
J.W. & J.D. Farewell to Manzanar,

RECOMMENDED FURTHER READINGS

Masayo Umezawa Duus, Unlikely Liberators: The Men of the 100th and the 442nd, 1987


Roger Daniels, Concentrations Camps, 1971.

Peter Irons, Justice at War, 1983.


Ronald Takaki, Strangers From A Different Shore: A History of Asians Americans

Personal Justice Denied: Report of the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internments of Civilians, The Civil

SOME TERMS TO REMEMBER

Issei – First Generation (generation that came over from Japan)
Nisei – Second Generation
  Kibei – a division of the Nisei
  "the return-to-America Nisei"
  this is the term used by the Japanese to signify those American born Japanese who received part or all of their education in Japan
Sansei – Third Generation

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

Internment Collection, Asian American Studies Institute, University of Connecticut: Books, Documents, Videos
Contact: Fe de Los Santos, AASI, 486-4751

List of Lecture Topics

A. THE ORIGIN AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE JAPANESE AMERICAN COMMUNITY
  1. Asian/Japanese Immigration – 19th Century to the Early 20th Century
  2. Putting Down Roots
  3. Hawaii’s Japanese
B. EVICTION, EVACUATION AND INTERNMENT
  4. The Decision to Relocate the Japanese Americans
  5. Camp Life (planned)
  6. Unmatched Courage: Japanese Americans at War
  7. The Japanese Canadian Experience
  8. Resistance
C. AFTERMATH
  9. The Redress Movement
  10. Coming to Terms with the Internment (planned)

Suggested Reading
Reed Ueda, Postwar Immigrant America: Social History, 1994.

Questions

1. Introductory Comments
   - Nobu Miyoshi's testimony presented to the Commission of Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians, Wash., D.C.

2. Broad Aspects of Early Japanese Immigration, 1885-1924
   a. 1790 Naturalization Act
   b. "aliens ineligible to citizenship"
   c. Thomas Aldricks' "The Unguarded Gate"
   d. dekasegi immigration
   e. 1924 Immigation Act
   f. generational experiences

3. Early Japanese Immigration
   a. student-laborers
   b. prostitutes
   c. laborers and the Continental United States
   d. broad picture of immigration history and policy
      1. changing waves of immigration
      2. restrictions on Asian American
         - Chinese Exclusion Act
         - Act of September 13, 1888 & Scott Act 1888
         - Cable Act 1922
      3. transition to an omnibus selected policy
      4. decline of return migration
      5. system of discriminatory naturalization
         - U.S v. Wong Kim Ark 1898
         - Ozama v. U.S. 1922
         - In re Young 1912
         - In re Alverto 1912
         - U.S. v. Thind 1923
Nativists seeking to restrict immigration before World War I depicted immigrants as barbaric invaders. They warned that the American republic, like ancient Rome, would be destroyed by primitive and inferior races unless the nation closed its gates to immigration.

THOMAS BAILEY ALDRICH’S NATIVIST POEM
“The Unguarded Gates”

Wide open and unguarded stand our gates,  
And through them press a wild, a motley throng—  
Men from the Volga and the Tartar steppes,  
Featureless figures of the Hoang-Ho,  
Malayan, Scythian, Teuton, Kelt, and Slav,  
Flying the Old World’s poverty and scorn;  
These bringing with them unknown gods and rites,  
Those tiger passions, here to stretch their claws.  
In street and alley what strange tongues are these,  
Accents of menace alien to our air,  
Voices that once the tower of Babel knew!  
O, Liberty, white goddess, is it well  
To leave the gate unguarded? On thy breast  
Fold sorrow’s children, soothe the hurts of fate,  
Lift the downtrodden, but with the hand of steel  
Stay those who to thy sacred portals come  
To waste the fight of freedom. Have a care  
Lest from thy brow the clustered stars be torn  
And trampled in the dust. For so of old  
The thronging Goth and Vandal trampled Rome,  
And where the temples of the Caesars stood  
The lean wolf unmolested made her lair.

Topic: Development of the Japanese American Community: Putting Down Roots

Suggested Readings
Ivan Light, Ethnic Enterprise in America, 1972.

Questions
1. Introductory Remarks
   a. George Simmel’s "The Stranger" theory
   b. "racial uniform"
   c. Ronald Takaki - "a different shore"
   d. imin

2. Historical Developments Affecting Japanese Americans

3. Abiko Kyutaro (1865-)
   a. immigrant leader - his ideal and influence
   b. Nichibei Shimbun
   c. American Land and Produce Company
   d. Yamato Colony 1907(?), Cortez Colony 1919

4. The Japanese immigrant family
   a. persistence of Japanese American ethnicity
      1. traditional Japanese culture
      2. "quasi kin"
   b. women
      - picture-bride practice and its termination

5. Japanese Associations

6. Japanese American Economy
   a. development of agriculture
      1. George Shima
      2. ethnic economy/ethnic enterprise
      3. profile of the Japanese community 1930
      4. other features of Japanese agricultural life
         a. workers' daily life
         b. Alien Land Law 1913
         c. Proposition One 1920
         d. other western states
      b. formation of the Japanese urban economy
      c. consequences

7. Adaptation to American Society

8. Conclusions
Topic: Hawaii's Japanese

Suggested Readings
Andrew Lind, Hawaii's Japanese: An Experiment in Democracy, 1946.

Introductory Comments
complex racial diversity
spirit of aloha?

Questions.
1. Hawaii Facts
demographic collapse
1820 New England Congregationalist missionaries
1848 the Great Mahele
haole
"a senator named Moto!"
2. The United States in Hawaii
Queen Liliuokalani
three Hawaiis
3. Plantation Hawaii
"get labor first"
contract labor-system - Organic Act of 1900
occupational structure according to race
hole hole work - hole hole bushi
racial unions
plantation camps: culture and community
women
4. Hawaii’s Japanese
numbers: in an out
picture brides
resistance to plantation oppression
1920 plantation strike
5. the Anti-Japanese Movement
demanding equality - cane fires
race and national security
Yellow Perilism
specter of alien domination
race war - Merriam and Summerall Reports
the Japanese problem
Roosevelt, suspect lists and concentration camps
6. Conclusions
Topic: Eviction, Evacuation and Internment: The Decision to Relocate the Japanese Americans

Suggested Readings
Corey Takahashi, "The Other American Internment," *A. Magazine* [date?]

Comments
- US violation of civil liberties during wartime

Questions
1. The Context
   - racial hysteria - "Fifth Column"
   - Walter Lippmann’s "The Fifth Column on the Coast" - 12 Feb. 1942
   - Japanese aggression - "super soldiers and sailors"
   - Axis victories in Europe

2. Pearl Harbor
   - military implications
   - immediate responses

3. Pearl Harbor and the Japanese American Community
   - divisions in the community
   - "200 percent Americans"
   - Japanese American Citizens League (JACL)
     - Five Point Program
   - Kibei
   - the Munson Report Oct./Nov. 1941

4. The Decision to Relocate
   a. cast of characters
      1. General John DeWitt
      2. Dillon S. Myer
3. Attorney General Biddle
b. debate over "coastal Japanese"
   - Roberts Report - 25 January 1942
c. context: military disasters in Asia
d. the decision
   1. "stern military necessity"
   2. forced mass evacuation of coastal Japanese
   3. Executive Order 9066
   4. Congress acts
      - Public Law 77-503
   5. "military necessity"
   6. implementing Executive Order 9066
   7. curfew

5. Administering the Camps
   a. "Interior Housing Projects", "Relocation Centers",
      concentrations camps, or internment camps???
   b. Wartime Civil Control Administration (WCCA)
   c. War Relocation Authority (WRA)
   d. military area legend (handout)
   e. civilian exclusion orders (handout)
   f. camp locations (handout)
   g. numbers
   h. justifying the decision

6. The Problem of Hawaii
   - Memorandum For The President - King/Marshall - 3/7/42

7. The Other Japanese American Internment: the Japanese from Latin America
   - numbers
   - John Emmerson, Third Secretary, American Embassy, Lima
   - The Japanese Thread

8. Economic Loss
   - Japanese-American Evacuation Claims Act of 1948

9. After thoughts and Consequences

   - Emergency Detention Act of 1950/"Internal Security Emergency"
This map shows the area from which Japanese Americans were relocated. The shaded areas represent the original "Military Area No. 1", initially divided into "prohibited" and "restricted" zones. Eventually, all Japanese in California were relocated; in the other three states those living in unshaded portions were allowed to remain.

Source: Adapted from U.S. Department of War, Final Report: Japanese Evacuation from the West Coast 1942, (Washington, 1943), Figure 8, p. 87.
PERMANENT DETENTION CAMPS - called Relocation Centers by the government; housing internees from March, 1942, and all closed by November, 1945.

ASSEMBLY CENTERS
Puyallup, WA
Portland, OR.
Marysville, CA
Sacramento, CA
Tanforan, CA
Stockton, CA
Turlock, CA
Merced, CA
Pinedale, CA
Salinas, CA
Fresno, CA
Tulare, CA
Santa Anita, CA
Pomona, CA
Mayer, AZ

RELOCATION CENTERS
Manzanar, CA
Tule Lake, CA
Poston, AZ
Gila River, AZ
Minidoka, ID
Heart Mt., WY
Granada, CO
Topaz, UT
Rohwer, AR
Jerome, AR

JUST. INTERN. CAMPS
Santa Fe, NM
Bismarck, ND
Crystal City, TX
Missoula, MT

CITIZEN ISOLATION CAMPS
Moab, UT
Leupp, AZ

ASSEMBLY CENTERS - temporary detention camps in operation from late March, 1942 to about middle of October, 1942, where internee families were kept until relocated to more permanent detention camps called Relocation Centers.

JUSTICE DEPARTMENT INTERNMENT CAMPS - for non-citizens which included Kibei, Buddhist ministers, newspaper people and other community leaders.

CITIZEN ISOLATION CAMPS - War Relocation Authority Penal Colonies for United States citizens.

SOURCE: Frank and Joanne Iritani, Ten Visits: Accounts of Visits to All the Japanese American Relocation Centers (San Mateo, Calif.: Japanese American Curriculum Project, 1995), 3.
Civilian Exclusion Order No. 5
WESTERN DEFENSE COMMAND AND FOURTH ARMY
WARTIME CIVIL CONTROL ADMINISTRATION
Presidio of San Francisco, California
April 1, 1942

INSTRUCTIONS
TO ALL PERSONS OF
JAPANESE
ANCESTRY
LIVING IN THE FOLLOWING AREA:

All that portion of the City and County of San Francisco, State of California, lying generally west of the north-south line established by Junipero Serra Boulevard, Worcester Avenue, and Nineteenth Avenue, and lying generally north of the east-west line established by California Street, to the intersection of Market Street, and thence on Market Street to San Francisco Bay.

All Japanese persons, both alien and non-alien, will be evacuated from the above designated area by 12:00 o'clock noon, Tuesday, April 7, 1942.

No Japanese person will be permitted to enter or leave the above described area after 8:00 a.m., Thursday, April 2, 1942, without obtaining special permission from the Provost Marshal at the Civil Control Station located at:

1701 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco, California

The Civil Control Station is equipped to assist the Japanese population affected by this evacuation in the following ways:

1. Give advice and instructions on the evacuation.

2. Provide services with respect to the management, leasing, sale, storage or other disposition of most kinds of property including: real estate, business and professional equipment, buildings, household goods, boats, automobiles, livestock, etc.

3. Provide temporary residence elsewhere for all Japanese in family groups.

4. Transport persons and a limited amount of clothing and equipment to their new residence, as specified below.
THE FOLLOWING INSTRUCTIONS MUST BE OBSERVED:

1. A responsible member of each family, preferably the head of the family, or the person in whose name most of the property is held, and each individual living alone, will report to the Civil Control Station to receive further instructions. This must be done between 8:00 a. m. and 5:00 p. m., Thursday, April 2, 1942, or between 8:00 a. m. and 5:00 p. m., Friday, April 3, 1942.

2. Evacuees must carry with them on departure for the Reception Center, the following property:
   (a) Bedding and linens (no mattress) for each member of the family;
   (b) Toilet articles for each member of the family;
   (c) Extra clothing for each member of the family;
   (d) Sufficient knives, forks, spoons, plates, bowls and cups for each member of the family;
   (e) Essential personal effects for each member of the family.

All items carried will be securely packaged, tied and plainly marked with the name of the owner and numbered in accordance with instructions received at the Civil Control Station.

The size and number of packages is limited to that which can be carried by the individual or family group.

No contraband items as described in paragraph 6, Public Proclamation No. 3, Headquarters Western Defense Command and Fourth Army, dated March 24, 1942, will be carried.

3. The United States Government through its agencies will provide for the storage at the sole risk of the owner of the more substantial household items, such as iceboxes, washing machines, pianos and other heavy furniture. Cooking utensils and other small items will be accepted if crated, packed and plainly marked with the name and address of the owner. Only one name and address will be used by a given family.

4. Each family, and individual living alone, will be furnished transportation to the Reception Center. Private means of transportation will not be utilized. All instructions pertaining to the movement will be obtained at the Civil Control Station.

Go to the Civil Control Station at 1701 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco, California, between 8:00 a. m. and 5:00 p. m., Thursday, April 2, 1942, or between 8:00 a. m. and 5:00 p. m., Friday, April 3, 1942, to receive further instructions.

J. L. DeWITT
Lieutenant General, U. S. Army
Topic: Camp Life

Suggested Readings

Comments

Questions

Film - *Something Strong Within* - a film by Robert A. Nakamura
Topic: Unmatched Courage: Japanese Americans at War

Suggested Readings

Masayyo Umezawa Duus, Unlikely Liberators: The Men of the 100th and 442nd, 1983.

By Veterans of the 100th/442nd
Chester Tanaka, Go For Broke, 1982.
Tom Ige, Boy From Kahaluu, 1989.

Comments

Questions

1. Numbers
2. Areas of service
3. Recruitment
   - Questionnaire – "Application for Leave Clearance"
   - Questions 27 and 28

Question 27. Are you willing to serve in the armed forces of the United States on combat duty, wherever ordered?

Question 28. Will you swear unqualified allegiance to the United States of America and faithfully defend the United States from any or all attack by foreign or domestic forces, and forswear any form of allegiance or obedience to the Japanese emperor, to any other foreign government, power or organization?

revised Question 28: Will you swear to abide by the laws of the United States and to take no actions which would in any way interfere in the war effort of the United States?

   - resistance
     a. "No, No Boys"
     b. the case of Heart Mountain – "Fair Play Committee"

4. Military Service
   a. the Military Intelligence Service Language School
      - impact on the war effort of the United States
   b. the 100th Battalion
- "Purple Heart Battalion"
  c. the 442 Regimental Combat Team
  - citations: 18,143 individual decorations

5. Other Nisei Service

6. Impact of the Nisei Military Record
   - filmmaker Loni Ding
   - "Go For Broke" Monument

Films

*Looking Like the Enemy*
*From Hawaii to the Holocaust*
*The Color of Honor - Loni Ding*
*Nisei Soldiers - Loni Ding*
Topic: Internment: The Japanese Canadian Experience

Suggested Readings


Comments

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Questions

1. Numbers
2. Settlement
3. Immigration History
   - Japanese in British Columbia, 1900-1941
4. Economic foothold
5. Structure and Status of the Japanese community
6. The Anti-Japanese Campaign
   - anti-Chinese movement
   - Alien Labour Act
   - Vancouver Riots 1907
   - Lemieux Agreement 1908(?)
   - Canadian version of the yellow peril
     a. Japan’s defeat of Russia, 1905
     b. Danger: The Anti-Asiatic Weekly
     c. Hilda Glynn-Ward’s The Writing on the Wall, 1921
7. Internment
   - fall of Hong Kong - 25 December 1941
   - alleged military threat of the Japanese population
   - Order in Council, 16 January 1942
- Order in Council P.C. 1486, 24 February 1942
- diverse treatment of Japanese Canadians
- living conditions
8. Aftermath - 1945-1949
- "policy of dispersal"
- deportation-repatriation-expulsion
- Pacific Coast Japanese 1940/41-1970/71
- Japanese in Canada, 1941 and 1971
10. Redress
11. After thoughts
- comparison: the experience of the American and
  Canadian Japanese
  - the United States Constitution and the Bill of
    Rights
  - military service

Films
Minoru: Memory of Exile - Michael Fukushima
Momiji - Nancy Tatebe
Topic: Resistance

Suggested Readings

Comments
- due process of law/habeas corpus
- IS THE AMERICAN JUSTICE SYSTEM REALLY BLIND?

Questions
1. the Bill of Rights in crisis
   a. what is the Bill of Rights?
   b. 4th, 5th, 8th, 14th Amendments

2. the role of the United States Government

3. Resistance
   a. by Caucasians
      1. Quakers, Mennonites, the Brethen
         Fellowship of Reconciliation
         Japanese American Student Relocation Council
      2. Wayne M. Collins
   b. by Japanese Americans
      - forms
         a. mass demonstrations
            - pro-Japan and pro-American factions
               - Tule Lake Relocation Center
               - 4,724 repatriates
               - inu
         b. smaller demonstrations
            - "No, No Boys"/Heart Mountain
   c. individuals
      1. Mary Ventura
      2. four cases that reached the Supreme Court
         a. (Gordon) *Hirabayashi v. U.S.* (1943)
         b. (Minoru) *Yasui v. U.S.* (1943)
         c. (Fred) *Korematsu v. U.S.* (1944)
      Justice Hugo Black -2 Sept. 1971: "they all look alike to a person not a Jap"
   d. (Mitsuye Endo) *Ex parte* (in the affair of) Endo (1944)

5. Conclusions
   a. coram nobis
Topic: The Redress Movement

Suggested Readings


Comments

1. Does one generation have the moral and financial responsibility for the actions of a previous generation?

2. Are there precedents (here and abroad) for the rehabilitation and redress of Japanese Americans?

Questions

1. Ending the Relocation
   - redistribution of the Japanese American community

2. The Redress Movement: some significant events
   a. Japanese American Claims Act 1948
   b. Hawaii Statehood
   c. start of the Redress Movement 1970s
   d. public opinion in the United States
   e. National Committee for Japanese American Redress
   f. Commission on the Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians (CWRIC)
      - Personal Justice Denied 1983
   g. the Aleuts
   h. William Hohri class action suit 1983
   i. Civil Rights Act 1988/HR 442
      1. American Jewish Committee
      2. Appropriation Bill 21 Nov. 1989
   j. 9 October 1990

3. Japanese Americans as the original "model minority"
   - "glass ceiling"
   - generational rift: Nisei vs Sansei

4. Could It Happen Again?
   a. Emergency Detention Act 1950
   b. parallel examples?
      1. Nixon's "antidotes"
      2. Carter and Iranians living in the U.S.
      3. Reagan and the Caribbean boat people
      4. Bush and Arab American leaders