

Korematsu v. United States / Document Analysis— Answer Key

Directions

Assume you are an internet news blogger working with a major news blog website. One of your contacts in the White House has leaked a copy of Executive Order 9066 via email (see page 2). Your source told you it would be issued and announced to the world in one week. You decide this is an important document and you want to report it to the world first through your blog.

Write the script for a video blog or written blog entry. Your blog should answer the following questions and include relevant and important quotes from the document:

1. What will this executive order do? Who will it affect?

The order authorized the removal of people of Japanese heritage from military areas and from the West Coast.

2. What reasons are used to justify this order?

President Roosevelt justified this order by citing that, “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...”

3. What does President Roosevelt believe gives him the authority to issue this order?

President Roosevelt cited that, “By virtue of the authority vested in me as President of the United States, and Commander in Chief of the Army and Navy...”

4. Who has authority to carry out the evacuations?

The order gave the authority to the Secretary of War - “...authorized and direct the Secretary of War, and the military commanders whom he may from time to time designate...”

5. According to this order, what specific actions does President Roosevelt authorize?

Student answers will vary, but may include the following:

- “...prescribe military areas ... from which any or all persons may be excluded”;
- “... provide for residents of any such area ... transportation, food, shelter...”;
- “...further authorize ...to take such other steps as he or the appropriate commander may deem advisable to enforce compliance w/ the restrictions applicable to each military area...”
- “... authorize and direct all executive department, independent establishments and other Federal Agencies, to assist the Secretary of War or the said military commanders in carrying out this Executive Order...”

6. According to this order, what does the U.S. government have to provide for people who are evacuated?

Transportation, food, shelter, and other accommodations as may be necessary.

EXECUTIVE ORDER 9066*February 19, 1942***Authorizing the Secretary of War to Prescribe Military Areas**

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 as defined in Section 4, Act of April 20, 1918, 40 Stat. 533 as amended by the Act of November 30, 1940, 54 Stat. 1220. and the Act of August 21, 1941. 55 Stat. 655 (U.S.C., Title 50, Sec. 104):

Now, therefore, by virtue of the authority vested in me as President of the United States, and Commander in Chief of the Army and Navy, I hereby authorized and direct the Secretary of War, and the Military Commanders whom he may from time to time designate, whenever he or any designated Commander deem 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, and with respect to which, the right of any person to enter, remain in, or leave shall be subject to whatever restriction the Secretary of War or the appropriate Military Commander may impose in his discretion. The Secretary of War is hereby authorized to provide for residents of any such area who are excluded therefrom. such transportation, food, shelter, and other accommodations as may be necessary, in the judgment of the Secretary of War or the said Military Commander and until other arrangements are made, to accomplish the purpose of this order. The designation of military areas in any region or locality shall supersede designation of prohibited and restricted areas by the Attorney General under the Proclamation of December 7 and 8, 1941, and shall supersede the responsibility and authority of the Attorney General under the said Proclamation in respect of such prohibited and restricted areas.

I hereby further authorize and direct the Secretary of War and the said Military Commanders to take such other steps as he or the appropriate Military Commander may deem advisable to enforce compliance with the restrictions applicable to each Military area herein above authorized to be designated including the use of Federal troops and other Federal Agencies, with authority to accept assistance of state and local agencies.

I hereby further authorize and direct all Executive Department, independent establishments and other Federal Agencies, to assist the Secretary of War or the said Military Commanders in carrying out this Executive Order, including the furnishing of medical aid, hospitalization, food, clothing, transportation, use of land, shelter, and other supplies, equipment, utilities, facilities and service.

This order shall not be construed as modifying or limiting in any way the authority granted under Executive Order 8972, dated December 12, 1941, nor shall it be construed as limiting or modifying the duty and responsibility of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, with response to the investigation of alleged acts of sabotage or duty and responsibility of the Attorney General and the Department of Justice under the Proclamation of December 7 and 8, 1941, prescribing regulations for the conduct and control of alien enemies, except as such duty and responsibility is superseded by the designation of military areas thereunder.

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

Use this space to compose or paste your blog entry:

Student blog entries will vary.